

MELA Notes

ISSN: 0364-2410

Number 20

May, 1980

MIDDLE EAST LIBRARIANS ASSOCIATION

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MELA Notes is being published now three times a year, in February, May and October. It is distributed to members of the Association and to non-member subscribers. Membership dues of \$5.00 bring the Notes and other mailings. Subscriptions are \$5.00 per calendar year, or \$1.50 per issue for most back numbers. Address dues, requests for membership information or subscriptions to Marsha McClintock, Secretary-Treasurer MELA, Ohio State University Main Library, 1858 Neil Avenue Mall, Columbus, Ohio 43210.

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REPORT FROM ALA-NEW YORK by Frances Morton

Committee on Cataloging: Asian and African Materials,
Resources and Technical Services Division.

At the program meeting of this Committee two speakers from the Library of Congress gave informal presentations on issues of concern to the Committee, followed by a question and answer period.

The first speaker was Mrs. Lucia Rather, Director for Cataloging. LC, who came in response to enquiries to LC on priorities, minimal level cataloging, automating non-Roman scripts, and access to APIF.

She said that at present selection officers for the various subject areas assign cataloging priorities on a scale from one to seven. Those materials which are presently in priority seven are given preliminary records and put into the arrearage. New language-independent priorities based on content are now in draft form and will be as follows:

- 1 members of Congress and Cataloging in Publication (CIP)
- 2 English materials of high need and research value
- 3 foreign language materials of high research value and English materials of medium need
- 4 medium need foreign language materials and lower need English materials
- 5 lower need foreign language materials.

Those English materials in priority 4 and foreign language materials in priority 5 will be given minimal level cataloging, as there is little hope that these materials will ever receive full cataloging. These will go into LC's Automated Process File and will consist of the main entry, full description through the collation, and ISBN. Access will be by title, author/title, and ISBN, as well as the component word search at LC. At present this procedure applies to monographs only, although it may be extended to serials and must be negotiated through CONSER. These records will be available on MARC but not this year--that is, if the utilities find the format acceptable.

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The question of what LC would do if outside libraries wanted categories reconsidered was raised. Mrs. Rather said to write LC. Recommendations for upgrading records in minimal level cataloging to full cataloging will be co-ordinated by the Collections Development Office and forwarded to the selection officers.

She announced that LC will not adopt Pinyin but will provide cross references from headings in Pinyin. LC has no non-Roman alphabets in machine readable form. However, RLIN is developing character sets for Chinese, Japanese, and Korean, and this project should be operational in three years. Japanese, Arabic, Chinese, Korean, Persian, and Hebrew (JACKPHY) will continue to be cataloged in the manual mode because of the specialists' position. Minimal level records on these languages will, of course, be in romanization.

NUC will become a register-index catalog, and romanized JACKPHY records from participating outside libraries may be included.

The second half of the program was a presentation by Kay Elsasser, Subject Cataloger, Subject Cataloging Division, who talked about expansion of the DT classification schedules for sub-Saharan Africa and subject headings for African history. The Committee expressed considerable interest in the methodology followed in updating schedules and subject headings in an area which has long been a subject for recommendations by librarians. At the end of the meeting the hope was expressed that David Littlefield could make a similar presentation at a future meeting in the area of the Middle East, North Africa, and Islam.

At the business meeting members of the committee gave reports on activities of the past year and discussed plans for the coming year. The Middle East representative is in the process of submitting to LC a status questionnaire on questions raised by MELA members which appeared in the reports of the two ad-hoc subcommittees two years ago. In addition a questionnaire will be submitted to the membership asking for further cataloging recommendations. Plans were made for the forthcoming Mid-winter and San Francisco meetings, and a decision to support public complaints against OCLC's not loading on its database the cataloging records of Northwestern University's Africana collections was endorsed.

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Committee on Cataloging: Description and Access, Resources and Technical Services Division.

The subject of major concern to MELA members in the four meetings of this Committee was the proposed rule change on the cataloging of microforms under AACR2. Known as the Willard proposal, this amendment would keep the imprint the same as the material subjected to microforming instead of making the production of the microform the basis of the imprint. Although a strong majority of the non-voting representatives, including the MELA representative, indicated their approval of the Willard proposal (on which MELA professional members were surveyed) the proposal failed to pass in the Committee vote.

MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING, SALT LAKE CITY, NOVEMBER 6, 1979

Members present: David Partington, president-elect; Chris Filstrup, editor; Marsha McClintock, secretary-treasurer; Fawzi Khoury, ex officio.
Member absent: Ed Jajko, president.

Due to the sudden illness of the president, the president-elect chaired the meeting and served as president during the entire MELA meeting on the following day. Items which were discussed or passed by the Executive Board were:

1. To raise the subscription price of MELA Notes from \$3.00 to \$5.00 per calendar year for non-MELA members. (\$5.00 membership dues includes MELA Notes subscription) Additional funds generated will be used to improve the content and appearance of the MELA Notes.
2. To upgrade the contents and appearance of the MELA Notes, several suggestions were discussed: determining the membership's research interests; making appeals to individuals for articles; generating some type of questionnaire of current or proposed research to generate research activity which might lead to publication of results in the MELA Notes changing the format to something similar to the MESA Bulletin, still a low-cost publication.

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Actions taken following the discussion were: David Partington offered the services of the Harvard College Library to absorb the job of typing MELA Notes; Marsha McClintock will submit three possible cover designs for the new Notes format; Fawzi Khoury will contact J.D. Pearson about the possibility of having the Notes included in the Index Islamicus list of periodicals covered.

3. Candidates for the vice-presidency were nominated: Basima Bezirgan and Brenda Bickett.
4. David Partington discussed the possibility of having an occasional papers series, including those papers delivered at MELA conferences. He will look into publishing prospects for this project.

Meeting adjourned at 11:08 p.m.

PUBLISHING IN IRAN SINCE THE REVOLUTION by Abazar Sepehri

Now that the Iranian revolution is more than one year old, you may wonder whatever has become of the brisk book market I reported on (MELA Notes no. 17) after a book buying trip to Iran in October 1978. The news I have gathered from our book dealers, newspapers and Iranian library contacts points to a semi-revolution within the publishing industry itself. After seven to eight months of phenomenal growth for the book trade in late 1978 and the first quarter of 1979 (during which time the number of books sold is reported to have been the total of all copies sold in the previous twenty-five years) a big slump hit the market. Many of the government or semi-official publishing institutions such as universities, Bungāh-i Tarjumah va Nashr-i Kitāb, Bunyād-i Farhang-i Irān, Anjuman-i Āsār-i Millī, Intishārāt-i Surūsh, and Kānūn-i Parvarish-i Fikrī-i Kūdukān va Nawjavānān are still in a state of reorganization, after all the purges that have been going on. This has left many well known writers, editors and translators in financial difficulty. As for the

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private sector, apparently publishers are keeping a wait-and-see attitude and expect to resume their activities as soon as a number of uncertainties are clarified.

The reading public, which had reportedly purchased 200,000 copies of each of 'Alī Shari'atī's 40 titles (totalling 8 million books) is a bit impoverished now because of unemployment and reduced flow of cash, but there is enough evidence that it will support a reactivated book industry. Writers, translators, compilers and editors that have temporarily suspended or been forced to suspend their works will resume production as soon as the conditions are favorable. Private publishers, ranging from the giant Amīr Kabīr group to the smallest ones established just before the revolution, do have the capital or can raise it when things return to normal and good manuscripts come their ways. Printing presses, somewhat overloaded by increasing numbers of newspapers and weekly periodicals, and sometimes by badly programmed text-book publishing by the government, are still capable of handling an enlivened book industry. Printing materials, especially those locally produced, are still in adequate supply. The uncertainties hanging over the Iranian publishing industry are as follows:

1. Censorship. During the last days of the previous regime the book censorship was almost totally lifted. The National Library which served as a censorship agent for the government was no longer given the manuscripts for pre-publishing screening and registration. At present there is still no registration requirement but incidents of attacking bookstores and burning leftist books have been widely reported. One evident case of censorship was the collecting on Public Prosecutor's order of all copies of Hidāyat's satirical Tūp-i Murvārī from the market. The new constitution includes a statement about freedom of speech and press, but publishers and writers are not sure just how much this freedom will actually be granted.

2. Royalties. In the past royalties fluctuated between ten to thirty percent. Small publishers feel there should be some kind of a ceiling on the amount of royalties paid to the authors so that book prices can be stabilized.

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3. Distribution. The old channels of book distribution, i.e. publishers choosing their own agents, are no longer trusted by the publishers. Due to political unrest and administrative irregularities, publishers are not getting their share of sales from their agents, especially in provinces. So there is a strong feeling that a central distribution agency should be formed and held responsible for publishers' accounts.

