3.22. The History of Bayhaqi: editorial practices for Early New Persian texts (JJW)

Abū al-Fadl Muḥammad b. Ḥusayn Bayhaqi (385–470 AH/995–1077 CE) was a high chancery official under the Ghaznavid Sultans Maḥmūd (reigned 389–421 AH/999–1030 CE) and Mašʿūd (reigned 421–433 AH/1030–1041 CE). Ghazna then was certainly not the provincial Afghan backwater that the Ghazni of today has become. It was a place with a thriving culture, where a few decades earlier Firdawsī had come to offer Sultan Maḥmūd his Šāhmāna. Manuscript Leiden, Leiden University Library, Or. 437, one of the oldest preserved illuminated Arabic manuscripts, was written in Ghazna and dates from Bayhaqi’s lifetime. It shows the outstanding quality of book production the copyists of Ghazna were capable of. During the reign of Sultan Maḥmūd’s son Ābd al-Raṣūd (440–443 AH/1049–1051 CE) he was appointed head of the chancery, but he fell from favour and was imprisoned. After his release in or after 451 AH/1059 CE he did not try to be reinstated at the court. Instead he worked on his huge history of the Ghaznavid dynasty, of which, according to later authors, only volumes 5–10 out of a total of thirty volumes have been preserved. These remnants have, in course of time, acquired the collective title of Tārīḥ-i Bayhaqi, ‘the History of Bayhaqi’. The title ‘Annals of Bayhaqi’ would be more appropriate. Ābd Nafīṣ (1940–1953) has preferred the title Tārīḥ-i Mašʿūdī, the ‘History of Mašʿūd’ as the preserved parts of the Tārīḥ-i Bayhaqi only contain episodes from the history of Sultan Mašʿūd. Gilbert Lazard (1963) mentions the Tārīḥ-i Bayhaqi as the most important historical text in Persian of the fifth century AH/eleventh century CE. Ehsan Yarshater, in his foreword to Bosworth’s translation (Yarshater 2011), goes even further: ‘arguably the best known and most liked of all Persian histories'. Storey (1927) mentions sixteen manuscripts extant, Lazard (1963) mentions some twenty, and the count by Yāḥaqqī and Sāyyidī (2009) has exceeded the number of fifty manuscripts, none of them very old, though. It shows the progress of bibliography.

The language of the ‘History’ is a relatively old form of Persian, which in the mid-fifth century had only recently been emancipated from Arabic as a literary language. Old forms of Persian are the subject of Lazard’s monograph of 1963, and Bayhaqi’s ‘History’ takes an important place among the 72 texts that Lazard selected for his research. The importance of the ‘History’ lies in the fact that we have precise knowledge about the person of the author, who is exactly dated and located. Another reason for the fact of the relatively ample attention that the ‘History’ has received in the past century and a half is its outstanding narrative quality. The only drawback in all this is that there do not seem to exist old manuscripts of the text. Storey gives an enumeration of the manuscripts known at his time and indicates which were used for the early editions of the ‘History’.

The ‘History’ has enjoyed the attention of a large number of editors. W.H. Morley first published the text in Calcutta in 1862, on the basis of three manuscripts dating from the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries (Morley 1862). The critical apparatus is almost non-existent in his edition, nor is it the ambition of the series Bibliotheca Indica in which it was published to go deep into textual history. It does not give more than a few variant readings of proper names. There is no editor’s introduction (the edition was published by Nassau Lees after Morley’s death), nor any index. It is the plain text, just that.

Then there is the lithograph edition from Tehran of 1307 AH/1889–1890 CE brought out by Aḥmad Adīb Pīšāwārī, which cannot have been critical either. The lithograph editions that were for a while very popular in the Middle East and beyond are not much more than manuscripts in printed form and they usually represent a late, and not seldom defective, unreliable and contaminated, stage in the transmission of a text. The lithograph edition of the ‘History’ is no exception to this: it is probably based on manuscript Tehran, Ktābih-ye Mağles, 229, which is dated 1265 AH/1848–1849 CE, or on a textual witness closely related to the Mağles manuscript. Apart from the text, it contains linguistic and historical commentary and some variant readings and remarks on moral and philosophical issues. Some editorial work has evidently been done on the text in the lithograph edition, with the result that it is more readable than Morley’s edition, but that does not automatically make the lithograph more authentic. In fact, in problematic passages it frequently leaves the reader in the lurch (Lazard 1963, 77). Smoothing the text is a feature in some of the later editions as well. Lazard convincingly establishes the date of publication of the lithograph as 1307 AH/1889–1890 CE, rejecting the 1305 AH/1887–1888 CE that some bibliographies have (Lazard 1963, 76). The former is the year of publication, the latter the year in which the model manuscript after which the lithograph was printed was completed.

