

MELA *notes*

MIDDLE EAST LIBRARIANS ASSOCIATION

Number 42

Fall, 1987

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MELA NOTES

ISSN 0364-2410

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Harvard University

President 1987

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University of Washington

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James Weinberger
Princeton University

Secretary-Treasurer 1987-'91

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University of Chicago

Editor 1985-'87

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FROM THE EDITOR

MELA Notes Issue No. 42 is the last issue coming to you from Chicago. As my term as an editor comes to an end, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all my colleagues for their help and support.

The 1987 Annual Meeting of our association will take place in Baltimore in conjunction with the Middle East Studies Association annual meeting, November 15-17. The MELA meeting will be Saturday, November 14. See the program inside for details.

I am looking forward to seeing you all. My thanks to Palmira Brummett and Laurie Abbott for assistance on this issue.

MELA ANNUAL MEETING PROGRAMMiddle East Librarians Association Annual Meeting

Saturday, November 14, 1987

Baltimore Convention Center

9:00 a.m.-10:15 a.m.

Panel: Technical Services

Joan Biella, Princeton U.: Backlogs at Princeton

Palmira Brummett, U. of Tennessee: Ottoman Serial and Salname

Cataloging at the University of Chicago

John Eilts, Research Libraries Group: Update on RLIN Middle

East Script Capability

Patricia Myers-Hayer, Library of Congress: Ongoing Cataloging

Work at Sultan Qaboos University Library, Oman

10:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Panel: Public ServicesMark Day, Indiana U.: Middle East-Related Reference Service
at IndianaGary Gillum, Brigham Young U.: Brigham Young's Jerusalem
Center on Mt. ScopusFawzi Khoury, U. of Washington: Acquisitions as Public
ServiceAmnon Zipin, Ohio State U.: Bibliography of Modern Hebrew
Literature in Translation

Questions and Discussion

12:15 p.m.-1:15 p.m.

Lunch MELA Executive Board Meeting

1:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m.

MELA Business Meeting(Room for Panels, Discussion and MELA Business Meeting:
Harbor I)

Submitted by Janet Helneck

ARTICLES

Islamic Manuscripts in North American Libraries, pt. 2

Oberlin College Library
Oberlin, Ohio 44074

Contact Person: Dina B. Schoomaker, Curator, Special Collections

Date of Inventory: August 26, 1985 (per correspondence)

1. Koran.

Copied in large naskh hand of the 17th or 18th century. The 241 fols. measure 27.4 x 39 cm.; the written surface 21.5 x 13 lines to page; catchwords. Some marginalia. Usual koranic illumination proportional with the size of the ms. in blue and gold. Wove paper is of buff color and is glazed. Some foxing, creasing; pages torn and not always skillfully mended. The leather binding with flap is blind stamped. Gift of William Barton, 1928. Item was exhibited at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition in Saint Louis in 1904. Call no. 019.297/K 84.

2. Koran.

Copied in 1235 H./1819-1820 A.D. in a rather small naskh hand. The 302 fols. measure 10 x 15.7 cm.; the written surface measuring 6.4 x 10.3 cm. is ruled. 15 lines to page; some marginalia. The usual Koranic illumination is rather crude. Paper is laid, yellow and glazed. Some pages torn. The leather binding is tooled and blind stamped. Gift of William Barton to Frank Hugh Foster, donated to the Library in 1929. Call no. 091.297/K 84.3.

3. Koran.

Copied in 1153 H./1740 A.D. by 'Umar al-Buhsinī (?) in ghubar-like minute naskh. The 153 fols. measure 6.6 x 10.4 cm.; the written surface measuring 4 x 7.7 cm. is ruled with gold predominating. 23 lines to page; catchwords. The usual Koranic illumination in gold, blue, red, pink, and light blue. Wove paper in buff color is glazed. Some foxing and worn pages. The red and black leather binding with flap is tooled and gilt stamped. Acquired from the Library of F.B. Artz in 1983. Uncatalogued.

4. Koran.

Copied in rather small calligraphic naskh, probably in the 18th century. The 293 fols. measure 10.5 x 16.5 cm.; the written surface measuring 6 x 10.4 cm. is ruled. 15 lines to

page. The usual Koranic illumination in gold, blue, red, orange, pink, green, and light blue is finely executed. The wove paper is buff colored and glazed. Some worming, some mended pages. The leather binding with flap is gilt and red tooled. Acquired in 1983 from the Library of F.B. Artz. Uncatalogued.

5. Koran.

Copied in 1281 H./1864-1865 A.D. in medium size, calligraphic naskh. The 288 fols. measure 10.5 x 15.5 cm.; the written surface measuring 6.4 x 10.3 cm. is ruled. 15 lines to page; catchwords. The usual Koranic illumination in gold, blue, green and orange, except for lv containing al-Fātiḥah which is missing. Paper is wove and yellowish in color. Many pages are torn, mended and rewritten over mend. Leather over boards binding with flap. Gift of Lootfy Levonian, Prof. of Old Testament School of Religion, Athens, Greece. Call no. 091.297/K 84.2.

