

## **List of abstracts in alphabetical order :**

### **Alakbarli, Farid**

Medieval manuscripts from Baku in the Memory of the World Programme of UNESCO. The Memory of the World Program is running by UNESCO to discover and protect the most important, rare and unique written documents. The Institute of Manuscripts of the Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences has a collection of 390 early medical documents, which include 363 manuscripts dating from the 9th century. Of these, 70 are in the Arabic language, 71 in Turkic languages including Azeri Turkish, and the remainder in Persian. In 29 July 2005, UNESCO officially included three medieval medical manuscripts from the Institute in the register of the Memory of the World Program, which comprises unique and irreplaceable written monuments of humankind. These manuscripts are as follows. 1) Second volume of "Canon of Medicine" (1030 AD) by Ibn Sina (980-1037 AD), which was copied in 1143 AD - about a hundred years after Ibn Sina's death. This Avicenna manuscript is considered to be one of the most old and reliable in the world. 2) "Zakhira-i Nizamshahi" by Rustam Jurjani. This book was written in the 13th century and imitates the famous medical book "Zakhira-i Kharazmshahi" by Zeynaddin Jurjani. Rustam Jurjani's Baku manuscript is unique, because it is the only manuscript of this book in the world. 3) "Al Maqalat as-Salasin" by Abu al-Kasim Zahrawi (936 – 1013 AD), the Arabian physician from Andalusia ( Spain ), which was known in medieval Europe as Abulcasis. The book gives description of different types of surgical treatment and provides drawings of hundreds of surgical instruments which were used many centuries ago.

### **Alberola, Victoria**

La numérisation dans les bibliothèques actuelles. Prohets dans cadre EuropéLe cas de la bibliothèque Islamique l'aecid « Félix María Pareja » (Madrid).  
Les Bibliothèques numériques. Typologie et elements. Normalisation. Analyse de quelques projets nationaux et internationaux: le cas du projet Europ-Orient. Création et gestion des Bibliothèques Numériques: le cas de la "Biblioteca islámica Félix María Pareja" de Madrid.

### **Almunsed, Saleh M.**

Name Authority Control In The Arabic Union Catalog.  
A paper will detail how the Arabic Union Catalog treats Arabic names in its name authority file. It will explain the standards, rules and practices applied to both modern and classic Arabic names. It will also conclude with real example records retrieved from the AUC name authority file.

### **Beaudin, Elizabeth A. S. & Peter Colvin**

International cooperation and Arabic digitization projects.  
SOAS and Yale are partners in a transatlantic project to digitize a select group of Islamic manuscripts in Arabic and Persian along with dictionaries and manuscript catalogs, printed in Arabic and Western scripts. This is the first Arabic OCR project for SOAS, while Yale now has significant experience in the digitization of Arabic text. Peter Colvin from SOAS and Elizabeth Beaudin from Yale will discuss three key points of the collaboration : training, experimentation to improve OCR accuracy, and metadata work to improve the descriptions of manuscripts.

### **Boukerzaza, Kamel & Azzedine Bouderbane**

Les manuscrits de la Bibliothèque Nationale d'Algérie : la numérisation et la recherche scientifique.

A travers notre communication, nous voulons décrire le fonds des manuscrits de la Bibliothèque Nationale d'Algérie (Alger) : un fonds très riche. Nous voulons également mettre en relief le processus de numérisation qui est en cours avec son utilité quant à la recherche scientifique.

### **Eliwa, Mohamad**

AskZad: The Arabic Digital Library & Research Engine.

Digital publishing in general and academic content in specific presents a huge challenge in the Middle East, with publishers worried that allowing their materials to be distributed in a digital format will destroy their print business; copyrights that are often not clear-cut and are even more often ignored or violated. Further, much of what is published digitally is of a very poor quality and cannot compete with the standards that most of the world expects. Another challenge is the fact that OCR in Arabic is, at best, approximately 60% accurate, the quality of which is unacceptable to us and to most librarians we've talked to in many parts of the world. In order to be prepared for the day when Arabic OCR catches up with the rest of the world, AskZad has an in-house digitizing, indexing and archiving center to create OCR-ready content. AskZad was created over a span of years, the seed of which was planted in 1998 with an Arabic press index and database. It was the first and is still the largest Arabic digital library and in late 2009 was relaunched with a bilingual Arabic/English interface. Today it offers an extensive referential, cultural and academic database and indices with 25,000 e-books, 7,000 dissertations, 10,000 peer review articles, 700 journals and 1500 newspapers & magazines from the Middle East. AskZad licenses all copyrighted content directly with the rights holder and pays royalties for contributing and for customer access. During 2010, Arabia Inform plans to vastly expand AskZad content, both geographically and by topic. Customers subscribe on an annual basis and AskZad is available globally.

