

## NESTORIAN BISHOPRICS AND METROPOLITANATES

Mingana, *Early Spread of Christianity*, 24-36, 73-76; supplemented by Atiya, *History of Eastern Christianity*, 265-266; Moffett, *History of Christianity in Asia*, 464; Stewart, *Nestorian Missionary Enterprise*, 84-85; and Vine, *Nestorian Churches*, cited in Moffett, 372.

Province/Country	City/Town	Bishop (Date) <sup>1</sup>	Metropolitan (Date)
<b>Abiward/Baward</b> (NW of Khurasan)		Bishop (554)	
Khurasan	<b>Abrashahr</b> /Iran Shahr (modern Nishapur)	Bishop (424)	
<b>Adiabene</b>	Erbil		Metropolitan before 500? <sup>2</sup>
Tabaristan (N of Damawand)	<b>Amul</b>	Bishop (554)	
<b>Armenia</b>			Metropolitan (779- 823): 13 <sup>th</sup> in rank
<b>Arran</b> (W of Caspian Sea)	Barda	Bishop (420)	Metropolitan (c. 900)
<b>Atropatene</b> (Azerbaijan)	Taurisium		Metropolitan before 500? <sup>3</sup>
<b>Badisi/Badhgis</b> (N of Herat)		Bishop (585)	
	<b>Bukhara</b>		Metropolitan before 8 <sup>th</sup> century
	<b>Bushanj</b> (W of Herat)	Bishop (585)	
<b>China</b> (Sin & Masin)	Chang-an/Hsian-fu (Xi'an)		Metropolitan (628- 643 or 712-728?) <sup>4</sup> : 11 <sup>th</sup> or 14 <sup>th</sup> in rank? <sup>5</sup>
<b>Dailumaye/Beith</b> (near Caspian Sea)	Mukar	Bishop (225)	Metropolitan (c. 780)
<b>Damascus</b>	Damascus		Metropolitan (before end of 7 <sup>th</sup> century)

<sup>1</sup> All dates are the earliest recorded date a bishop or metropolitan is mentioned. Some dates are given as specific years and others are recorded as “during the patriarchate of \_\_\_\_\_” and therefore are indicated as a range of years.

<sup>2</sup> According to Vine. Moffett gives this as the 4th in rank.

<sup>3</sup> According to Vine.

<sup>4</sup> Other dates mentioned in some sources are 410-415 or 505-523, but these seem too early to be accurate. Vine gives the date as about 636.

<sup>5</sup> Rankings differ according to different sources.

Sijistan	<b>Farah</b>	Bishop (544)	
<b>Fars</b>	Rewardashir		Metropolitan (399-410 or 415-420) <sup>6</sup> : 6 <sup>th</sup> in rank
<b>Garamea</b>	Beit Garmai, later Shahrzur or Karkh (Kirkuk)		Metropolitan (325-341): 5 <sup>th</sup> in rank
Khurasan	<b>Herat</b>	Bishop (424)	Metropolitan (585) <sup>7</sup> : 9 <sup>th</sup> in rank?
<b>Halwan</b>	Halwan		Metropolitan (628-643) <sup>8</sup> : 8 <sup>th</sup> in rank
<b>India</b>	Patna?		Metropolitan (628-643 or 712-728?) <sup>9</sup> : 10 <sup>th</sup> or 15 <sup>th</sup> in rank?
<b>Java</b>			Metropolitan (1503) <sup>10</sup> : 15 <sup>th</sup> in rank?
<b>Jerusalem</b>	Jerusalem	Bishop (835)	Metropolitan (1065)
<b>Jilan/Gilan</b> (SW coast of Caspian Sea)		Bishop(554)	
<b>Jundishapur (Elam?)</b>	Beit Lapat/ Jundishapur	Bishop (225)	Metropolitan (290-325) <sup>11</sup> : 1 <sup>st</sup> in rank
<b>Jurjan</b> (SE coast of Caspian Sea)		Bishop (497)	
<b>Kadistan</b> (near Herat)		Bishop (585)	
China/Turkestan	<b>Kashgar &amp; Nuakith</b>		Metropolitan (1180) <sup>12</sup> : 27 <sup>th</sup> in rank
Hyrkania (on Caspian Sea)	<b>Khamlikh/Halah</b>	Bishop (???)	
China	<b>Khan Balik &amp; Falik</b> (Peking)	Bishop	Metropolitan (1248): 25 <sup>th</sup> in rank
China (north China)	<b>Khatai</b>		Metropolitan (1063)
China/Turkestan	<b>Kumul/Hami</b>	Bishop (1266)	
Khurasan	<b>Merv</b>	Bishop (424)	Metropolitan (544) <sup>13</sup> : 7 <sup>th</sup> in rank

<sup>6</sup> Vine gives the date as between 500 and 650; Moffett gives it as 554.

<sup>7</sup> Other dates mentioned in some sources are 410-415 or 505-523, but these seem too early to be accurate.

<sup>8</sup> Vine gives the date as 754, but Moffett gives it as 642.

<sup>9</sup> Other dates mentioned in some sources are 410-415 or 505-523, but these seem too early to be accurate. Vine gives the date as about 800.

<sup>10</sup> Java must have had a metropolitan long before this, the earliest date on record.

<sup>11</sup> Vine gives the date as 834.

<sup>12</sup> Mingana thinks that there was actually a metropolitan here as early as 650 AD.

			7 <sup>th</sup> in rank
	<b>Merv-ar-Rud</b> (S of Merv)	Bishop (544)	
<b>Mosul (Assyria?)</b>	Mosul		Metropolitan (290-325) <sup>14</sup> : 4 <sup>th</sup> in rank
<b>Nisibis/Beit ‘Arbaye</b>	Nisibis		Metropolitan (290-325): 2 <sup>nd</sup> in rank
<b>Patriarchalis</b>	Kashkar		Metropolitan before 500? <sup>15</sup>
<b>Qatar</b>	Qatar	Bishop (225)	
<b>Rayy</b>	Rayy (near Teheran)	Bishop (424)	Metropolitan (c. 778)
Sijistan	<b>Rukhut</b>	Bishop (544)	
Turkestan	<b>Samarkand</b>	possibly same as Bishopric of Turkestan established for the Hephthalite Huns in 549?	Metropolitan (early 8th century) <sup>16</sup> : 12 <sup>th</sup> or 21 <sup>st</sup> in rank?
<b>Sijistan</b>	???	Bishop (424)	
<b>Syria</b>			Metropolitan (779-823): 14 <sup>th</sup> in rank
China (Gansu Province)	<b>Tangut</b>	possibly same as Bishopric established by Timothy for Tibet in 781?	Metropolitan: 26 <sup>th</sup> in rank
<b>Teredon (Prath Maishan)</b>	Basrah	Bishop (225)	Metropolitan (290-325): 3 <sup>rd</sup> in rank
<b>Tibet</b>		Bishop (781)	
<b>Turkestan (Hephthalite Huns)</b>		Bishop (549)	Metropolitan (781?): 10 <sup>th</sup> or 22 <sup>nd</sup> in rank?
Khurasan	<b>Tus</b> (near Mashad)	Bishop (497)	
<b>Yemen</b>		Bishop (779-823)	
Sijistan	<b>Zaranj</b>	Bishop (544)	

<sup>13</sup> Other dates proposed are 399-410 or 415-420.

<sup>14</sup> Vine gives the date as 651.

<sup>15</sup> According to Vine.

<sup>16</sup> Various dates are mentioned in different sources for a bishop in Samarkand, including 410-415, 505-523, 628-643 or 712-728. Vine gives the date for a metropolitan as 781.