

MELA *notes*

MIDDLE EAST LIBRARIANS ASSOCIATION

Number 36

Fall, 1985

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MELA NOTES

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MIDDLE EAST LIBRARIANS ASSOCIATION

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FROM THE EDITOR

The annual meeting of our organization is around the corner, our thoughts and preparations are underway. We have the opportunity to exchange ideas and catch up on developments in our profession, but most of all we have a chance to see each other, hear the news and have a good social time. See you all in New Orleans.

Once again my thanks to Palmira Brummett for her assistance in typing and editing this issue of MELA.

Basima Bezirgan
MELA Notes Editor

MIDDLE EAST LIBRARIANS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING 1985
Schedule of Events: Hyatt Regency Hotel, New Orleans,
Louisiana, November 21-24.

THURSDAY EVENING, 11/21

The Middle East Studies Association is meeting in conjunction with the African Studies Association. Africana Librarians and members of MELA are mutually welcome and invited to attend any of the counterpart group's general committees and business meetings.

FRIDAY MORNING, 11/22

MELA Committee Meetings	Burgundy Room A	
9:00-10:00 am	Technical Services	Brenda Bickett, Chair
10:00-10:30 am	Recess to Refreshments	
10:30-11:15 am	Middle East Microfiche Project	John Eilts, Chair
11:15-12:00	MidEast File	Prof. Haim Shaked
	(Shiloah Center, Tel Aviv University, presentation and discussion. Online demonstration will be in the exhibit area)	

FRIDAY NOON 12:30-2:00 pm Lunch

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

2:00-4:00 pm	MELA Business Meeting, Abazar Sepehri Presiding	
	Burgundy Room A	
Library of Congress Overseas Operations		Rodney Sarle
ALA-Assn. of College & Research Libraries		Martha Dukas
ALA-Resources & Tech Services Division		Dona Straley
MELA Tech Services Committee		Brenda Bickett
Middle East Microforms Project		John Eilts
MELA Notes Editor		Basima Bezirgan
Secretary - Treasurer		Dona Straley
Program 1985		James Pollack
President's Summary Report		Abazar Sepehri

Election of Officers (Program Chair 1986/Vice President)

4:00-5:45 pm (Elmwood Room) AFRICANA LIBRARIANS
 Cataloging Subcommittee -- meets separately.

SATURDAY 11/23

- Africana Librarians Meetings: Elmwood Room
8:00-9:00 am Executive Committee
9:00-11:00 am Outreach Program Demonstration: "Teaching
Africa", Meeting with the New Orleans
Public School Board
1:30-3:15 pm Bibliography Subcommittee
3:30-5:15 pm Business Meeting

SUNDAY 11/24

- 11:30 am-1:30 pm Librarians Program for 1985:
Elmwood Room
(a roundtable meeting held jointly - African & Middle
East Librarians -- Doris Hull and James Pollack, Chrs.
Topical contributions with general discussion invited.)
- Salwa Ferahian, Mc Gill University
"Analyses of questions from the reference desk of the
Islamic Studies Library"
- Eliezer Chammou, University of California at Los Angeles
"Near or Middle East, Which Is Proper?"
- Jan Weryho, McGill University
"What Is Islamic Literature?: a Book Selector's
Dilemma"
- Ragai Makar, University of Utah
"Aspects of Arabism and Islamism in Africa"
- Sulayman Nyang, Howard University, Discussant

ARTICLE

ISLAMIC MANUSCRIPTS IN NORTH AMERICAN LIBRARIES, PART 5.

Union Theological Seminary Library 3041 Broadway at Reinhold Niebuhr Place New York, New York 10027

Part 1. Contact Person: Seth Kasten Partial Listing in Martin Date of Inventory: August 2-4, 1983

1. Koran.

Copied 1175 H/1761-2 A.D. by Ismā'īl ibn Ibrāhīm in medium size naskh hand. The 356 fols. measure 13.2 x 19 cm; written surface measuring 7.5 x 13.5 cm. is gold ruled. 13 lines to page. Ornamented 'unwān and headings. Catchwords. The light brown paper is somewhat glazed. The leather binding is gold stamped. Ms. is in protective cover and leather case. Note on piece of paper in the ms. reads: Ms. of the Koran presented to the Mission Research Library by the Rev. W. S. Nelson, D.D. Tripoli, Syria, May 27, 1930. (Call no.: Arab. /12/).

