



# Newsletter of Ibn Sina Academy (NISA)

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**ALIGARH**

## ***Editorial***

It is a matter of great concern for all scholars, that History of Science (HS), including history of medicine and history of technology, has yet to be recognised as *a discipline in its own right* by Indian university system. Whereas major universities in all developed countries have full fledged departments of history and philosophy of science, history of science and technology, or history of medicine, and a large number of specialised journals in these disciplines are being published, India is nowhere so far as research studies in its scientific and technological heritage are concerned. Although there are some individual scholars who have been and are still researching some primary sources, yet our impact on world level both in out-put and standards can be characterised only as very modest.

Since its inception in 1965, the National Commission for the History of Science, which operates under the auspices of Indian National Science Academy (New Delhi), has undoubtedly made untiring efforts to promote HS studies, particularly in Ancient Indian sciences, by funding the research projects<sup>1</sup>. However, we are quite lacking in studies in the History of Medieval Indian Sciences, in which particularly the sciences from West and Central Asia (in short Islamic Science) were transmitted into the Ancient Indian environment. This was the reverse trend of the transmission of Indian Sciences into West Asia particularly during the Abbasid period, in the following centuries in which enormous development of Islamic Science took place, namely, from the *assimilation* stage (9<sup>th</sup> - 10/11<sup>th</sup> c.) to the *creative* stage (12<sup>th</sup> - 15/16<sup>th</sup> c.). The latter stage has been especially worked out in details during the last three decades by the scholars of oriental studies and particularly by historians of science of the developed countries<sup>2</sup>. We have in mind here the schools of E.S. Kennedy (USA), David King (Frankfurt), Roshdi Rashed (Paris) and Julio Samso (Barcelona). The output of these and such research schools is tremendous, rather mind-boggling. It goes without saying that unless a historian of Medieval Science is quite abreast of such researches, his own work will remain substandard on the international level and he remains himself a non-entity.

To be fair we may mention here the *modest* Indian contributions to Islamic Science  $\frac{3}{4}$  besides Islamic history, philosophy and culture  $\frac{1}{4}$  which were published in the world famous journal: *Islamic Culture* (Hyderabad), first established in 1927 by Muhammad Marmaduke Pickthall under the patronage of the late Mir Osman Ali, the Nizam of Hyderabad. It is now running in its Vol.74 (2000), Editor: Shahid Ali Abbasi. It is noteworthy that for many a decade it was the *only* journal of its kind the world over and thus India can be proud of its publication. A comparable international journal but exclusively devoted to history of Medieval Science is being published by Jamia Hamdard (New Delhi), namely, *Studies in History of Medicine and Science*, see details in the *Appendix*. However, in recent times a number of very important and excellent journals, dealing with purely Islamic Science have been established by societies, individual groups or institutions. We have listed them in the *Appendix*. For want of space we cannot review them here. It suffices to add that they are indispensable for any historian of Islamic Science, for the problem of transmission of Islamic Science to various cultural areas and history of ideas in general.

It is well known that in recent times it is *not* the published articles alone in specialised journals, of which a historian of science in general and of Islamic Science in particular should keep track of, but he should also have knowledge of the *work-in-progress*, which in turn is reported in the international and national conferences/symposia/congresses<sup>3</sup>. (Their proceedings are naturally published at least after a couple of years). Previously such reported work was also available and distributed in the form of *pre-prints*, which in turn have lost their utility in the present age of computers and particularly of *internet*. Strangely enough, despite the enormous development of internet facility in the developed countries, we find another *genre* of periodical literature, the *Newsletters* or *Bulletins*, which are published by many learned societies and institutions. We have compiled a list of eight most important Newsletters dealing with Islamic Science, see the *Appendix*.

With this introduction, we may now concern ourselves with the aims and objectives of this *Newsletter of the Ibn Sina Academy* (NISA). The main objective of this *Newsletter* is to 'confront' our readers with the information about what

is being done in the field of Islamic Science the world over. To that end, we intend to survey the important Newsletters and Journals and shall publish relevant news items in *NISA*. Evidently, without the comprehensive knowledge of researches done at the international level, it is not possible for our younger and even older generation to carry out standard researches in the Medieval History of Science and Medicine in general, and in the Medieval Indian primary scientific sources in particular which are in Arabic, Persian, Sanskrit, Turkish and Urdu. We may take special note of the fact that quite a substantial corpus of Sanskrit has preserved the transfer of Islamic Science during the medieval period of Indian History. It goes without saying that we have a large number of manuscript collections in a number of Indian libraries, that require a survey of sources on modern lines, and studies based on them. We intend also to underscore this manuscript material and to inform our readers about the discoveries of new manuscripts, see inside this issue.

Naturally, these objectives coincide with the aims and objectives of the establishment of *Ibn Sina Academy of Medieval Medicine and Science* itself. We hope that in this endeavour the international and national community of historians of science will assist us with both critically edited texts of primary sources and their analytical studies, i.e., the hardware and software of history of science. Finally, we keep in mind also the eventuality that this *NISA* may become a full fledged scholarly journal during the following years, depending upon the response of our readers and colleagues. Suggestions to improve the contents of *NISA* are most welcome.

## REFERENCES

<sup>1</sup> See S.M.R. Ansari, *Studies in History of Science and Technology in India*  $\frac{3}{4}$  A Report, *SHMS*, 12(1993)109–130, esp.109–110.

<sup>2</sup> See S.M.R. Ansari, *Mu'ayyad al-Dîn al-Urdî's Kitâb al-Hay'ah*, edited by George Saliba, Beirut, 1990, *SHMS*, 13, No.2(1994)269–280. In this Essay Review we have reviewed also briefly the *problematic* of the creative stage of the development of Islamic Astronomy.

<sup>3</sup> For the detailed Reports of the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> International Congresses of History of Science, held in Zaragoza (Spain) in 1993, and in Liège (Belgium) in 1997 respectively, see S.M.R. Ansari, *SHMS*, 13(1994) 117–131 and 15 (1997/98) 151–164 respectively.

## **Ibn Sina Academy of Medieval Medicine & Sciences**

### **Introduction:**

Abu Ali Ibn Sina is a well-known personality among the physicians of Islamic (Unani) medicine since Medieval times. To commemorate and also to institutionalize, a project of establishing an academy, namely, Ibn Sina Academy of Medieval Medicine & Sciences, was founded on March 1, 2000 and got registered under Indian Trusts Act, 1882. It is a non-governmental, non-political and non-profit organization with multiple aims and objectives. An Internet domain - [ibnsinaacademy.com](http://ibnsinaacademy.com) - has also been registered for the Academy. Work on designing the website and cataloguing of books into special software are under way.

### **The Formation of the Ibn Sina Academy of Medieval Medicine & Sciences**

There is a consensus amongst researchers of the history of medicine & sciences that early Arab and Muslim physicians & scientists had played a very important role in the development of medical science during the renaissance of Islamic civilization, which spanned over eight centuries. This was achieved through translating earlier medical and scientific scripts and developing these sciences in the light of their clinical expertise.