### **Gençboyacı, Melek & Sara Yontan**

Millet Yazma Eser Kütüphanesi & the Ali Emiri collection.

Millet Yazma Eser Kutuphanesi, as its name suggests, is a manuscript library in Istanbul. This paper will browse its history from the beginning of its construction as a Feyziye Medresesi in 1700-1701 through the early decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century when the erudite bibliophile Ali Emiri Efendi is offered to host his personal library there. Today, recently restored, this Ottoman complex holds various collections including that of Ali Emiri who has greatly contributed to public librarianship until his death.

The paper will also deal with the ongoing cataloguing project of Ali Emiri's collection, presently conducted by a team of specialists under Professor Gunay Kut's supervision.

### **Goldstein-Sabbah, Sasha**

Islam online at Brill - progress & new developments. As a follow-up to last year's questions special focus will be paid to the Bibliography of the Arabic Book, Brockelmann online, the e-book collections, and additions to our primary source collection. Demonstrations of the various platforms and a Q & A period will also be part of the presentation.

## **Humbert, Genevieve**

Et si on avait fabriqué du papier dans la Syrie omeyyade ?

On sait qu'on considère généralement, sur la foi de témoignages relativement tardifs, que la fabrication de papier dans l'Empire musulman a commencé en 751, soit très peu de temps après la chute des Omeyyades et la victoire des Abbassides. Cette affirmation a été parfois mise en doute, par exemple (sous une forme nuancée) par Ibn al-Nadîm lui-même, qui nous dit ceci : « Quant au papier du Khorâsân... on dit qu'il apparut du temps des Omeyyades, d'autres disent que ce fut sous les Abbassides ; certains disent que sa fabrication est ancienne, d'autres qu'elle est nouvelle... ». Mais la meilleure façon de la contester serait de prouver que le papier avait commencé à être fabriqué avant cette date.

La Syrie, par la précocité de sa production, que souligne Jean Irigoien (« A Damas, c'est dès le 8<sup>e</sup> siècle que les copistes grecs utilisèrent le papier pour la confection des livres »), comme par la qualité de cette production (rappelons-nous la *charta damascena* et la *charta bambycina* des Occidentaux), par la multiplicité des lieux de production (Damas, Mambidj, Tripoli, Hama, Tibériade pour les plus anciens), se distingue de l'Iraq, qui ne suit pas, comme le souligne la phrase suivante, tirée d'un texte anonyme écrit en Egypte au 15<sup>e</sup> siècle : « quand le papier d'Irak venait à manquer, on fabriquait à Damas un papier qui lui ressemblait de près ».

Sans développer ici l'ensemble des indices qui me paraissent significatifs pour conforter l'hypothèse d'une fabrication antérieure à l'arrivée des Abbassides, et d'une fabrication plus précisément syrienne, je m'attacherai à celui qui me paraît le plus significatif, même si je ne peux l'expliquer dans l'état actuel de la recherche. Il s'agit du témoignage d'un auteur du 15<sup>e</sup> siècle, qui explique que le vocabulaire technique du papier en Syrie est différent de celui qui s'est imposé depuis : c'est le cas en particulier du mot utilisé pour désigner la feuille et de celui utilisé pour désigner la « main » de papier.

## **Ipert, Stéphane**

Comparative Oriental Manuscript Studies.

The European Science Foundation (ESF) is an independent, non-governmental organisation, the members of which are 80 national funding agencies, research performing agencies, academies and learned societies from 30 countries. In this framework, a new networking project called COMST (Comparative Oriental Manuscript Studies) has just been developed.