* I gratefully acknowledge the valuable advice for choosing Bayhaqi’s ‘History’ as the subject of the present survey, given to me by Prof. J.T.P. de Brujin of Leiden, my first teacher of Persian, way back in 1964.
Next is the three-volume edition by Sa’īd Nafsi (Tehran 1319–1332 ș./1940–1953 CE). It is based on the two earlier editions and on a number of manuscripts in private collections, which are not of great value (Lazard 1963, 77). As if to compensate for the lack of quality of his textual witnesses, Nafsi provides a very detailed critical apparatus and provides a wealth of notes. A few years later (Tehran 1342–1343 ș./1963–1964 CE), Nafsi brought out a companion publication in two volumes containing an edition of fragments quoted by later authors from the parts of Bayhaqi’s Annals which are now lost, Dar pirâmîn-i Târih-i Bayhaqî, ‘Around the History of Bayhaqi’. Nafsi’s edition remained the best documented survey of variant readings of the text till the edition by Muḥammad Ga’far Yaḥaqqi and Mahdî Sayyîdî of 1388 ș./2009 CE.

The edition by Qâsim Ğanî and ‘Alî Akbar Fayyâd was published in Tehran in 1324 ș./1945 CE. It contains the entire extant text of the Târih-i Bayhaqî with an introduction, notes, and indexes. It is based on all earlier editions, on the Maqâṣî manuscript plus on a manuscript in Mashhad (now known as Aṣānâ Qud, 14105) which is dated by provenance to before 1075 AH/1664–1665 CE. It provides a rather heavily reworked version, ‘less rich and less adventurous’ than Nafsi’s edition as Lazard has it, and it was destined for a general readership. Lazard primarily based his linguistic analysis of the Târih-i Bayhaqî on the edition by Nafsi, because of its rich critical apparatus, with additional references to the edition by Ğanî and Fayyâd (1945). The latter brought out another edition of the text (Mashhad 1350 ș./1971 CE), which saw a second edition published in Mashhad in 1355 ș./1976 CE. It contains an introduction and incomplete notes (Yusofî 1988), and the second edition in addition contains a long glossary by Yaḥaqqi, who, in 2009, brought out what seems, at least for the time being, the definitive edition of the ‘History’ (Yaḥaqqi – Sayyîdî 2009).

An edition of selections of the ‘History’, Guzîda-yi Târih-i Bayhaqî, was published by Muḥammad Dâbîr Siyâqî in Tehran in 1348 ș./1969 CE. The edition, Târih-i Bayhaqî, by Ğalî Ihsânî (Tehran 1358 ș./1979 CE) seems to be based on the editions by Fayyâd, but I could not ascertain this, neither edition being at my disposal.

The edition of Ğalîl Ğaţîb Rahbar ({Târih-i Bayhaqî, 3rd edition, Tehran 1373 ș./1994 CE, I–III) is almost entirely silent on the editorial method applied and the textual witnesses employed. Rahbar’s introduction almost exclusively focuses on the content of the Târih-i Bayhaqî. Only on pages xxxvi–xxxvii of his introduction Rahbar gives a list of the previous editions of the text (Calcutta, the Tehran lithograph, the Nafsi edition, the edition by Ğanî and Fayyâd, with its two later versions). It is a contribution to bibliography without any ambition in textual criticism. At the end of the third volume the edition does have a glossary and indexes. The textual foundations of this edition remain unmentioned, which in the Middle East, and maybe elsewhere as well, means that they were probably one or more of the earlier printed editions.