Despite the above fact, it is well-known that, as yet, the full potential of the Islamic medical heritage has not been investigated in a way that shows its real role and importance in the development of modern medicine; especially its effect on the European Renaissance. So far, only a little part of this important heritage has been studied or come to light. Most of the scripts of Islamic medicine are getting dust on the shelves of private and some public libraries around the world.

In the light of this, a number of physicians, scientists, scholars and historians are called for reviving this heritage on a national level. This is to be achieved through organization and teamwork. And this is how the idea of the **Ibn Sina Academy of Medieval Medicine & Sciences** emerged.

The first meeting of this society was held on March 5, 2000 in Aligarh, India and was chaired by Professor

(Hkm) Syed Zillur Rahman, president, IAMMS. A number of physicians and historians had attended this meeting.

An executive council has been set up and the founding members are: Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman, Prof. Asloob Ahmad Ansari, Prof. Mukhtar Uddin Ahmad, Prof. Iqbal Ahmad Ansari, Prof. S. M. R. Ansari, Dr. Khaliq Anjum, Prof. A. K. Jafri, Dr. Khalid Siddiqui, Prof. Jameel Ahmad, Prof. Nafees Baig, Dr. E. H. Quraishi, Dr. Masood Hasan, Mr. Mir Hafeez Ali, Dr. A. Latif and Dr. Syed Ziaur Rahman.

The second meeting was held on April 8, 2001 in Aligarh, where the By-Laws were discussed and approved. It was also decided that Aligarh would be the permanent location of the Society. Membership in the society is open to everyone who has an interest in or would like to contribute to the study of the History of Islamic Medicine and Sciences. We look forward to receiving support and help from our fellow scholars and researchers all over the world.

We hope we will be able (*Insha Allah*) to achieve our aims for the benefit of mankind through bringing to light the virtues of this vast heritage.

### **Aims & Objectives:**

- A) The primary aim and objective of this academy is to promote research studies in the works of physicians and scientists - particularly Ibn Sina and his contemporaries - belonging to medieval period and to encourage and sponsor original research in the fields of history of Unani medicine and history of sciences.
- B) To propagate and disseminate in public interest the useful knowledge concerning medicine, philosophy, science and technology, social and preventive medical science, hygiene and environment.
- C) To inculcate in the masses an active interest in useful information regarding science, hygiene and medicine with its advances as well as the frontier areas of research, inventions and discoveries therein and also to make proper utilization of media for propagation, dissemination and transmission of the same.
- D) To establish dialogue between different theories concerning useful knowledge including the diverse

prevalent systems of medical sciences, methodologies and philosophies; and to strive for bringing about adjustment, integration and synthesis and to organize / sponsor educational programmes, seminars, symposia, workshops and conferences as well as to promote academic work of all kinds in order to advance and develop the medical science.

- E) To develop in the young generation, in medicos and medical professional the higher spirit and values of the ethics, dutifulness, brotherhood and selfless service; and for the same to organize different educational, cultural and socio-creative activities and constructive programmes.
- F) To establish, develop, maintain, acquire and grant/ receive aid in cash or in kind for various technical, vocational and professional institutions from primary level to post graduate and doctoral level, hospitals, libraries, nursing institutions, dispensaries, maternity homes, child welfare centres and for such other similar charitable institutions all over India for the benefit of general public and totally free services to the people below the Poverty Line in particular.
- G) To set up a separate building, library and a museum comprising primary sources in Arabic, Persian and Urdu; and secondary sources in modern European languages.
- H) To publish books and a newsletter / journal of the Academy in order to realize the above mentioned aims and objectives.
- I) To run courses for propagation of classical Indian languages and to encourage Urdu writings in medicine and sciences, and particular studies in Ghalib's poetry and his times.
- J) To collaborate and to affiliate formally with the institution / learned societies in promoting the above mentioned objectives.
- K) To execute all necessary formalities in order to fulfill the above mentioned aims and objectives as per rules framed by the Academy.
- L) Trust fund may be augmented with the initial fund or corpus by way of receiving donations, grants, aids, contributions, in names etc., from time to time.
- M) The trust fund or corpus fund and its accruals shall not be used for other than the activities as specified in this deed.
- N) The trustees shall always maintain proper accounts of the Trust and shall be kept at the office of the

Trust.

- O) The accounts of the trust shall be audited by a Professional Chartered Accountant having enrolled with the Indian Council of Chartered Accountants.

### **By-Laws of the Ibn Sina Academy of Medieval Medicine and Sciences**

#### **Article (1)**

There shall be established hereunder, a national trust in Aligarh, India, called the "Ibn Sina Academy of Medieval Medicine and Sciences" with the following purposes:

1. To promote public awareness of the contributions undertaken by scientists in the field of medicine and sciences during medieval times.
2. To establish a library to include manuscripts and indexes of the old medical manuscripts, photocopies of such manuscripts in addition to the recently published books of relevance to the history of Islamic Medicine.
3. To issue a Journal twice a year for publishing researches and articles related to history of Islamic Medicine.
4. To convene meetings and conferences every two years.
5. To allocate a nominal prize to be awarded every two years to the best contribution to the history of Islamic Medicine.
6. Cooperation with other institutions/organizations having similar purposes.

#### **Article (2)**

The Academy will be composed of Life Members, Ordinary Members, and Honorary Members.

**Life Member:** Shall mean any person or individual, irrespective of nationality and religion, concerned with history of Medicine & Science and whose membership is approved by the society's Executive Council and will pay the prescribed fees. He/she can vote/hold office. Student life members cannot vote or hold office.

**Ordinary Members:** Shall mean any person or individual, irrespective of nationality and religion, concerned with history of Medicine & Science and whose membership

is approved by the society's Executive Council and will pay the prescribed fees annually. He/she cannot vote & hold office.

Honorary Member: Shall mean a person who has made tremendous achievements in History of Islamic Medicine sphere or a person who has offered considerable financial contributions to support the academy's activities. Honorary members shall be designated by the Executive Council and awarded the Certificate of Honorary membership. He/she can vote but cannot hold office.

#### Article (3)

Applications for membership shall be submitted to the Secretary General, and accompanied by a brief CV. Acceptance shall take effect after payment of Rs. 1500 fee. Student membership fees application must be accompanied by proof/letter that he/she is a student. Student membership shall be Rs. 700. The member will then receive a membership certificate. The active member shall receive on a regular basis the Journal of the Society, newsletter (NISA), and all publications related to the Academy.

Membership shall be terminated under the following circumstances:

- 1) Official resignation.
- 2) Cessation of payment of membership fee.

#### Article (4)

The financial resources of the trust shall consist of:

1. Annual membership fees.
2. Donations offered to the Academy by organizations, agencies and individuals.
3. Other resources as may be approved by the Executive Council from time to time.

#### Article (5)

The Academy will be run by an Executive Council of 11 members and composed of President/Mutawalli, two (2) Vice Presidents, a Secretary General, a Joint Secretary, a Treasurer and 5 members for 3 years renewable. Members of the Executive Council shall be nominated by the President/Mutawalli.

