

- Relevant India Office Archives (microfilm);
- Complete collection of Brussels Information Centre on Eastern Arabia (1969-1979);
- Complete *Middle East Economic Digest* press cuttings and periodicals (from 1956). Microfiche copies of the former will be available for purchase;
- All possible reports and statistical information produced by ministries, monetary agencies, banks, oil companies, etc.;
- Journals and other publications of Arab Gulf universities and research centres;
- Copies of British and American Ph.D. theses relating to the Arab Gulf;
- Selected Arab Gulf newspapers and periodicals.

Publications: The Centre has an arrangement with Croom Helm for the publication under joint imprint of research works on the Arab Gulf (whether produced within the Centre or commissioned from outside). The Centre will also arrange translation and publication of Arabic language works on the Arab Gulf.

Conferences: Annual three- or four-day international conferences or symposia are being held each summer, focusing on a chosen aspect of Arab Gulf affairs. The 1981 Symposium will be entitled: "Iraq: The Contemporary State."

...Dr. M.A. Shaban, Director, U of Exeter, Exeter, Eng.

Islamic Texts Society

The Islamic Texts Society, a private non-profit association, was formed to provide accurate information on Islam and to make more of its literature available in English translation. The Society is also involved in producing audio-visual materials and in training teachers. For more information, write: Islamic Texts Society, c/o Mrs. A. Gouverneur, Parsonage Farmhouse, Great Sampford, Essex CB10-2RR, England.

Journal of Arab Affairs

The *Journal of Arab Affairs* is a journal of informed commentary published twice a year by the Middle East Research Group, Inc. (MERG), a California corporation. The first issue is scheduled for publication in October 1981.

The articles that will appear in the *Journal* will not represent any consensus of beliefs and they will not be identified with any one school of thought. The *Journal* will be hospitable to many divergent and unconventional analyses of Arab affairs. Many of our readers, including members of the *Journal*'s editorial board, will flatly disagree with some opinions and views expressed in some articles. However, we are determined to provide a forum for the unconventional and the daring.

The editor invites contributions on all aspects of contemporary Arab affairs. Address articles to: Editor, Journal of Arab Affairs, 2611 No. Fresno St., Fresno, CA 93703, U.S.A.

Muqarnas: An Annual of Ideas and Information on Islamic Art

Muqarnas, edited by Oleg Grabar, sponsored by the Aga Khan Program for Islamic Architecture, and published by Yale University Press, is now soliciting articles for its first volume, which is expected to appear in the spring of 1982. Since the new journal's first two volumes will include articles on a variety of subjects and areas, scholars may also contribute to Volume 2 for publication in the year follow-

ing. The third volume, and every second one thereafter, will be devoted to a particular theme (e.g., Mamluk architecture, iconography, ornaments, mosques, etc.). The annual will also include bibliographic surveys, field notes, regional news, exhibition reports, museum and university news, and other similar information; and the editors would be pleased to receive items in these categories as well.

For the initial two volumes the Editorial Board is particularly interested in attracting articles on Islamic architecture of the Eastern Muslim world (Indian subcontinent, Indonesia, Malaysia) and on contemporary design and urban problems in the developing Muslim countries.

Articles should be brief (around 30 typed, double-spaced pages) and limited to about 20 illustrations. English will be the primary language of the journal, but French is permitted; languages in other alphabets will be limited to essential use for inscriptions and the like. The deadline for receiving copy for any given volume is September 15.

Inquiries and manuscripts are to be directed to: Professor Oleg Grabar, Editor, *Muqarnas*, Aga Khan Program for Islamic Architecture, Fogg Museum, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA 02138, U.S.A.

National Committee to Honor Islam's Fourteenth Centennial

The American non-profit organization, formed to celebrate the 14th centennial of Islam ("Islam Centennial Fourteen"), is publishing a Newsletter in which it describes its activities; and also other organizations' activities, programs, conferences and exhibits on Islam and Islamic culture. To find out about this organization and its Newsletter, write: National Committee to Honor the Fourteenth Centennial of Islam, 1516 "P" St. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005.

Society for Coptic Archaeology at Cairo

Founded in 1934, the Society for Coptic Archaeology is the world's only learned body dedicated exclusively to research and publication in all fields of Coptic studies from antiquity to the present day. The Society's premises in the Abbassiya district of Cairo house a research library of some 10,000 volumes in European languages and Arabic, over 125 past and current periodical titles, off-print and pamphlet collections, and microforms with readers. The physical plant includes administrative offices, library stack areas, and space for readers. Up to now the Society's main goals have been building up its library to serve as a center in which research works can be created and the highest professional standards passed on to students in the field; and publication of a periodical, monograph series, and archaeological reports. The 23rd volume of the Society's *Bulletin* is in press, and the 24th is in preparation—we welcome contributions from *MESA Bulletin* readers! This *Bulletin* now serves as the organ of the International Association for Coptic Studies. Articles cover every branch of research in the Coptic field. The Society's principal monograph series, *Textes et Documents*, concentrates, as its name implies, upon publication of source material and full-length historical studies.

The Society looks back with particular pride on its principal undertaking of fieldwork, the excavation of the Monastery of S. Phoebammon site near Hermonthis (Western Thebes). We earnestly hope to find the funding to undertake the field investigation of two more sites:

- Deir Abu Fana in Middle Egypt, a sizable monastic foundation;
- the systematically untouched mound of Aphrodito (modern Kom Ishqaw) near Assiut, which was the chance find-spot early in this century of our two main collections of Byzantine documentary papyri.