

MĀWARDĪ, KITĀB A'LĀM AL-NUBUWWA
Ms. Berlin, Codex Wetzstein I 106 fol. 69a-b¹

Section from the prophecies of Zakariyyā' b. Yūḥannā (*sic*), one of the prophets of the Banū Isrā'īl. (It says) in his book: 'The angel who was speaking my language returned to me and roused me like a person who is awakened from their sleep. He said to me, "What is this (thing) that you see?" Then I replied, "I see a lamp-stand made of gold and a pan on top of it, and I see on the pan seven lamps, each lamp having seven openings, and over the pan two olive trees, one on the right side of the pan and the other on its left side." And I said to the angel who used my language, "What is this, O my lord?" The angel replied unto me and said to me, "Do you not know what this is?" And I said, "I do not know." Then he said to me: "This is the word of the Lord about Zarbābāl (i.e., Zerubbabel; cf. Zech 4:1-6a), which means «highly praised» (*maḥmadā*). He will call upon My Name and I will answer him, giving (him) good counsel relating to (cultic?) purification. He will purge the earth of false prophets and unclean spirits (cf. Zech 13:2), 'not with force or strength, but instead with My Spirit, says the Lord of Hosts' (Zech 4:6b)."

The two olive trees signify Religion (*dīn*) and Political Sovereignty (*mulk*), and Zarbābāl is Muḥammad, may God bless him and grant him peace!

¹ A scholar of religious law (d. 1058). Arabic text transcribed in Martin Schreiner, "Beiträge zur Geschichte der Bibel in der arabischen Literatur," in *Semitic Studies in Memory of Rev. Dr. Alexander-Kohut* (ed. George Alexander Kohut; Berlin: S. Calvary & Co., 1897), 509-10.