India is on pages 706 – 707. The article describes the Turkish collections and the state of their catalogues, published and unpublished.

Gupta, B.M. & others (eds.), *Handbook of libraries, archives and information centres in India*. Delhi: Aditya Prakashan, 1984 –

See vol. 1 “Islamic Studies Libraries in India” by Gulab Khan (pp. 220 – 226) and articles about individual Islamic collections in vol. 9 (pts 1 & 2).


A bibliography of published catalogues dealing only with Arabic MSS. India on pp. 33 – 39.


On general library resources in India for Oriental Studies.


Bibliography of catalogues and surveys of Arabic MSS. India on pp. 93 – 106.


Contains references to published catalogues. See particularly vol. 6, pp. 330 – 359.


A survey of Persian literature which lists catalogues consulted in vols. 1 & 2.

Suleimanov, Khamid S. Po rukopisnym fondam Indii; [In Russian, with English summary: “Through the manuscript funds [i.e., collections] of India.”]. *Sovetskaya Tyurkologiya*, 2, 1979, pp. 68 – 73.


General reference work listing published catalogues of Arabic manuscript collections all over the world.

INDONESIA

by

Osman Bakar and Enklu Ibrahim Ismail

1991
UNION CATALOGUES & SURVEYS


INDIVIDUAL COLLECTIONS

ACHEH

Ali Hasymi Library (Perpustakaan Ali Hasymi)

Description of collection: This is the personal library of Ali Hasymi, located in the town of Aceh. Hasymi is a poet and an ex-Governor of Aceh province. No details or catalogues are available, but Hamdan Hassas, 1977 (see next entry), believes that there are several MSS of great value in the collection.

The Islamic Library of Dayah Tanah Abee (Perpustakaan Islam Dayah Tanah Abee di Aceh)

The Library is located at the Dayah Tanah Abee traditional Islamic school about 80 km from the town of Aceh in the island of Sumatra. Date of establishment: Early 19th century. Total number of Islamic MSS: Several hundred (Arabic; Malay). Description of collection: Founded by a famous local religious scholar by the name of Sheikh Abdul Wahab. He was known as an energetic collector of Islamic books and MSS in both Arabic and Malay. With the help of his students, he was said to have collected more than...
2,000 books and MSS for the Library. Unfortunately, a large proportion of the original collection has either been lost or partially or wholly damaged.

Many of the MSS have titles, but only a small number have been catalogued. The untitled ones await examination by scholars. Most of the MSS are written in the Jawi script.

Judging from the few MSS that have been identified so far, this collection must be regarded as very important in several respects. Firstly, it is rich in terms of the number of branches of knowledge covered. Secondly, the collection includes many theological, philosophical, and Sufi works written by leading thinkers of Malay-Islamic history, including Abdul Rauf of Singkel, al-Raniri, Shamsuddin al-Sumatrani, and Abdul Samad of Palembang. Thirdly, many of the works may be dated as far back as the early 17th century, and, in the case of some of them, even as early as the 16th century.

This collection covers at least the following fields: jurisprudence, metaphysics (particularly Sufi metaphysics of the Iban 'Arabi school), theology (usul al-din), epistemology, psychology, cosmology (mainly Sufi), Sufi ethics, Malay Sufi orders, eschatology, science of the spiritual path, literature. It is already established that a good number of the MSS comprise literary works that are unique to this collection. For example, there are works attributed to Abdul Rauf of Singkel and al-Raniri but which until now have been very little known to scholars. The collection may have in store a few other surprises.

The Arabic MSS include Mahmud al-Husni al-Bukhari al-Shatibi’s Adwah al-anjadi and 24 vols. of Fakhr al-Din al-Razi’s grand commentary on the Qur’an.

On the whole, the collection is almost untouched. More investigative work needs to be done before we can come up with satisfactory descriptions of the MSS.

For further information, see:


M. Junus Djamil Library (Perpustakaan M. Junus Djamil)

Status: Private library

Description of collection: The number of MSS is not known but is quite substantial. The collection covers at least the following fields: jurisprudence (mainly the Shafi’i school), Sufism, metaphysics and theology, history of the Malay sultanate, Malay Sufi orders, the Islamic legal system in the Aceh Empire, and the Wajidya school of Hamzah Fansuri.

