

18.6.56.

Dear Professor U. Grunebaum,

I really feel I owe you an explanation about the review of your book which appeared in the "Jewish Chronicle". I had sent to the editor a review of more than twice the length quite a time ago, but he kept it back until he also received the one on the Koran translation, combined the two into one and cut the ~~one~~ part referring to your book. The cutting, on top of it, was not done intelligently. I presume the reason is that Dawood was once on their staff, and they wanted to boost him, but I am very angry this was done at your expense. I could of course make a row and demand that the missing part of my review be printed, but I know from experience that it would be hopeless, as the J.C. firmly believes that it knows its own business. I only wish to tell you the facts, & hope you will not bear me any grudge.

As you may have heard, I am going in October to Jerusalem as associate professor of Hebrew language. I am very much looking forward to my work there, which should provide great possibilities both for teaching & for organizing research. It might even enable me to pay a visit to the U.S.A. - who knows?

With kindest regards

Yours sincerely

C. Robin

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION
AIR LETTER
AEROGARME

no more
the time



Write Love
Mete

Professor G. v. Grunebaum
6019 Ingleside Avenue
Chicago 37 Ill.
U.S.A.

It is very hot
at Chicago
to a friend
Kiv

50

Second fold here

First fold here

Sender's name and address: C. Rubin
47 Weyland Road
Hendington
Oxford
U.K.

Helga
Karel
daughter
love

AN AIR LETTER SHOULD NOT CONTAIN ANY
ENCLOSURE; IF IT DOES IT WILL BE SURCHARGED
OR SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL.

If you should see some
new toys or dolls Clantia
loves please get it for the
Kindergarten. We reimburse you

From
Dr. Abid Ahmedali,
D.Phil. (Oxon)
Principal.

De Montmorency College,
Sargodha.
(West Pakistan)
11 Sept. 1956.

Handwritten notes:
already published
by you
11/25/56

My dear Professor Grunebaum,

I find a reference in your "A Tenth-Century Document of Arabic Literary Theory & Criticism" which has interested me very much and about which I wish to seek enlightenment from you, and hope you will be kind enough to give me your advice and information. You have mentioned in this book Khattābi's K. Bayān i'jāz al-Qurān in MS form (MS Leiden 1654, Cod.655 Warner). It seems that you have with you either a copy of this work or very likely photos of the MS; for you describe its contents in detail on p. xvii of your book.

The idea has occurred to me to edit this work of Khattābi's, for I believe it will be a very useful addition to this type of literature already published. Of course you are in a better position to judge its merits from this point of view. So if you are not contemplating to edit it and of course if you are in possession of the photos, will it be possible for you to pass on the photos to me for the purpose of copying out the work with a view to the preparation of a critical edition? I shall be most grateful to you for this kind act of yours, as also for any advice that you will be kind enough to give me.

Under a separate cover I send you a copy of a small monograph of mine on the famous Arab philologist Ibn as-Sikkit in the hope that you will appreciate it. I also wish to invite your attention to two articles of mine in JRAS. Jan. 1936 (MS. Marsh 384: K. Nasab Quraish by Zubair b. Bakkār) and ZDMG. Band 90, Heft 1: Zaid b. Rifā'a & his abridgment of Ibn as-Sikkit's Iṣlāḥ al-Mantiq.

I have read with great interest your very scholarly and thorough work from which I have taken the above reference, especially the valuable and exhaustive notes with which you have enriched this translation of yours of al-Baqillāni's famous work. As regards Criticism of Arabic Poetry, it is a vast subject and very fascinating too. What is needed is a sort of Critique of Arabic poetry -- one single work which would, after a thorough study of the classical works on the subject and the scattered criticisms in other works, generalise on the theories of Arabic literary criticism with a view to enunciating its principles. As regards the subject of I'jāz al-Qurān, it is also a very fascinating subject, and I think there is further scope for the investigation of the problem; for what we have to consider is the phenomenon of its appeal, immediate and fervent, and its impact upon the Arabs. Obviously they -- its immediate audience -- did not sit down and analyse its

beauties. Of course -- this is also obvious -- as it was an Arabic Quran addressed to people whose mother-tongue was Arabic of which they were proud, the first impact upon the Arabs was of its language. In its ultimate analysis I find that the most important factors were the rhythm & the music contained in the words and the language generally as employed by the Quran -- its sound effect: a charm and fascination that permeate the language of the Quran throughout. It is wrong to suppose that this charm does not exist in the longer Suras as is supposed by most of the Orientalists -- in fact every bit of the Quran is 'recitable'. This was the miracle of the Quran as it appeared to its immediate audience. Of course it has other aspects as well. In course of time when the Arabs became still more language-conscious due to the rise of grammatical & philological studies, they discovered on closer study beauties which they could classify and codify as a science. They became almost obsessed with this linguistic aspect of their literary compositions as to be heedless of other beauties in a poem or a prose composition. This obsession resulted in such compositions as *Lamiyya* of Abu Tammām, as rightly pointed out by Baqillāni (p 50 and Maqāmāt of Ḥariri.

