



## Shi'i Interpretations of Islam: Three Treatises on Theology and Eschatology (Ismaili Texts and Translations)

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One of the most prominent Muslim scholars and scientists of the medieval era, the Persian polymath Nasir al-Din Tusi (1201-1274) joined the Shi'a Nizari Ismaili community at a young age, as the armies of Genghis Khan poured across his homeland. In the course of a long and eminent career, first under the patronage of the Ismailis at the fortress of Alamut, and later with the conquering Mongols, he produced over 150 works on diverse subjects from theology and philosophy to mathematics and astronomy. His principal works on Ismaili doctrine, the *Rawda-yi taslim* (*The Paradise of Submission*) and the autobiographical *Sayr wa suluk* (*Contemplation and Action*), are already available in English translation by S. J. Badakhchani. In this volume, he offers new critical editions and translations of three shorter Ismaili works by Tusi, namely *Aghaz wa anjam* (*The Beginning and the End*), *Tawalla wa tabarra* (*Solidarity and Dissociation*), and *Matlub al-mu'minin* (*Desideratum of the Faithful*). In these three treatises, Tusi provides concise interpretations of key motifs in Ismaili doctrine, with special reference to the primordial nature of man, his earthly existence in relation to the imam, and his destiny in the hereafter.

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#### **About the Author**

S. J. Badakhchani is a Research Associate at The Institute of Ismaili Studies. His publications include *Contemplation and Action: The Spiritual Autobiography of a Muslim Scholar* (1998) and *Paradise of Submission: A Medieval Treatise on Ismaili Thought* (2005), both published by I.B.Tauris.

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