

A Service of the Thomas-Institut, Köln

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Pseudo-Averroes:

De animae beatudine

Composition and History:

The treatise *De animae beatudine* is, basically, a compilation of two short texts on the intellect by Averroes, namely: [34] Chapter on the conjunction of the separate intellect with man and [35] Chapter on the conjunction of intellect with man, followed by an excerpt from the treatise *Mabādi' al-wuǧūd* by Alfarabi. The "translation" was made on the basis of the Hebrew version of those two chapters by Šemu'el Ibn Ṭibbon and includes the latter's introduction, transforming it into an integral part of the text.
However, it is quite complicated to explain the actual state of the text. We will therefore give only a general outline here. The details can be found in the study by M. Geoffroy and C. Steel on which we draw.
The two original chapters stem from different periods of Averroes's life and defend different theories of intellect. Omissions and reworked passages have (almost) oblitterated those differences in the Latin version. The scarce manuscript tradition and two editions form the Renaissance present subsequent stages of the reworking-process. In the oldest manuscript (the one from Oxford) the text bears the title *Tractatus Aueroys de perfectione naturali intellectus secundum mentem philosophi* which was, probably, invented by the scribe; the other manuscripts are without title. This manuscript version has a considerable number of omissions in comparison with the Hebrew texts, some of which have been filled entirely or partially by the first editor Alessandro Achillini (1501) who made use of a copy of the Hebrew version. Apart from that he introduced all sorts of corrections and changes. The second Latin edition by Agostino Nifo some years later (1508), included in his commentary on the text, made use of a manuscript he had found at Padova and the edition by Achillini. It is this version which was later included in the Venetian editions "apud Junctas" of Aristotle's works.

Manuscripts:

Berlin, Staatsbibliothek, Fol. 934, ff. 341v-344v
Oxford, Bodleian Library, Digbeianus 236, ff. 185r-189r (middle of 14th century)
Venezia, Biblioteca di S. Marco, Ms. lat. Z.L. 520, f. 99rv (AL 1651) [incomplete]

Renaissance Editions

- *Aristotelis [...] secretum secretorum ad Alexandrum De regum*

regimine: De sanitatis conseruatione: De physionomia. [...] Alexandri aphrodisei [...] de intellectu. Auerrois [...] de anime bearitudine. Alexandri Achillini [...] de Vniuersalibus. Alexandri macedonis in septentrione monarche de mirabilibus Indiae [...]. Bononiae: Hector Faelli, 1501.

• *Euthici Augustini Niphi philothei Suessani in Averroys de animae beatitudine*. Venetiis, 1508.

• *Euthici Augustini Niphi philothei Suessani in Auerrois de animae beatitudine ad aetatis nostrae decus Sa[n]ctum Mauruz patritiuz Venetu[m] naturae interprete[m].* Venetiis, 1524.

- I did not find this edition listed anywhere, but the "Staats- und Stadtbibliothek Augsburg" does have it in there online catalogue. The "Bayerische Staatsbibliothek, München" likewise has a copy from 1524, listed under the title "In duo libros Averrois de Animae beatitudine".

• *Averrois Tractatus de animae beatudine* (*Aristotelis Opera cum Averrois Commentariis*, Venetiis: apud Junctas, 1562 [reprinted: Frankfurt a.M. 1962], Vol. IX, ff. 148r-155r). {0}

- For further Renaissance editions see Cranz: Venetiis: apud Iunctas, 1550/52 (108.193); Venetiis: Cominus de Tridino Montisferati, 1560 (108.423), Vol. X, ff. 353r-357v; Venetiis: Iuntae, 1575 (108.599).

Critical Edition:

• Averroès. *La béatitude de l'âme*. Editions, traductions annotées, études doctrinales et historiques d'un traité d' "Averroès". Ed. Marc Geoffroy et Carlos Steel. Paris, 2001. {107}

- Reviews.

Translations:

• Illuminati, Augusto. *Completa beatitudo. L'intelletto felice in tre opusculi averoistici*. Chiaravalle, 2000. {114}

• Averroès. *La béatitude de l'âme*. Editions, traductions annotées, études doctrinales et historiques d'un traité d' "Averroès". Ed. Marc Geoffroy et Carlos Steel. Paris, 2001. {107}

- Reviews.

Literature:

Cf. the bibliography, sections on Psychology and Theory of Intellect. Especially: (275) Davidson, Herbert A. "Averrois Tractatus de Animae Beatitudine"...

See also: (19) Vennebusch, "Zur Bibliographie des psychologischen Schrifttums des Averroes",...

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