Of all the European scholars Professor Arberry of Cambridge seems to possess a full appreciation of this quality of the Arabic language -- the rhythm -- especially as employed in the Quran (see his Preface to 'The Koran Interpreted').

In the end I hope this will find you in the best of health.

With my best greetings and regards,
Yours sincerely,

A. Ahmadali

Senders name and address ---

*Dr. A. Ahmadali
Sargolha
(W. Australia)*

United States of America.

CHICAGO. (ILL.)

University of Chicago,

Professor G. E. von Grunebaum,

IF ANYTHING IS ENCLOSED
THIS LETTER WILL BE SENT
BY ORDINARY MAIL.

AEROGRAMME



5 Jan. 16, 1957

Dear Prof. Von Gruenbaum,

I arrived on the Maasdam Jan. 4. in Rotterdam and have been here since but I am keeping busy. The America U. of Cairo my office by the way paid my fare to the Netherlands since they are convinced that I am on my way to Cairo pending the validation of the passport. I too am, in this opinion, that if you were I shouldn't be here too long. Anyway Jan. 15, I saw Prof. Schaact, it was like you said, formal. He introduced me to the Library, signed me in the book and nice later introduced me to Dr. Boonbaker, who is away. He is in no need of anyone for the Encyclopaedia, a good matter since the probability that I will be in Cairo, God willing, it is easier this way. I guess that all is best since my field is not his and he won't have to be after me.

Also yesterday, I went to Piel & Co and saw a Dr. Van Prosdij who after a few minutes got around to understand what the microfilm of the thesis was about, after mentioning that I studied with you, he felt better and it seemed so. In any case I did not overpower him too badly, he is a very nice person. It is interesting to learn that he studied under Prof. Landsberger in Leipzig etc. The result was that after showing him the microfilm and Broekman 121 supplement, he is giving estimate of the cost which it will take to cover the production of the thesis, which I hope has had a warm reception this time back home. He was very amiable and said that there were various arrangements or better ways of making agreements with publishers about getting a work published. I don't know to what I will probably write you and ask for your advice. In any event, he felt that it was worthwhile publishing and has taken the interest. I have today written to Prof. Blachis in Cairo asking him whether I could come to see him about the method, problem etc. of studying the sources of the Aghon. Has you can see that Zolndel is a true. Aghon I met a Dr. Fische who I met in Cairo. He & family are staying at the same Hotel Central as I am for the next few days. By coincidence he related his treatment to the Hottengos. They are well. He left Cairo (i.e. Dr. Fische) Dec. 22 and it seems quiet. He is a Egyptologist and has been wrote and all there is here. Thus you see the world is small of your travel. For the first time I have seen how the European student lives, since I have been spending the extra time I have this week looking for a place. The American student should praise Allah for the steam heat, blankets etc. He doesn't know how well off he is being in America during the winter. Leiden is a real picturesque place and it is like being in the Middle Ages. I am a veteran of the train ride to the Hague, it takes 10 minutes. I would appreciate hearing from you about what is going on back there. The news is good news I gather. I will try to take care myself and hope I get a chance to talk to Blachis about the Aghon, I think he would be very helpful in any suggestions he made. That's about all for the moment. I gave Dr. Schacht your regards etc. Please give my best to Prof. Abbott and tell her that I regret not saying goodbye to her before I left but that already made my salutations earlier.

Happy to hear from you soon I remain your student
 Jan Zolndel

AEROGRAMME

LUCHTPOSTBLAD



Prof. G. E. von Grunbaum
The Oriental Institute
University of Chicago
Chicago 37, Illinois

PAR AVION / PER LUCHTPOST

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EXPÉDITEUR / AFZENDER

Mr. L. Zoloudik to
U.S. Educational Foundation
18 Bezuidenhoutweg, The Hague, Netherlands

NIETS INSLUITEN!

INDIEN ZULKS TOCH GESCHIEDT, DAN WORDT DEZE BRIEF PER BOOT / TREIN VERZONDEN

1/5
A. v. v. v.