

« The Possible Scientific Exchange between the Courts of Hūlāgū and Alfonso X », in :
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Benno van Dalen



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- 1 The author investigates a number of possible indications for scientific exchange between Andalusia and Iran in the second half of the 13th century. She first mentions the political contacts that existed between Alfonso X and various courts in the Eastern Islamic world, especially that of Hülegü Khan in Maragha. Then she discusses a number of similarities between astronomical achievements of Alfonso and those of astronomers at the Maragha observatory. These include:
- 2 1) the so-called *cuadrante sennero* vs. the double quadrant of al-'Urđi;
- 3 2) the addition of an alidade to the armillary sphere;
- 4 3) the occurrence of the value 23;32,30 for the obliquity of the ecliptic in the Tunesian astronomical handbook of Ibn Ishāq and an Arabic handbook written in Tibet in 1366, whose contents might have passed through Maragha;
- 5 4) the occurrence of a model for trepidation in the *Tadhkira* of Naşir al-Dīn al-Ŧūsī;

- 6 5) the use of the so-called “meridian of water” in a number of geographical tables from Iran; and
 - 7 6) the addition of planetary influences for all stars in the Alfonsine and Ṭūsīan recensions of the *Suwar al-kawākib* by ‘Abd al-Raḥmān al-Ṣūfī.
 - 8 The author concludes that many of the sources involved require further study before the connections can be established with certainty.
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Thèmes : 10. Histoire des Sciences et des Techniques

nompropre Tusi, Nasir al-Din Tusi

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