The latest edition of the Târih-i Bayhaqî is the one that was brought out by Muḥammad Ga’far Yaḥaqqi and Mahdî Sayyîdî (Tehran 1388 ș./2009 CE). It contains, apart from the text, a long introduction, and notes and indexes. The introduction does not go very deep into the textual criticism of the two editors, but it provides a useful survey, with many illustrations, of the twenty-four manuscripts used (pp. cxi–cxxx). These manuscripts are 1. the lithograph edition of Pîşâwârî; 2. the Calcutta edition by Morley; 3. the Mashhad manuscript that was first used by Ğanî and Fayyâd; 4. the Maqâṣî manuscript that was already used in several earlier editions; 5. by implication an ‘unimportant manuscript’ that Fayyâd had had at his disposal; 6. manuscript London, BL, Or. 1928, without date; 7. manuscript Paris, BN, Arabe 3224; 8. microfilm 8734 in the Central Library of Tehran University, dated 1288 ș. (1871–1872 CE); 9. by implication yet another manuscript that had been used by Fayyâd; 10. the edition by Nafsi; 11. manuscript Tehran University, Central Library, 5933, a copy the lithograph edition by Pîşâwârî; 12. manuscript Tehran University, Central Library, 6569, dated 1169 ș. (1755–1756 CE), which had already figured under other references in the editions of Nafsi and Fayyâd; 13. by implication yet another, unspecified, manuscript from among those used by Fayyâd; 14. manuscript Tehran, Ketâbânê-yê Maqâṣî, 61334; 15. manuscript Tehran, Maqâṣî, 3139, dated 1296 AH (1879 CE); 16. manuscript Tehran, Maqâṣî, 40762, dated 1208 ș. (1793–1794 CE); 17. manuscript Tehran, Maqâṣî 61937, dated 1209 ș. (1794–1795 CE); 18. manuscript London, BL, Or. 455 and Or. 456; 19. manuscript London, India Office, 3736, dated 1907 CE; 20. manuscript London, BL, Or. 1925, not dated; 21. manuscript London, BL, Or. 1927, not dated; 22. manuscript Tehran University, Central Library, 2983; 23. manuscript London, BL, Or. 1926; 24. manuscript Kabul, National Museum, 3417 (21/14). The editors provide some general characteristics about their textual witnesses, and in their
extensive critical apparatus they note down numerous variant readings. They have hardly made any effort at textual criticism. Any Lachmannian scholar would immediately have eliminated the earlier printed editions, and also, to name but one example, no. 11 of the list, a copy of the lithograph edition. There is no attempt to stemmatology. Yāḥaqī and Sayyidī give as their main reason (p. cxxxv) for bringing out their edition their wish to clean away the numerous mistakes and alterations that in course of time had become attached to the text. Whether this is at all possible when one has only recent copies, mostly of the nineteenth century, at one’s disposal, remains to be seen. It is evident from the wealth of variants that Yāḥaqī and Sayyidī had the ambition to replace Nafisi’s edition of 1940–1953.

Of all editions of the ‘History’ should be said that they show the four extra letters that Persian phonology adds to the twenty-eight letters of the Arabic alphabet. They also normalize the ḡāl into a dāl whenever modern orthography makes that necessary. This entirely unhistorical procedure is not limited to the Tārīḫ-i Bayhaḵī, however. It is common practice among Persianists, both in Iran and abroad. The casual observer that I am in these matters remains amazed by this.

The most recent work done on the entire text of the Tārīḫ-i Bayhaḵī, is the annotated translation into English Abu ’l-Faḍl Beyhaḵī, The History of Beyhaḵī (The History of Sultan Mas’ud of Ghazna, 1030–1041), by C.E. Bosworth, in the revision by Mohsen Ashtiany, and published in three volumes in Boston and Washington, DC in 2011. This work is not primarily concerned anymore with the textual criticism of the Persian text. Its ambition is to enlarge the readership of the ‘History’ to those who have no command of the Persian language. The lengthy introduction in the first volume places the content of the ‘History’ in a historical context. The third volume entirely consists of explanatory notes, which only in an indirect way are useful for textual criticism.

