English translation for al-ḥājj ʿUmar b. Abī Bakr poem number ISA.AR.109 (v)

In the name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate;
May God bless our noble Muhammed and his family, his companions, his wives, and his descendants, (May God) grant them salvation and peace. Amen.

1. This situation that has descended is what we shall compose.
   Hearken to the story of Naṣāra.¹

2. It is by the name of our lord that we begin
   So it will be perfect and pleasing in composition.

3. Our salutation to Muḥammad, the foremost of us, [God’s] servants,
   The disciples and the family, the immaculate ones.

4. We were living our lives in our land
   And we had no concern regarding Jews or Christians,

5. When [at some time] they said kola was scarce
   [Because] of strife between Ashanti and Christians.

6. Then it was later said, Asante was no more.
   The whole land has been scattered by the Christians.

7. Slaves became like kids as they rejoiced
   Saying: “We shall serve no more due to [the arrival] of the Christians.”

8. Every one of them declared his independence,
   Carrying themselves with pride because of the Christians.

9. Then soon we learned that Samori had come
   With his massive army; who are Christians [to challenge him]!?

10. They consisted of infantry units led by warlords as well as cavalries
    Together with accoutrements to torment the Christians.

11. But in reality, it was not true. For it was he himself,
    Whose territory was being routed by the Christians.

12. He was trying to escape and in full flight
    Glancing fretfully about to avoid the Christians.

13. It was then that Prempeh got wind [of it],
    And sent to inquire about the Christians.
    [And then dispatched messengers to him
    Saying: “Let us team up and crush the Christians.”]

14. It was then also that the Christians learned of it
    So they captured Prempeh by ruse.

15. And then together they bore down on Samori,
    French and English, kinds of Christians,

16. And soon Samori fell into [their] hands.
    He was captured, he would be taken to the Christian lands.

17. Before this he had committed atrocities and waged war.
    Men were slaughtered and while women wailed,

18. They were slaughtered like chickens and guinea-fowls.
    Woe! Come quickly, O Christians!

¹ Thereafter, Christians.
19. Ahmad, of Segu, was a great man. 
   It was there, in Segu, that they pounced on him, the Christians.
20. Agibu, his younger sibling, yearned to rule,  
   So he went and called the Christians [for help].
21. So Ahmad was chased out from all his land.  
   He took off as far as dütsen kūrā in Kebbi.
22. It was said that he died. May God have mercy on him! 
   He was a noble man, true believer and thankful servant (of God).
23. The Zabarmas in the land of Gurunshi were powerful warriors 
   No one could challenge them, except the Christians!
   He engaged them in war; there were then no Christians.
25. [And then he heard about the French 
   And soon he bestowed himself to the Christians.]
26. They (his people) complained that he has mocked them; they have had enough 
   Of his war, and he aligned himself with Christians.
27. It was then that he betrayed them; they (his people) were being killed. 
   Evil firearms are possessed by the Christians!
28. [Alas! Fighting against loaded guns was unknown! 
   Hell is filled in the Christian gun!]
29. It was then that they were invaded (by night). They were being killed. 
   Devilish firearms are possessed by the Christians!
30. And then their warlord Ali was killed. 
   [Know that Christian shooting does not miss (its target).]
31. The Zabarma troops had already decamped;  
   Some of them travelled to the southern lands.
32. Know that their leaders returned to Dagomba land,  
   In Yendi where the German Christians were.
33. There was Garju, a prince of Gurma;  
   He behaved insolently towards the Christians, 
34. When he prepared to assault (them) with a spear   
   Hold it! You really think you will reach to the Christians?
35. There and then a gunshot pierced through Garju.  
   He died instantly; that is the action of the Christians.
36. Now, not so fast! Have you heard how they entered Kandi? 
   In truth, the Christians have the guts!
37. And so, Saka got prepared, [claiming] he was going to attack;  
   It was his brains that they blew out, the Christians! 
38. The crowd instantly dispersed, everybody screaming:  
   “Take shelter now, here are the Christians!”
39. Believe me, Saka, son of Kutu, was truly a brave man. 
   He used to claim that no one could challenge him, even the Christians. 
40. When he prepared for battle, he met them face to face.  
   It is a frightening thing, to face off with the Christians.
41. Instantly, there and then, he was knocked down flat,

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2 Literally “hill of hyenas” situated in Kebbi.
And soon the people of Borgu were declaring that they have submitted to the Christians.

