

**Al-Maqqari's 17<sup>th</sup> c. version of the flight experiment:**

“[Ibn Firnas] demonstrated ingenuity in launching his body in flight. He covered himself in feathers, provided himself with a couple of wings and flew a considerable distance in the air. However, he did not prove very ingenious in his landing. He hurt himself in the rear. He did not know that a bird lands on its tailhead, and did not make a tail for himself.”<sup>1</sup>

**Pascual de Gayangos' 19<sup>th</sup> c. version, based on al-Maqqari's text:**

“Among other very curious experiments which [Ibn Firnas] made, one is his trying to fly. He covered himself with feathers for the purpose, attached a couple of wings to his body, and getting on an eminence, flung himself down into the air, when according to the testimony of several trustworthy writers who witnessed the performance, he flew to a considerable distance, as if he had been a bird, but in alighting again on the place whence he had started his back was very much hurt, for not knowing that birds when they alight come down on their tails, he forgot to provide himself with one.”<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Maqqarī, Aḥmad ibn Muḥammad, -1631 or 1632., and Reinhart Pieter Anne, 1820-1883. Dozy. *Analectes Sur L'histoire et La Littérature Des Arabes d'Espagne*. Amsterdam; Oriental Press, 1967, II: 254. Translated from the Arabic by Stuart Sears.

<sup>2</sup> Maqqarī, Aḥmad ibn Muḥammad, Pascual de Gayangos, and d. 1374 Ibn al-Khaṭīb. *The History of the Mohammedan Dynasties in Spain; Extracted from the Nafhu-T-Tib Min Ghosni-L-Andalusi-R-Rattib Wa Tārīkh Lisānu-D-Dīn Ibni-L-Khattīb*, [London, Printed for the Oriental Translation Fund of Great Britain and Ireland] 1840-43; New York, Johnson Reprint Corp. [1964]: Johnson Reprint Corp., 1964, I:148-49.