Manuscript studies, as the discipline dealing with material hand-written text witnesses, are of fundamental importance for the study of all literate and literary cultures, and scholars working in the different branches of philology, including Oriental studies, have long been aware of this fact. Over the past decades, numerous studies devoted to various issues of manuscript studies have emerged, focusing on codicology, palaeography, text criticism, and also issues of manuscript preservation and restoration.

COMST is composed by 5 teams , and each of them is composed by 10 to 20 experts from European countries.

Team 1 Material aspects: codicology, palaeography

Team 2 Manuscripts as text witnesses: philology as text criticism

Team 3 Digital philology: text recognition, encoding, editing

Team 4 Manuscript cataloguing

Team 5 Manuscript preservation: conservation, restoration, preservation, digitisation

### **Lee , Robert & Paul Valhaere**

East View Information Services will speak about an expanding suite of products and services for Middle East Studies, including new online databases and a preview of forthcoming solutions. Topics will range from Arabic, Hebrew, and other vernacular databases to custom online services to meet the needs of libraries with Middle East resources in print and microform.

### **Magierski, Peter**

Early History of Printing in Afghanistan.

The paper will examine the history of printing in Afghanistan beginning with the introduction of the first lithographic press in 1870 and ending in the 1930's when typography allowed for wider dissemination of books. The publishing output of Afghanistan from the establishment of the first press and 1930's has been very modest for the reasons I will outline in my paper. Drawing on the examples of early Afghani imprints that have been assembled for the Afghanistan Digital Library Project at New York University I will demonstrate the important role they played in the strengthening of the emerging state of Afghanistan.

### **Martinez Olmo, Pilar ( Monasterio, Ortega, Maite; Ponsati Obiols, Agnès; Castilla, Juan; Font Myriam,; Cottureau, Mario)**

Manuscripta@CSIC Project

The CSIC (Spanish Research Council) is a multi-sector, multi-disciplinary public research entity attached to the Spanish ministry of Science and Innovation and it is established throughout Spain. It is a scientific institution which collaborates with the state, autonomous and local authorities , with other research institutions (universities, public and private research entities) and with social and economic organisations both national and foreign, to which it brings its research capacity and its human resources and materials either in the development of research programmes or as scientific and technical advice and support.

It is made up of 120 institutes with a specialized library which supports research. These, in turn are organized into the CSIC Library Network made up of 78 specialized libraries distributed over Spain. In coordination they make up one of the largest contributions to the system of scientific information in the country; highly specialized library resources of more than 1,500,000 monographs and more than 45.000 titles corresponding to 76,000 journal collections as well as

other types of documental material such as maps, photographs, manuscripts, archive materials etc.

**Manuscripta@CSIC** is a coordinated project of the Mediterranean and Near Eastern Languages and Cultures (CCHS-CSIC), the School of Arabic Studies (CSIC) and the Library Coordination Unit to build up an Internet Portal to access the CSIC Arabic and Hebrew manuscripts collections kept at some CSIC libraries.

One of the main goals, both, at the Institute of Mediterranean and Near Eastern Languages and Cultures Institute and School of Arabic Studies is the study of the written heritage written in oriental languages. To this end, a research group is specifically dedicated to this field, focusing their works in codicological and palaeographic studies of manuscripts, written in the languages of the Mediterranean basin during the Antiquity and Middle Ages.

Within the scope of the research, and after having catalogued all Hebrew manuscripts kept in Madrid libraries, now it's time for a new research project to work and present altogether the Arabic and Hebrew manuscript collections.

The project will include all manuscripts in oriental languages of the Tomás Navarro Tomás Library (Madrid-Spain) and the School of Arabic Studies library (Granada-Spain) and has been designed to offer not only to scholars, but also to librarians, all useful information about each document: by means of digitizing, codicological information and catalogographical data. In order to reach this aim, the project has been conceived as a joint task between librarians and scholars, combining methodological and catalogographical aspects.

The total amount of manuscripts kept in both libraries reaches 160 documents. The first step will cover the restoration of some documents and the codicological and bibliographic catalogation, automation and digitization of all of them. Later on a specialized portal with some specific services and edit utilities will be set up to offer a useful tool to the scientific community.

The presentation at MELCON conference in Cordoba (April 2010) will cover the different aspects, processes, methods and phases of the **Manuscripta@CSIC** project.

