

KITĀB-I ĪRĀNĪ

(Four Essays on Textology and Codicology)

Francis Richard

Edited by
'A. Rūḥbakhshān



Mirās-i Maktūb
Tehran, 2006

Written Heritage Research Centre, 2006
First Published in I. R. of Iran by Mirās-i Maktūb

ISBN 964-8700-15-X

All rights reserved. No part of this book
may be reproduced, in any form or by any
means, without the prior permission of the publisher.

P R I N T E D I N T E H R A N

In the Name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

Like a very large sea, the rich Islamic culture of Iran has produced countless waves of handwritten works. In truth these manuscripts are the records of scholars and great minds, and the hallmark of us Iranians. Each generation has the duty to protect this valuable heritage, and to strive for its revival and restoration, so that our own historical, cultural, literary, and scientific background be better known and understood.

Despite all the efforts in recent years for recognition of this country's written treasures, the research and study done, and the hundreds of valuable books and treatises that have been published, there is still much work to do. Libraries inside and outside the country preserve thousands of books and treatises in manuscript form which have been neither identified nor published. Moreover, many texts, even though they have been printed many times, have not been edited in accordance with scientific methods and are in need of more research and critical editions.

The revival and publication of manuscripts is on the responsibility of the researchers and cultural institutions. The Written Heritage Research Centre, in pursuing its cultural goals, has sponsored these goals through the efforts of researchers and editors and with the participation of publishers, it may have a share in the publication of this written heritage, presenting a valuable collection of texts and sources to the friends of Islamic Iranian culture and society.

The Written Heritage Research Centre (Mirās-e Maktūb)