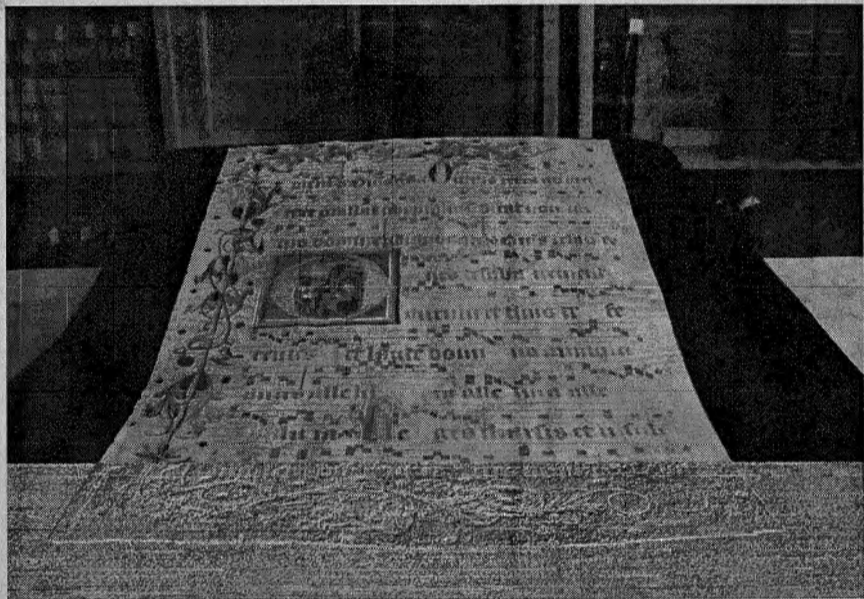


BULLETIN

of the

*Association of British Theological
and Philosophical Libraries*



Volume 16, Number 1
March 2009



BULLETIN 2009

The *Bulletin* is published by the Association of British Theological and Philosophical Libraries as a forum for professional exchange and development in the fields of theological and philosophical librarianship. ABTAPL was founded in 1956 to bring together librarians working with or interested in theological and philosophical literature in Great Britain. It is a member of BETH (European Theological Libraries). The *Bulletin* is published three times a year (March, June and November) and now has a circulation of approximately 250 copies, with about one third of that number going to libraries in Europe, North America, and the Commonwealth. The *Bulletin* is indexed in LISA (Library & Information Science Abstracts). ISSN 0305-781X

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ABTAPL holds its membership list on a computer; this is used for no other purpose than to generate mailing labels for use by the Association.

***Bulletin of the Association of British Theological and
Philosophical Libraries***

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The front cover shows a Manuscript from the Early and Fine
Printing Collection of Birmingham Central Library

ABTAPL UNION LIST OF PERIODICALS

The Union List is available on the internet at <http://www.le.ac.uk/abtapl/>
It includes the philosophy, theology and religious studies journal holdings
of 47 different institutions in the UK and is a useful tool in tracing the
locations of titles. Publisher details are given for some titles and links to
free electronic journals are also included. It is updated regularly.

Amendments can be sent to Evelyn Cornell,
The Main Library, University of Leicester. E-mail: ec37@leicester.ac.uk

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DIRECTORY OF THEOLOGICAL AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES COLLECTIONS OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND

The ABTAPL Directory can now be updated by means of a form that can be
found on the ABTAPL website

<http://www.abtapl.org.uk/database/contents.html>

Please send your completed entry electronically to either Chris Leftley
(library@wycliff.ox.ac.uk) or Carol Reekie (cr248@cam.ac.uk).
Alternatively you may contact Carol Reekie and she will send you a printed
version of the questionnaire, plus a copy of your current entry from the
ABTAPL website. It is important that we keep our website update so your
time and effort will be greatly appreciated.
Many thanks to those who have already contacted us.

* * * * *

BETH PERIODICAL EXCHANGE LIST

An email list for exchanges, particularly of duplicate periodicals, has been
set up for members of BETH (European Theological Libraries Association)
To register contact Penelope Hall at Prjhall@aol.com

NOTICE OF MEETINGS

**2009 Spring Conference
and Annual General Meeting**
will be held at
**Worcester College
Oxford**
from
Thursday 2nd to Saturday 4th April

Details will be sent to UK members. Members not resident in the UK who would like further information should contact the Conference Secretary. Please send items for inclusion in the agenda to the Honorary Secretary.

2009 Autumn Meeting
will be held in
October
at
Wellcome Institute, London

Date and time to be confirmed

THE LIBRARY OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

By Beverley Kemp

The Library of the Religious Society of Friends is one of the largest collections in the world relating to Quakers and their activities. It is a unique collection for the study of Quaker history, faith, thought and practice as well as an inspiring resource for understanding the activities in which Quakers have long been involved - peace, prison reform, humanitarian assistance and the anti-slavery movement. The Library's collection of over 130,000 items includes books, periodicals, manuscripts, and pictures, as well as the archives of the central organisation of Quakers in Britain, known as Britain Yearly Meeting. The Library is located at Friends House on Euston Road in London. It is free and open to those of any faith or none.

