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Mela Notes is being published now three times a year, in winter, spring, and fall. It is distributed to members of the Association and to nonmember subscribers. Membership dues of $10.00 bring Notes and other mailings. Subscriptions are $10.00 per calendar year, or $3.00 per issue for most back numbers. Address dues, requests for membership information, or subscriptions to Frank Unlandherm, Secretary-Treasurer MELA, Columbia University Libraries, 420 West 118th Street, New York, NY 10027.
Of interest to the profession is the following announcement: The University of Chicago announces the creation of a joint program leading to MA degrees in The Graduate Library School and The Center for Middle Eastern Studies. The joint program has been established to address an ever-increasing demand for Middle East librarians, by providing a coherent curriculum which combines Middle Eastern studies with professional library education. By coordinating the requirements for the MA degrees in GLS and the Center, the time for the course of studies is significantly reduced. The program is designed in such a way as to meet the needs of both American and Middle Eastern students who are preparing for professional careers in librarianship either in the Middle East or the United States.

For further information about the program and for details of admission requirements and financial aid contact: Julie Kurd, Dean of Students, Graduate Library School, University of Chicago, 100 East 57th Street, Chicago, Illinois 60637, or Richard L. Chambers, Director, Center for Middle Eastern Studies, University of Chicago, 5848 S. University Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60637.
Abstract

Useful information is provided for North American and European collection development, acquisitions, cataloging and reference librarians and dealers interested in Cyprus publications. All types of Greek and Turkish monographs and pamphlets, periodicals, newspapers, government publications, annuals and media are covered. The kinds and levels of material available are indicated, and the subject fields of primary production are discussed. The reader is referred to local bibliographies which are useful for selection in lieu of national bibliographies and to full treatments of certain publication subjects available elsewhere. One hundred twenty recent nonfiction titles, both from Cyprus and other nations, as well as thirty useful Cyprus serial titles, are listed. Certain reference and media titles are recommended. The scope and addresses of several leading institutional publishers are given as well as a selection of reliable bookstore-dealers.

Introduction

An Eastern Mediterranean island of 0.714 million people, democratic Cyprus, birthplace of Aphrodite, is part of both Mediterranean Europe and Asia. Cyprus owes its cultural heritage and foreign policy to Greece and is in many ways an extension of the series of Greek islands which includes Crete, Karpathos, and Rhodes. The Republic of Cyprus (Republic) belongs to the Council of Europe, and the largest expatriot community is located in England. On the other hand, the island is located just south of Central Turkey, north of the Sinai Peninsula, and west of Syria, clearly in west Asia. Close travel and trade relationships exist with the Arab and Turkish worlds.

Cyprus, located at the intersection of three continents, has had a long and difficult history. Since 1960, however, the Republic has been an independent nation with its own constitution and UN seat. The paper follows United States (USA)
Embassy, Nicosia, policy in referring to agencies in the generally unrecognized "Turkish Federated State of Kibris (Turkish State)". The name Cyprus is used here to refer to the entire island. Kibris means Cyprus and Lefkosa means Nicosia in Turkish.

This paper attempts to provide a useful introduction to the Cyprus publication scene for North American and European acquisitions, cataloging, collection development, and reference librarians, bibliographers, and dealers. It explains what is produced here and how the material can be obtained. Persons interested in further assistance or having difficulty in obtaining Cyprus material should contact me. A trip to view the situation firsthand and make arrangements directly with bookstores would be useful.

Collection development officers may view Cyprus coverage as a natural extension of their coverage of Greece or Turkey or of the Middle East trouble spots. Universities with study and research programs in Greek or Turkish history, language or literature, in archaeology or ancient history, Middle East culture and politics, developing countries, British Empire or Commonwealth history and politics, foreign commerce, or semiarid zone agriculture could find Cyprus publications useful. Another paper will show that USA and UK university faculty members and graduate students have made hundreds of contributions to the research literature about Cyprus in the past decade.

Acquisitions librarians should be explicit in describing the services required and their manner of implementation. Blanket order and approval plan concepts are new here and should be both explained clearly and monitored closely. Exchanges direct with Cyprus institutions can be encouraged since several of these relationships already exist. Airmail or freight use in correspondence and even in order fulfillment is recommended, owing to the several month ship mail delay. Generally, material prices are low in comparison with those in Europe and North America. Bookstores and publishers would prefer to receive either dollars or UK pounds in payment. Local international banks include Barclay's Bank International, Ltd., with UK and USA branches, the Bank of Cyprus, Ltd., with UK branches, and the Hellenic Bank, Ltd., affiliated with the Bank of America. The following exchange rates were in effect 27-5-83: USD1 = C£0.511 and 210 (official) to 235 (unofficial) TL.

Once the British Library had Cyprus depository designation, but the Library of Congress has shown little interest in Cyprus publications. Therefore, more cataloging
information is likely to be found in the data base of the
former than of the latter. While Anglo-American Cataloging
Rules 2 copies can be found here, Cyprus cataloging does
not generally observe them fully and professional catalogers
are very scarce. No source exists for printed cards. This
situation leaves foreign catalogers largely on their own in
preparing cataloging copy.

Catalogers' entry problems should be mentioned. While
A Guide to the Public Service provides a Republic govern-
ment office directory, the only such "Turkish State" gov-
ernment list is shown in the telephone directory. A prob-
lem is the entry to be used for official "Turkish State"
publications since the normal government agency designa-
tion is unrecognized and unofficial. Cypriot names can be
spelled just as those of Greece and Turkey, but no useful
Cutter-type author name list or authority file exists here.
Further, there is no CIP (Cataloging in Publication) pro-
gram or Cyprus subject heading list. Another problem is
the small size (many 25-50 page books) of some publications:
(a) should they be treated as monographs and fully cata-
loged or as pamphlets and only briefly cataloged, or else
placed in a vertical file, and (b) should they be bound be-
fore use?

