

**OPEN ACCESS ISLAMIC  
MANUSCRIPTS COLLECTIONS  
BY  
MUNEER ABU BAKER**

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**MELCOM INTERNATIONAL  
39TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
CAMBRIDGE (UNITED KINGDOM)  
03/07-06/07/2017  
CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY**

# **AGENDA**

- **OPEN ACCESS CONCEPT**
- **CHALLENGES OF DISCOVERY OF OPEN ACCESS RESOURCES**
- **(AMIR) ACCESS TO MIDEAST AND ISLAMIC RESOURCES PROJECT**
- **SELECTED RESOURCES : MANUSCRIPTS.**

# OPEN ACCESS CONCEPT

Open access is making the research literature freely available on the internet. Formally, the Budapest Open Access Initiative ([www.soros.org/openaccess/](http://www.soros.org/openaccess/)) defines Open Access as:

*"By 'open access' to this literature we mean its free availability on the public internet, permitting any users to read, download, copy, distribute, print, search, or link to the full texts of these articles, crawl them for indexing, pass them as data to software, or use them for any other lawful purpose, without financial, legal, or technical barriers other than those inseparable from gaining access to the internet itself."*

- Digital, online, free of charge, and free of most copyright and licensing restrictions.
- Permission to copy, use, distribute, transmit and display the work publicly.
- Legal basis:
  - Permission of copyright holder (new resources)
  - Expiration of copyright (old resources)



# Challenges of discovery of Open Access resources

- Multitude of projects:
  - ✓ Key challenges for librarians relating to making free resources more discoverable within their institutions are growing volume of material, unknown permanence and difficulties relating to quality-assessment
  - ✓ Librarians have limited human resource available to select and catalogue free online resources
- Metadata:

Creation and adoption of metadata standards to signal how 'open' content is. Metadata identifying Open Access articles and other free resources is still not clear, so identifying whether content is free to access or what the license terms for that content are can be difficult. The lack of metadata currently, making management of those resources difficult and unpredictable.





# Challenges of discovery of Open Access resources—cont.

- Limited collaboration:
  - Support is required from a range of stakeholders in the scholarly information supply chain.
  - Convince funders to relate grant decisions to business-like running of an Open Access service!
- Sustainability:
  - Over the past few years a number of infrastructure services have been developed in support of Open Access (in both repository and journal forms). Many of these start as projects and face some difficulties in becoming services. Infrastructure and content services in the subscription publishing model are funded by payments by publishers or libraries or both. These form an established ecosystem whose financial sustainability has been guaranteed by a library budget (broadly defined to include consortia and other shared approaches) that is now challenged both by financial constraints and by additional calls on that budget to support a new infrastructure and content services for Open Access. In the case of Open Access resources the widespread misconception is that they are free and hence have no financial implications. While the Open Access content itself is meant to be free for access, the production of such resources have costs attached to them.



# AMIR (Access to Mideast and Islamic Resources)

<http://amirmideast.blogspot.ae/>

Started in December 2010 (eds. Chuck Jones, Peter Magierski, Andreas Neumann, Sean Swanick)

- 564 Open Access journals (titles as of 31 March, 2017)
- 56 Islamic Manuscript Collections (collections as of December 16, 2016)

also OA encyclopedias, E-Books, dictionaries, articles, image collections

- 500+ subscribers
- 600+ postings
- 750,440 visits

Current lists:

- Alphabetical List of Open Access Journals in Middle Eastern Studies**
- Alphabetical List of Open Access Islamic Manuscripts Collections**
- Alphabetical List of Scholarly Blogs in Middle Eastern Studies**



## Open Access Islamic Manuscripts Collections

- Alphabetical List of Open Access Manuscripts in Islamic Studies

[http://amirmideast.blogspot.ae/2010/12/alphabetical-list-of-open-access\\_10.html](http://amirmideast.blogspot.ae/2010/12/alphabetical-list-of-open-access_10.html)

List of 56 manuscript collections worldwide as of December 16, 2016 [First posted 12/10/2010]

- [Aga Khan Museum \(AKM\) manuscripts - Toronto, Canada](#)
- [American University in Beirut - Jafet Library](#)
- [al-Aqsa Mosque Library, East Jerusalem](#)
- [Arabic and Berber manuscripts in Provence Alpes Côte d'Azur libraries](#)
- [Bayerische Staatsbibliothek, München - Islamic Manuscripts](#)
- [Berlin Staatsbibliothek - Orient Digital - Islamic Manuscripts Collection](#)
- [Bibliothèque Nationale du Royaume du Maroc](#)
- [Biblioteca Virtual del Patrimonio Bibliográfico \(Spain\)](#)
- [Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale di Firenze](#)
- [British Library Online Catalogue of Illuminated Manuscripts The Open Treasury for Islamic Manuscript](#)

## Open Access Islamic Manuscripts Collections -- cont.

- [Cambridge Digital Library - Islamic Manuscripts](#)
- [Cambridge University Shahnama Project](#)
- [Database of Southeast Asian Islamic Manuscripts](#) (Islamic University Jakarta)
- [Fihrist Oxford and Cambridge Islamic Manuscripts Catalogue Online](#)
- [Fulfulde ajami manuscripts of Nigerian Jihad poetry by Usman dan Fodio \(1754-1817\) and contemporaries - \(British Library\)](#)
- [Gallica - Bibliothèque nationale de France \(BnF\)](#)
- [Harvard University Islamic Heritage Project \(IHP\) Manuscripts](#)
- [Heidelberg University Library](#)
- [Indiana University Manuscripts](#)
- [Islamic Medical Manuscripts at the National Library of Medicine](#)
- [King Saud University - Makhtota Manuscripts Library](#)
- [Koç University Manuscript Collection](#) (Turkey)





## Open Access Islamic Manuscripts Collections – cont.

- [Kopenhagen, Königliche Bibliothek](#)
- [Leipzig University Library - Islamic Manuscripts](#)
- [Library of Congress Islamic Manuscripts from Mali](#)
- [Manuscript@CISC](#)
- [al-Maktaba al-markaziyya lil-makhtūtāt al-islāmiyya](#) (catalogue with some exemplifying images only)
- [The Minassian Collection of Qur'anic Manuscripts](#)
- [Münchener Digitalisierungszentrum \(MDZ\)](#)
- National Library of the Czech Republic - [Arabic Manuscripts](#) / [Persian Manuscripts](#)
- [National Library of Republic of Bulgaria - Arabic and Persian Manuscripts](#)
- [Oxford University - manuscript of Book of Curiosities](#)
- [PHAIDRA](#) - Digital repository of University of Belgrade
- [Princeton University Islamic Manuscripts Collection](#)
- [Qatar Digital Library](#)