At an early stage in their history Quakers recognised the importance of recording their activities and disseminating their views. The first records of the Society's activities held in the collection are the minutes of Yearly Meeting for 1668. The foundation of the Library itself dates from September 1673 when the Morning Meeting of the Society, which effectively controlled Friends' printing activities, agreed to collect two copies of everything written by Friends and one copy of everything written against them. The Library's collection development policy has largely remained unchanged since then. Today we aim to collect and preserve Quakers' historic and continuing recorded heritage, to increase access to information about the Society of Friends, and to encourage study in Quaker and related activities.

Collections

The printed books collection consists of over 80,000 books, tracts and periodicals dating from 17th century to the present day. It represents the most complete collection of Quaker printing in Britain and covers all subjects in which Quakers have been active. A collection of works attacking the Society, known as Adverse tracts, is also held. The periodical collections, which exceed 3000 volumes, include short lived and scarce titles. The tract collections are extensive and include many rarities, whilst a separate collection of slavery tracts is frequently consulted. A recent project to catalogue the pre-1801 printed holdings, in collaboration with the English Short Title Catalogue, identified over 15,000 copies of early printed items within the collection, many of which are not known to be held elsewhere. There is an ongoing retrospective cataloguing project to increase access to information about the printed collections and about 40% of the records for these collections can now be searched on line at www.quaker.org.uk/cat

The current phase of this project is focused on cataloguing the Library's extensive collection of printed peace material, much of which dates from the early 20th century.

The archive and manuscript collections fall into three distinct types of material. The first is the central organisation archives consisting of the recorded output of Britain Yearly Meeting and its various committees responsible for the work of Friends in Britain and their overseas projects. These records are a key resource for understanding the work and practices of the Society and its response to contemporary events from the 17th century to the present day. The Library continues to maintain a records management programme for the Society and a records service to its central departments. A fifty year closure period is applied for all unpublished material.

The Library acts as a repository for the records of Quaker meetings within the London and Middlesex area and these records form the second discrete collection within archives and manuscripts. Dating from the beginnings of the Society they are an important source for local and family historians as well as for those studying the history of individual meetings, meeting houses and London and Middlesex Friends. Records of Quaker meetings outside London and Middlesex are usually deposited with local record offices. The Library regularly receives enquiries about consulting local Quaker records and can provide advice on their locations. The Library also supports local meetings providing information and advice on managing Quaker records and running meeting libraries.

The third type of material held is the manuscript collections, a particularly rich resource supporting research across many disciplines. These consist of hundreds of individual collections, too numerous to list here. Some of the most frequently consulted include letters from early Friends, such as the Swarthmore and Barclay manuscripts, family papers, such as the Gurney manuscripts, as well as private papers, journals, diaries and commonplace books of notable Friends, such as Thomas Ellwood, Elizabeth Fry and Margaret Fell. The records of Quaker organisations, such as the Friends Ambulance Unit, and other bodies with Quaker associations also form part of these collections.

Plasnet 10th Month 28th 1818

Entering my public life again is very serious
to me more particularly my readings at Newgate they
to my feelings too much like making a show
of a good thing yet we have so often been favoured
them to the tendering of many hearts. The abolition

Extract from the Journal of Elizabeth Fry for 28/10/1818

Perhaps one of the least known collections within the Library is the picture collection which consists of approximately 40,000 photographs, prints, drawings, paintings, posters, postcards and lantern slides. This collection complements the printed books, archives and manuscript collections and aims to highlight the work of the Society and its members past and present. The collection contains portraits of Friends, photographs of meeting houses and images of Quaker work, both in Britain and overseas. Items from this collection are frequently used by publishers and the media and are available for loan for external exhibitions. A series of online exhibitions on the Library's website showcase some of the material from this collection, in particular on slavery, peace and more recently on Friends work in China.

Finding aids

There are numerous unpublished finding aids in the Library detailing archive, manuscript and picture collection holdings. These include an index to the central organisation archives, an index to London and Middlesex records, a card catalogue for manuscript material and an index to photographic negatives. There are plans to develop an online catalogue for the archive, manuscript and visual material collections from 2009 but given the extent and complexity of these collections it may be some time before the catalogue is ready for launch. In the meantime enquirers are advised to contact the Library for further details about holdings for archives, manuscripts and pictures and information about any restrictions on accessing unpublished material.

A series of guides available on the Library web pages is intended to assist enquirers in finding relevant information by subject across the collections. So far these cover topics frequently researched such as the anti-slavery movement, conscientious objectors, the peace movement and the Friends Ambulance Unit. Further guides are planned. A number of guides are of particular interest to family historians including genealogical sources, a guide to Quaker schools and an explanation of the Quaker calendar.