42. When they arrived in the land of Nupe, [saying] we have come to rule,
   Our Abubakar declined to surrender to the Christians.

43. At once he managed to kill one of them,
   But then, it did not augur well killing a Christian.

44. They soon withdrew and organized themselves.
   It was not good a thing, the coming of the Christians.

45. Unwillingly he moved out and left his town.
   He kept running as they chased him, the Christians.

46. He appeared like a hare half-caught in a trap [trying to escape]
   As they raced, [he and] the Christians.

47. Meanwhile the crowd dispersed, and all scattered out.
   Only a few remained. Be sensible, O Christians!

48. They kept chasing until they took him prisoner.
   Be reasonable! How could he resist the Christians!

49. It was in Lokoja that they finally came face to face.
   Up until his death he kept fighting the Christians.

50. Keep calm! Have you heard about the Germans in Adigbo?
   Where the Dagombas encountered the Christians!

51. Their chief rifleman was not a coward.
   He had killed a Christian before they took his life.

52. The Dagombas are brave and true warriors.
   They had assaulted a German among the Christians.

53. After they killed many Dagombas
   They continued to Yendi, the Christians.

54. [Know (however) that they did not tarry there], in Yendi.
   They live an inconstant life, the Christians.

55. And as soon as the bugler sounds, they set out on their way.
   Imagine this reasoning: Christian wisdom

56. The Dagomba were holding meeting at Zongo.
   They captured the Yarima of Yendi, the Christians.

57. There and then they killed him, blind though he was.
   Then the gathering dispersed due to the Christians.

58. At first they were preparing to fight one another
   But soon they reconciled to oppose the Christians.

59. The pagans of Tasi challenged the Christians,
   And Mister Graf was a tall Christian.

60. With just few weapons, they (Christians) crushed them all.
   Then they dispersed and cried out, “Woe, the Christians!”

61. Know that Yaa Asantewa raised her voice,
   Swearing that she would chase out the Christians.

62. When she called out, the pagans gave response
   They started gathering, declaring that they were going to kill the Christians.

63. And then they besieged the barracks, all round, with the Governor within
   As well as the Hausa [troops] who accompanied the Christians.

64. And very soon, all the officials and the women
Began to die of starvation; here were the Christians.

65. The crisis became intense and severe
   As result of the tension between Asante and Christians

66. Subsequently the [British] Commander arose with soldiers
   To come to the rescue of the Christian Governor.

67. Hardly had he reached Kumase, in a state of rage,
   There was lot of seething, fuming and hairsplitting, Christians!

68. Than he took control and began to fight.
   It was with difficulty that he fought his way to the Christians.

69. Threatening and cursing he finally extricated himself.
   Hurray to the Christian black bull!

70. And then the European war-camp set out
   In large squadrons in the manner of the Christians.

71. When the Asante gathering dispersed,
   Asantewa ended up falling into the hands of the Christians.

72. Brave men were killed, in addition to some women.
   Soon thereafter the southern forest lands fell under Christian domination.

73. The Magaji\(^3\) of Keffi was a true warrior.
   He claimed no one could stop him, even the Christians.

74. He killed an official of high rank
   And he was vaunting of having killed a Christian.

75. It was then that they chased him out of his land.
   He was running away trying to escape from the Christians.

76. And soon enough his troop dispersed all together.
   He was reduced to loneliness because of the Christians.

77. He was crossing the millet-fields hoping to escape.
   And reach territories devoid of Christians.

78. In was in a cemetery that he died, there in Jarwal,
   When he met our lord, the forgiving Lord.

79. In Zinder, Jinjir has indeed committed an outrage
   When he behaved senselessly by killing a Christian.

80. Hell! He had killed a prominent Frenchman,
   Sacrèfou’s very younger brother, the Christian warlord.

81. Thereupon Sacrèfou closed in with soldiers
   Made up of huge battalions of Christians.

82. But Ahmadu Jinjiri went to confront them -
   It was not a good idea confronting the Christians!

83. It was there that Jinjiri died a martyr’s death.
   Then they went on to kill people, the Christians!

84. Thereupon they took control of cities and villages.
   Within Zinder there is no authority today apart from Christians.