## Open Access Islamic Manuscripts Collections – cont.

- [The Open Treasury for Islamic Manuscript](#)
- Sabancı University Sakıp Sabancı Museum's [Arts of Book and Calligraphy Collection](#)
- [Saxon State and University Library, Dresden \(SLUB\)](#)
- [UCLA - Caro Minasian Collection of Persian and Arabic Manuscripts](#)
- [University of Birmingham Mingana Collection](#)
- [University of Bratislava Library, Bašagić Collection](#)
- [University of Edinburgh Library - Oriental Manuscript Collection](#)
- [University of Freiburg \(Germany\) - Oriental Manuscript Resource \(OMAR\)](#)
- [University of Melbourne - Middle Eastern Manuscripts](#)
- [University of Michigan Islamic Manuscripts](#)



## Open Access Islamic Manuscripts Collections – cont.

- [University of Pennsylvania Manuscripts](#)
- [University of Tokyo - Institute of Oriental Culture \(Daiber Collection\)](#)
- [University of Utah Digital Manuscripts](#)
- [Virtual Library of the Mediterranean Sea](#)
- [The Walters Art Museum - Digital Walters](#)
- [Walters Art Museum, Baltimore - Islamic Manuscripts](#)
- [Waqfiyyat ash-Shaykh 'Alî b. Abdallâh b. Qâsim Âl Thâni](#)
- [Wellcome Library \(London\) Arabic Manuscripts Collection](#)
- [World Digital Library, Middle East and North Africa manuscripts](#)
- [Yale-SOAS Islamic Manuscript Gallery](#)



# Alphabetical List of Open Access Manuscripts in Islamic Studies : Selected Resources:

Examples:

World Digital Library, Middle East and North Africa manuscripts

[https://www.wdl.org/en/search/?regions=middle-east-and-north-africa&subject\\_date\\_end\\_year\\_\\_lte=2010&subject\\_date\\_start\\_year\\_\\_gte=-8000&item\\_type=manuscript&qia=en](https://www.wdl.org/en/search/?regions=middle-east-and-north-africa&subject_date_end_year__lte=2010&subject_date_start_year__gte=-8000&item_type=manuscript&qia=en)

King Saud University - Makhtota Manuscripts Library

<http://makhtota.ksu.edu.sa/MakhtotaEnglish.aspx>

Qatar Digital Library

<https://www.qdl.qa/en>





# World Digital Library, Middle East and North Africa manuscripts

Clear All Filters

Item subject before 2010

Manuscripts

Item subject after 8000 BCE

Middle East and North Africa

Place

Egypt 121

Turkey 46

Time Period

500 - 1499 226

1500 - 1699 105

Topic

Religion 200

Natural sciences & mathematics 85

Additional Subjects

Arabic manuscripts 220

Islamic manuscripts 130

Language

Arabic 320

Syriac 27

Institution

Library of Congress 133

National Library and Archives of 55

Search the World Digital Library Search

Options

Active Filters:

- Item subject before 2010
- Manuscripts
- Item subject after 8000 BCE
- Middle East and North Africa
- Clear All Filters

379 results in English

- List
- Gallery
- Map



### The Precious Book on Noteworthy Dates

This short work, entitled *Kitāb al-yawāqīt fi ma'rifat al-mawāqīt*, and copied by an anonymous scribe in Shawwāl in June-July 1775 (AH 1168), is attributed to Ḥusayn (or Ḥasan) b. Zayd b. 'Alī al-Jahhāf, who is said to have dedicated it to Abū 'Alī Maṣū' al-Ḥākim bi Amr-Allāh, the sixth Fāṭimid ruler (died 996). The manuscript lists the 12 months of the year, each on one sheet, in the form of an almanac. The last page is a one-page guide to the interpretation of dreams, reportedly prepared at the behest ...

Contributed by National Library and Archives of Egypt



### Treatise on the Craft of Weight Measurement

This work is a treatise on the construction and use of the weighing balance (*qabān*, also *qapān*). It brings together geometric, mechanical, and arithmetic knowledge needed to construct and utilize measuring devices for weighing heavy and irregularly-shaped objects. The author's name is unknown, but excerpts from another work by an already-deceased Shaykh 'Abd al-Majīd al-Shāmūlī al-Mahallī are quoted in the treatise. The last page of the manuscript contains a sheet of verses that describe the basics of using a weighing balance, in a form that is easy to remember ...

Contributed by National Library and Archives of Egypt









### Guide to Operations on Irrational Radicals for Neophytes



This mathematical treatise by Muḥammad b. Abi al-Faṭḥ Muḥammad b. al-Sharafī Abi al-Rūḥ 'Īsā b. Aḥmad al-Ṣūfī al-Shāfī'ī al-Muqṛī, was written in 1491-92 (897 AH). It begins with a "General Introduction," followed by two main parts, with a concluding section on the study of cubes and cube roots. Part I, "Operations on Simple Irrational Radicals," is divided into four chapters. Chapter 1 covers simplification of radicals. Chapters 2, 3, and 4 deal respectively with the multiplication, addition and subtraction, and division of radicals. Part II, on "Operations with Compound ...

Contributed by National Library and Archives of Egypt

# World Digital Library, Middle East and North Africa manuscripts...cont.

WORLD DIGITAL LIBRARY Explore  Timelines  Interactive Maps  Themes

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS With the support of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

 Search  Options

**Active Filters:** Item subject before 2010 Manuscripts Item subject after 8000 BCE Middle East and North Africa Islamic manuscripts [Clear All Filters](#)

130 results in English List Gallery Map

### Place

Egypt	35
Turkey	17

### Time Period

500 - 1499	88
1500 - 1699	33

### Topic

Religion	104
The arts; fine & decorative arts	35

### Additional Subjects

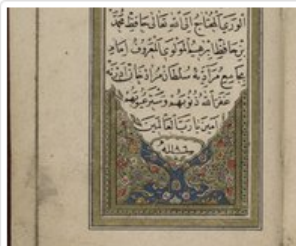
Arabic manuscripts	81
Illuminations	61



### Language

Arabic	118
Ottoman Turkish (1500-1928)	16

### Institution


...	78
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**A Guide for the Good**  

This Muslim prayer book is a 1785 copy of an original 15th-century manuscript. The work includes a panorama of Mecca and Medina, the holy cities of Islam in Saudi Arabia. Mecca, where the Prophet Muhammad was born and lived for the first 50 years of his life, is the most sacred city in Islam. It is also where the Ka'bah is found, the holiest sanctuary in Islam and called the "house of God" (*Bayt Allah*). Muslims throughout the world pray facing in the direction of Mecca and the Ka'bah.