6. Tadhkirat al-shu'arā'.

Presumably that of Dawlat Shāh ibn Bakhtishāh, of Samarqand (d. 900 H./1494-1495 A.D.). Biographies of poets copied in a rather large ta'liq hand in 1074 H./1663-1664 A.D. Unverified, possibly an abridgment. The 94 fols. measure 19.4 x 27.5 cm.; the written surface measuring 10 x 20 cm. is ruled in blue, yellow, red and black. 15 lines to page. Paper laid, cream color and watermarked. Some foxing; some pages torn and repaired, especially around the edges. The soft leather binding is blind tooled; spine is repaired. From the library of William Downs Henkle. Acquired late 19th century, Ref. E.G. Browne, Literary History of Persia, Cambridge, 1964, v. 1, p. 449; H.F. Hofman, Turkish Literature, Sect. III, pt. 1, v. 3, p. 7ff where other copies of this Persian ms. are located. Call no. 091 D322.

Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, MA 02138

Contact Person: Hellen W. Samuels, Institute Archivist, Head
Special Collections

Date of survey: 6 November, 1987.

Nizāmī Ganjavi, 1140-1202-3. Khamsah.

Persian. Copied by Mun'ām (?) al-Dīn al-Awhadī of Shīrāz in a minute, calligraphic ta'liq hand in the beginning of Dhū al-Hijjah of 900 H./August 1495. The 352 fols. measure 17.3 x 29.7 cm.; the written surface measuring 10.8 x 20 cm. is ruled in red, blue and gold with the latter predominating.

Text is mostly arranged in four columns, 21 lines to the page; catchwords. Richly illuminated, the ms. contains miniatures, some of which, especially towards the end, are damaged. Very fine ornamentation on lv-2r and in headings. The paper is wove, off-white and glazed. Text of 30 fols. at the end is spliced into newer pages. Some worming, partially affecting the text. Some foxing. The leather binding is blind stamped. Slip inserted states that the manuscript was the property of the late L.B. Graves.

University of Virginia Manuscript Department/Alderman Library
Charlottesville, Virginia 22903-2498

Contact Person: Ann L.S. Southwell, Manuscript Cataloger
Date of Survey: March, 1987. (by mail from xerographs).

1. Koran.

Copied in a rather large naskh hand of the 19th century. The 229 fols. measure 20 x 28.5 cm.; the written surface measures 14 x 22 cm.; 17 lines to page. Red used in headings and punctuation. Rather heavy, watermarked paper of various kinds and colors, perhaps to make the ms. appear older. Repaired pages. Leather binding with flap is tooled and gilt stamped. Deposited by Robert Hill Carter, 1943; made gift, 1952. Access no. 2724.

2. Koran.

Copied in medium size vocalized naskh between the 10th and 20th of Rajab 1119 H./October, 1707 A.D. by 'Ibād Allāh al-Malik al-Mannān Sulaymān al-Ḥāfiẓ al-Qur'ān known as Dāmādzādah. The 374 fols. measure 10.8 x 16.5 cm.; the written surface measuring 6.5 x 11 cm. is ruled in various colors with gold predominating. 13 lines to page; catchwords. The usual Koranic ornamentation on fol. lv-2r and in headings is delicate. Paper is thin, of cream color, and glazed. Gift of Preston C. Ellett in 1970 after it had been acquired in Constantinople ca. 1920. Access no. 9552.

3. Koran.

Copied by Muḥammad Sayyid Rashīd al-Rushdī, the student of al-'Uthmān al-Zakī, the student of Muḥammad al-Waṣfī, in 1276 H./1859-60 A.D. in small naskh. The 301 fols. measure 11.5 x 17.5 cm.; the written surface measuring 7 x 12.9 cm. is ruled in several colors with gold predominating. 15 lines to page. The usual Koranic illuminations are rather crude. The laid paper is cream in color and glazed. The existing holes seem the result of erasures. The leather binding with flap is tooled and gilt-stamped. Gift of Carl McFarland, executor of Homer Cummings, in whose papers the Koran was found. The

latter was Attorney-General of the U.S., 1933-39. Access no. 9973.

4. Koran.

One leaf containing Sūrah 27:42 to 57

Copied in a large, calligraphic naskh hand with inter-linear Persian translation in smaller ta^{cl}liq. Overall measurements ca. 18.5 x 30 cm.; the written surface, measuring 11.5 x 21.7 cm., is ruled in colors with gold predominating. 24 lines to page. Gold "clouds" and punctuation. Unusual marginal illuminations of divisions. Catchwords. Paper is thin and cream colored. Some foxing. From the Biblical Library of Stanley Slotkin, acquired 24 April, 1979. Access no. 6846-at.

5. al-Taftāzānī, Sa^{cl}d al-Dīn, d. about 1389 A.D. Kitāb mukhtasar sharh talkhis al-miftāh.

Work on Rhetorics copied in rather large hand betraying Chinese characteristics. Overall size of the 165 fols. is 22 x 32 cm.; the written surface measures 14 x 24 cm.; catchwords. 17 lines to page. Paper is thin, laid and light brown. Some worming, foxing and loose pages. Calf binding in poor condition is blind stamped. Endpapers are green stamped with floral design. Gift of Col. John R. Fox, donated in 1955. Marginal note in Chinese claims that there are 166 chapters to this work. Bibliographical references: GAL I 295 Ausz. pt. 3, cmt. 4 B; starts as Princeton (Hitti 536; March 3905). Access no. 5004.