4. Copyright. Despite the copyright law of 1969 and its supplement pertaining to translators and sound recordings, violations have frequently occurred since the passage of the law. Several complaints have recently been reported. You may have read or heard of Ismā'īl Rā'īn's differences with Amīr Kabīr over the latter's allegedly unauthorized offsetting of the former's "Farāmāsūnirī dar Īrān," and the legal complications that followed.

5. Nationalization. In view of certain nationalizations within the national economy, publishers and others wonder whether the publishing industry should also be nationalized, whether it should be further decontrolled or whether it should be a combination of both.

Note: This article is based on a detailed analysis about the future of publishing industry in Iran by Karim Imami in: ĀYANDAH no. 4-6 (Summer 1979), pp. 191-203. In an editorial note the journal is inviting comments and views from all of us about the questions raised.

AN ACQUISITION TRIP TO NORTH AFRICA AND THE NEAR EAST
by George N. Atiyeh

This report deals with my activities, findings and impressions during an acquisition and survey trip undertaken between September 23 and November 22, 1978. My itinerary included Paris, Madrid, Rabat, Casablanca, Algiers, Tunis, Tripoli (Libya), Cairo, Amman, Jerusalem, Tel-Aviv, Beirut, and Riyadh.

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The main aims of the trip were the acquisition of publications, the survey of the book production and distribution situation, and the establishment of exchange programs--or their stimulation wherever these were already established.

PARIS, FRANCE

In Paris, I wanted to learn more about the Middle Eastern and especially Arabic publications that have multiplied in the French capital. At least ten serial publications in Arabic--or published by Arabs--appear there, including three weeklies: al-Mustaqbal, al-Watan al-^CArabī, and al-Nahār al-^CArabī wa-al-Duwalī, and one in English, al-Nahar Arab Report and Memo. The first three enjoy high circulation in most of the Arab countries, Europe and the United States. Their story of success and the security and free atmosphere of Western Europe have encouraged other Arabic serial publications to move from Beirut and other Arab cities to Paris and London. As a result, a daily paper, al-Muḥarrir al-^CArabī wa-al-Duwalī, and the Arabic version of The Reader's Digest are scheduled to appear in Paris. The first will be published by the same company that publishes al-Watan al-^CArabī and the second by al-Nahār under the editorship of a well-known journalist, Edmond Saab. Several of the other serial publications belonged to different political groups or organizations or expatriate intellectuals. They include such titles al al-Yasār al-^CArabī and al-Rughbah al-Ibāhīyah. Ordinarily, this type of serial does not live long. The more intellectual side of Arab journalism in Paris is represented by al-Bāhith. This is edited by a Lebanese expatriate, Dr. George Zeinati, who holds a doctoral degree in philosophy. al-Ihyā' al-^CArabī is to be published by Ṣaleḥ al-Bitār, one of the original founders of al-Ba^Cth Party. The artistic side is represented by Cinemarabe, Afrique, Asie, Amerique, Latine. Also an Iranian studies journal is slated for publication.

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In addition to a growing number of Arab writers, some publishers have moved to Paris too. One of them is Les Éditions Khayat (25 Rue de Berne, 75008 Paris, Tel. 293-68-33). The Khayat Co. is now a corporation managed by Mr. Faruq Darwish. A reduced number of monographs is published by them, but the main function of the company is distribution of Lebanese and other Arab publications to Europe and the Middle East. One of the main publishing projects of this company has been MawsūCat al-Shi^Cr al-^CArabī in twenty volumes of annotated compilations. Only five have so far appeared. Les Editions Oueidat, (101 Rue St. Dominique, 75007 Paris, Tel. 555-5736), is another Lebanese publisher doing business from Paris. Although Mr. Oueidat does not own a bookshop in Paris, he receives orders and tries to fill them upon request. His Beirut address is P.O. Box 628, Beirut, Lebanon. The only bookstore exclusively for Arabic publications is Dar al-Karawane (135, Blvd. de Menilmontant, 75011 Paris, Tel. 806-39-22) where both serial and monographic materials are found. Of course, Librairie Orientaliste Paul Geuthner (12 Rue Vavin, 12-75006) Librairie Orientale H. Samuelian (51, Rue Monsieur-le-Prince, 75006), and B. P. Maisonneuve (11, Rue Victor-Cousin, 75005) are still the major bookstores dealing with Near Eastern material.

Institutions Visited

Paris has various institutions dealing with Middle Eastern affairs that are worth visiting or contacting. However, because the purpose of my stay was limited, I visited only one, Le Centre de Hautes Études sur l'Afrique et l'Asie (13, Rue de Four, 75006), better known by its acronym CHEAM. While the Centre's early scope was limited to North Africa, it has now expanded its activities to include the "Third World" countries of Sub-Saharan Africa and Asia. Formerly, it prepared French administrators for the North African countries under French rule, but now provides training for French as well as "Third World" administrators. It also publishes a journal, L'Asie et l'Afrique, and runs a library open only to researchers. The most valuable holdings of the library are the reports and memoirs of the French administrators in North Africa and the Levant (Syria and

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Lebanon). The director of the Centre, Professor George Malicot is very much interested in establishing an exchange program with the Library.

Mention should also be made of a new center for Arab studies in France, the Centre d'Études et de Recherches sur l'Orient Arabe Contemporain (CEROAC). The objectives of CEROAC include the building of a documentary, monographic and serial collection and the publication of studies and bibliographies dealing with the Arab World. Studies are underway on Syria, on agricultural problems in the Middle East, Arab universities and the League of Arab States. Its address is: Centre d'Études et de Recherches sur l'Orient Arabe Contemporain, Université de Provence, 29 Ave Robert Schuman, 13621 Aix-en-Provence (Tel. 42 59-99-30).

SPAIN

Because of its long history of association with Arab culture, Spain has had a steady and continuous interest in Arab studies. The number of Spanish scholars involved, in one way or another, with Arab affairs is impressive. Most universities now give their students a choice between Arabic or Greek as a prerequisite for graduation. In addition, a number of research centers dealing with the study of Arabic culture and Arab-Spanish relations are among the leading institutes in the country. Books on Islamic Spain are still commonplace in bookstores and the rising trend to translate modern Arabic literature is now stronger than ever.

After visiting the National Library, I went to the Instituto Hispano-Arabe de Cultura (Paseo de Juan XXIII, 5, Madrid - 3). Founded in 1954, the Institute's mission is to disseminate the Hispanic culture in the Arab World and the Arab culture in Spain. Being affiliated with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, its primary function is to foster the cultural relations between Spain and the Arab World. It is also a research institute where studies, translations, and edition of manuscripts are carried out. The first part of the mission is carried out through twelve cultural centers spread all over the Arab World, and the second through lectures, meetings and translations. The Institute, which seems to be

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the most active and most solvent of the research centers I visited, publishes works both in Spanish and Arabic. It has an annual serial publication, Awraq, the first issue of which was to appear in October (1978). It has more than a dozen full time researchers and holds an impressive collection of books and serials on the Arab World and Islam. The Librarian is the famous Arabist, Father Felix Pareja. The Director of the Institute is Mr. Francisco Ultray, the deputy director is Mr. Ramon Armengod Lopez, and the Secretary General, who effectively runs the Institute, is Dr. José Perez Lázaro, a Spanish Arabist of exceptional energy. The Institute publishes two bulletins, Arabismo and Boletín de la Asociación Española de Orientalistas, which provide information on Arabic and archaeological studies in Spain and/or by Spaniards.

Another research institute I visited was Escuela de Estudios Arabes, Hortaleza 104, Madrid - 4. As part of the Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas, the school is named Instituto Miguel Asín Palacios. The newly appointed director is Professor Fernando de la Granja. Its official serial publication is the prestigious al-Andalus.

Another important research institute dealing with North Africa is the Instituto de Estudios Africanos (Paseo Recoletos, 16, Madrid - 1) now located close to the National Library. In the Institute, I met Dr. Mariano Arribas Palau, who specializes in North African Affairs. I had learned from other sources that the Institute was in a financially precarious situation, so when I asked him about the future he assured me that the demise of the Institute is not forthcoming. Because of a smaller budget allotted to the Institute's activities, their publication program had to be cut down and the issuance of their periodical Africa suspended, hopefully temporarily, as of March 1978. Furthermore, the archives and library of Dirección General de Plazas y Provincias Africanas which was affiliated with the Institute were transferred to a small town, Alcalá de Enares, twenty miles north of Madrid where all overseas archives are now consolidated.

I also visited the research institute known as Instituto Egiptio de Estudios Islámicos (Paseo de la Habana, Francisco de Asís Mendez de Casariego, No. 1, Madrid - 2). This institute, founded by the Egyptian government in 1950, attempts to foster

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the cultural relations and collaboration between Arab, particularly Egyptian, scholars and Spanish scholars. It has a press of its own, a library and a lecture hall, holds conferences and seminars, and publishes a journal--Revista del Instituto de Estudios Islamico de Madrid Ṣaḥīfat Maḥad al-Dirāsāt al-Islāmiyah fī Madrīd).

