



2019

# Middle Eastern Manuscript Collection - Accession 1392

Middle Eastern Manuscripts

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**WINTHROP UNIVERSITY  
LOUISE PETTUS ARCHIVES & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS**

**MANUSCRIPT COLLECTION**

**ACCESSION 1392**

**MIDDLE EASTERN MANUSCRIPT COLLECTION**

1486, ca1600s

2 boxes, 2 bound volumes

WINTHROP UNIVERSITY  
LOUISE PETTUS ARCHIVES & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

MANUSCRIPT COLLECTION

ACC. NO.: 1392  
ADDITIONS: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

PROCESSED BY: Andrew Johnston  
DATE: June 23, 2011  
NO. OF SECTIONS: 2

MIDDLE EASTERN MANUSCRIPT COLLECTION

I

The Middle Eastern Manuscripts were donated to Winthrop by Mr. B. L. Price in honor of two Winthrop graduates (Ruth Douglas Davis Horton, Class of 1929 and Carolyn Caldwell Gaddy, Class of 1931) that were professors of his while attending Wingate College.

Linear feet of shelf space occupied: .5  
Approximate number of pieces included: 2 bound volumes


Restrictions: Open to researchers under the rules and regulations of the Louise Pettus Archives & Special Collections at Winthrop University.

Literary Rights: For information concerning literary rights please contact the Louise Pettus Archives & Special Collections at Winthrop University.

Scope and Content Note: **The Middle Eastern Manuscript Collection consists of two manuscripts that were found in an abandoned monastery in the country of Armenia and was purchased at an antique market by Mr. B. L. Price while he was living in the Middle East. Mr. Price donated the manuscripts to Winthrop to honor two Winthrop graduates (Ruth Douglas Davis Horton, Class of 1929 and Carolyn Caldwell Gaddy, Class of 1931) that were professors of his while attending Wingate College. Mr. B. L. Price states, "I should like to give these two books in honor of the two graduates who have been of great influence to me and to thousands of other students." The first manuscript, bound in animal-hyde, is a war chronicle chronicling the invasion of Mecca and is written in Arabic. The second manuscript, rebound, consists of 38 chapters of the *Al-Hidayah fi Sharh Bidayat al-Mubtadi*, a commentary on jurisprudence written at the end of the 12th century by Burhan al-Din al-Marghinani (d. 593 [1197 CE]).**

### III

#### DESCRIPTION OF SERIES

<u>Box(es)</u>	<u>Volume</u>	<u>Contents</u>	<u>Year(s)</u>
1	1	<b>War Chronicle</b>  <p>This first manuscript, bound in animal-hyde, is a war chronicle chronicling the invasion of Mecca and is written in Arabic. It contains both poetry and prose and an account of the taking of Mecca. This first manuscript, bound in animal-hyde, is a miscellany that includes part of a war chronicle chronicling the invasion of Mecca, histories of the early followers of Muhammad, unidentified poetry, and other currently unidentified texts. The text is written in Arabic script but may be in the Persian language; the headings of the texts are in Arabic. The binding, which bears signs of water damage, still preserves remnants of an original blind-stamped border on both front and back boards. It appears to be late 17th or 18th century but no provenance has been established.<sup>1</sup></p>	ca. 1600s
2	2	<b>Al-Hidayah fi Sharh Bidayat al-Mubtadi</b>  <p>This manuscript is heavily annotated and was repaired at some point in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The “main text is 38 chapters of the <i>Al-Hidayah fi Sharh Bidayat al-Mubtadi</i>, a commentary on jurisprudence written at the end of the 12th century by Burhan al-Din al-Marghinani (d. 593 [1197 CE]). Generally known as the <i>Al-Hidayah</i> [literally, “The Guidance”]. It’s considered to be one of the most influential commentaries on Hanafi jurisprudence. The colophon says that the copying was completed at “midday on Tuesday the 27th of Ramadan, 891 [1486]”, but that year may have been altered - there’s evidence of an erasure. And the scribe was named Jamal ibn Said ibn Omar, and there are references to Sultan Bayezid [probably Bayezidd II]. There’s an ex libris, but the provenance has been defaced and erased and is not recoverable under ultraviolet light.”<sup>1</sup> The manuscript is apparently an early 19th century copy; there are no apparent watermarks. Other copies of the <i>Al-Hidayah</i> are preserved digitally at Harvard and the University of Michigan.”<sup>2</sup></p>	1486

<sup>1</sup> Description supplied by Dr. Jo Koster, Margaret M. Bryant Professor of English, and Dr. Duha Hamid, Assistant Professor of Mathematics, Winthrop University.

<sup>2</sup> Description supplied by Dr. Jo Koster, Margaret M. Bryant Professor of English, and Dr. Duha Hamid, Assistant Professor of Mathematics, Winthrop University.