6. Mollā Muḥammad al-Hanafī al-Tabrizī, d. ca. 900 H./1494. al-Risālah al-Hanafīyah or Sharh al-risālah al-ʿadūdiyyah.

With glosses of Mīr Abū al-Faṭḥ ibn Makhdūm al-Ḥusaynī (=Mīr al-Faṭḥ Muḥammad Amīn al-Sa^{cl}ʿīdī al-Ardabīlī, d. ca. 975 H./1567 A.D.?). Note on flyleaf reads: Hanifiyah maʿa ādāb Mīrī. Dialectics of investigation with mixed commentary on ādāb al-baḥth of ʿAḍūd al-Dīn al-ʿĪjī (d. 756 H./1355 A.D.), copied by Sayyid al-Ḥājj Aḥmad ibn al-Ḥājj Muḥammad in small nasta^{cl}liq hand in beginning of the month of Sha^{cl}bān 1173 H./March 1750 A.D. Marginal glosses copied at the same time are in minute nasta^{cl}liq. The 36 fols. measure 12 x 22 cm.; the written surface measuring 4.7 x 14.8 cm. is gold ruled. 25 lines to page. Small, regular ʿunwān. Watermarked paper is thin, white and glazed. Water stains not affecting the text. The leather binding with flap is gilt stamped. Gift of Francis L. Berkeley in 1963, after it was presented to him by Captain Albay U. Tekes of the Turkish Navy in 1962. Reference: GAL II 208, Ia, II, no. 2 and perhaps gloss a. Body of text starts as Berlin no. 5296 and Princeton (Mach no. 3384 and Hitti no. 889). Access no. 7010.

7. Al-Jāmī, 1414-1492. Yūsuf ve Zalikha.

Persian mathnavī copied in small nasta'liq hand of the 18th or 19th century. Overall measurements of the 136 fols. are 9.4 x 14.1 cm.; the written surface in two columns measuring 6.3 x 10.6 cm. is ruled with several lines with gold predominating. 13 lines to page, varies. Catchwords. Eight miniatures in text. Aged, white paper is somewhat glazed. The binding is blind stamped. Purchased in Kabul book bazaar in 1952 by Col. A.F.S. MacKenzie from whom the ms. was acquired in 1970. Access no. 8825-f.

8. Firdawsī, 935-1025 A.D. Shāh-nāmāh.

Copied in elegant, medium size nasta'liq of the 17th (?) century. The 465 fols. measure 26 x 40 cm.; the written surface measuring 18.5 x 28 cm. is mostly arranged in four columns and is ruled in red and gold. 25 lines to page. Finely ornamented sarlāwḥ and "clouds" between the lines of the introduction. Many illustrations. The beginning of a section in the middle of the ms. is marked in large floral design in blue and gold, not found anywhere else in the work. The paper is light brown and smooth. Worming and water staining. Red leather binding is gilt tooled and stamped. Gift of Homer Walsh, 1961. Access no. 6479.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
Boston, Massachusetts

Contact Person: Susan M. Sinclair, Archivist.
Date of Survey: 5 December, 1986.

Hāfiẓ. 14th century. Dīvān.

Copied in calligraphic, small nasta'liq by Salam [?] [---] Qa'ānī in Šafar 895 H./Dec.-Jan. 1489-90. The 129 fols. measure 15.5 x 26 cm.; the written surface 8.5 x 16.3 is ruled in colors with gold predominating. 15 lines to page. Blue and gold headings, 5 fine miniatures. First two pages ornamented in the margins. Text which has been remounted into brown, laid, partially glazed paper is sprinkled with gold dust throughout. Beginning and end fols. heavily worm eaten. Red leather binding of the 19th century has gilt flower design. The work is described in Oriental and Islamic Art in the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum by Yasuko Horioka, Marilyn Rhie and Walter B. Denny. Trustees, 1975. No call no.; on inner back cover appears the number U19W42.

Correction: In MELA Notes 37 (1986), p. 27f item two of Miami University Libraries "Fragment from a larger Persian biographical work" has now been identified as "Fragment from Tārīkh-i Firīshṭāh or Gulshan-i Ibrāhīmī also known as Tārīkh-i navrasnāmāh Firīshṭāh of Muḥammad Qāsim Hindūshāh,

known as Firishtah (1552-1623). The identification of the fragment we owe to Dr. Mahdokht banoo Homai. The work was lithographed several times and was translated into English by J. Briggs, London 1829.

Miroslav Krek

Romanizing Arabic Script Catalog Records: Trials, Tribulations and Success at Ohio State

In January 1984, The Ohio State University Libraries (OSUL) decided to romanize Arabic and Hebrew script cataloging records via OCLC for inclusion in the OSUL online catalog, the Library Control System (LCS).(1) This article will examine the procedures which were used to implement this decision, and show how, three years later, new procedures continue to evolve in order to make the process more efficient.