References
Edited by
Alessandro Bausi (General Editor)
Pier Giorgio Borbone
Françoise Briquel-Chatonnet
Paola Buzi
Jost Gippert
Caroline Macé
Marilena Maniaci
Zisis Melissakis
Laura E. Parodi
Witold Witakowski

Project Editor
Eugenia Sokolinski

Comparative Oriental Manuscript Studies

An Introduction
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Laura E. Parodi
Witold Witakowski

Project editor
Eugenia Sokolinski

COMSt
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Contributors

Felix Albrecht, Georg-August-Universität – Akademie der Wissenschaften zu Göttingen, Germany
Per Ambrosiani, Umeå universitet, Sweden
Tara Andrews, Universität Bern / Université de Berne, Switzerland
Patrick Andrist, Universität Basel – Université de Fribourg, Switzerland
Ewa Balicka-Witakowska, Uppsala universitet, Sweden
Alessandro Bausi, Universität Hamburg, Germany
Malachi Beit-Arié, Hebrew University of Jerusalem – Israel Academy of Sciences, Israel
Daniele Bianconi, Sapienza Università di Roma, Italy
André Binggeli, Centre national de la recherche scientifique, Paris, France
Pier Giorgio Borbone, Università di Pisa, Italy
Claire Bosè-Tiessé, Centre national de la recherche scientifique, Paris, France
Françoise Briquel-Chatonnet, Centre national de la recherche scientifique, Paris, France
Paola Buzi, Sapienza Università di Roma, Italy
Valentina Calzolari, Université de Genève, Switzerland
Alberto Cantera, Universidad de Salamanca, Spain
Laurent Capron, Centre national de la recherche scientifique, Paris, France
Ralph M. Cleminson, Winchester, United Kingdom
Marie Cornu, Centre national de la recherche scientifique, Paris, France
Marie Cronier, Centre national de la recherche scientifique, Paris, France
Lorenzo Cuppi, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium
Javier del Barco, Consejo superior de investigaciones científicas, Madrid, Spain
Johannes den Heijer, Université catholique de Louvain, Belgium
François Déroche, École Pratique des Hautes Études, Paris, France
Alain Desreumaux, Centre national de la recherche scientifique, Paris, France
Arianna D’Ottone, Sapienza Università di Roma, Italy
Desmond Durkin-Meisterernst, Berlin-Brandenburgische Akademie der Wissenschaften, Germany
Stephen Emmel, Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster, Germany
Edna Engel, The Hebrew Paleography Project, Jerusalem, Israel
Zuzana Gažáková, Univerzita Komenského v Bratislave, Slovak Republic
Antonia Giannouli, Πανεπιστήμιο Κύπρου / University of Cyprus, Nicosia, Cyprus
Jost Gippert, Goethe-Universität, Frankfurt am Main, Germany
Alessandro Gori, Københavns Universitet, Denmark
Oliver Hahn, Universität Hamburg – Bundesanstalt für Materialforschung und -prüfung, Berlin, Germany
Paul Hepworth, Istanbul, Turkey
Stéphane Ipert, Arles, France
Grigory Kessel, Philipps-Universität Marburg, Germany
Dicrkan Kouymjian, California State University, Fresno, USA – Paris, France
Paolo La Spisa, Università degli studi di Genova, Italy
Isabelle de Lambertye, Centre national de la recherche scientifique, Paris, France
Hugo Lundhaug, Universitetet i Oslo, Norway
Caroline Macé, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium
Marilena Maniaci, Università degli studi di Cassino e del Lazio meridionale, Italy
Michael Marx, Berlin-Brandenburgische Akademie der Wissenschaften, Germany
Manfred Mayer, Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz, Austria
Contributors

Alessandro Mengozzi, Università degli studi di Torino, Italy
Joseph Moukarzel, Université Saint-Esprit de Kaslik, Lebanon
Sébastien Moureau, F.R.S. (FNRS) – Université catholique de Louvain, Belgium
Mauro Nobili, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA
Renate Nölker, Bundesanstalt für Materialforschung und -prüfung, Berlin, Germany
Denis Nositsin, Universität Hamburg, Germany
Maria-Teresa Ortega Monasterio, Consejo superior de investigaciones científicas, Madrid, Spain
Bernard Outtier, Centre national de la recherche scientifique, Paris, France
Laura E. Parodi, Genoa, Italy
Tamara Pataridze, Université catholique de Louvain, Belgium
Irmeli Perho, Det Kongelige Bibliotek, Copenhagen, Denmark
Delio Vania Proverbio, Biblioteca Apostolica Vaticana, Vatican
Ira Rabin, Bundesanstalt für Materialforschung und -prüfung, Berlin – Universität Hamburg, Germany
Arietta Revithi, Βιβλιοθήκη της Βουλής των Ελλήνων / Hellenic Parliament Library, Athens, Greece
Valentina Sagaria Rossi, Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei, Rome, Italy
Nikolas Sarris, Τεχνολογικό Εκπαιδευτικό Ίδρυμα Ιονίων Νήσων / TEI of the Ionian Islands, Zakynthos, Greece
Karin Scheper, Universiteit Leiden, The Netherlands
Andrea Schmidt, Université catholique de Louvain, Belgium
Denis Searby, Stockholms universitet, Sweden
Lara Sels, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium
David Sklare, Ben-Zvi Institute, Jerusalem, Israel
Eugenia Sokolinska, Universität Hamburg, Germany
Wido van Peursen, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Annie Vernay-Nouri, Bibliothèque nationale de France, Paris, France
François Vinourd, Centre de conservation du livre, Arles, France
Sever J. Voicu, Augustinianum, Vatican
Witold Witkowski, Uppsala universitet, Sweden
Jan Just Witkam, Universiteit Leiden, The Netherlands
Ugo Zanetti, Chevetogne, Belgium
Preface

