THE

# MOALLAKÁT,

OI

SEVEN ARABIAN POEMS,

WHICH WERE SUSPENDED ON

THE TEMPLE AT MECCA;

WITH

A TRANSLATION AND ARGUMENTS.

en William Jones

[Landon: 7. Elmshy, 1782]

this preliminary edn. was sold unbound

### POEM

OF

## ANTARA.

- HAVE the bards, who preceded me, left any theme unfung? What, therefore, shall be my subject? Love only must supply my lay. Dost thou then recollect, after long consideration, the mansion of thy beloved?
- O bower of ABLA, in the valley of JIWAA, give me tidings of my love! O bower of ABLA, may the morning rife on thee with prosperity and health!
  - There I stopped my camel, large as a tower, the anguish of my passion having delayed the accomplishment of my bold enterprise,
- Whilst ABLA was dwelling in JIWAA, and our tribe were stationed in HAZN, and SAMAAN, and MOTATHALLEM.
  - Hail, dear ruins, with whose possessors I had old engagements; more dreary and more desolate are you become, after the departure of my beloved OMM ALHEITHAM.

6 She

### POEM

FC

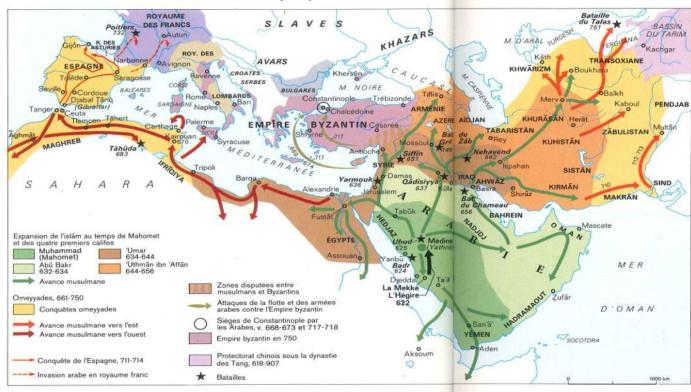
## ANTARA.

#### THE ARGUMENT.

He begins with a pathetick address to the bower of his beloved ABLA, and to the ruins of her deserted mansion: he bewails her sudden departure, the distance of her new abode, and the unhappy variance between their revolution.

fpective clans: he describes his passion and the beauties of his mistress with great energy: thence he passes to his own laborious course of life, contrasted with the voluptuous indolence of the fair, and gives a forcible description of his camel, whom he compares to a male offrich hastening to visit the eggs, which the female, whose usual neglect of them is mentioned by naturalists, had left in a remote valley. He next expatiates on his various accomplishments and virtues; his mildness to those who treat him kindly, his fierceness to those who injure him; his disregard of wealth, his gaiety, liberality; and above all, his military prowess and spirit of enterprise, on which he triumphantly enlarges through the rest of the poem, except four couplets, in which he alludes obscurely to a certain love-adventure; and, after many animated descriptions of battles and single combats, he concludes with a wish, that he may live to slay the two sons of DEMDEM, and with a bitter exultation on the death of their father, whom he had left a prey to the wild beasts and the vultures.

### EXPANSION DE L'ISLAM JUSQU'À LA CHUTE DES OMEYYADES (750)





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## Department of Archaeology

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#### Landscape, environment and appient industry in Islamic al-Ragga (Syria)

Julian Henderson (Nuttingham)

Junua Henderson (NHtingman)
Collaboratoric Prof. Dr. Stefan Heidemann (Briversity of Jene), Dr. Christina Tungbini (University of Plorence), Dr. Marcus Milwright (University of Beltich
Columbia), Prof. Dr. Youwer Barkondah (University of Damacus), Prof. Melanie
Long (British Geological Survey, UK), Dr. Jame Evens (British Geological Survey, UK), Prof. Sarah O'Hans (School of Geography, The University of Nottingham), Keith Chalila (Birmingbam University)

Frended by the Arts and Hammilton Research Council, the Max von Decision Foundation (Coneval, the British Academy, the Council for British Research in the Lovent and The University of Nottingfure.

Loonst and The University of Nottingians.

This project focuses on the place of Jalagnic indisection in the landscape, This has been a unique opportunity to study for the first time links between success. This project focuses on the place of Jalagnic indisection in the landscape, The extransian complex is set in the largest ideas in the largest ideas in the largest ideas work of the most complex to set in the largest ideas workshops were discovered out several portary workshops, ugether with a full range of by-product and products from glass and pottary production have been found.

The project has involved the extensive use of historical received, earbilite imagery, geographical information systems, environmental reconstruction, architection, architection, accessible, analysis of glass, pottary and row materials and entirely. The project begins in the material space for inclusives and for industries in other periods in a wide range of social reconstruction to provide a model, for further twenty in accessible, and provided a model, for further twenty in a recent tidentic latence in other portage.