Library personnel involved in Arabic script cataloging include the Middle East Librarian, a professional librarian responsible for collection development, reference, and acquisition of Middle East material as well as original cataloging of Arabic, Persian and modern and Ottoman Turkish; the Middle East Studies Assistant, a full-time civil service staff member whose duties include a wide range of tasks related to technical processing and to maintenance of the Middle East Reading Room and the general collection, and who

1. For the evolution of LCS from a circulations system to an online catalog, see Susan L. Miller and Jean Yamauchi, "The Automating of a Large Research Library", in Proceedings of the 24th College and University Machine Records Conference (Indianapolis: CURMEC, 1979), paper no. 24. p. 1-13; Susan L. Miller, "The Evolution of an On-Line Catalog", in New Horizons for Academic Libraries, ed. Robert D. Stuart and Richard D. Johnson (New York: K.G. Saur, 1979), p. 193-204; Susan L. Miller, "The Changing Role of a Circulation System: the OSU Experience", RQ 10 (1980), p. 47-52. The handling of Hebrew script materials at OSUL is discussed in Amnon Zipin, "Romanized Hebrew Script in the On-Line Catalog at the Ohio State University Libraries", Judaica Librarianship 1 (1984), p. 53-57.

is expected to devote 25% of his/her time to copy cataloging; and a graduate assistant (GA) whose primary responsibility is original cataloging of belles-lettres in at least one of the three languages. In addition, a half-time Arabic editor is located in the Copy Cataloging Division and reports to the head of that Division.(2) Before the implementation of full romanization at OSUL, all cataloging of Middle East vernacular materials was done in the Middle East section, under the supervision of the Middle East Librarian.

Prior to 1984, Middle East vernacular materials were cataloged manually, using LC printed cards or cards typed by the cataloger.(3) A short record, including call number, author, title, and publication date, was added to LCS; these records could be searched on LCS by author and title, but the patron had to search the card catalog to find items by subject, series, or added entry. Although OSUL did not officially close its union card catalog until 1983, less maintenance was done in the card catalog after the adoption of AACR2 in 1981, as LCS had begun to supercede the catalog in many respects. This represented a dilemma in treating certain non-roman scripts, Arabic among them, which were still being cataloged manually and for which full card sets still needed to be filed in the catalog. Rather than continuing to file these cards in the union catalog, and thus having to reconcile pre-AACR2 headings with the new forms, it was decided that new, AACR2 catalogs, one for each script, would be opened and would be located in the reading room which dealt with those languages. Thus, a new catalog was started in the Middle East Reading Room which contained the complete card sets for Arabic, Persian, and modern and Ottoman Turkish language materials.(4) Short records for these items continued to appear on LCS.

The decision to discontinue manual cataloging of Arabic script materials was based on a variety of factors. Patrons had to search two catalogs to find OSUL holdings and then search each record on LCS to determine the circulation status and location of the item. With a full catalog record on LCS, the patron would be able to search under all headings and to

2. A half-time professional cataloger will be added to the staff in 1987; this person will be located in the Monograph Cataloging Division and will report to its Head.

3. Modern Turkish materials were cataloged through OCLC beginning in 1982.

4. Filing of modern Turkish language card sets was discontinued in 1982, when those materials began to be cataloged on-line. See footnote 2.

determine the location and availability of an item, all at a single terminal. In addition, it was felt that processing could be streamlined and cataloging quality more closely monitored if these materials were treated in the same manner as materials in roman script.

Training of the Middle East Studies Assistant and the GA was conducted by the Middle East Librarian, who was familiar with MARC tagging and who consulted with both the Head of Monographic Cataloging and the Head of Copy Cataloging as to procedures in both divisions.(5) Until late 1985, the editor also reported to the Middle East Librarian (not to the Head of Copy Cataloging) and was thus trained by the Librarian. It was agreed by the Middle East Librarian and the Head of the Cataloging Department that the editor would be transferred to that unit and that the Assistant would carry out his cataloging duties in the Copy Cataloging Division. However, these transfers were delayed due to shortage of space in the Copy Cataloging Division and to a vacancy in the position of head of that division. It became clear during the first year that copy cataloging needed to be transferred to the Catalog Department so that the editing of the Arabic script records would be done in the same way as the editing of other OCLC records. Manual copy cataloging had previously been carried out in the Middle East section under procedures more closely related to original cataloging. For example, the manual copy cataloger did name, series and subject authority work before cataloging an item, whereas in the Copy Cataloging Division an editor searched only the OSUL series authority file before editing the record; name and subject authority work were done after the fact in a different division.

Training of the editor and the Assistant consisted of teaching them MARC tagging; both already knew AACR2 and the Library of Congress classification system and subject headings, and both were proficient in the use of LCS and OCLC

5. Training of the GA represented special problems, as the GA had no background in cataloging or even in library science. I hope to discuss the use of GA's in the library in a future article. The Catalog Department and the Automated Processing Department were separate departments within Technical Services, each with its own head, until July 1, 1986, when they were combined into one Cataloging Department. Divisions within the department were reorganized at the same time; although the functions of each division remained the same as before, some rearrangement of reporting lines also took place. In order to minimize confusion, I have used the nomenclature of the new organization throughout this article.

and the authority files in each system. OCLC printouts were used, with the books in hand, to discuss the meaning of each field and subfield delimiter; the editor and the Assistant were then instructed to read Books Format, paying close attention to the examples, and to compare OCLC records as they read. The Librarian chose records which were accurate and bibliographically uncomplicated for first attempts at editing. Each record was revised by the Librarian in the presence of the editor or the Assistant, and each problem was discussed to ensure full understanding, sometimes with an instruction to re-read the relevant section of Books Format. Within three months, the editor was doing complicated and unsatisfactory copy, as well as transcribing LC copy, on his own, although the Librarian continued to revise the records. Due to the other duties of his job and to the small amount of time devoted to cataloging, the Assistant's training was more prolonged and less satisfactory.