2. Koran.

Copied by Hasan al-Husnī (/) al-'Alā'i in 1266 H/1846-50. 15 lines to page. Beginning missing. Text starts with Q 2:17. The 302 fols. paged in Western characters measure 11.5 x 17.8 cm.; the written surface 5.6 x 11.5 cm. is ruled in gold and blue lines. Last page contains colophon surrounded by ornamentation. Headings are in white on gold background. Verse divisions are in gold, green and blue, and there are floral ornamentations in the margins. Catchwords. The red leather binding with flap is gilt stamped. In box labeled "The Holy Qur'ān 1655-6". (Call no.: Arab. /7/).

3. Koran.

Written about 17th century in calligraphic, rather large naskh. 414 fols. measuring 13.6 x 22.5 cm.; written surface 8 x 16.1 cm. is ruled in several lines with blue and gold predominating. Gold are also the headings and verse divisions. Name of the sūrāt appears on each page in upper right. Text of the Koran was cut out and spliced onto thin paper. Stamped red leather binding with flap is separated from quires in spine. In box labeled "The Holy Qur'ān saec. XVII-XVIII". (Call no.: Arab. /20/).

4. Koran.

Written in large naskh in about the 18th century; fols. 1-10 and end are in a later hand. The 335 fols. paged in Western characters measure 16.5 x 26 cm.; written surface 12 x 21 cm.; 13 lines to page. Catchwords. Red verse divisions and sūrāt headings. Paper is strong, dirty white, and not glazed. Fols. 1-10 are watermarked. Leather binding with flap is blind stamped. Gift of Tillman C. Towbridge, missionary. The ms. was given to him by Arif Bey, his teacher. (Call no.: Arab. /17/).

5. Koran.

Written in old small naskh. The fols. paged in Western characters measure 9 x 13.6 cm.; written surface 6 x 11 cm.; 35 lines to page. Red and gold ornamentation, especially second page of sūrāh two, while the usual first two pages are not ornamented. Leather flap binding is blind stamped. Various recent previous ownerships are given on the fly-leaves. (Call no.: Arab. /9/).

6. Al-Baydāwī, ʿAbd Allāh ibn ʿUmar, d. 1286/7. Anwār al-tanzīl wa-asrār al-taʿwīl.

Commentary on the Koran v. 1 ending with Q 18:109. Copied about 17th century in small, occasionally vocalized naskh. The 344 fols. measure 16.7 x 27.8 cm.; written surface 10 x 19 cm. Folios partly paged in oriental characters. 23 lines to page. Pp. 1-2 of text ruled in blue, gold, and red. Paper is thin, light brown, and lightly glazed. Leather flap blind stamped, binding with cover is detached. Holdings of this title are not common. Reference: GAL I 417. Edited and published by H.O. Fleischer as Beidhawī Commentarius in Coranum ex codd. parisiensibus, dresdensibus et lipsiensibus. Leipzig, 1846-8. 2 vols. (Call no.: Arab. /4/).

7. Al-Suyūṭī, Jalāl al-Dīn ʿAbd al-Raḥmān ibn Abī Bakr, d. 1505. Tafsīr al-Jalālayn.

The Koran commentary of the two Jalāls, of which the tafsīr of Q 1:1 to 17:111 written by al-Suyūṭī's teacher Jalāl al-Dīn Muḥammad ibn Ahmad al-Maḥallī, (d. 1459) is not included. copied by Yūsuf ibn ʿAlī al-Marzūqī (/) al-Shāfiʿ on 21 March, 1838. The 200 folios numbered in Western characters measure 11.2 x 17 cm.; the written surface 6.5 x 13 cm. is ruled with double red lines. Small naskh, mostly unvocalized. 23 lines to page. Text in red and dark brown. Paper is yellowish and somewhat glazed. Red leather with flap (detached) is green (?) stamped. Reference: GAL II, 114, 145. Text was published several times. (Call no.: Arab. /18/).

8. Majmūʿat tafsīr suwar baʿḍ ayāt wa-ʿawārīf al-maʿārīf.

Commentary on selected verses of the Koran by various authors. Various papers and paper sizes as well as different hands. Selected contents:

Fol. 9v starts Q 41:30.

Fol. 19 starts Sūrah 3.

Fol. 80v al-Bosnawī, 'Abd Allāh, d. 1644, Matāli' al-nūr al-šānī al-munbi' 'an taḥārat nasab al-nabī al-'arabī. (Cf. Princeton. /Mach/ no. 4540.).

Fol. 137r Kitāb dhabā'ih. In naskh script, concerning the legality of eating certain slaughtered animals. Waqf (mortmain) to tekye (the convent) of Merkez Efendī (for whom cf. Gordlevskii, V. A. Izbrannye sochinenia v. 1, Moskva, 1960, p. 327, 362, 408, etc.).