Family historians make up about 30% of visitors to the Library. There are a number of resources held which are of particular interest to them, including the *Digest registers of births, marriages and deaths* based on register books kept by Quaker meetings from the late 1650's. The original registers were surrendered to the Registrar General in 1837 and are now held at the National Archives in Kew. Before surrendering the registers the Society compiled *Digests* from them, rearranging the information from the registers by first letter of the surname. Now available on microfilm the *Digests* can be searched in the Library for a £5.00 hourly fee. Copies of sections of the microfilm are often also available for viewing at local record offices.

A number of other indexes held in the Library support family history and biographical research. In particular the typescript *Dictionary of Quaker biography* is a major source for information on approximately 20,000 Quakers. Compiled largely from primary sources held within the Library, including the *Digest registers*, it is an invaluable tool for research on any notable Quaker family or individual. The Library holds the only UK copy of the *Dictionary*; other copies are available at Quaker collections at Haverford College and Swarthmore College in Philadelphia.

Conservation

An ongoing conservation programme has been developed to repair and preserve items across the collections, using external conservators. The Library's Befriend a Book scheme raises money to support the conservation programme including the purchase of archival quality boxes and folders. There is an active volunteer programme which involves Friends reboxing archives, cleaning tracts and rehousing photographs in melinex sleeves. Supporters of the Library are kept in touch with conservation news and other Library projects through the *Library Newsletter*, issued twice a year and available online through the Library's website. ABTAPL members are welcome to subscribe to the free *Newsletter* for their collections if they wish by emailing a request to libnews@quaker.org.uk

Access

The Library receives visitors from around the world to consult its unique collections. We have increased our opening times this year to better suit the research behaviour of our readers and are now open Tuesdays – Fridays 10.00 to 17.00. Everyone is welcome to use the Library and most of our readers are not members of the Society of Friends. No appointment is necessary but contacting the Library prior to a visit is recommended. Readers are required to register on their first visit and present proof of their current address. The Library offers a remote enquiry service for those unable to visit in person but as staff resources are limited we are unable to undertake detailed or prolonged research on behalf of enquirers. We encourage ABTAPL members to refer enquirers to the Library where appropriate, or, when in London, to come and visit us yourselves.

Beverley Kemp

Head of Library and Archives

Library of the Religious Society of Friends in Britain

Email: library@quaker.org.uk

Tel: 0207 663 1135

Website: www.quaker.org.uk/library

A HIDDEN GEM

By Patrick Moore

It is always a delight to discover a theological library which has survived through centuries of war, neglect and near disaster. Several colleagues and I discovered one such in the south of Hungary which has survived – in many forms – through the centuries and is presently thriving. The Cathedral Library of Kalocsa is presently one of the most significant ecclesiastical libraries in Hungary and now contains more than 130,000.

We traveled through the flat plains of rural Hungary and were astonished to discover a great Baroque cathedral and library. The archdiocese was established in 1092 and through the last 1000 years it has experienced much of the turmoil of life in Central Europe. It is only now emerging from the era of the Second World War and the Communist government. Klocsa was once an ancient place of learning with the cathedral at its centre. The first library had from 300 to 400 volumes of codices and incunabula, but all were lost – except two – during the long occupation by the Turks. However, in the 18th century the diocese was reorganized and two enlightened archbishops – in an Age of Enlightenment – formed an outstanding Archiepiscopal Library.

When we entered the magnificent Baroque library we first saw a portrait of Isaac Newton and one of the first books we noticed was a first edition of Francis Bacon. This was a library which reflected learning in the sciences, philosophy, theology, history and the arts. Not only were theology and science compatible here, but we were shown books with the handwriting of Erasmus and Martin Luther which were displayed side by side.

Two 18th century archbishops had formed a library with a special interest in science and saw it as an integral part of a religious library. The first was Archbishop Adam Patachich who ordered contemporary scientific books from agents throughout the world. When he died in 1784, there were 17,000 volumes in the collection. He built the reading room of the great Baroque library to contain 12,000 books. Presently the library has a large number of contemporary books as well as a valuable codex collection. There are 508 incunabula in the library as well as rare volumes of Old Hungarian Printings. The library functions as a working library with a special interest in science and religion. Without a doubt, we discovered a hidden gem.

*Br Patrick Moore, Scholar -in- Residence at Sarum College
Sarum College Library, 19 The Close, Salisbury, SP1 2EE*

SACREDON LOCATION

By Christine Hay

In 2007 a group of ABTAPL members visited the 'Sacred' exhibition at the British Library (*Bulletin of ABTAPL* vol. 14, no. 3, November 2007). Following the success of the exhibition the Library has developed the 'Sacred on Location' installation and a touring programme of activities with libraries, museums and heritage organisations. The installation comprises a series of display panels and access to the Library's interactive technology 'Turning the Pages'.