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Publications
C. Toughin and J. Handerson An eleventh contary pottery production Workshop at al-Ragga, Preliminary report, Levant 30, 1998, 113-127.

Archaeological and Scientific Evidence for the Production of Early Islandic Class in al-Raque, Syrla, Lewart 34, 1999, 228-240.

Archaeological Investigations of an Islamic Industrial Complex at Raqua, Syria. Damaszener Attrethingen 11, 1999. 243:265.

Challis, R., A.R. Gardner, J. Henderson, O. Priceinal and S.L. O'Hair Corona Comotely-Sensed frongery in Dryland Archaeologic The Islandic City of al-Rauqui. Syria' Journal of Field Archaeology, 29, 2004, 139-153.

J. Henderson, S. McClenghlin and D. IdePlait Radical changes in Islamic glass behandings ovidence for conservation, and experimentation with new glass

J. Benderson, R. Challis, S. O'Hara, S. McLanglika, A.Gardser, and G. Prissmall "Experiment and Innovation: early Island: Industry at al-Reque, Syria', Antiquity

Borkendals, Y. and J. Renderson "The use of intuplatic plants in the monufacture of ancient gase: othnographic evidence and the scientific analysis of plant ashes". Journal of Glass Budies 48, 2006, 207-321.

Page I of 2

دستورمعالم الحِكم وما ثورمكارم الشّيم من كلام أمير المؤمنين علي بن أبي طالب صلّى الله تعالى عليه وآله وسلم من تأليف القاضي محمد بن سلامة القُضاعي ويليه من كلام أمير المؤمنين على بن أبي طالب عليه السلام المنسوب الحياحة



# A Treasury of Virtues

Sayings, Sermons and Teachings of 'Alī

AL-QĀŅĪ AL-QUŅĀ'Ī

with the

One Hundred Proverbs

attributed to

AL-JĀḤIZ

Edited and translated by TAHERA QUTBUDDIN



2013

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY PRESS New York and London

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# THE 'ARABICK' INTEREST OF THE NATURAL PHILOSOPHERS IN SEVENTEENTH-CENTURY ENGLAND

EDITED BY

G.A. RUSSELL



E.J. BRILL LEIDEN · NEW YORK · KÖLN 1994



AL-QĀŅĪ AL-QUŅĀ'Ī

A TREASURY OF VIRTUES

SAYINGS, SERMONS AND TEACHINGS OF 'ALI

with the

المكتبة العربة

LIBRARY OF ARABIC LITERATURE

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY PRESS



languages, but also natural philosophers who consulted Pococke, and who, like John Wallis (1649-1703), owed their interest Arabic mathematics to him. During the Civil War, the sequestrators of Laud's estates tried illegally to take away the endowment for the Arabic lecture. It was the pressure from Pococke's friends and admirers—such as Gerard Langbaine, provost for Queen's, John Greaves, the Savilian Profesor of Astronomy and John Selden, Burgess of the University—which compelled them to restore it. Furthermore, it was the petition from Oxford scholars, masters, and others, only two of whom were Royalists, which enabled Pococke to continue his two lectureships. When he came under threat of ejection from his ministry, it was again the leading Oxford scholars, including Seth Ward, John Wilkins, John Wallis, headed by John Owen (1616-1683) who warned the commission of the contempt they would draw upon themselves if they turned out Dr. Pococke for such an absurd charge as 'insufficiency', when his vast learning and accomplishments were the admiration of Europe. 75

His following was not confined to Oxford, but extended to Cambridge and London as can be deduced from the subscriptions for Dr. Pococke's publication ventures. Edward Bernard (1638-96), % for example, urges Dr. Pococke in 1671, (coming perhaps in the wake of the reception of the *Philosophus autodidactus*), to publish his translation of Arabic Proverbs (Chiliads) over which he had spent thirty to forty years:

The Encouragement was not inconsiderable. Dr. Castell had promised to secure a hundred Books for Cambridge and a still greater Proportion might be depended upon in Oxford, besides what the Assiduity of his good Friends in London such as Mr. Boyle, etc. might get off.<sup>78</sup>

Boyle, for example remained in close contact, commissioning Dr. Pococke for translations, requesting explications of inscriptions, and showing concern over Dr. Pococke's sickness which left him lame. Locke stands out against such a background. As Pococke's eighteenth-century biographer, Twells, points out, 'of all the Encomiums bestowed on our author after his Death, none was so full as that which was drawn up by the celebrated Mr. Locke.'79 His contribution, an eleven-page long obituary letter, preserved in the Lovelace collection, leaves no doubt that a close relationship existed between Dr. Pococke and Locke.<sup>50</sup> This is further corroborated by Humfry Smith's acknowledgment that of the 'many letters' from those 'who were intimately acquainted' with Dr. Pococke, he gained 'a clearer and more distinct Idea of his great Worth' from Locke's 'than from any other hand.' In fact, encouraged by Locke's letter, Smith further requests Locke to answer a list of specific questions about Pococke's life to which he had found no information.<sup>51</sup> Locke is not, however, able to comply in any greater detail because of



7. The portrait of Dr. Pococke (d. 1699) reproduced from L. Twells, The Theological Works of the Learned Dr. Pocock, Sometime Professor of the Hebrew and Arabick Tongues, in the University of Oxford, and Canon of Christ Church... to which is prefixed An Account of his Life and Writings never before printed (London: 1740).