Finally, in addition to the titles mentioned above, there are a number of serial publications coming out of Spain that deal with Arabic and Islamic affairs. As I did not have time to check on all of them, I only list them with their addresses:

Alcor. Published by La Asociacion para la Amistad Islamo-Christiana. (Condado de Trevino, 21 16C Pinar de Chamartin, Madrid - 33).

Almenara. (Canizares, 3, Madrid - 12).

Cuadernos de Historia del Islam. Published by the Department of History of Islam, University of Granada. (Avda. de Cervantes, 13, 30 A., Granada).

Cuadernos de la Alhambra. Published by Patronato de la Alhambra. (Palacio de Carlos V, Granada).

Miscelanea de Estudios Arabes y Hebraicas. Published by la Facultad de Letras, Universidad de Granada Puentezuelas, 35, Granada).

MOROCCO

The Kingdom of Morocco was the first of the Northwest African states on my itinerary. During my stay I visited only two cities--Rabat, the capital, and Casablanca, the largest city--in an effort to acquire publications on my desiderata list as well as current publications. Furthermore, I tried to survey the publication situation and to establish contacts with learned and research institutions.

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The Publishing Situation

Because of decentralization and lack of a national bibliography, it is hard to form a comprehensive view of the publishing situation. In Morocco a laissez-faire system prevails, and therefore there is no central agency that controls publishing. That does not mean, however, that the government does not subsidize publishing. It does, in more forms than one. In the first place, most of the learned and research institutions that publish journals, essays, research reports and monographs are all government subsidized. In the second place, some of the ministries, in particular the Ministry of Awqāf (ministry of Religious Endowments and Religious Affairs), and the Ministry of Culture publish both journals and monographs. This, in addition to strictly government publications such as annual reports, statistics and laws, makes the government the most important factor in the publishing situation. A short explanation is called for.

The hub of cultural life in Rabat is the University of Muhammad V. Two of the faculties, Letters and Law, publish a number of scholarly journals. Among the ones that have come out during the last two years, mention may be made of Majallat Kullīyat al-Adāb and al-Majallah al-Maghribīyah lil-qānūn wa-al-siyāsah wa-al-iqtisād. The two may be acquired by subscription or exchange by writing for the first to Miss Halima Ferhat, Librarian, Faculty of Letters, and to the Dean of the law school, Dr. Mohamed Bennouna, for the second.

The Institut Universitaire de la Recherche Scientifique (al-Ma^had al-Jāmi^cī lil-Ba^hth al-^cilmī) New address: Rue Ma-al-Ainin-Agdal, Rabat --formerly known as the Centre Universitaire de la Recherche Scientifique (CURS)--is formally affiliated with the University and in particular with the Faculty of Letters, but in many ways is autonomous. The Institute, now headed by Dr. Abdelhadi Tazi, publishes two scholarly journals, and several of the scholarly associations in Morocco publish their own journals under the Institute's auspices or in cooperation with it. The Société de Géographie du Maroc publishes its Revue de Géographie du Maroc in cooperation with the Institute. Hespéris-Tamuda, Etudes Philosophiques et Littéraires (new series), Bulletin d'Archeologie Marocaine,

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Bulletin de la Societé Naturelles et Physiques du Maroc, Bulletin Economique et Sociale du Maroc are all associated with the Institute in one way or another. The Institute's own journals include al-Bahth al-^Cilmī and the al-Majallah al-Maghribīyah li-^Cilm al-ijtimā^C. The Bulletin signalétique du CURS, which has been appearing very irregularly since 1962, is also one of its publications.

In addition to the University and the institutes attached to it, the Ministry of Awqāf and Religious Affairs has a publication program, some of it funded by the United Arab Emirates. Two serials, Da^Cwat al-Haqq and al-Irshād, are also published by this Ministry. Any requests should be addressed to the Minister who is now Mr. Shakni Tijani. The Ministry of State in Charge of Cultural Affairs publishes al-Manāhil, a quarterly mostly of literature.

In terms of trade publishing there are no major publishers in Morocco. The largest two are in Casablanca: Dār al-Thaqāfah owned by Mr. al-Qadri al-Hasani Muhammad (Rue Victor Hugo, Place de la Mosquee, Boîte Postale 4083) and Dār al-Kitāb owned by Mr. Boutaleb Abou Abdelhay (Place de la Mosquee). Les Éditions Maghribines (5-13, Rue Soldat Roche) publishes mostly works in French dealing with the politics and economics of Morocco. The first two are willing to export books and to send lists and catalogs of books upon request. In Rabat, the largest publisher is Dār al-Ma^Cārif, owned by Zhiri M'hamed (Rue Bab Challah, Boîte Postale 239, Rabat) who seems to be keen to do business with U.S. libraries. Retrospective materials and lithographed books may be found at Mohammad al-Tatwāni (Saniat Zanbir, 17 Sale). Mr. al-Tatwāni, a colorful old gentleman, has had a small but prosperous book business in his own home for a long time. Scholars and book dealers who are looking for retrospective materials usually visit him and seem to be willing to pay the high prices that he requests.

Serial publications in Morocco are numerous and varied. In the field of newspapers, Maroc-Soir, Le Matin (du Sahara) and L'Opinion are well established French language newspapers. al-Anbā' and al-^CAlam are the major newspapers in Arabic. al-Bayān and al-Muḥarrir are important for their voice of opposition.

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A new firm called Mithāq al-Maghrib (16 Rue Abtāl Akdal), which speaks for the newly organized government party, Rassemblement des Independents, has begun the publication of two new newspapers and two weeklies. The Arabic paper is al-Mithāq al-Watānī and the French is Almaghrib. The weeklies are al-Maghrib al-^CArabī and Maghrib-Hebdo.

In the field of magazines and journals, there are two relatively new titles that seem to carry articles of permanent value. They are al-Madīnah in Arabic and Pro-Culture in French. The address of the first is P.O. Box 6595, and the address of the second is 9, Rue Beni Malek, Aviation. Both are in Rabat.

The National Library (Bibliothèque Generale et Archives)

The head of the National Library is Mr. Ben Abbes Kabbāj. Before visiting him at the Library, I met him twice on social occasions. The Library is a legal depository but not too many authors or publishers obey the law. This hampers the issuance of a national bibliography. What the Library publishes and calls Bibliographie Nationale Marocaine is merely an analytic list of newspaper articles dealing with Morocco. However, certain monographs are sometimes reviewed.

L'Institut Universitaire de la Recherche Scientifique

When I visited this institute it was in the process of moving to its new address mentioned above. I met with its director, Dr. Abdelhadi Tāzi, an old acquaintance of mine, for only a short period and I was able only to acquire some of the issues of al-Baḥṭh al-^Cilmī that were missing from our collection. I then visited him at home and we had more ample time to discuss questions of exchange. Dr. Tazi is writing a multi-volume work on Morocco's diplomatic history and one volume is dedicated to the Moroccan-U.S. relations issue.

Mohammad V University in Rabat

The University lacks a central library, but the adjacent

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Bibliothèque Générale probably serves in this capacity. However, each faculty has its own library, the most important being that of the Faculté des Lettres. Unlike my previous visit to this library, I found that there is a great interest and desire to establish an exchange program.

The Ministry of Waqfs and Religious Affairs

I visited the Ministry on the last day of my stay in Rabat and met with Mr. al-Murabit, one of the high officials there. I was told that it would welcome the establishment of an exchange program with the Library of Congress. I was also promised a set of the Ministry's publications and whatever is available of a list of missing issues of Da'wat al-Haqq and al-Irshād.

Other Contacts

The other institution that I visited in Rabat was the National Center of Documentation (Shari' Mā al-CAynayn-Haut Agdal, Box 826, Tel. 749-44). The director of the Center, Dr. Ahmed el-Fassi-Fihri, is a very energetic and forward-looking scholar.

I also visited the Institut d'Études et de Recherches pour l'Arabisation (Ave. Ibn Battouta, Box 430, Tels. 719-13 and 720-65). Established in 1960, this institute attempts to make replacement of the French language by Arabic an effective concern. Its director is Ahmed Lakhdar Ghazal.

Bibliothèque Royale, directed by former Ambassador Abderrehman El-Fassi-Fihri, and the Bureau de Coordination de l'Arabisation dans le Monde Arabe (a league of Arab States agency) which publishes al-Lisān al-CArabī, were visited for very brief periods.

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ALGERIA

My stay in Algeria was limited in time to one week and in space to one city, Algiers, the capital. During that week, I visited publishers, bookshops and a good number of learned institutions. I met with university professors and librarians with whom I discussed the publishing situation and the literary and intellectual currents in the country. While I was there the rumors of President Boumedienne's illness were spreading and guessing was high as to his whereabouts. The political atmosphere was tense, but I had no problems establishing contacts. Transportation within Algiers is extremely inadequate. One has to wait at times for an hour to get a taxi.