Birmingham Central Library was the venue from 3rd to 22nd November 2008, where the event was launched by a city councillor and representatives from the three faiths featured. Topics described in the panels included The Abrahamic faiths; Moses, Jesus and Muhammed; the Tanakh, Bible and Qur'an; forming and decorating the Scriptures; synagogues, churches and mosques; shared and contrasting customs; Divinity within the faiths. The 'Turning the Pages' console featured the Lisbon Bible (15th century Jewish text), Ethiopic Bible selections and Sultan Baybars' Qur'an, chosen from eight sacred texts available. After Birmingham the venues are central libraries in Manchester, Leicester, Keighley, Leeds, Liverpool, and Sunderland; previous ones were Sheffield and Bristol. More information can be found at <http://www.bl.uk/sacred>

Marion Smith

Birmingham Central Library

The British Library's most successful exhibition to date, 'Sacred', celebrated the sacred texts of the three Abrahamic faiths; Judaism, Christianity and Islam. It brought together some of the world's most important and beautiful religious texts for the first time. Exquisite and rare examples of Jewish, Christian and Muslim sacred works from the Library's collections were presented alongside treasures on loan from other institutions. It was a triumph, and showed that the British Library, our storehouse of knowledge, can and does reach out to all.

Following on from this success, a touring exhibition was produced and offered to libraries throughout the country. Birmingham Central Library was delighted to be able to accept the display in November 2008 and I was invited to attend an awareness day at the British Library to help with preparation and planning.

A small working group of staff decided to focus on a major Family Activity Day on November 15th with a range of events for all ages such as storytelling, calligraphy, stained glass activities, mehndi and craft workshops etc. There was also a colourful and interesting collection of religious artefacts on display. We decided to take the opportunity to show some of the beautiful illuminated manuscripts from the treasures of the Early & Fine Printing Collection.

The sessions were entitled 'Wholly Holy: the beauty of illuminated manuscripts' and in order to appeal to all ages we made them as much of an 'experience' as possible. By using atmospheric period music and subdued lighting in our rare books room, we recreated a little of the ambience of a mediaeval scriptorium.

By displaying natural materials which were used for creating illuminated manuscripts such as egg white, herbs, plants, berries, quills, pumice stone etc. we were able to introduce a discussion about the use of pigments and colours; preparation of the skins and how ink was applied etc. The use of questioning techniques worked particularly well with children and they were encouraged to imagine what life might have been like for a scribe when creating the texts. We invited them to say which ones they liked and why. Greatly enlarged laminated images of borders and initial letters enabled visitors to look very closely at the luxury, detail and playfulness of the decoration. Magnifying glasses were provided so that our visitors could see the calligraphy of the precious texts close up. The manuscripts were chosen for their beauty, size, format, binding or for any interesting or unusual features such as music.



We were very conscious of the fact that the books, though exquisite in themselves, are more than just examples of fine calligraphy and creative artistry but have importance and religious significance too. In order to reflect both Christian and non - Christian traditions we included a Hindi poems with decorative pictures of deities on palm leaves; Sanskrit prayers and a miniature book of Arabic prayers.

Manuscripts displayed included:

- Antiphoner. One leaf of illuminated manuscript music written on vellum in Germany 15th century (AE091)
- Arabic Prayer book, c1800 (A091/1800)
- Hugo, de sancto Victore, early 14th century MS. On vellum written in double columns of 49 lines with large initials in red and blue with elaborate pen ornamentation – 212 leaves, c1300 (F091/MED/3)
- Original manuscripts in Hindi of poems addressed to Hindu deities, written on palm leaves in the Nagari script, c 1750 (A091/1750)
- 18th century Sanskrit Mss with miniatures, c 1750 (A091/1750)
- Psalterium, Liturgical Psalter with noted antiphons and hymns, c.1450-1500 Medici arms (AE091/MED/7)
- A Book of Hours in low Dutch, MS. On vellum illuminated by Spierinck, c.1498-1502 (A091/MED/8)

The sessions were repeated four times with small groups (owing to space restrictions) and we had 25 visitors in total. There was a wide span of ages present, ranging from babies in prams to older adults from varying backgrounds. As we wanted our visitors to remember the day, we gave each of them a high quality souvenir reproduction scroll to take home.

There can be no doubt that the manuscripts were the stars of the show and the reaction to them was really rewarding. The fact that each item was unique was a source of great interest and curiosity and the precious nature of the sacred texts made the experience all the more special.