1691

#### G. A. RUSSELL

THE IMPACT OF THE PHILOSOPHUS AUTODIDACTUS: POCOCKES, JOHN LOCKE, AND THE SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

#### Introduction

In 1671, the year when Locke started on the first drafts of his Essay on Human Understanding, a bilingual text in Arabic and Latin was published at Oxford. entitled the Philosophus autodidactus (self-taught philosopher). The work depicted the development of the mind of a child from a tabula rasa to that of an adult, in complete isolation from society. By means of sensory experience and reasoning, without any innate ideas, he discovers the natural and physical sciences, God, and morality. One could call this work, with perfect justification, a case study for the main thesis of Locke's Essay.2

The Arabic narrative was Hayy ibn Yaqzan, written in the twelfth century by Ibn Tufayl (d.1185), the physician-philosopher under the Almohads in Muslim Spain.3 The Latin translation was made by Edward Pococke under the supervision of his father, Dr. Pococke, the first Laudian Professor of Arabic (1636) and the Regius Professor of Hebrew (1648), who provided the historical preface to the text.4

The immediate question that arises is whether the appearance of this unique narrative and Locke's drafting of the first versions of the Essay were purely coincidental or whether there is a connection. The reason for raising such a query is that the publication of the Philosophus autodidactus at Oxford comes at a turning point in Locke's intellectual career. Scholars are largely agreed that it was in 1671 that Locke, for the first time in his writing, focused on the question of the nature of mind and its emergence out of experience without innate ideas. This empirical approach formed the nucleus of Locke's theory of knowledge and of what subsequently came to be known as the British Associationist School of Philosophy. Prior to this period, Locke's concerns were social, political, and practical and revealed no specific interest in the kind of epistemological issues which characterise his Essay.

The grounds for this dramatic shift in Locke's thought have so far been unclear. It will be argued that Locke's writing of the first drafts of the Essay PHILOSOPHUS AUTODIDACTUS

SIVE EPISTOLA ABI JAAFAR, EBN TOPHALL

HAI EB N YOK DHAN.

In quâ

Ostenditur quomodo ex Inferiorum con-

templatione ad Superiorum noticiam Ratio humana ascendere poffir.

Ex Arabica in Linguary Latinam verfa Ab EDVARDO POCOCKIO A.M. Ædis Christi Alamano.



OXONII, Excudebat H. Hall Academia Typographus, 1671

4. Title page of the Philosophus autodidactus. The translator was Edward Pococke, the eldest son of Dr. Pococke, the Laudian Professor of Arabic at Oxford.

# ORIENTAL PHILOSOPHY

The Wisdom of tome Renowned Men of the East;

And particularly,
The profound Wisdom of Hai Ebn Tokdan,
both in Natural and Divine things;

Which he attained without all Converse with Men, ( while he lived in an Island a folitary life, remote from all Men from his Infancy, till he arrived at such persection)

Writ Originally in estrabick, by Abi Janphan, Ebn Tophail;

And out of the Arabick Translated into Latine, by Edward Pocok, a tudent in Oxford;

And now faithfully out of his Latine, Translated into English:

For a General Service.

Printed in the Year, 1674

Imprimatur.

C. Alston.

7an. 27. 1685.

# HISTORY

Hai Eb'n Yockdan,

# Indian Bzince:

OR, THE Self-Taught Philosopher.

Written Originally in the Arabick Tongue, by Abi Paafar Eb's Tophuil, a Philosopher by Profession, and a Mahometan by Religion.

Wherein is demonstrated, by what Steps and degrees, humane Reason, improved by diligent Observation and Experience, may arrive to the knowledge of natural things, and from thence to the discovery of Supernaturals; more especially of God, and the Concernments of the other World.

Set forth not long ago in the Original Arabick, with the Latin Version, by EDW. POCOCK. M. A. and Seudent of Christ-church, Oxon. 1671.

And now Translated into English.

Printed for Michart Chiffwell, in S. Paul's Churchyard, and William Thosp Bookfeller in Banbary, M DC LXXXVI.

The Improvement of

## HUMAN REASON

Exhibited in the LIFE of

## Hai Ebn Yokdhan:

Written in Arabick above 500 Years ago, by Abu Jaafar Ebn Topbail.

