LEBANON

by

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with additional material by
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EDITORIAL NOTE

Conditions in Lebanon have inevitably prevented a thorough up-to-date survey of manuscript holdings there. What follows is drawn largely from older information, especially published sources. These have concentrated disproportionately on the Christian collections, whereas Muslim manuscript libraries, with only a few exceptions, remain almost unknown; hence the lack of information about them here. It is hoped that in the future, when conditions permit, a more balanced survey can be undertaken of all Arabic-script MSS in the country.

G.J.R.

UNION CATALOGUES & SURVEYS

   Includes Beirut, pp. 161–246.

   Includes numerous descriptions of MSS in monastic libraries.

   Includes MSS in 42 Lebanese libraries & private collections.

   Includes lists of MSS in monastic libraries.

INDIVIDUAL COLLECTIONS

ANNAYA

Dayr Mār Mārawn (St Maro’s Monastery)

ANNAYA, Kasrawan

Date of establishment: 1838

Status: Christian (Maronite) monastic library

Conditions of access: Credentials required.

Total number of Islamic MSS: 7 (Arabic).

Description of collection: Christian texts, for the use of priests.

Published catalogues: 1926. See article by Snili (pp. 739–741) under Union Catalogues above.

ASHQUT

Madrasat Mār Butrus wa-Bawlus (Seminary of St Peter & St Paul)

Date of establishment: 1904

Status: Christian (Maronite) college library

Conditions of access: Credentials required. Open 08.00–14.00, Monday–Friday.

Total number of Islamic MSS: 55 (Arabic).

Description of collection: Assembled for the use of students in the seminary. There is a special section on the history of the Maronites and of the Khāzin family, landowners and rulers of Kasrawan, 17th–19th centuries.

Published catalogues: 1927. See article by Snili (pp. 746–753, 855–858 & 919–925) under Union Catalogues above.

AYN TRAZ

Madrasat ‘Ayn Trāz (Seminary of the Greek Catholic Patriarchate)

Dayr al-Sayyida (Monastery of Our Lady)

Tel.: 553503
LEBANON—AYN TRAZ

Date of establishment: 1811
Status: Christian college library
Conditions of access: Appointment & credentials required.
Total number of Islamic MSS: 135 (Arabic).
Description of collection: Christian Arabic MSS, important for texts on
Catholic-Orthodox polemics.
Published catalogues:
234–257, for detailed descriptions of these MSS, with indexes.
Unpublished catalogues:
Card catalogue, arranged by authors.

AYN WARAQA

Madrasat Ayn Waraq (Seminary of Ayn Waraq)

Ayn Waraq, Kasrawan
Date of establishment: 1860 (convent); 1788 (seminary)
Status: Christian (Maronite) college library
Conditions of access: Credentials required.
Total number of Islamic MSS: 80 (Arabic).
Description of collection: Mainly for the study of theology. Includes two
copies of the poems of Jabril Farhat.
Published catalogues:
1927. See article by Suni (pp. 619–622 & 692–703) under Union
Catalogues above.
Unpublished catalogues:
Handwritten list, arranged by authors.

BAALBEK (Ba’labakk)

Matraniyat al-Rum al-Kathawlik (Greek Catholic Archepiscopate)

Status: Christian religious library
Conditions of access: Credentials & appointment required.
Total number of Islamic MSS: 63 (Arabic).
Description of collection: These Christian Arabic MSS contain impor-
tant texts of Catholic-Orthodox and Catholic-Protestant polemics.
Published catalogues:
1961. See union catalogue by NASRALLAH, vol. III, pp. 1–60, for
detailed descriptions of 62 MSS.

BEIRUT

American University of Beirut (Al-Jami’a al-Amayrikyia fî
Bayrut)

Jafet Memorial Library
Tel.: 35000
Date of establishment: 1866
Status: University library
Conditions of access: Subject to approval of the Librarian. Open
08.00–18.00, Monday–Saturday.
Total number of Islamic MSS: 1,288 (mostly Arabic; few Persian; few
Turkish), plus 248 photocopies & numerous microfilms.
Description of collection: 202 of the MSS are on the religion of Islam,
including 7 Qur’an, one Isma’il text and two texts relating to the
Druzes.