Contributed by [Library of Congress](#)



**The Lesser Compilation of Hadiths of the Consecrated Messenger**



This manuscript dating from the late 17th century is a collection of hadiths, or sayings of the Prophet Muhammad, by the Egyptian polymath Jalal al-Din al-Suyuti (1445–1505). The work is carefully written in naskh script. The title is enclosed in a decorative headpiece, not exquisitely drawn but nonetheless colorful yet restrained. In contrast to his comprehensive *Jami' al-jawami'* (Compilation of compilations), in this work al-Suyuti promises "the short, abbreviated essence of hadiths and early records, ignoring the shell and taking only the nut." He accomplished this objective by providing ...

Contributed by [Qatar National Library](#)



**The Finest of Adornments is an Exposition on the Jewels of Faith**

This manuscript, written in 1754, is a commentary on an earlier work by a Turkish author. The manuscript is from the Bašagić Collection of Islamic Manuscripts, located in the University Library of Bratislava, Slovakia, which was inscribed on the UNESCO Memory of the World register in 1997. Safvet beg Bašagić (1870-1934) was a Bosnian scholar, poet, journalist, and museum director who assembled a collection of 5000 manuscripts between 1895 and 1925.

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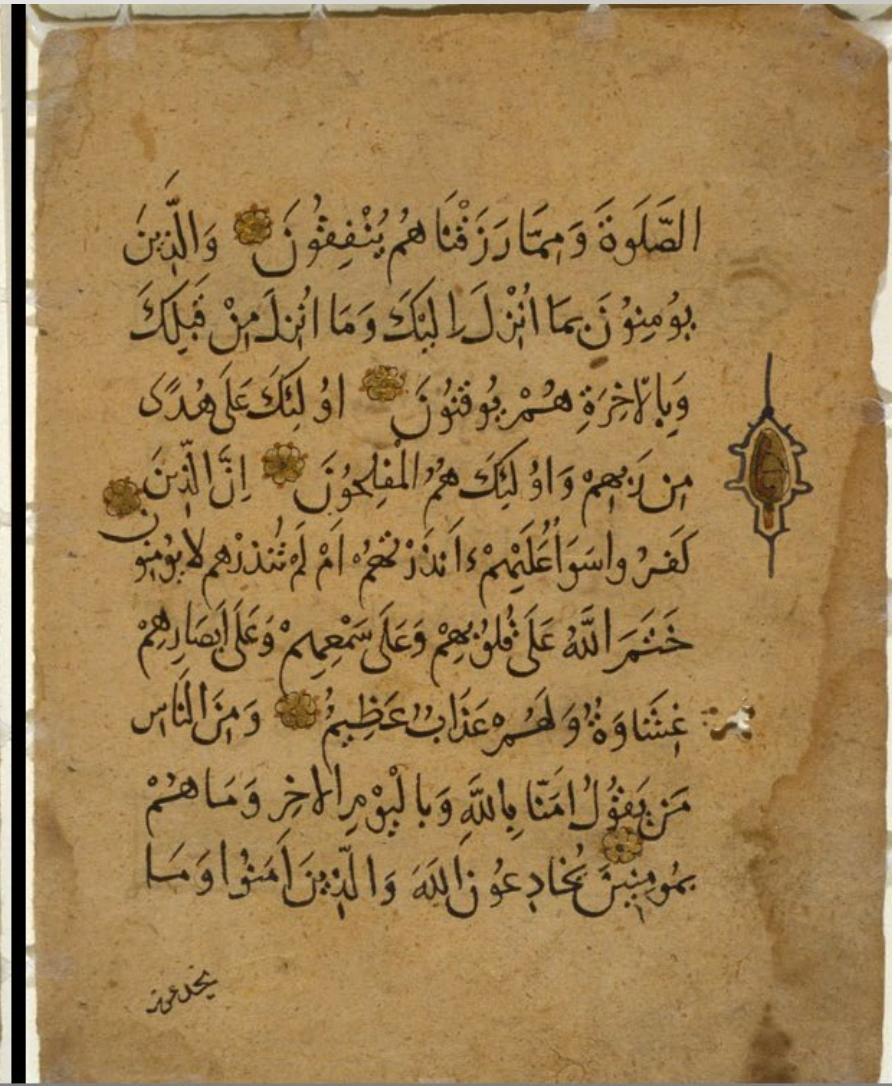


# World Digital Library, Middle East and North Africa manuscripts...cont.

## Al-Baqarah (The Cow).

### Description

This folio includes, below an illuminated rectangular panel, part of the last verse of the Qur'an's first chapter, *al-Fatihah* (The opening). Below the last line of *al-Fatihah* appears the title, executed in gold and outlined in black, of the Qur'an's second chapter, *al-Baqarah* (The cow). The heading states that the chapter consists of 287 verses. After the chapter heading follows an initial *bismillah* (In the name of God), the mysterious letters *alif* and *mim*, and the first verse: "This is the Book; without a doubt, in it is guidance for those who fear God." The verses on the reverse side of the fragment warn that those who feign belief in God only deceive themselves. Executed in early naskh script on vellum, this fragmentary Qur'an probably dates from the 11th–13th centuries and may have been produced in Iraq or Syria. It foreshadows the development of cursive script under the Mamluks, who ruled in Egypt and Syria during the 14th and 15th centuries. The decorative panels with braided motifs executed in gold paint include finials jetting out into the left margin. The text is fully vocalized in black ink. Verse markers consist of eight-petal rosettes filled with gold paint and with red circles dotting their perimeters. The folio has worm holes and ink stains on the left vertical border.