The present introductory handbook on comparative oriental manuscript studies is the main achievement of the Research Networking Programme "Comparative Oriental Manuscript Studies" (COMSt), funded by the European Science Foundation from June 2009 to May 2014. Within the framework of the five-year programme, several hundred scholars from ‘central’ as well as ‘marginal’ fields related to manuscript study and research had the opportunity of exchanging ideas and discussing diverse approaches, looking for common ground and a better understanding of the others’ reasons and methodology in manuscript studies: from codicology to palaeography, from textual criticism and scholarly editing to cataloguing as well as conservation and preservation issues, and always taking into account the increasing importance of digital scholarship and the natural sciences.

Out of the larger community of COMSt members and associates, a smaller group of scholars and experts have enthusiastically accepted the challenge of contributing one or more pieces to this handbook, being convinced of the importance of presenting in a compact form not only the state of the art but a coordinated reflection on a wide range of selected themes on comparative manuscript studies. Working together, sometimes in unpredictable grouping constellations, they carried out their task to the best of their abilities. For all this, all those who have volunteered to contribute to this enterprise deserve the deepest gratitude.

The handbook is the result of joint and cooperative work both within each of the five Teams of the programme and across the Teams. Each Team was directed and coordinated by a Team-Leader (and in some cases by a Co-Leader) who assumed the major responsibility of the work. The central management of the project was provided by the Project Coordinator in Hamburg, and the general supervision, by an international Steering Committee representing the countries and their respective funding institutions (national research councils and/or academies as well as single universities in some cases) which made the COMSt project possible through the European Science Foundation. They are, in alphabetical order, Belgium, Cyprus, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Israel, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Slovakia, Sweden, and Switzerland. It has been my honour to chair the Steering Committee since December 2009, when my predecessor and co-applicant for the COMSt project, Siegbert Uhlig, resigned. During the second phase of the project, which was more directly focused on the preparation of the handbook, an Editorial Board composed of the Team Leaders and a few members of the Steering Committee took the most important decisions related to this task. Throughout the project runtime, the organizational umbrella was provided by the European Science Foundation as the funding institution and by its Standing Committee for the Humanities.

Peer reviewing was a major asset of the network. Besides undergoing the obligatory mid-term and final evaluations by the European Science Foundation, the COMSt programme continuously subjected itself to an internal review process. It is now time to face a more crucial trial, namely the verdict of our readers as to whether the cooperative and comparative approach is indeed so sound, fruitful and useful that it might set standards for future research. What is certain even now is that many people who have taken part in COMSt share the feeling that the scholarly and human experience acquired during this project will last a long time.

Some explanation is due to the larger community of all those who have participated in COMSt activities in the last few years on how the work was actually conducted. We may certainly state that neither the Steering Committee nor the Editorial Board have ever reduced ‘formalities’ in the technical sense to ‘simple formalities’. In projects such as COMSt, formalities are matters of substance indeed, and they were approached accordingly. Every application for a workshop or a travel grant, report, minutes, every draft submitted for the present volume, all were openly and thoroughly discussed, without any pre-determined result. There may be projects where any question is settled in a two-minute discussion, or even without any discussion at all. In the case of COMSt, this was never the case—even if in some cases this might have caused some inconvenience. True collegiality—sharing responsibilities, the search for unanimity wherever possible or at least for widely shared compromises, without concealing divergences and open questions—has always been the leading work principle in COMSt.

