ANTONY AND ERIK HOLTÅG

THE PLACE TO GO

CONTEXTS OF LEARNING IN BAGHDAD, 750-1000 C.E.

This work focuses on the intellectual and educational history of Baghdad in the early *Abbadid and *Būyid periods (8th–10th centuries). It covers a wide range of disciplines taught in the metropolis before the institutionalization of the madrasa system.

Among these fields of knowledge are Arabic poetry and literature, the transmission of prophetic reports, Arabic historiography and astronomical-astrological teaching. Christian learning in the city is highlighted by two contributions, while two more papers focus on Jewish practices of knowledge production.

The volume seeks to promote a better understanding of Baghdad’s multi-cultural circles of learning, the transmission of knowledge, and common patterns of patronage during this period.


Jens Scheiner and Damien Janos (eds.)

Pierre Loti

THE WAY TO ISFAHAN AND PASSING THROUGH MUSCAT

Translated and annotated by G. Rex Smith with Jonathan M. G. Smith

From 17 April, 1900, to 6 June of that year, Pierre Loti travelled in a private capacity from Bhurst on the Persian Gulf northwards through Shiraz, Persepolis, Isfahan and Tehran, before returning via the Caspian Sea to Europe. It is the personal day-by-day account of his journey, the hardships of the mountainous terrain and the empty desert. Loti excels in his descriptions of the world around him: the sky, the mountains, the fertile plains, the deserted desert. His descriptions of the people he meets, their dress and manners are remarkable.

Loti had come from India and on his way to the Gulf he stopped off at Muscat and his account of this brief visit was published as *En passant à Mascate* (Passing through Muscat). This is the first English translation of both texts.

Pierre Loti (1850-1923) was born Louis-Marie-Julien Viaud into a Protestant family in Rochefort in Saintonge, South-West France. (now Charente Maritime). He was an officer of the French Navy and a prolific author of considerable note in 19th-early 20th-century France, publishing many novels and numerous accounts of his travels around the world. He was a member of the French Academy. Apart from his literary talents, Loti was a pioneer photographer and this translation of his journey to Persia in 1900 is greatly enhanced by the reproduction of some of the photographs he took at the time.

Volume includes 24 historic photos and 1 map.

David Heard (ed.)

THE TRUCIAL COAST POLITICAL REPORTS 1958-1963

The Slow Progress From Pearls To Oil

The Trucial Coast Political Reports are a unique record of events, commented on by a small group of British men living in Sharjah and Dubai. This was in the years leading up to the commencement of oil exports from the desert of Abu Dhabi.

These men regularly met to discuss and negotiate with the Rulers of the Trucial States - sometimes in a state of mutual incomprehension - the conditions under which the Company (Petroleum Development Trucial Coast or PD/TCD) would operate in their various territories. Boundaries and frontiers marched out in the desert were in many a novelty to the Bedouin as the notions of royalties and depreciation were to the Rulers. Men such as Bird, Codrai and Henderson learnt to understand, to some extent, the language and ways of the people of the Trucial Coast. They in turn had to adapt their style of government to the Rulers. This was in the years leading up to the commencement of oil exports from the desert of Abu Dhabi.

It is thanks to these Company Representatives living on the Trucial Coast that the bulk of the Diaries was saved. It is due to the efforts of the London executives that much other material was lost in the name of economy of storage space.

These Reports record important events as well as the writer’s observations. The editor has included some additional material from the PD/TCD company files to present a more complete account.

Volume includes 31 photographs and 1 map.

Averil Cameron, Lawrence I. Conrad, John Haldon, Geoffrey King (eds.)

THE BYZANTINE AND EARLY ISLAMIC NEAR EAST

- 4 VOLUMES SET COMPRISING VOLS 1.1 – 1.4 –

Volume 1: Problems in the Literary Source Material

focuses on the problems researchers face when using (Byzantine) Greek, Syriac and Arabic sources together for the reconstruction of Near Eastern history from 400- ca. 800.

Volume 2: Land Use and Settlement Patterns

revisits archaeological evidence from Syria, Palestine, the Arabian Peninsula, Iraq and Egypt describing a variety of land-use patterns and the development of a particular type of settlement across the Near East.

Volume 3: States, Resources and Armies

focuses on a comparative analysis of Byzantine, Sasanian and Muslim armies and their impact on state resources.

Volume 4: Elites Old and New

presents a collection of critical analyses of the structure, historical development, and composition of the elite strata of late Roman, Byzantine, and early Islamic societies in the eastern Mediterranean basin.

"Taken together, these studies offer clear guidance to novices and invaluable points of reference for all students of the Byzantine and Islamic worlds in this period." (Jonathan Shepard)

Jens Scheiner and Damien Janos (eds.)

