

and Judeo-Arabic⁹⁷. Indeed, an anonymous poem, composed between 1147 and 1151, suggests that efforts to conceptualise Roger's rule in Africa had been recognised in other parts of the Norman world: composed in Rouen, it seems to imply that its author understood Italy, Sicily, and *Africa* to be component parts of Roger's kingdom⁹⁸.

The suggestion that Roger and his administration experimented with some form of title that recognised his rule in *Africa* is also implicit in other sources. In 1558, Tommaso Fazello (d. 1570) commemorated Roger II by drawing on two epithets: *Rogerus in Christo pius, potens rex et Christianorum adiutor / Appulus, & Calaber, Siculus mihi servit, & Afer*⁹⁹. By 1643, and without reference to Fazello, Rocco Pirri (d. 1651) claimed that these phrases had become associated with an inscription which adorned his tomb¹⁰⁰.

Regardless of the veracity of this account, this latter epithet had long been associated with Roger II by a variety of medieval chroniclers. For example, Ralph of Diceto (d. 1202) – who may have drawn on Roger II's magister Thomas Brun (fl. 1137–1154) as a source – uses an almost identical *monosticum*: *Apulus et Calaber, Siculus mihi servit et Affer*¹⁰¹. Ralph Niger claimed that this phrase was engraved on

97) JOHNS, Malik Ifrīqiyya (as n. 95) p. 89–101.

98) *Regnat Rogerus victor, sapiens, opulentus. / Tu Rogere potens, tu maxima gloria regum; / Subditur Ytalia et Siculus, tibi subditur Afer; / Grecia te timet et Syria, et te Persa veretur; / Ethiopes, Albi, Germania, Nigra, requirunt / Te dominante sibi, te protectore, tueri. / Vera fides et larga manus tibi sceptrum dedere; / Tu [sic] dignum imperio solum dijudicat orbis*, cited in: Charles RICHARD, Notice sur l'ancienne bibliothèque des échevins de la ville de Rouen, Précis analytique des travaux de l'Académie royale des Sciences, Belles-Lettres et Arts de Rouen pendant l'année 1844 (1845) p. 127–182, at p. 163.

99) Tommaso FAZELLO, *De Rebus Siculis Decades Duae* (1558) p. 444.

100) Pirri claimed that the tomb's other inscription read: *Si fastus homines, si Regna, & stemmata ludunt / Non legum, & recti si: norma Rogerius istis / Est lusus rebus, Comite a cognomine natus: / Virtutum hic splendor situs est, diademaque Regum / Vix. an. 59 Regni 24 obiit 1154*, cited in: Rocco PIRRI, *Chronologia Regum, penes quos Siciliae fuit imperium ...* (1643) p. 28. The *Cronica* uses both *virtutum* and *splendor* in describing Roger II, cf. V fol. 298^v col. II (as p. 590f.). This inscription had also been mentioned by Francesco Baronio Manfredi (albeit with an incorrect year date: *Vix. an. LIX. regni XXIII. obiit 1194*), and he claimed that it was positioned beneath the tomb's columns: Francesco Baronio MANFREDI, *De Maestate Panormitana* 4 (1630) p. 192. It is possible that they were lost during Ferdinando Fulga's remodelling of Palermo's cathedral as they are not mentioned in: Francesco DANIELE, *I regali sepolcri del Duomo di Palermo riconosciuti e illustrate* (1784) p. 13–28.

101) Radulfi de Diceto decani Lundeniensi opera historica. The historical works of Master Ralph de Diceto, dean of London 2, ed. by William STUBBS (Re-