

Estudos Afro-Orientais (Publicação do Centro, 9).

Re-publication of 1966–68 articles (see above), with additional observations on Monteil's 1967 analysis. Includes facsimiles, transcriptions and translations (Portuguese), with notes on script and content.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL APPENDIX

ʿAwwād, Kūrķīs. *Fahāris al-makhtūṭāt al-ʿarabīya fī 'l-ʿālam*. Kuwait: Maʿhad al-Makhtūṭāt al-ʿArabīya. 1984.

Brazil: Vol. 1, p. 268.

Sezgin, Fuat. *Geschichte des arabischen Schrifttums*. Leiden: Brill, 1967–84. 9 vols.

Contains references to published catalogues. Brazil: Bd. VI, pp. 333–334.

BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

by

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INDIVIDUAL COLLECTIONS

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN

Brunei Museum

Library of the Brunei Museum.

Total number of Islamic MSS: 110 (a few Arabic; the rest Malay).

Description of collection: The majority of the MSS are Malay in Jawi script, but a few are in Arabic, which deal with Arabic grammar and theology. Only 50–55 MSS have titles. The rest fall into the categories of: (a) originally untitled; (b) the title may be present somewhere in the MS., but not at the head; (c) if it possesses a title, there is reason to doubt its accuracy.

In the case of the titled MSS, some of the titles given have been proved wrong (see Mat Piah & Hamid, in bibliographical appendix).

As is also the case of the DBP collection (below), many of the titled MSS, especially on literature, are not found in other known collections of Malay MSS. A similar significance may be claimed for this collection. This collection covers at least the following fields: Theology (*‘ilm al-tawhīd* and *Uṣūl al-dīn*); Qur’ānic sciences; *Ḥadīth* sciences; Arabic grammar; Life of the Prophet; Jurisprudence (dealing with such themes as worship, marriage, divorce, *hajj*, *jihād*, and commerce); Sufism (Sufi psychology, Sufi ethics, the Qādiriya Order, Sufi spirituality); ethics (ethical philosophy, moral virtues); interpretation of dreams; medical ethics; traditional Islamic Malay medicine; litanies, orisons; spiritual matters; history (history of Brunei Sultanate, history of Shari‘a laws in Brunei, Brunei’s international trade agreements); literature (narratives, epics, poetry, heroic Muslim battles).

A good number of the MSS are photocopies of originals found in the collection at the Office of Brunei Islamic Religious Affairs (Pejabat Hal Ehwal Agama Islam Brunei) and in the DBP collection; some were hand-copied from originals belonging to private collections. As in the DBP collection, many of the MSS are not dated; the dated ones are all from late 18th century onwards. Most of the MSS are in Jawi script.

Many of the MSS have not been edited or studied. This collection

is in a slightly better physical condition than the DBP collection, thanks to preservation work that has been undertaken. MSS with loose pages have been bound with good quality covers. Generally, the MSS have been kept in conditions that meet international requirements for the keeping of manuscripts (especially requirements pertaining to manuscript arrangement and room temperature).

Published catalogues: Not available.

Unpublished catalogues: See Mat Piah, H. & Hamid, I. (in bibliographical appendix).

The only information available is a chronological list of dates of entry of MSS into the Museum collection (ref. Brunei Museum).

The Brunei Royal Family Collection

It is known that a considerable number of invaluable Malay MSS are in the possession of the Sultan of Brunei and the Brunei Royal Family. No description of the collection is available at present.

Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka Brunei (DBP)

Status: Brunei's Language and Literary Centre.

Total number of Islamic MSS: 135 (Malay).

Description of collection: Only 35 – 40 MSS have titles. The rest fall into the following categories: (a) originally untitled; (b) title may be found in one of the pages of the MS., but the MS. itself has not been titled; (c) the physical condition of the MSS makes it almost impossible to establish whether they were originally titled or not. In the case of the titled MSS, there is reason to doubt the accuracy of some of the titles. Many of the titled MSS are not found in other known collections of Malay MSS. This points to one significant fact: A good number of the MSS comprise literary works that are unique to Brunei's cultural milieu and history. This collection covers at least the following fields: jurisprudence (*fiqh*), dealing with such subjects as prayer, marriage, etc.; theology (*ʿilm al-tawhīd* and *Uṣūl al-dīn*); epistemology; Sufi ethics; eschatology; litanies, odes; literature on the Prophet's nocturnal ascension (*miʿrāj*); literature (narratives, short stories, poetry); historiography.

Many of the MSS are not dated; some of them are later copies of the original. However, as far as we know, practically all these MSS

are from recent centuries, namely 18th century onwards. Most of the MSS are hand-written in Jawi (Malay-Arabic) script. As far as the subject matter is concerned, many of the MSS, both titled and untitled, have not yet been studied and edited. The MS. entitled *Syair Awang Semaun*, consisting of 9 copies in various versions (DBP.050-058), may be classified as a work on historiography. It may be also a significant literary work in that it deals with the genealogy of the Brunei Sultanate, written in beautiful poetic verses.

This collection is not in good physical shape. Most of the MSS appear to be in the same unsatisfactory, original condition as when they were first collected. Apparently, the MSS have been left untended all this time, and no preservation work is known to have been carried out. Quite a number of the MSS have their pages torn, especially at the beginning and the end. Some parts of the torn pages are missing. The paper shows signs of deterioration. In fact, some of the pages are deteriorating into dust, and paper-eating pests are to be found in some of the MSS copies. In short, if no action is taken soon to improve upon their physical condition, these MSS will be permanently lost.

Published catalogues: No published catalogue is available.

Unpublished catalogues: MAT PIAH, HARUN & HAMID, ISMAIL, *Kajian dan Dokumentasi Manuskrip-Manuskrip Melayu dalam Koleksi Brunei*, Projek UKM 39/82.

There is a chronological list of dates of entry of MSS into the DBP collection (ref. DBP Brunei).

Office of Islamic Religious Affairs of Brunei (Library)

Total number of Islamic MSS: not known.

Description of collection: The MSS are mostly Malay in Jawi script. The collection covers at least the following subjects: jurisprudence (*fiqh*); theology (*ʿilm al-tawhīd* and *Uṣūl al-dīn*); worship (prayers, Friday sermons and ʿĪd prayers); Sufi practices (the Qādirīya Order); religious songs (*nashīd*); religious poems; stories of prophets; eschatology.

The dated MSS are all from recent centuries, that is, from 18th-century onwards. The physical condition of this collection is comparable with that of the DBP collection. Efforts should be made to improve the overall condition of the MSS.

Published catalogues: Not available.

Unpublished catalogues: Not available.

Pusat Sejarah (Brunei's Historical Centre)

An unknown number of MSS are also located here. But no description of the collection is available at present.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL APPENDIX

Mat Piah, Harun & Hamid, Ismail, *Kajian dan Dokumentasi Manuskrip-Manuskrip Melayu dalam Koleksi Brunei*, the National University of Malaysia Project 39/82.

BULGARIA

by

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