In 1926 the library acquired 500 MSS from ‘Isa Iskandar Ma’l-\n\lam, the rest of whose collection remained in Zahle (q.v.).
The microfilms include many of the Arabic MSS in Lebanese
monastic libraries detailed in this survey, as well as others in Syria
(Damascus & Aleppo) and Egypt (St Catherine’s Monastery, Sinai
—for details & catalogues, see Volume One, pp. 223–226).

Published catalogues:
1926. Makhtutat al-Khizana al-Ma’lumiya fî ‘l-Jami’a al-
Amayrikyia. Majallat al-Kultiya 6, 1926. Also published separately.
Beirut 1926.

Brief descriptions of 500 MSS (Arabic, Persian, Syriac &
Turkish).

1955. Majmua’at al-makhtutat al-‘Arabiya fî Jami’at Bayrut
al-Amayrikyia. By Nasir Amin Faris. Majallat Ma’had al-Makhtutat al-

Mentions a few individual MSS of special importance.

1985. Al-makhtutat al-‘Arabiya al-mawjuda fî maktabat al-Jami’a al-
Amayrikyia fî Bayrut: dalil murattab hasab ni’ham Diyyawan [Dewey] al-
‘ushri is-ta’nif al-ustub wa-taniqha, ma’s malak bi wa-sharhbi illa illa-
na’win wa-l-mu’alifin. By Yusuf Q. Khouri. Beirut: Markaz al-
Dirasat al-‘Arabiya wa-Dirasat al-Sharq al-Awsat, Al-Jami’a al-
Amayrikyia fî Bayrut. xiii + 739pp.
Detailed catalogue of 1,214 MSS, 248 photocopies & 531 microfilms. Indexes of titles & authors.

Unpublished catalogues:
The main card catalogue of the Library includes authors, titles & subjects of MSS.

Bârûdi Library (Maktubat Murâd al-Bârûdi)

Status: Private
Conditions of access: Free access for researchers. Appointments not required.
Description of collection: Most of the MSS were copied by the founder of the library in the late 19th century. There are some important medical texts.
NB: 420 MSS formerly in this library were sold in 1925 to Robert Garrett of Baltimore and are now in the Garrett Collection in Princeton University Library, USA (q.v.).¹

Published catalogues:


Dâr al-Kutub al-Lubnâniya al-Wâṭaniya (Lebanese National Library)

Sahat al-Najmi (Star Square)
Date of establishment: 1921
Status: National library
Conditions of access: Credentials required.
Total number of Islamic MSS: 2,500 (mostly Arabic; few Persian; few Turkish).


Description of collection: Most of the MSS were collected by Philippe de Tarrazâ, founder of the Library. They cover a wide range of subjects, but history is the most important. See:


Published catalogues:
Unclassified catalogue of 400 Arabic, Persian & Turkish MSS, with title index. For a critique, see article by Birnbaum (p. 702) in Bibliographical Appendix below.

Unpublished catalogues:
Card catalogues by authors and titles.

Madrasat al-Thalâtha Aqmâr (College of the Three Hierarchs)

Tel.: 334086
Status: Christian (Greek Orthodox) college library
Conditions of access: Credentials required. Open 08.00–16.00 (academic year).
Total number of Islamic MSS: 29 (Arabic).
Description of collection: Christian MSS, with important polemic texts.
Published catalogues:
Al-Ma’had al-‘Āli li-l-Dirāsāt al-Islāmiyya (Higher Institute for Islamic Studies)

Date of establishment: 1981
Status: Islamic religious institute, affiliated to Jam‘īyat al-Maqāsid al-Khayriyya al-Islāmiyya (Society for Islamic Charitable Purposes)
Description of collection: The Institute’s holdings of Arabic MSS include many texts on Hadith, fiqh, etc., some of which are hitherto unknown or unpublished works. In 1983 the family of Shaykh Muḥammad al-‘Unsī (1872–1960) donated his important collection of 21 MS. volumes, including several majmu‘as.
Published catalogues:
Detailed catalogue of 21 MS. volumes, giving titles, authors (with their dates, incipits, explicitis, dimensions, copyists, dates & places of copying, commentaries & marginalia, notes, etc. No indexes.

