

BELGIUM

by

Auban Martin

1991

## UNION CATALOGUES

**1968.** *Maktūb bilyad: manuscrits arabes à la Bibliothèque Albert 1<sup>er</sup>. Catalogue* par JAN BAUWENS. Brussels 1968.

Exhibition of MSS from the Bibliothèque Royale Albert 1<sup>er</sup>, Brussels; Centrale Bibliotheek, Universiteit Gent; private collection of JAN BAUWENS, Ghent. Incl. some in Persian & Turkish.

**Forthcoming.** *Catalogue des manuscrits arabes, persans et turcs des Bibliothèques de Belgique. Fihris al-makhtūṭāt al-ʿarabiya wa-ʿl-fārisiyya wa-ʿl-turkiyya fī dūr kutub Baljīkā.* By F. BAUDEN. Liège. 7 vols. (in preparation).

Over 800 MSS will be included.

## INDIVIDUAL COLLECTIONS

### ANTWERP

#### Nationaal Scheepvaartmuseum

Steenplein 1

2000 Antwerpen

*Date of establishment:* 1952

*Status:* Museum

Owns several Islamic MSS.

### BRUSSELS

#### Algemeen Rijksarchief / Archives Générales du Royaume

2-4 rue de Ruysbroeck

Bruxelles

*Date of establishment:* 1794

*Status:* National archives

Owns several Islamic MSS.

**Bibliothèque Royale Albert Ier / Koninklijke Bibliotheek Albert Ist.**

Boulevard de l'Empereur, 4 (Reader's entry: Mont des Arts),  
1000-Bruxelles

Tel.: 02/5195311. Telex: 21157. Fax: 02/5195679

*Date of establishment:* The ancient *Librairie des Ducs de Bourgogne* became, in April 1559, under Philippe II, the *Bibliothèque Royale des Pays-Bas*. In June 1837, after Belgian independence (1830), the Library was called *Bibliothèque Nationale*. Since 1839, its name has been *Bibliothèque Royale / Koninklijke Bibliotheek*.

*Status:* National library

*Conditions of access:* Credentials required: Identification from academic institution or library.

Opening hours: Monday to Friday, 09.00–20.00  
(summer: –17.00).

*Total number of Islamic MSS:* 233 (Arabic; Malay; Persian; Turkish). Only 105 MSS (98 Arabic; 1 Persian; 5 Turkish; 1 Arabic-Turkish) have been catalogued (see below).

*Description of collection* (according to the catalogue): The collection includes many classics of Arabic learning: *Ḥadīth* (e.g. AL-BUKHĀRĪ's *Ṣaḥīḥ*: BR IV 560), *tafsīr* (e.g. AL-BAYḌĀWĪ: *Anwār al-Tanzīl wa-asrār al-Ta'wīl*: BR IV 564 and BR IV 971), *falsafa*, *fiqh*, *uṣūl al-fiqh*, *tajwīd*, *tawhīd*, grammar, *manṭiq* (AL-ABHARĪ: BR IV 965), *taṣawwuf*, AL-BŪṢĪRĪ's *Al-Burda* (BR II 2286), medicine (e.g. IBN BUṬLĀN: *Taqwīm al-Ṣiḥḥa*: BR 19.990), a Turkish translation of *K. al-Milal wa-'l-Niḥal* (BR IV 898).

N.B. To this collection will be soon added some sixty manuscripts from the personal collection of the late Prof. ARMAND ABEL (Université Libre de Bruxelles and Universiteit Gent).

*Published catalogues:*

1901–27. *Catalogue des manuscrits de la Bibliothèque Royale de Belgique*. By J. VAN DER GHEYN. Brussels. Tome I, 1901; tome II, 1927.

1908. *Beschrijving der maleische handschriften van de Bibliothèque Royale te Brussel*. By P.S. VAN RONKEL. *Bijdragen tot de Taal-, Land- en Volkenkunde*, 7/10, 1908, pp. 501–520.