The community of scholars that cooperated in the Comparative Oriental Manuscript Studies Research Networking Programme was inspired right from the beginning by the common expectation that an agreed approach can provide a significant contribution to progress in manuscript research, both on a general, interdisciplinary level and with regard to the individual disciplines of manuscript book culture; this community has therefore volunteered to accomplish a common task deemed important and urgent. The academic backgrounds of the COMSt members are different but, along with their respective differences and various ideas and attitudes, they have shared some basic convictions, which in some cases were challenged or looked upon in a new or different light in the course of these years. The intensive activity of exchanging ideas, experiences and points of view has eventually served to create a common language and to focus on the topics that were selected as relevant and crucial in the comparative perspective. The many core-points where the practice of the COMSt activity and interchange deployed its fruitful results with regard to achievements and contents, reveal themselves in the chapters of the present manual.
Preface

Not only do COMSt associates come from different nationalities and research disciplines, they differ also in regard to their formal academic role and status: there are full professors, professores emeriti, even honoris causa laureati, members of venerable academies, side by side with young emerging researchers, as well as non-academic professionals who mostly work outside the narrower university circles. As a result, new ideas and research concepts have been developed by many, if not all, participants and contributors. Moreover, some of the early stage researchers involved may even have acquired better career chances thanks to their active participation and to the contacts established through the programme.

The differences regarded also the degree of challenge involved, even for people with the same or similar academic status. For some of them, being involved in a project with a comparative perspective of this type may have been just one more among many contributions already delivered within the framework of international and cooperative endeavours. This is true for all those whose discipline was well advanced before in terms of available handbooks, comprehensive syntheses, introductory works, as well as methodological standardization, or first-hand work carried out in the field—for example, some codicologists who were in the forefront of our work, and generally participants coming from fields with a stronger methodological orientation. For them, contributing might have meant mainly a question of selection, or of putting new accents and fine-tuning. For those who best interpreted their project role, the COMSt project was another intriguing challenge. Others, however, had to start from next to nothing in some cases, building upon scant information available only in less accessible languages, or upon very elementary previous research, or working with a highly restricted profile and with special linguistic prerequisites. The COMSt undertaking was anything but a minor task. Contributing to this endeavour meant the collecting of data scattered across a number of publications and selecting and narrowing down all essential data to a concise synthesis, in a clear and comprehensible form of presentation and, what was even more crucial, in a comparative perspective. In many cases this implied undertaking first-hand research ad hoc, starting from catalogues or, in some cases, from the manuscripts themselves, sometimes even from still unexplored collections requiring hard field work.

Another important factor to be considered was the need, agreed by the members, to produce an introductory handbook that could be used by a wide audience, by students as well as by established scholars on manuscripts in different fields looking for reliable and up-to-date information. The profile of the handbook therefore remains that of a didactic and elementary work, with the ambition to cover, with a consistency and coherence never attempted before, the whole spectrum of manuscript cultures envisaged by COMSt (see below for this). Starting from the example of some comprehensive comparative handbooks of the last decade, each one with its own merits (for example Maniaci 2002a; Agati 2003; Géhin 2005; Agati 2009), our intention was to go beyond them in focusing on oriental manuscript cultures in an unrestricted perspective, where the consideration of ‘materiality’ is not intentionally regarded as opposed or detrimental or alternative to textual investigation, and vice versa, and where everything is put at the service of a better ‘understanding’ of manuscript cultures (including the textual heritage they carry).

This handbook is neither intended to be exclusively a Nachschlagewerk nor a Sachlexikon nor an Encyclopaedia. Articulated in chapters, it still aims at being, especially in its introductory sections, a book that can be read from the beginning to the end. As we all well know from our own experience, it is anything but a simple task to avoid specialisms and, at the same time, not to miss the most essential data. Since the very beginning of our work, we have attempted not to include and consider in our handbook every single detail for every manuscript culture considered, but only and precisely those which appeared important in the light of our comparative (or even contrastive) perspective, aiming at a comparison against a vast and various background.