In which is demonstrated,

By what Methods one may, by the meer Lings of Lature, attain the Knowledg of things Datural and Lupernatural; more particularly the Knowledg of Gop, and the Affairs of another Life.

Illustrated with proper FIGURES.

Newly Translated from the Original Arabick, by SIMON OCKLET, A.M. Vicar of Swavefey in Cambridgfhire.

#### With an APPENDIX,

In which the Poffibility of Man's attaining the True Knowledg of GOD, and Things necessary to Salvation, without Antituation, is briefly consider'd.

LONDON; Printed and Sold by Edm. Powell in Black friars, and J. Morphew near Stationers-ball. 1708.

To the Reverend

Mr. Edward Pococke,

Rector of

MINAL, in Wiltshire.

Reverend SIR,

Hai Ebn Yokdhan returns to you again, in a Dress different from that which you sent him out in. Wherever he comes, he acknowledges you for his first and best Master; and confesses, that his being put in a Capacity to travel thro' Europe, is owing to your Hand. I could not in Equity send him to any other Person, you being the sole Proprietor. And as your Learning enables you to do him Justice, so your Candor will incline you to pardon what is by me done amiss. Both which Qualifications you enjoy, as a Paternal Inheritance, descending from the Reverend and Learned Dr. Pococke, the Glory and Ornament of our Age and





مان كان المتدبع عِلِمُ فَي وَعَنَا عِلَا الْمَعَاحِ بِلْاَجَاحِ والتصار على بين منهى للمؤث وكاعب ودرداج عَالَ تَعْمِ لَوْجُنُدِينَ لِعُوالامِرِنِ فَاحْدَ لِمُسَاكَ قَالَهَا مَا ابنِ اللهِ قَالَ أَحْبِلُ سيسك اواستُعَلَّك مورده سبعة أبام مم لتساك فالكِلْ بمتعين بها وتستنكي فساق الغان برها الحفهاء وجع سنها ملا انتست الابام اخل وادولا للعن وهو منوك اليك ان باالمزن اقبلت بعدمًا منت ليسع من ومؤل على المنا بيخ مُعْرَلُوسِطِنَاعِكَ شَاكِرَ مَنْكُنَاعِكِ الْكَرَامِنَ لِلْعَسِلَ القفتي ببدئيا اددت قنساء مزافه كؤواهل لدغواه عاجواللهل فازنا لَعَنْفُوا كُت الخشل منع وَالنَّصَلُ الدُّخرى فَن عَمَر عَدَك المعنن يجايزة وخسل سبيله وانشا المغن بعولت لم بِلْطَاناكَ مَا ارْمَعَدُورَالِيْسِ ادْجَى عِنْ كَانْ بِعِوى وَجَامَرُومُ بُوسَ وَحِدَانُ الطِبِرَى بِعَرِدُونِينَ فَالْصِولَفُ هَفَا لِكُمَّ بِسُ وَهِوَتُ كُمَّا بِأَلاحِهِ رَطَاهِ مِمَا أَخِيابَ تَصَا بِلِلْهِ رِدِ عِلَالِحِرُ السَّاتُولَالًا والبلافارية من كأب إزائصك فوحدة الاكرفيد فذا الخرالك وتحل مح إجت . وَرَدْ أَسْرُحِيهِ لِ رُوسِعِو < الْتَنْوَجِي وَهُوْصَاحِبِ الْعِينُ عِلْسَهِرُوْ وَمِ وَ إِسِلَة من قاالِمِنْ سليمن بضرِّد البرليليش الدِّن هِيَالَدَكُمُ \* القَّاون للطلب وم للمبن برعلى وفتى أندعنهما وسنبها عيبيدا أنه برزياج وسئ عأيد الطائ ابنة ورده وفي التي عان واود ربعد النبي إسعاد كاشفا لما يُسافى للزرس ماذكر مُ الرابع عنشر المادك

