FINLAND

by

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The aim of the Handbook is to give information about all existing original source material in oriental languages in Finnish collections. Part I:5 deals with Arabic, Persian and Turkic material (items 326–362). Manuscripts are listed and described as completely as possible: full title and author, date of composition, name of scribe, style of script, date and place of copying, as well as provenance; collections already described previously are, however, given only with their bibliographical references. The Handbook includes Islamic MSS in the Helsinki University Library (33 Arabic; 17 Persian; 10 Turkic), the History and Philology Library (2 Arabic), the Finnish National Museum (2 Arabic; 1 Persian), the Fenno-Ugrian Library (9 Turkic), and private collections (4 Arabic; 1 Persian).


INDIVIDUAL COLLECTIONS

HELSINKI

Fenno-Ugrian Library

Sörnäisten rantatie 25, 00500 Helsinki.
Tel.: 358-0-7315273. Telefax 358-0-7019583.
Date of establishment: 1883
Status: Library of the Fenno-Ugrian Society
Conditions of access: Credentials required; no appointment necessary.
Opening hours: Monday to Friday, 08.00–16.00; Saturday, 08.00–15.00.
Total number of Islamic MSS: 9 (Turkic).
Description of collection: 9 documents which were preserved under the designation taşkîr at the tombs of various holy men.
Published catalogues:


Detailed descriptions of 8 MSS.


Finnish National Museum

Exotica, Finnish National Museum,
Mannerheimintie 34,
00100 Helsinki.
Tel.: 358-0-40501. Telefax: 358-0-4050300.
Date of establishment: 1916
Status: National Museum
Conditions of access: Credentials required; appointment necessary.

Opening hours: By arrangement.
Total number of Islamic MSS: 3 (2 Arabic; 1 Persian).
Description of collection: One of the Arabic MSS is a part of an old Mamlúk Qurʾān. The collection includes several Turkish firmāns.

Published catalogues:

Helsinki University Library

Oriental Collections, Helsinki University Library,
Unioninkatu 36, P.O. Box 312,
00171 Helsinki.
Date of establishment: 1640 as the library of the Academy of Turku (Åbo), the old capital of Finland; transferred to Helsinki in 1828
Status: National Library
Conditions of access: Credentials required; appointment not essential, but advance notice would be helpful.

Opening hours: Monday to Friday, 09.00–21.00, Saturday 09.00–18.00, Sunday 12.00–18.00 in term-time; Monday to Saturday 09.00–18.00, Sunday 12.00–18.00 in vacations.

Total number of Islamic MSS: 60 (33 Arabic; 17 Persian; 10 Turkic).
Description of collection: This is the only large collection of Islamic MSS in Finland; mainly purchased by the Finnish Arabist Georg August Wallin (1811–1852) in Egypt during the 1840s, and supplemented by later acquisitions. There are 18th- and 19th-century Qurʾāns, works on jurisprudence, grammars and lexicography, history and geography. There seems to be only one MS. of greater significance: evidently the oldest manual of cookery in Arabic preserved to the present day. The MS. is attributed to the poet Kushajim (d. 350/961 or 360/971) and entitled Kitāb al-tabākh. Further research has shown that the author is a certain Abu Muhammad Ibn Sayyār al-Warrāq, writing in the second half of the 9th/10th century. It has been published: Ibn Sayyār al-Warrāq, Kitāb al-tabākh. Ed. by Kaj Öhrnberg and Sahran Mroueh. Helsinki 1987 (Studia Orientalia, 60).

The collection includes several Turkish firmāns.

Published catalogues:
A very detailed catalogue giving full title and author, subjects, date of composition, name of scribe, style of script, date and place of copying and incipits.

History and Philology Library

University of Helsinki, Hallituskatu 11, Porthania,
00100 Helsinki.
Tel.: 358-0-1912135. Telefax: 358-0-1912129.
Date of establishment: 1904
Status: University Library
Conditions of access: Credentials required; reader’s pass.

Opening hours: Monday to Friday, 08.00–20.00, Saturday, 08.00–14.00 in term-time; Saturdays closed in vacations.

Total number of Islamic MSS: 2 (Arabic).
Published catalogues:
1958. Included in Aro’s catalogue (see Helsinki University Library above).
Kaj Öhrnberg

Merikasarminkatu 10B43
00160 Helsinki
Tel.: 010-3580-1912-092.
Status: Private library
Total number of Islamic MSS: 2 (Arabic).
Description of collection: One of the MSS is a Qur’ān. See:


Bibliographical Appendix


Finlandia, p. 311.

Finlandia, p. 334, no. 914.

Finlandia, p. 20.

Kur, A. Turgut. Türkçe yazma eserler katalogları repertuarı. Türk