Fol. 140v Al-Suhrawardī, 1144-1234. Kitāb 'awārif al-ma'ārif, a šūfī treatise (Reference GAL I 440). Published. Waqf to same convent as above. Ms. ends abruptly. (Call no.: Arab. /3/).

9. 'Iyād ibn Mūsā, 1083-1149. Kitāb al-shifā' fī ta'rif huqūq al-Muṣṭafā.

Duties of the Muslims towards the prophet Muḥammad copied in medium size, sparingly vocalized naskh 1200 H/1785 A.D. The 336 fols. measure 17 x 24 cm.; written surface 7.5 x 15.5 cm.; 21 lines to page, catchwords. The watermarked paper is light brown and glazed. Leather flap binding is blind stamped. Reference GAL I 369; holdings not uncommon. Published repeatedly cf. e.g. LC 72-221159 for recent edition. (Call no.: Arab. /8/).

10. Al-Jazarī, Shams al-Dīn abū al-Khayr Muḥammad, 1350-1429. Al-ḥiṣn al-ḥaṣīn min kalām sayid al-mursalīn.

Collection of prayers copied in medium sized elegant nasta'liq which is sparingly vowelled, on 17 Shawwāl 1109/29 April, 1698. 95 fols. numbered in Western characters measure 13 x 23.8 cm.; written surface 6.5 x 12.5 cm. Extensive marginalia; catchwords. 11 lines to page. Headings in red. Fine, off-white paper. Modern binding. Reference GAL II 203. Fols. 94r-95v contain šūfī treatise on the Naqshabandiya order in naskh by a later hand in Persian, incipit: Waqf to Khānaqāh Merkex Efendī (cf. above entry no. 8). Ownership stamp reads Nūr al-dīn Darwish. (Call no. Arab. /15/).

11. Majmū'ah.

Collection of religious tracts copied mostly in naskh hand in 1136 H/1723-4 A.D. The 102 fols. numbered in Western characters measure 16 x 21.7 cm.; written surface measures 11 x 16 cm. 25 lines to page varies; catchwords. Watermarked, off-white, strong paper is not glazed. Leather binding with old covers pasted on. Waqf to convent of Merkez Efendī. Contents:

Fol. 1v Al-Ghazzālī, 1059-1111. Minhāj al-ʿābidīn. Treatise on sūfī practice and worship GAL I 423 (38).

Fol. 81v Idem. Kitāb ayyuhā al-walad. Ethic treatise was edited and translated into German by Hammer-Purgstall, Vienna, 1838.

Fol. 87r Abū Hanīfah, 699 or 80-767 or 8. Wasiyah (Testament on the principles of Islam). Reference GAL I 171, (Angepasste Aufl. 170).

Fol. 91v Al-Ghazzālī, 1059-1111. Kitāb al-kashf wa-al-yaqīn. Reference GAL S I 752 (47 1). (Call no.: Arab. /21/).

12. Al-Birkawī (Birgili), Muhammad ibn Pīr ʿAlī Muhyī al-Dīn, 1523-1573. Muʿaddil al-salāt.

On the necessity of prayer, copied 1209/1794-5 by Hāfiz Husain Hāfizī a student of Mustafā Hamid in medium size naskh. Turkish. The 149 folios measure 12.5 x 19.7 cm; the written surface measuring 6.5 x 13.5 cm. is ruled with two red lines. 15 lines to the page; catchwords. Small ʿunwān in gold and blue. Yellow paper of strong texture is glazed. Marbled paper over boards with leather spine. Flap is missing. Worm and damp stain damage not affecting the text. Reference: GAL II 440 (9). (Call no.: Arab. /19/).

13. Sābit, ʿAlāʾ al-Dīn Efendi, d. 1712 (?). Miʿrājīyah.

Title from fore-edge. Unverified. Incipit: Account of the circumstances of Muhammad's ascent to heaven, copied in medium size naskh. The 44 fols. measure 12 x 18.5 cm; written surface 7.5 x 13 cm. is ruled in red and blue. 15 lines to the page, catchwords. Headings in red. Small triangular arabesque ʿunwān. Off-white, slightly glazed paper. Cloth over cardboard binding with flap. Stamp of Nūr al-Dīn Darvish. Waqf 1279 H/1862-3 A.D. (Call no.: I).