Home | Browse Manuscripts | Search | Statistics | Sitemap | Help | Feedback

Most Popular		Most Referenced		Most Visited		Selected Manuscripts	
Gosaidtan	15	Rounding up systems	8	Hacbp Alpajuri to explain Ibn	13	Book in Hanafi Fiqh	59
Sufficient to Ibn brow	81	Way to benefit wild Aelchenchoreh	55	Court Mentjb Din al-Ani	158	Explanation building	9
Cafe	84	Conclusion sick on board Shatebya	11	Flowed honest Idrisid	19	Barmawi a footnote to explain end	188
Book Sibawayh	530	Message in as	22	Book features the great	135	Behavior to the King of Kings	44
Book in literature	306	Policy in the physiognomy	9	Shifa Mustafa definition of ri	336	A footnote to explain Azhar	81

## Manuscripts

Manuscripts	Author	Pages
Altazil lights and the secrets of exegesis	Oval, Abdullah bin Omar	468
Total 3 books in which first of them: equity state the reasons for disagreement	Batliossi, Abdullah bin Mohammed	38
Arshad disciples to understand the meaning of leader-designate	Ayadi, Ali bin ??????????	87
Explanation Qatar dew rather, echo	Ibn Hisham al-Ansari, Abdulla Yousif	82
Kindergarten in the definition of love Sharif	San al-Khatib, Mohammed bin Abdullah bin Said	139
Lighthouse peace in the provision of planets	Is out of date	19
Facilitation of the seven readings	Abu Amr Harrani	79
null, "responseDetails": "invalid result data", "responseStatus": 40	Omari, Mohamed Bin Mohammad Bin Abdul-Hadi	25
Masterpiece dear, system	Is out of date	14
Letter concerning reciting the first year and last, and the day of Ashura	Afattouhi, Othman al-Hanbali Afattouhi	11
Ticket explain Introduction Zahid Abid	Ibn Abdul Salam Ahmed bin Mahmudi	23





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[Manuscripts](#) > [Book Sibawayh](#) > Page No 1

**Manuscript name:** Book Sibawayh

**Category No:** 415 k X

**Author:** Sibawayh, Amr bin Othman

**General No:** 407

**Author date:** 180 e

**Reference:** Information 5: 252, revealed misgivings 2:1426

**Description:** A good copy, unusually bushy copy, reprint

**Material Description:** 538 BC 21 x 24 x 16 cm

**Subject:** Thus, the Arabic language

**Referrals:**

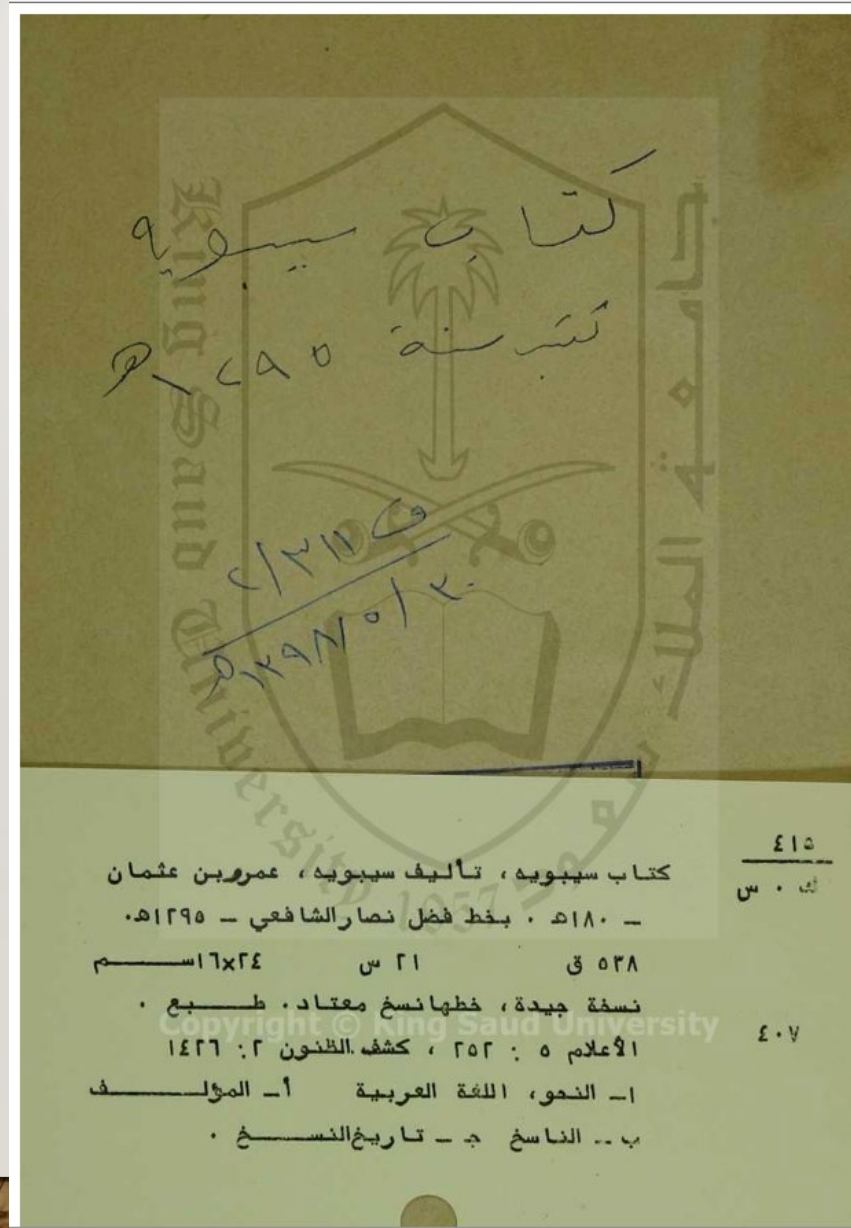
**Reproducer Name:** Preferred Nassar Shafei