يبن اعشَ يَنْمُ جَلَسَجَ عَنْدُ بوما للرّب فايْتُ وَكَا وَلْأَلْمُوتَ عَنْبِيتُهُ فَيْ عِي للنستح فطرب عليه طركا شويك وقاك وشفك الطعذا الصوت حدثنا فأعوفين والمربلعضا والفنئ فالمنجضرمن وقت فاستعائ استوبث واعاده فقيا لكأمجي سيافتنى حَتِّي أُنَةٌ جُكَمًا مَطابِسَ نفوحُ نفس الفتى فاخامَ معَنا لبلت حَيِّ إَصِيْحِ وَعِب ال جعفاليا للهشد فحدثه الحلبث فنجرجهنه وامرتا حضادنا جميعا وامرتكن أغيثت للعوت فغشبتُه وَشِهِ عليه وَسع حديث للفَسَى فامَرِ من وفته بالكَّابِ إلى عامل لطاء بتخاص لابكل وابنته وكابراه ليدحنه فليميض لامسافة الطربي يحق لخروا فامرا ارشيد طداليه فاوصل وخطب البواليادية للفتى فاجابه فاقت اباها وَحِلْ الرشِد للفرديا وِلم حاصَ<del>ن للسِ البِد لِبالصِيلاق فَا خَلَهُ مَ تَكَسِّبِهِ</del> الماكم والمطال والمعالف والماء المناديا والمعتد طريق والرالفي بالغ حناءة امرانك بعفرا لغج حنا وكانا لمديني يعبك ولك في جله لا عاجع في لينجرنا ليولخسز محدن يحسدن جعغ للمرى المعروف بالطشلاب وسالة كأ مة ضُنْ لالوده على لارجر فعًا لَهُمِن سَيَّمْنَ الرابعرب ورَدَّ سُرَجِيلُ ن سعوه المتعنى وعابد الطائ التحات داوج بن جبد المتبيع التا لها فاستقد اللعن بزللندر ببذبوم بؤسد وفدحزج بزيد مأؤهو لأبيسا لم ليعين فقال ماجساك على متقبالي يذبهم بويئ اكشرة الديدو قلد العبيرة أكداولت الغابل وودكت وكانت للمناث انى المادع عمودوة بالمتعاج عِامَتُهَا بِيضِ مِشْرَ جِينَ وَحَوَىٰ لِللَّهُ حَنَّ الصَّبَاحِ مَعَ لِلْمِسْنَا وَرَوَهُ الْ يُلِينَ مِنْ لِلِسَالِينَ عَبْرُ صَالِحَ

# HE TABLE-TALK OF A ESOPOTAMIAN JUDGE

Al-Muhassin Ibn 'Ali al-Tanukhi

PARTS II & VIII

Translated from the original Arabic (Nishwar al-Muhadarah) by D. S. MARGOLIOUTH, D. Litt.

inted from the Quarterly Review, "Islamic Culture"

"ISLAMIC CULTURE" OFFICE, HYDERABAD, DECCAN, INDIA Watt Coll. 892783 Tan, Feb. 1961.