Thinking more broadly, our project was also a serious attempt to defend and preserve the COMSt-related fields within the academic world. We know that disciplines and fields are often determined and justified by the mere existence of an easily accessible handbook or, in the better cases, sets of handbooks, textbooks, series and journals. The lack of comprehensive introductory works which are reliable, up-to-date, of broad interest and accessible to a wide audience and might be used in teaching, has a direct impact on the survival of the ‘small subjects’ most of the COMSt-related disciplines pertain to. The decision to make the COMSt handbook freely accessible online and printable on demand in a paper version at an affordable price was strategic in this respect, and not just meant to meet the prescriptions of the European Science Foundation. We deliberately declined to produce an extremely expensive work that might be bought only by a few libraries and research institutions; on the other hand, a plain electronic edition only to be accessed and downloaded as a PDF file was not regarded as a desirable solution either. Dealing with two millennia of manuscripts and codices, we did not want to dismiss the possibility of circulating a real book in our turn.

It remains, hopefully, only to say,

Lector intende: laetaberis.

Alessandro Bausi
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There are many persons and institutions who must be thanked for their work in the COMSt project, including people who advised early in the application phase. The first is Siegbert Uhlig, who was the main applicant in the earliest phase of the project, doing everything to prepare and submit a successful application. He also acted at the very beginning as the Chair of the Steering Committee. At the very beginning, and in all subsequent phases of the project, in her new capacity of COMSt Coordinator, Eugenia Sokolinski displayed her skills and dedication: she must be deeply thanked for her competence in all matters of the managing of the project, from practical organization to the redaction of minutes, reports and budget planning, and for editing and typesetting all COMSt publications, including all the issues of the COMSt Newsletter as well as this handbook.

Some of the COMSt members volunteered beyond the limit of their individual contributions to the manual. Besides the general and chapter editors, the language tradition editors Bernard Outtier and Lara Sels deserve a particular mention. I am deeply grateful to Stephen Emmel and Ralph Cleminson for the thorough English language revision and to Sever Voicu for the control of the final bibliography to this volume. I would also like to thank Cristina Vertain for setting up the bibliographic database and Sophia Dege for her assistance in the consistency checking of the bibliography.

Several European Science Foundation science and administrative officers helped us in keeping fruitful relationships with the funding institution, at times when restriction of funding also caused serious inconveniences and disappointment. We would like to thank in particular the administrative officers Madelise Blumenroeder and Marie-Laure Schneider and the science officers Arianna Ciula, Barry Dixon, Rifka Weedaizen and Etienne Franchineau. In particular, Arianna Ciula played a special role from the very beginning of the network, and her involvement lasted beyond her employment with the European Science Foundation.

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Of these institutions, the University of Hamburg must be thanked in particular, since it not only supported the programme financially, contributing the missing sum necessary to launch the programme back in 2009, but it also provided the headquarters, offering offices for the Chair and the Coordinator, server space for the web applications as well as logistic support in the organization of the two major programme conferences (the Launching in 2009 and the Final in 2014).

I have certainly forgotten or unwittingly omitted too many important points, and for this I sincerely apologize.

Alessandro Bausi
Notes to the reader

A series of editorial choices have shaped the present handbook. While most are clear and transparent, some may need explanation.

The language of the book is British English, in the standard suggested by the New Oxford Style Manual (Oxford: Oxford University Press, third impression, 2012). The style is reflected in the orthography (including capitalization) and punctuation throughout the volume.

Some exceptions to the Oxford style have been necessary. A notable exception is the bibliographic format: for the sake of clarity and economy, we have adopted the author-date referencing method in the text; the works cited are listed alphabetically by author in the general bibliography at the end of the volume. For works with three or more authors, citations have been abbreviated to the name of the first author followed by 'et al.'; in the final bibliography, the names of the co-authors are provided between a pair of curly brackets. In order to keep works by the same author together in the bibliography, the spelling of names has been standardized, with the variants provided in square brackets. Authors bearing the same surname appear separately in the final bibliography; in order to help the readers identify the right title, the initial or, if this is not sufficient for the disambiguation, an abbreviation of the first name is supplied after the surname whenever the work is cited in the handbook.

In order to increase the readability of the volume, and underline its handbook character, it has been decided not to use footnotes, with the exception of acknowledgements at the beginning of some chapters or sections. Usability was also the reason behind the decision to keep the number of abbreviations to a minimum; the list of abbreviations used can be found on p. xxii. Practical use is further facilitated by a number of internal cross-references to paragraphs or chapters within the handbook.