**Copy Date:** 1295 AH

First Previous 1 530 Next Last



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بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم وبه تعفنى  
**قال** ابو عبد الله محمد بن يحيى قرأت على ابن ولاد وهو يظن  
 في كتاب ابيه وسمعتة يقرأ على ابن جعفر احمد بن محمد المعروف  
 بابن الناس واخذه ابو القاسم بن ولاد عن ابيه عن المبرد  
 واخذه ابو جعفر عن الزجاج عن المبرد ورواه المبرد عن المازن  
 عن الاخفش عن سيبويه **الحمد لله الذي** افتح بالمخرج كتابه  
 وجعله لخدماء اهل جنته فقال جل ثناؤه واخرجوا هم  
 ان الحمد لله رب العالمين وصلى الله على محمد وآله الطيبين  
 وعلى آله الطيبين **قال** لنا ابو جعفر احمد بن محمد لم يزل  
 اهل العربية يفضلون كتاب ابن بشر عمرو بن عثمان بن قنبر  
 المعروف بسيبويه حتى لقد قال محمد بن يزيد لم يعثر على كتاب في علم  
 من العلوم مثل كتاب سيبويه وذلك ان الكتب المنوعة  
 في العلوم مضطرة الى غيرها وكتاب سيبويه لا يحتاج من  
 فهمه الى غيره **وقال** سمعت ابا بكر بن شعير يقول حدثني  
 ابو جعفر الطبري قال سمعت الجريري يقول من ثلاثون سنة  
 افتى الناس في العقبة من كتاب سيبويه **قال** في حديثه  
 محمد بن يزيد على وجه التعجب والانتكار فقال انا سمعت الجريري  
 يقول هذا او ما بيديه الى اذنيه وذلك ان افعال الجريري  
 صلح حريث فلما علم كتاب سيبويه تنفعه في الحديث اذ كان  
 كتاب سيبويه يتعلم منه النظر والتفتيش **قال** ابو جعفر  
 وقد حكى بعض الخواري ان الكسائي قرأ على الاخفش كتاب

سيبويه

سيبويه ووقع اليه مائتي دينار **وحكى** احمد بن جعفر ان كتاب  
 سيبويه وجد بعضه تحت وسادة القرا التي كان يجالس عليها  
 واصل ما جاء به سيبويه عن الخليل **قال** ابو جعفر وسمعت ابا  
 اسحاق يقول اذا قال سيبويه بعد قول الخليل وقال غيره  
 فانما يعني نفسه لانه اجل الخليل عن ان يذكر نفسه معه واذا  
 قال وسالته فانما يعني الخليل **وقال** ابو اسحاق اذا تكلمت  
 الامثلة من كتاب سيبويه تبينت انه اعلم الناس باللغة  
**قال** ابو جعفر وحدثني علي بن سليمان قال حدثني محمد بن يزيد  
 ان المغتثن بن اهل العربية ومن له المعرفة باللغة تتبعوا على  
 سيبويه الامثلة فلم يجدوه ترك من كلام العرب الاثلاث  
 امثلة منها **المدح** وهي بقلعة **والدرافس** وهو عطف القفا  
**مختصم** وهو اسم ارض **وقال** ابو اسحاق حدثني الغاضي  
 اسماعيل بن اسحاق قال حدثني نصر بن علي قال سمعت الاخفش  
 يقول بعد من اصحاب الخليل في الخوارجة سيبويه والنضر بن  
 شمير وعلي بن نصر وهو ابو نصر بن علي هذا ومورج السدوسي  
**قال** وسمعت نصر يحيى عن ابيه قال قال لي سيبويه يحيى  
 اراد ان يضع كتابه تعالى حتى تتعاون على احياء علم الخليل  
**قال** ابو جعفر وقد رايت ابا جعفر بن رستم يروي كتاب  
 سيبويه عن المازن بن خيران الذي اعتمد عليه ابو جعفر  
 في كتاب سيبويه **ابراهيم بن السري** لمعرفة به وضبطه اياه  
 وذكر ان علي بن سليمان حكى ان ابا العباس كان لا يكاد





٥٢٦

انهم من ان وان ساكن الهمزة في الفعل حين تتركه الهمزة مثل هذا قول بعضهم  
علماء برفلات في ذوات اللام يريد على الماء بنو قلات وهي قرية في ارض  
ثم كتاسيب سنة ١٠٠٠ م في عهد ابي جعفر بن محمد بن يوسف في سنة ١٠٠٠ م

الفقيه جميل نصار الشافعي لمخراطة مولانا الامام في الاجل الاجل

الا ١٠٠٠ م وحيد المحسن المتقن الفاضل الكامل الاديب

الادب نادرة الزمان و درة الاقلام ختم الاستاذ

الفاضل الشيخ علي السبتي في ناسه له وحسن

عمله ودره باجماله والجماله وجعل عبادته

خادمه لبيانه كتاب السادة للامه

وقد اوضح الفرائض من كتابه سنة

يوم الثلاثاء المبارك الموفق

لانسني من شهر رجب

الاصم الاصب

العقود

والصالحين

١٠٠٠ م



وكرهوا ان يدغموا التاء في اللام فيكون السين وهي لا تحرك ابدال في ذوات اللام ومن  
قال بسطيع فانما زاد السين على اصاع يطبع وجرها عوضا من سكن موضع العين  
ومن الشاذ قولهم لقيت نثقي ويتسع لما كانا هما كثر في كلامهم وكانا ثانيا ابي خذوا  
كما خذوا العين من المضاعف نحو لقيت ومشت وكانا عكسيا في الجراء لان في موضع  
خذوا وبول والخذوفه العين في مكان الفاء الا ترى ان العين تتبع حركه وقد قالت  
بعض العرب لخذوا فلان ارضنا يريد الخذ ارضنا كانهم ابدوا السين مكان التاء  
في الخذ كما ابدوا حيت كثر في كلامهم وكانا ثانيا بين خذوا كما خذوا العين في المضاعف  
فابدوا السين مكانها كما ابدت التاء مكانها في بست وانما فعل هذا كراهية التضعيف  
ومثل ذلك قول بعض العرب انطبخ في اضطبخ ابدال اللام مكان الضاد كراهية  
التقاء المطبقين فابدل مكانها اوب اللوح منها في المخرج والاعراض وقد ثبت ذلك  
وكذلك السين لم يتجرقا اوب الى التاء في المخرج والهمس حيث ارادوا التخفيف  
منها ولما فعلوا هذا ان التضعيف مستعمل في كلامهم وفيها قول اخر ان يكون  
لمستعمل في ذوات التاء للتضعيف من استعمل كما خذوا لام قلت وقال بعضهم  
في يستطيع يستطيع فان شئت خذت العلاء كما خذت لام قلت وتركوها الزيادة  
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الحروف بالسببية فابدلوا مكانها كما تبدل في مكانها في الاطباق ومن الشاذ قولهم في يحي  
العنبر وبني الحارث بلعنبر وبالحارث بمعدن النونا وكذلك يفعلون بكل قبيلة تظهر  
فيها لام المعرنة فاذ لم تظهر اللام فيها فلا يكون ذلك لانها لما كانت في اكثر في كلامهم  
وكانت اللام والنون قريبتين في الخارج خذوها وشبهوها بسبب لانها حروف متقاربات  
ولم يصلوا الى الادغام كما لم يصلوا في مستعملت لسكون اللام وكهذا بعد لانه اجتمع فيه