### **Okuyucu, Cihan**

XVI.CENTURY POET INTIZÂMÎ AND HIS RARE MANUSCRIPT ABOUT HIS ADVENTURE : TUHFETU'L-IHVÂN

I want to present an important manuscript -important both for its copies are rare and it has a gripping content- which is authored by a XVI. Century poet who used « İntizâmî » for pen name. We know from the classical biographical sources that İntizâmî is from Bosnia and he also wrote a sîrnâme (it is a literary genre in the Ottoman literature). İntizâmî explain his adventures, places, events, etc. in its versified work.

### **Pulford, David**

Virtual Mingana

The Mingana Collection of Middle Eastern Manuscripts held at Special Collections in the University of Birmingham is made up of over 3,000 Middle Eastern manuscripts in over eleven languages brought together during the 1920s by an Iraqi priest called Alphonse Mingana. The Mingana Collection includes the largest collection of Christian Arabic manuscripts in Europe after the Vatican Library and the Bibliotheque Nationale; the Syriac section rates third in the

Europe after the British Museum and the Vatican Library and the Islamic collection is the third largest Arabic manuscript collection in the UK.

Seventy-one manuscripts from this collection, previously unavailable on the web, have been digitized as high resolution images along with descriptions from the printed catalogue and from Special Collections' own records as the first phase of The Virtual Manuscript Room (VMR) project.

The Virtual Manuscript Room is being created in Birmingham by the Institute of Textual Scholarship and Electronic Editing (ITSEE) in partnership with the Institute for New Testament Textual Research (INTF) Münster, Germany. The next phase of the VMR will develop a platform for other institutions to make their collections available on their own servers which are referenced on a central hub, thus creating an interactive environment in which libraries can add images and scholars can add and edit metadata and transcripts online and users can access material.

### **Roper, Geoffrey**

Collaborative research on Fāris al-Shidyāq

Fāris al-Shidyāq (1805/06-1887), later Aḥmad Fāris Efendi, was a Lebanese author, translator, editor, publisher, philologist, social critic and journalist who became a leading figure in the Arab and Muslim Renaissance (*Nahḍa*) of the 19th century. He also played a crucial part in the transition from manuscript to print culture in the Middle East. Originally a Maronite Catholic, he converted first to Protestantism and subsequently to Islam, while remaining essentially a free thinker. His career took him from Lebanon to Malta, Egypt, Britain, France, Tunisia and Turkey. Although he has enjoyed a considerable reputation as a writer, and much has been written about him, there remain many unanswered biographical, bibliographical and literary questions concerning him.

For the last two years, a group of scholars in Egypt, Germany, Great Britain, Lebanon, Hungary and USA have been meeting and collaborating to develop a research project to enlarge and systematise knowledge of his life and writings. The aim is to resolve some problems and contradictions in previous accounts, and establish a biographical and bibliographical database of material on him and by him, using the resources of libraries and archives in several countries. This presentation will give a brief account of what has been done, and the much greater amount that still needs to be done.

### **Torres, Nuria and Jaime López, García Félix**

Presentation of the Documentation Center and the Media Library Edward W. Said of Casa Árabe e Instituto Internacional de Estudios Árabes y del Mundo Musulmán.

Nuria Torres (Head Documentation Center) with Jaime Lopez (Head Media Library Edward W. Said) of Arab House present these two areas included within the Casa Árabe.

The objective is to present the Documentation Center and Media Library Edward W. Said of

Casa Árabe. Its funds meet in Spain a unique collection of periodicals, digital documents, DVD films and CD music of contemporary Islamic and Arab world. The focus of these two projects is to allow creating a rich and specialized collection, developing visual and sound files.

In the other hand, it is important to highlight another factor that the new technologies and knowledge management gives us is the fact of being able to turn into a "resource center" on the electronic, audiovisual and multimedia documents of the contemporary Arab world.

A new feature offers the ability to retrieve information in Arabic script. The documental analysis and data processing done in both department offers a new area of specialization in audiovisual performances and contemporary Arab audiovisual creation, which are in constant growth and renewal. This is the first experience in Spain showing an area of broad experimentation and reflection, where the technological, visual and rhythmic have the ability to communicate contemporary realities of the Arab culture.

Both collections search computerized cataloging through Millennium System that enables the creation of the first systematic catalog in Arabic in Spain: a union catalog called *Diwan*.