Markaz al-Khadamāt wa-l’-Abbāth al-Thaqāfiyya (Cultural Services & Research Centre)

Published catalogues:

Near East School of Theology

PO Box 13-5780, Chouran, Beirut
Tel.: 349-901
Date of establishment: 1932
Status: Christian (Protestant) college library
Conditions of access: Credentials required. Open 08.00–18.00, Monday–Saturday.
Total number of Islamic MSS: 451 (446 Arabic; 1 Persian; 4 Turkish).
Description of collection: The MSS cover a variety of subjects. 135 are of Islamic interest.

Published catalogues:
Classified catalogue of the entire collection, with indexes of writers & titles.

Unpublished catalogues:
Card catalogue.

Typescript list of authors.

Université Saint Joseph (Jami‘at al-Qiddīs Yūsuf)

Bibliothèque Orientale
PO Box 166775, Ashrafieh, Beirut
Tel.: 395-608. Telex: 21486 LE
Date of establishment: 1875
Status: University library (private, Jesuit Christian)
Conditions of access: Credentials required. Open 08.00–16.00.
Total number of Islamic MSS: 2,800 (mostly Arabic; few Persian; few Turkish).
Description of collection: The largest collection of Arabic MSS in Lebanon, including 167 on Islamic subjects. Most of the important texts were edited and published by Father Lūwīs Shaykhū [Louiss Cheikho], editor of Al-Mashriq and founder of the Library.

Published catalogues:
Descriptions of astronomical MSS.

Detailed descriptions of 34 Arabic medical MSS.

1904–06. Al-makhtūṭat al-‘Arabiyya fi khizānat Kulliyatinā ‘l-Sharqiyya. By Lūwīs Shaykhū [Cheikho]. Al-Mashriq 7, 1904,

Descriptions of 130 MSS on Christian subjects.


Detailed descriptions of 150 Christian and Muslim Arabic and Turkish historical MSS. Title index.


Supplément au catalogue des manuscrits arabes historiques; ouvrages géographiques; ouvrages d’astronomie; ouvrages de physique, de musique et de mécanique; ouvrages de mathématiques. Detailed descriptions of 95 Christian and Muslim Arabic and Turkish MSS. Title index.


Ouvrages de mineralogie, de chimie et de divination; ouvrages de médecine. Detailed descriptions of 91 Christian and Muslim Arabic MSS. Title index.


Detailed descriptions of 131 Christian and Muslim Arabic, Persian & Syriac MSS. Title index.


Detailed descriptions of 194 Christian Arabic MSS. Title index.


Detailed descriptions of 131 Christian Arabic MSS. Indexes of authors, titles, copyists, persons & subjects for the whole series 1913–29.


Detailed descriptions of 142 Christian Arabic MSS. Indexes of authors, titles & copyists.


Detailed descriptions of 141 Christian Arabic MSS. Indexes of authors, titles & copyists.


Includes detailed descriptions of 2 Christian Arabic illustrated MSS.


Detailed descriptions of 260 Christian Arabic MSS. Indexes of authors, titles, copyists, translators & owners.


1984. Two Arabic MSS are included in the exhibition catalogue listed under Union Catalogues above.

*Unpublished catalogues:* Card catalogues by authors and titles.

**BELMONT (Balamand)**

**Dayr al-Balman** (Belmont Monastery)

Tel.: 620041
*Date of establishment:* 1113
*Status:* Christian (Greek Orthodox) monastic library
*Conditions of access:* Credentials required. Open 08.00–16.00, Monday–Saturday.
*Total number of Islamic MSS:* 190 (Arabic).
*Description of collection:* Christian works, including important works of the Fathers of the Orthodox Church.

*Published catalogues:* 1970. *Fihristi makhfijat Dayr al-Balman.* *Manuscripts du Couvent de Bel-

**BKIRKI (Bkerké)**

*Al-Maktuba al-Beatriyarkiya al-Marwniya* (Maronite Patriarchate Library)

Tel.: 930011
*Date of establishment:* 1830
*Status:* Christian religious library
*Conditions of access:* By appointment. Credentials required.
*Total number of Islamic MSS:* 290 (Arabic).
*Description of collection:* These are all Christian MSS, but there are a number of important historical texts dealing with the Maronites and their relations with the Vatican, France, etc.