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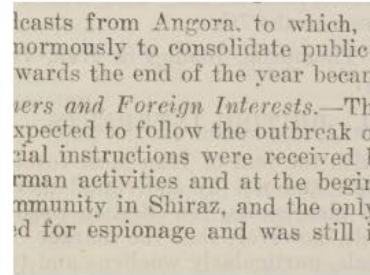
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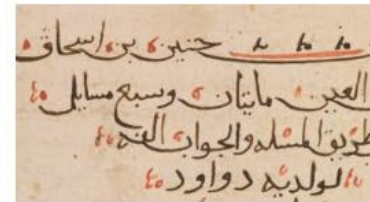
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## COUNTRY PROFILE: UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

AUTHOR-  
British Library  
Partnership Team

THEMES-

United Arab  
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An overview of the key moments from the history of interaction between the British and United Arab Emirates, as illustrated through the India Office Records.

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Originally known as *sahil oman* (coast of Oman) the area on the southern shores of the Gulf, which today comprises the United Arab Emirates, has been referred to by Europeans – particularly the British – by a number of names over time



## Country Profile: United Arab Emirates

Author

British Library Partnership Team

Themes

### United Arab Emirates

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Originally known as *sahil oman* (coast of Oman) the area on the southern shores of the Gulf, which today comprises the United Arab Emirates, has been referred to by Europeans – particularly the British – by a number of names over time.

The principle cities and ruling families are Abu Dhabi (Al Nahyan), Dubai (Al Maktoum), Ajman (al Nuaimi), Umm al-Qawain (al Mualla), Sharjah (Al Qawasim), Ras al Khaimah (Al Qawasim) and Fujairah (Al Sharqi). Today the UAE has a population of approximately seven million. The capital and presidency of the UAE is Abu Dhabi reflecting its much greater wealth derived from its oil and gas revenues.

In the late eighteenth century, the East India Company named the area ‘the Pirate Coast’ as its ships on the Basra–Bombay route frequently came under attack from the Al Qawasim tribe, who were based at Sharjah and Ras al Khaimah. This view of history is contested, however as some historians have written about an Arab system of ‘maritime toll-levying and raiding’, which the British termed ‘extortion and piracy’.

Following military expeditions in 1809 and 1819, Britain began offering treaties with local tribes whereby, in exchange for the cessation of maritime war, Britain would recognise the ruling families and offer protection in return for a maritime truce. Nevertheless, each shaykhdom maintained control of its internal affairs. These treaties were renewed annually initially, then every ten years, until the 1853 Treaty of Perpetual Maritime Peace superseded them. After this date, the region became known to the British as ‘the Trucial Coast’.



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The Trucial States signed an 'exclusivity treaty' with Britain in 1892 whereby the rulers were forbidden from entering into agreement with powers other than Britain, a move which consolidated British influence over the states.

The development of the air route in the 1930s was an important new source of revenue for the rulers. Until the discovery of oil in 1950s, which heralded the transformation of the area, the economy was based on animal herding, basic re-export trade, fishing and pearling. Oil exports from Abu Dhabi commenced in 1962.

In 1968, Britain announced its intention to withdraw from the Gulf due to economic pressures. The Gulf rulers were concerned and even offered to pay Britain the costs of maintaining its presence in the Gulf. However, the British withdrawal was not to be halted and the United Arab Emirates came into existence on 23 December 1971 with Shaikh Zayed, ruler of Abu Dhabi, as its first president.

### **Key moments from the United Arab Emirates's history in the India Office Records include**

1820: Treaty against piracy. ([IOR/R/15/1/21, ff. 21–26](#))

1853: Treaty of Perpetual Maritime Peace. ([IOR/R/15/1/735](#))

1892: Exclusivity agreement. ([IOR/R/15/1/735](#))

1926: Sketch map showing Oman and the Trucial States. ([IOR/R/15/1/625, f. 18C](#))

1926 to 1931: Establishment of air route. ([IOR/R/15/2/119](#))



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160 images

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**[File 619/1907 Pt 9 'Arms traffic:- Persian Gulf:- Military operations.'](#)**

IOR/L/PS/10/115/4, 2015-09-02T15:14:54, 2015-08-27T21:42:23, English, British Library: India Office Records and Private Papers, IOR/L/PS/10/115/4, File 619/1907 Pt 9 'Arms traffic:- Persian Gulf:- Military operations.', P 619/1907 Pt 9, 11 Mar 1911-13 Jun ...

94 images in record Ref: IOR/L/PS/10/115/4 Date(s): 11 Mar 1911-13 Jun 1911



**[Sketch map of Khor Jarama and Khor Hajar](#)**

IOR/R/15/1/444, f 128B, 2014-09-18T15:33:40, 2014-09-18T15:12:26, English, British Library: India Office Records and Private Papers, IOR/R/15/1/444, f 128B, Sketch map of Khor Jarama and Khor Hajar, 1932, English, Latin, 1 map, Scale not given, Horizontal, ...

2 images in record Ref: IOR/R/15/1/444, f 128B Date(s): 1932



## 'File 4/52 Sharjah Agency Dubai Hospital A/C.'

Records and Private Papers, IOR/R/15/2/1160, 'File 4/52 Sharjah Agency **Dubai** Hospital A/C.', English ... superseded and therefore crossed out., The file concerns the operation of the **Dubai** Hospital Account, which was maintained by the British Agency, Sharjah., The papers include statements of the **Dubai** Hospital Account ...

414 images in record Ref: IOR/R/15/2/1160 Date(s): 8 Aug 1949-30 Sep 1950



## 'Dispute Between Rulers of Muscat and Dubai Over Claims to the Village of Hatta'

Records and Private Papers, IOR/R/15/1/274, 'Dispute Between Rulers of Muscat and **Dubai** Over Claims ... the rulers of Muscat and **Dubai** over claims to the village of Hatta. Correspondents include the Political ... bin Maktum, Chief of **Dubai**; Foreign Secretary to the Government of India in the Foreign and Political ...