### **Vasilyeva, Olga**

Orientalia of General Peter Suchtelen.

Count Suchtelen (1751–1836), Russian General of Dutch origin, the Russian ambassador in Sweden, was a passionate book-collector. After his death his huge library was acquired by the Russian government and dispersed between several institutions. The West-Europeans manuscript books and autographs are kept now in the National Library of Russia, meanwhile the Oriental collection was planned to be put into the Asiatic Museum (Institute of Oriental manuscripts of today). In fact the most part was transferred in the Museum and divided between the collections organized by language principle, thus, now is very difficult to restore the Suchtelen collection. Besides, several manuscripts are housed in the Oriental faculty of the St-Petersburg State University and in the National Library of Russia. The reconstruction of the Suchtelen's Orientalia is the main aim of the presented work.

### **Wentker, Sibylle**

The Manuscript Collection of Hammer-Purgstall in the Austrian National Library

The reknown Austrian orientalist Joseph von Hammer-Purgstall (1774-1856) devoted a considerable amount of his scholarly energy to collecting oriental manuscripts in Istanbul and Cairo, either by himself or by making use of his network of acquaintances and book dealers in the Middle East. In the forties of the 19th century Hammer-Purgstall sold his collection to the Imperial Library in Vienna, almost doubling its oriental holdings. The paper presents for the first time the collection which still forms a substantial part of the today Austrian National Library and tries further to shed light on the mechanisms of manuscript acquisition in the beginning of the 19th century in Istanbul.

### **Wiederhold, Lutz**

The Library of the German Oriental Society at the Universitaets- und Landesbibliothek Sachsen-

Anhalt, Halle (ULB Halle) and its significance for current digitisation efforts in MENALIB

The German Oriental Society (Deutsche Morgenlaendische Gesellschaft – DMG) was founded in 1845 on the initiative of scholars from Leipzig and Halle. In 1846, the society decided to maintain a library of its own in the city of Halle. In the 1890s, the society's library became a part of the library of the University of Halle and remains to be in this status until the present day. Since being a part of Halle University the library has always been furnished with its own budget for acquisitions. However, a major part of its holdings consists of donations or bequests of former members of the society, a fact that helps to understand the unique character that the collection has acquired over more than 150 years. The uniqueness of its holdings renders the collection a valuable source for current digitisation projects at ULB Halle as supported by the German Research Foundation (DFG). The paper describes the process of selection of relevant materials from the library of the DMG for, and the workflows of digitisation of these materials and presents perspectives of linking the current projects of ULB Halle with other digitisation projects focused on Middle East studies materials.

### **Yastrebova, Olga**

Calligraphic manuscripts of the Zand and Qajar period in the National Library of Russia.

The National Library of Russia's collection of Persian manuscript is famous for a number of rare and magnificently decorated manuscripts, especially of the Safavid period. At the same time it stores some items of the later period (late 18<sup>th</sup> and first half of 19<sup>th</sup> centuries) which are far less studied and practically unknown to researchers. These manuscripts show examples of fine calligraphy and book decoration. Most of them came to the library as part of collections of two diplomats, counts Ivan Simonich and Dmitriy Dolgorukiy, who were Russia's ministers plenipotentiary in Persia respectively in 1832–1838 and 1845–1854. Of special interest is the *muraqqa*-album from the Simonich collection made around the year 1201 (1786–1787) in Isfahan and containing many samples of the *shikastah* style by the calligrapher Mirza Kuchak Isfahani.

### **Yazar, Sadik,**

THE TURKISH TRANSLATION OF THE NEW TESTAMENT IN THE PERIOD OF THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE (FROM BEGINING TO END OF THE XVIII. CENTURY)

As it is known ; the translations of the sacred texts are an important subject in the modern translation studies. The translations of the New Testament into the various world languages has also been studied many times. I want to take a glance at the Turkish translation of The New Testament in the period of the Ottoman Empire presenting some rare manuscripts.