Free PROF. D. S. MARGOLIOUTH,

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March 13. 1934

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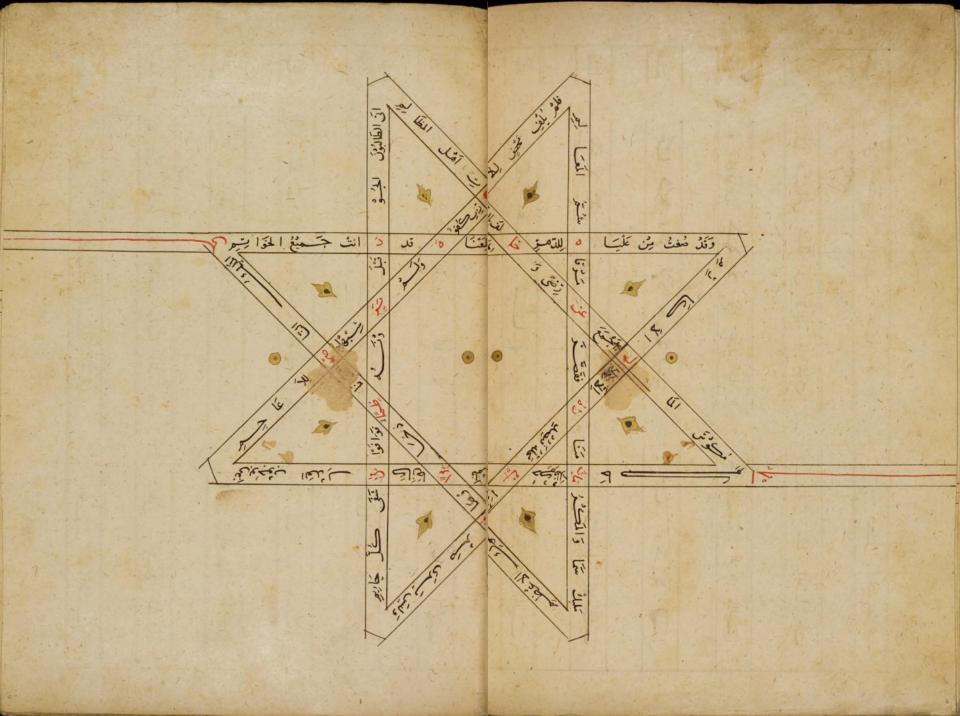
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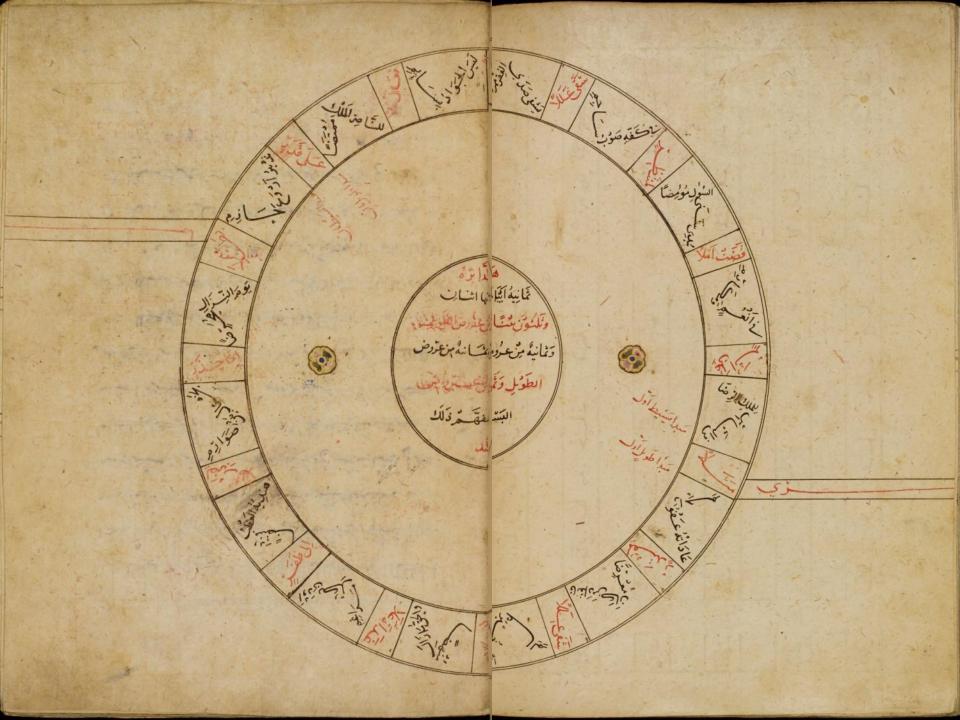
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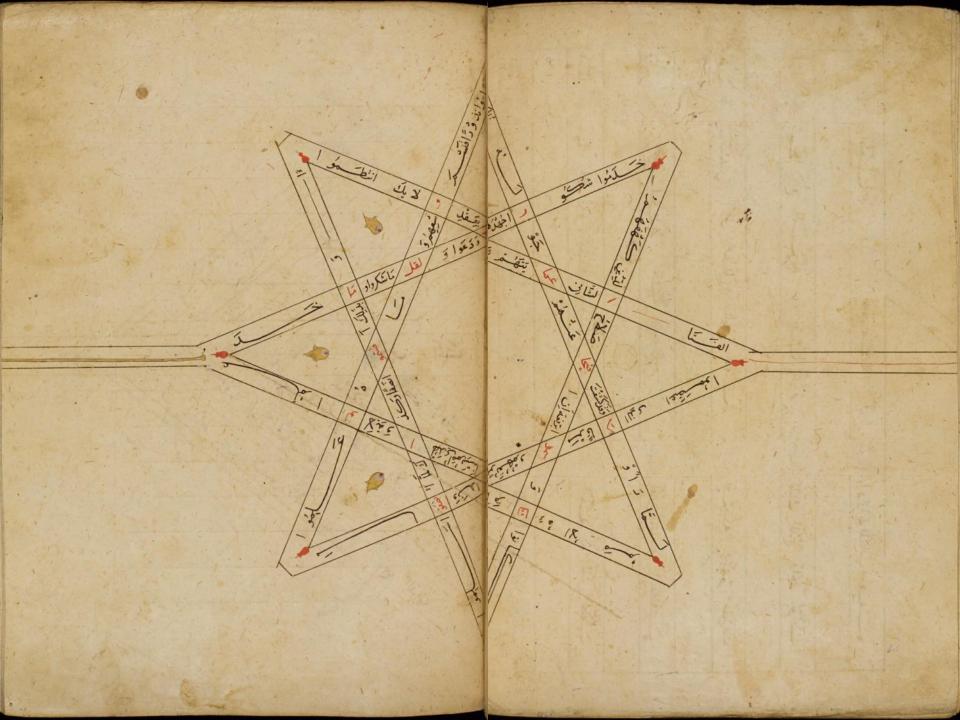