Before this 'Sacred' day our visitors were largely unaware of the existence of these beautiful manuscripts which are available to them in Birmingham Libraries. It was a great opportunity to promote some of the library treasures and in a memorable way. The Early & Fine printing Collection contains nearly 13,000 volumes of which over 8,200 were printed before 1701. This is an unusually large number for a Public Library. In addition there are 128 incunabula: books printed before 1501. The manuscripts collection includes eight medieval illuminated books which it was a pleasure to show to the people of Birmingham during our 'Sacred' activities. Email: arts.library@birmingham.gov.uk
see also N.R. Ker 's Medieval Manuscripts in British Libraries

Christine Hay
Service Development Librarian, Creative Arts
Central Library
Birmingham B3 3HQ

A VIEW FROM MADAGASCAR

By Ania Andriamihaja

I was very fortunate to travel to England this year and took the opportunity to visit my old college in Cambridge. I studied at Westminster College in the early 1990's and sought to renew old acquaintances and make some new friends. As the Librarian at the Reformed University of Madagascar, I took a keen interest in the library and offered my services to the Librarian, Carol Reekie for a month. The Westminster Library had hardly changed since my student days although it now has two computers for student use, a nice green carpet and some very comfortable armchairs.

As our own College and Library in Madagascar are very different, I shall try to provide information to illustrate what they are like. The Reformed University of Madagascar (RUM) is located in Ambatonakango, Antananarivo (the capital city) and belongs to the Church of Jesus Christ in Madagascar. The church has evolved from the efforts of the pioneer missionaries sent by the *London Missionary Society* (LMS) in 1818. It now consists of about three million members of more than 6000 congregations in a country of 18 million people.

In 1869 the LMS started to professionalize those engaged in preaching and church leadership by opening the first training school for pastors. Its offshoot, the *School of theology* inaugurated the emergence of the RUM by launching the Master of Theology programme with 48 students in 2008.

Madagascar is presently facing major moral, social and economic challenges. The church attempts to join hands with the government and NGOs to eradicate social, moral and economic poverty and dependency. For more than a century, the significant numbers of Christians and churches have made a difference to the evolution of the country. We do however believe that we Christians could do and achieve more.



The Seminary

The training of pastors is no longer the prime function of theological institutions. Greater access to theology is provided to lay members of the churches to enable them to be agents of transformation in our society. We offer programs to church members who wish to renew and challenge themselves through seeking knowledge.

Our School of Theology constitutes a platform for the unity of Christians and the inter-fruiting of thinking disciplines. We work with local people and do charity work. We also receive and learn from them. The theology which underpins the programs is shaped by the thinking and transforming tools of our faith in Jesus Christ, science, Malagasy common sense, philosophy and imagination. We strive to understand science and philosophy through learning.

Many of the programs that we offer are open to both lay and ordained graduates.

The objectives include the theological training of university graduates (*Bachelor of Divinity, BD*) as well as the formation of teachers and researchers of theological disciplines (*Master of Art, MA; Master of Theology, MTh; Master of Philosophy, MPhil; Doctor of Theology, DTh; Doctor of Philosophy, PhD*).

We also provide a number of professional programs that are designed to serve men and women who have received a call for the ministry and leadership of church communities. The aim of these courses is to develop rounded professional pastors and church workers. There is an undergraduate program (*Bachelor of Theology*) as well as a graduate (*Master of Divinity, MDiv*) and postgraduate (Doctor of Ministry, DMin) degree programs.

Special programs are also available for the spouses of pastoral trainees (*Certificate in ministry support*) and a Crèche is provided for their children. In addition, we offer ad hoc programs that respond to the concerns of churches and the larger community.

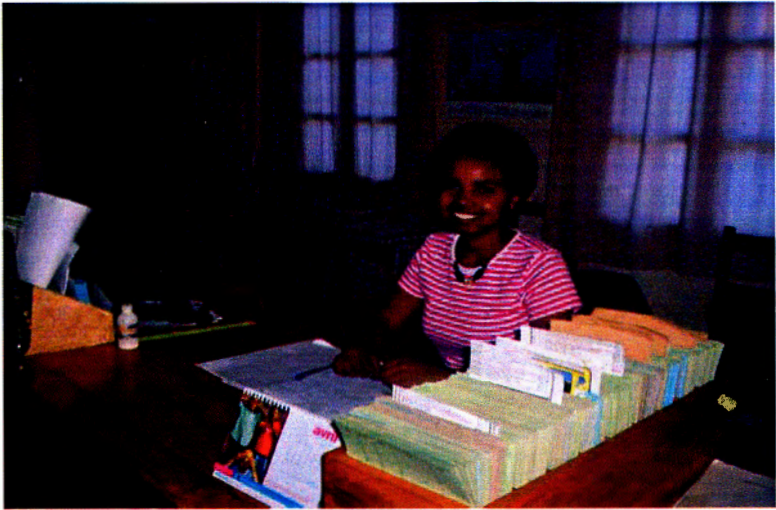
Our seminary has approximately 200 students, 48 of which are ministers studying for their masters. The curriculum is delivered in English and all assignments are written in English. Many of our students spend five years with us and after completing their thesis, they are sent out into the regions of Madagascar, particularly to the villages, in order to spread the Gospel.

