



## ABSTRACTS

### The “Treatise of Our *Dā’ī* in the East”: *Majlis* No. 338-343 from the Majālis al-Mu’ayyadīyah

Miss Elizabeth R. Alexandrin

Ensclosed in the third volume of the 11<sup>th</sup>-century Ismā‘īlī author al-Mu’ayyad fī al-Dīn al-Shirāzī’s (d. ca. 1078 C.E.) Majālis al-Mu’ayyadīyah is the hitherto unknown treatise of an “Eastern” Ismā‘īlī *dā’ī*. Al-Mu’ayyad’s commentary upon the treatise, as recorded in part and employed for the purpose of religious instruction in *majlis* No. 338-343, is of striking importance for the historical delineation it provides of intra-regional *da’wah* dynamics in the mid-11<sup>th</sup> Century. In addition, these select passages from al-Mu’ayyad’s *magnum opus* offer a wealth of details with regard to the Fātimid *da’wah*’s efforts to reconsolidate the extended Ismā‘īlī *da’wah* on such doctrinal issues as the *walāyah* of ‘Alī and the figure of the *imām* in the pre-Nizārī period.

Al-Mu’ayyad’s commentary is in fact, a refutation of the “extremist” (*ghuluww*) views some members of the “Eastern” *da’wah* maintained concerning the preference (*tafḍīl*) for ‘Alī over the Prophet Muḥammad. The purpose of this paper is thus to address the above-mentioned points in the light of larger theoretical considerations; in particular, the re-emergence of mediaeval Iran as the centre *par excellence* of Ismā‘īlism in what may be called the “pre-history” of the Nizārī Ismā‘īlī tradition.

### *The Shaping Of Ismaili Community In Badakhshan*

Sergei Andreyev

This paper deals with the origins, cultural and historical development and socio-political outlook of the Ismaili community in the frontier regions of Afghan and Tajik Badakhshan. It also considers the importance of this community's complicated ethno-linguistic position for the development of the distinct school of Badakhshani Ismailism, which helped Badakhshani Ismailis to preserve their identity under the pressure of forced assimilation and domination of alien political structures. While concentrating mainly on late medieval and colonial periods the paper also considers the implications of religious and ethnic isolation for modern developments in Afghanistan and Tajikistan.