*Includes descriptions of the MSS.*


1984. Nine Arabic MSS are included in the exhibition catalogue listed under Union Catalogues above.

*Unpublished catalogues:* Handwritten list arranged by authors.

**BAŞARMÁ**

**Dayr Sayyidat al-Najā** (Monastery of Our Lady of Salvation)

Tel.: 650491
BSHARRI

Dayr Mār Alishā (Monastery of St Elisha)

Date of establishment: 1835
Status: Christian (Maronite) monastic library
Conditions of access: Credentials required. Open 08.00–16.00, Monday–Friday.
Total number of Islamic MSS: 18 (Arabic).
Description of collection: 16 of the MSS contain Christian texts for the use of priests; the other 2 are medical books, one a 19th-century translation from French.
Published catalogues: 1926. For descriptions of 6 MSS (Syriac & Arabic), see article by SHIBL (pp. 744–748) under Union Catalogues above.

BYBLOS—see JUBAYL

BZAMMĀR

Dayr Sayyidat Bzammār (Monastery of Our Lady of Bzammar)

Status: Christian monastic library

FAYṬARŪN

Dayr Mār Dūnīt (St Domitius Monastery)

Date of establishment: 1862
Status: Christian (Maronite) monastic library
Conditions of access: Credentials required. Open 08.00–16.00, Monday–Friday.
Total number of Islamic MSS: 81 (Arabic).
Description of collection: Christian texts. One MS. dates from 1450, the others from the 17th–19th centuries. Some of them were formerly in the Monastery of Our Lady at Luwayza (g.v.).

Includes descriptions of 110 Arabic MSS.

Unpublished catalogues: Card catalogue, arranged by authors.

GHUSTĀ (Gosta)

Dayr al-Kuraym (Kuraym Monastery)

Status: Christian (Maronite) monastic library
Conditions of access: Credentials required. Open 08.00–16.00, Monday–Friday.
Total number of Islamic MSS: 217 (Arabic).
Description of collection: These MSS have been collected from a num-
ber of monasteries of Mount Lebanon. They are mostly Christian (with important polemic texts), but there are a few on Islamic law.

Published catalogues:
1963. See union catalogue by NASRALLAH, vol. II, pp. 7 - 118, for detailed classified descriptions of all 217 MSS.

1984. Four Arabic MSS are included in the exhibition catalogue listed under Union Catalogues above.

Unpublished catalogues:
Card catalogue by authors.

Dayr Mār Shalīta (St Shalita's Monastery)

Date of establishment: 1628
Status: Christian (Maronite) monastic library
Conditions of access: Credentials required. Open 08.00 - 16.00, Monday - Friday.
Total number of Islamic MSS: 5 (Arabic).
Description of collection: Christian texts, for the use of priests.
Published catalogues:
1902 - 03. See articles by Harīpūsh (5, pp. 892 - 898 & 1038 - 1042; 6, pp. 116 - 123, 448 - 454 & 593 - 598) under Union Catalogues above.

Dayr Mār Yūsuf al-Hūsn (Monastery of St Joseph)

Date of establishment: 1766
Status: Christian (Maronite) monastic library
Conditions of access: Credentials required. Open 08.00 - 16.00, Monday - Friday.
Total number of Islamic MSS: 9 (Arabic).
Description of collection: All the MSS were written by the Maronite Patriarch Yūsuf Isḥāqān in the 18th century.
Published catalogues:
1927. See article by Shuli (pp. 419 - 423 & 616 - 619) under Union Catalogues above.

HARHAYA

Dayr Mār ʿAbdā (Monastery of St ʿAbda)

Harhayaya, Kasrawan
Status: Christian (Maronite) monastic library
Conditions of access: Credentials required. Open 08.00 - 16.00, Monday - Friday.
Total number of Islamic MSS: 85 (Arabic).
Description of collection: There are several Muslim MSS, including a 16th- or 17th-century Qurān, some literary and linguistic works and a collection of Ḥanāfi fatwās; also one on Druze doctrines. The rest are Christian, including important polemic works and some literary texts, one of which is a volume of verse in dialect.
Published catalogues:
1963. See union catalogue by NASRALLAH, vol. II, pp. 119 - 160, for detailed descriptions of these MSS.