#### Article (6)

The President of the academy will be the Mutawalli of the trust. Duties and responsibilities of the President shall be to represent the academy in all conferences and meetings, to approve Agenda of the Executive Council and Administrative Council, and to Chair all meetings.

#### Article (7)

The Vice-Presidents shall be elected by the Administrative Council to a three year term. Their duties and responsibilities shall be to assume all duties and authority of the President in the latter's absence or otherwise by delegation by the President.

Quorum: The presence of 50% of the members of the Administrative Council and Executive Council shall constitute a quorum.

#### Article (8)

The Secretary General will be nominated by the President/Mutawalli to a 3-year renewable term.

The Secretary General shall be responsible for conduction of communication with all members of the academy as well as the other relevant associations, planning the Agenda of the meetings of the Executive Council and Administrative Council.

#### Article (9)

The Joint Secretary will be nominated by the President/Mutawalli to a 3-year renewable term. The duties and responsibilities shall be to assume all duties and authority of the Secretary General in the latter's absence.

#### Article (10)

The Treasurer shall be nominated by the President to a 3-year term. He must have permanent office in Aligarh, which is the Academy's headquarter. The duties and responsibilities of the Treasurer shall be to care for the Academy's funds deposited in Indian Rupees in the Academy's name in an Aligarh Bank. Cheques must be signed by the Treasurer and the President or one of the Vice-Presidents. The Treasurer will submit to the Executive Council an annual report on the financial turnover.

#### Article (11)

Meetings of the Executive Council shall be held at the

headquarter once a year as scheduled by the President of the Academy, whereas the Administrative Council shall meet once every two years in the course of the Conference/Meeting.

#### Article (12)

The meetings of the General Assembly (all members) will be chaired by the President of the Academy. Such a meeting will be held in the course of the Conference/Meeting for the discussion of the Academy's activities, and presentation of proposals, and suggestions made by the members. During these meetings, an administrative report will be presented by the Secretary General and a financial report audited by an independent auditor to be submitted by the Treasurer.

#### Article (13)

The place and date of the conferences will be determined by the Executive Council.

#### Article (14)

As this Academy has been formed only recently, this By-law is subject to modification by the Executive Council without referral to the General Assembly until this paragraph is nullified by the General Assembly.

### Library of IAMMS

The library of IAMMS houses one of the most precious and highly valuable collection of books, special periodical numbers, manuscripts, paintings, postal stamps, coins and specimens of oriental calligraphy.

Prof. Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman is a man of avocations. He established his personal library-cum-museum, now part of IAMMS Trust. The library consists of over 400 manuscripts, several thousand books in Arabic, Persian, Urdu and English on a variety of subjects like History of Medicine and Science, Unani/Islamic Medicine, Religion, Urdu Literature pertaining to Ghalib and Sir Syed Ahmad Khan, besides thousands of bound volumes of periodicals. Most of the manuscripts are very rare and matchless and cannot easily be found in any other library of the world. Some of them, especially the copies of the Holy Quran are extremely beautiful specimens of the art of calligraphy of antiquated scripts. Some of the illuminated copies of the Holy Quran having beautiful frontispieces and embellished borders are so alluring,

and eye-catching that any one who looks at them is dazzled, lost in astonishment and stands spell-bound gazing at them in wonder. The library-cum-museum also possesses a large collection of postal stamps, coins, sculptures, busts, old pens and many other important memoirs of prominent personalities. Facilities of computerized cataloguing are available in the library.

### **Message**

#### **Director, Ibn Sina Institute of Tibb, South Africa**

We are very delighted to discover the similarity in names of our respective institutions and are hopeful that you will send us detailed information with regard to your academy.

Ibn Sina Institute of Tibb is established in 1998 as a collaborative effort between the Bhikha Family Trust (South Africa) and the Hamdard Foundation of Pakistan. The Institute is a non-profit, non-sectarian organization operating as a waqf that aims to introduce and incorporate the art and science of Tibb into primary healthcare in South Africa, in order to assist in ensuring accessible healthcare provision and education for all. Our main aims and objectives are empowerment through education, elimination of costly crisis intervention and research and development.

We have to-date established three clinics in the rural areas, one of them being an AIDS/HIV clinic in the Germiston area, incorporating Tibb. We are designing short courses for Health Care Professionals (doctors and nurses) and the consumer (common person). We are also working on courses for one-year (post-graduate), three-year (primary healthcare workers). Insha' Allah, we will start a five-year degree program in the year 2002. With regard to the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) as proposed by yourself, we would welcome closer co-operation with your esteemed organization for our common objectives of promoting Unani-Tibb worldwide.

Wishing you every great success. Best wishes & regards

Rashid Bhikha

## NEWS ITEMS

### **International Society for the History of Islamic Medicine (ISHIM)**

A meeting regarding the establishment of the International Society for the History of Islamic Medicine was held in January 2001 at Doha, Qatar. A large number of representatives from many countries attended this meet. Dr. H. A. Hajar, The minister of health of Qatar, was elected as a president, Dr. Abdel Nasser Kaadan was elected as Secretary General of ISHIM.

For more detail visit site: [www.ishim.net](http://www.ishim.net)

#### **The main objectives of the society are:**

1. Bringing to light the contributions of Arab and Muslim physicians to the history of medicine and to promote public awareness of these contributions. This is to be achieved through encouraging more research and academic studies of earlier Islamic Medicine.
2. Establishment of a library, which will include an index and copies of old manuscripts in addition to recently published books about the history of Islamic Medicine.
3. Issuing a bi-annual journal for publishing researches and articles related to history of Islamic Medicine. Also issuing a quarterly newsletter.
4. An international conference to be held every two years (the first meeting will be held in Istanbul in 2002).
5. Allocating a prize to be awarded every two years for the best work on the History of Islamic Medicine.
6. A museum for the History of Islamic Medicine is to be established in Doha.
7. Cooperation with other societies and organizations having similar purposes.

### **Islamic Medieval Medical Manuscripts on the Web** National Library of Medicine Treasures Seen by the Public for the First Time

Medieval medicine went high-tech when the National Library of Medicine recently unveiled its illustrated catalogue of Islamic medical manuscripts on the World Wide Web at

[www.nlm.nih.gov/hmd/arabic/arabichome.html](http://www.nlm.nih.gov/hmd/arabic/arabichome.html).

“The National Library of Medicine has one of the three

greatest collections of Islamic medical manuscripts in the world (388 treatises in all), and some of them are the only ones in existence,” says Dr. Emilie Savage-Smith, an American scholar from Oxford University and one of the world’s foremost authorities on Islamic medicine.

Savage-Smith, who has prepared the illustrated catalogue, said that a manuscript copied in 1094 containing a treatise written by the famous physician and clinician al-Razi (known to Europeans as Rhazes) is the crown jewel of the Library’s collection. “It is believed to be the third oldest Arabic medical manuscript in the world,” said Dr. Elizabeth Fee, chief of the History of Medicine Division. Beautifully scripted, the manuscript’s pages are still in superb condition, as readable as they ever were.