We also have around 100 Laics (adult lay workers), who study with us for a two year period as well as 50 student spouses who receive training in counselling. This group use the library on a daily basis.

Our library supports all the programs offered by the School of Theology. The library has a small collection of 3,500 volumes donated from countries such as the USA, France and Korea. The books are mainly in French and English with a few in Malagasy (the official language of Madagascar). There are three full-time members of staff, myself and two pastors. We also have a volunteer one day a week, who also teaches systematic theology to the students. We provide a library service to approximately 248 ordained or minister candidates and 150 Laics. As our library is small, ministers are allowed to borrow five books for two weeks and the Laics two books for two weeks.

The library does not have an automated issuing system; instead we use cards to record the books our students borrow. We also have a large card catalogue that provides information of our holdings. Although we do not have an electronic security system, we have a security guard who ensures that books do not go missing. Books are very precious to us and all our students are aware of this.

The library reports any incidents of stealing or hiding of library books to the Committee of the professors. Those, who are caught, are either dismissed or suspended for 6 to 12 months.



Our issuing system

I was very interested to learn about the automated Voyager circulation and cataloguing system used at Westminster College as well as the electronic resources available to the students. We recently had three computers donated from Korea and two by private individuals. Our students use these for e-mail, Internet and word processing and they are well used. The use of the Internet is becoming an important tool for our researchers so it was very useful to learn many free sites available.

I enjoyed my time at Westminster Library and assisting with the reclassification project. I take back many ideas with me that I hope to be able to use in our seminary library that will be of benefit to our students.

*Ania Andriamihaja
Librarian
School of Theology
Reformed University of Madagascar*

ISLAM AWARENESS WEEK AT THE ISLAMIC FOUNDATION LIBRARY

By Humeyra Ceylan Izhar

Islamic Foundation library is a special library for postgraduate students and research staff but also open to anyone who is interested in the subject area. With this in mind, the library sometimes acts as a public library and organises joint events with the local schools or public library. The events vary from story telling for children to art workshop or literature session for adults. Islam Awareness Week is one of the programmes that the library has been contributing with different events last three years which brings external users in and promotes the library locally.

Dawud Wharnsby and Children

Islam Awareness Week was celebrated all over UK with so many events and activities between 17th and 23rd November 2008. The Library was part of the Leicester city celebration and once again spread the whole liveliness to a small village Markfield. The theme for this year's IAW was "celebrating the best of Britain: promoting shared values" and Dawud Wharnsby's music performance was perfect to tell about shared values we have in multicultural Britain. Mercefeld Primary School joined the music event with their music teacher Karen Silverwood. Children sang and played instruments with Dawud, also learned about other cultures, friendship, understanding others without any pre-judgments. It was a great day for children to learn, think and enjoy at the same time. The event ended with Mercefeld school choir singing for Dawud and showing their appreciation.

Celebrating Art

An art event was jointly organized by Markfield village library and the Foundation library to mark IAW. Nargis Imran from Leicester held a workshop on Islamic calligraphy and introduced it to residents of Markfield village. The event started with a general introduction to Islamic calligraphy and went on with a practical session for everybody to try and write their names in Arabic alphabet. There was also craft corner for children to get into action while their parents attended the art event. Participants left with a great enthusiasm and promised to continue to practice their calligraphy skills. My thanks go to Claire, Nargis and Sendra for their help for organizing the workshop.

Humeyra Ceylan Izhar

Librarian, Islamic Foundation Library

HISTORIC LIBRARIES FORUM

By Edward Potten

The Historic Libraries Forum came into being in 1992, when fifty people responded to an invitation via the Library Association's Library History Group (now CILIP's Library and Information History Group) to a seminar to "bring together representatives of small, independent historic libraries to discuss areas of common interest and concern". It was hoped that this would lead to the creation of some kind of permanent group. The seminar was chaired by Peter Hoare, who also gave the keynote address, and groups already working in this area gave presentations, including Joan Williams from the Cathedral Libraries and Archives Association and Geoffrey Forster from the Association of Independent Libraries. The group was inaugurated with Peter as the first Chairman and Graham Jefcoate, whose idea the seminar had originally been, the Hon. Secretary.

From the outset, the Forum aimed to hold regular meetings and offer training and support for anyone with an interest in historic libraries. Crucially, then as now there was no formal membership nor subscription involved, ensuring that the Forum was open to all. The libraries connected with the Forum were hugely diverse - ancient universities, the national libraries, cathedral, subscription, private, learned society and school and college libraries. A pattern of annual meetings quickly emerged, covering topics such as preserving and recording historic collections, conservation, automation, and funding. These have continued to the present day - most recently, in November 2008 the Forum met at the Wellcome Institute for a variety of talks on disaster preparedness on a budget.