Republic of Cyprus

Books.—Much useful material about Cyprus is published
abroad.4 Other helpful titles are published here.5 How
many books are published in the Christian Republic annually?
Republic figures showed 180 book (50 pages or more) titles
in 290,000 copies and 957 pamphlet titles in 3,936,000 copies
in 1980.4

Little Cyprus monograph material is listed regularly
abroad. Certain Cyprus publications are listed in the Hel-
lenic Republic Deltion Hellenikis Bibliographias (now sus-
pended), but neither the Library of Congress National Union
Catalog nor the Cumulative Book Index lists these books in
more than occasional fashion. No national bibliography ex-
ists nor any critical book reviewing source to guide selec-
tion. The only depository collection is in the Press and
Information Office (PIO) and it is neither complete nor avail-
able (or organized sufficiently) for any kind of use. The
Republic bibliography situation has been discussed elsewhere
and is not repeated here.1a The reader is strongly urged to
read the footnoted paper which contains full listings of cur-
rent Cyprus bibliography. By checking several sources
regularly most useful new monographs can be identified. An international interlibrary loan service also exists in the Ministry of Education Inspectorate of Libraries.

Book subject fields emphasize archaeology and ancient history, literature, domestic politics, foreign relations, modern history, commerce, education, geography and travel, philosophy, religion, and agriculture. Archaeology is the only one of these fields in which Cyprus, with many ancient sites, has an international scholarly reputation as a data collection center. Naturally Cyprus publications on its own history and politics are well known internationally in those fields, also.

Archaeology and ancient history publication is centered in the Republic Department of Antiquities (Cyprus Museum) and in foreign books and serials. Much literature, especially poetry, but also some short fiction and essays, appears in small books and in Greek-language periodicals. Certain titles reflect the refugee status of 40 percent of the population. Political and foreign relations material appears in many places and almost always about "The Cyprus Problem." Post-1960 history is popular primarily in periodicals. The late Archbishop Makarios III, Republic government head until 1977, was a common 1970s biographical book subject.

Commerce (not industry) dominates the thinking of most adult male Cypriots and produces occasional directories and serials. The education field contains many textbooks plus material from various subfields. Geography can be divided between scholarly reference titles and monographs on the one hand and numerous guidebooks, a few of them detailed and helpful, on the other hand. Philosophy is more popular here than in North America and appears in both books and serials. The church sponsors books of prayer and the lives of the Cypriot Saints. The sciences--primarily agriculture, geology and medicine--are well represented in foreign serial publications. Except, however, for agriculture and to a lesser extent geology and biology, they are not published locally in either books or serials. Cypriots seldom write about any other subject than Cyprus.

The Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry contains a booksellers section, and a printers section exists in the Pancyprian Federation of Employers and Industrialists. No microfilm or reprint publishing exists. The Berne Convention is observed, however, and local book registration regulations exist. International Standard Book Numbers (9963
for Cyprus) and International Standard Serial Numbers are assigned by the Center for The Registration of Books and Serials, Inspectorate of Libraries. The rare book manuscript market has just gotten started. Book and map collectors exist and meet informally.

Books are produced primarily at the adult level, but the children's book publishing field is growing. Most public school textbooks are Greek imports, and cultural works generally are derivative from Greece. Under Ministry of Education supervision, public school textbooks are produced by several local publishers, also. Most monographs are produced in soft covers, perhaps 15 percent in hard covers. Books are often pocketbook size. Whereas the range is great, most titles contain 30 to 250 pages. Most print runs range from 500 to 2,000 copies per title. Binding is quite satisfactory but is seldom Grade A.

The Republic has a relatively large printing industry and serves nearby countries, especially for English- and Arabic-language publications. There are a few small publishers which carry out most of a publisher's responsibilities--Chr. Andreou (history and literature), C. I. Philippides and Son, Ltd. (textbooks), Kinyras (literature and children's books), Tamassos and Star Graphic (guidebooks). Most books are published by printers that have the required equipment. A few of them may also carry out a few of a publisher's responsibilities. Printers print books primarily in cooperation with a local institution or author who pays the bill.

The following are among the large number of printers and booksellers that issue books regularly--Stavrinides, Proodos Press, Ltd. (English nonfiction especially), Printco, Ltd., Chryseopolitissa, Kyriasis Printing Works, Ltd., CAL Graphics, Ltd.; and the Cyprus Broadcasting Corporation (literature). The primary book printer is the Zavallis Press, Ltd., which publishes a variety of English- and Greek-language titles and works with certain government departments. Cyprus colleges (there is no university) do not publish.

Cyprus monographs may be ordered through Greek or international dealers, but that raises the price, slows service, and does not guarantee good book production coverage. No Cyprus wholesale dealers exist with large inventories and discount schedules. Monographs may be purchased through a bookstore or direct from the sponsoring institution. The following bookstores act also as dealers and can provide good
service by mail or in person for material available in bookstores and published in the Republic in any language. They will provide books, serials of all kinds, including government publications, postcards, slides, photographs, records, and cassettes. Correspondence can be carried out in English. Although they have never provided blanket order or approval plan service, they are ready to discuss that idea with library customers. They are:

MAM Cyprus (The House of the Cyprus Book), Th. M. Michaelides, Proprietor, P.O. Box 1722, Nicosia, Cyprus, telephone 021-72744. Specializes in publications about Cyprus. Covers both in and out of print titles and issues a monthly catalog.

Bridge House Book Shop, Sōlon Papachristodoulou, Proprietor, P.O. Box 4527, Nicosia, Cyprus, telephone 021-43297. Largest English-language bookshop, extensive bibliographic support.