Because the Middle East section had no access to an OCLC terminal for editing purposes, a workform was prepared and sent to the Copy Cataloging Division where the record was input or edited onscreen by student employees. The cataloger or editor also indicated on the workform that an extra OCLC card was to be produced for this record, and wrote, in Arabic script, the 245 a field (title proper) on the bottom of the workform. The workform was returned to the Middle East section after production with the extra OCLC printed card, onto which was typed in Arabic script the title from the bottom of the workform. These cards are filed in special script files (one each for Arabic, Persian, Ottoman Turkish, and other languages) in the Middle East Reading Room and are consulted by both patrons and staff. It quickly became apparent that, although each diacritic on the workform was marked to show how to input it, the student inputters were having great difficulty inputting and proofreading these records; of the first 100 Arabic records in romanization, 33 of them contained inputting mistakes which had to be corrected through OCLC. In order to avoid this problem, the editor spent approximately two hours each week reviewing the students' work and producing each record, a practice which continues.

Many of the problems and delays which we experienced in the first two and a half years were due to changes in personnel and to positions being vacant for long periods. The position of Head of Copy Cataloging was unfilled for nine months during 1985-1986, which delayed the transfer of the editing process to that unit. The Arabic editor resigned in September 1984 and nearly a year passed before a new editor (who had no previous library training) was hired and

sufficiently trained to begin working with Arabic materials. Shortage of physical space and of OCLC terminal time in the Copy Cataloging Division had both been problems long before we commenced romanizing Arabic script records, and these also contributed to delays.

In retrospect, it is evident that we did not plan the details of the process accurately enough. Instead of taking the opportunity to make a clean break with past procedures, we continued to do everything exactly as we had for manual cataloging, merely exchanging cards for workforms, and thus both the Middle East section and various divisions in the Catalog Department suffered a number of headaches trying to figure out procedures which had become meaningless. The size and complexity of the OSUL Cataloging Department also contributed to a number of these problems, as did the reorganization of that Department (see footnote 5). In addition, the fact that the Cataloging Department is located on the ground or basement floor of the Main Library, and the Middle East Section on the third floor of that building also meant that communication occasionally suffered, as well as forcing the Middle East section cataloging personnel to do a great deal of running up and down stairs to locate the necessary tools for cataloging. We continued in the beginning to submit edited records to the Monographic Cataloging Division because that was the route through which our manual cards had been submitted; certain problems which surfaced after cataloging (discrepancies in call numbers, etc.) took a long time to be corrected because of misunderstandings as to what needed to be checked, to whom corrections should be submitted, and how the corrections should be indicated.

Because of the amount of time the Middle East Librarian spent in training and revision, original cataloging suffered greatly; once the Middle East cataloger is hired and trained most of the revision and problem-solving duties which are still reequred will be passed on to that person.

There are other areas which still need to be examined and discussed for possible modification and change. Pre-catalog searching is still being done in the Middle East section, and authority work, especially for personal names not in the OCLC authority file, is an area of concern. Once again, the Middle East cataloger will undoubtedly prove helpful in these areas.

Despite the birthing and growing pains experienced at OSUL regarding romanization of Arabic script catalog records, the end results have been very successful. Acquisitions and processing have been made easier because of the full

bibliographic records on LCS, as has most problem solving; and we can now begin to use LCS to generate lists and statistics which were not available for this type of material before we began romanizing. Above all, patrons now have the same access to script materials as they have always had to items in English, French, or other roman-script language materials; when a subject search is entered on LCS, the patron receives a complete listing of all records containing that subject heading, irregardless of language or script.

Dona Straley
Ohio State University Library

BOOK REVIEWS

Auchterlonie, Paul. Arabic biographical dictionaries: a summary guide and bibliography. Durham: Middle East Libraries Committee, 1987. iv, 60 pages. ISBN 0-948889-10-2.

This guide makes no claim to comprehensiveness and includes "only the best-known, fullest and most useful biographical dictionaries." In fact, it may best be regarded as a supplement and companion to Diana Grimwood-Jones's article "Genealogy, biographical dictionaries and Who's Whos" in Arab Islamic Biography (Hassocks: Harvester Press, 1977), p. 78-100.

The first chapter of this guide discusses the development and value to scholarship of Arabic biographical dictionaries.

Chapter Two, "Classical Arabic biographical dictionaries" (defined as those written up to the end of the nineteenth century), is arranged as follows: Groupings of biographical dictionaries of those who died in a particular Muslim century and of such related material do not appear in the Grimwood-Jones article and point up further useful works. Chapter Two closes with "Section III, By Place" wherein are found biographical dictionaries of Muslims associated with particular places, arranged in seven areas from "Muslim Spain" to "Syria, Lebanon, Palestine, Jordan."

Chapter Two, "Modern biographical dictionaries (Arabic and Western language)," is divided similarly into general, subject, and geographical sections, with only the "most important" dictionaries given. The reader is referred here and elsewhere to the Grimwood-Jones bibliography for fuller listings.

Chapters Two and Three follow the arrangement (general, subject, region) of the Grimwood-Jones article except that the earlier bibliography does not make Auchterlonie's classical/modern distinction, the advantage of which distinction is not clear to this reviewer. Questions of cultural continuity aside, the complicated breakdown need have appeared only once, with a separate section for non-Arabic works possible.