HARIṢA (Harissa)

Dayr al-ʿAbā Aṣ al-Bawlusīyin (Monastery of the Paulist Fathers)

Date of establishment: 1903
Status: Christian (Greek Catholic) monastic library
Conditions of access: Credentials required. Open 08.00 - 16.00, Monday - Saturday.
Total number of Islamic MSS: 209 (Arabic).
Description of collection: 151 of the MSS are on specifically Christian themes; the remaining 58 are on history, language, literature, medicine & other subjects.
Published catalogues:
Unpublished catalogues:
Card catalogues by authors & titles.

HRAH

Dayr Mār Yuḥannā (St John’s Monastery)

Hrash, Kasrawan
Date of establishment: 1643
**JUBAYL (Byblos)**

Dayr al-Banāt / Dayr Sayyidat al-Maʿunāt (Monastery of Our Lady)

*Date of establishment: 1770*

Status: Christian (Maronite) monastic library  
*Conditions of access: Credentials required. Open 08.00–16.00, Monday–Friday.*  
*Total number of Islamic MSS: 200 (Arabic).*  
*Description of collection: Christian MSS, with important polemic texts.*  
For the history of the library, see:

1927. Lamha tārikhiyā fi Dayr Sayyidat al-Maʿunāt (aw al-Banāt),  

*Published catalogues:*

1963. See union catalogue by Nasrallah, *vol. II*, pp. 163–264, for classified descriptions of all 200 MSS.

1984. Four Arabic MSS are included in the exhibition catalogue listed under Union Catalogues above.

*Unpublished catalogues:*
Handwritten list arranged by authors.

**KAFIFĀN (Kifān)**

Dayr Mār Qibriyānūs (St Cyprian’s Monastery)

Kafīn, Batrūn

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**KASLIK**

Université Saint-Esprit (Jami‘at al-Rūh al-Quds)

Bibliothèque Centrale
Al-Kaslik, Jīnīya (Jounieh)  
Tel.: 930124. Telex: 45777  
*Date of establishment: 1950*

Status: University library (private, Maronite Christian)  
*Published catalogues:*

1984. The exhibition catalogue published by the University (see Union Catalogues above) includes one Christian Arabic MS. from its own library.

**LUWAYZA (Louayzé)**

Dayr Sayyidat al-Luwayza (Monastery of Our Lady of Luwayza)

Luwayza, Kasrawan  
*Date of establishment: 1707*

Status: Christian (Maronite) monastic library  
*Description of collection: According to Nasrallah (Union catalogue, vol. I, p. 17), all that remained of this monastery’s MSS were transferred to Dayr Mār Dūnā at Fayṭarūn (p.e.); but this is evidently not entirely correct, as one Arabic MS. from here was included in the 1984 Kaslik exhibition (see below).*
Published catalogues: 1984. One Arabic MS. is included in the exhibition catalogue listed under Union Catalogues above.

MAYFŪQ

Dayr al-Sayyida (Monastery of Our Lady)

Date of establishment: 1766
Status: Christian (Maronite) monastic library
Conditions of access: Credentials required. Open 08.00–16.00, Monday–Friday.
Total number of Islamic MSS: 84 (Arabic).
Description of collection: Christian texts for the use of priests and students of theology.
Published catalogues: 1926. See article by Shmū (pp. 657–660) under Union Catalogues above.
Unpublished catalogues: Handwritten list arranged by authors.

NISBAYH

Dayr al-Sayyida (Monastery of Our Lady)

Date of establishment: 1879
Status: Christian (Maronite) monastic library
Conditions of access: Credentials required. Open 08.00–16.00, Monday–Friday.
Total number of Islamic MSS: 32 (Arabic).
Description of collection: The texts are 19th-century translations of Latin Christian works.
Published catalogues: 1927. See article by Shmū (pp. 416–419) under Union Catalogues above.

