

field, Tumanskii corresponded with E.G. Browne (1862-1926). He offered significant assistance to the Bahai community in Russia, especially when the first Bahai temple was being constructed in Ashgabat (Hudüd al-ʿalam, pp. xlii-xliii). Tumanskii translated into Russian the work Šajara-ye Tarakema ('Genealogical Tree of the Turkmen') of Abu'l-Gazi Bahador Khan of Khiva (1603-63). This translation was published in Ashgabat in 1897. Being a military man, he wrote a book entitled Military Art of the Ancient Arabs (1897).

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Possibly under the influence of either Viktor Rozen (1849-1908) or Vasilii Bartol'd (1869-1930), Tumanskii became interested in the lost work of Ulugh-beg (Olog-beg, 1394-1449) entitled Olus-e arbaʿa. In the process of searching for this work, during his stay in Bukhara in 1893, Tumanskii was presented an ancient manuscript by a friend of his, Mirza Mohammad Abu'l-Fazl Golpayegani (1844-1914). The manuscript turned out to contain four works, among them a unique Persian geographical composition entitled Hodud al-ʿalam ('Regions of the World') composed in 372/982. Abu'l-Fazl Golpayegani presented the manuscript to Tumanskii "on condition that it should be edited and not be lost for science" (Hudüd al-ʿalam, pp. xli-xliii).

Being busy with other things, Tumanskii did not manage to prepare (or at least to publish) the translation of the entire Hodud al-ʿalam, even though his translations of the passages on Samarqand and on the Bortas-Baradas came out in 1893 and 1914 (Hudüd al-ʿalam, pp. xliii-xliv, n. 3). After the October Revolution of 1917, the manuscript traveled together with Tumanskii to Constantinople/Istanbul, and after his death on 1 December 1920 his widow arranged, via the mediation of Vladimir Minorsky (1877-1966), that the manuscript was returned to Leningrad (since that time, the manuscript has been preserved at the Institute of Oriental Studies in St.Petersburg), mainly due to the fact that quite some work for the facsimile edition of it had been done already. The facsimile appeared in 1930; it bears Tumanskii's name and is prefaced and indexed by Vasilii Barthol'd (see Khudüd al-ʿAlem: rukopis' Tumanskogo). It was Vladimir Minorsky who made the English translation of the entire Hodud al-ʿalam in 1937 (the second edition was published in 1970).

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Abbreviations.

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