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In 1014/1605-06, as attested by an ownership mark penned in the upper part of the title page (fol. 1a; see fig. ???), it came to be part of the library of a man who scribbled his name as follows: العبدويسي.<sup>1</sup> It would be hard to find any information on this person, even though Brockelmann ascribes, on the basis of the description of a manuscript held in Vienna, to some al-'Abdawayṣī a work entitled *Anīs al-ġalīs wa-nadīm al-ra'īs*.<sup>2</sup> He also situates the activity of this person around the year 669/1270 following the said description. In fact, the author of the catalog of the Viennese collection, Gustav Flügel, only mentions that he found a note on the title page (fol. 1a) that he proposed to read: *huwa ḥasbī, min kutub al-'Abdūṣī* [sic] ("He [God] is sufficient for me! One of the books of al-'Abdūṣī").<sup>3</sup> On the basis of this note, Flügel wondered if this meant that he was the author or the owner of the manuscript.<sup>4</sup> Apparently, Brockelmann did not worry about this doubt and attributed the work to the person who was in fact the owner. This note exactly tallies with the ownership mark found in MS OR. 560, though, in the Viennese manuscript, no date of acquisition is mentioned, a detail that puzzled Flügel on the true meaning of the note.

The way the name is written is in fact misleading<sup>5</sup> as it is composed of two parts: *al-'Abd* and *Waysī*. *Waysī* was the pen name (*maḥlaṣ*) of Uways b. Muḥammad (b. 969/1561-62, d. 1037/1628), a Turkish poet and historian.<sup>6</sup> Born in Alaşehir (Anatolia, Province of Manisa) to a family of a certain standing with a father holding a judgeship and an uncle famous for his poetry, *Waysī* grew in his home town and received there his primary education before being sent to the capital of the Empire where he studied with the authorities of his time. Degree in hand, it didn't take long before he got his first job: his appointment as judge in Egypt must have taken place in his late twenties. His first position, one of the lowest in the Ottoman judicial hierarchy as he started his career in Banī Ḥarām (Province of Banī Suwayf),<sup>7</sup> was soon to be followed by a promotion to the highest level as judge of Rosetta (Rašīd) at the eve of the new

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1. See Appendix ???, no. 3.

2. *GAL*, S. 1:599, no. 15.

3. Flügel (1865-1867), 1:406 (no. 419).

4. *Ibid.*: "Entweder also ist al-'Abdūṣī Verfasser dieses Buches oder er war nur Besitzer desselben."

5. It is sometimes mistaken for another relational name (*nisbah*) quite close to it: al-'Abdūṣī.

6. On him, see al-Baġdādī, *Hadīyyat al-'arīfīn*, 1:228; Bursalı (1914), 2:477-479; Gibb (1900-09), 3:208-218; B.A. Kaya, "Veysi", in *DĪA*, 43:76-77, Th. Menzel and Edith G. Ambros, "Weysi", in *EF*, 11:204-205.

7. He thus belonged to fourth category of judges. See Hammer-Purgstall (1835-43), 17:15.