Chapter Four, "Works in Western languages or by Westerners on Arabic biographical dictionaries," updates Grimwood-Jones's sections on ansâb with new titles, later editions and new volumes and goes on to cite articles and books in languages other than Arabic on the nature and cultural role of these works. This chapter has no

counterpart in the Grimwood-Jones bibliography and will be of use to anyone undertaking work in this area. An index to the 304 entries closes the book.

Librarians, students, and researchers who use Auchterlonie's guide in tandem with the Grimm-Jones bibliography, particularly capitalizing on the non-Arabic critical material in the former, will have comprehensive and multi-faceted access to this biographical material.

Janet Heineck
Univ. of Washington
Libraries

ANNOUNCEMENTSIraq Book Fair

The Iraq Book Fair (Ma'rid al-Sharq al-Kabir, "The Grand Orient Fair") which was organized in 1983 by al-Dar al-Wataniyah lil-Nashr, Wizarat al-I'lam wa-al-Thaqāfah, this year held its fifth session from March 15-25 at the Baghdad International Fair. According to the director of al-Dar al-Wataniyah lil-Nashr, Mr. Sa'ad el-Bazzaz, more than 25,000 titles were exhibited by over 500 publishing houses from such countries as China, USSR, Italy, USA, India, in addition to many of the publishers of the Arab world. Additional activities held in connection with the book fair included a daily seminar, "Kuttāb wa-Jumhūr" (Writers and Readers), led by an Iraqi author on his works and techniques. Other exhibits included that of Iraqi painters entitled "al-Insān wa-al-Harb" (Man and War), an exhibition of Koranic manuscripts preserved in Iraqi museums, and an exhibition of book covers.

Submitted by George Courogenis
Library of Congress
Overseas Operations

Middle East Microform Project Official Prospectus

The Middle East Librarians Association and the Center for Research Libraries have reached an agreement to form a Middle East Microform Project to be housed at the Center for Research Libraries. The project will operate in much the same manner as the Cooperative Africana Microform Project, and others also maintained at the facilities of the Center.

The Middle East Microform Project has been founded for the purpose of making available to scholars on the Middle East research materials in microformat which would otherwise be unavailable to them. This includes materials which are inaccessible, in poor condition, or beyond the economic means of an individual institution.

The geographic coverage of the project includes the Arab Middle East, Israel (for Israeli/Palestinian imprints), Turkey, Iran, Central Asia, and related areas not covered in other programs. Areas such as North Africa will be covered in cooperation with programs such as CAMP. Membership is open to any organization or institution with an interest in supporting the purposes of the project. The project shall be

governed by an Executive Committee composed of representatives as directed in the Bylaws of the project.

Membership fees shall be determined by the Executive Committee. Use of the materials shall be contingent upon the borrowing institution paying the membership fees. The initial fee is \$500 per year. Materials recommended for purchase by the project will be made known to the membership for the purpose of voting on the relative value of the material.

All materials acquired by the project shall be cataloged in a manner appropriate to the needs of the researchers using the materials. The cost of cataloging shall be an expense of the administration of the project. A complete record of all cataloging shall be given at no additional charge to all members. Institutions joining the project will be supplied with the cataloging of materials in the project prior to their joining at the actual cost of production of the catalog.

Materials owned by the project which are not restricted by the owner of the original material or the producer of the microfilm, shall be made available in duplicate microfilm to member institutions at the cost of producing the copy plus a share of the cost of producing the original negative, and all handling charges.

The first meeting of members representatives will be held in November at the time of the annual meeting of the Middle East Librarians Association.

To join, and for further information: Mr. Ray Boylan, Director, Collection Resources, The Center for Research Libraries, 6050 South Kenwood Avenue, Chicago IL 60637.

All suggestions for filming should be sent to the MELA Secretary/Treasurer, James Weinberger, at Princeton.

Submitted by John Eilts

Ohio State Exchange

A new list of Arabic, Persian and Turkish materials for exchange from Ohio State is now available from Dona S. Straley, Middle East Librarian, 308 Main Library, The Ohio State University, 1858 Neil Ave. Mall, Columbus, Ohio, 43210.

Index Islamicus 1981-1985

The five-yearly volumes of the Index Islamicus bibliography, covering the period 1981-1985, are now being prepared, for publication in 1988. The editor would be grateful to receive details of relevant publications--articles and books in European languages on any aspect of the Muslim world--which have not already been listed in Quarterly Index Islamicus, so that coverage may be as comprehensive as possible. Details should be sent to: G.J. Roper, Islamic Bibliography Unit, University Library, West Road, Cambridge, CB3 9DR, England.

International Association of Orientalist Librarians Bulletin

Bulletin no. 28-29 (1986) of the International Association of Orientalist Librarians has just been issued. In addition to numerous items of bibliographic interest to Mideast specialists the issue also contains an article on the Syrian National Library by E. Christian Filstrup and book reviews by Caroline Williams, Larry Barry, Hans Panosky, Jan Weryho, Miroslav Krek, George Courogenis, William C. Hickman and Clyde R. Mark. For membership information, contact William S. Wong, Asian Librarian, University of Illinois Library, 1408 West Gregory Drive, Urbana, Ill. 61801.

