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GUIDE TO REFERENCE BOOKS FOR ISLAMIC STUDIES

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PREFACE

This is a guide to more than 1,200 books, articles, tables, and charts, both classical and modern, for the study of the history, culture, society, and faith of the Muslim peoples. It covers the geographical expanse from Spain to China, and chronologically from the time of Muhammad to the abolition of the caliphate in 1924. Limited to this last date the *Guide* excludes reference materials on the contemporary politics, modern states, and related subjects of the Middle East and North Africa; for this it is suggested that Reeva S. Simon's *The Modern Middle East: a guide to research tools in the social sciences* be consulted.

Because of the vast size of the literature on some subjects a certain amount of selectivity has had to be employed. Thus, the listings of bibliographies is severely limited to those the compiler believes are of particular importance for each subject from amongst the thousands which have been published. In addition, although to date a complete listing of the commentaries upon the Qur'ān has not been made only a few which are generally regarded as the most important have been included; this same selectivity has been employed as well for the collections of the traditions, primarily, although not exclusively limited to the six "canonical" collections of the Sunnis and the four books of the Shī'ites. Also, because of the large numbers of language dictionaries in the primary languages of the Muslim world - Arabic, Farsi, Turkish, and Urdu - a strict limitation has been placed with reference made to those bibliographies of dictionaries which have been published. To have attempted to be more comprehensive would have delayed the publication of this *Guide* even more than it has been and, in addition, would have resulted in a multi-volumed work. Despite this required selectivity

no reference tool has been excluded because of language.

Because of the very nature of a work of this kind it has been considered imperative that all titles should be printed in their original scripts. Except for those in the languages of western Europe, all titles have, in addition, been translated into English, unless a translation into French or German has been provided by the original author. In this case the two titles have been separated by a slanted line (/). The translations made by the compiler have been included within brackets ([]). In every case the translation is as close to the meaning of the original as possible and still make sense. This has often resulted in some very interesting titles because of the interest of many classical Arabic and Persian authors in alliterative or rhyming phrases rather than in seeking clarity. At the request of librarians primary titles in alphabets other than Latin have been transliterated into a short-title form. The transliteration systems employed are those of the Library of Congress.

Approximately ninety-percent of the main entries are annotated; these vary in nature according to the work. It is within these annotations that translations, abridgements, supplements, continuations, and indices are included. This arrangement, it is believed, will be of greater use than to have placed them as separate entries. Furthermore, the annotations frequently include the dates and locales of additional printings, reprints, and other editions. No attempt was made, however, to be all inclusive. In this regard the edition employed for the main entry was that most readily available at the time, although a serious effort was made to employ that generally regarded as the best to date.

Included is an addenda for materials which either had not been released from the press or did not otherwise become available until after the body of the text had been typed. These are, however, included within the index and their numbers, ending with the letter "a", follow the arrangement of the *Guide*.

The compilation of the *Guide* has extended over a quarter of a century and has been conducted in numerous libraries in Africa, Asia, Europe, and the United States, including several private collections.

To the responsible officials and individuals, some now deceased, go my appreciation and heartfelt thanks for their many kindnesses. Also, I am extremely grateful to the numerous friends, scholars, and publishers who have provided me with copies of their publications as well as for suggestions and assistance. Finally, I wish to express my thanks to my colleague, Professor Peter Golas, for transcribing the Chinese and Japanese titles for use within the *Guide*.

No one is more aware of the imperfections, both in commission and omission, of this work than I. There is the Muslim adage that only Allāh can create perfection and I must, perforce, fall back upon this. It is hoped, however, that the *Guide* may, at the least, indicate those reference materials which we do possess, and that it may, as well, illustrate those which are still required for the advancement of the field. Suggestions, corrections, and additions for the improvement of this work will be most gratefully received.

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ABBREVIATIONS

cir.: *circa*

dbl. col.: double column

ed.(s): editor(s)

GAL: Carl Brockelmann, *Geschichte der arabischen Literatur*

inc.: incorporated

lith.: lithographed

Mushār: Khān Bābā Mushār, *Mu^oallifīn Kutub Chāpī Fārsī wa ^cArabī...*

p. (*pp*): page(s)

Sarkīs: Yūsuf Alyān Sarkīs, *Mu^cjam al-Maṭbū^cāt al-^cArabīya...*

Storey: Charles A. Storey, *Persian Literature:...*

trans.: translation; translator(s)

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