The Library acquired its collection from various sources, including purchases made from a bequest of Dr. William F. Edgar, a physician who in 1849 had taken a wagon train over the Oregon Trail and settled in California.

Dr. Philip M. Teigen, who has coordinated the Library’s 10-year project, which included an earlier exhibit and a symposium on Islamic medical manuscripts, says, “we then wanted to take the treasures of our Islamic Medicine collection and make them more widely available to the general public.

Publishing them on the World Wide Web seemed to be the best way to reach the largest number of people.” He notes that many of the manuscripts are beautifully illustrated and very appealing.

Savage-Smith has carefully examined all of NLM’s Islamic medical manuscripts and the illustrated catalogue is the result of her nearly decade-long endeavor.

The online catalogue includes an essay on each of the manuscripts and has links to a glossary of terms, illustrations, biographical material, and other pertinent information. It will be published in three segments. The first section, now on the Web, deals with medical encyclopedias. Subsequent sections will deal with pharmaceuticals, plague tracts, veterinary medicine, and

with general hygiene. As many as 300 illustrations will be included in the catalog.

Islamic physicians, inspired by Hippocrates, Galen, and other Greek and Roman predecessors, made extensive efforts to understand the remarkably wide range of diseases they faced. In response to that challenge, they identified many new surgical, medical, and pharmaceutical treatments.

The manuscripts show that Islamic physicians treated a wide variety of ailments and diseases, including stomach diseases and hemorrhoids (very prevalent), promoted dental hygiene, and listed tips on how to improve sexual desire. There is a treatise on how to treat forgetfulness (mental exercises were recommended), and their techniques on eye surgery were so successful that some of them continued in use into the 20th century.

The Islamic achievements in the above area, as well as in anatomy and surgery, led European teachers and practitioners to translate the hundreds of Arabic and Persian medical tracts into Latin and then into French, Italian, and English. In a very real sense, the European tradition of medical science and practice, which has now spread world-wide, owes a great debt to Ibn Sina, Ibn Nafis, Al-Razi, Al-Zohravi and other Islamic practitioners and scholars.

“Much of our medical vocabulary comes from the Arabic,” says Savage-Smith “and virtually all European medical manuscripts were based on the Islamic medical practices.”

To view the collection, visit the site: [www.nlm.nih.gov/hmd/arabic/arabichome.html](http://www.nlm.nih.gov/hmd/arabic/arabichome.html). The National Library of Medicine, a part of the National Institutes of Health, is the world's largest library of the health sciences. It is located at 8600 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, Maryland, close to the Medical Center stop on Metro's Red Line.

### **PhD-Forum History of Pharmacy**

The contributions of the PhD-Forum History of Pharmacy members at the 60<sup>th</sup> International Pharmacy World Congress of FIP, Vienna, Austria, August 26 - 31, 2000, History of Pharmacy Session, are now

available on the Net. Interested person may visit <http://staff-www.uni-marburg.de/~schmiede/Fip.html>. Abstracts as well as the full text could be found there. The home page of the PhD-Forum is: [http://staff-www.uni-marburg.de/~schmiede/dfpg\\_e.htm](http://staff-www.uni-marburg.de/~schmiede/dfpg_e.htm)

## **CONFERENCES**

### **PAST:**

#### **International Congress on Ibn Sina**

The Ibn Sina International Foundation, a non-government, noncommercial organization was established in 1999 in Tashkent, Republic of Uzbekistan whose main objective is to study and promote the scientific and cultural heritage of the great scholar Abu Ali Ibn Sina (Avicenna), traditional medicine, public health and the humanities. The Foundation organized, in the frame of its aims and in relation with 1020th anniversary, an International Conference on Ibn Sina on September 22-23, 2000 in 2500 year-old city of Bukhara, birthplace of Ibn Sina. Many scientists of different spheres of science-medicine, philosophy, music, literature (poetry), logic, astronomy and others attended the conference. Organization Committee also arranged a special program to visit the magnificent archive of manuscripts of the Institute of Oriental Studies of Uzbekistan as well as a number of museums in Tashkent. They also arranged a visit to historical towns such as Tashkent, Samarkand (capital of Timur), Urgench and Khiva. Uzbekistan is the heart of the Silk Road to visit Bukhara, Tashkent, Samarkand and Khiva. Courtesy: Organization Committee: 51-a, Parkent str., Tashkent, 700 007, the Republic of Uzbekistan. Tel: 998=371=68-72-97, 67-57-24 Fax: 998=71=169-17-26

E-mail: [uzsinofd@freenet.uz](mailto:uzsinofd@freenet.uz)

Web Site: [www.Avicenna.uz](http://www.Avicenna.uz)

#### **1st International Congress on Traditional Medicine and Materia Medica**

1st International Congress on Traditional Medicine and Materia Medica was held on November 6-9, 2000 at Shaheed Beheshti University of Medical sciences & Health services School of Pharmacy, Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran.



## **Science and Islam**

Science and Islam, Berlin Oct. 4-8, 2000 Science and Islam - Modern history and the contemporary debate. The "Islamization of Disciplines" is one of a number of ambitious projects which over the last three decades have sought to create a genuine Islamic approach to modern Western science and technology. The relatively recent date of these movements, however, should not create the impression that Muslims were not committed to the pursuit of and conscious reflection on science in the preceding centuries. Though much of the historical knowledge about modern science in Islamic countries was lost in the colonial and post-colonial eras, time seems now ripe to bring together what a still minuscule number of historians of science have been able to rescue from oblivion and what contemporary Muslim scholars have been developing in the 20th century. For the proposed panel on "Science and Islam" at the IAMES conference in Berlin on October 4-8, 2000 ( <http://www.fu-berlin.de/iames/>) papers are invited from both fields of scholarship: "Islamic Science" and the History of modern science in Islamic countries (roughly, 1600-2000 AD). For detail contact: Program co-ordinator Amr Hamzawy and the panel co-ordinator Rainer Brömer, 7th IAMES Congress, Freie Universitaet Berlin, Ihnestr. 31, D-14195 Berlin, Germany. E-mail: [iames@zedat.fu-berlin.de](mailto:iames@zedat.fu-berlin.de) or [Rainer.Broemer@gmx.de](mailto:Rainer.Broemer@gmx.de); telephone: +49-30-83 85 66 39/40; fax: +49-30-83 85 66 37;

## **Seventh International Symposium on the History of Arabic Sciences**

Professor (Hakim) Syed Zillur Rahman attended the Seventh International Symposium on the History of Arabic Sciences, held at Al-Ain (UAE), during November 11-16, 2000. This is a series of very important symposia, organized by the Institute for the History of Arabic Sciences, Aleppo University (Syrian Arab Republic) in collaboration with Zayed Centre for Heritage and History (Al-Ain). At Al-Ain more than 50 participants from various countries, even from Europe participated. Prof. Syed Zillur Rahman presented a paper on *Studies on Ibn Sina's Works in India*, and he also chaired a session of the symposium. Professor S. Z. Rahman was also invited to visit the Zayed Centre for Heritage and History, Al Ain and Juma Al Majid Centre for Cultural and Heritage, Dubai. The latter is a very important Centre for preservation of Islamic manuscripts

and microfilm from all over the world. He exchanged his own publication with those of the Zayed Centre.