Descriptions of 10 Malay MSS.

1920. Malay manuscripts in the libraries of London, Brussels and the Hague. By R.O. WINSTEDT. *Journal of the Straits Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society*, 82, 1920, pp. 153–161.

1968. See Union catalogue by BAUWENS (above).

1987. Inventaire des manuscrits arabes, persans et turcs à la Bibliothèque Royale Albert Ier. By HOSAM ELKHADEM. *Archives et Bibliothèques de Belgique: Archiv- en Bibliotheekwezen in België*, 58, 1987, pp. 561–585.

N.B. All the manuscripts of the Bibliothèque Royale (and those of Prof. ARMAND ABEL) will be included, with detailed descriptions, in the forthcoming General Catalogue of the Islamic Manuscripts of Belgium, prepared by FR. BAUDEN (see Union Catalogues above).

**Centre Culturel Islamique**

Bruxelles

Owns several Islamic MSS.

**Musées Royaux d'Art et d'Histoire / Koninklijke Musea voor Kunst en Geschiedenis**

10 parc du Cinquantenaire  
1040 Bruxelles

*Date of establishment:* 1835

*Status:* Museum

Owns several Islamic MSS.

**Société des Bollandistes**

24 blvd. St Michel  
1040 Bruxelles

*Date of establishment:* 1630

*Status:* Jesuit religious library

Owns several Islamic MSS.

**GHENT****Universiteit Gent**

Centrale Bibliotheek,  
Rozier, 9,  
9000-Gent

Tel.: 091/643851. Telex: 11793. Fax: 091/644196

*Date of establishment:* 1817

*Status:* University library

*Conditions of access:* Credentials required: Apply in writing or by telephone to the Head of the Department of Special Collections (Dr. Albert Derolez, tel.: 091/643854).

Opening hours: Monday to Friday, 09.00–19.00  
(except during the academic holidays).

*Total number of Islamic MSS:* 7 (4 Arabic; 2 Turkish; 1 Malay).

*Description of collection:* Qurʾān (18th C.: MS. 636), *tafsīr* (17th C.: formerly MS. 637, now NN Hs. 586), *kalām* (16th C.: MS. 638; A.H. 1067: MS. 639), *ṣalawāt* (17th C.: MS. 640), History (?) (15–16th C.: formerly MS. 641, now NN Hs. 587), Malaysian-Dutch dictionary (17–18th C.: formerly MS. 642, now NN Hs. 150).

*Published catalogues:*

**1849–1852.** *Catalogue méthodique et raisonné des manuscrits de la Bibliothèque de la ville et de l'Université de Gand.* By Baron JULES DE SAINT-GENOIS. Gand. VII + 499pp.

**HEVERLEE****Filosofisch en Theologisch College van de Societeit Jesus**

Owens several Islamic MSS.

**LIEGE****Centre d'Information et de Conservation des Bibliothèques (formerly Bibliothèque Générale)**

Université de Liège,  
Place Cockerill 1,  
4000-Liège

Tel.: 041/665206. Fax: 041/665702

*Date of establishment:* University founded 1817

*Status:* University library

*Conditions of access:* Credentials required: Apply in writing or by telephone to the Head of the Department of Special Collections and Archives (Mme Carmélia Opsomer-Halleux, Place Cockerill 1, 4000-Liège, Tel.: 041/665308).

Appointment required (consultation of the Oriental MSS will be allowed only after the publication of the *Catalogue*: see below).

Opening hours: Monday to Friday, 09.00–12.00; 14.00–17.00.

*Total number of Islamic MSS:* 470 (mostly Arabic).

*Description of collection:* Besides 5000 Western MSS, 700 incunabula, more than 4000 books of the 16th century, the University Library owned, before 1986, thirty-three Oriental MSS, principally belonging to the *Fonds Chauvin* and the *Fonds Wittert* (they are mentioned in the Library Catalogues). In 1986, Mlle DARGENT left the University a very important legacy of 437 Arabic *maǧāmiʿ*. Most of these MSS are very rare: many of them are unpublished and are mentioned neither by C. Brockelmann in his *Geschichte der arabischen Literatur* nor by F. Sezgin in his *Geschichte des arabischen Schrifttums*. The oldest one dates from the end of the 13th century C.E.