Moufflon Book and Art Centre, Mr. and Mrs. K. K. Keshishian, Proprietors, P.O. Box 2375, Nicosia, Cyprus, telephone 021-45155. English-language bookshop emphasizing art, literature, and history.

The following are among the leading institutional publication sponsors:

Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry, P.O. Box 1455, Nicosia, Cyprus, telephone 021-63212. Publishes directories and newsletters.

Cyprus Geographical Association, P.O. Box 3656, Nicosia, Cyprus, telephone 021-404584. Publishes geographical and geological monographs and papers.

Cyprus Orthodox Church, Archbishop's Palace, Nicosia, Cyprus, telephone 021-74411. Publishes religious books and serials.

Cyprus Pedagogical Academy, Nicosia, Cyprus, telephone 021-402309. Publishes serials containing student and faculty work.

Cyprus Productivity Centre, P.O. Box 536, Nicosia, Cyprus, telephone 021-47992. Publishes technical reports and serials.

Cyprus Research Centre, P.O. Box 1436, Nicosia, Cyprus, telephone 021-402498. Publishes humanities and social research monographs and journal papers.
Cyprus Workers Confederation, P.O. Box 5018, Nicosia, Cyprus, telephone 021-41142. Publishes monographs and serials on Cyprus labor.

Republic of Cyprus Department of Antiquities, 1 Museum Avenue, Nicosia, Cyprus, telephone 021-402190. Publishes archaeological monographs and research reports, periodicals, guides to ancient monuments, maps, color postcards, slides and a sale and exchange price list.

Republic of Cyprus Ministry of Education Pedagogical Institute, Nicosia, Cyprus, telephone 021-402735. Publishes certain public school textbooks and a series of dissertations written by Cypriot graduate students abroad.

Republic of Cyprus Press and Information Office, Nicosia, Cyprus, telephone 021-402640. Publishes occasional pamphlets, mostly about "The Cyprus Problem" and Turkish atrocities, and several serials.

Serials.—A full treatment of Cyprus serial publications is in press, and the interested reader is strongly urged to read it upon publication. It contains a comprehensive description of periodicals, newspapers, government publications, annuals, and irregulars. The bibliography lists essential information on 320 Republic titles. A subject and title index is provided as well as a list of scholarly titles recommended for first consideration by research libraries. A few of them are the following:


No Republic periodical index, government publication index, newspaper index, or union list of serials is available. Only about 25 Cyprus serial titles were listed in Bowker's Ulrich's International Periodicals Directory, 1980, and only the Agricultural Research Institute's report series is indexed by any international or foreign abstracting or indexing service (in this case, by AGRIS and the Commonwealth Agricultural Bureau). Serial subject fields emphasize politics, recent history, statistics, semiarid zone agriculture, education, literature, commerce, labor, religion, youth activities, tourism, and general news. Certain titles are better known abroad than inside Cyprus, for example, Middle East Economic Survey and Palestine Liberation Organization Filistin al-Thawra (Palestine Revolution). PIO is charged with registering new serials. Most titles are published in Greek, some in English, some in both. Many titles are mimeographed. About 100 periodical titles are published. Most maps are made under the supervision of the Republic Department of Lands and Surveys, and its price list is helpful.

Cyprus has a larger newspaper world than an American can easily imagine. Instead of being a one-newspaper city, Nicosia has a dozen dailies and two dozen weeklies of assorted kinds, all of which, however, also serve the Republic as a whole. Most of them are published in Greek, two in English. Phileleftheros, Greek independent daily, has the most respect. Almost half of the existing serials are sponsored by government agencies. Titles meriting serious consideration are the numerous statistical reports of the Ministry of Finance Department of Statistics and Research, the even more numerous Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources titles, and several other ministry department annual reports. Since the Government Printing Office handles only a small part...
of government publication, the foreign library must contact each department directly to obtain information or to place an order, or else contact one of the bookstores listed above. A sampling of good quality titles would include the following:


Continuations include many private and semiprivate corporation reports, such as the following:


Media.—Media is still a new and small field and little original Cyprus material is produced. The Cyprus Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) produces a number of original weekly color television programs for its own use, which, though not normally for sale, may be available if special arrangements are made; CBC FM, medium and short-wave radio programs may also be available if special arrangements are made. All are in Greek except for daily foreign language newscasts. Two or three government or commercial documentary or entertainment films are produced annually, usually by British companies. The Republic PIO has produced documentary films in the past. Many exhibitions of fine still photographs for sale are held annually.

A few LP stereo record albums and tape cassettes are available for folk and sacred music. They can be purchased through local record shops or the bookstores listed above. This is basically Greek or in a few cases Cypriot music recorded in Greek or German recording studios by Greek Cypriot singers and instrumental groups playing European and Greek Cypriot instruments. The following are examples:

Byzantine Hymns, Christmas and New Year. Nicosia: Keravnophone, Ltd.


Cyprus Folkloric Records and "Tsiatista," by Kyriakos Keravnos.

Cyprus Wedding Music. 1978?
Demetriou Papapostolou Sings for Cyprus '74, Songs of Pain, Anguish, sponsored by the Cyprus Society of Greater Washington, D.C.


Original National Folkloric Dances and Songs of Cyprus, by K. Keravnou.

Rape of Cyprus, Nicosia: CBC Eng 1.

Color slides and postcards are available which show ancient sculpture, jewelry, pottery, and buildings as well as contemporary scenes of tourist interest. The Cyprus Tourist Organization publishes maps, illustrated brochures, hotel directories and posters. The Ministry of Education maintains a small modern educational technology center which produces slides, tape cassettes, and transparencies, adapts films and video tape, and maintains small lending film, filmpstrip, and slide libraries for use in the public elementary schools and educational radio and television.

