HUNGARY

by

Alexander Fodor

1989
INDIVIDUAL COLLECTIONS

BUDAPEST

Egyetemi Könyvtár (University Library of the Eötvös Loránd University)

Károlyi Mihály u. 10, Budapest V
Date of establishment: 1635
Status: Public library
Total number of Islamic MSS: 11 (5 Arabic; 1 Malay (?); 1 Persian; 4 Turkish).
Description of collection: The MSS belong to the last few centuries, are in an appropriate condition and are kept in a suitable place. Subject matter includes the Qur'ān, theology, Arabic grammar, prayers, catechisms, eulogy of the Prophet and inventories. The Malay MS. is mentioned in passing by Lanyon-Orgill (see Bibliographical Appendix below), p. 69.
Published catalogues:
Descriptions (in Latin) comprise format, classmark, number of leaves, title, author, incipit, former owner(s), subject.
Unpublished catalogue: Card catalogue (in Latin), which includes the Persian MS., but gives only size, script and former owner.

Eötvös Loránd Tudományegyetem, Arab Tanszék (Department of Arabic Studies, Eötvös Loránd University)

Izabella u. 46, Budapest VI
Date of establishment: The University was founded in 1635; the Department was established in 1873.
Status: University departmental library
Total number of Islamic MSS: 4 (Arabic).
Description of collection: The MSS were transferred from the Department of Turkish in the 1960s. They belong to the last few centuries,
are in an appropriate condition and are kept in a suitable place. The subjects include theology and sciences. Not catalogued.

Fodor Collection

Status: Private
Total number of Islamic MSS: 9 (Arabic), plus 20 amulet scrolls.
Description of collection: The MSS have been collected by Alexander Fodor since the 1970s. They belong to the last few centuries and are in an appropriate condition (except for one which needs restoration) and are kept in a suitable place. The subjects include magic and theology. Not catalogued.

Magyar Tudományos Akadémia Könyvtára (Library of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences)

Roosevelt tér 9, Budapest V
Date of establishment: The Academy was founded in 1825 and an Oriental Collection inside the Library was established in 1950.
Status: Public scientific library
Total number of Islamic MSS: 895 (151 Arabic; 144 Persian; 600 Turkish).
Description of collection: The Library holds the former private collections of Ármin Vámbéry, Daniel Szilágyi, Sándor Kéz and others. The MSS are in an appropriate condition and are kept in a suitable place. They date mostly from the last few centuries.

The Arabic MSS are on the following subjects: Qur’ân, hadith, theology, law, logic, philosophy, prayer books, rhetoric, mathematics, pedagogy, biography, hippiatria, history, didactic literature and adab, poetry, magic and Christian Arabic works.

Of the Persian MSS, nearly half are poetic works; the rest relate to history, ethics, philosophy, law, Sufism, grammar, lexicography, medicine, pharmacopœia, astronomy, cosmography and topography.

The subjects of the Turkish MSS include linguistics, correspondence, law, poetry, history, astronomy, belles-lettres, religion and the art of war.

Except for 11 Persian MSS (see below), there is no published catalogue, but some information on the holdings can be found in


See especially E. Apor on the Persian MSS, pp. 35–42, and A. Horváth on the Turkish MSS, pp. 95–103.


The section on Hungary, pp. 303–304, deals only with the Academy, and draws mainly on the Jubilee Volume, 1978 (see above).

Published catalogue:

Catalogue of 11 MSS (Pers. o.43–50 & 52–53; Pers. F. 14), giving authors, titles, dates, bindings, no. of folios, measurements, lines per page, paper, illumination, scripts, defects, annotations, names of scribes (if known), incipits, explicita, literary contents.

Unpublished catalogues:

The following codicological details are given: Library classmark, subject, author, title, incipit, first phrase following the hamdala, last words of colophon, date of copying, literature references to
Brockelmann’s GAL and Sezgin’s GAS, binding, paper, number of leaves and blank leaves, size of the leaves and written surfaces, style of script, number of lines, colour of ink, description of title-page, names of copyists, date and provenance. The Catalogue also highlights some more interesting pieces of the collection. Indexes of authors, titles, subject, copyists, possessors, incipits are included.


The Catalogue follows the arrangement of the catalogue of Arabic Manuscripts mentioned above, and also indicates the more remarkable pieces.

For the Turkish MSS, there are only handwritten cards which usually contain the following data: format, library classmark, subject, author, title, incipit, number of leaves and lines, binding, date of copying.

**Országos Széchenyi Könyvtár** (National Széchenyi Library)

Budavári Palota (Buda Castle), Budapest I

Date of establishment: 1802

Status: National public library

Total number of Islamic MSS: 91 (39 Arabic; 7 Persian; 45 Turkish).

Description of collection: The MSS belong to the last few centuries, are in an appropriate condition and are kept in a suitable place. The Arabic MSS include copies of the Qur’an and works on taṣfīr, law, dogmatics, theology, rhetoric, grammar and calendars. The Persian MSS consist of poetry, letters and the Gospels in Persian. The Turkish MSS comprise poetry, a novel, commentary on poetry, and works on theology, mawlid, administration, ceremonies, alchemy and occult sciences. The Arabic-Turkish MSS contain prayer books, amulets and calendars.

Published catalogues:


- Descriptions of 57 MSS (23 Arabic, 6 Persian, 10 Turkish and 18 Arabic-Turkish). The Catalogue gives library classmark, format, number of leaves, title, author, contents, binding, sometimes script, occasionally colophon in Hungarian translation, provenance & former owners.


**BIBLIOGRAPHICAL APPENDIX**


Lists catalogues and publications about Arabic manuscripts all over the world. Hungary, vol. 2, p. 201.


Hungary is described on pp. 303–304. The article describes the Turkish collections and the state of their catalogues, published and unpublished.


A bibliography of published catalogues dealing only with Arabic MSS. Hungary, p. 33.


Reference to Budapest on p. 69.


Bibliography of catalogues and surveys of Arabic MSS. Hungary, p. 60.

This is a Reference work listing known collections and catalogues published and unpublished. Hungary, pp. 246 & 407.

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INDIA

by

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