

## [AL-BURULLUS](#)

A town in [Egypt](#) located somewhere between present-day Baltim and al-Burj on the eastern shore of Lake Burullus in the northern Delta.

[Al-Burullus](#) had a [bishop](#) as early as the first third of the fourth century. Bishop Nonnas was in office in 339; he was succeeded by Bishop Nemesion (Munier, 1943, p. 9). Bishop [Athanasius](#) of al-Burullus attended the first Council of EPHESUS in 431 (Munier, 1943, p. 15). Among the most [notable](#) of the town's bishops was John, who lived at the end of the sixth and beginning of the seventh century (see Saint JOHN, Bishop of Parallos).

As a young man John used his inheritance to build a shelter for wanderers and the sick. He later became a monk in Scetis and then [bishop](#) of al-Burullus. As bishop he had to deal constantly with sects and heretics, among whom were the followers of a monk who claimed to be inspired by the [archangel](#) Michael and to have been visited by the prophet Habakkuk. According to the SYNAXARION, John had their books burned.

Patriarch ISAAC (686-689) came from al-Burullus, which is an indication that the area came through the [ARAB CONQUEST OF EGYPT](#) in the first half of the seventh century in relatively good shape. In the next century, during the time of Patriarch JOHN IV (775-779), there lived in [al-Burullus](#) a hermit named George who possessed the gift of prophecy.

When John's son, the deacon Mark, refused to become [bishop](#) of Misr (Cairo) and fled from the chains with which John had bound him, the patriarch wrote a letter to George complaining of his son's behavior. George told John he should not be [angry](#) with his son and he promised John that Mark (see MARK II) would become the next patriarch.

[Al-Burullus](#) remained a Coptic bishopric until at least the eleventh century, as evidenced by the attendance of [Bishop](#) Michael of [al-Burullus](#)

at a synod in Cairo in 1086 (Munier, 1943, p. 28). Not [surprisingly](#) the town is mentioned in the medieval [Coptic-Arabic scales](#) and in the lists of Egyptian bishoprics (Munier, 1943, pp. 46, 53, 65).

Coptic tradition holds that the family of Jesus passed through al- Burullus on its FLIGHT INTO EGYPT.

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