85. There were some pagans, who were known as Munche
   Who maneuvered stealthily and killed Christians.

86. At that moment the Christians turned back.
   Know that indeed death always accompanies the Christians.

\(^3\) Military leader.
87. And learn that the Christian battle-line knows no retreat - 
   Birds then began rejoicing as well as hyenas.
88. Where is Kawsau of Zazzaw, the valiant one! 
   No one could dare challenge him except the Christians.
89. It was here that he was captured and subjected to public humiliation
   They pilloried him; how come, o Christians?
90. It was there in Lokoja that Kawsau passed away.
   What shall we say concerning the Christians rule?
91. O God, grant him peaceful abode!
   Let him dwell in blessings and drink from pure springs!
92. Where is the Kebbi ruler, Sama son of Nabame?
   He has kept silent, observing the Christians.
93. The Kebbi people cried out to him, “O! Let us prepare [for war]
   Let us unite and crush all the Christians!”
94. He responded: “I am not going to behave irrationally, O people of Kebbi
   And take you to be slaughtered before the Christians.
95. Know that Sama does not play farce or fraud.
   He shall remain totally upright even towards Christians.”
96. [Sama acted wisely and people were saved.
   He served as Kebbi’s gatekeeper for the Christians.]
97. The people of Abuja made the mistake and confronted them.
   They were vaunting that they would kill Christians.
98. When they gathered, they lurked behind the hills.
   There is foolishness in the one who confronts the Christians
99. Upon arrival the Christians fell in battle lines
   And soon they shouted: “Fire,” in the Christian language.
100. Anguish soon engulfed the mountains.
    Smoke rose high from the action of the Christians.
101. The people of Abuja turned and took to their heels.
    They kept running, crying: “O, Christians!”
102. There are some people of the Kunkuru tribe, there in Maradi.
    Ask them [what they know] concerning the Christians.
103. When they challenged them, they realized they had no chance.
    There and then, they submitted and surrendered to the Christians!
104. Where are the children of Babari and Soba,
    Bawa, and dan Gudi who surpasses all equals?
105. Know that the Gobir people are brave men and valiant warriors.
    But for all their valor they avoided the Christians.
106. When they challenged them, they realized they were too strong for them
    Such weapons could not reach the Christians.
107. Their weapons, however, could strike at us
    Although it is from afar that they aim, these Christians.
108. [So the Gobir people] said: “Brothers, note that
    Our fight with them is difficult, these Christians.”
109. They soon surrendered and became reconciled.
    Today they have come under Christian rule.
110. There was a warlord whose name was Rabeh -
   He conquered Borno; at that moment the Christians were not yet here.
111. He committed grievous crimes across the land.
   He had boasted of fearing no one, even the Christians.
112. When they came and shortly engaged [him] in battle, they killed him
   In a marshy land. There, you have the brave Christians!
113. His authority came to an end in Borno.
   There is no trace of him today except the Christians.
114. And then the grandson of Shehu, the ruler of Kantagora -
   His father was Nagwamatse, who loved good tidings.
115. Everybody benefited from his father’s [generosity]
   Men, women, the elderly, as well as children.
116. [He was the son of Atiku, Bello’s younger brother,
   Rulers of Hausa land, when Christians were not here.
117. Nagwamatse is now dead; (now they are here)
   He was waging his wars, then Christians were not here.
118. Then they put him in fear and forced him to flee from his land.
   He kept running with Christians in pursuit.
119. It was in this manner that they captured him, there in Maska;
   Then they paraded him around, the Christians’ fancy!
120. But then after they said to him, “Return to your land!
   We shall set you free.” Thus you see the coming of the Christians!
121. [There was Murda, true believer, who loved Muslim creed
   Warlord of the town of Sada who fails not to settle scores -
   During the battle of Kontagora he fought like a bull.
   They had it tough with him, the Christians.
122. There was our ‘Umar, son of Salmanu of Bauchi -
   They captured him at Yarba, the Christians!
123. No one knew what offense he had committed against them.
   Only God knows it, and they themselves the Christians.
124. With regards to Abubakari, the ruler of Zaitakoro,
   They had captured him also; he is in the hands of the Christians.]
125. For sure we do not know the cause of their dispute;
   Only Almighty God [knows] it, and the Christians themselves.
126. None of us knows the cause of his offense.
   Only they know it, the Christian authorities.
127. Look, how they have captured the rulers of Gwandu.
   They are kept in Lokoja, in the hands of the Christians.
128. We surely do not know the reason for their capture.
   Only they know it the Christian authorities.
129. Could it be for killing enemies, or for their obstinacy,
   Or for making them mad, the Christians?
130. Or perhaps it was the delusion of foolish people who deceived them
   Saying “Ruler, refuse and stand up to the Christians!”
131. For me I really do not know; they have indicated
   That there is nothing forbidden for them, Christians!]
133. Muḥammad, son of Haru, ruler of Hadejia,  
He was the one who refused to obey the Christians.
134. When he rebelled against them, he prepared for war  
Because of (his) ignorance; he lacks knowledge of the Christians.
135. As soon as they met, they killed the ruler of Hadejia:  
It was like removing a thorn [for them], the action of the Christians.
136. Look at Sokoto, the walled city of Bello;  
It was there that they carried their war, the Christians!
137. They prepared to torment them a lot;  
The Christians possess mighty, mighty weapons.
138. The Christians possess evil field guns.  
They also have magazine gun; those are the Christian tools.
139. There is also the bugler with his sound-blow of death.  
Whenever you hear it, you will see the Christians.
140. [They also have the rocket, with the sound of thunder.  
There are weapons of mischief in the possession of Christians.]
141. Quivers, bows, swords or even spears - -  
These are playful things before the Christians.
142. Oryx shields, Argungu spears, or even harpoons - -  
These are playful things before the Christians.
143. Round shields, large shields, and cuirasses - -  
These are comic things before the Christians.
144. [Constructed walled towns], or fences of stakes or stockades - -  
These things will not stop the Christians.
145. Even the thick iron gates,  
They are like doors covered with grass before the Christians.
146. Soon awhile, horsemen were gathered here, in Sokoto.  
People were on the war path to kill Christians.
147. It was under the deleb-palm that they gathered singing war songs.  
The Muslims’ leader standing face to face with the Christians.
148. When battle lines were drawn, only martyrdom remained  
For it is evil to set eyes on Christian demons.
149. Then the lines were broken and realigned for full assault,  
Threatening to finish off the Christians.
150. But shortly they cracked and scattered.  
They were viewed as terrifying, the Christian demons.
151. [Know also that the Christian is very skillful;  
No one can overcome him except a Christian.]  
152. The horses were shot dead, as well as the riders.  
Then you could only hear calls to flee from the Christians.
153. Where is Aṭṭāhiru, grandson of Atīku,  
Saint of God!!? They badgered him, the Christians.
154. [So he got ready and departed from his land.  
He kept travelling and was fearful of the Christians.]  
155. People began to flee the land from towns and villages.  
They were crying out: “We do not want Christian rule.”
156. Then the Muslims’ leader gathered his people and departed.
   How dreadful you are, o Christians!