Again, from its earliest days the Forum has aimed to provide workshops for its members in response to demand and at a reasonable price. These workshops have also been held, wherever possible, in locations across the country, catering for our geographically diverse membership. Recent workshop topics have included pictorial collections, fundraising, the use of volunteers, exhibitions and external loans, historic bindings and a series of very popular courses on rare book cataloguing. These are invariably over-subscribed, an indication that the Forum is fulfilling a need for sensibly-priced workshops covering subjects rarely now taught in library schools.

Perhaps the most pressing, and depressing, activity for the Forum over recent years has been its function as watchdog and champion for libraries under threat. Our wide and dedicated membership are frequently able to report threats far earlier than they might otherwise become apparent, allowing for a speedy and targeted response.

Currently supported by some 500 members, the Forum's voice carries increasing weight. The combined body of expertise represented by the membership also lends its opinions a degree of authority and allows it to offer non-partisan and practical advice, backed up with a wealth of experience. The Forum has links with CILIP (it is an Organization in Liaison), the British Library, the National Preservation Office, the Bibliographical Society and the Museum, Archives and Libraries Council. Over recent years it has championed, amongst others, the causes of York Minster Library, the Royal Commonwealth Society Library, the Science Museum Library, special collections at Keele University, the Edzell Library, the Wanlockhead Miner's Library, the Hurd Library at Hartlebury Castle, the future use of the Round Reading Room at the British Museum and, more recently, the rare book collection at Cardiff Central Library. Very successful outcomes have recently been negotiated for a number of threatened parochial libraries, including All Saints', Hereford where enough money was raised to provide an endowment for conservation and the collection was moved to Hereford Cathedral Library.

The Forum also acts as a source of expert advice. Our members freely offer advice through our mailing list, the *Bulletin*, workshops and conferences and informally through networking on subjects ranging from cataloguing systems, conservation, charitable status to how to stop the roof falling onto the books during renovation work. As well as contacting members of the committee, (whose details are all on the website below) advice and support can be obtained via the new group on Facebook: <http://tinyurl.com/9fvgdgk>

In addition, the Forum also produces a wide variety of publications. Our *Bulletin* is distributed freely to members every three months. The website acts as a portal for distributing information, and will soon host the first in a series of PDF introductory guidance leaflets, free to download, on topics such as cataloguing music and maps, non-European foreign-language material, manuscripts and early printed books. A new occasional monograph series, *Bibliotheca*, is also in preparation, offering a new forum for both curatorial and practical papers of interest to our membership. The first in this series is due for publication in Spring 2010.

For the future, the Forum hopes to continue increasing its membership - we are free to join with no commitment - and to broaden the range of services and publications we provide. We would warmly welcome ABTAPL members to the fold.

Edward Potten

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<http://www.historiclibrariesforum.org.uk>*

THEOLOGICAL LIBRARIANS MEET IN MOSCOW*

By Luba Zakharov

In co-operation with the Euro-Asian Accrediting Association, Moscow Theological Seminary hosted its first conference for theological librarians called "Library Support for Educational Programs in Theological Schools," from April 30 - May 3, 2008. Katharina Penner, Head Librarian at International Baptist Theological Seminary in Prague (www.ibts.eu) and Alexander Popov, Head Librarian at Moscow Theological Seminary (www.moscowseminary.org) coordinated the conference with support from Sergei Sannikov, Director of the Euro-Asian Accrediting Association. Thirty attended the conference, including theological librarians, deans, rectors, faculty and information professionals from universities, seminaries, bible colleges, associations and non-profit organizations.

Day One

After opening prayer, Katharina Penner began the conference with a presentation on collection development and the resources and services of the library. She spoke about the importance of the mission of the library and how it needs to be connected to the larger mission of the institution. Dr. Meri MacLeod, an expert in distance education from Western Theological Seminary in Holland, Michigan, (<http://www.westernsem.edu/>) talked about the role of the library in distance education and encouraged the librarians present to be "pioneers" in this area by establishing good working relationships with faculty. Her focus was to help us consider and think through long term strategies for distance education - not only in purchasing of software, but in a vision that could train and support faculty as well as students. Our third presenter was Tatyana Pavlenko, librarian from Kharkov Medical University (<http://www.ksmu.kharkov.ua/>). Her presentation on cataloging was very detailed and it showed the importance of following a classification system in order to open the richness of the collection to students at the university via the library catalogue. She talked about the key role the library plays in education as a median between resources and services.

Representatives from St. Andrew's Biblical Theological Institute (<http://www.standrews.ru/>) attended the sessions and brought their translated Russian biblical and theological texts for purchase.

Fr. Marek Rostkowski made a short presentation on the Pontifical Institute (<http://www.urbe.it>) and its plans to work with the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions to create one standard international scheme for cataloging rules. He also introduced us to their library and its new open network.

After lunch, we heard Dr. Victor Titarchuk speak about his organization, ServanTek (<http://servantek.org>) and in particular, about the open source software called *KOHA*. He also shared his interest in working more directly to help build and support a library consortium for the CIS.