THE PLACE TO GO

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This work focuses on the intellectual and educational history of Baghdad in the early *Abbadid and *Būyid periods (8th–10th centuries). It covers a wide range of disciplines taught in the metropolis before the institutionalization of the madrasa system.

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Robert G. Hoyland (ed.)

**THE LATE ANTIQUE WORLD OF EARLY ISLAM**

**MUSLIMS AMONG CHRISTIANS AND JEWS IN THE EAST MEDITERRANEAN**

This book offers a number of innovative studies on the three main communities of the East Mediterranean lands—Muslims, Jews and Christians—in the aftermath of the seventh-century Arab conquests. It focuses principally on how the Christian majority were affected by and adapted to their loss of political power in such arenas as language use, identity construction, church building, pilgrimage, and the role of women. Attention is also paid to how the Muslim community defined itself, administered justice, and regulated relations with non-Muslims. This work will be important for anyone interested in the ways in which the cultures and traditions of the late antique Mediterranean world were transformed in the course of the seventh to tenth centuries by the establishment of the new Muslim political elite and the gradual emergence of an Islamic Empire.

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David Cook

**STUDIES IN MUSLIM APOCALYPTIC**

A detailed study on the nature of Muslim apocalyptic material in Islam, both Sunni and Shīʿa. Taking a transcultural perspective by also discussing Christian and Jewish apocalyptic traditions, it offers in eight studies and three appendices a typology of apocalypses and many new insights into the matter.

For instance, historical apocalypses as well as apocalyptic figures, like the Dajjāl, the Sūfīyānī and the Mahdī are discussed. Moreover, apocalyptic hadith literature, in particular Nāṣir al-Dīn al-isfahānī’s (d. 844) Kitab al-Fitan, and apocalyptic material in tafsīr works are presented. The author argues in this work that the Islamic historical tradition arose not out of idle curiosity, or through imitation of antique models, but as a response to a variety of challenges facing the Islamic community during its first several centuries.

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James E. Lindsay (ed.)

**IBN ‘ASĀKIR AND EARLY ISLAMIC HISTORY**

Ibn *ʿAsākir’s massive Taʾrīkh madhāf Dimashq (TMD) is a veritable gold mine of information for our understanding of the first five and one-half centuries of Islamic history. This book offers important insights on the mechanics of Arabic historiography, in particular on biographical sources from the Middle period. Moreover, two contributions show that Ibn *ʿAsākir pursued a political and sectarian agenda within his TMD.

1. James E. Lindsay, Ibn *ʿAsākir. His Taʾrīkh madhāf Dimashq and Its Usefulness for Understanding Early Islamic History
2. Suleiman A. Mourad, Jesus According to Ibn *ʿAsākir
3. Fred M. Donner, Uthmān and the Rāshidun Caliphs in Ibn *ʿAsākir’s Taʾrīkh madhāf Dimashq: a Study in Strategies of Compilation
5. Steven C. Judd, Ibn *ʿAsākir’s Sources for the Late Umayyad Period
6. Paul M. Cobb, Community versus Contention: Ibn *ʿAsākir and Abādād Syria

Appendices: Publication History of TMD; Studies Addressing TMD; Major Lucinae in TMD; Pre-Islamic Sacred Biographies in TMD; Muhammad, the Rāshidun, and the Umayyad Caliphs in TMD.

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Fred M. Donner

**NARRATIVES OF ISLAMIC ORIGINS**

**THE BEGINNINGS OF ISLAMIC HISTORICAL WRITING**

How and why did Muslims first come to write their own history? The author argues in this work that the Islamic historical tradition arose not out of idle curiosity, or through imitation of antique models, but as a response to a variety of challenges facing the Islamic community during its first several centuries.

In the first part, the author presents an overview of four approaches that have characterized scholarship on the literary sources, including the source-critical and the skeptical approaches, then it discusses historiographical problems raised by the Qurʾān and hadith.

In the second part, the work analyzes major themes in historical narratives and presents formal and structural characteristics of early Islamic historiography. The monograph concludes with the proposition of a four-stage chronology regarding the evolution of historical writing in Arabic.

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**FORTHCOMING**

Fred M. Donner, University of Chicago

...this book “...deserves to become the first that teachers introduce to students.” (Richard Bulliet)
Elizabeth Savage

A GATEWAY TO HELL, A GATEWAY TO PARADISE
THE NORTH AFRICAN RESPONSE TO THE ARAB CONQUEST

This book is a study of the early history of the Ibadīya in North Africa, a "moderate" movement among the Kharjījīs which from its base in Baṣra gradually spread among the Berbers of the Maghreb in the 750s. The Berbers found in this new religious allegiance an attractive ideology with which to rebel against the central caliphate. An Ibadī imamate, headed by the Rustamid dynasty, was founded in Tahart in 165 or 162/777 or 779 and lasted until 296/909, when it fell to the Fatimids.