"Turkish State"

Books.--The muslim "Turkish State" has its own distinctive publication scene. Annual book production is now about 30 titles. Material has been published in literature, especially fiction and poetry, politics, history, and local travel. Very few reference titles exist in addition to the telephone directory. All books are published at the adult level. Two thirds of them are in Turkish, one third in English, and they are of widely ranging quality levels. Some are useful, especially those relating to "The Cyprus Problem." Public secondary school textbooks are imported from Turkey, but many elementary school textbooks are written and published here, perhaps 10 titles per year. Generally, local cultural publications are derivative from Turkey.

Booklets and pamphlets are produced by the "Turkish State" Public Information Office, mostly about "The Cyprus Problem" and about Greek Cypriot atrocities. The "Turkish State" Department of Antiquities publishes booklets and leaflets about museums and historic buildings, and the Ministry of Tourism publishes detailed maps, illustrated
booklets, and hotel directories. "Turkish State" colleges do not publish books. Most books are small, often 30-250 pages. Print runs are small, also, for paperbacks, 250-500 copies, larger for hard-bound titles.

No national bibliography or any kind of new publication list or critical book reviewing source exists. Nor are these titles in the Republic of Turkey Turkiye Bibliografyasi. A depository collection has just been started at the National Library (Lefkosa Public Library). A union catalog was recently started in the "Turkish State" Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport Inspectorate of Libraries. Again, the "Turkish State" bibliography and library situation has already been discussed elsewhere.1a

No full-time publisher exists, only printers and bookshops that print an occasional title for an institution or individual who pays for it. No publishers or booksellers association exists, and no price lists are available. Neither ISBNs nor ISSNs are used. Rare book collectors exist here. The leading book publisher is Rustem Bookshop. Rustem publishes one or two titles a year, all in English, some of which are reprints and some issued in cooperation with a British publisher.

As a dealer I recommend the largest and most experienced bookshop, Rustem Bookshop, P.O. Box 239, Lefkosa, Kibris, Mersin 10, Turkey, just off Attaturk Square. Rustem can provide any Turkish or English book available in bookstores, serials of any kind, pamphlet, postcard, photograph published in the "Turkish State." Correspondence can be carried out in English. Rustem is also prepared to consider blanket order service. Although "Turkish State" books can be ordered through Republic of Turkey dealers, it simply raises the price and slows service. The chances that a Turkish dealer is well informed about "Turkish State" titles are poor.

Serials.--My serials survey identified 52 "Turkish State" titles of all kinds.1c The reader is referred to that paper for full serials treatment. A comprehensive bibliography and subject and title index are provided. "Turkish State" titles are divided primarily among daily and weekly newspapers, weekly political news magazines, and government department reports. Subject emphasis is on commerce, semiarid zone agriculture, statistics, and general news. The number of newspapers is surprisingly large; it equals at least five dailies and five weeklies, all published in Lefkosa but serving all of the "Turkish State" as well.
No periodical index, government publication index, or union list of serials is published. No titles are listed in Ulrich or covered by foreign or international abstracting or indexing services. Government publications make up more than half of the serials list. Special attention should be paid to the titles published by the government Planning Bureau and its Department of Statistics and Research as well as to the annual reports of the Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Energy departments. The Government Printing Office publishes only one title. Most serials of all kinds are mimeographed and published in Turkish. The Public Information Office is charged with registering new serials. Note that "Turkish State" firms and offices can be reached by mail only by adding Mersin 10, Turkey to the address. The following titles can be recommended for early consideration:

Bozkurt (Graywolf). Lefkosa, Kibris, Mersin 10, Turkey: Bozkurt Basmavi, 142 Girne Avenue. Daily, 1951-. In Turkish. Most respected newspaper of the "Turkish State," independent.


Media.--Bayrak Television Service films news events and occasional special features. Tapes of these programs may be available for sale if special arrangements are made. The same thing may be said for Bayrak FM, medium and short-wave radio programs. All are in Turkish, except for daily foreign-language radio news broadcasts. Documentary and entertainment films are produced occasionally by a Turkish commercial company. No local music records or cassettes were found, but a few Turkish Cypriot performers have made records in Turkey. Color postcards are available for tourist and archaeological scenes. Exhibitions of fine photographs are occasionally held.

Notes

Author's note: For assistance in preparing this paper I would like to thank Mr. and Mrs. K. K. Keshishian, M. A. Michaelides, Kemal Rustem, Lakis Zavallis, Savvas Petrides, Makis Thoma, Nicos Neophytou, Sohayla Yashar, John Nix, Solon Papachristodoulou, and Eleni Mavridou.

1. For more extensive treatment of Cyprus libraries and publications and for supplementary bibliographic listings, see:


2. See, for example, Lawrence Durrell's Bitter Lemons (Faber, 1957), still a tourist favorite. More serious students will wish to read additional titles. U.S. Books in Print Subject Guide 1982-83 lists three-quarters of a page (about 75 titles) about Cyprus. The British Books in Print 1982 lists 2 pages or 60 titles about Cyprus. Perhaps the most important title for librarians is Paschalis M. Kitromilides and Marios L. Evriviades, Cyprus, World Bibliography Series 28 (Oxford: Clio Press, Inc., 1982), 175 pp.

Eighty-four titles are listed below. Most of them are taken from data bases in social science and art and humanities provided by the Institute for Scientific Information, Inc., Philadelphia; they represent titles for which reviews were found in the data bases. Therefore, this constitutes a list of the more significant foreign books published in the 1970s in English and other languages about Cyprus. In certain cases, no publisher could be identified for a title:


I. Ainian Cyprus Witness. 1978.


D. Bitsios  Cyprus, the Vulnerable Republic.  Thessaloniki, 1975.


W. Huss  Untersuchungen zur Außenpolitik Ptolemaios IV. Munich, 1976.
G. Karouzes  Proposals for a Solution to the Cyprus Problem. Nicosia, 1976.
E. Masson
Research on Phoenicians in Cyprus.
Waterloo, 1974.