## **History and Philosophy of Science (GRHPS)**

The Group of Research in History and Philosophy of Science (GRHPS, Rabat, Morocco) organized in February 11-12, 2000, in Marrakesh. The proposal for a roundtable meeting on the theme: Science and Scientific Thought in Maghreb was elaborated by the coordinator of the GRHPS, Bennacer El Bouazzati. Following personalities took part in the roundtable meeting: Mohamed Miftah, Salem Yafout, Bennacer El Bouazzati, Abdessalam Benmaissa, Abdelmajid Sghaier, Hammou Naqari, Driss Lambrabet, Mohamed Abattouy, Mohamed Aballagh, Ahmad Dallal, Jacques Langhade. All the papers presented analyzed the state of sciences in the Middle Ages.

## **A symposium on "Ottoman Science and Cultural Diversity"**

Turkish Society for History of Science in Istanbul is organizing together with Dr. Efthymios Nicolaidis, National Hellenic Research Foundation, a symposium on "Ottoman Science and Cultural Diversity" during the XXIst International Congress of History of Science which was held in Mexico City, 8-14 July 2000. The theme of the symposium relates to the general theme of the Congress "Science and Cultural Diversity".

## **Ottoman Science and Cultural Diversity**

The first symposium on "Science, Technology and Industry in the Ottoman World" held in 1997 within the XX International Congress of History of Science had attracted the attention of scholars and the proceedings book (Proceedings of the International Congress of History of Science, Liege, 20-26 July 1997), volume VI, Science, Technology and Industry in the Ottoman world, ed. E. Ihsanoglu, A. Djebbar and F. Günergun, Brepols Publisher, Belgium 2000) have been published recently. We are now considering organizing a successive individual symposium on "Ottoman Science and Cultural Diversity" within the XXI International Congress of History of Science to be held in Mexico City, 2001.

Scientific activities in the Ottoman world comprise various scientific traditions including mainly the Islamic

tradition inherited by the Ottoman Turks and carried on by Arabs who were part of the Ottoman Empire and then joined by European nations such as Bosnians and Albanians newly converted to Islam as well as the tradition of different Christian peoples living in Anatolia and the Balkans, and the contributions of native Jewish scholars as well as those emigrated from Endulus. The Ottoman world had the necessary grounds for the interaction of all these different traditions. The Ottoman Empire having vast lands in Europe, and as a result of the Ottomans' contact with European science from the very early ages, this new scientific tradition spread in the Ottoman land for the first time outside its own cultural environment where it originated. All these facts about the nature of Ottoman science have drawn the attention of historians of science in recent years. The New Mexico symposium of 2001 will deal with these issues and the contributions of scholars from various disciplines and backgrounds will enrich the field. It was organized by E. Ihsanoglu (Istanbul, Turkey)

#### **Lecture: Some Remarks about Ibn Sina's Qanun**

Dr. Danielle Jacquart of Paris delivered a talk on Some Remarks about Avicenna's Canon at the Seminar on Medicine, Science, and Technology in Asian Cultures, organized by Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine on Spring-Winter, 1999-2000 in London, UK.

#### **Summer School in History of Science:**

##### **The transmission of Scientific and Technical knowledge: From the Ancient Mediterranean to modern Europe.**

This was the second course of the "Summer School in History of Science, held on 11-17 September." The first one took place in Arzachena, Costa Smeralda, Sardinia (22-29 September, 1997) on Science and Civilization in the Mediterranean at the time of the Fatimids. The course was sponsored by UNESCO (The *Bayt al-Hikma* project) and CISST (Centro Internazionale dello Spazio e del Tempo), with the collaboration of CNRS (Centre d' Histoire des Sciences et des Philosophies arabes et médiévales). The school is directed by Roshdi Rashed.

"The UNESCO *Bayt al-Hikma* project proposes to establish the rightful place of Islamic culture today, promoting studies and activities and emphasizing the inheritance transmitted in Scientific, Intellectual and

Artistic fields. The exchange between Islamic and European cultures has been chosen as the key to our understanding of the development of the cultural and social reality of the modern age."

#### **The First Graduate Student Conference on Ibn Sina March 17-18, 2001, Yale University, Room 119, Hall of Graduate Studies**

The recent growth of research interest in the life, times, and philosophy of Ibn Sina on the part of graduate students in the United States, Europe, and the Middle East represents an exciting development in the fields of Islamic Studies and the History of Philosophy. The First Graduate Student Conference on Ibn Sina has two main objectives: to foster communication and debate among graduate students pursuing research on Ibn Sina; and to introduce this new generation of students and their research interests to senior scholars working on Ibn Sina. (Sponsored by The Edward J. and Dorothy Clarke Kemp Fund; The International Association for the Study of Persian-speaking Societies; The Yale Center for International and Area Studies; The Council on Middle East Studies; The Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations; The Medieval Studies Program; and The Department of Philosophy).

#### **List of talks:**

1. "State of the Art" Comments by Dimitri Gutas (Yale), Jules Janssens (Independent Scholar), Yahya Michot (Oxford), and Robert Wisnovsky (Harvard)
2. "Avicenna's Treatment of Aristotelian Modals", Asad Ahmed (Princeton)
3. "The Linguistic Achievements of Ibn Sina", Behrooz Mahmoodi Bakhtiari (Allameh Tabataba'i University, Tehran)
4. "Ibn Sina Studies in Uzbekistan: An Overview", O. Ergashev (Avicenna Foundation, Uzbekistan)
5. "Intellect vs. Active Intellect: Plotinus and Avicenna", Rahim Acar (Harvard)
6. "Ibn Sina on the Afterlife of the Soul", Kiki Kennedy-Day (Fatih University, Istanbul)
7. "Avicenna's Argument against Metempsychosis (tanasukh) as found in ar-Risala al-Adhawiya fi amr al-ma'ad", Tariq Jaffer (Yale)
8. "Some Remarks on the Doctrine of Being in Avicenna's Ilahiyat of the Shifa", Amos Bertolacci (Yale)

9. "Process Metaphysics in Islam? Avicenna and Mulla Sadra on Intensification in Being", Sajjad Rizvi (Cambridge)
10. Fakhr ad-Din ar-Razi's Critique of Ibn Sina's Argument for the Unity of God in the Isharat, and Nasir ad-Din at-Tusi's Defence", Toby Mayer (Oxford)
11. "Ibn Sina and his Students: Preliminary Remarks on The Discussions", David C. Reisman (Yale)
12. "Rocks in the Heavens?! The encounter between 'Abd al-Jabbar and Ibn Sina", Alnoor Dhanani (Harvard)
13. "The Reception of Ibn Sina among Shi'i Scholars", Ahmed H. al-Rahim (Yale)
14. "The Reception of Ibn Sina in Syriac - The Case of Gregory Barhebraeus", Hidemi Takahashi (J.W. Goethe-Universität Frankfurt)