QUZHAYYA

Dayr Mār Anṭawniyūs (St Anthony’s Monastery)

Date of establishment: ca. 11th century CE
Status: Christian (Maronite) monastic library

Conditions of access: Credentials required. Open 08.00–16.00, Monday–Friday.
Total number of Islamic MSS: 29 (Arabic).
Description of collection: Christian texts for the use of priests.
Published catalogues: 1926. See article by Shmū (pp. 751–755) under Union Catalogues above.

RAYFŪN

Dayr Mār Sarkis (Monastery of St Sarkis)

Date of establishment: 1884
Status: Christian (Maronite) monastic library
Conditions of access: Credentials required.
Total number of Islamic MSS: 19 (Arabic).
Description of collection: Christian texts (some in Karshuni) for the use of priests.
Published catalogues: 1928. See article by Shmū (pp. 128–131) under Union Catalogues above.

ŠARĪBA

Dayr al-Mukhallās (Monastery of the Saviour)

The MSS formerly kept here are now in Dayr al-Shīr, Al-Shīr (q.f.).

ŠAYDĀ—see SIDON

SHARFA (Al-Sharfa or Al-Shurfa)

Dayr al-Sharfa (Sharfa Monastery—Syrian Catholic Patriarchate)

Tel.: 09-903040
Date of establishment: 1786
Status: Christian (Syrian Catholic) monastic & patriarchal library
Conditions of access: Credentials required. Open 08.00–16.00, Monday–Friday.
Total number of Islamic MSS: 644 (633 Arabic; 6 Persian; 5 Turkish).

Description of collection: Mainly Christian texts, but there are 10 MSS on fiqh, as well as others on language, medicine, history, geography, physics, chemistry, & astronomy. See:


Published catalogues:


Includes descriptions of a number of MSS, mostly Syriac, but some partly in Arabic & in the Arabic script.


Classified catalogue, in Arabic (preface also in French), which includes 569 Arabic, Persian & Turkish MSS (Christian and Muslim). According to Nasrallah (see above), this catalogue is uncritical and incomplete.


Includes name & subject index. The author was primarily concerned with Syriac texts, but there is some mention of Arabic items.

Unpublished catalogues:

Card catalogue by authors.

Al-Shīr

Dayr al-Shīr (Monastery of al-Shīr)

near Sūq al-Gharb, Matn

Status: Christian (Greek Catholic) monastic library

Conditions of access: Credentials required. Open 08.00 – 16.00, Monday – Friday.

Total number of Islamic MSS: 192 (Arabic).

Description of collection: Mostly Christian MSS, with some important polemic texts; a few also on history, medicine, language & literature (including an 18th-century copy of the Diwan of Ibn al-Farḥīn).

Published catalogues:


Unpublished catalogues:

Card catalogue by authors.

Kūthī Bilewshar wa-Ṣa’dah [Romance of Barlaam & Josaphat], dated 1056 AH [1678 CE]2. There are also 200 Arabic MSS formerly in Dayr al-Mukhaliṣ (Monastery of the Saviour), Sarba (see 1923 catalogue below), which have been transferred here. See:


Published catalogues:


Mentions a few of the library’s MSS.


Unpublished catalogues:

There is a card catalogue, arranged by authors, of the Dayr al-Mukhaliṣ collection.

SHUWAYR

Dayr al-Shuwayr (Shuwayr Monastery)

Status: Christian (Greek Catholic) monastic library

Conditions of access: Credentials required. Open 08.00 – 16.00, Monday – Friday.

Total number of Islamic MSS: 192 (Arabic).

Description of collection: Mostly Christian MSS, with some important polemic texts; a few also on history, medicine, language & literature (including an 18th-century copy of the Diwan of Ibn al-Farḥīn).

Published catalogues:


Unpublished catalogues:

Card catalogue by authors.

SHUWAYYA

Dayr Mār Ilyās (Monastery of St Elias)

Date of establishment: 1518
Status: Christian (Greek Orthodox) monastic library
Conditions of access: Credentials required. Open 08.00–16.00, Monday–Friday.
Total number of Islamic MSS: 36 (Arabic).
Description of collection: Christian texts, for the use of priests.
Published catalogues:
1961. See union catalogue by NASBALLYH, vol. III, pp. 157–171, for a detailed catalogue of these MSS.

