

## **Bobastro: a *hisn* of permanent settlement and a fortress for resistance for the rebel ‘Umar ibn Hafsun’ in ninth-century al-Andalus**

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In this essay the authors analyse the fortress of Bobastro as a permanent settlement in ninth-century southern al-Andalus, as opposed to the *husun* of non-permanent residence. To supply water, food and weapons were also essential for the rebels in the fortress, as these issues are also covered in this paper. The location of Bobastro and the means of resistance of the rebels in that period are also studied in this essay, as well as the various Umayyad governmental military tactics to submit the rebels and to attempt to regain control of this *hisn*. [Article copies available for a fee from The Transformative Studies Institute. E-mail address: [journal@transformativestudies.org](mailto:journal@transformativestudies.org) Website: <http://www.transformativestudies.org> ©2020 by The Transformative Studies Institute. All rights reserved.]

**KEYWORDS:** Bobastro, Fortress of Permanent Settlement, Al-andalus, Ninth Century, Rebel Resistance, Umayyad Military Tactics.

*Parte el termino de Lerida con el de Tarragona. E Lerida yaze entrel septentrion de Tarragona, contra el sol levante de Cordova; y yaze sobre el rrio del Segre, e este rrio sale de la sierra de Segura... Y este rrio entre en Ebro so vn castillo que a nonbre Vicueça. E este rrio da oro fino, lo que no dan otros rrios... E Lerida a villas e castillos en su termino muy buenos e muy conplidos de todas las cosas, de los quales es el vno Caravina. E Caravina yaze sobre el rrio Bocayra. E el otro es el castillo que a nonbre Bolcare. E Bolcare yaze sobre el rrio Segre. E el otro es Fraga. E Fraga yaze sobre el rrio de las Olivas. e Fraga a muy buena vega e de muchos buenos arboles e muy buenos rregantios. E el otro castillo a nonbre Alcolea e Alcolea yaze sobre este rrio de las Olivas, e a muy buenas vegas rregantias e muy bien plantadas de arboles e de vinas, e es lugar muy plazentero... E el otro castillo es el Monzon: es muy fuerte a maravilla e muy alto. e yaze sobre este rrio de*

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