and affected by damp. There is no conservation work on the collection. Research work is difficult as the collection is mixed up with various historical documents.

It is not known whether this collection has been catalogued.

WADIYYAH

Mal. Abu Bella

Abu Bella’s quarters
adjacent to Wadiyyah market

Date of establishment: 1968

Status: Private

Conditions of access: By appointment with the owner.

Total number of Islamic MSS: 87 (Arabic).

Description of collection: This collection was bequeathed to the present owner by his father, who had inherited it from his grandfather. There are some very old manuscripts which deal with the history of towns, scholars and chiefs of Liptako, i.e. Fulanis and their settlements.

Most of the MSS in this collection date from the 17th to the 20th centuries. They are kept in a wooden box. Most have suffered damage, and have torn pages, which makes reading them very difficult.

Subjects covered are: Qur’āns (2), history (13), fiqh (19), ‘aqīdah (7), medicine (7), astrology (4), astronomy (1), tafsīr (2), Hadīth (5), praise of the Prophet (2), literature (1), biography of the Prophet (1), wazī’ (5), sermons (1), correspondence (10), science and the occult (3), Shari‘ah (4).

The collection has some MSS with fine calligraphy. The rarities are: Infaq al-maṣūr fi tārikh bi‘lād al-Tukhrūr (incomplete), by Muḥammad Bello bin Úthman, undated; and Kitāb ṣan al-ḥalāl wa-‘l-ḥarām, by Muḥammad ibn al-Hājj ibn ʿAbd al-Raḥmān al-Baḥrānī, undated.

It is not known whether this collection has been catalogued or not.
EDITORIAL NOTE

What follows are particulars of some collections in N'djamena, the capital of Chad. Unfortunately it has not been possible to obtain a survey of the rest of the country, where almost certainly other significant collections of MSS are to be found.

G.J.R.

INDIVIDUAL COLLECTIONS

N'DJAMENA

Adoum al-Amaf

BP 1101, N'Djamena
Status: Private
Conditions of access: Free access.
Total number of Islamic MSS: 10 (Arabic).
Description of collection: The manuscripts mainly contain theological texts. They are undated, and are of calligraphic quality.

Mahamat Saleh Ayoub

c/o Centre al-Mouna, BP 504, N'Djamena
Status: Private
Conditions of access: Free access.
Total number of Islamic MSS: 6 (Arabic).
Description of collection: The manuscripts mostly contain theological texts and poetry. They are undated, and are of calligraphic quality.

Imam Moussa Djibrine

BP 1101, N'Djamena
Status: Private
Conditions of access: Free access.
Description of collection: The manuscripts mainly contain poetry and
grammatical texts. They are undated. Some have calligraphic quality.

Al-Cheikh Mahamat Helou

BP 1101, N'Djamena
Status: Private
Conditions of access: Free access.
Total number of Islamic MSS: 20 (Arabic).
Description of collection: The manuscripts mainly contain theological texts. They are undated, and are of calligraphic quality.

Higher Islamic Committee

BP 1101, N’Djamena
Status: Private
Conditions of access: Free access.
Total number of Islamic MSS: 20 (Arabic).
Description of collection: The manuscripts mainly cover theology, poetry, grammar and phonology. They are undated. Some have calligraphic quality.

Hissein Ibrahim

BP 1101, N’Djamena
Status: Private
Conditions of access: Free access.
Total number of Islamic MSS: 11 (Arabic).
Description of collection: The manuscripts mainly contain historical and theological texts. They are undated, and are of calligraphic quality.

Institut National pour les Sciences Humaines (INSH)

BP 503, N’Djamena
Tel.: (233) 312967
Status: Public research institute
Conditions of access: Free access.

Total number of Islamic MSS: 25 (Arabic).
Description of collection: The manuscripts mainly cover the fields of grammar, history and poetry. The majority are undated. Some have calligraphic quality. One significant MS, in this collection is: Tafsir al-bayrân min hâsâd fî tafsîr al-samânî, by ‘Abd Allâh ibn Wâlî Allâh Ya’qûb, copied in 1362 AH [1943].
No published catalogues, but see

Tchad: Institut National Tchadien pour les Sciences Humaines, pp. 670–671.

Ousman Ali Mahamat

BP 643, N’Djamena
Status: Private
Conditions of access: Free access.
Total number of Islamic MSS: 5 (Arabic).
Description of collection: Fields covered include theology, history and phonology. Most of the MSS are undated.

Al-Sheikh Mahamat al-Mahiti

BP 1101, N’Djamena
Status: Private
Conditions of access: Free access.
Description of collection: The manuscripts mainly contain historical and theological texts. They are undated, and are of calligraphic quality.

Ali Ahmat Manani

BP 473, N’Djamena
Status: Private
Conditions of access: Free access.
Total number of Islamic MSS: 5 (Arabic).
Description of collection: The manuscripts mainly contain grammatical and theological texts. They are undated, and are of a particular calligraphic quality.

Ali Mahamat Taha

BP 1101, N’Djamena
Status: Private
Conditions of access: Free access.
Total number of Islamic MSS: 7 (Arabic).
Description of collection: Fields covered include theology and grammar. The MSS are undated, and are of calligraphic quality.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL APPENDIX


Bibliotheken und Sammlungen arabischer Handschriften: Tschad, p. 454.

CHINA

by

Mozafar Bakhtyar

1993