14. Al-Mulāḥazah al-intiqādiyah fī al-sīrah al-Muhammadiyah.

Anonymous observation on the life of Muhammad. Late 19th or early 20th century manuscript in small, partially vocalized ruqāʿ script. The 26 pages measure 20 x 30 cm.; the written surface 15.8 x 23.6 cm. varies. Text is ruled in black and purple. 44 lines to the page. Western paper of thin texture is off-white but not glazed. Stitched pages in folder. The six chapters deal with the prophet's genealogy and birth, mission, raids, miracles, death, his ascent into heaven. Unverified. (Call no.: Arab. /10/).

15. Halabī, Burhān al-Dīn Ibrāhīm ibn Muhammad ibn Ibrāhīm, d. 1549. Multaqā al-abhur.

Hanifite law. Written in small, nastaʿlīq script. Overall measurements 10 x 21.7 cm.; the written surface measuring 4.8 x 16.5 cm. is red ruled. 15 lines to the page; catchwords.

Headings are in red. Four fols. are missing between fols. 93/4. Some marginalia. Paper is off-white (except fol. 200, which is brown), fine in texture and glazed. The cloth binding with flap is blind stamped. Ref. GAL II, 432; ms. ends as Berl. 4613. (Call no.: Arab. /11/).

16. Chrysostom, John, Saint, 345-407. Kitāb al-durr al-muntakhab.

Contains 34 selected sermons, annotated by the owner of the ms. Butrus Duwayhī in 1802. Written in rather large naskh. The 296 fols. numbered in oriental characters measure 21.4 x 30.4 cm.; the written surface measures 12.5 x 23.5 cm.; 25 lines to the page; catchwords. Headings are large and in black ink. Paper is watermarked with "tre lune" and crown. Fol. 14 shows some worm damage. Ref. Graf I, 341.

Bound with it is:

Sermon in karshūni of P. Justinian, the Capuchin held on the Feast of Peter, the head of the apostles. The author may be identical with Justinian of Tours, cf. Graf IV, p. 200. 7 leaves on paper watermarked tre lune and ZZUOLI. (Call no.: Arab /13/).

17. List of place names in Arabic and translation.

Probably ms. notes of Eli Smith for his "Lists of Arabic Names of Places in Palestine and the Ajacent Regions" as published in Biblical Researches in Palestine, Mount Sinai and Arabia Petraea

a Journal of Travels in the year 1838 by Edward Robinson and Eli Smith. Boston, 1841 v. 3, /112/-196. 45 fols. with two inserts. Overall size 11 x 32 cm.; the written surface measures 10 x 31 cm.' but varies. 34 lines to the page. Paper watermarked GIOR. MAGNANI with heraldic sign, but varies. Cardboard binding. Note attached reads: "List of Palestine Place-names presumably in the handwriting of Professor Edward Robinson of the Union Theological Seminary." But a comparison of the scripts would indicate that the writing is that of Smith. (Call no.: Arab. /14/).

18. Liturgy of the Dead.

Coptic and Arabic written in large, legible naskh. The text on 104 fols. runs from left to right. Copied 1557 of the martyrs/about 1840 A.D. Overall measurement 10.7 x 14.7 m.; the written surface measures 8 x 11 cm., but varies. 11-14 lines to the page. Headings and uncials in various colors. Unwān. The strong, white paper is somewhat glazed. Binding is gilt stamped. Provenance: Major Henry Arnold, 11/26/41. (Call no.: Arab /5/).

Dr. Miroslav Krek

Note: The editor wishes to apologize for the inadvertent omission of Dr Krek's name from "Islamic Manuscripts in North American Libraries, pt. 4" which appeared in the last issue. Those of you who have been receiving the Notes are of course familiar with Dr. Krek's valuable contribution to our publication.

REPORTSMIDDLE EAST TRIP NETS SCARCE PUBLICATIONS FROM ARAB GULF STATES

A one month visit by Middle East Collection head librarian Abazar Sepehri to four Arab Gulf States, Egypt, and Turkey has netted the General Libraries 3,360 volumes from the area. Most of the items are government publications virtually unobtainable through normal acquisitions channels. Initially suggested by a faculty member in UT Austin's Department of Government, the trip was undertaken in the spring of 1984 primarily to acquire current publications from the Persian Gulf region for the Middle East Collection. Additionally, Sepehri intended to visit the Cairo field office of the Library of Congress (LC) Cooperative Acquisitions Program for the Middle East and to acquire a core reference collection on Turkey. Other objectives of the trip were locating needed retrospective Egyptian imprints surveying first-hand the current publishing situation in each of the countries visited, and making contacts for future acquisitions.