The Publishing Situation

Algeria is one of a few Arab countries that has been publishing a national bibliography since 1964. It is supposed to come out twice a year, but it has not always lived up to this frequency. The bibliography is well produced and indexed, reflecting the bilingualism, French and Arabic, still very strong in Algeria. A statistical survey of several issues indicates that the average output is 200 new titles per year with the French surpassing the Arabic two to one. A bibliography entitled Dix ans de production intellectuelle en Algerie 1962-1972 sums up the publishing activities of the Algerians since independence.

In Algeria, the government system is socialistic in orientation. The government exercises control over most means of production including publishing. Most publishing, however, is done by the Société Nationale d'Edition et Diffusion, better known by its acronym SNED (3, Blvd. Zirout Youcef, Algiers, Tels. 63-92-67 and 63-96-43). SNED's publications are both in Arabic and French. The Arabic Section is directed by a vice-president, Mr. Muhammad al-Sharif. A yearly annotated catalog of their Arabic publications is issued listing new and old titles with emphasis of their publishing program on humanities and the social sciences, plus children's books. The director of the general

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publishing program is Mr. ^CAbd al-Rahmān al-Māḍāwī. SNED is not only the largest publisher, it is the only legal distributor of publications. The law in Algeria permits anybody to publish but does not allow anybody to distribute, so most of SNED's business is in the distribution of trade books and of secondary textbooks. SNED has a number of offices, with the main headquarters at 3, Zirout Youcef, and the distribution center at 49 bis, rue Ben Mehdi. SNED will accept orders from overseas. It publishes for the Ministry of Information a periodical in Arabic, al-Thaqāfah, which is one of the leading literary and intellectual journals in the country.

Next to SNED in importance, but not volume or size, is the Office des Publications Universitaires (29, Rue Abou Nouas, Hydra, Algiers. Tel. 60-44-60). The specialty of OPU is university publications which tend to be mostly textbooks in all fields of human knowledge, but particularly in law, science and medicine. The OPU has a major store on one of the main avenues of Algiers (43, Didouche Mourad-Algiers, Tel. 63-65-51) and wherever there are university centers in Algeria. OPU publishes a periodical, L'Université, in an Arabic and a French version. Mr. Youcef Naseeb is in charge of its operation and he is willing to accept orders from overseas. A catalog for their 1978/79 publications has just come out. OPU publications may be available through SNED, but it might be wiser to order them directly.

As in many Arab countries, the Ministry of Information and that of Religious Endowments have publication programs. The Ministry of Information and Culture publishes al-Thaqāfah through SNED. It also publishes Amāl, a literary journal oriented to encouraging young Algerian writers. The Ministry also publishes a series, both in French and Arabic, called "Art and Culture". The elegantly printed series includes works on the major cities and the major historical personalities of Algeria. Another series published by this ministry is "Visages de l'Algerie", a public relations series dealing with various provinces of Algeria and aspects of life.

The purely governmental publications such as reports of agencies and banks were many and I did not have time to survey

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them. However, mention should be made of the publications of AARDES (L'Association Algerienne pour la Recherche Démographique Économique et Sociale) located at 15, Rue Hamani (ex-Charras), Tel. 64-87-22, which publishes series of governmental studies on industry, family and consumer affairs, migration, price indexes and many other publications with statistical studies. Unfortunately, almost all of these publications are mimeographed and produced in small quantities.

The publications of the learned institutions are diverse in nature and scope. Foremost among these centers is the recently established Centre Nationale d'Études Historiques (Blvd. Abderrahmane Laala-El-Madania, Algiers, Tel. 66-91-38), which publishes two serials--Majallat al-Tārīkh superseding the Faculty of Letters' Revue d'Histoire et de Civilisation du Maghrab, and al-Wathā'iq al-Tārīkhīyah. The law school, known as L'Institut de Droit, publishes La Revue Algerienne des sciences juridiques économiques et politiques. Most of the research institutions are now part of ONRS (Office Nationale de la Recherche Scientifique) which includes research institutions such as Le Centre de Recherche en Économie Appliquée (CREA), Centre De Science et Technologie Nucléaire (CSTN) and the Centre de Recherches Anthropologiques Préhistoriques et Ethnographiques, better known by its acronym CRAPE. This latter center publishes Libyca as well Memoires. ONRS is under the Direction de la Recherche Scientifique in the Ministry of Higher Education.

Statistics on Algeria are published by the Direction des Statistiques et de la Comptabilité Nationale (Chemin Ibn Badis al-Mou'iz, El-Biar, Algiers, Tel. 78-03-23). In addition to a number of publications on foreign trade, industry and population, the Direction publishes the Annuaire statistique de l'Algerie.

Serial publications other than those mentioned above include al-Jaysh (al-Djeich), al-Jazā'irīyah (El-Djazairia), the weekly al-Mujāhid, all are published in French and Arabic editions. There are two literary magazines--Amāl, published by the Ministry of Information, and Alwān, by the Union of Algerian Writers. The Union itself is an agency of the same ministry.

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Because Algeria hosts revolutionary groups and liberation movements, one is likely to find numerous publications of these groups and movements. Among the most important ones are the Palestine Liberation Organization, Polisario, Patriotic Front (ZAPU), South West African People's Organization (SWAPO), Popular Front for the Liberation of Oman, and many others.

The Ministry of Information and Culture (Ministère de l'Information et la Culture)

At the Ministry of Information and Culture (119, Didouche Mourad, Algiers), I visited Miss Fawziah Sahraoui-Tahar, Deputy Director for Cultural Exchange, who had visited the Library of Congress shortly before my departure on the trip. She is a very friendly person and one of a few Algerian women in high ranking positions. The Ministry is a major publisher and an active sponsor in the cultural life of Algeria. Miss Sahraoui provided me with a number of publications, especially the volumes in the series "Collection Art et Culture". She was also instrumental in helping me get other serials such as Amāl and Alwān published by Agencies under the Ministry of Information. Exchange with the Ministry will be made through the Bibliothèque Nationale which is under the administrative responsibility of this ministry.

Secretariat d'État au Plan

This institution, equivalent to a ministry of planning, is in charge of the Centre National de Documentation Économique et Sociale (Chemin Ibn Badis al-Mou'iz, El-Biar, Algiers, or B.P. 478, Algiers, Gare). In the Centre, I met with Mr. Amran Ben Younes, the Deputy Director for Publications and Documentation, who is very much interested in setting up an exchange program.

Centre National d'Études Historiques
(Blvd. Abderrahmane Laala-El-Makania, Algiers, Tel. 66-91-38)

The Center for Historical Studies is a young but promising

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research center headed by a revered scholar and politician, Ahmad Tawfiq al-Madani, and directed competently by Mr. Mohamed Touili. The Center collects documents on Algerian history and owns a collection of photoreproduced documents, from the Prime Ministers Archive in Istanbul, related to Algeria and North Africa. It also publishes a journal and a series of historical documents. Study facilities are also available for scholars and researchers.

AARDES (L'Association Algerienne pour la Recherche
Démographique Économique et Sociale)
(15, Rue Hamani Ex-Charras , Algiers, Tels. 64-87-22
and 64-89-79.)

Based on the principle that socio-economic phenomena cannot be understood in isolation, this center collects not only statistical data, but prepares studies on the demographic situation, urbanism, rural emigration, fecundity, prices, taking into consideration all the variables that are involved. It is directed by Mr. Mohamed Bokhoubza who provided me with four titles and requested the setting up of an exchange program.

TUNISIA

Tunisia is the smallest of the Maghrib states, yet it is one of the most active in the field of publications. Relatively speaking, the political atmosphere is much more relaxed than in Algeria in that opposition groups are allowed to air their opinions although not far enough as to cause a threat to the government of the ruling Destourian Socialist Party. Just before my arrival into the country, the leader of the General Union of Tunisian Workers, Habib Ben Achour, was sentenced to ten years in prison for leading a strike and riots against the government during the month of January 1978.

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When planning a trip to Tunisia, one should take into consideration that the business weekend is Saturday-Sunday, but government offices are closed Friday and Saturday afternoons. Bookstores are open between 8:00 A.M. and 1:00 P.M. and between 4:00 P.M. and 8:00 P.M. Moving around is much easier in Tunisia than it is in Algiers. The center of town (Centreville) is small and the distances between institutions from which publications are to be procured are not that long. Taxis, furthermore, are easily attainable in two sizes, regular and small. The "petit taxi," as it is known, is readily available all over town.

The Publishing Situation

Among the Maghrib states, Tunisia produces the highest number of publications. It has an active publishing industry as well as an active intellectual artistic life. The Bibliothèque Nationale has recently begun the publication of a national bibliography with the Arabic title of al-Bibliyūgrāfiya al-Qawmīyah al-Tunisīyah, and the French title Bibliographie Nationale de Tunis, appearing in quarterly and annual editions, both mimeographed. The 1977 annual volume lists 692 titles, including 325 titles in Arabic (92 official and 233 commercial). Although most of the titles listed are 1977 works, some display dates prior to that year. Furthermore, this high number includes translations, reprints and some separata from periodicals.

