

## Notes to Adán Griego's "Response 4"

### OUTREACH:

#### Examples:

- MELA Program Oct. 2013: Outreach: Engaging our Communities  
e.g. Embedded Librarianship (Washington U.), Middle East-Related Public Programming (MSU), Librarians Promoting Academic Integrity (UNC)  
outreach programs at Doha Museum, outreach at McGill)
- UM Library's Guide to Islamic Manuscripts and manuscripts in general (Islamic Manuscript Studies : <http://guides.lib.umich.edu/islamicmsstudies>)

### FOREIGN LANGUAGE BOOKS progress:

E-Books (Arabic) just now beginning: Among the products now offered, commercial and open-source

#### Commercial:

- Almanhal (<http://www.almanhal.com/>): full-text searchable electronic databases of books, journals, dissertations, and reports from the Arab world (majority are very recent publications, most from 2013)
- KOTOBARABIA (<http://www.kotobarabia.com/>) (some older e-books, but majority 2007 and after)
- Kotobarabia Eastview (<http://www.eastview.com/regions/middleeast>) subset electronic versions of books from the modern Arab renaissance in the Middle East, an electronic archive of books published 1820-1914 from Egypt, Syria and the Islamic World. With over 3,000 titles, this collection covers humanities, science, and many other fields.
- AskZad (<http://www.askzad.com/>), Pan Arab E-Books ([http://www2.askzad.com/e\\_genpages/services.aspx](http://www2.askzad.com/e_genpages/services.aspx))
- Academic Library ([http://www.askzad.com/e\\_genpages/AcademicLibrary.aspx](http://www.askzad.com/e_genpages/AcademicLibrary.aspx)), Press Library ([http://www.askzad.com/e\\_genpages/PressLibrary.aspx](http://www.askzad.com/e_genpages/PressLibrary.aspx))

#### Open source/public domain:

- Bibliotheca Alexandrina: Home (<http://www.bibalex.org/>)
- HathiTrust (<http://www.hathitrust.org/> more than books: manuscripts, serials, archives, etc.)
- Internet Archive: Digital Library of Free Books (27,304 Arabic, 327 Hebrew, etc.) (<https://archive.org>)
- Google Books
- And many more, including numerous pirated/dubious copyright status collections (see Near Eastern Studies Research guide: <http://guides.lib.umich.edu/content.php?pid=18162&sid=223967>)

## **SOCIAL MEDIA:**

Great possibilities here: communicate with library constituents on finds at local bookshops, libraries, museums.

In the old days, faculty drew library funds to spend on purchases made abroad, but this is no longer the practice because of accounting issues. Faculty might communicate with bibliographers via post in these matters, but this was always too slow. Email communication still works and is what we do at Michigan: Faculty on-site finds a rare book or manuscripts at a shop or book stall, e.g., Azbakeya (Sur al-Azbakiyah) Book Market in Cairo, Madbouli, Dar El-Bustani, or Leila Books, and send off to me an email to request we purchase it. With social media, such transactions might be undertaken among a larger audience (unless we want to keep the transaction under wraps) and faster. A desiderata list could be posted, and vendors, book-sellers, interested faculty could participate and offer commentary. Crowd-sourced or patron driven acquisitions? All sorts of logistical obstacle present themselves of course, among them network access, privacy, fund transactions means, etc. (Additionally, the potential crowd of informed or expert participants is exceedingly small, as we found out with our collaborative Islamic manuscripts cataloguing project.) This is worthy of consideration nevertheless.