Funding for the trip was provided by the University's Center for Middle Eastern Studies, the Department of Government, and the General Libraries; and the Institute of Turkish Studies in Washington D.C., awarded a grant for the Turkish acquisitions.

The first stop on Sepehri's itinerary was Cairo, where he spent five days visiting bookstores, universities, the U.S. Embassy, and the LC field office. Using a want list of publications (primarily pre-1962 Egyptian imprints), Sepehri located approximately 360 volumes needed by the library and arranged for their shipment to the United States. Periodical subscriptions and their attendant problems, selection policies, and cataloging assistance associated with the LC Cooperative Acquisitions Program were discussed with LC field director, Mike Albin (formerly head librarian of the UT Austin Middle East Collection).

Next on the schedule were visits to Saudi Arabia and three other Arab Gulf States. In a three-week period, Sepehri traveled to Jiddah and Riyadh in Saudi Arabia and to the capitals of Kuwait, Bahrain, and Oman. (Admittance restrictions prevented his going to the remaining two states: Qatar and the United Arab Emirates.) Visits were made to government agencies, universities, and bookstores. In Riyadh,

in addition to his acquisition activities. Sepehri gave a lecture on Middle East Studies and library collections in the United States at the Library of King Saud University.

In each of the four Gulf countries visited, Sepehri surveyed the publishing scene: who was publishing, what they were publishing, and how one could acquire the publications. Commercial publishing is done to a significant extent only in Saudi Arabia and, to a lesser degree, in Kuwait. Because the LC Cairo field office was at the time collecting Saudi Arabian commercial publications which would be shipped to UT as a participant in the Cooperative Acquisitions Program, Sepehri concentrated there on such non-commercial sources as government agencies and universities. In Kuwait he investigated both commercial and non-commercial production. In Bahrain he found the principal publishing agency to be the Ministry of Information; in Oman, the Ministry of National Heritage and Culture is the major publishing agency.

In all four countries Sepehri found publications of value to an academic library. He was able to secure copies of national development plans and other planning documents, statistical materials (particularly population, housing, foreign trade, commerce), diplomatic studies, and literary and religious works, as well as materials on banking and economics, politics, public administration, social conditions, education, culture, art and archaeology. Approximately ninety-eight percent of the 2,500 volumes acquired from Arab Gulf States were gifts. Given the lack of acquisition tools and the absence of a well-developed book trade for this region, Sepehri plans to continue building on this now outstanding base of information by keeping in touch with the contacts established and by making periodic return visits.

From Oman, Sepehri flew to Istanbul, Turkey's leading commercial publishing center, to purchase basic reference materials and works on the Turkish language, linguistics, history and social science to support Turkish courses once more being offered by UT's Department of Oriental and African Languages and Literatures. Two days of shopping using the funds provided by the Institute of Turkish Studies yielded 500 volumes.

By the end of the year, virtually all of the materials promised had arrived in Austin, where they are being cataloged for the Middle East Collection. With total holdings of approximately 50,000 volumes, the collection ranks in the top ten among major U.S. libraries collecting in this field. (JG,AS)

Reprinted from "The University of Texas at Austin Newsletter" no. 25, 1985.

LATEST PRICE SURVEY - BOOKS FROM THE MIDDLE EAST

Language of publ.	Country of publ.	Country of vendor	Average cost/title	
			1983 survey	1984 survey
All(M.E.)	All	All	\$ 9.76	\$ 8.80
Arabic	All	All	12.01	7.52
Arabic	N.Africa	US	13.84	----
Arabic	Lebanon	Lebanon	10.08	----
Arabic	Gulf	US	25.04	----
Persian	Iran	US	10.13	15.56
Turkish	Turkey	Turkey	4.43	6.44
Hebrew	Israel	Israel	9.32	10.02
Western	All	All	16.54	----
English	Turkey	Turkey	20.63	----
English	Israel	Israel	19.41	----
French	N.Africa	US	13.98	----

It is difficult to draw conclusions from this table as it does not represent a wide enough participation. Libraries wishing to participate in this project are encouraged to write to: John A. Elts, Near East Division, The University of Michigan Library, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109-1205, (313-764-7555).

John A. Elts
University of Michigan Library

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE MIDDLE EAST COOPERATIVE MICROFORM PROJECT

Held July 7, 1985 at the American Congress Hotel, Chicago, during the annual meeting of the American Library Association.

Committee members: John Eilts, Chair (U. of Michigan), Basima Bezirgan (U. of Chicago), Brenda Bickett (Georgetown U.), Meryle Gaston (New York U.), Patricia Myers-Hayer (Library of Congress), Dona Straley (Ohio State U.).

