

Arabic manuscripts of the *Thousand and One Nights*

Presentation and Critical Editions of Four Noteworthy Texts Observations on Some Osmanli Translations

Directed by **Aboubakr Chraïbi**

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This book contains the first complete list of all known Arabic manuscripts of The Thousand and one Nights as well as a list and tentative classification of the Turkish (Osmanli) manuscripts. The four tales edited are Sûl and Shumûl, one of the oldest tales divided into nights (older, indeed, than the Galland manuscript), Bayâd and Riyâd, which has now been edited using two new sources, The Sleeper Awakened, a perfectly representative tale of "the merchant's son", and Zayd and Kahlâ, which is remarkable for its combination of Islam and paganism.

It offers new material and new interpretations (the story of Khurâfa and the syntactic unit astonishing/more astonishing still). It seeks to provide an accessible definition of what middle Arabic literature is, shining new light on the history of the Nights : analysis of the first two tales has shown that the beginning of the Zotenberg's Egyptian Recension is older than the Syrian branch manuscripts.

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فالغافل عن ساعتها لا يذكر الخرج في خلافه عظيم بحد ذاته فالشجاعي ماذ القفار في
بعض وسائل تعلق به فنادى الآباء ابن ابن أبي طالب فقال لهم إلام لكم عندكم
تذكرة ولكن نسبت إلى أمها لغيرها لا لأبيها فقبلوا شطرها فأخذوه وهم ودهم وبعدهما
أسلم على إلهي وأخذ علم المعرفة والهداية ودخل إلى زيد وفاطمة وكل ما قل لهم
تفاوت قاتع ياخلي عظيف كلها وآد بها فلما ألاadam يخذلها قال لها فلانها وطريقها
زير وقال يا مولاني يا ملائكة فلما أخذها سبب قاتع فقال زير يا ملائكي مالي
صاحبي يخرب فلما ألاadam ورأى اختلافها وأوصى بالباقي الصراط ولكن عذر
عنها فما ق除此 جزء من رواي فضل الآلام خطوبته فضل إلى الملك العزيز فعن
عليهم فضالوا إلى الملك وتقديره ومحنة الملك عليهم خطايا الآلام خطوبته آخر
وإذا به عند سعادته كفرها على فعلها فالآن إن يكررها وعذابها زاره الله عليه
كلها فلما ألاadam يزيره دعوه من حيث كانوا ثم قدره حان وشئت تقد
معي في المدينة فقال زير يا ملائكي يا ملائكي ما ثناك قال الشجاعي ثنا زيد وأذاه
في المدينة على سماحته الفضل أصلحه والملائكة فلما انتهى زيد وبلاك
واسترئ في هناءً وسرور حبه هادم اللذات المفترق بين القبلتين وكلاه
المرحمة للدورة وعام التقويم الدارس وهذا ما ثناها اليام حدوث زيد تقد عذابها
والمقام وذكره يزيد العذر وصله على يديه والذهاب الماهر سره بمقدارها
حدث قصر المتعة وهو حدث شجاعي :

لِمَّا سَمِعَ اللَّهُ الرَّحْمَنُ مِنْ ذَكْرِ قَوْمٍ أَعْلَمُ وَأَكْمَلُ مِنْهُ فَقَدِمَ مِنْ حَادِثَ الْأَدْرِقِ الْمُنْكَرِ مَا كَانَ

Zayd and Kahlâ,
Germany, Berlin,
Pet.634 End, fol.106a

Bayâd and Riyâd,
Paris, Bulac,
482 End, fol.23a