Abu L'hasan Ali Ibn Ahmad Al-Nasawi Encyclopedia Article

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1010?-1075?

Arab mathematician who wrote a summary of Euclid's *Elements.* Al-Nasawi, who worked variously for a prince in the Buyid dynasty and for a Shi'ite leader in Baghdad, composed numerous short works. The best known of these is his summary of the *Elements,* which he claimed to have written in order to provide those studying Ptolemy's *Almagest* with the necessary background in geometry. Al-Nasawi's work was largely forgotten until its rediscovery in Europe in 1863.