E. Masson
Studies in Cypro-Minoan Scripts.

S. Mayes
Makarios: A Biography.

A. Megaw
The Church of the Panagria Kanakaria.

R. Meikle
The Flora of Cyprus.

R. Merrillees
Cypriote Bronze Age Pottery found in Egypt.
Lund, 1968.

R. Merrillees
Introduction to the Bronze Age Archaeology of Cyprus.

T. Mitford
Inscriptions Kourion.

B. Newton
Cypriot Greek: Its Philology and Inflection.

I. Nicolaou
Prosopography of Ptolemaic Cyprus.

C. Orr
Cyprus under British Rule.

J. Overbeck
Two Cypriot Bronze Age Sites at Kafkallia (Dhali).

T. Oziol
Les Lampes du Musée de Chypre.

R. Patrick

H. Pfeifer
Cyprus.
1982.

P. Polyviou
Cyprus in Search of a Constitution,

P. Polyviou
Cyprus: The Tragedy and the Challenge.

N. Robertson
Archaeology of Cyprus: Recent Developments.

M. Sage
Cyprian.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Publisher/Location</th>
<th>Year</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M. Socopoulos</td>
<td>Theotokos in the Mandorla of a Cypriote Church.</td>
<td>1979.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Vlachos</td>
<td>Ten Years in Cyprus.</td>
<td>1981.</td>
<td></td>
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3. Several useful Greek Cypriot reference and general titles
may be listed, all in English. Obviously, a bilingual author could compile a larger list in Greek.

Almanac: Cyprus in 400 Pages (Nicosia: Target Press, Ltd., 1980), 370 pages. Discussion of government, recent history, economy, trade, sports, education, tourism, diplomatic corps.


V. Karageorghis. Alaas-Proto-geometric Necropolis (Nicosia: Department of Antiquities, 1975), 164 pages.


V. Karageorghis. Figured Painting on Cypriot Ceramics from the Iron Age (Nicosia: Department of Antiquities, 1975), 200 pages.


PEN Publications (Nicosia: P.O. Box 3836, 1982), *Contemporary Cypriot Poetry*, 125 pages. 22 *Contemporary Cypriot Prose Writers*, 130 pages.


4. By language, the books and pamphlets were Greek 61 percent, English 16 percent, French 4 percent, and the rest divided among four other languages. Source: Ministry of Education Inspectorate of Libraries which assembles the figures for the annual report to the United Nations.


6. Several useful Turkish Cypriot reference and general titles may be listed, most in English. Obviously, a bilingual author could compile a longer list in Turkish.


*Kibris Tarihinden Suydolar* (Cyprus History Pages) (Lefkosa, Kibris, Mersin 10, Turkey: Yayinlari Printer, 1972), 202 pages.


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International Library and Information Science Consultant
Nicosia, Cyprus
PUBLISHERS' VIEWS OF BOOK MARKET IN IRAN

Abazar Sepehri

Issues nos. 16989 and 16990 of İttifākat (dated 17 and 18 of April, 1983) carry interviews held by one of its reporters with some booksellers and publishers in regard to the present publishing situation in Iran. The following are highlights of the reporter's views and the interviews conducted with those involved in book trade:

Book prices determined by publishers, if not delirious, are no less than onerous. But one cannot buy all books even at list prices. Sometimes one sees a new tag with a higher price which has camouflaged the list price, or prices are jacked up openly several times in the black market.

With the victory of the Islamic Revolution of Iran, the dreadful censorship and suffocation imposed upon the book publishing industry were lifted. This gave book lovers an opportunity to satisfy their wishes without fear of police surveillance imposed by the former regime. But, alas, book prices rose so much that this time cost became the barrier to increased book distribution. Regretfully, the expectation of the spirit of the Islamic Revolution for Iranian Society, that is, book reading on a mass basis, has not yet been fulfilled. If encouragement and guidance of an Islamic nation can serve as a basis for promoting readership in a society, so can an equitable book-pricing system. Iranians are therefore asking why should book prices rise without any established criteria. To find an answer to this question we have interviewed a number of persons involved in book publishing and distribution.

Yusuf Farzanah, the manager of Farzanah Publishing House, has the following answer: "Book prices are rising because of high costs of paper and printing. Basically book price increases are tied to the economic situation in the country. Of course, one should not ignore the role of an unreal market either. As soon as a title is beginning to go out of print, some businessmen will collect all copies they can find and will sell them in the black market at prices up to ten to twenty times the list prices. The fact is there is no control over book market. Consequently, when we trade our titles with other publishers, we see them selling our books at higher prices. But the main reason for high book prices lies in the staggering
costs of book manufacturing. Films and plates are purchased in the black market. Cost of paper is prohibitive and cost of binding is also high. It must be pointed out that major publishers obtain their paper needs through a quota system established by the government, but small publishers must meet their needs in the black market. All told, Farzānah Publishing House printed a 200-page book at 20 tomans per copy which cannot be exchanged with any titles from other publishers because of their higher prices. The idea behind exchange of books between publishers is to achieve wider distribution."

Husayn Karīmī of Murvārīd Publishing House considers inflation and printing costs as principal reasons for high book prices. He says the types of paper and printing applied to a book determine its price. Cost of typesetting by computer is different from that done by Linotype. In his opinion, later printings of a title cost more because publishers do not make much profit from the first printing and they set their eyes on subsequent printings for better profits. He then complains about illegal publishing practice going on in the country and urges the Ministry of Islamic Guidance to curb these kinds of activities.