The book is divided into seven chapters, an introduction and a conclusion. After a brief introduction to the Ibadīya and a survey of the Ibadī sources, the successive chapters examine the nature and ideological underpinnings of the Ibadī imamate and its consolidation in North Africa, the economic bases of the Ibadī policy, some evidence of Christian support (even influence on) the Ibadīya, the tribal alliances of the Ibadīs, and finally, the course of Ibadism after the fall of the Rustamids in 296/909.

Josef Horovitz, edited by Lawrence I. Conrad

THE EARLIEST BIOGRAPHIES OF THE PROPHET AND THEIR AUTHORS

Josef Horovitz (1874-1931) wrote this classic monograph a century ago in two parts in German. The editor added footnotes, corrections and the preface, and it is now a book in its own right.

The translation was prepared by Marmaduke Pickthall (d. 1936). Lawrence I. Conrad, who re-edited the articles also presents a slightly corrected textual version, expanding and updating the notes and bibliography and adding a new introduction dealing with Horovitz's and other orientalists' work on early Islam in the early 20th century.

Horovitz deals with thirteen early scholars who transmitted traditions or compiled sīra or maghāzī works, such as *Urwā b. al-Zubayr (d. ca. 713), Ibn Ishaq (d. 767) and al-Waqīqī (d. 823).

1. Maghāzī Authorities among the Tabi'īn
2. The Early Medinan
3. The Students of al-Zuhārī
4. Maghāzī under the Early 'Abbāsid

Milka Levy-Rubin (ed.)

THE CONTINUATIO OF THE SAMARITAN CHRONICLE OF ABU L-FATH AL-SAMIRI AL-DANAFI

ANOTATED TRANSLATION

A complete facsimile edition of the previously unedited Samaritan sequel to the Kitab al-TaRīkh by Abū l-Fath bīn Abī l-Fath al-Danafī (d. ca. 1355). The edition of this chronicle photographically reproduces Paris BnF Ms. Samaritain 10 (pp. 203–264), which, written in Middle Arabic, seems easily readable but poses a plethora of editorial problems.

The editor entitled the work a Continuatio, and translated it into English with full editorial and explanatory annotation.

"I appert que la Continuatio est une important source historique" (Claude Giliot)

Suliman Bashear

ARABS AND OTHERS IN EARLY ISLAM

This work investigates available early Arabic hadith and exegetical literature in order to determine the great complexity of how Arabs, Muslims and Arab-Muslims viewed themselves and members of other communities.

In particular, it focuses on the relation between definitions of "Arabness" and "otherness" with Islamic ascriptions of believers and nonbelievers and endeavors to trace the changing of these views over time. Moreover, this is an in-depth analysis of a series of hadiths and exegeses that discusses where, when, why, and by whom traditions were circulated during the 8th and 9th centuries.

I. Bedouins and Non-Arabs
II. The Impact of the Arab Polity in Retrospect
III. The Great Fusion
IV. Ambivalent Attitudes
V. Apocalyptic Insecurities
VI. Summary Discussion and Concluding Notes
Martin Hinds; ed. by Jere Bacharach, Lawrence I. Conrad, and Patricia Crone
STUDIES IN EARLY ISLAMIC HISTORY
WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY G. R. HAWTING
Collection of all of Martin Hinds’ (1941–1988) full-length articles which appeared in journals as well as one of his articles for the Encyclopaedia of Islam, 2nd Edition. Most of the articles have to do with the early period of Islamic history, while two others deal with the early "Abbildung caliphate.

The volume is especially important in light of the fact that all of the articles were revised by the editors based on Hinds’ own corrected copies:
1. Kifān Political Alignments and Their Background in the Mid-Seventh Century A.D.
2. The Murder of the Caliph ‘Uthmān
3. The Sīfīn Arbitration Agreement
4. The Banners and Battle Cries of the Arabs at Sīfīn (A.D. 657)
5. Sayf ibn ‘Umar’s Sources on Arabia
6. A Letter From the Governor of Egypt Concerning Egyptian-Nubian Relations in 141/758
7. Magḥāzī and Sīrā in Early Islamic Scholarship
8. The First Arab Conquests in Fāris
9. Hīla

“Hinds’ articles are essential reading for any specialist in early Islamic history.” (Michael Bates)

Robert Schick
THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES OF PALESTINE FROM BYZANTINE TO ISLAMIC RULE
AN HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL STUDY
An assessment of the nature and social continuity of Christian communities in Palestine from 602–813. By synthesizing literary and archeological evidence, it provides a detailed discussion of disparate historical and archeological data.