157. [They kept pursuing him as if to claim some debt
   Or could he have abused the Christian King?]

158. He kept crossing through millet-fields and towns until he arrived at Bīma.
   It was there that they got him by intrigue, the nature of Christian warfare!

159. It was there that they killed him, on Friday,
   During prayer time, alas! Christians!

160. It was there that the head of the Muslims was interred
   As he died a martyr’s death in the hands of the Christians.

161. O God, O Everlasting God,
   Be merciful to Ḍṭṭāhiru, your ever thankful servant!

162. So they came to Kano, only [to subject people] to public ridicule.
   The gathering was large, the Christian summons.

163. An officer-Colonel, a Sergeant, a Sergeant-Major,
   Soldiers and recruits; these formed the Christian contingent.

164. Include clerks, as well as laborers,
   Complete the list with cooks for the Christians.

165. There was the police, include the jailer and add
   A superintendent, next the Christian foot soldiers.⁴

166. There was also a doctor; he is a medicine man
   He cures diseases of Christians.

167. There was a Town-Councilman; he oversees sanitation,
   Including the back of houses (toilets?), according to laws of the Christians

168. [There was a bugler, with his death-announcing blare.
   When you hear it, you will soon see the Christians.

169. So they came to Kano (with) those things,
   Declaring “Fire” in front of them, horror of the Christians!

170. There was machine gun and guns that are pulled (barrage?)
   There were also magazine guns; do you see the Christian weaponry?!

171. There was also a rocket that sounds like thunder,
   Guns strapped to the belt of Christians.

172. There were also long swords with wide straps being pulled out
   And they were shining, in the hands of the Christians.]

173. The ruler of Kano, however, was not present [at the time];
   Since he was not at home, the Christians took control.

