

The Ottoman Middle-East : a Research Library in the South-East of France
Maylis Dulois
Conservateur
SCD Université de Provence – Aix-Marseille1

Istanbul was a good place to present the library where I work.
In fact this collection being part of the Pôle associé à la Bibliothèque nationale de France « Exchanges in the Mediterranean » I am going to say also something about the other partners. Then the title would better be :
« Arab-islamic world in Provence libraries »

Introduction

The Ottoman Middle-East collection is located in the University library, In the University, History has always been very important, and Mediterranean studies too.

It is a « Cadist » (Centres d'acquisition et de diffusion de l'information scientifique et technique = acquisition and circulation of scientific and technical information ; it is an academic documentation network) (1)

Aix's le CADIST d'Aix born 1983 has got 2 characteristics :

- it is not th only Cadist for history.
- it is limited to two specific topics
Ottoman mediterranean
French Colonisation

Our library was eligible for Cadist because of :

- her former collections
- her ability to maintain the collection and assume running charges
- local research environment

The Cadist became in 1995 a partner in the Pôle associé à la Bibliothèque nationale de France dénommé «*Exchanges in the Mediterranean*»

Funds :

Cadist : 15 à 20000€ on mediterranean documentation

Pôle : 5000 to 31000 €

Description

3 topics :

- history and civilisation of the arab and Turkish regions in the Mediterranean from early modern times to 1920.

- classical islam and its impact with emphasis on arabic sciences
- french colonisation in North Africa, 1830 to World War I

Our assignment : to buy french and foreign current production on research level.

Holdings

8500 books. 55% in foreign languages
980 volumes in arabic
500 in turkish and ottoman

96 serial collections.
76 titles on a regular basis.
71 % in foreign languages.

These figures don't include holdings in the University Library "normal" collections, where we have by now some 1800 volumes in arabic, et 300 in turkish.

Some examples :

- all is published by Prof. Dr. Fuat Sezgin (**Institut für Geschichte der arabisch-islamischen Wissenschaften**)

- microform collections as :

Corps de droit ottoman, Recueil des codes, lois, règlements, ordonnances et actes les plus importants du droit intérieur et d'études sur le droit coutumier de l'Empire Ottoman édité par George Young, reproduction des 7 volumes de l'édition de réalisée par Clarendon press, 1905-1906.

Historical photographs of the Middle East : reproduction d'une sélection de 16 000 photos appartenant aux archives photographiques de St. Anthony's college, Oxford.

Early printed books from Egypt at the Great Exhibition : reproduction de 98 ouvrages édités par la maison Bulaq qui font partie des collections de la Bibliothèque de la School of Oriental and African studies (SOAS) et qui avaient été montrés à l'Exposition de 1851.

- a copy of *Tableau général de l'Empire othoman, divisé en deux parties...*
d'Ignace Mouradja d' Ohsson
Paris, Impr. de Monsieur (et de F. Didot) 1788-1824

7 tomes en 8 vol. pl. gr. in-8

We have a links database on the topics.

Access

Catalog

Books and serials are on our local on-line catalog, and in the SUDOC, french university libraries collective catalog. We still use transliteration.

Premises :

The collections are in a controlled access room.

Internet access is provided.

Researchers may find several tables.

Classification :

We have built a classification on a CDD basis.

Loans :

Local loan and interlibraries loan.

We also have an exchange service. Lists may be sent to libraries.

Every year we meet with some researchers, mostly coming from partner institutions, in order to discuss acquiring policy.

Partners

1^e- Le Centre des Archives d'Outre-mer : colonial history archives ; has also inherited the huge administrative colonial libraries ; it is next to the University library

<http://www.archivesnationales.culture.gouv.fr/caom/fr/>

2^e et 3^e are public libraries of Aix and Marseille

<http://www.citedulivre-aix.com/>

<http://www.bmvr.mairie-marseille.fr/Fede/Main.asp?lang=FR>

4^e is the Chambre de Commerce et d'industrie Marseille-Provence
(<http://www.ccimp.com/> clic on : page patrimoine culturel)

Huge archives on economical mediterranean history

And more than 50 000 books and 2000 old periodicals)

But as far as islamic mediterranean is concerned, our more important partner is the 5th :

Maison méditerranéenne des sciences de l'homme with its human and social sciences « Médiathèque ».

In the Médiathèque, the oldest and more important collection is the one gathered by the laboratory IREMAM – l'Institut de recherches et d'études sur le monde arabe et musulman, pluri-disciplinary team.

There one may find huge collections on islamology, arabic societies from the middle ages, and above all on Maghreb since colonisations.

Among these :

- a special collection on Berber studies from Arsène Roux (1893 - 1971) own library ; some arabic manuscripts and others documents of interest (2)

- Maghreb littérature (Jean Déjeux)

- arabic periodicals.

- holdings from rresearchers libraries like Robert Mantran, Lucien Golvin, Marie Bernand...

Figures :

Books : 92 000. 30 % in arabic

Périodicals : 4 053 titles (777 in arabic), 580 titlesliving.

90% of periodicals are on mediterranean area.

For the moment there are 2 books catalogs, one for latin caracters, the other for Arabic caracters. These catalogs are not in the SUDOC.

On-line access : <http://www.occbase.univ-aix.fr>

On-line accessfor periodicals : <http://revues.mmsh.univ-aix.fr/>

The Médiathèque has also iconographical collections (art, architecture, and some ethnographical material)

Last characteristic : the Médiathèque has been able until now to send staff to Damas, Cairo, Casablanca book expositions.

All collections added up, we have one of the richest collection on Arabic-islamic world.

In Paris, Balkans are included ; in Aix IREMAM and University emphasizes on the arabic part, language and civilisation ; but nobody teaches Ottoman here.

Althought our libraries do not still offer any collective catalog, we are focusing on a portal.

Université de Provence's Library Url : <http://bupsi.up.univ-aix.fr/masc/>

Notes

(1) *Liste des bibliothèques Cadist* <http://www.sup.adc.education.fr/bib/>

(2) Boogert, N. van den (1995). *Catalogue des manuscrits arabes et berbères du*

Fonds Roux: Travaux et documents de l'Iremam, 18, Aix-en-Provence: Iremam.

Stroomer, Harry; Peyron, Michael (2003). *Catalogue des archives berbères du «Fonds Arsène Roux», Berber Studies vol. 6, Cologne : Rüdiger Köppe.*