In the first part, the Sasanian, Byzantine and early Muslim invasions of southern Syria and the changing of government policies towards Christians are discussed. Topical studies about church use, conversion and iconoclasm, are also included.

The second part offers a useful alphabetical list of more than 500 sites that document Christian and Muslim presence and settlement in the area.

“... the book does a great service to those interested in the area and its Christian population...” (John Haldon)

John Haldon and Lawrence I. Conrad (eds.)
THE BYZANTINE AND EARLY ISLAMIC NEAR EAST
VOLUME 4: ELITES OLD AND NEW
A collection of critical analyses of the structure, historical development, and composition of the elite strata of late Roman, Byzantine, and early Islamic societies in the eastern Mediterranean basin. Culture change, economic foundations, political roles and function, social composition, and background and origins of old and new elites are the focus of the contributions by scholars who deal with the fate of the later Roman elite and its successors.

1. Hugh Kennedy, Elite Incomes in the Early Islamic State
2. William Lancaster and Fidelity Lancaster, Concepts of Leadership in Bedouin Society
3. Leslie Brubaker, Elites and Patronage in Early Byzantium: the Evidence from Hagios Dimetrios at Thessalonike
4. Averil Cameron, Demonstration Revisited: Culture and Late Antiquity and Early Byzantine Elites
5. Nadia Maria El Cheickh, Byzantine Leaders in Arabic-Muslim Texts
6. Elizabeth Jeffreys, Notes Towards a Discussion of the Depiction of the Umayyads in Byzantine Literature
7. Claudia Rapp, Bishops in Late Antiquity: a New Social and Urban Elite?
8. John Haldon, The Fate of the Late Roman Senatorial Elite: Extinction or Transformation
9. Zeey Rubin, Nobility, Monarchy and Legitimation under the Later Sasanians
10. Michael G. Morony, Social Elites in Iraq and Iran: After the Conquest

“. . . the articles collected in this volume . . . are without exception of a very high calibre and make a very useful contribution to our understanding of the elites of this fascinating epoch.” (Robert Hoyland)
Averil Cameron (ed.)

THE BYZANTINE AND EARLY ISLAMIC NEAR EAST

VOLUME 1: PROBLEMS IN THE LITERARY SOURCE MATERIAL

This volume revisits archaeological evidence from Syria, Palestine, the Arabian Peninsula, Iraq and Egypt describing a variety of land-use patterns and the development of a particular type of settlement across the Near East.

1. Jean-Michel Carrié, L'Etat à la recherche de nouveaux modes de financement des armées (Rome et Byzance, V-VIIe siècles)
2. Michael Whitby, Recruitment in Roman Armies from Justinian to Heraclius (ca. 565-615)
4. James Howard-Johnston, The Two Great Powers in Late Antiquity: a Comparison
5. Zeev Rubin, The Reforms of Khusro Anushirvān
6. Ella Landau-Tasseron, Features of the Pre-Conquest Muslim Armies in the Time of Muhammad
7. Fred McGraw Donner, Centralized Authority and Military Autonomy in the Early Islamic Conquests
10. Ralph-Johannes Lilie, Zum Einfluß der arabischen Expansion auf die byzantinische Militärorganisation

“Interdisciplinary enterprises such as [this] volume . . . are to be applauded for getting us down to earth.” (Patricia Crone)

VOLUME 2: LAND USE AND SETTLEMENT PATTERNS

This volume focuses on the problems researchers face when using (Byzantine) Greek, Syriac and Arabic sources together for the reconstruction of Near Eastern history from 400–c. 800.

Contributions to the volume set the stage for a critical re-reading and revisionist interpretations of selected sources in the various cultural and literary traditions. The volume thus brings together neighbouring disciplines in ways that shed new light on this vitally important time in history.

1. Michael Whitby, Greek Historical Writing after Procopius: Variety and Vitality
2. Averil Cameron, New Themes and Styles in Greek Literature: Seventh-Eighth Centuries
6. Wadad Al-Qāḍī, Early Islamic State Letters: The Question of Authenticity
7. Stefan Leder, The Literary Use of the Khabar: A Basic Form of Historical Writing

“...the need for such a project as this has been felt by students . . . concerned with the birth of the new faith and the evolution of Islamic society.” (C. Edmund Bosworth)

VOLUME 3: STATES, RESOURCES AND ARMIES

A comparative analysis of Byzantine, Sasanian and Muslim armies and their impact on state resources. Contributions discuss the organization and financing of the army in the late Roman state, the transformations and continuities of the late Sasanid state and with authority and armies in the early Muslim state. Thus, the volume brings together perspectives from neighbouring fields, presents military issues in an intercultural manner and assembles important pieces of knowledge in a comprehensive manner.

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2. Michael Whitby, Recruitment in Roman Armies from Justinian to Heraclius (ca. 565-615)
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MHM Limited
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