### **Zaytsev, Ilya**

Turkish Manuscripts in the Institute of Oriental Studies (Moscow)

The paper is about the Ottoman-Turkish Mss preserved in the Institute of Oriental Studies of the Russian Academy of Sciences (Moscow). The collection holds 20 Manuscripts in Ottoman Turkish language. They are dated back to 16—19 cent., dealing chiefly with Islamic religion (religious law, popular expositions of the Sunni creed, commentaries to the Holy Quran, prayers), philology (Persian-Ottoman dictionaries) and literature (poetry). There are also some manuscripts, which cover various aspects of medicine (copy of Ibn al-Baytar's pharmacology) and geography (cosmography). The collection is not numerous, however, rather important. According to the seal dated 1281 (1864/65) (which is printed on the Mss) the main part of the collection belonged to a *waqf* of a certain sheikh Ahmed Ziyauddin ibn Mustafa al-Haledi ar-



Raji.

### **Zubcevic, Asim**

Book Ownership in Ottoman Sarajevo 1767-1807

The paper presents findings of a research into book ownership among the citizens of Sarajevo on the basis of data collected from the city's Sharia court registers. It seeks to answer two main questions: What kind of books did the citizens of Sarajevo own and probably read during this period, and: Who were the owners? The former question is addressed by analysing the data in terms of the genre, the language and the value of the books owned, while the latter is answered by providing an overview of the book-owners in terms of their social background, wealth and gender.

### **Žutić, Fatima**

The Earliest Printed Books Kept in the Library of the Faculty of Islamic Studies, University of Sarajevo

Although the Faculty of Islamic Studies in Sarajevo is a relatively new institution, having being founded in 1977, its library contains some of the oldest specimens of Muslim printed culture preserved in Bosnia. These books predate the setting up of the first official printing press in the Ottoman province of Bosnia in 1866 and may have come out of the older printing presses of Istanbul and Cairo established in the 18th and 19th centuries.

While Bosnian scholars have tended to give greater prominence to Islamic manuscripts, this paper seeks to redress the imbalance by describing the oldest extant printed books kept in the Faculty of Islamic Studies, University of Sarajevo.

### **Ksibi, Ahmed**

Caractéristiques du lectorat dans le monde Arabe.

Il s'agit pour cette investigation de proposer une synthèse concernant les pratiques lectorales et l'usage de l'Internet comme des nouveaux comportements informationnels dans quelques pays arabes. La carence dans le monde Arabe des enquêtes sur la lecture, qui sont menées régulièrement dans des pays développés,<sup>1</sup> prive des références consistantes à tous ceux qui sont préoccupés par le développement de ces pays. Ces enquêtes des pays développés ont le mérite de quantifier les pratiques culturelles et lectorales dans une perspective comparative, et d'avoir des solides repères pour évaluer la réalisation de la société de l'information. La maîtrise de la lecture est un facteur clé d'un système éducatif efficace selon les constats faits par les enquêtes de l'OCDE au titre du PISA sur les compétences et les connaissances des jeunes aux fins des interactions économiques et sociales. Ces études quantitatives restent indispensables, cependant l'état de la connaissance des pratiques de lecture chez les pays arabes reste fragmentaire et lacunaire. Les études de la lecture n'occupent qu'une place secondaire dans les préoccupations des institutions de recherche et des chercheurs en sciences sociales.

Les caractéristiques de la lecture dans le monde arabe à démontrer, ne seront affirmées qu'à

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<sup>1</sup>- Les enquêtes sur *Les pratiques culturelles des Français*, en 1974, 1982, 1990 et 1998 ... au Canada : National Longitudinal Survey of Children and Youth: Early Reading Ability and Later Literacy Skills . ,sont conduites périodiquement selon la même méthodologie, afin de voir la configuration du développement culturel et lectoral .

travers les statistiques de sources reconnues et les enquêtes méthodologiquement les plus valables.

Une des sources les plus crédibles est l'étude de Next page <sup>2</sup> sur la lecture dans neuf pays arabes, C'est une première qui doit être exposée. Collecter des données concernant la lecture offre un substrat informationnel important permettant la comparaison du lectorat Arabe et permet de suivre à la trace des lecteurs pour estimer le progrès "culturel" accompli dans la région.

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<sup>2</sup> What Arabs Read: a Pan – Arab Survey of readership : Phase one : Egypt, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, Morocco .Synovate, n. p. , 2007 . 326 p

-What Arabs Read: a Pan – Arab Survey of readership : Phase two :Algeria, Jordan, Palestine, Syria . Synovate, n. p. , 2007 . 255 p.