Visitors: Martha Dukas (Boston Public Library), Christon Filstrup (Library of Congress), Frances Morton (Library of Congress), Lory Smith (Library of Congress), Elizabeth Widenmann (Columbia U.), Julian Witherell (Library of Congress).

The Committee met to follow up on matters concerning the M.E.C.A.P. that were discussed at the previous meeting on January 8, 1985 at Georgetown (See MELA Notes no. 34, p. 7-8). John Eilts distributed the prospectus to members and discussed some of his thoughts about the project. He also announced that the name of the project had not yet been determined.

The first item discussed was the forming of a subcommittee to write the by-laws. Brenda Bickett volunteered to form and chair the subcommittee. Julian Witherell and Meryle Gaston both volunteered to help Brenda. Dona Straley suggested that MELA should be represented in the bylaws committee.

Group consensus focused on the Center for Research Libraries as a possible home for the project and on the University of Chicago library as a possible center for the cataloging and processing of materials.

Among the topics discussed was the dissemination of material, which would be effected though a contract with CRL. It would take the form of a catalog available (online) through ARLIN and OCLC. Also, periodically, a list of acquisitions would be published in MELA Notes.

Membership and fee structure were discussed but no decisions were made. The nature of the Executive Committee for the project was also discussed: it should be strong and should deal directly with CRL. Also this committee should be in close contact with the Middle East Studies Association.

John Elts will send letters to solicit members and will contact organizations that have an interest in the Middle East for donations. The committee will meet again in November during the MELA/MESA meetings in New Orleans.

Basima Bezirgan
University of Chicago Library

BOOK REVIEWS

Richard L. Lawless, comp. Algeria. Oxford, England. Santa Barbara, California. CLIO Press, 1980. (Vol. 19 in World Bibliographical Series) pp. 215. Author, title, and subject index.

According to the editors of this series, "the keynote of this series is to provide an interpretation of the country, an interpretation that will express its culture, its place in the world and, and the qualities and background that make it unique." I believe that this bibliography has achieved this goal and satisfied that desire.

It is an excellent survey of books and periodical literature, which deal with the geography, history, politics, social life, economy, and religion etc. of Algeria. It is the only one of its kind in both the English and French languages. One of the innovative features of this bibliography is that French titles are followed by English translations since the bibliography was meant for English readers.

The bibliography contains 742 entries covering 35 subjects. It contains a complete index of authors, titles and subjects and a small map of Algeria. It would have been more helpful to the user of the bibliography to have a larger and more detailed map.

The annotations are brief but informative. The bibliographic information for each book or article is complete. Although the introduction is short, it is informative and up to date. The bibliographer gave special care to certain subject categories such as "War of Independence" which covers 11 pages with 55 entries, "Politics" which includes forty items and "Foreign Relations" which includes 65 items.

The parts on Language and Religion are thin. The problem of Arabization and the Islamic movements should have been covered in these two sections. These are two subjects of importance to many western readers. Another suggestion would be the addition of a glossary of Algerian Arabic terms. I strongly recommend this bibliography.

Ragai N. Makar
Marriott Library
University of Utah

Dariussh Gitisetan. Iran: Politics and Government under the Pahlavis: an Annotated Bibliography. Metuchen, NJ and London: Scarecrow Press, 1985. 201 p.

Intended "to bring together materials related to the politics and government in Iran during the Pahlavi dynasty" (p. ix), Gitesan's bibliography lists and annotates some 1160 items that are of interest to "scholars, librarians, students, and others engaged in research" on 20th century Iran. It includes sections on the history, the economic and social conditions, and the fall of Pahlavi Iran. The compiler has culled entries from a wide range of periodical literature, from obvious sources such as MERIP Reports, and from the not so obvious Southern Quarterly and World's Carriers. However, most, if not all, of its entries are discoverable, albeit not as conveniently, by means readily found in research libraries. Gitisetan has also annotated and sorted the contents of various monographic collections of articles, full citations for which appear in his final section "General and Bibliographic Sources," under appropriate headings.