MEMBER NEWS

Michael W. Albin, Library of Congress, is the 1987 recipient of the Martinus Nijhoff International West European Specialist Study Grant. The grant will make it possible for him to travel to Europe to pursue study of the publishing patterns of refugee and exile groups from Afghanistan, Iran and Suriname. The grant is funded by Martinus Nijhoff, Booksellers and Subscription Agents and administered by the Western European Specialists Section of the Association of College and Research Libraries.

Meryle A. Gaston, Near East Librarian/Assistant Curator at New York University, will be working at the American Center for Oriental Research in Amman, Jordan. She will develop an acquisitions policy for the center library, assist in establishing a computerized cataloging system linking the collection with other libraries and teach basic library skills to Jordanian students and to other researchers.

Mona Khalidi, previously reference librarian at the New York Public Library's Mid-Manhattan History and Social Sciences Department, is now working as an Arabic cataloger at the University of Chicago Regenstein Library.

JOB ANNOUNCEMENTSLibrarian, Middle East, University of Arizona

The University of Arizona Library is seeking a librarian to select, catalog (both original and copy), and provide reference service for materials in Arabic, Persian and Hebrew. This person will work under the direction of the Head Oriental Studies Librarian and the Head Catalog Librarian. Active participation in both departments as well as membership on Library committees is expected.

Applicants for the position must be graduates of an ALA accredited library school. Other requirements include: minimum of 2 years of cataloging experience; knowledge of AACR2 and the MARC formats; experience with OCLC or other bibliographic utility; fluency in Arabic; good oral and written communication skills; demonstrated ability to be flexible and innovative. Reading ability in Persian and/or Hebrew, subject background in Middle Eastern studies, experience in reference and collection development with Middle Eastern materials (particularly LC's Cooperative Acquisitions Program for Middle East), are desirable.

The beginning professional salary is \$20,000; a higher salary can be negotiated depending upon qualifications and experience. Librarians at the University of Arizona have academic professional status, are eligible for continuing status, are voting members of the faculty and may take up to 24 days professional leave per year. They have 22 days paid vacation, 12 days sick leave and 10 holidays per year. A standard package of fringe benefits is available.

The position is available January 1, 1988. Applications received before October 15, 1987 will be given first consideration. Send letter of application, resume and the names of three references to: Shelley Phipps, Acting University Librarian, University of Arizona Library, Tucson, AZ 85721.

The University of Arizona is an Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer.

Islamic Studies Librarian, Univ. of California, Santa Barbara

Librarians at UCSB are eleven month, professional academic appointees who accrue vacation at the rate of two days per month and sick leave at the rate of one day per month. All

librarians are members of the Librarians' Association of the University of California (LAUC).

Islamic studies at UCSB emphasize religious studies and social sciences, particularly history. The present Islamic collection numbers about 8000 volumes, of which 2500 are Arabic, with another 5500 volumes in Western European and English languages.

The Islamic Studies librarian catalogs Islamic materials and advises Acquisitions and Serials departments about vendors, publishers and other pertinent issues.

Assesses, manages and develops the library's Islamic collection, manages an allocated acquisitions budget, establishes and maintains vigorous liaison with faculty and graduate students. Provides in-depth reference service in Islamic Studies and may work at the Social Science and Humanities Reference Desk. Other responsibilities may be assigned. Salary range: Assistant/Associate Librarian \$24,012-\$42,264. The position is available beginning September 1987.

Qualifications: graduate degree from an ALA accredited library school, academic training in Arabic/Islamic studies, proficiency in reading (and transliterating) Arabic. Knowledge of Hebrew desirable. Experience in cataloging and collection management, preferably in an academic research library. Knowledge of appropriate literature, publishers, vendors. Demonstrated ability to work with faculty and colleagues.

Application: Candidates should supply with their first letter a complete statement of their qualifications, a list of Arabic courses taken, a full resume of their education and relevant experience and names of three references who can attest to their qualifications for this position. Open until filled.

Letters and documents should be addressed to: Margaret Deacon, Associate University Librarian, Personnel, Library, University of California, Santa Barbara, California 93106.

The University of California is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer and invites application from all who meet the stated qualifications. This position is in the bargaining unit which is represented by the University Federation of Librarians, University Council, American Federation of Teachers.

UCLA Jewish Studies Bibliographer

The University of California at Los Angeles is seeking a Jewish Studies Bibliographer (to be a member of the Bibliographers Group library unit). Salary range is \$24,012-\$49,696, depending upon qualifications and experience.

The Bibliographer will be responsible for current and retrospective acquisitions relating to Jewish studies regardless of country of publication. Acquisitions activity involves the initiation of individual orders as well as the monitoring of approval plans and the review of gift materials. The Jewish Studies Bibliographer maintains close contact with the faculty and students of the Near Eastern Languages Department as well as with faculty and students from other departments who may have an interest in Jewish Studies. The Bibliographer may be called upon to participate in teaching, research, or other academic programs. The Bibliographer is expected to contribute to general library and university service, and is encouraged to be active within the profession and to pursue independent scholarly interests.

Considerable language abilities are required for this position: Hebrew is required, and Yiddish, and one or more Western European languages are preferred. Demonstrated successful experience as a professional librarian, particularly in collection development and cataloging, is desirable. A demonstrated ability to work effectively with faculty, students and library staff is essential. A record of involvement in selected scholarly activities (research, publications, and/or teaching) is desirable.