Only some of the MSS have proper titles, and some of these are doubtful; many are not dated.

The collection comprises both originals and later copies; but the latter category appears to constitute the greater bulk of it.

For a brief description of some of the MSS, see: 1977. Hamdan Hassan, op. cit. (see preceding entry), pp. 10–11.

Sayid Zainal Abidin

Status: Private library

According to Hamdan Hassan, 1977 (see above), this collection includes Malay MSS.

DARUSSALAM

Centre for the Study of Social Sciences (Pusat Penelitian Ilmu-Ilmu Sosial)

According to Hamdan Hassan, 1977 (see above), there are some Malay MSS here.

Raniri State Islamic Institute (Institut Agama Islam Negeri al-Raniri)

According to Hamdan Hassan, 1977 (see above), there are some Malay MSS here.
JAKARTA

Perpustakaan Nasional Indonesia (Indonesian National Library)

P.O. Box 3624, Jakarta 10002
Tel.: 3101411
Date of establishment: 1989
Status: National library
Total number of Islamic MSS: Over 10,000 (mainly Malay and Javanese; some Arabic).
Description of collection: This newly built national library promises a bright future for the preservation and documentation of Indonesia’s intellectual heritage, and for the study of Malay-Indonesian Islamic MSS in particular.

The Library’s importance lies in the following:

(1) in its efforts to turn itself into a truly national documentation centre, it has assumed the task of collecting MSS, original or copies, from individuals and institutions scattered all over the islands of Indonesia;

(2) it seeks to obtain microfilms and, wherever possible, copies of Malay-Indonesian MSS which are currently preserved in libraries outside Indonesia, particularly in Europe. So far it has succeeded in acquiring microfilms of all MSS kept at the British Library in London;

(3) well-known individual collections of MSS, either partially or wholly preserved at different libraries in Indonesia prior to 1989, will continue to exist as collections with the same names in their new home at Perpustakaan Nasional. Consequently, pre-1989 catalogues of some of these collections are still in use (see below) although a new and more up-to-date catalogue has been prepared and published.

The Perpustakaan Nasional is, in fact, a successor to several well-known libraries whose long history may be traced back to the Dutch colonial period. The most famous institution housing Malay-Indonesian MSS during this period was the Library of the Batavian Society. When Indonesia became independent in 1947, this Library became known as Perpustakaan Lembaga Kebudayaan Indonesia (the Library of the Indonesian Board of Culture). In 1979 it was moved to become a part of Museum Pusat where it assumed the new name of Perpustakaan Museum Nasional (the National Museum Library). In 1989 it was again moved, this time to become the nucleus of the newly established Perpustakaan Nasional Indonesia.

There are several well-known individual collections inherited from these earlier libraries that no longer exist. These include:

(a) Brandes collection (formerly kept at Perpustakaan Lembaga Kebudayaan Indonesia). This contains at least 85 different titles, some of which are available in several copies. The collection covers at least the following fields: jurisprudence, principles of religion, Qur’anic sciences, literature (narratives, poetry, short stories), Ḥadīth literature, Islamic and customary laws, Sufism.

Most of the MSS have proper titles. The rest are given tentative titles of a general nature based on their content: for example, a number of MSS are simply entitled “Religious Teachings”. Only a few of the MSS are unique to the Collection.

Many of the MSS are not dated; some of them are later copies of the originals, but some may be dated as early as the 17th century. The texts of many of the MSS have not yet been edited and studied.

For detailed descriptions, see van Ronkel’s 1909 catalogue below.

(b) Cohen Stuart Collection (formerly kept at the Perpustakaan Kebudayaan Indonesia). This contains 37 different titles, most of which deal with hagiography, that is, with legends, stories, and tales of Sufi saints. The rest cover such fields as chronology, medicine, history of the prophets, and literature on the Sufi doctrine of the ”Muhammadan Light”.

Only a few of the MSS are undated.

For detailed descriptions, see van Ronkel’s 1909 catalogue below.