For the most part the annotations are, as stated in the introduction, "informative rather than evaluative." Sometimes they are absent, e.g., p. 5; no. 16 or merely gratuitous, e.g., James A. Thorpe's article "Truman's Ultimatum to Stalin in the 1946 Azerbaijan Crisis: The Making of a Myth" (p. 18; no. 114) the annotator tells us "attempts to disprove the claim that Harry S. Truman gave Stalin an ultimatum which forced th Soviet Union to withdraw its troops from Azerbaijan in 1946" and Soheil Akhvan's dissertation Economic Planning in Iran, the Fifth and Sixth National Development Plans (p. 99; no. 616) is "an analytic study of economic planning in Iran with an emphasis on the fifth and sixth plans." Occasionally annotation gives way to capsule biography of principle Pahlavis. The annotation of L.P. Elwell-Sutton's article "Reza Shah the Great" (p. 4; no. 7) consists of a Who's Who entry for the dynasty's founder; Farah Pahlavi's life is summarized in entry 189 (p. 29); and Mohammad Reza's in 193 (p. 30). Annotations for entries 40 (p. 8), 313 (p. 49), and 323 (p. 51) repeat the fact that Reza Khan was an officer in the Cossack Brigade, and that Mohammad Reza was the son of Reza Shah is mentioned many times. An annotation can also serve as a brief history lesson: A.H. Hamzavi's "Iran and the Tehran Conference" (p.14; no. 81)

"discusses the significance of the Tehran conference for Iran in which the Allied leaders, President Franklin D. Roosevelt,

Prime Minister Winston Churchill, and Prime Minister Joseph Stalin, agreed in the Tehran Declaration to give economic assistance to Iran after World War II and to respect its independence, territorial integrity, and sovereignty."

One wonders whom Gitisetan had in mind when he wrote this. Middle East Specialists? Students? Librarians?

Errors are very rare in this bibliography. Item 153 (p. 23) contains an innocuous typo, and the annotation to G. Agabekov's OGPU: The Russian Secret Terror (p. 3; no. 1) states that the memoir "reveals the Soviet subservice aims in Iran and names of many Persian agents" (subversive?). Items 19-20 (p. 6) are repeated without cross reference and with slightly different annotations in entries 502-503 (p. 78). While the bibliography includes an author index, an index to all of the names mentioned in titles and annotations would have significantly improved access to the information found in the work. Under the heading "General and Bibliographical Sources," Index Islamicus, Middle East Abstracts, and Encyclopedia Iranica are conspicuously absent.

The vanity publication of Iran: Politics and Government under the Pahlavis: an Annotated Bibliography raises a question that interests bibliographers, the question of the limits of bibliographic specificity. How specific can a bibliography become before its scholarly utility is confined to a few research projects, which, once completed and published, condemn that bibliography to eternal obsolescence? As a spawner of significant research, Gitisetan's work seems to skirt the limits of usefulness; in reviewing it, I had the sense that the recent publications to which it could very well have been appended were absent. Be that as is may, many will find this bibliography a convenient way of reviewing a great deal of literature on contemporary Iranian history and a useful guide to further reading.

Paul Sprachman
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Topkapı Sarayı Müzesi Osmanlı Saray Arşivi Katalogu. Fermanlar. 1 Fasıkul. No. El-12476 Prepared by Ulku Altındağ. Ankara: Turk Tarih Kurumu, 1985. (T.C. Atatürk, Kültür, Dil ve Tarih Yüksek Kurumu, Turk Tarih Kurumu VII dızı, sayı 81.)

This catalog is the first publication in a proposed series reclassifying the documents in the Topkapı Saray Müzesi Arşivi. The series will classify the documents by type of document (Ferman, Hukum, Berat, Telhis etc.) and by subject (Siyası, Askeri, Saray, etc.). A list of the proposed classification entries is given at the beginning of this volume, along with introductory statements.

This fasicle lists the fermanlar included in the Topkapı Arşivi evrak documents, nos. El-12475, a total of 1021 fermanlar. These are listed chronologically with physical description and a brief summary of contents. The time period covered is 747 to 1338 A.H.

This volume would have benefitted greatly from a person/place index as well as from an index listing evrak number/page so that references from other sources could be checked by number. An indication of the extent of the revision and additions involved in this reclassification is given by a comparison of this list with the old standard catalog: Arşiv Kılavuzu, Istanbul 1938-1940. For the period of Bayezid II's reign this new Fermanlar catalog lists 22 fermanlar. Of the seven evrak listed in the Arşiv Kılavuzu index under Bayezid II, fermanlar, only one (evrak 9521) is included in the new catalog. The other six are not listed for the period of Bayezid II's reign. Four of the fermanlar listed in the new catalog are mentioned in the Arşiv Kılavuzu index under other subheadings for Bayezid II: Cemin oğlunun öldürülmesi hakkında emirname, mulknameler, Korkut Şehzadenin mektubu ve verdiği beratlar, tımar ve sairiyeye beratlar. Under the new classification many documents have been added while others have been reassigned under new dates or new subject headings. It remains for researchers to compare the classifications document by document for errors and omissions. (Here again an evrak number index would have been useful).

