

*The art of realizing Arabic manuscripts in the West
and the Orientalists*
فن تحقيق المخطوطات العربية عند الغرب والمستشرقين

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Abstract:

The Orientalists were interested in Arabic manuscripts to identify the reasons for progress and creativity among Arabs and Muslims, and to know the method they followed in the process of building their civilization. To earn a living, then it turned into a science with its own origins and rules. The importance of this research is to confirm what objective Orientalists have presented in order to achieve the Arab heritage, disseminate it, and benefit from its sciences and knowledge.

Keywords: The art of investigation, copy collection, Arabic manuscripts, Orientalism, Orientalists

ملخص:

لقد اهتمّ المستشرقون بالمخطوطات العربية للتعرف على أسباب التقدّم والإبداع عند العرب والمسلمين، ومعرفة المنهج الذي ساروا عليه في مسيرة بنائهم الحضاري.

إن الهدف من البحث هو تسليط الضوء على الجهود التي بذلها المستشرقون في مجال علم التحقيق، والذي كان في طور نشأته الأولى صناعة تحترف للكسب المعيشي ثم تحوّلت إلى علم له أصوله وقواعده. إن أهمية هذا البحث هي تأكيد ما قدّمه المستشرقون الموضوعيون من أجل تحقيق التراث العربي ونشره والاستفادة من علومه ومعارفه.

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كلمات مفتاحية: فن التحقيق، جمع النسخ، المخطوطات العربية، الاستشراق،

المستشرقون.

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1. INTRODUCTION

The Orientalism is an expression that indicates the trend towards the East, and is applied to everything that investigates the affairs of the Easterners, their culture, history and civilization. What is meant by this is the intellectual current that consists of conducting various studies on the Islamic and non-Islamic East, which include its civilization, religions, literature, languages, and culture.

This current has contributed to the formulation of Western perceptions of the East in general and of the Islamic world in particular, expressing the intellectual background of the civilizational conflict between them.

The Orientalism is a cultural and cognitive phenomenon fueled by the emotions of discovering that mysterious unknown surrounded by symbols whose letters are not easily read. The East is that unknown in the depths of the European psyche. It is not just a distant geographical entity. In the eyes of Western culture, the East is a new universe, an angry, defiant continent, and an eastern bank erected with the pride of all history. Resist every challenge, and do not give up. (Al-Nabhan, 2012, p : 08)

When we want to study the manuscripts that the Orientalists edited and published, we ask some questions: Was the Orientalists' investigation of Arabic manuscripts based on scientific foundations? What are the motives for the investigation

process? What is the content of the manuscripts they produced? What goals did they want to achieve? Was it to gain access to Arab sciences and knowledge, or to study the Arab peoples in preparation for their colonization?

The aim of the research is to shed light on the efforts made by Orientalists in the field of investigation beginning in the 15th century AD, which in its early stages was an industry devoted to making a living and then turned into a science with its origins and rules, starting with collecting manuscript copies and interviewing them, all the way to writing down... The differences between the versions are in the footnotes.

The importance of this research is to confirm what the objective orientalists have presented in order to achieve the Arab heritage, disseminate it, and benefit from its sciences and knowledge.

I chose the descriptive and analytical approach; Because I intended to describe the terms and concepts used in the research.

2. Investigation of Arabic manuscripts

2.1 Definition of the manuscript

The manuscript is handwritten copy (ATTIA and others, 2004: p. 591). This definition includes every text written by hand, whether a book or otherwise, and the name “manuscript” is taken from cursive writing, which means: the method of recording speech symbols by hand, and its equivalent is printed, which is a book copied by a printing press. (Al-Fadhli, 1982, p. 34).

2.2 Definition of manuscript verification:

produce the book in accordance with the author's original or the correct and reliable original in case the author's copy is lost. (Al-Fadhli, 1982: p. 36).

3. The Orientalism

3.1 Definition of the Orientalism

The Orientalism is the science of the East or the science of the Eastern world. It is a science that studies the languages of the East, its heritage, civilization, societies, past and present, and is included within the meaning of the East, that is, an eastern region. (Zigzag, nd, p: 18)

3.2 The Orientalist writings

The Orientalists left scientific and cognitive monuments that transferred the sciences of Arab and Islamic civilization to the libraries of the world. The following is a presentation of the most prominent Arabic manuscripts created by the Orientalists (Fendick, 1896, p: 16) (Al-Aqiqi, 1964, 1/ 160, 351, 2 / 577):

1 - Benefiting from and taking into account the antiquities in Egypt; Written by: Muwafaq al-Din Abdul Latif al-Baghdadi. Published by: Frenchman De Sacy, 1810 (with French translation and extensive comments).