Muhammad Pākdāman, a distributor for Āzar Publishing House, says one of several things annoying publishers is illegal printing of their titles by profiteers and unauthorized people. "There have been many abuses of our books so far. For example, our book Fārmākūlūzī was printed illegally. Of course, we investigated the matter through Ittihādīyah (Publishers and Booksellers Association), and succeeded in receiving an amount for the damage. Or, another publisher printed the book Hubūt by Dr. Sharīfátī which was originally published by Intishārāt-i Surūsh and priced it at 150 rials per copy as against 100 rials determined by Surūsh." Mr. Pākdāman believes the government should support the Association's efforts in fighting profiteers and prohibiting unauthorized bookselling. He further cites the publishers associated with the Ḥawzah-i Ḥunār va Andīshah-i Islāmī (The Domain of Islamic Art and Thinking) as pursuing a fair pricing policy and urges other publishers to follow suit.

'Abbās 'Allī 'Abbāsī, a branch manager for Amīr Kabīr Publishing House, admits that book prices are increasing rapidly but that even so Amīr Kabīr's pricing policy is fair. To prove his point he says: "In 1360 [1981 or 1982] we issued the 4th printing of Asrār al-tawhīd by Shaykh Abū Sa‘īd Abī al-Khayr at 550 rials per copy. The price of our recent printing of the same title in white paper and buckram binding does not differ with the past at all. Similarly, we have reprinted the two-volume Jang va sulḥ by Tolstoy (sold at up
to 400 tomans in the black market) with the price of 220 tomans, the same it carried in 1357 [1978 or 1979].

This year we have reprinted Khvājah-i tājdar in white paper at 90 tomans, which sold at 104 tomans per copy in straw paper [a paper similar to newsprint paper] in 1357 [1978 or 1979]." Asked how publishers meet their paper needs, Mr. "Abbāsī says those publishers having business permits purchase their paper from the Ministry of Commerce at the official rate.

Sa'id Iqbal of Iqbal Publishing House has this to say on high book prices: "One must consider that the price of a book has increased within the framework of the existing inflation. Nevertheless, in comparison with other manufactured goods and despite the fact that the prices of paper and cardboard have increased up to 40-50 percent of their import prices, it has not gone up noticeably." He justifies higher prices for later printings of a title by saying that films and plates are usually damaged after a couple of printings and publishers need to replace them by new ones, exceptions being copper plates which last longer but are a lot more expensive and hard to come by.

Rizā Tahuri of Tahuri Publishing House says: "Cost of printing for government publications varies from that for nongovernmental publishing. A government institute can afford printing Imām Khumaynī's treatise in 500,000 copies. It costs a publisher less to print a book for large distribution. But a private institution cannot afford printing in such a big number because of paper and other requirements. Consequently it ends up with 2000 or less copies. At present, private publishers acquire up to 80-90 percent of their paper needs from the black market. Is this not a good reason for rising book prices? Be it as it may, the last work published by Tahuri is Gulshan-i rāz by Shaykh Mahmūd Shabistarī. The price of this 96-page book with foreign paper, deluxe binding, and typesetting is only 125 rials. This is much cheaper than other books. Not all of the publishers can sell a 100-page book at 120 rials. They are justified, too, in not doing so. Books are costly. If one could previously acquire certain fairly good books at a discount from book peddlers along the streets, the tendency for profiteering has marred this last resort too. These same peddlers are buying private libraries at nominal prices and selling their contents as out-of-print materials at several times their list prices, even though these books do not have good appearances and are just about to disintegrate." 'Abd Allah Qavfdil, a peddler on Inqilāb Avenue charging steep prices for disintegrating books, says: "The price of a book is determined by its type and not by its list price. We buy books from our customers with 20-40 percent
discounts and occasionally give a discount to those buying from us." Booksellers such as Mr. Qavidil buy a book, say printed ten years ago, at 7 tomans per copy with 50 percent discount, erase its price from the cover, and replace it with the figure of 270 rials, their reason for this being that the book is in 300 pages and such books do not sell for less than 400 rials these days.

Have you ever seen a book reprinted under a different title with the same contents? This method is particularly applied to titles having large distributions including works of Mu'addhar and Sharf'd. A book is printed once under the title 'Ali bartar az vaqi'iyat and again under 'Ali, haqi'gati bar qunah-i asa'ir. The book buyer considers them as different titles but discovers later that they are the same. Or, a book having several parts is once printed in a single binding, then each part is printed as a separate book in a separate binding. This is particularly true of works by Islamic thinkers. Suppose Majm'ah-i mu'annafat-i Shaykh Shihab al-Din Suhravardi is published in one single binding. Why is it necessary to put its parts into separate bindings? The publisher who complains of paper shortage should realize that this in itself wastes much paper.

And finally the President of Iranian Publishers and Booksellers Association 'Ali Mu'ammad Ardahali makes the following comments relating to paper shortage and book prices: "Papers are distributed by Pars Company or by the Center for Preparation of Wood and Paper on the basis of an established quota system. But this never meets publishers' real needs. Two to three hundred bales of paper every two to three months are really not enough for a publisher. The Center for Preparation of Wood and Paper sells a kilogram of its 70-grams weight paper, originally costing no more than 55 rials, at 115 rials. This is nothing but overcharging. Of course they [the Center officials] say prices have been determined by the Consumers' Coordinating Committee, its philosophy being that in order to prevent losses and to protect domestic products they must charge higher prices. What a philosophy!"