Although the Arsiv Kılavuzu index includes some very specific descriptions, many of the documents are indexed only under very broad categories. The Fermanlar catalog descriptions include addressee and place names. This, combined with the chronological organization of the fermanlar, should make documents relating to specific areas of inquiry much easier to identify.

Palmira Brummett
University of Chicago Libraries

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The General Libraries, University of Texas at Austin, has issued a list of its Arabic and Persian periodicals with their holdings information. Copies can be obtained by writing to: Abazar Sepehri, Middle East Collection, MAI 316, University of Texas, Austin, Texas 78713. Cost of each copy is \$5.00, payable to: University of Texas at Austin (General Libraries).

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

XXXIInd International Congress for Asian and North African Studies 25-30 August 1986

Seminars on library science will be a part of the XXXIInd ICANAS, Hamburg 1986. The themes will include bibliography, history of printing in Oriental countries, Oriental manuscripts, library automation, cataloging, etc. Orientalists, librarians, scholars and students of individual Orientalistic fields are cordially invited to contribute papers to these seminars.

For further information please contact: Prof. Dr. A. Wezler, Secretary General, Organizing Committee, C/o Seminar für Kultur und Geschichte Indiens, Grindelallee 53, D. 2000 Hamburg 13, Federal Republic of Germany, tel. 4123 33 85.

MEMBER NEWS

Hamid Mahamedi has been appointed Associate Librarian, Librarian for Islamica Collections, in the Collection Development and Reference Services Department of the General Library of the University of California at Berkeley. Mr. Mahamedi fills the career position whose duties he has been assisting the department in handling, during an extended recruitment period, since the summer of 1983.

Louis Mitler of Translation Services, Washington D.C.: forthcoming book on Contemporary Turkish Writers (Uralic and Altaic Series, Indiana University).

OBITUARY

Frances Campbell Morton (1931-1985)

Frances Campbell Morton passed away suddenly at her home over Columbus day weekend. She was a senior descriptive cataloger at the Library of Congress. She is survived by her son, William, and her daughter, Jane.

Frances came to the Library in early 1979 from Indiana University where she had worked as a Near Eastern cataloger. She received her M.L.S. in 1977 and had almost completed course work in a master's in Altaic Studies before coming to the Library of Congress.

Frances entered the library profession later in life and had spent a considerable amount of time in Iran where she acquired her interest in Persian. Mostly self-taught in Persian, she took course work in Arabic at Ohio State and in Turkish at Indiana. She was a member of the Middle East Studies Association, the Middle East Librarians Association, the American Library Association, the Turkish Studies Association, and the Society for Iranian Studies. She was especially active in the Middle East Librarians Association and the American Library Association and served as a liaison between the two for a number of years.

She spent her career at LC in the Descriptive Cataloging Division cataloging Persian and Arabic materials. In the fall of 1984 Frances traveled to three of the Library of Congress's field offices (in Karachi, New Delhi, and Jakarta) where she provided valuable cataloging assistance.

Frances Morton made many valuable contributions to the Library of Congress during her years there. One of her major attributes was her ability to create a bridge between the Library of Congress and other libraries in the cataloging of Near Eastern materials. She will be remembered for her professionalism, her dedication to the Library profession, and her spontaneous sense of humor. Her many friends and colleagues in the library world will miss her greatly.

Patricia Myers-Hayer
Library of Congress

Frances Campbell Morton

Frances Campbell Morton died quietly of heart failure early Sunday morning October 13, 1985. Those of us who knew her will remember her energy, her zest for life and her many achievements. Frances had the gift of living life to the fullest. She enjoyed working hard, traveling and spending time with her family and an astonishing number of friends. Like the pearls she was so proud of acquiring, she had a luminous quality which brightened the lives of those around her. Frances was unique, she will be missed.

Marsha Hamilton.

CONTRIBUTORS TO MELA NOTES

All contributions related to Middle Eastern Librarianship are welcome. Because of space limitations we ask that articles be limited to a maximum of 7 double spaced pages. Book reviews should be no longer than 500-700 words, or 2-3 double spaced pages.

Mela Notes is issued three times per year (Winter, Spring, and Fall issues). Contributions should be received by January for the Winter issue, April for the Spring issue, and August for the Fall issue.

Please be sure to send all meeting notices well in advance so that MELA members can be informed in a timely fashion.

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