2- Al-Hariri's Maqamat; Published by: De Sacy, 1812 (he provided an explanation in Arabic).

3- Kalila and Dimna; Published by: De Sacy, 1816.

4- The Journey of Muhammad Ibn Battuta, (the Tangier Arab traveler); Published by: Al-Germany Cosgarten, 1818.

5- Amr bin Kulthum Al-Taghlabi's commentary on Al-Zawzani's commentary; Published by: Cosgarten, 1819.

6- Al-Harith bin Hilza's commentary on Al-Zawzani's commentary; Published by: Al-German Fullers, 1827.

7- Mu'allaqah Tarfa (Ibn al-Abd) explained by Al-Zawzani; Published by: Fullers, 1827 (according to the Paris manuscripts, with a Latin translation, and a translation of the poet's life, with

additions from Raiske's comments).

8- Arabic Selections; Published on the Paris, Gotha, and Berlin manuscripts, with a glossary and comments; Published by: Cosgarten, 1828.

9- History of Al-Tabari; Published by: Cosgarten, vol. 1, 1831, vol. 2, 1838, vol. 4, 1853.

10- The Book of Classes of Preservation; Written by Abu Abdullah Al-Dhahabi; Published by: German Westenfeld, 1833.

11- Poems of the Hudhalians; Published by: Cosgarten, 1834, vol. 1.

12 - Excerpts from the book: (Hassan Al-Muhadara fi Akhbar Misr wal-Cairo); By Jalal al-Din al-Suyuti; Published by: Al-Suwaidi Torenberg, vol. 1-4, 1834-1835.

13- Geographical plates; To the Father of Redemption; Published by: Westenfeld, 1835.

14- Lubab al-Ansab; By Abu Saad Al-Samani; Ibn al-Atheer summarized it and corrected it, and called it: Lubab al-Ansab. Published by: Westenfeld, 1835.

15- Deaths of notables; Ibn Khallikan; Published by: Westenfeld, Pamphlets 1 - 13, 1835 - 1850, and he published additions and differences in reading, Part 1 and Part 2, 1837 AD.

16- Gold Collars; By Al-Zamakhshari; Published by: Austrian Hammer, 1835.

17- Revealing suspicions about the names of books and arts; By the writer of Chalabi Mustafa bin Abdullah, nicknamed Haji Khalifa or Caliph; Published by: German Flügel, 1835 - 1858, 7 mg (with a Latin translation at the bottom of the pages).

18 - Philosophical Letters; By Sheikh Abu Nasr Al-Farabi, and by Sheikh Abu Ali Ibn Sina. Published by: German

Eschmolders, 1836.

19- Behavior to know the countries of kings; For Al-Maqrizi; Published by: Frenchman Catermier, 1837 - 1845, the second part in two volumes (with French translation and comments).

20- The Great Book of Songs; For Al-Isfahani; Published by: Cosgarten, 1840, Part One (with Latin translation and comments).

21- History of the Sultans of Khwarezm; For Mirkhund; Published by: Frenchman Devermery, 1842.

22- Mills and bees; By Al-Shahrastani; Published by: the Englishman Curton, 1842 - 1846, 2nd edition

23 - The Book of Tahdheeb Al-Asmaa; By Abu Zakaria Yahya Al-Nawawi; Published by: Westenfeld, 1842 - 1847 (Westenfeld had published part of it in 1832 AD).

24- Nasfiyya doctrines; Lamin al-Din al-Nasafi; Published by: Curton, 1843.

25 - Rawd al-Qartas, or News of the Kings of Morocco, which is in the history of Morocco over five centuries, from 788 to 1325; Ibn Abi Zar'a; Published by: Torenberg, 1843 + 1846, Part 1 and Part 2.

26- Definitions; For Mr. Sharif Ali bin Muhammad Al-Jarjani; Published by: Flugel, 1845.

27 - A treatise on defining Sufi terminology; Ibn Arabi; Published by: Flugel, 1845 (attached to the previous book of definitions).

28- Common in status and different in status; Liaqut Al-Hamawi; Published by: Westenfeld 1846.