24 images in record Ref: IOR/R/15/1/274 Date(s): 30 Jul 1914-26 Aug 1914



## 'File 13/1 Silting of Dubai Creek'

Records and Private Papers, IOR/R/15/2/506, 'File 13/1 Silting of **Dubai** Creek', Confidential Files: 13/1, ... to the silting up of a creek at **Dubai**, which is of potential concern for flying boats following the Arab coast route, if they want to stop at **Dubai**. The file contains an assessment of the creek, made in 1941, ...

50 images in record Ref: IOR/R/15/2/506 Date(s): 23 Dec 1939-7 Jun 1941





## 'Dispute Between Rulers of Muscat and Dubai Over Claims to the Village of Hatta'

 IOR/R/15/1/274



24 items in this record

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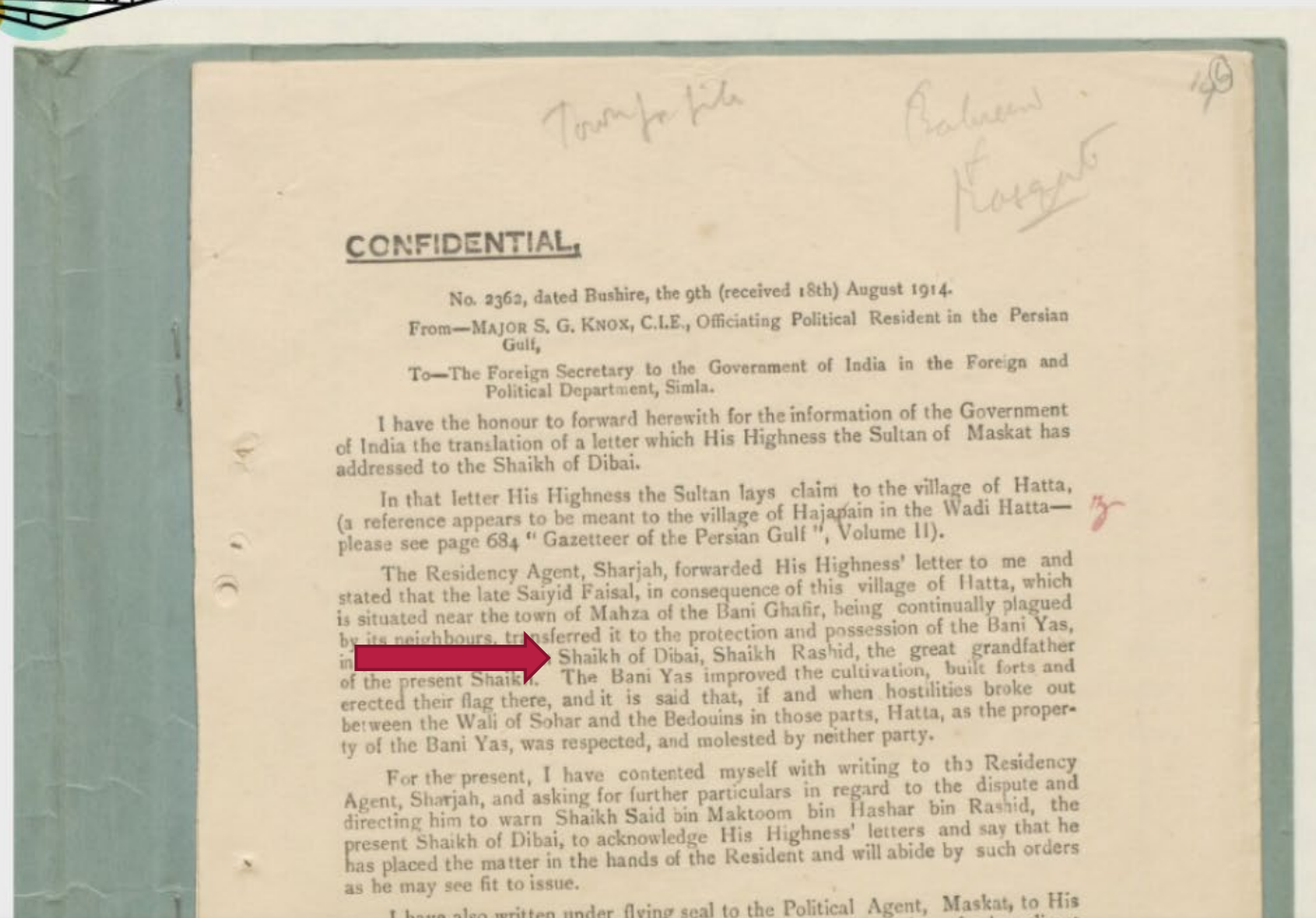
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ABOUT THIS RECORD







'Dispute Between Rulers of Muscat and Dubai Over Claims to the Village of Hatta' [6r] (13/24)

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### The United Arab Emirates:

- British arrived in 1820
- Called: The Pirate Coast, Trucial Oman, and the Trucial States before independence in 1971