Referring to films and plates Mr. Mu'ammad says an agreement has been signed with the Lithographers' Association to provide publishers with their needs according to the tariffs included in that agreement. The rates, however, must be governmental. He also blames high costs of paper, printing, and binding for increasing book prices. Mr. Mu'ammad's Association investigates cases related to overcharging reported for any of the 560 registered publishers engaged in book publishing and printing. With the new elections within the Association he hopes to come up with certain criteria for the
pricing of books. The President concludes his remarks by referring to the difficulty of acquiring distribution permits from the Ministry of Islamic Guidance. The present practice by the Ministry is to inspect books after first printing and then issue a distribution permit if they meet the Ministry's standards. Thus, it is possible for a publisher to print a title in thousands of copies and not be able to sell any of them. He makes a plea to the Ministry to inspect the contents of a book before printing so that publishers do not suffer the losses they are suffering under the present rules.

Middle East Collection
University of Texas at Austin

Published under the patronage of UNESCO this work is a catalogue of an exhibition held in Paris; it represents a monumental Festschrift in honor of the Book in its relationship to Lebanon. Actually, as the word kitāb of the Arabic title indicates, the subject of the work is much broader, taking in epigraphical inscriptions, numismatic legends, medieval charters, commercial documents, even artifacts. In short, it is a cross section of everything pertaining to writing and its antecedents accumulated during the 5,000 years Lebanon lay in the path of civilizations moving across its territory.

The work is basically divided into two large groups of articles in French and Arabic, covering the historical periods before and after the introduction of printing into that country. Considerable space is devoted to the Lebanese in Europe and the role they played as authors, translators, and printers in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, bringing to the fore a considerable amount of information relating to the early history of Arabic printing, from block and type, on that continent. In this connection an interesting case is made for the printing of Giustiniani's octapla psalter ten years before 1516, the date given in the colophon, which would make it the first book containing substantial Arabic text to have been printed from movable type, preceding even the Arabic Horologion printed on the east coast of Italy in 1514. Other similar research problems have been resurrected and reevaluated: the 1518 printing of a Syriac-karshuni psalter at the monastery of Quzayyā of which no copies are extant and the publication of which was often denied by scholars; and the relationship of Arabic printing at Snagov and Bucharest in the early eighteenth century with that of Lebanon.

The work consists of more than forty scholarly articles, the first twenty treating such varied subjects as mythology, origins of theories of musical notation, and the ancient school of law at Beirut, and the remainder deals mainly with topics
previously treated by Joseph Nasrallah in his *L'imprimerie au Liban* (Harissa, 1948).

The whole is a substantial body of information with scholarly apparatus and profuse illustrative material. It is regrettable, therefore, that this work with the potential of a reference tool has no adequate index or arrangement conducive to finding wanted information. Coordination is wanting in respect to transliteration, form of bibliographic entry and arrangement of illustrative documentation. The latter is particularly troublesome. Not only are some illustrations numbered while others are not but even the numbered items are not in consecutive order. To make matters worse, not all descriptions have corresponding illustrations; apparently some of the descriptions refer to the items in the exhibition only. In addition, some of the reproductions are misidentified. Thus illustration no. 159 (p. 349) [preceded by illustration no. 168 (p. 314) and followed by illustration no. 165 (p. 349)] represents three pages reproduced from various works, none of them fitting the "corresponding" description. The item is described as al-ajwibah al-jaliyyah, Malta, 1831. The first reproduction could not have been printed in 1831 because the type used is that known as Amrikanî which was not used until the 1840s, and that in Beirut. The second item, the "muqaddimah" page with the ms note "grammaire arabe Malte 1731" is not from al-ajwibah but rather from G. Farhat's unabridged *Kitāb baṣth al-maṣālib fī ʾilm al-arabīyāh*, printed at Malta in 1836. (The correct description of this item is found under no. 199, which in turn should have described an item published in Beirut in 1865!) Although the third illustration under no. 159 represents the right title and place of publication, alas, the date is 1832 not 1831.

There are a number of other inaccuracies which, together with faulty transliteration, give the work an air of unreliability. Among these are: the date of publication (p. 136) of Ambrogio Teseo, *Introductio in chaldaicam linguam*, which should read 1539 for 1593; on the same page a statement is made claiming that the article by Jean Aucagne on Hinckelmann's introduction to the Arabic Koran is the first to attempt to analyze that introduction. Not so; Helmut Braun has done so in 1952 in *Libris et Litteris* (pp. 149-166) under the title "Der Hamburger Koran von 1694." The date for the first Arabic imprint in Egypt is given (p. 153) as 1799, while an Alexandrian imprint for 1798 is documented with *L'alphabet arabe, turk et persan*. The date of 1711 (p. 160) involving correspondence between Savary des Brèves with de Thou should probably read 1611 since des Breves died in 1628; similarly the dates 1711-1714 in footnote 6 (p. 172) should also be adjusted accordingly. Postel's *Linguarum duodecim . . .* (Paris, 1583) (p. 221) should read 1538. As for *sharḥ ṭabarî‘ī al-ḥayawan* (p. 349), *Paris
Shidyāq himself only claims translatorship in the work itself (last page), not authorship as our work may imply. The real author seems to be William Mavor whose educational works received widespread use in England of the time.

In spite of the above criticisms and caveat lector, the volume under review is worth acquiring for its massive information accumulated and the provocative nature of the individual contributions.

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The essential task of the bibliographer is to secure control over a mass of material. This task demands the relentlessness of an automaton, the zeal of a convert, and the devotion of a lover. Our distinguished colleague in MELA, Wolfgang Behn, who is reference librarian for oriental topics in the Staatsbibliothek in Berlin, has already made important contributions to our field with The Iranian Opposition in Exile (1979) and its supplement issued in 1982 under the title Power and Reaction in Iran, and also his joint work with Willem Floor, Twenty Years of Iranian Power Struggle: A Bibliography of Political Periodicals from 1341/1962 to 1360/1981 (1982). Now it is revealed that scholars and librarians are again indebted to Behn's indefatigable drive to bibliographize.