174. People soon gathered by the city walls shouting,
   “[We have no fear] the iron gate will stop the Christians.”

175. It took one assault and the gate was completely shattered.
   Then the Christians entered bringing their troubles along.

176. Know that no one was touched by them in an act of kindness.
   It was to the Kano ruler’s palace that they went, the Christians!

177. They plundered the palace in public ridicule
   And burned weapons, o, the Christians!

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⁴ Pliszewicz translates the words as “preacher, sailor, and prison,” but the British did not allow Christian missionaries to proselytize in Northern Nigeria. The reference to sailor also seems incongruous.
178. [Then Sarkin Shanu] confronted them.
   With a single blow they killed him all at once, the Christians.
179. When they completed ransacking Dabo’s palace
   And exposed its secrets, O, the Christians!
180. Afterwards they asked, “You, people of this town!
   Where did your ruler go to?” Here you have the Christians!
181. “Where is the Kano ruler, the grandson of Dabo,
   Aliyu, the indomitable, the progressive leader?”
182. He was getting ready to dedicate his life for holy war and worship of God.
   No one could escape him, except the Christians.
183. When they prepared to set in pursuit of him,
   He came on his own accord, and there were the Christians.
184. When they engaged in sudden combat, it turned bad
   So he was forced quickly to turn away from the Christians.
185. The chiefs, together with his elder siblings,
   Took to accusing him of cowardice before the Christians.
186. They vowed to stand and fight;
   And succeeded in killing some Christians.
187. [The Christians had shown no fear at all (when they met).
   They soon prevailed, mighty Christians.
188. They succeeded in destroying three wards; they do not fail.
   After seeing this they reasoned with themselves and became aware of the Christians’ capabilities.
189. On realizing this they said: “We cease to fight.
   Let us surrender and submit to the Christians.”]
190. It was there in Gobir that he was overcome and he was captured.
   Now he is in Lokoja, in Christians’ hands.
191. Thereafter they have regained their safety
   And declared: “We will not fight Christians anymore.”
192. [Then the Christians inquired] “Where is the next in royal line for us to enthrone him?”
   And so they appointed a ruler in Kano; the powerful Christians!
193. Ever since, their authority became established in the land.
   Who is there to challenge the authority of the Christians?
194. Now take a look at these rulers we have named;
   They have all fallen under Christian control.
195. Who would dispute our plain account?
   As for us, we have surrendered [to the brave Christians.]
196. We pray Almighty God, the Sublime One,
   To preserve us from Christian contempt.
197. Know that those who challenge Christian authority,
   We care not about them; for us, we support only the Christians.
198. Listen and take note of this composition.
   I want to describe the character of the Christians.
199. The grass in town is weeded and swept away.
   This is good indeed among the Christian deeds.
200. Smooth roads have been constructed straight across
And even bridges have been built thanks to the Christians.

201. The markets are swept clean, no refuse can be seen.
And the stalls are repaired; that is the Christians’ deed.

202. Safety reigns here, and there is no plundering
And there is no deception in what the Christians do.

203. Anyone who buys your good pays you in cash
But when he refuses [to pay], then go to the Christians.

204. Fighting has also ceased in the era of the Christians;
There is no brawl or punching someone thanks to the Christians.

205. When people fight, they are quickly arrested,
Arraigned and then questioned before the Christians.

206. And when you refuse to sweep [your compound] you are arrested
And locked up in a court-room of the Christians.

207. Then [as punishment] you are made to sweep the burial ground.
All these are good deeds brought by the Christians.

208. Regarding the wars which used to be waged across the Sudan,
As soon as the arrived they have ceased -- the strong Christians!

209. [Where are the rulers of Futa], Borgu and Gurma!
They are all no more; today only the Christians hold sway.

210. [Moreover (in those days) they could only maintain power by waging wars
That has now ceased to be, thanks to the Christians.

211. People used to quarrel among themselves or fight.
That has now ceased to be, (thanks to) the learned Christian.]

212. Today, whoever they chose to appoint a ruler
People must perforce comply with Christian authority.

213. And know that in this era there are no more capable men;
There is no sense of self-prowess in this Christian era.

214. In reality self-sufficiency consists in preserving one’s dignity;
Why then not enjoy yourself in the comfort afforded by the Christians?

215. In fact whoever deviates [from the law] is dragged before the courts.
He is detained [to stand trial] before the Christian Commissioner.