Most publishing is centered in the hands of two semi-official publishing houses--La Maison Tunisienne de l'Édition (54 Avenue de la Liberté, Tunis, Tel. 285-873 and 285-878) and the Société Tunisienne de Diffusion (5 Avenue de Carthage, Tunis or P.O. Box 440, Tel. 255-000). The latter has launched a joint venture in publishing with the Libyans since 1975, al-Dār al-ʿArabīyah lil-Kitāb (Libyan address: Ghumah al-Mahmudi St., Wafa' Bldg., or P.O. Box 3185, Tripoli, Tel. 47-287; Tunisian address: 43 Bis Jughartah St., Tunis, Tel. 282-100). MTE also has undertaken several joint ventures with SNED in Algeria and with different Kuwait publishers. MTE's publications are varied, including editions of classical works, literature, history, drama, and linguistic and social studies. Both MTE and STD publish children's books. The latter has an

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impressive list of titles in this field. There are a number of private publishers in Tunisia. Among the most important ones are: Dār al-Najāh (Éditions Ennajah, 11 Rue de la France); Dār Abū Salāmah (Etablissements Bousalama, 15 Rue de la France), Etablissements A. Ben Abdallah (17, Rue de la France, Tel. 230-361), and Ceres Productions (Rue de Besanson) which specializes in deluxe editions. Dār al-Rāyah (was unable to get address) publishes mostly religious works.

Scholarly publications emanate mostly from the University of Tunis and a number of research centers. The University professors publish mostly in French, but many of them do publish in Arabic. Almost all scholarly periodicals in Tunisia are issued by university colleges. Mention should be made of Hawliyat al-Jāmi'ah al-Tunisiyah (Annales de l'Université de Tunis), Cahiers de Tunisie, which is now published by the Faculté des Lettres et de Science Humains, Revue Tunisienne de Droit, published by the faculty of law, and the well known Revue Tunisienne de Sciences Sociales, published by the Centre d'Études et de Recherches Économiques et Sociales. L'Institut National des Sciences de l'Éducation (17, Rue d'Irak) publishes La Revue Tunisienne des Sciences de l'Éducation. The Institute National Scientifique et Technique d'Océanographie et de Pêche located in Salambo puts out two periodicals: Annales and Bulletin. Another important institute that publishes scholarly works and journals is the Institut National d'Archeologie (Place du Château) which publishes a monographic series Notes et Documents in addition to books on history and archeology of Tunisia. Another scholarly journal is the Revue d'Histoire Maghrebine, a semi-annual publication in Arabic, French and English dealing with the modern and contemporary history of North Africa.

Tunisia is rich in serial publications. The major newspapers are L'Action, al-ʿAmal, La Presse, and al-Ṣabāh. The latter two enjoy some independence, but on the whole follow the government or the party line. An opposition newspaper, al-Ray (Errai) has been allowed since late 1977. The Tunisian official gazette, al-Rā'id al-Rasmī is one of the oldest (1860) in the Arab world and is still running strong.

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There are a number of weekly, monthly, and quarterly magazines and journals. Fikr is the leading literary monthly. Qisas specializes in short stories and literary criticism. IBLA published by the White Brothers who run the Institut des Belles Lettres Arab deals with literature, arts and sociology and usually contains significant studies on these subjects. The Union Nationale des Femmes de Tunisie publishes al-Mar'ah in Arabic and Femme in French. There are two religiously oriented serials, al-Hidāyah and Jawhar al-Islām.

Maison Tunisienne de l'Edition

This government sponsored institution is the largest publisher in Tunisia. Most of its publications are in the field of humanities and social sciences. Classical works and reprints are common in its list of publications. The director of MTE is Mr. Azzuz al-Ribaei who knows Dr. S. al-Hagrassi rather well. Mr. al-Ribaei had some business transactions with the Cairo office during the 1975 Cairo International Book Fair at which time he discussed with Mr. Hagrassi the possibility of bringing to the fair 25 copies of each of his publications. When I talked with him he was not very enthusiastic about the idea of taking that many copies to Egypt.

La Bibliothèque Nationale

The Tunisian National Library, housed in an old and picturesque building in one of the winding streets of the Medina (old town), is a busy institution in that it attempts to build up its collections, to survey comprehensively the national publishing scene and to publish its own series of bibliographies and documents. The Librarian, Dr. Ezzedine Guillouz, is a well known scholar who pursues an enlightened policy of expansion and growth.

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Centre d'Études et de Recherches Économiques et Sociales (CERES)
(23, Rue d'Espagne, Tunis)

This well known center affiliated with the University of Tunis is one of a very few in North Africa provided with facilities to accomodate non-Tunisian scholars who come to do research on Tunis. The Center's library of about ten thousand volumes is rich in materials (in French) dealing with sociology, demography, economics, and psychology.

Institut National d'Archéologie et d'Arts
(4 Place du Château, Tunis)

This institute formerly called Direction des Antiquites et Arts, is in fact the antiquities department, serving as a center for archaeological and historical research. It has a library (not open to the public) of about 6,000 volumes containing material on art and archaeology in particular. I met with the Director of the Institute, Mr. Ezzedine Bachaouch and with Mr. Ibrahim Shabbouh, the Senior Specialist on Islamic art.

The National Archives
(Place du Gouvernement, Casbah, Tunis)

The Archives are located in the offices of the Prime Minister and are divided into two major collections: the historical section, which includes archives from the end of the 16th century to 1881, and the modern collection containing archives from 1881 to 1955. There, I met with Drs. Abdel Jalil Temimi, Deputy Archivist, and Rashad Lamam, a Senior Specialist, both of whom are old acquaintances of mine and also serve as professors at the University of Tunis. Dr. Temimi is indexing the documents and organizing them by subject, geographical name and proper name. The Archives are a great source for investigators, but they still need a great deal of organization and space.

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LIBYA

My original plan was to visit Tripoli and Benghazi, as both cities are capitals in a way. Tripoli is the Federal capital but Benghazi is the capital of Cyrenaica and the seat of the University of Qaryunis. Unfortunately, all commercial flights between Tripoli and Benghazi were cancelled immediately after my arrival in Tripoli which coincided with the pilgrimage season. As a result, all Libyan airline planes were diverted to carry pilgrims to Mecca. Since no airlines other than Libyan fly between these two cities, I was unable to visit Benghazi. The cancellation of the trip to Benghazi provided me with more time in Tripoli and enabled me to visit a greater number of institutions in that city.

The Publishing Situation

There is a growing interest in Libya in libraries and in library science. A national library is being set up with two main centers, one in Tripoli and the other in Benghazi. The building for the Benghazi center is already in place and functioning. The Tripoli center has not completely taken shape. It exists as a nucleus of a national library in the form of a book preparation unit (Wahdat Tajhīz al-Kutub) under the jurisdiction of the General Administration of Culture and National Guidance. The official name in English of the book unit is Technical Preparing Section. At the time of my visit it was directed by Mr. Rajab al-^CAllām (Box 447, Tel. 49617). The Section, in addition to building up the collections of the national library, has been publishing since 1972 the Arab Bibliography of Libya. The last volume I have seen of this publication (1976) contains 309 titles in Arabic and 21 in Western languages organized according to the Dewey classification system. A section on serials lists fifty-six publications in Arabic and nine in Western languages. The bibliography cites trade and government publications as well as textbooks. It includes a list of publications that have failed to be included in the 1975 issue. Publishing in Libya is not dominated by a single government sponsored institution. al-Sharikay al-^CAmmah lil-Nashr wa-al-Tawzī^C wa-al-I^Clām (Box 959, Tripoli) (The General

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Publishing Distribution and Advertisement Company), which is government sponsored, is not as developed as SNED in Algeria and MTE in Tunisia. Perhaps the strongest of the publishing companies at present is al-Dār al-^CArabīyah lil-Kitāb. The above is a joint venture with Tunisia. Other important trade publishers include Dār al-Miṣrātī, (12 Muḥammad al-Maqrīf Street), Maktabat al-Farajānī (54 ^CAmr ibn al-^CĀs Street, and 9 First of September Street). In Benghazi, Dār al-Kitāb al-Lībī (Box 769) is perhaps the only and most important trade publisher.