Further Information: FGSCA Committee, David C. Reisman and Ahmed H. al-Rahim, NELC, Yale University, P.O. Box 208236, New Haven, CT 06520-8236, tel. 203-432-2944; fax. 203-432-2946; e-mail: [david.reisman@yale.edu](mailto:david.reisman@yale.edu) and [ahmed.al-rahim@yale.edu](mailto:ahmed.al-rahim@yale.edu)

### **Symposium on the History of Islamic Mathematics**

A series of lectures on Islamic mathematics and a presentation of early mathematical books were organized at a mathematical symposium, held on Thursday, March 29 through Saturday, March 31, 2001 on the University of Oklahoma campus. Symposium topics included "Aspects of Islamic Mathematical Sciences" and "The Reception and Assimilation of 'Foreign' Mathematics in Islam." Invited speakers included Prof. J.L. Berggren (Simon Fraser, British Columbia), Prof. Jan Hogendijk (Utrecht, The Netherlands), Dr. Elaheh Kheirandish (Harvard), and Dr. Kim Plofker (Dibner Institute, MIT). The symposium was held as part of the Rockefeller Foundation Postdoctoral Program of the History of Science Department.

The events were held in conjunction with the annual Karcher Public Lecture, presented by Karen Parshall, University of Virginia, who discussed "Historical Contours of the American Mathematical Research Community," on March 29, in Nielsen Hall, 440 W. Brooks Street. The lecture was sponsored by OU's Department of Mathematics, a unit of the College of

Arts and Sciences. All events, except for the Karcher Public Lecture, was held in the History of Science Collections, fifth floor, Bizzell Memorial Library, 401 W. Brooks Street.

For more information, check out the symposium Web site at: [www.ou.edu/islamsci/math%20symposium.htm](http://www.ou.edu/islamsci/math%20symposium.htm) or e-mail [jragep@ou.edu](mailto:jragep@ou.edu) or call (405) 325-2213.

### **First National Seminar on Unani Medicine in Kerala**

The First National Seminar on Unani Medicine in Kerala was organized on behalf of Kerala Unani Medical Practitioners Association, Unani Science Academy and Kerala Unani Development Board at Tagore Centenary Hall, Calicut (Kerala) on March 23 - 24, 2001. Themes of the Seminar were to promote and propagate Unani System of Medicine in Kerala, to review the contribution of Kerala Hakims in the field of Unani Medicine and to review the prophylactic health care and preventive medicine in the light of Unani Medicine. The Seminar was organized by Dr. K.T. Ajmal and was inaugurated by Prof. (Hkm) Syed Zillur Rahman under the presidentship of Prof. (Hkm) Anis A. Ansari.

### **FUTURE:**

#### **38th International Congress on the History of Medicine**

The 38th International Congress on the History of Medicine will be held on September 1-6, 2002 at Istanbul, TURKEY. The deadline for abstracts submission is November 15, 2001. For more details contact:

Prof. Dr. Nil Sari (email [nilasari@istanbul.edu.tr](mailto:nilasari@istanbul.edu.tr)); Fax: + 90 212 586 15 09 Or

Dr. Y. Ulman (email [yesimul@yahoo.com](mailto:yesimul@yahoo.com)); Fax: + 90 212 529 03 6

#### **2nd International Conference & Exhibition on Traditional Medicine**

2nd International Conference & Exhibition on Traditional Medicine in Ghana will be hosted by the Ministry of Health of Ghana and Africa First LLC on July 20-21, 2001, under the theme:

“Integrating Traditional Medicine Into Orthodox Medicine” as a continuation of the process of dialogue and education between practitioners of modern and traditional medicine commenced at the July 2000 conference with the aim to advancing global health care.

There will be pre/post conference tours to hospitals and other interesting sites. Medical institutions, doctors and nurses are encouraged to offer voluntary services and medical supplies to specific institutions as indicated in the tentative itinerary appearing at the bottom of this email.

Practitioners and students wishing to present papers are encouraged to submit abstracts having direct bearing on the theme of the conference to Africa First LLC not later than May 15, 2001. Papers must be 5-20 pages (A4 format, double spacing, font 12) with not more than 30 minutes duration in presentation.

For details contact: Africa First LLC, 517 Asbury Street #11, Saint Paul, MN 55104 USA, telephone 651-646-4721, telefax 651-644-3235 email: [africafirst@yahoo.com](mailto:africafirst@yahoo.com). or Pronito International @ Waptours, Postfach 17, Michaelskreuzstr. 15, 6037 Root, Switzerland, telephone number 41 79 340 2975, telefax 41 41 450 2043, email [akwamoapronitowap@csi.com](mailto:akwamoapronitowap@csi.com).

### **Symposia at the 21<sup>st</sup> International Congress of History of Science, to be held in Mexico City (Mexico), July 2001**

1) “Ottoman Science and Cultural Diversity” organized by Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu and Efthymios Nicolaidis, (Istanbul), Contact Person: Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu <[ircica@superonline.com](mailto:ircica@superonline.com)>. For further Information, see below:

2) “Astronomical Heritage of the NonEuropean Cultural Areas” organized by S.M. R. Ansari (Aligarh/ India), IL Seong Nha (Seoul /South Korea), and Marco A. M. Corral (Mexico). Contact Person: S.M. Razaullah Ansari <[Raza.Ansari@gmx.net](mailto:Raza.Ansari@gmx.net)>. for further Information, see below.

3) “The Scientific Commentary as a Genre”. The purpose of the session would be to show that the commentary in the Islamic world was not merely a

scholastic elaboration but a creative contribution to the various sciences. Organizer: Y. Tzvi Langermann <[yt1@mail.biu.ac.il](mailto:yt1@mail.biu.ac.il)>. (Prof. Langermann has suggested that he would speak on Palladius’ commentary to Hippocrates’ Aphorisms, which survives only in Arabic and in two different Hebrew translations from the Arabic.)

4) “Scientific Exchanges Between Islam & Europe 1300-1800. Organizers: Sonja Brentjes <[brentjes@mpiwg-berlin.mpg.de](mailto:brentjes@mpiwg-berlin.mpg.de)> and Jamil Ragep <[jragep@ou.edu](mailto:jragep@ou.edu)>

5) “Scientific Exchanges Within Islam”. Depending upon response, this could be merged with the previous session or perhaps made part of a symposium on transmission within Islam and between Islam and other cultural areas. Organizers: Julio Samsó (Barcelona) and Jamil Ragep (Oklahoma): [jragep@ou.edu](mailto:jragep@ou.edu)

### **“Astronomical Heritage of the NonEuropean Cultural Areas”**

Proposed by: S.M. Razaullah Ansari, President IUHPS-IAU INTER-UNION Commission For History of Astronomy

#### **Aims & Objectives:**

Main: To highlight and emphasize the astronomical heritage in its most general sense, and wider application to the Third World societies at large, especially during the ancient and medieval period; in other words, the role of astronomy including astrology, in the overall cultural milieu of the NonEuropean (Third World) Countries during the ancient and medieval period.