The Islamic Book Review Index represents the first major attempt to bring together citations of reviews of books on Middle Eastern topics. Behn's procedure was to start with a number of selected periodicals issued in 1980 and record whatever reviews were found: thus a book published in 1977 is represented only by those reviews located in magazines issued in 1980 or later. According to his preface, Behn has searched in journals issued in 1980, 1981, and part of 1982 (see below). He arranges the index by author of the book reviewed and provides a list of titles of books reviewed.

This attention to review literature in our field is praiseworthy—at least on theoretical grounds. We do not really know how necessary or valuable it is to have citations
to reviews. What is the utility of a book review? Although I like to think that a review is a part of the ongoing dialectic between past and present scholarship, and that it may be a vehicle for intellectual progress, for the gradual approach to verifiable truth, I wonder who will use this index and for what purpose.

It is reasonable to think that the literary or intellectual activity of reviewing begins when the quantity of book production in specific subject areas exceeds the ability of individual readers to keep up with it, and when the means of bringing book reviews to the public is available. We in fact find that book reviewing can be traced back to English newspapers as early as 1640. After 1665 continental readers could turn to the Journal des savans for brief reviews. And in our field, the oldest orientalist journal, the Journal Asiatique, had reviews in the very first issue of 1822, the first being a "critique litteraire" by J. Saint-Martin of the tripartite melange of the Exposition de la Foi musulmane, which was a translation from the Turkish of Mohammed ben Pir-Ali Alberkevi by Garcin de Tassy, followed by de Tassy's translation of Sa'di's Pandnameh, and concluding with the Burdah translated by Silvestre de Sacy. While the history of academic book reviewing is not yet written, certainly by the late nineteenth century the review had become an accepted part of "academic work," and was not only used to inform others, but served as a vehicle of self-advancement: a means of displaying erudition superior to that of the book's author, and a weapon against academic rivals. If joys were quantifiable, the greatest would be felt by an academic drudge bringing a lifelong accumulation of minutiae to bear upon the inconsequential faults of another's scholarship.

To return to the book in hand, the first criticism must be directed at the title. Just what is the connotation of Islamic Book Review Index? To me it means an index of reviews of Islamic books; but in actual fact Behn's work is nothing of the sort: it is an index to reviews of books on a very wide range of subjects, many of which show no perceptible connection with Islam.

The second criticism is directed at the preface to the Index. I suggest that the first rule of bibliographies is to let the reader know fully and accurately the aim of the compiler and the scope of the compilation. Behn says nothing to thwart the misperception induced by his inappropriate title, and so a browser may be perplexed to find citations to reviews of books on the Hunza, Imru al-Qays, Jundi Shapur, and Mongolian art.

A compilation of this kind, regardless of the extreme care
with which it is done, bases its authority on the selection of journals culled for reviews. Behn does not give us a list of the titles searched, but he does list the abbreviations used for 122 journals. They range from ponderous Zeitschriften to Library Journal. They are almost entirely European and American, with a few in Turkish and Persian and none in Arabic. The justification for the three or four in Turkish and Persian is not clear. Library literature is poorly represented; perhaps Chicago's Library Quarterly should be added. And the addition of Speculum would pick up reviews by medievalists who often are not represented in pertinent orientalist journals. Despite this criticism, Behn's coverage is far superior to what is found in standard compilations such as the Book Review Digest and the Internationale Bibliographie der Rezensionen.

Even though Behn claims in his preface to have commenced his work with the periodicals of 1980, earlier reviews have been included: see under Goldziher, Golvin, and Gomaa, for instance. And his claim to have covered the 1980 journals should be accepted with caution: it appears that the entire 1980 JOAS is not included in this first volume.

Behn's text is reproduced from very carefully prepared typescript. "Typos" are fewer than minimal, and only one instance of a double entry (The Road to Kabul) was spotted.

From the more than 122 journals used as source material, Behn has listed the reviews of 2,598 books. This substantial body of work must represent a very large percentage of the total American and European book production devoted to Middle Eastern topics. Quite apart from the obvious information given by the Index, Behn may be providing a new access to the literature of Middle Eastern studies. Here is raw data for constructing profiles of national interests in Middle Eastern studies, or at least for studying trends in scholarship. The question is raised, why are some topics studied (or reviewed) more than others? Of course, while the quantity of reviewing depends to some extent on the effort made by publishers to promote their product, and there is a correlation with the number of journals per field to the number of scholars per discipline, this Index will ultimately reveal what topics are most popular in our segment of the academic process. Also, the Index will help one reconstruct the history of Western attitudes toward the East.

Librarians often have used reviews as a tool in book selection, and scholars have long been interested in reviews, not only of their own work, but also to see what criticism is directed by whom at what. Let us hope that Behn perseveres
and that this strong beginning will not join those many well-intentioned but quickly abandoned bibliographic efforts sequestered in quiet oblivion on the shelves of research libraries.

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JAMES WEINBERGER has been appointed Near East Bibliographer at Princeton's Firestone Library and will assume his duties about December 1, 1983. Mr. Weinberger has been acting Near East Bibliographer at the University of California, Berkeley Library for the past two years. CHRIS FILSTRUP of the New York Public Library has edited the special issue on the Middle East of Leads which is published by the ALA International Relations Round Table. The issue is volume 25, number 2 (Summer 1983). Filstrup and his wife are coauthors of China: From Emperors to Communes, published by the Dillon Press in New York, 1983. FAWZI ABDULRAZAK visited during the spring with librarians on the west coast of the United States and with booksellers in Morocco and Tunisia in connection with projects relating to Dar Mahjar.