These 470 volumes of MSS include 822 works of Arabic learning: *fiqh* (Mālikī, Shāfiʿī, Ḥanafī), *adab*, *taʾriḫ*, mathematics, alchemy, astronomy, astrology, rhetoric, grammar, *taṣawwuf*, Qurʾān (very nice exemplars), conjuring books, talismans, etc. E.g.: *Mukhtaṣar Kitāb ʿUyūn al-anbāʾ fī ṭabaqāt al-aʿtibāʾ* of IBN ABĪ UṢAYBĪʿA (anonymous, 15th C.; *Fonds Chauvin*, MS. 2232); *Waṣāyā AFLĀṬŪN fī khidmat al-mulūk* (apocryphal, 14th C.; *Fonds Dargent* MS. 5006); MUḤAMMAD IBN AḤMAD IBN ABĪ BAKR IBN FARAH AL-ANṢĀRĪ AL-KHAZAJĪ AL-QURṬUBĪ (d. 671/1273), *Al-Tadhkira bi-aḥwāl al-mawtā wa-aḥwāl al-ākḥira* (1083/1672–73, copy made from the original manuscript of the author; *Fonds Dargent* MS. 5058); MUḤIBB AL-DĪN ABŪ AL-ʿABBĀS AḤMAD IBN ʿABD ALLĀH AL-ṬABARĪ AL-MAKKĪ (d. 694/1294), *Dhakhāʾir al-ʿUqbā fī manāqib dhawī al-Qurbā* (*Fonds Dargent* MS. 5086; the oldest manuscript of the collection: 1296 C.E.; a critical edition—with a translation—is being prepared by FR. BAUDEN); ABŪ ʿALĪ AL-MUḤASSIN IBN ʿALĪ AL-TANŪKHĪ (d. 384/994), *Kitāb al-Faraj baʿd al-shidda* (*Fonds Dargent* MS. 5087: 1005/1596–97); AḤMAD IBN YAḤYĀ IBN MUḤAMMAD IBN ʿABD AL-WĀḤID ʿALĪ AL-WANSHARĪSHĪ (d. 914/1508), *Al-Miʿyār*

*al-muʿrib wa-ʿl-jāmiʿ al-muʿrib ʿan fatāwīʿ ulamāʿ Ifrīqiya wa-ʿl-Andalus wa-ʿl-Maghrib* (juzʿ 1 and 2; *Fonds Dargent*, MSS 5341 and 5408; 18th C.); ʿABD AL-ḤAKĪM IBN SHAMS AL-DĪN AL-HINDĪ AL-SIYĀLKŪTĪ (d. 1067/1657), *Ḥāshiya ʿalā ʿl-sharḥ al-mutawwal* (juzʿ 2; *Fonds Dargent* MS. 5377; holograph manuscript: 1056/1646–47); the unpublished manuscript of A. LANGLES (*Éléments de la grammaire persane*, Paris, 1816) and the unpublished manuscript of P. BURGGRAFF (*Douzième surate de l'Alcoran, intitulée la surate de Joseph, avec le texte arabe du commentaire de MAHMOUD ZAMAKSHARI, fils d'Omar, traduit en français et accompagné d'observations grammaticales et littéraires*, 1837).

*Published catalogues:*

1875. *Bibliothèque de l'Université de Liège: Catalogue des manuscrits*. By J. FIESS & M. GRANDJEAN. Liège.

1910. *Catalogue des manuscrits légués à la Bibliothèque de l'Université de Liège par le Baron ADRIEN WITTERT*. By J. BRASSINNE. Liège.

1970–1977. *Inventaire des manuscrits de la Bibliothèque de l'Université de Liège*. By J. HOYOUN, 3 vols. Liège.

