

**La Bibliothèque patrimoniale de Dijon : bref aperçu des pièces
en script arabe**

**The *Bibliothèque patrimoniale* of Dijon: A Brief Overview of the Items
in Arabic Script
(abstract)**

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The *Bibliothèque patrimoniale* of Dijon keeps fourteen manuscripts in Arabic script, inventoried under twelve shelf marks and distributed as follows: 5 items in Turkish, 4 in Persian and 5 in Arabic language. The existence of such a heteroclit collection can be explained by the [good] fortune of legacies, allowing us to describe it as a cabinet of curiosities, given that colonial history (of the Maghreb) and enlightened non-specialists (individuals or institutions) contributed to its composition. The Dijon library first and foremost shelters thousands of documents related to religious establishments that have flourished in Burgundy since the Middle Ages. The iconoclasm of this modest “oriental” array of manuscripts is, however, not that odd when one considers some of the surrounding libraries who share the same destiny (Besançon or Dôle, just to quote a few). Arabists have at their disposal some clues to give sense to these objects gathered haphazardly. This paper organizes them along two main lines:

1st) to make them known: highlighting the acquisition strategies developed by non-specialists; introducing the manuscripts to the scientific community; spreading knowledge, addressing a large audience);

2nd) to analyze the texts – some unedited – some offering interesting generic contents. Besides, we examine the discrepancies that can affect a copy (“a margins-culture” ?).

Useful links:

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