

«Cose che nessun occhio ha mai visto né orecchio ha mai udito»

L'escatologia di Avicenna secondo alcuni autori
latini del XIII secolo

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Abstract: Avicenna deals with the theme of the otherworldly destiny of mankind (what he calls “return”) in two chapters of his main metaphysical work, the *Science of Divine things* (*Ilāhiyyāt*) of the *Book of Cure or Healing* (*Kitāb al-Šifā'*). Leaving chapter IX.7, better known and more investigated, in the background, the contribution examines what Avicenna says in *Ilāhiyyāt* X.2 about the Koranic doctrine of the afterlife, with particular reference to a passage in which the Arab philosopher inserts an interesting citation of the *sunna* or Muslim tradition. The *ḥadīṭ* reported by Avicenna in *Ilāhiyyāt* X.2 conveys from Allāh an idea of the afterlife made up of “things that no eye has ever seen nor ear has ever heard”, echoing chapter 64:4 of the *Book of the Prophet Isaiah* and chapter 2:9 of the *First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians*. In the light of this scriptural convergence, and taking into account the hiatus between Qur'ānic revelation and the philosophical explanation of eschatology that Avicenna places in IX.7, the paper considers in what light Avicenna and his eschatology might have appeared to a medieval Christian reader of the XIII century, un-aware of the fact that the passage in question by Avicenna corresponded to an element of the Islamic tradition and that Avicenna sharply criticized Christian eschatology in his other works not translated into Latin. In other words, under examination are the dynamics of reception, adaptation, and transformation that arose in the medieval Christian context when a passage of the metaphysics of a famous Muslim philosopher like Avicenna at-tuned with a biblical scriptural datum, both of the Old and of the New Testament. Against the background represented by Peter the Venerable in the XII century, the contribution focuses on the ways in which Ramón Martí and Roger Bacon in the following century read the Latin translation of Avicenna's *Ilāhiyyāt*.

Keywords: metaphysics, eschatology, medieval philosophy, Christianity, Islam, Avicenna, Peter the Venerable, Ramón Martí, Roger Bacon.