216. He is fully interrogated and must give a detailed response.
Order reigns in the Christians’ court.

217. He is asked to explain the causes of his deed.
The Christian magistrate shows great discerning.

218. The slave-master will be sentenced to prison.
Indeed slaves can see the [effectiveness] of Christian authority.

219. The chief of your town would be locked up in prison
Even at the expense of a commoner; see effects of the coming of Christians.

220. The coming of the Christians we can metaphorically thus describe:
The dog eats up the hyena, thanks to the Christians.

221. The female cat walks unafraid in the way of the wildcat.
She taunts him, thanks to the authority of Christians.

222. And now the hare also swaggers before the lion,
Berating him with insults; thanks to the Christians’ presence.]

223. [Dogs willfully offend and sing songs,
Wagging their tails about, thanks to the Christians.

224. [They even affront the lion, tugging his mane
And now badger him, thanks to the Christians.]

225. And the baboon now takes a club
And trounces the leopard, thanks to the Christians.]

226. Likewise the hen and her brood of chicks --
They now stand and squawk at the kite, thanks to the Christians.

227. They rail at her together with her spouse, the hawk
[Shouting, “You are no more affrighting, thanks to the Christians.”]

228. [Here is the billy-goat who takes a whip,
And thrashes the jackal, thanks to the Christians.

229. The mice also gather to celebrate
Their wedding moment, in the Christians era.

230. Their bride-washer was but the cat, imagine that!
How could such celebration have been held, without the presence of the Christians!]

231. [How could this bride and her maids
Have been conveyed, if not thanks to the Christians.]

232. [I have also witnessed some dogs standing in line.
Being sold out, in the era of the Christians.]

233. [It was the hare which was making the offers
It was the hare which bought them, thanks to the Christians.

234. He makes bad offers, because he is at liberty
And he publicly flaunts (his) penis, thanks to the Christians.

235. Here, in some town-ward, one would chance on a Buzu
His turban over his mouth, thanks to the Christians.

236. He shushes to a Fulani [when he sees him]
Hissing: “I will kill you,” now here are the Christians.

237. The Fulani then would say: “I have no business with you.
Your father is emboldened now, thanks to the Christians!”

238. And also the cockroach confronts the hen,
Jeering openly at her, thanks to the Christians.

239. Even the toad dares abuse the black-hooded cobra
And punching it, because the Christians are here.

240. What I have said in form of illustration
Is a reflection of worldly life during the era of the Christians.

241. For it is a life that does not impair principles of law
Because it absolves no one; that is the Christian.

242. In respect to the Muslim magistrates, they are corrupt,
So it is better for me to see the Christians’ judge.

243. There is comfort in this rule of theirs,
As well as frustration, in the rule of Christians.

244. Both common man and his town chief stand to seek justice
Before the Commissioner in the Christian court.

245. People acquire respect; take note of this my dear brothers!
People are honored, in the era of the Christians.

246. The slave master stands in equal trial with the slave.
Indeed there is (in)discipline under the Christians’ rule.

247. [When the slave feels persecuted, he quickly runs
To his father, that is the Christian.]

248. When women feel oppressed by their husbands,
They are arraigned before Christian authority.

249. Adults and children are [treated] as equals in their presence;
Everyone stands by himself before the Christians.

250. They express neither fear, nor feel ashamed.
They speak out bluntly before the Christians.

251. Forbear, your pride! They know you well, fool!
For no favor would waive the punishment of Christian law.

252. Forget your money, or your power
Or your learning, the Christian law does not give a damn.

253. The English have a tender character.
They are sympathetic towards people, the mighty Christians.

254. For my part, I am thankful to God, in their era
For they have treated me well, these Christians.

255. As much as I am concerned, may their rule last forever!
Because I live a life of prosperity, under Christian rule.

256. O Protector, O Lord of People!
Preserve us from Christian tyranny!

257. For the sake of Muḥammad, Noah and Moses,
As well as Rūḥu Allah, Isā, Lord of the Christians,

258. Know that this poem should not induce malaise.
It has no other rhyme other than Naṣārā (Christians.)

259. Our poem is now accomplished, it is fully composed
By the power of Him Who created us, as well as the Christians.

(Tammat wa bi al-Khayri ἀmmat
Al-ḥamdu li-Allahi wa husnu ἀwnihī)
[It is complete and may it be filled with benefit
Praise be to God for His good support]