SIDON (Ṣaydā)

Dayr al-Mukhallis (Monastery of the Saviour)

Shíf, near Sidon
Tel.: 720440 or 720162
Date of establishment: 1711
Status: Christian (Greek Catholic) monastic library
Conditions of access: Credentials required. Open 08.00–16.00, Monday–Friday.
Total number of Islamic MSS: 2,550 (Arabic).
Description of collection: Christian texts, including some on history which have been edited and published.
Published catalogues:
Lists 1,000 MSS.

Dār al-Kalima. XX + 239 + 12pp.
Catalogue of 250 MSS.

Unpublished catalogues:
Card catalogue by authors & titles.

Maṯraniyat al-Rūm al-Kāthawīk (Greek Catholic Archbishopric)

Status: Christian religious library
Conditions of access: By appointment. Credentials required.
Total number of Islamic MSS: 22 (Arabic).
Description of collection: Christian texts, for the use of priests.
Published catalogues:

ȘUR—see TYRE

TÂMÎSÎ

Dayr al-Sayyida (Monastery of Our Lady)

Date of establishment: 1670
Status: Christian (Maronite) monastic library
Conditions of access: Credentials required. Open 08.00–16.00, Monday–Friday.
Total number of Islamic MSS: 15 (Arabic).
Description of collection: Christian texts, for the use of priests.
Published catalogues:
& 217–221.
Includes list of MSS.

TRIPOLI (Tarabûlus)

Khizânat Kutub Āl al-Maghrîbî (Maghrîbi Family Library)

Date of establishment: early 20th century
Status: Private research library
Conditions of access: Credentials required.
Description of collection: The MSS were collected by the founder of the Library, Ābd al-Qâdir al-Maghrîbî, a student of the 19th-century reformers Jamâl al-Dîn al-Afghâni and Muḥammad ʿAbduh.

LEBANON—SIDON
Published catalogues:
Contains brief descriptions of 40 MSS.
Unpublished catalogues:
Handwritten list of authors & titles.

TYRE (Sūr)
Maṭrāniyyat al-Rūm al-Kāthawilik (Greek Catholic Archbishopric)

Status: Christian religious library
Conditions of access: By appointment. Credentials required.
Total number of Islamic MSS: 74 (Arabic).
Description of collection: One Islamic text, on ʿilm al-farāḍīf; the rest Christian, including some important polemic works.
Published catalogues:
1961. See union catalogue by NASRALLAH, vol. III, pp. 87–143 for detailed classified descriptions of the MSS.
Unpublished catalogues:
Card catalogue by authors.

ZAHLA
Al-Khizāna al-Mašīfiyya (Mašīf Library)

Date of establishment: 1925
Status: Private research library
Conditions of access: Open 08.00–16.00, Monday–Saturday.
Description of collection: A variety of subjects are covered. There are some important historical works, including the 14-volume magnum opus of the Library’s founder, Ḥasan ʿIskandr al-Mašīfī, on the leading families of the Arab world, Turkey & Iran. Several individual MSS were described and/or edited in Mašīf’s own periodical Al-ʾĀthār, Zahlā, 1911–28.

Published catalogues:

Includes notes on a number of Arabic MSS.

Enumerates 10 MS. works by Mašīf himself.

1970. Volume IV of the 1958–70 union catalogue by NASRALLAH is devoted to detailed descriptions of 426 MSS in this library, with indexes of authors, titles & copyists.

Unpublished catalogues:
Draft catalogue by the late owner.
Card catalogues, arranged by authors & titles.
Handwritten list arranged by authors.

ZŪQ MIKĀĪL
Dayr Sayyidat al-Bishāra (Monastery of Our Lady of the Annunciation)

Status: Christian (Greek Catholic) monastic library
Description of collection: According to NASRALLAH (union catalogue, vol. I, p. 32), this monastery possessed neither library nor MSS, but evidently some have been found or acquired since his survey.
Published catalogues:

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL APPENDIX


Lebanese National Library, p. 702.


Lubnān, pp. 55–58.


Lūbán, p. 49.


Bibliotheken und Sammlungen arabischer Handschriften, pp. 311–466. Libanon, pp. 399–400.