#### **Topics:**

Archeo-astronomy,  
Folk astronomy, particularly of Latin American Countries

Astronomy and history

Observational astronomy and its importance in various world civilizations,

Mathematical astronomy, its growth and significant developments - review of the researches of the 20th century,

Prospects for the future,

#### **Target Audience:**

Participants from the Congress Sections: Ancient and

Medieval astronomy, Members of the IUHPS Commission for Islamic Science/Astronomy  
Historians of Indian and Far Eastern Astronomy, (Expected strength 100-200)

Sponsors:

Main: IUHPS-IAU Joint Commission for History of Astronomy

Collaborator: IUHPS Commission for Science & Technology in the Islamic World

Organizers:

Prof. S.M. R. Ansari (Aligarh/ India)

Prof. IL Seong Nha (Seoul /South Korea)

Dr. Marco A. M. Corral (Mexico)

Tentative Program

- i. Envisaged are Invited Talks by couple of experts from each Cultural Area, with particular bearing on the role of astronomy/ astrology in the overall socio-cultural milieu.
- ii. Short research papers by young historians of astronomy.
- iii. Poster session

Depending upon response, a symposium of at least 2 days of 4 sessions is proposed. Contact person: Prof. S. M. Razaullah Ansari, Roshan Villa, Muzammil Manzil Compound, Aligarh 202002, India; Phone: +91-571-401952 (Res.), Fax: 400466,401001; E-mail: Raza.Ansari@gmx.net, [Raza.Ansari@vsnl.com](mailto:Raza.Ansari@vsnl.com)

## NEW JOURNALS / NEW PUBLICATIONS

1. Science in Islamic Civilization, Proceedings of the international symposia "Science Institutions in Islamic Civilization" and "Science and Technology in the Turkish and Islamic World", edited by Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu and Feza Günergun, Series of Studies and Sources on History of Science no. 9, Istanbul, 2000, 288 p. Prize: US\$ 40.
2. Janssens Jules. *An Annotated Bibliography on Ibn Sina*. First Supplement (1990-1994). International Federation of Institutes of Medieval Studies, Vol. 22, 1999.
3. SCIAMVS. Sources and Commentaries in Exact Sciences. Vol. 1, March 2000. Kyoto, Japan, Ed. Michio Yano; <http://plaza.harmonic.ne.jp/~sciamvs/>
4. Suhayl. Journal for the History of the Exact and

Natural Sciences in Islamic Civilization. Vol. 1, 2000. University of Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain.

5. Farhang. Quarterly Journal of Humanities and Cultural Studies. Special Issue: Commemoration of Khayyâm. Vol. 12, No. 29-32, Spring 2000.

## Documentation on recent publication

- (A) Journée D' Etudes Avicenne: Proceedings of the Workshop, 25-26 September 1998. Organized by Avicenna Military Hospital (HMA) and the Research Centre for contemporary exchanges (CRMC), Cadi Ayyad University. Publication of Ibn Sina's Studies Group. Morocco: El Watanya, 1999), 166 pp., index.

## Ibn Sina and his Epoch

1. Khireddine Mourad: Ibn Sina: Myth and Reality, pp. 3-10.
2. Rached Bemoktar: Reflections and Transmission of the Ibn Sina Biography, pp. 11-20.

## Ibn Sina and his Science

1. Abdeljalil Moulay: The orthopedic surgery and traumatology of Ibn Sina, pp. 21-42.
2. Mohamed Tougai: The role of observation and experimentation in evolution of science of Ibn Sina, pp. 43-50.
3. Ahmed Djebbar: The mathematics in the works of Ibn Sina, pp. 51-70.
4. Jean Tirouflet: Arab Chemistry during Ibn Sina's time, pp. 71-82
5. Mohamed El Faiz: The report of Ibn Sina's works in medieval Italy, pp. 83-92.
6. Abdelmalek Cherkaoui: The lectures for future relevance of Ibn Sina, pp. 93-102.
7. Jamal-Eddine El Kochairi: Urjuzatu Ibn Sina: Poetic medical versus metaphoresis, pp. 103-114.

## Ibn Sina, His Ideas and the Arts

Nasr S.H.; Aminrazavi M. (Eds). An Anthology of Philosophy in Persia. Vol. 1 (New York/Oxford: Oxford Press, 1999), 415 pp. Bibl. Index.

Part II A, Chapter 11: Ibn Sina, pp. 195-273.

1. SH Nasr, Introduction
2. T Gaskil, Treatise on knowlwdge, dedicated to Prince Alâ° al-Dawla
3. Sh. Inati, Remarks and Admonitions: Creation *Ex Nihilo* and Immediate Creation.



4. Sh. Inati, The healing: On Theodicy and Providence
  5. Sh. Inati, Remarks and Admonitions: On Theodicy and Providence
  6. Y Shayegan, al-Shifâ': The healing on time
  7. Sh. Inati, On the station of the knowers
  8. H. Corbin, Living Son of the Awake
  9. SH Nasr, The Logic of the Orientals
- (B) Ibn Sina on the Human Soul in *Notes and Observations on Natural Science*, Bk. II, section 5, Orita, *Ibadan Journal of Religious Studies*. 29 (1997), pp. 68-98.
- (C) Ibn Sina, *The Columbia History of Western Philosophy*, Ed. Richard H. Popkin (New York: University of Columbia Press, 1999), Vol. 26, pp. 157-163.
- (D) Rashed R, Combinatory and Metaphysic: Ibn Sina, al-Tûsî and Halabî, Ed. Rudiger Thiele, *Mathesis, Festschrift siebzigsten Geburtstag von Matthias Schramm* (Berlin, Diepholz, 2000), 37-54.
- (E) Sabri Tahani, Risâla fî l-<sup>u</sup>ishq, Le traité sur l'amour d'Avicenna. Traduction et Étude (deuxième partie), *Revue des études islamiques*. 61-62 (1993-1994) [in fact, 1998], pp. 175-218.

## MANUSCRIPTS

1. Ibn Sina, *Kitab Qanun fi'l-Tibb*, Part IV. Arabic Ms. on paper. Dated AH 466/AD 1073. 177 leaves, 20 lines/page.

Written in a neat scribe's hand in brown ink on buff paper, headings and significant words picked out in red, occasional marginal glosses, one leaf replaced, two leaves added at end after the colophon, opening leaf with titles; notes and one circular seal impression, later marbled boards; 24.1 x 18.3 cm.

"An extraordinarily rare manuscript of Vol. 4 of Ibn Sina's '*Qanun fi'l Tibb*' written thirty six years after the death of the author himself. It is a remarkably early fragment of perhaps the most influential single text in the history of medicine, and probably the second earliest extant manuscript of any part of Ibn Sina's *Qanun*. There appears to be one other complete copy or fragment of this early manuscript of section 5, dated 1052, sold at Sotheby's (22 April 1999). Otherwise the Muzah-I Kilisa-yi Araminah Library in Isfahan contains a copy

(listed as 11<sup>th</sup> c. but not specifically dated). The earliest fragment in the Wellcome Library for the History of Medicine in London is dated 729/1328 although they also own an undated fragment listed as 7<sup>th</sup> / 13<sup>th</sup> c. The early date is an essential factor in the significance of the present manuscript, since its nearness to Ibn Sina's original copy left little opportunity for adulteration of the text or for mistakes by copyists to creep in." (The Sotheby's Arts of the Islamic World, Catalog L00500, Lot 13, pp. 18-20).

