

## NEWS OF THE ASSOCIATION

The Fourth Annual Meeting of the Middle East Studies Association will take place at The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio on November 6-7, 1970.

Any member or non-member of MESA is invited to submit a one-page proposal (in five copies) for a volunteered paper for this meeting. The proposal should be sent before March 15 to the Chairman of the Program Committee, Professor George F. Hourani, Department of Philosophy, State University of New York at Buffalo, Amherst, New York 14226. Please include your name, academic position and institution.

All members are urged to give attention to this matter in order that the 1970 Annual Meeting may accurately reflect the interests of the Association.

The questionnaires which make up the Language and Area Studies Review, conducted under the auspices of the Office of Education through the Social Science Research Council, will be mailed to all MESA members in mid-February. Members are strongly urged to spend the time necessary to complete the forms and return them as soon as possible. Current difficulties in funding programs for Middle East studies make a survey of the field especially important at this particular moment.

The International Journal of Middle East Studies, the official journal of the Middle East Studies Association, will appear in January 1970. The Journal will cover Iran, Turkey, Afghanistan, Israel, Pakistan and the countries of the Arab world, from the sixth century to modern times. Spain, Southern Europe, and the Soviet Union also will be included for the periods in which their territories were parts of Middle Eastern empires or were under the influence of Middle Eastern civilizations. The Journal will publish articles and reviews of books dealing with history, political science, economics, geography, anthropology, sociology, art history, philology and literature, folklore, comparative religion, theology and philosophy. The Editor welcomes manuscripts as well as books and journals for review and also will include shorter notices of existing works which are reprinted. Review copies and other correspondence should be sent to: Professor Stanford J. Shaw, International Journal of Middle East Studies, Near Eastern Center, Ralph Bunche Hall, University of California Los Angeles, California 90024.

Since the Journal is included in MESA membership beginning in 1970, dues have had to be raised to: \$15.00 for Fellows and Associates residing in the United States and Canada; \$12.00 for Fellows and Associates residing outside the United States and Canada; and \$6.00 for Students. Life Membership for Fellows and Associates will be \$200.00 until March 31, 1970 and thereafter \$250.00.

This issue of the MESA Bulletin is accompanied by Islam in Paperback prepared by Professor Charles Geddes of the American Institute of Islamic Studies.

Listings of Programs in Middle East Studies have been standardized in the Bulletin. The winter issue (No. 1) carries the annual meeting Report and summer programs for the following summer. The spring issue (No. 2) contains listings of foreign college and university programs in Middle East studies as well as late summer program listings. If available, this issue will also carry the preliminary program for the annual meeting. In the fall issue (No. 3) the program for the annual meeting and the annual list of new and recently completed dissertations will appear. Colleges and universities are requested to send in dissertation lists to MESA Headquarters and Secretariat before October 1 of each year and to send in their summer program listings before January 15 of each year. Foreign colleges and universities are invited to send in listings of their programs no later than April 15 of each year.

The Middle East Studies Association of North America, Inc. (MESA) was organized in 1966 by a group of American and Canadian scholars on the Middle East to promote high standards of scholarship and instruction in the area, to facilitate communication among scholars through meetings and publications, and to foster cooperation among persons and organizations concerned with the scholarly study of the Middle East. The area included within the Middle East runs from Morocco to Pakistan and from Turkey to the Sudan. MESA is concerned with this area primarily since the rise of Islam and from the viewpoint of the social science and humanistic disciplines.

Persons of scholarly attainment in Middle East studies are eligible to become Fellows of MESA. Other categories of membership (nonvoting) are Associate, Student and Library Member. Application for membership is made on an application form obtainable from the Executive Secretary, Middle East Studies Association, New York University, New York, New York 10003. Each application is acted upon individually. Membership is on a calendar year basis.

The Association is incorporated in the State of New York as a nonprofit organization. It has tax-exempt status. Contributions to the Association are deductible under federal income tax regulations. In addition to the revenues from membership dues and contributions, the Association has been assisted in its work by a grant from the Ford Foundation.

The Association provides placement services for members and for universities seeking to fill positions in Middle East studies. Interested parties are invited to contact the MESA Secretariat. The MESA offices can also provide interested persons and organizations with names of specialists in Middle East subjects.