29- Historical explanation of Ibn Abdoun's poem; Ibn

Badroun; Published by: Dutchman Duzi, 1846 - 1848.

30- Al-Hilla Al-Siraa; Ibn Al-Abar; He published chapters extracted from it: Dozi in the book: "Comments on Some Arabic Manuscripts", 1847 - 1851.

31- History of the Almohads; By Abdel Wahid Marrakchi; Published by: Dozi, 1847.

32- Al-Bayan Al-Maghrib; By Ibn Adhari; Published by: Dozi, 1847.

33- Wonders of creatures and antiquities of the country; Two books by Zakaria bin Mahmoud Al-Qazwini; Published by: Westenfeld together; Because it is believed that they are writing one book on Dhahab al-Qazwini, 1848 - 1849, 2 vol.

34 - Excerpts from Arab and Persian geographers and historians; Published by: Devremary, 1849.

35- Knowledge; Ibn Qutaybah; Published by: Westenfeld, 1850.

36 - The treatise of Muhammad bin Habib on the agreement and separation of the names of the Arab tribes; Published by: Westenfeld, 1850.

37- Observatories of Knowledge, which is an abridged version of the book: Dictionary of Countries; Liaqut Al-Hamawi; Published by: Dutch Unipoel, 1850 - 1854, 3 vol.

38 - Alfiyyah Ibn Malik with explanation by Ibn Aqeel; Published by: German Detrizi, 1851.

39- Algebra of Omar Khayyam; Published by: German Fipke, 1851 (with a translation in French, and extracts from unpublished manuscripts).

40 - The Journey of Ibn Jubayr; Published by: the Englishman Wright, 1852.

41- The bright stars in the news of Egypt and Cairo; By Abu Al-Mahasin: Ibn Taghri Bardi. Published by: Unipol, 1852 - 1861, four sections in two volumes.

42- Derivation; Ibn Duraid; Published by: Westenfeld 1854.

43- The smell of perfume in the moist branch of Andalusia; For Al-Makri; Published by: Frenchman Dja, 1855 - 1861, 2 mg (some of the first volume and the second volume).

44- Al-Sira; By Ibn Ishaq, narrated by Abdul Malik bin Hisham; Published by: Westenfeld, 1857 - 1860, 2 mg (with introduction and comments).

45- Mecca News: Arabic texts; Published by: Westenfeld, 1857 - 1961, 4 volumes (in which he collected the works of five historians on the history of Mecca, namely: Al-Azraqi, his son, Al-Fakihi, Ibn Dhahirah, and Qutb Al-Din).

46 - Al-Mutanabbi's collection with Al-Wahidi's explanation; Published by: Detrizi, 1858 - 1861.

47- Arabic letters; Published by: Wright.

48- Countries; For Al-Yaqoubi; Published by: Dutchman De Jouet, A Description of Morocco from Him, 1860 (with a Latin translation).

49- Countries; For Al-Yaqoubi; Published by: Unipol Jr.: (son of Professor De Gouy) The rest of the book (Countries); By Al-Yaqoubi, 1861.

50- Meadows of Gold; For Al-Masoudi; Published by: Frenchman Barbier de Menard, 1861 - 1877, 9 mg (he collaborated with him on the first three volumes: Pavé de Courtais). A new edition of this publication was printed by Charles Plat.

The volumes of this collection consist of:

Volume One: Paths and Kingdoms; By Al-Istakhri, 1870.

Volume Two: Paths and Kingdoms; By Ibn Hawqal, 1873.

Volume Three: Ahsan al-Takasim fi Ma'rifat al-Aqlim; By Al-Maqdisi, 1877.

Volume Four: Contains indexes, a dictionary, many additions, and corrections to previous volumes.

Volume Five: Book of Countries; By Ibn al-Faqih al-Hamdani, 1885.

Volume Six: Contains two books; They are:

- Paths and Kingdoms; By Ibn Khurdadhabah.

- Summary of the Book of Excise; By Qudamah bin Jaafar; This volume was published in the year 1889.

Volume Seven: It also contains two books; They are:

- The Book of Precious Relationships; By Abu Ali Ahmed bin Omar bin Rustah.

- Book of Countries; For Al-Yaqoubi; This volume was published in the year 1892.

Volume Eight: The Book of Alert and Supervision; By Al-Masudi (with indexes and a dictionary for the seventh and eighth volumes).

