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Main entries are arranged alphabetically; their sub-headings are arranged thematically. The Arabic definite article 'al-' is ignored for the purposes of alphabetization. In the alphabetization no distinction is made between different Arabic letters which are represented by the same letter in transliteration. The abbreviation 'b.' for *ibn* ('son of') is alphabetized as written. The letter 'n.' ('note') following a page reference indicates the number of a chapter endnote on that page (e.g. 55n.27), and '*passim*' indicates scattered references to the subject, not necessarily on consecutive pages.

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