Most scholarly publishing is done at the universities and research centers. There are two major universities in Libya--The First of September University (al-Fātiḥ), and the University of Qaryunis in Benghazi. Both publish scholarly periodicals. al-Ḥikmah, a journal dealing with philosophy and sociology, is published by the College of Education, al-Fātiḥ University. Majallat Kullīyat al-Adāb is published by the Faculty of Letters, Qaryunis University. The Bulletin of the Faculty of Engineering is published in Tripoli, as are The Libyan Journal of Science and Majallat Kullīyat al-Tarbiyah. Both publications are in English and Arabic. al-Khawārizmī, which ceased recently, was published by the Department of Mathematics in Tripoli. Libya Antiqua, which deals with archaeology, has been published since 1964 by the Directorate General of Antiquities. It is one of the most scholarly journals in the country. A new center, the Libyan Studies Centre (al-Andalus Quarter, P.O. Box 5070, Tripoli) was about to issue a new journal Majallat al-Buḥūth al-Tārīkhīyah when I visited. The Arab Development Institute publishes two important serials; one is the Arab Development Journal for Science and Technology in Arabic and English and the other, al-Fikr al-^CArabī. Both are edited and printed by the Institute's branch in Beirut, Lebanon. The Union of Arab Writers publishes al-Fuṣūl al-Arba^Cah, a literary journal.

In the legal fields, the Official Gazette is published irregularly by the Ministry of Justice. The University of Qaryunis issues al-^CAdālah; Majallat al-Maḥkamah al-^CUlyā is issued by the Supreme Court and al-Muḥāmī, a quarterly that began appearing in 1976, is published by the Bar Association. The Cultural Committee of the Faculty of Law in Qaryunis University publishes Dirāsāt Qānūniyah.

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The most important serials in the field of economics are al-Iqtisād wa-al-Tijārah, a quarterly publication of the Chamber of Commerce and Industries and al-Nashrah al-Iqtisādīyah, the journal of the Central Bank of Libya.

There are two major serials of a general nature, both monthlies: al-Thaqāfah al-^CArabīyah and al-Shūrah. The latter is less general in that it is ideologically oriented. It represents the national progressive thought, as its subtitle states, of the ruling organization in Libya.

Libya, which not so long ago had several daily newspapers, is limited now to one paper in Arabic, al-Fajr al-Jadīd. Two supplements, one cultural and the other political, are published weekly. An English weekly newspaper, The Jamahiriyyah Mail is printed in Valetta, Malta. There are other serials, mostly specialized and of less research value. The above listed ones seem to be the most important.

The book trade in Libya is still not well organized. In Tripoli as well as Benghazi there are a few good bookstores where you can find Lebanese publications and some Western language material, but on the whole, private publishing and book distribution is limited in scope. Maktabat al-Farajānī is perhaps the largest private publisher and book trader.

The University of al-Fateh

At the University of al-Fateh I visited the deans of the Faculty of Education and the Faculty of Sciences. Both visits were mostly for courtesy purposes and for discussing ways and means of cooperation in general. However, I visited twice the Head of Printing and Publications Department, Mr. El-Hadi A. El-Buesi (Box 18104, Tel. 39100 ext. 2476). He is in charge of all publishing and distribution at the University.

Ministry of Culture

I paid two visits to the Ministry, a courtesy visit to Mr. Muhammad al-Turki al-Tājūrī, the Director General of the General Administration of Culture and National Guidance, and a working visit to Mr. Rajab al-^CAllām of the Technical Preparing Unit (Box 447, Tripoli, Tel. 49617). Mr. al-^CAllām

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showed me around the unit which, in good time, shall become the Libyan National Library in Tripoli. This unit prepares the national bibliography for publication and catalogs or gives some bibliographic control to the incoming materials. Mr. al-^CAllām was very generous in letting me select books from their storehouse.

The Arab Development Institute

(Box 8004, al-Nasr Street, Garden City, Tel. 34021)

Directed by a Libyan scientist, Dr. ^CAli ibn al-Ashhar, the Institute's main function is to prepare studies and feasibility studies on all development projects. The Institute has a branch in Beirut, Lebanon where most of these studies are made and where most of its serial and monographic publications originate. In both Libya and Lebanon, the Institute is building specialized research collections to meet its research needs.

Libyan Studies Centre

(P.O. Box 5070, al-Andalus Quarter)

When I was visiting Libya, this center had not been officially launched, although it was already functioning. The mission of this center seems to be multiple. Its Arabic name, which may be translated as "The Center for the Study and Research of the Libyan Struggle", indicates emphasis on the struggle led by Omar al-Mukhtar against the Italians, but the Center will serve as a kind of national archive and a research center on the history of modern Libya. It also is responsible for the Islamic Museum which houses a collection of art objects, photographs, and documents from Libya. The director of the Center is Dr. M. Taher Jerary. Dr. Jerary is interested in preparing a bibliographic list of sources on Libya.

The Union of Libyan Writers (Box 1017) is housed in the same building as the Center. I was able to visit there briefly and procure four issues of the quarterly al-Fuṣūl al-Arbaʿah published by the Union. I also visited briefly the offices of the General Organization Company for Publishing

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Distribution and Advertisement (Gouma al-Mahmoudi Street, P.O. Box 959) to procure back issues of al-Shūrā and al-Thaqāfah al-^CArabīyah.

THE ARAB EAST AND ISRAEL

My trip was originally to be limited to Northwest Africa. However, as the time to take off approached, other business that needed personal attention became evident. I therefore visited Cairo, Amman, Jerusalem, Beirut, and Riyadh--each for a short period of time. The following is a summary of my findings on the publishing situation in these places without going into much detail.

CAIRO, EGYPT

In Cairo I visited mainly the LC office and discussed the forthcoming changes that are to take place as a result of the depletion of the PL-480 funds. Publishing in Egypt has remained basically the same in the last five years--a great number of reprints, editing of classical works, "potboilers" in support of and against Nasserism, and popular editions of religious and literary classics. The effects of the isolation of Egypt in the Arab world, as a result of President Sadat's visit to Jerusalem, was beginning to be felt in the book trade. The Iraqi Book Center was about to fold up, and books and periodicals arriving into Egypt from other Arab countries were becoming scarce. One important event, which was then rumored about and became a reality in the early summer of 1979, was the resignation of Dr. Mahmoud Sheniti from the Book Organization. The poet Ṣalāḥ ^CAbd al-Ṣabūr was appointed in his place.

AMMAN, JORDAN

In Amman there is more publishing going on, although not

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very much compared to other neighboring countries. Prior to the Lebanese crisis, most Jordanian writers published in Lebanon. As the Lebanese crisis deepened, however, and the security problem became acute, Jordanians began to publish their own writings. There are yet no big commercial publishers; the University of Jordan is underwriting the publication of University professors, and the Ministry of Information and Culture subsidizes authors by purchasing large quantities of their works (either for outright distribution or for exchange purposes). I was able to acquire more than fifty titles from both places. Risālat al-Maktabah, the organ of the Jordan Library Association (Box 6289, Amman), lists from time to time books published in Jordan or by Jordanians. A Palestine-Jordan Bibliography in two volumes prepared by Mahmūd el-Akhras, Head, Libraries Division, Ministry of Education, adds also a great deal to our knowledge of publishing in Jordan. The first volume covers the years 1900 to 1970 and the second 1971 to 1975. Both volumes are published by the Jordan Library Association.

Scholarly publications are coming out mainly from the University of Jordan and the Royal Jordanian Society. The University publishes a number of serials, mostly irregularly, among which Dirāsāt al-^CUlūm al-Insānīyah, Dirāsāt al-^CUlūm al-Ṭabī^Cīyah, and Majallat Kullīyat al-Adāb can be found.

The Ministry of Culture publishes al-Funūn al-Sha^Cbīyah and Afkār. There is a monthly magazine dealing with economic affairs al-Fajr al-Iqtisādī. There are also a number of professional journals.

There are several newspapers in Jordan, the most important of which is al-Ra'y, was government owned until June of 1974 when it was turned over to the Jordan Press Co. Since October 1975, this same company has been publishing Jordan Times, the only English daily. Other papers include al-Akhbār, al-Dustūr, al-Urdunn--the oldest in the country (1927--). al-Liwā' is a weekly, and so is Akhbār al-Usbū^C.

The book trade, like many other places in the Middle East, is not well developed. Perhaps the best bookstore is Amman is Maktabat al-Muḥtasib, located on King Husayn Street. A branch of this bookstore is in East Jerusalem, which serves as a major source for the acquisition of Arabic books

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by Israeli institutions and individuals. Mr. Muhammad al-Muhtasib, the owner, is willing to export books upon request. A service to sell Jordanian books to foreign institutions has been set up recently by Mr. ^CIzzat ^CAwf Zāhidah, the Reference Librarian at the University of Jordan. Mr. Zāhidah is now preparing lists of Jordanian books available for sale. His address: P.O. Box 20670, Jordan University Library, Jordan. Other bookstores include Maktabat Amman, Prince Muhammad Street, or P.O. Box 420, Amman; and Jordan Distribution Agency which deals mostly with serials, books being available from the Agency's offices--Tal^Cat Jabbāl, Amman, or P.O. Box 375, Amman.