UCLA is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. We encourage all qualified persons to apply.

Contact Dr. Rita A. Scherrei, Director of Administrative Systems and Personnel Services, University Research Library, UCLA, 405 Hildegard Avenue, Los Angeles, California 90024-1575. The application letter should include a complete statement of qualifications, a full resume of education and relevant experience, and the names of at least three persons who are knowledgeable about the applicant's qualifications for this position. Candidates applying by February 1, 1988 will be given first consideration.

CONTRIBUTORS TO MELA NOTES

All contributions related to Middle Eastern Librarianship are welcome. Because of space limitations we ask that articles be limited to a maximum of 7 double spaced pages. Book reviews should be no longer than 500-700 words, or 2-3 double spaced pages. All submissions should be complete and ready for publication in a standard journal format, with footnotes clearly indicated.

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

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

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Undergraduate Library
Serials Dept.
Mr. Player
500 Howard Place
Washington, D.C. 20059

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Bloomington, IN 47405

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75005 Paris, France

Inst. of Developing Economics
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42 Ichigaya-Honmura-cho
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College of Library and
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Orientbuchhandlung am
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Library - Serials
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Portland, OR 97207

Serials Division
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St. John's University Library
Serials
Grand Central & Utopia Parkways
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Periodicals - Beatley Library
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Central Library
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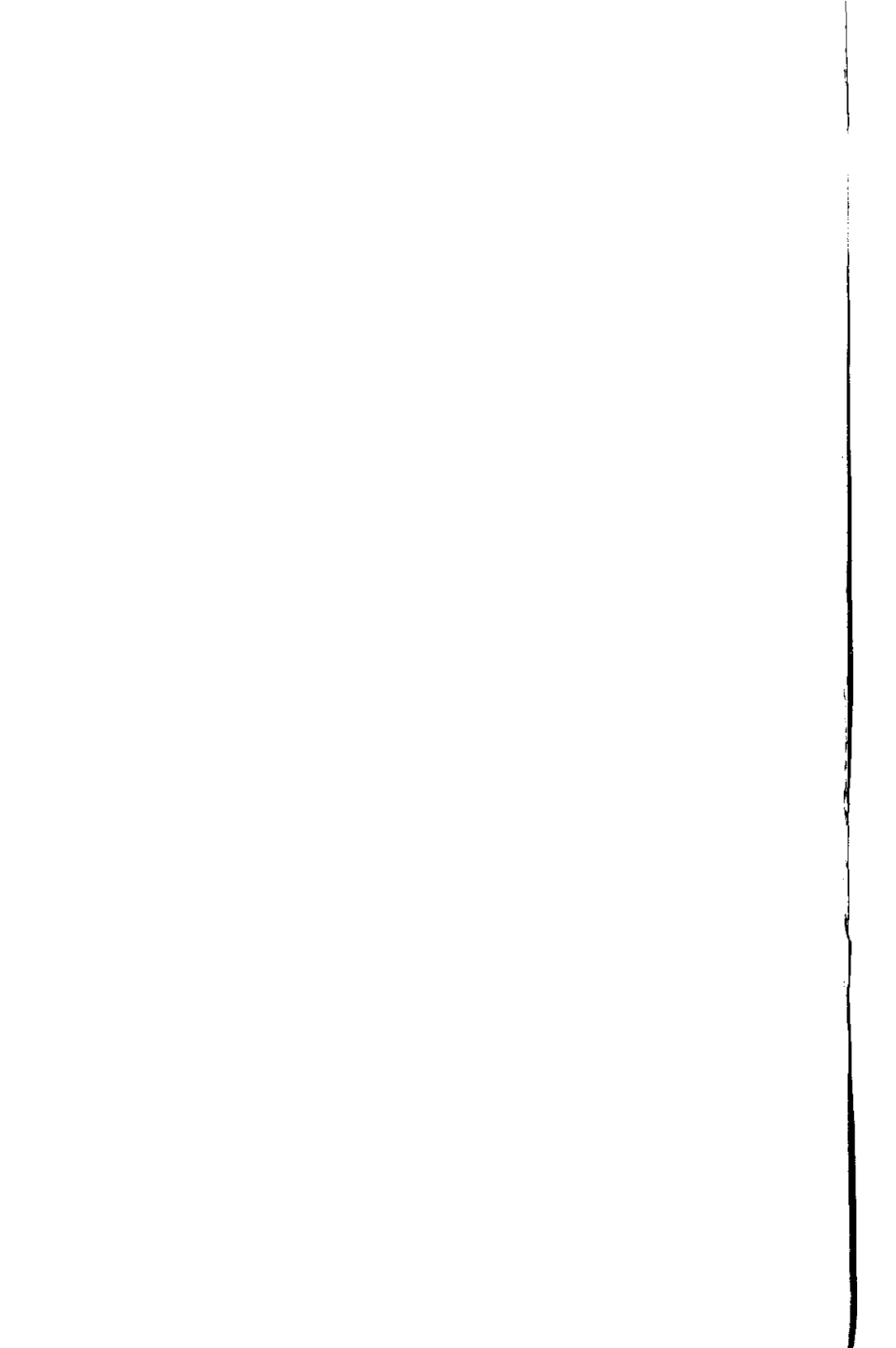
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