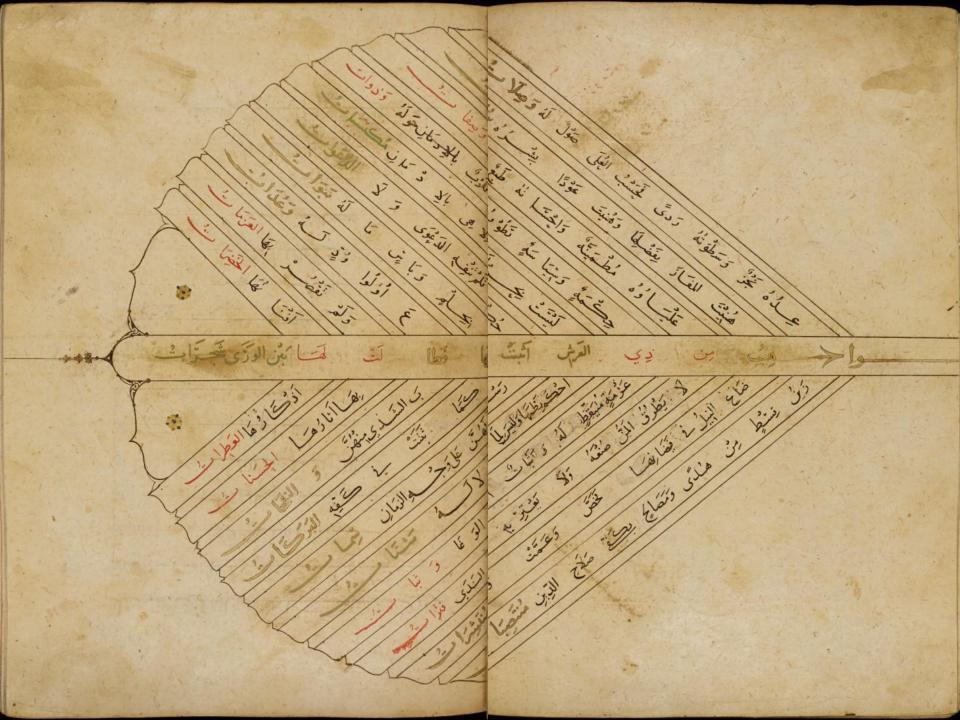
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تَ الْمِيْنِ مِنْ وَيُحِينًا وَا لِيْنِ		ين الطو آيو و ڪُرڻ يَا مُنْ	الله من يُعرب به به به جفيه مريم رادا		روم أو أحما سُر كارش من	السكاوير إشفاق مثيدا ك		المل المدر عن م ي و ا فا فلا ر		ملاتي أشبخ يلك كليدلا	عَيَّا عَصْرُهُ الجِنْ أَنِينًا وَتَنْ كَانَ	×	بيو الد تَارُ وَالمالُ لَدُ جَمَا وَمَادَ بِيدِ الدِ		رُ الدِّينِ بِالْجِنِّ مَا دِيًا رُفًا مُ عِيَــكِ		نَ عَنْ لَوْمِ وَلَا هَا بَ مَادِنًا وَمَدْ لَاحَ	الميا الالامليمة كا كما كبرا	
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73 2 20 73		اللكونى والأول مثعثا	رعي دونة رة لمنها		غب کن کاکٹ که گفیرکا	تكليد كالجراب وأعظم		( 1 1/2 1/4 1/4 1/4 1/4 1/4 1/4 1/4 1/4 1/4 1/4	Section 1	(K) ] " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	تاين اللا نظيا	2	ا اللا با جسكا		غلان يامتدل مشاكما		المِنْ أَنِيمُ مُثْلًا	الأزية المتحا	
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أَضِّ أَيَّا وَ يُضِمِّ فِي وَ	عَا يَفْعِ البَّرِيْمَةِ وَاقِفِ عَا وَ	تا يُسْدِي إِلَ المَانِي صَالِيًا فَارْتِ	يري الجافوظ جها و	الا فحام رشال			ارِنُ مَا مَى يُعَالَدُ بَيْنَ مَنَى عَلَى اللَّهِ	ر سمار سار من تجات ريا	المن كَيْلُا رُحِينًا وَأَنِّتَ إِنْ جَوَا الْجِنَا	عَمَالُ الْمُرْتُمَا رَبُ وَالْمُبِهِدُ مِعَا	وَأَبِادِي المَّنِ اللَّهِ الْمُرْتِينِ الْمُ	خالدُري و عسَلَ مَدُهُ
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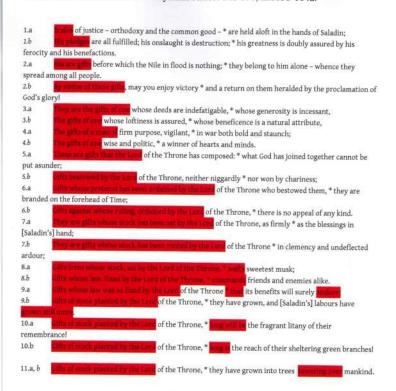