1989. *Trésors manuscrits de l'Université de Liège*. By C. OPSOMER & F. BAUDEN. Liège.

1992 (anticipated). *Catalogue des manuscrits universitaires de l'Université de Liège*. By C. OPSOMER. Liège.

## LOUVAIN (LEUVEN)

### Katholieke Universiteit Leuven

Centrale Bibliotheek,  
Handschriften en Kostbare Werken,  
Mgr Ladeuzeplein 21,  
3000-Leuven

Tel.: 016/284625. Telex.: KULBIB 25715. Fax: 016/284616

*Date of establishment:* University founded 1425. In 1970, the University was divided between Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, which has

maintained its seat in Louvain (Leuven), and Université Catholique de Louvain, established on the sites of Louvain-la-Neuve (q.v. below) and Louvain-en-Woluwe (Brussels).

*Status:* University library

*Conditions of access:* Credentials required: Apply in writing or by telephone to the Librarian of the Department of Manuscripts and Precious Works (Mr. Chris Coppens, Mgr Ladeuzeplein 21, 3000-Leuven, tel.: 016/284625).

Opening hours: Monday to Friday, 08.45–12.30; 13.30–17.30. *Total number of Islamic MSS:* 7 (4 Arabic; 1 Turkish; 1 Persian; 1 Swahili).

*Description of collection:* Three Arabic MSS include several works (different periods, different styles of script): e.g. a Commentary (14th C.) of IBN MĀLIK's *Alfiya* (see Brockelmann, *GAL*, *Suppl.*, I, 522), a Commentary on KHALĪL's *Mukhtaṣar* (see *GAL*, II, 84), a work (unidentified) of BIRKAWĪ (see *GAL*, II, 440–441 and *Suppl.*, II, 654; two dates in the colophons: 977/1569 and 1130/1717); an apocryphal history (in Persian) of the Sultan MAḤMŪD of GHAZNA, attributed to FIRDAWSĪ (?) (17th C.; fine Indian paintings and illumination).

The Islamic MSS are not yet catalogued.

N.B.: Before the Second World War, the University Library had in its possession a very important collection of manuscripts the *Fonds LEFORT*. Unfortunately they were mostly destroyed (except about twenty) in May 1940 (see CHRIS COPPENS: Handschriften en catalogiseren in Leuven: problemen en verwachtingen, *Archives et Bibliothèques de Belgique: Archiv- en Bibliotheekwezen in België*, 61, 1990, pp. 51–60). The Arabic MSS had been mentioned and described in two articles in *Le Muséon*, 48, 1935, pp. 297–310 (ARN. VAN LANTSCHOOT, Inventaire sommaire des MSS arabes d'Égypte: Fonds LEFORT, série A: MSS chrétiens) and 50, 1937, pp. 85–100 (W. HEFFENING, Die Islamischen Handschriften der Universitäts-Bibliothek Löwen: Fonds LEFORT, Serie B und C).

There are also a few Islamic MSS in the Faculteit van Theologie.

### LOUVAIN-la-NEUVE

#### Université Catholique de Louvain

Service des Archives U.C.L.,  
rue Montesquieu 27,

1348-Louvain-la-Neuve

Tel.: 010/474884

*Date of establishment:* University founded 1425 (see Louvain (Leuven) above)

*Status:* University library

*Conditions of access:* Credentials required: Apply in writing or by telephone to the Head of the Department of Archives (Mme d'Arras d'Audrecy, rue Montesquieu 27, 1348-Louvain-la-Neuve, Tel.: 010/474884).

Appointment required.

Opening hours: Monday to Friday, 08.30–12.00; 13.30–16.30.

*Total number of Islamic MSS:* 15 (14 Arabic; 1 Turkish).