(c) Von de Wall Collection (formerly kept at Perpustakaan Lembaga Kebudayaan Indonesia). At least 220 different MSS are known; many are available in several copies. This is a very rich collection in terms of the subjects covered, which include: Sufism (metaphysics, cosmology, psychology, eschatology, ethics, and rituals), theology (ṣiḥl al-ʾifn), kalām, law and jurisprudence, history of Malay kingship, history of the prophets, literature on the Prophet and his family, Malay history, mathematics, astronomy, medicine, literature (legends, tales, and various forms of Malay poetry), Qur’anic sciences, Ḥadīth literature, commentaries on the Qur’ān,
Sufi saints and their spiritual orders. Most of the MSS have proper titles.

The collection includes several copies of a Malay translation of Ibn ‘Aṭā’ Allāh’s Kūtāb al-hikam, Malay versions of Kāliya wa-Dinnah, and works by famous Malay philosophers and Sufis such as al-Rāzī and ʿAbd al-Raʿūf of Singkai. Many of the MSS are not dated; some of them are later copies of the originals, but some may be dated as early as the 17th century. Textually, many of the MSS have not yet been edited or studied.

For detailed descriptions, see van Ronkel’s 1909 catalogue below.

(d) Overbeck Collection (formerly kept at the Museum Pusat). This is a collection of 26 MSS of which only nine are ‘unique’, in the sense that all the others are related to each other. Seven are original Jāwi MSS; the rest are transcriptions of these and others, and typed and handwritten copies of published and unpublished articles and notes.

Most of the MSS have titles: these are Malay chronicles and tales, and are therefore particularly relevant to the study of Malay Islamic literature. All the MSS are fairly recent and could be dated (from late 18th century onwards)

For detailed descriptions of the MSS, see Kratz’s 1980 article below.

(e) The rest of the MSS include the large Bat. Gen. Collection formerly kept at the Museum Pusat and prior to that at the Perpustakaan Lembaga Kebudayaan Indonesia (this collection includes 20 titles inherited from the Library of the Batavian Society).

These MSS number more than 500 items with at least 250 different titles. This is also a rich collection in terms of subject-matter, covering many branches of the religious and philosophical sciences. In addition, there are numerous MSS dealing with various aspects of Malay history, culture, and civilisation. The collection includes Malay translations or paraphrases of well-known religious, historical, and literary works from the Muslim heritage. Of great significance is perhaps a number of original Malay works written by famous Malay theologians, philosophers, and Sufis.

The originals of some of the copied MSS are located in European libraries, mainly Leiden University Library and the British Library; but in some cases the originals have not yet been located. Most of the MSS have proper titles; however, there is reason to doubt the accuracy of some of them. The rest are simply given general titles such as “mystical work”, “religious teachings”, and “prayers”. A considerable number of the MSS are unique to the collection.

The MSS can be dated from the 17th century onwards. The texts of many of the MSS, including the titles one, have not yet been edited or studied. Many are in poor physical shape: some have their pages torn, especially at the beginning and end.

For detailed descriptions of the MSS, see van Ronkel’s 1909 catalogue and Voorhoeve’s 1980 list below.

Published catalogues:
159 Arabic MSS. Indexes of titles and names. Supplement published in 1913 (see below).

919 Malay & Minangkabau MSS. Detailed descriptions. Indexes of titles.

861 Arabic MSS. Indexes of authors & titles.

Mainly Malay & Javanese. Incl. surveys of Jakarta collections.

1977. Directions for travellers on the mystic path . . . with an appendix on Palembang manuscripts and authors. By G.W.J. DREWES. The Hague:
Appendix, pp. 198–216, contains notes on MSS of the Bataviaasch Genootschap, Overbeck Collection and elsewhere.

Detailed descriptions of 22 MSS.

List compiled before 1850, contained in a MS. in Leiden University Library.

Unpublished catalogues:

TERNATE

A number of Malay and Arabic MSS (including 17th-century Qur’ans), preserved in mosque libraries and elsewhere on this island, are reported in
Manuscrits conservés à Ternate, pp. 135–138.

TIDORE

The Great Mosque (Mesjid Jami) and several private collections contain Qur’ans and Malay and Tidorese MSS, according to
Manuscrits conservés à Tidore, pp. 138–140.