JERUSALEM

My major concern for going to Jerusalem was to locate, and if possible, to acquire the files of the Palestinian papers prior to 1948. I was able to discover that most of these papers, in various levels of physical condition and completeness, are held by the Hebrew National Library at the Hebrew University. Discussions were started with Ms. Gail Levine, the curator of the Arabic collection, to have the files of al-Karmel microfilmed. al-Difā^C and Falastīn are already on microfilm and are available from the Inter-Documentation Company together with other current Palestinian papers. I was furthermore able to locate the files of Mir'āt al-Sharq in the house of the publisher's son, Mr. Aziz Shehadah. Discussions are actually proceeding on the best way to microfilm the files. Both the Harry S. Truman Center for the Advancement of Peace at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, and the Shiloah Center for Middle Eastern and African Studies at Tel Aviv University hold substantial collections of post-1948 Palestinian and other Arab newspapers.

Publishing in the Arabic language in Israel and in the Occupied Territories of Palestine (The West Bank and Gaza Strip) is somewhat limited. However, there are three Arabic newspapers in East Jerusalem: al-Fajr, al-Quds, and al-Sha^Cb, and also one in Bethlehem--al-Bashīr. Two Arabic newspapers appear in Israel proper: al-Anbā' in West Jerusalem, and

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al-Ittihād in Haifa. Professor Shmuel Moreh has published a Bibliography of Arabic Books and Periodicals Published in Israel 1948-1972. This was followed by a second updated edition entitled Arabic Books Published in Israel (1948-1977) which leaves out some of the titles in the previous bibliography. Both editions include lists of Arabic serials. The second lists only those that were published for more than three issues. Reprints of famous Arabic authors, usually unauthorized, are not listed.

In the Occupied Territories, East Jerusalem is the Center of publishing in the Arabic language. Most books that appear there are literary or political in nature. However, with the recent setting up of three universities, one in Bir Zeit, one in Nablus, and the third in Bethlehem, research-type publications are beginning to come out slowly. The universities are still young and have to cope with a multitude of problems, so I do not expect a great pace of publishing to be sustained. Bir Zeit University has already an established publishing program, and the Library there is willing to set up exchange programs with American institutions. Address: P.O. Box 14, Bir Zeit, West Bank, via Israel. During my visit, I acquired a set of the University publications which included a number of monographs on Palestinian literature and society under Israeli occupation.

There are several bookstores in East Jerusalem, al-Muhtasib being the major one. Maktabat Ṣalāḥ al-Dīn is another. Both are located on Ṣalāḥ al-Dīn Street, the main business street in East Jerusalem. Both are willing to export books and serials.

In Jerusalem, I bought a number of Palestinian publications including some issues of the serials al-Jadīd, al-Bayādir, and al-Shirāʿ.

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BEIRUT, LEBANON

My original plan was to proceed to Teheran from Amman, but the political upheaval that was taking place in Iran and which was assuming a high degree of tension and violence by the time I went back to Amman from Jerusalem, convinced me that I should change my plans. I went instead to Beirut. The situation in that war-torn city was less dangerous than in Teheran only if one moved cautiously and stayed in one section, East or West. I stayed in West Beirut because the American University and the American Embassy are located there and also because most of the publishing going on in Lebanon comes from West Beirut. The center of town, especially the Lazarite Building and the surrounding streets where the major publishers of Lebanon had their headquarters, has been burned or destroyed. Only a small number of bookstores on Syria Street have escaped complete destruction. Some of the publishers have moved to West Beirut. Others transferred their operations to Cairo, Kuwait or Paris. Many of the excellent presses that existed in Beirut have been destroyed, but not all. For example, the Catholic Press, one of the best in the Middle East, did not suffer any damage.

The Civil War in Lebanon affected publishing by completely destroying several publishing houses. Many newspapers and periodicals were forced to close down or move their operations to Europe. A great number of bookstores were burned down totally such as the Librairie Orientale, the central branch of the Librairie du Liban and Dār al-Thaqāfah.

In spite of all the destruction, Lebanese publishing remained quite alive. Numerically speaking, the number of monographs and serials published each year did not decrease. A proliferation of short lived, small sized dailies and weeklies took place. More than forty new titles of serials appeared during the hot war of 1975 and 1976, each speaking for one of the multitude of factions comprising the "Left" or "Right" or "Muslims" and "Christians" as the American Media labeled the fighting groups. I was able to acquire a small number of these serials. Another effect was the appearance of Arabic weeklies in Paris and London. These were sometimes

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owned by affluent people from the Arabian Peninsula, but edited by seasoned Lebanese and Palestinian journalists.

One noticeable trend in publishing is the proliferation of Arab research and documentation centers. Until recently, most research centers were attached to universities or sponsored by Italian, French, English or German associations. But now and for a variety of political reasons, Arab groups attempting to present their points of view in a more scholarly fashion are setting up research and documentation centers.

In addition to the Institute for Palestinian Studies and the Research Center of the Palestine Liberation Organization, two new centers--one for the study of Arab Unity and one for Arab Development (already mentioned in the section on Libya)--have been recently established. Plans for still another center to be sponsored by the newspaper al-Safir, were, I was told, well underway. al-Katā'ib Party (Phalanges) were also in the process of setting up a documentation center in the Beirut suburb of Jdaydeh in the North Matin District. Each one of the centers publishes a periodical and a number of monographical series. All seem to be affluent and well organized.

I visited a number of bookstores in West Beirut: Librairie Antoine on al-Hamra Street, Khayyat Bookstore on Bliss Street, and Ras Beirut Bookstore also on Bliss Street. All were well stocked with recent Lebanese monographs and serials.

RIYADH, SAUDI ARABIA

My stay in Riyadh was short. I went there to discuss possibilities of tapping resources for cultural and bibliographical projects that could be sponsored by the Near East Section. Unfortunately, the timing of my arrival there was right after the Adha Feast. Many of the people I wanted to see were not yet back from their vacations. I was able, however, to acquire from the University of Riyadh Library more than one hundred monographic and serial titles, and I was also able to purchase some of the missing issues

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of the two monthly periodicals--al-^CArab and al-Fayṣal.

There are no book publishers in Saudi Arabia. Most monographic publications are publications of either the universities or the Ministry of Information. There is a growing number of specialized serials as well as serials of a general nature.

The book trade caters to the local community and is not greatly interested in undertaking any exporting activities. From Saudi Arabia, exchange and travel will remain the only means of acquiring publications for the foreseeable future.

APPENDIX I

Major Trade Publishers in Northwest Africa

MOROCCO

Dār al-Kitāb
Place de la Mosquee
(P.O. Box 4018)
Casablanca

Les Éditions Maghrebine
5-13, Rue Soldat Roche
Casablanca

Dār al-Thaqāfah
Place de la Mosquee
Rue Victor Hugo
(P.O. Box 4038)
Casablanca

Dār al-Ma^Cārif
Rue Bab Challah
(P.O. Box 239)
Rabat

ALGERIA

Société Nationale d'Édition
et Diffusion
3, Blvd. Airout Youcef
Algiers

Office des Publications
Universitaires
29, Rue Abou Nouas-Hydra
Algiers

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LIBYA

Maktabat al-Fikr
54, Avenue de la Liberté
(P.O. Box 3006)
Tripoli

al-Dār al-^CArabīyah lil-Kitāb
Ghūmah al-Maḥmūdī Street
Wafā Bldg.
(Box 3185)
Tripoli

al-Sharikah al-^CĀmmah
lil-Nashr
(The General Publishing
Distribution and
Advertisement Company)
Box 959
Tripoli

TUNISIA

La Maison Tunisienne
de l'Édition
54, Avenue de la Liberte
Tunis

Société Tunisienne de
Diffusion
5, Avenue de Carthage
(P.O. Box 440)
Tunis

Établissements Bousalama
(Dār Abū Salāmah)
15, Rue de la France
Tunis

CERES Productions
Rue de Besanson
Tunis

Établissements A. Ben
Abdallah
17, Rue de la France
Tunis

Éditions Ennajah
11, Rue de la France
Tunis

al-Dār al-^CArabīyah lil-Kitāb
43 bis Juhartah Street
Tunis

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Bookdealers Mentioned

Éditions Khayat
25 Rue de Berne
75008, Paris, FRANCE
Tel. 293-68-33

Les Éditions Oueidat
101 Rue St. Dominique
75007, Paris, FRANCE
Tel. 555-5736

Dār al-Karawane
135, Blvd. de Menilmontón
75011, Paris, FRANCE

La Libreria del Consejo
Superior
4, Medinaceli
Madrid - 14, SPAIN

Libreria Meisner
14, Jose Ortega y Gasset St.
Madrid - 1, SPAIN

Libreria Sanchez Cuesta
29, Serrano St.
Madrid -1, SPAIN

Dār al-Ma^Cārif
Rue Bab Challah
(P.O. Box 239)
Rabat, MOROCCO

Mohammad al-Tatwānī
17 Saniat Zanbir
Salé, MOROCCO

Librairie Farairre
Corner Blvd. Mohammad V
and Rue de Foucoud
Rabat, MOROCCO

Office des Publications
Universitaires
43, Didouche Mourad
Algiers, ALGERIA

al-Dār al-^CĀrabīyah lil-Kitāb
Ghūmah al-Mahmūdī St.
Wafā Bldg. (Box 3185)
Tripoli, LIBYA

