

## HERMAN'S TRANSLATION OF SAHL IBN BISHR'S ASTROLOGICAL TREATISE

Herman Dalmatin was a 12th-century Croatian philosopher and a translator from Arabic into Latin. His most important translations into Latin were those of the eminent Arabic philosophers and scientists Sahl ibn Bishr and Abu Mashar. Herman's translations contributed to bringing Arabic science and culture to the West, particularly astrology, whose knowledge in Western Europe at that time still relied on Late Roman sources. The paper deals with Herman's 1138 translation of a part of Sahl ibn Bishr's book that Herman called *Fatidica* (the Soothsayer). There are two reasons why this text was chosen. The first is that it is Herman's first translation and his first text overall. The second reason is that the subject matter makes this text one of the first to introduce astrology to the West and demonstrate the necessity of using complex mathematical calculations, with consequent changes in the Western perception of astrology. The influence of this text on Herman's only original work, *De essentiis* (1143), is likely. The paper ends with the translation of the first chapter of the *Fatidica*, which, though incomplete, is the first translation of this work into Croatian.

**Keywords:** Herman Dalmatin, Sahl ibn Bishr, *Fatidica*, astrology, translation