The authors and editors have tried hard to illustrate aspects that may be difficult to put in words by appropriate figures and tables. The overwhelming majority of images in this volume are previously unpublished. The illustrations are numbered continuously, the designation always beginning with the number of the chapter and the subchapter in which the figure is to be found (for example, the first figure in Chapter 1, subchapter 9, is referred to as fig. 1.9.1, etc.). The maps showing the approximate extent of the individual manuscript traditions in the General introduction § 3 are numbered continuously as Map 1, Map 2, etc. A list of all figures, tables, and maps is included on p. xxiii.

The readers are further assisted by the indexes of languages and traditions, place names, persons and works, institutions and projects, and manuscripts and manuscript collections. The general index concludes the volume.

Abbreviations

| AG | Georgian era | fig. (figs.) | figure(s) |
| AH | anno Hegira | i.e. | id est, that is |
| BCE | Before Common Era | l. (li.) | line(s) |
| c. | circa | lit. | literally |
| C | Celsius (degrees centigrade) | m | metre(s) |
| CE | Common Era | mm | millimetre(s) |
| Ch. | Chapter | MS (MSS) | manuscript(s) |
| cf. | confer | n. (nn.) | note(s) |
| cm | centimetre(s) | nm | nanometre(s) |
| cp. | compare | no. (nos.) | number(s) |
| d. | died | p. (pp.) | page(s) |
| ed. | editor, edited | pl. (pl.) | plate(s) |
| e.g. | exempli gratia, for example | r | recto |
| et al. | et alii, and others | §. | Şamsî (solar Hegira) |
| etc. | et cetera, and so on | v | verso |
| f. (ff.) | folium (folia) | vs. | versus |

For the abbreviations of the names of contributors see Copyright page.

For the abbreviations of libraries and collections, see Indexes: Collections and manuscripts.
Tables, figures, and maps

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(Unless specified otherwise, the schematic maps in the General introduction show the places mentioned in the text as well as some other sites considered relevant by the authors and the editors of the Handbook)

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Map 3 Centres of Avestan manuscript production © Eugenia Sokolinski 2014.
Map 7 Centres of Byzantine Greek manuscript production © Eugenia Sokolinski 2014.
Map 8 Geo-cultural entities of Hebrew medieval manuscripts and centres of manuscript production © Eugenia Sokolinski 2014.
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Chapter 5
Fig. 5.4.1 Detached cover: Use and misuse of manuscripts can cause the joints of the binding to split. This often results in the detachment of a cover from the rest of the book, as shown here. Leiden, Leiden University Library, Or. 194, photograph by KS.
Fig. 5.4.2 Mould: The stain on the paper indicates that it was once wet in this area, and the associated purplish colour is the result of mould attack. Private collection, Istanbul, photograph by PH.

Fig. 5.4.3 Insects: The visible channels and holes in the text block are created by insects as they eat their way through the support. Private collection, Istanbul. Photograph by PH.

Fig. 5.4.4 Rodent damage in an Ethiopic manuscript. Bite marks on parchment are clearly visible; the leaves have been partially destroyed. Northern Ethiopia, 2011, photograph by Ebw.

Fig. 5.4.5 Iron gall ink: Characteristic browning of the support behind where ink was applied on the other side of the leaf indicates the deterioration of the paper in these areas. When the manuscript is used, cracks and breaks can occur in the weakened and brittle support and result in losses over time. Private collection, Istanbul, photograph by PH.

Fig. 5.4.6 Copper corrosion: Browning of the support is visible behind a framing line drawn on the other side of the leaf with copper-containing paint. When the leaf was turned, the paper cracked along this weakened line. Small losses have been sustained along the edge of the break and eventually the whole section framed by the painted line may break out of the leaf and be lost. Private collection, Istanbul, photograph by PH.

Fig. 5.4.7 Bleed: Many inks or paints can be reactivated by water in liquid form or high environmental humidity which causes them to spread across the support. Private collection, Istanbul, photograph by PH.

Fig. 5.4.8 Transfer: The binder which causes ink or paint to adhere to the support can be softened by high environmental humidity, causing it to adhere to another object when it is pressed against the softened media. In this case, the painted red circle across some of the letters was transferred from an illumination on the facing page in the manuscript. Private collection, Istanbul, photograph by PH.

Fig. 5.4.9 Flaking media: Ink (and paint) made with insufficient binder or binder that has weakened with age is prone to flaking losses, as can be seen in the letters in this sample of calligraphy. Private collection, Istanbul, photograph by PH.

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