Tunisian address:
43 bis Juhartah St.
Tunis, TUNISIA

Maktabat al-Fikr
54 Mizran St.
(P.O. Box 3006)
Tripoli, LIBYA

Les Livres de France
36 Rue Qasr al-Nil
Cairo, EGYPT
Tel. 51512

^CIzzat ^CAwf Zāhidah
Box 20670,
Jordan University Library
Amman, JORDAN

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Maktabat Amman
Prince Muhammad St.
(Box 420)
Amman JORDAN

Maktabat Salāh al-Dīn
Ṣalāḥ al-Dīn St.
East Jerusalem
via ISRAEL

Jordan Distribution Agency
Tal^Cat Jabbal ^CAmman
(Box 375)
Amman, JORDAN

Librairie Antoine
al-Hamra St., Ras Beirut
Beirut, LEBANON

Maktabat al-Muḥtasib
Ṣalāḥ al-Dīn St.
East Jerusalem
via ISRAEL

Khayyat Bookstore
Bliss St., Ras Beirut
Beirut, LEBANON

Ras Beirut Bookstore
Bliss St., Ras Beirut
Beirut, LEBANON

BOOK REVIEW by Michael W. Albin

Yūsuf As^Cad Dāghir. Mu^Cjam al-Masrahiyāt al-^CArabīyah wa-al-Mu^Carrabah (Dictionary of Arabic Plays and Plays Translated into Arabic). Baghdad: Ministry of Culture and Arts, 1978. (Silsilat al-Ma^Cājim wa-al-Fahāris, 20)

In the film produced by the Egyptian Documentary Film Center on the life of Tawfīq al-Ḥakīm at least half the footage was shot in France. There the Egyptian author had spent difficult but fruitful years as a student and there, decades later, his dramatic work was recognized not only by specialists in oriental arcana but also by the general playgoer. What is interesting about the film is the implication that recognition in the West is the measure of success for any Arab writer or artist. No one in the arts really makes it unless he has standing in Europe or the United States. Of the contemporary literary arts Arabic drama is the least studied and appreciated in the West. The investment of Arab governments in their playwrights, actors, critics and theaters has gone almost unnoticed outside the region. In his travel account,

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Arabia through the Looking Glass, Jonathan Raban describes the half-funny, half-tragic plight of the national playwright of Abu Dhabi, who ran out of steam after his first success yet remains on the payroll of the ministry of culture in the hope that one day his writer's block will clear. Lamentations by Louis Awad and other prominent Egyptian critics make it clear that the theater is not much more vigorous in their country, which was, as recently as twenty years ago, alive with drama. Arab theater is a tree falling in a forest with no Western ears to hear.

It is too much to ask of a mere bibliographer to reverse this situation, but a recent work by Yūsuf As^Cad Dāghir points in the right direction and may help make access to Arab theater a good deal easier for readers. Dāghir's Dictionary is a list of 3,611 Arabic plays performed or published since 1848, when Mārūn al-Naqqāsh produced what is considered the first modern Arabic play, al-Bakhīl, based on Molière's L'Avare. Neither Western surveys of Arabic literature nor Index Islamicus give the literary historian or critic the citations needed to study the Arabic theater broadly. Dāghir has tried to give us a vade mecum to this literature.

The work is correctly called a dictionary, because it is not simply a bibliography. There are lists of references to Arabic studies of the theater and a brief review of the history of the theater in nine Arab countries and Palestine decocted from the writings of Arab critics. The compiler has indexed the work by author and translator and provided an index to prose and verse plays. Finally there are lists of theatrical groups, theaters and "stars."

This is a mouthwatering compilation of facts in a field very poorly bibliographized. Unfortunately, it does not live up to its promise. The work is not in the same class with the compiler's al-Usūl al-^CArabīyah lil-Dirāsāt al-Lubnānīyah, perhaps his most important bibliographical study. Authorial and editorial mistakes and omissions abound. It would have been advisable for the publisher to have interleaved the volume with blank pages for the reader's convenience in making additions and corrections. Among the works omitted from the Dictionary are plays by

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Tawfiq al-Hakīm, ^CAlī Sālīm and Sa^Cd Wahbā. The Iraqi dramatist Yūsuf al-^CĀnī is nowhere mentioned. Many Egyptian plays written and performed during the early part of this century are not cited in spite of the fact that Dāghir appears to have used the historical survey by Ramsīs ^CAwād covering the literature until 1919. The index to theatrical troupes and theaters might have been the badly needed guide we need to these evanescent institutions. Sad to report, the compiler simply lists groups and theaters, more often than not giving no information on their founders, activities or dates.

A ruinous flaw is the bibliographer's misunderstanding of the concept of the surname, or shuhrah, as it is used in cataloging and indexing. The author is at pains to explain his selection of filing element. I have loosely translated his remarks.

We have said that scientific indexes have recognized rules used by all. If these are not followed, the work is subject to chaos and failure. The basic rule in indexing is the use of the shuhrah [roughly translated: surname], that is the family name. This principle is used by all great indexers in the East and West. The shuhrah is the main entry. It is followed by the complete or partial personal name. Whenever a person is better known by another name, a kunyah or laqab, for instance, then this name takes precedence by becoming the new shuhrah and the family name takes a subordinate position.

We used for the Author and Translator Index, the main index to this work, the shuhrah, or family name, as the basic name. For Arab countries that do not use the family name as shuhrah, we have selected a shuhrah whenever possible. In innumerable instances--Egypt for example--it is impossible to find a shuhrah, a substitute, or any prominent element in the name. These are names like Aḥmad Muḥammad Maḥmūd Ibrāhīm

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or Muḥammad Aḥmad Maḥmūd ʿAbd al-ʿAzīz.
Following the practice of others, we
have entered these names as they appear
in the original work.

These principles are everywhere ignored in the Index to Authors and Translators, as if the compiler were deliberately trying to befuddle the reader.* There is no uniformity in the selection of the entry element. Yūsuf Idrīs is entered under Yūsuf, Suhayl Idrīs under Idrīs. Tawfīq al-Ḥakīm is indexed under Tawfīq, while Asʿad and Ḥusayn al-Ḥakīm are under their "shuhrah."

It is cause for dissatisfaction among students of Arabic literature and bibliographers that this work was so hastily prepared for press. A revised and corrected edition from a more painstaking publishing house would be welcome.

*I will not comment on the abominable filing in the index except to give an example and to quote Alfred William Pollard: "If we may take anything at all for granted on the part of our readers, we may assume knowledge of the alphabet." The example is chosen at random from the index:

حبش، فهميم
الحبيب، محمد
حبش، يوسف
حبيب، الخوري ميشال
حبشه، هدى
حبيفة، الخوري أسقف بطرس
...
...
حقن محمود غالى
الحجار، جرجى

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NEWS OF MEMBERS

Nancy Pressman has left NYU to be head of the Near East cataloging team at Princeton University.

Patricia Myers-Hayer is now an Arabic cataloger at LC.

Francine McNulty is spending the year on a Fulbright at the School of Oriental and African Studies in London.

Simon Samoeil is Arabic cataloger at the University of Petroleum and Minerals in Dhahran.

Amnon Zipin is hard at work on a "Bibliography of Hebrew literature in Arabic Translation."

COLLATION

Two job openings:

University of Chicago. Librarian, Arabic cataloger and bibliographic assistant. MA or equivalent knowledge of Middle Eastern culture; MLS desirable. Fluent Arabic; knowledge of Persian, modern Turkish, or Ottoman Turkish helpful. Salary dependent on qualifications. Send resume listing names, addresses and telephone numbers to:

Jane E. Marshall
Personnel Officer
University of Chicago Library
1100 East 57th Street
Chicago, Illinois 60637

New York University. Cataloger for Near East languages material (Arabic, Hebrew, Persian). MLS; reading knowledge of Near Eastern languages; familiarity with automated cataloging system such as OCLC or RLIN. Minimum salary: \$15,000. Send resume and letter of application with three references to:

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C. Thomas Pfingsten
Associate Dean of Libraries
New York University
70 Washington Square South
New York, NY 10012

The International Relations Round Table of the American Library Association was established in 1949 to further international understanding and develop the interests of librarians in the field of international library relations. As ALA's only membership organization devoted solely to international interests, IRRT sponsors informative programs about various aspects of international library work during ALA annual conferences. Professional news and reports of area chairpersons representing the major regions of the world are regularly published in Leads, IRRT's newsletter. Membership in IRRT is open to all ALA members for only five dollars a year, which includes a subscription to Leads. Interested persons who are not members of ALA may subscribe to Leads for ten dollars a year. For further information, write Dorothy Pollet, IRRT Membership Chair, Educational Liason Office, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20540.