2. Ibn Sina, *Kitab Qanun fi'l-Tibb*, Part V. Rare early Ms. on compound drugs and pharmacopoea. Arabic Ms. on paper. Iran or Mesopotamia, dated AH 444/AD 1052. 82 leaves, 20 lines/page written in clear *naskh* script in brown ink on buff paper, significant words written in larger, bolder *thuluth* in brown ink and in small *naskh* and larger *thuluth* in red ink, catchwords in black in margins, eight leaves with paper repairs, title page decorated with central *shamsa* in red, yellow, and brown, 212 by 165 mm.

"Written within two decades of the author's death, the present manuscript appears to be the earliest dates manuscript of any part of Ibn Sina's *Qanun*, and while it has not been possible to check every single library in the world, an exhaustive search of the major sources (including Brockelmann, Sezgin, the World Survey of Islamic Manuscripts and catalogues of specific libraries such as the Wellcome Institute in London) has revealed no other complete copy or fragment this early. The muzah-I Kilisa-yi Araminah Library in Isfahan contains a copy listed as '11<sup>th</sup> century' but it is not specifically dated (see *World Survey*, vol. 1, p. 476). The earliest fragment in the Library of the Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine in London is dated 729/1328, although they also own an undated fragment listed as '7<sup>th</sup> / 13<sup>th</sup> century' (see Iskandar, 1967, pp. 161, 163). Indeed, the next earliest manuscript appears to be a fragment dated AH 466/AD 1073, sold at Sotheby's 17 October 1983. The early date is an essential factor in the significance of the present manuscript, since its nearness to Ibn Sina's original has left little opportunity for adulteration of the text or for mistakes by copyists to creep in".

(The Sotheby's Arts of the Islamic World, London (UK), 22 April 1999, pp. 20).

### **Exemplars known to date of Ibn Sina's Zawiya text**

1. Istanbul University 4724, ff. 92r-102r, copied 699/1299 (in Baghdad).
2. Ayasofya 4849, ff. 13b-22b, ownership note dated 781/1379.
3. Nuruosmaniye 4894, ff. 453v-457v, stamp date 11th/17th c.
4. Pertev Pasa 617, ff. 126v-134r, ownership note dated 1113/1701-2
5. Aysofya 4829, ff. 47v-49v [where it is entitled *Fi tahqiq mabadi' al-handasa*], waqf note dated 12th/18th c.
6. Yale Beinecke Arabic MSS suppl. 51, ff. 36v-39r, 18th c. [desc. of Ibn Sina's holograph?].

### **Appendix**

#### **LIST OF IMPORTANT INTERNATIONAL NEWSLETTERS**

1. Algeria: *Cahier du Seminaire Ibn Al- Haytham sur l'Histoire des Mathematiques Arabes*, Ed. Ahmed Djebbar, No.9 (1999); Bulletin of the Algerian Association of History of Mathematics (École Normale Supérieure), Kouba; In French and English.
2. IAU : *Newsletter of Commission 41 of History of Astronomy*; Triennium 1997- 2000 ,Ed. Steven Dick (Washington), No.5, Feb.2000; in English.
3. IUHPS- IAU: *Newsletter of the Joint Commission on Astronomy*, Triennium 1998- 2001 ,Ed. S.M. R. Ansari (Aligarh) and Ileana Chinnici (Palermo), No.1 , July 2000; in English.
4. IUHPS: *International History of Science Newsletter*; Triennium 1994- 97 ,Ed. Helge Kragh (Norway); Triennium 1998- 2001 ,Ed. F. Bevilaqua (Italy);in English.
5. Oklahoma: *Newsletter of the IUHPS Commission on History of Science and Technology in Islamic Civilisation*; Triennium 1994- 97 ,Ed. S.M.R. Ansari (Aligarh) and Sonja Brentjes (Berlin); Triennium 1998- 2001 ,Ed. Jamil Ragep and Sally Ragep ,current issue Vol.6 (1999- 2000) ,Norman ,USA; in English.
6. Syria: *Newsletter of the Institute for the History of Arabic Science* ,Ed. Moustafa Mawaldi ,No. 67 (1997) , Aleppo; in English and Arabic.
7. Texas: *Newsletter of the International Society for the History of Arabic and Islamic Science and Philosophy* ,

Ed. Gül Russell , Vol. VIII (2000) , Texas A.&M University ,College Station ,USA; in English.

8. Turkey: *Newsletter of O.I.C. Research Centre for Islamic History , Arts and Culture* , Ed. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu ,No.50(2000) ,Istanbul; in English.

#### **LIST OF RECENT JOURNALS OF ISLAMIC SCIENCE**

1. Aleppo: *Journal of the History of Arabic Science* , biannual publication of the Institute for the History of Arabic Science; articles in English and Arabic. The Journal was started in 1977 under the editorship of A.Y. al- Hassan ,S. K. Hamerneh and E.S. Kennedy. After Vo.11 (Ed. M. Maghout) ,it has been stopped.
2. Barcelona: *Suhayl* ¾ Journal for the History of the Exact and Natural Sciences in Islamic Civilisation, Editor-in-Chief: J. Vernet; Eds. Josep Casulleras, Mònica Rius and Julio Samso , Vol.1(2000) ,published annually by the University of Barcelona; articles in English only.
3. Cambridge: *Arabic Science and Philosophy* ,Ed. Basim Musallam (Cambridge) and Roshdi Rashed (Paris) ¾ an international historical journal published biannually by the Cambridge University Press ,Current issue , Vol. 10 (2000); articles in English , French , or German.
4. New Delhi: *Studies in History of Medicine and Science* (SHMS) , Editor- in- Chief: Abdul Hameed , Ed. S.M.R. Ansari , Vol. 15(1997/1998). Vol.16 (1999/2000) is dedicated to the memory of the late Hakeem Abdul Hameed. SHMS is published by Jamia Hamdard (a Deemed University); articles are in English only. It was started in 1985 ,by replacing its predecessor: *Studies in History of Medicine* (Editor: Hakeem Abdul Hameed) ,which was established in 1977.
5. Frankfurt: *Zeitschrift für Geschichte der Arabisch-Islamischen Wissenschaften* (Journal for the History of Arabic- Islamic Sciences) ,Ed. Fuat Sezgin. It is an annual publication of the Institute of History of Arabic- Islamic Sciences of the Goethe University. It was started in 1984 ,the current issue is Vol. 13 (1999/2000); articles in English ,German and French. The editor Prof. Sezgin uses the term 'science' in the wider sense of knowledge ('*Ulm*'), and by 'Arabic- Islamic' he means the Arabic and other Islamic languages.

The news items should be sent at least four weeks prior to publication, and whenever possible through e-mail or disk (Microsoft Word or Page Maker 6.5), accompanied by a hard copy.

Please send all Newsletter correspondence to the

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