#### Transcription of Manchester John Rylands Arabic MS 690, ff.103b-104a:

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mawāzīnu qisţin min hudan wa maṣāliḥin * bi-kaffay Ṣalāḥi l-Dīni muntaṣabātu
1.a
        mawā'idu-hū najzun wa saṭwatu-hū radan * fa-ḥasba l-'ulā ṣawlun la-hū wa silātu
1.6
         mawāhibu dā'a l-Nīlu fī fayadānihā * fa-khuṣṣa wa-'ammat wa hya muntasharātu
2a.
2.6
         mawāhibu hunīta l-mafāza bi-faḍli-hā * wa hunīta 'awdan bishru-hū subuhātu
3.a
         mawāhibu man lā yaṭruqu l-mannu sun'ahū * wa lā ya'tarīhi fī l-nadā fatarātu
        mawāhibu man 'alyā'u-hū muṭma'innatun * wa 'iḥsānu-hū ṭab'un la-hū wa sifātu
3.6
4.a
        mawāhibu min dhī 'azmatin mutayaqqazin * la-hū wathabātun fi l-waghā wa thabātu
4.6
        mawāhibu min dhī ḥikmatin wa siyāsatin *taṭūfu qulūbun ḥawla-hū wa dhawātu
        mawāhibu min Dhī l-'Arshi 'aḥkama nazma-hā * wa laysa li-mā lamma l-Ilāhu shatātu
5.a
5.b
        mawāhibu min Dhī l-'Arshi laysat bakhīlatan * wa lā hiya bi l-idmāni muktasabātu
6.a
        mawāhibu min Dhī l-'Arshi 'athbata rasma-hā * fa-hunna 'alā wajhi l-zamāni simātu
6.6
        mawāhibu min Dhī l-'Arshi 'athbata hukma-hā * fa-lam tanfi-hī l-da'wā wa lā l-da'awātu
7.a
         mawāhibu min Dhī l-'Arshi 'athbata 'asla-hā * ka-mā thabatat fi kaffi-hī l-barakātu
7.6
        mawāhibu min Dhī l-'Arshi 'athbata 'asla-hā * bi-hilmin wa ba'sin mā la-hū nabawātu
8.a
        mawāhibu min Dhī l-'Arshi 'athbata 'aşla-hā * fa-ţāba l-shadhā min-hunna wa l-nafaḥātu
8.6
        mawāhibu min Dhī l-'Arshi 'athbata 'aṣla-hā * fa-ṭā'a 'ūlū wuddin la-hū wa 'udātu
9.a
        mawāhibu min Dhī l-'Arshi 'athbata 'aşla-hā * fa-ţālat bi-hā 'āthāru-hā l-hasanātu
        mawāhibu min Dhī l-'Arshi 'athbata 'aşla-hā * fa-ṭālat wa lam yaqşur bi-hā l-'azamātu
9.6
10.a
         mawāhibu min Dhī l-'Arshi 'athbata 'asla-hā * fa-tālat la-hā 'adhkāru-hā l-'atirātu
10.b
        mawāhibu min Dhī l-'Arshi 'athbata 'asla-hā * fa-tālat la-hā 'afnānu-hā l-khadirātu
        mawāhibu min Dhī l-'Arshi 'athbata 'aṣla-hā fa-ṭālat la-hā bayna l-warā shajarātu
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PP 17

#### Translation of Manchester John Rylands Arabic MS 690, ff.103b-104a:



PP 18



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James E. Montgomery



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# Introduces the writings and textual world of al-Jāḥiz, the 'father of Arabic prose'

Al-Jāḥiz was a bibliomaniac, theologian and spokesman for the political and cultural elite, a writer who lived, counselled and wrote in Iraq during the first century of the 'Abbasid caliphate. He advised, argued and rubbed shoulders with the major power brokers and leading religious and intellectual figures of his day, and crossed swords in debate and argument with the architects of the Islamic religious, theological, philosophical and cultural canon.

His many, tumultuous writings engage with these figures, their ideas, theories and policies and thus afford an invaluable but much neglected window onto the values and beliefs of this cosmopolitan elite. And in a society obsessed with books and swamped with new types of information, al-Jāḥiz was at the vanguard of a 'knowledge revolution'. In Praise of Books explores the centrality of books to al-Jāḥiz's oeuvre, uncovering his full range of stances and opinions.

#### Key Features

- Includes numerous translations (many rendered into English for the first time) of individual works by al-Jāḥiz
- Explores the cultural, intellectual and literary history of the 'Abbasids at the height of imperial power

James E. Montgomery is the Sir Thomas Adams's Professor of Arabic and Fellow of Trinity Hall at the University of Cambridge. He is author of *The Vagaries of the Qaṣīdah: On the Tradition and Practice of Early Arabic Poetry* (1997).

Cover image: 'Amr b. Bahr al-Jāḥiţ, The Book of Animals (Kitāb al-Ḥāyawān)
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