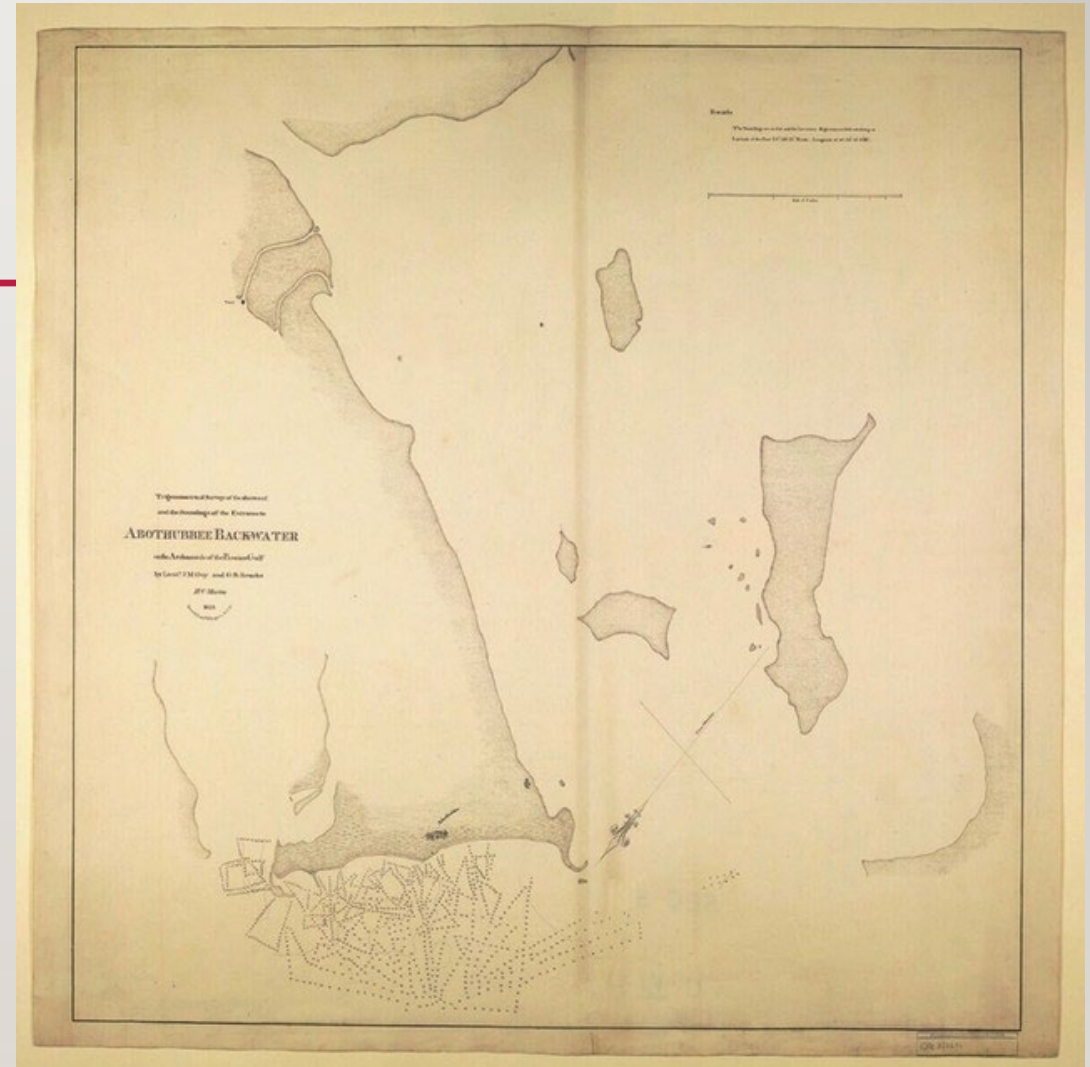
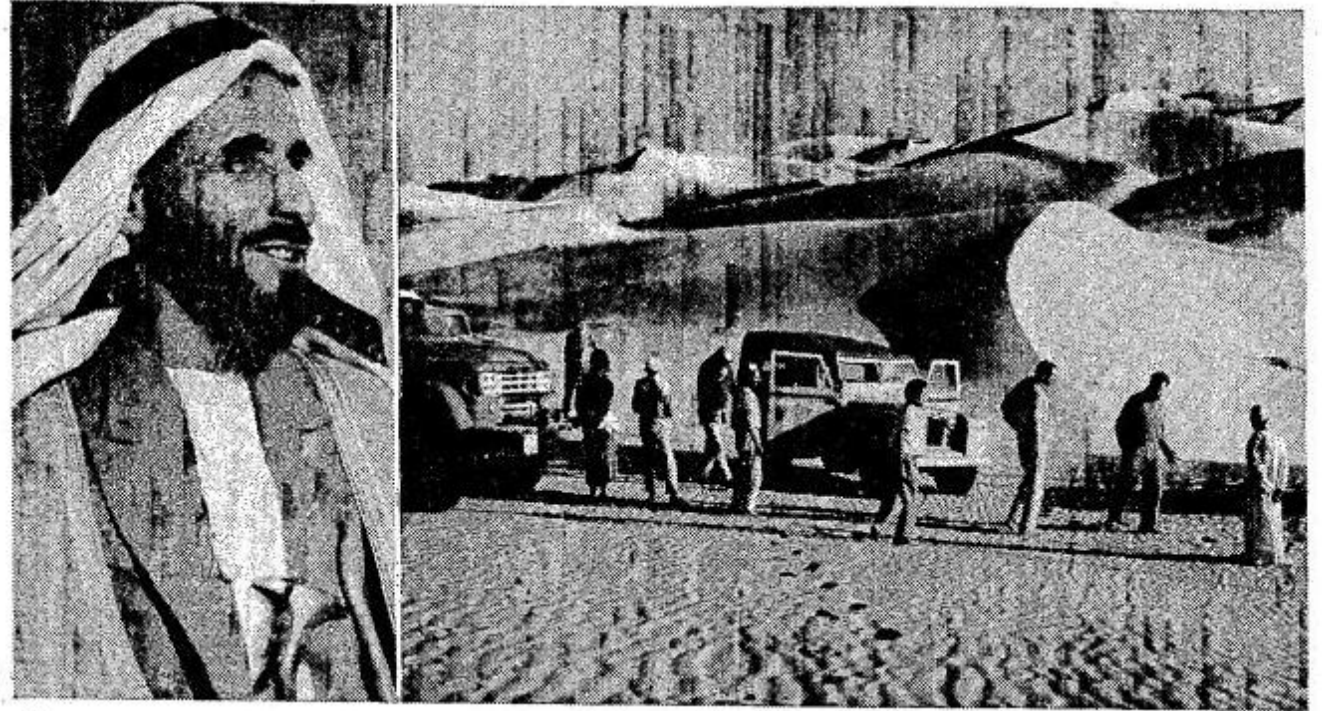


Image of Abothubbee Backwater, 1823, from the Qatar Digital Library.



- Problems of keywords, or how they appeared in the British records?
  - Dubai: Debaye, Dubayy, Debay, Dibai, Dihabi, Debai
  - Abu Dhabi: Abu Zaby, Aboothabi, Abu-Dhabbi, Abu Thabi, Aboothabee, Abu Dthabi, Abothubbee
  - Zayed: Zaid, Zayid



A geophysical party on a survey trip to the Liwa Oasis (on right) and the ruler of Abu Dhabi, Shaikh Shakhbut Bin Sultan Bin Zaid.

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