56 - Al-Fihrist; By Ibn al-Nadim; Verified by: Flügel, and published posthumously by: August Müller and Bahnriedger, 1971-1872, 2nd edition.

57- The savior from error; By Al-Ghazali; Published by: Barbier de Menard, 1876.

58- History of Al-Tabari; He drew up a plan for its investigation and supervised it after distributing the work among a group of orientalist: the Dutch orientalist De Jouet, 1879 -

1901, 13 mag.

59 - The Arab-Spanish Library; Published by: Codera, in collaboration with Ribera, 1882 - 1893, 10 vol.

It includes a collection of important books on the history of Muslims in Andalusia, and the biographies of their scholars, and these books are:

- Al-Sila; Ibn Bashkwal, 2 volumes, 1882 - 1883.

- In order to meet the petitioner in the history of the men of Andalusia; By Al-Dhabi, 1885.

- Dictionary of the Students of Abu Ali Al-Sadfi; Ibn al-Abar, 1886.

- Completion of the link; Ibn al-Abar, 1887 - 1889, 2 vol.

- History of Andalusian Scholars; By Ibn al-Fardi, 1891.

60- The book; By Sibawayh, published by: Hartfjadrampur, 1883.

61- History of Al-Yaqubi; Published by: Hutsma, 1883.

62- Sermons and consideration; By Osama bin Munqidh; Published by: Hartfjarnapur, 1886.

63- Al-Fath Al-Qasi fi Al-Fath Al-Qudsi; By Imad al-Din al-Isfahani; Published by: Al-Suwaidi Landberg, 1888.

64- Al-Fakhri in Royal Arts; By Ibn al-Taqtaki; Published by: Hartberg, 1895.

65- The Book of Misers; For Al-Jahiz; Published by: Van Vleuten, 1900.

66- Oyouun Al-Akhbar; Ibn Qutaybah; Published by: Brockelmann, 1900 - 1908, 4 c.

67- The major classes; Ibn Saad; Published by: A group of German orientalists, namely: Horvitz, Mutukh, Brockelmann,

Shawali, Wilbert, Messner, and Zutterstein, under the supervision of: Sakhou, in 1903 - 1928, 9 vol.

68 - The Journey of Ibn Jubayr; Published by: De Jouet, 1907 AD, (based on William Wright's edition of this book), in 1852.

69- Dictionary of Writers; Liaqut Al-Hamawi; Published by: Margoliouth, 1907 - 1916, 7 c.

70 - The Book of Sermons and Consideration in Mention of Plans and Effects; To Taqi al-Din al-Maqrizi; Published by: Frenchman Viet, 1911 - 1927, parts 1 - 3 and part 5.

4. CONCLUSION

The Arab-Islamic heritage remained in manuscript form until the beginning of the Renaissance, and the first to think about investigating it - at the beginning of the Renaissance - were the Orientalists, who mastered the languages of the East and wanted to study its diverse and vast cultures, as they had different motives that were paved by colonialism, including: the commercial motive (The preciousness of ancient manuscripts), and the cultural and scientific motive, which is to benefit from the Arab-Islamic civilization and work to transfer it to European languages.

As for the results reached:

1 - Orientalism is that which is concerned with studying the various sciences of the Islamic East.

2 - Orientalists' interest in Arabic manuscripts, in terms of maintenance, restoration, indexing, investigation, translation and publishing.

3 - The diversity of the efforts of Orientalists over their long history in various works, including: University teaching, collecting and indexing manuscripts, investigation and

publishing, translation, and authorship.

4 - The Orientalists left many scientific and cognitive monuments that transferred the sciences of Arab and Islamic civilization to the libraries of the world

As for the recommendations:

1 - Establishing centers for Orientalist studies to reconsider what Orientalists wrote and verified in Arabic manuscripts.

2 - Generalizing the benefit of Orientalist methods in examining manuscript texts and commenting on them.

3 - Acknowledging the efforts of moderate, objective Orientalists in serving the Arab and Islamic heritage.

4 - Do not generalize the ruling on Orientalist schools, as some of them served Islam and its sciences and some of them fought that.

5 - Subjecting the works of Orientalists to the precise scientific standard and staying away from subjectivity and intellectual background.

6 - Establishing libraries that include all the works of Orientalists from the beginning of the Orientalist movement to the present day.

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