*Description of collection:* The collection contains several incomplete copies of the Qurʾān (one on parchment in Kufic script), two books of prayers, copies of the *Muqaddima* of IBN ĀJURRŪM and AL-BŪṢĪRĪ's *al-Burda*, and a treatise of *fiqh* (*Kitāb al-Mudāraba*, *Kitāb al-Muzāraʿa*, *Kitāb al-Shirb*).

These manuscripts were acquired after the Second World War and form a part of the *Legs CHABOT* and the *Legs CASSART*.

*Unpublished catalogue:* Descriptions by Prof. J. RYCKMANS are available at the Service des Archives.

## MARIEMONT

### Musée Royale

Morlanwelz, Mariemont.

Tel.: (064-)221243

*Date of establishment:* 1922

*Status:* Museum

Owns several Islamic MSS.

## TERVUREN

### Koninklijke Museum voor Midden-Afrika / Musée Royal de l'Afrique Centrale

Steenweg op Leuven 13,

1980 Tervuren

Tel.: (02-)7675401

*Date of establishment:* 1897

*Status:* Museum

*Description of collection:* A few Arabic MSS and documents from Africa.

See PEARSON, 1971, p. 196.

## BIBLIOGRAPHICAL APPENDIX

ʿAwwād, Kūrkiš. *Fahāris al-makhtūṭāt al-ʿarabiya fī ʾl-ʿālam*. Kuwait: Maʿhad al-Makhtūṭāt al-ʿArabīya. 1984. 2 vols.

Baljikā, vol. 1, pp. 271–273, nos. 972–981.

Birnbaum, Eleazar. Turkish manuscripts: cataloguing since 1960 and manuscripts still uncatalogued. Part 4: Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Great Britain, Ireland, the Netherlands, Belgium, France, Germany, Switzerland, Austria, Italy, Finland, United States. *Journal of the American Oriental Society*, 104, 1984, pp. 303–314.

Belgium, p. 308.

*Dalīl fahāris al-makhtūṭāt fī ʾl-Majmaʿ al-Malikī li-Buḥūth al-Ḥaḍāra al-Islāmīya*. 2nd ed. Amman: Al-Majmaʿ al-Malikī li-Buḥūth al-Ḥaḍāra al-Islāmīya, Muʿassasat Āl al-Bayt, 1986. 509pp.

Baljikā, pp. 275–276, nos. 764–766.

Howard, J.H. *Malay manuscripts: a bibliographical guide*. Kuala Lumpur: University of Malaya Library, 1966. 96pp.

Brussels, p. 55.

Huisman, A.J.W. *Les manuscrits arabes dans le monde: une bibliographie des catalogues*. Leiden: E.J. Brill, 1967. 84pp.

Belgique, pp. 9–10.

Kut, A. Turgut. Türkçe yazma eserler katalogları repertuarı. *Türk Dili Araştırmaları Yıllığı Belleten*, 1972, pp. 183–240.

Belçika, p. 199.

Mikhaïlova, I.B. and Khalidov, A.B. *Bibliografiya arabskikh rukopisei*. Moscow: Nauka. 1982. 302pp.

Bibliography of catalogues and surveys of Arabic MSS. *Belgiya/Belgique/Belgium*, pp. 33–35, nos. 84–91.

Pearson, J.D. *Oriental manuscripts in Europe and North America: a survey*.

Zug: Inter Documentation Company. 1971. (*Bibliotheca Asiatica*, 7). 515pp.

This is a reference work listing known collections and catalogues published and unpublished. Belgium, pp. 195–197; 400–401.

Sezgin, Fuat. *Geschichte des arabischen Schrifttums*. Band VI. Leiden: E.J. Brill. 1978.

Bibliotheken und Sammlungen arabischer Handschriften, pp. 311–466: Belgien, p. 333.

Simon, Jean. Répertoire des bibliothèques publiques et privés d'Europe contenant des manuscrits arabes chrétiens. *Orientalia*, NS 7, 1938, pp. 239–264.

A list of published catalogues of collections of Christian Arabic MSS, arranged by town. Bruxelles, p. 243; Louvain, pp. 252–253.

BENIN

by

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