Day Two

We began the day, again, with prayer. Katharina Penner <http://www.ibts.eu> made a presentation on Information Literacy and the important role of librarians as educators. This educational role is one that librarians need to foster and develop so that the library can be valued, and so that the patrons can make full use of their educational experience.

Luba Zakharov (<http://library.duke.edu/divinity/>) from Duke University Divinity School Library spoke about the Online Public Access Catalog (OPAC) and the technological impact on it. This presentation introduced the participants to the kinds of technologies that are beginning to shape libraries in America: services like Amazon.com and Google.com are becoming embedded in the catalog, thus shifting its role as an inventory system to a new discovery tool. Eugeni Borisovich Rashkowki from the Library of Foreign Literature (<http://www.libfl.org>) spoke briefly about re-collecting the religious materials that were destroyed after the Revolution and expressed interest and support of this library conference. Dr. Meri MacLeod (<http://www.westernsem.edu/>) gave a follow up presentation on Distance Learning and continued to answer questions about the strategies necessary to set up and run an effective program. Andrei Gorbachenko from ServanTek (<http://servantek.org>) gave an overview of Moodle and Greenstone2, both open source software products geared for Distance Learning and Education.

Day Three

On the final day of the conference, Luba Zakharov presented a session called, "Managing Change in a Changing Technological Profession," giving the participants a tool to take home: a questionnaire from which to develop a personal vision for professional development.

Alexander Popov, Head Librarian at Moscow Theological Seminary, made the final presentation of the conference on creating a library website. He demonstrated different tools that could be useful in a library environment.

After a break, we all gathered for the Open Forum session to discuss possible next steps for providing support and beginning collaboration at a distance. All agreed that a listserv would be a great way to stay connected and to begin discussions to form a vision for a possible consortium. In the Russian tradition, spirited conversations took place and we ended as we had begun each day, with prayer. The conference included both a professional and a spiritual component, giving participants an opportunity to be encouraged and to begin to envision ways of working with new technology and develop new skill sets. But its main purpose was to foster cooperation, to build relationships and to share knowledge and resources.

At the end of the conference, three decisions were made:

1. To formalize a consortium/association (yet to be named) of Euro-Asian librarians
2. To continue discussions on a newly formed listserv
3. To begin to discuss the possibility of a conference next year in Ukraine.

The regions in Russia that were represented include Krasnodar, St. Petersburg, Prochladny, Moscow and Novosibirsk. From Ukraine, participants came from: Kremenchug, Lviv, Kiev, Zaporoshye, Kharkov, and Odessa. Two came from Kishinev, Moldova. Two came from the United States of America; Holland, Michigan and Durham, North Carolina. One came from Minsk, Belarus; one from Rome, Italy and one from Prague, Czech Republic. Our denominational affiliations included: Baptists, Pentecostals, Orthodox, Christian Reformed and Catholics.

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TURKEY AS AN INFORMATION SOCIETY ON THE WAY TO THE EUROPEAN UNION*

By Humeyra Ceylan Izhar

Turkey in the Process of Access to the European Union:

Turkey is located in the Anatolia region, where Turks moved from the Central Asia in the 11th century and made it their home ever since. Its geographic and strategic location has made Turkey a bridge between the East and the West, which brought rich cultural, social and ethnic diversity into the country, with a population of over 70 million. Large number of population is young and concentrated in commercial and industrial areas such as Istanbul, Ankara and Izmir.

The country is very rich in minerals and reserves and it is one of the few countries in the world self sufficient in agriculture, which is the main export area. The official language is Turkish and a greater majority of the population are Muslim. Turkey has changed tremendously over the past 20 years and turned its face to Europe to be part of it. The European Union accession has become first item in Turkey's political agenda.

The European Union accession is Turkey's political and social preference to reshape Turkey's social structure. European Union and Turkey relations changed with the Customs Union Agreement and Turkey was given a candidate status for the EU membership at the Helsinki Summit which met in December 1999¹. In December 2004, the European Council decided to open accession negotiations with Turkey as of 3rd October 2005, which meant a new chapter for the country and its people.

There have been positive changes in Turkey during the negotiation period; its political and economic situation is more stable and there are good projects to be part of the information society, which includes libraries and cultural institutions, and to promote learning from any form of information.

Development in Turkish Libraries:

Library history goes back to 17th century in Turkey when Koprulu Library was opened as a first independent library.

¹ Muftuler-Bac, Meltem. (2002). *Enlarging the European Union: where does Turkey stand?* Istanbul: Tesev Publications, p.16.

Before the Koprulu Library, libraries were part of Madrasa (Schools), Waqf or mosques during the Ottoman State. However, modern Turkish librarianship flourished in the 20th century when three students were sent abroad to do library studies and when library courses were set up in different universities in Istanbul and Ankara. These library courses led to library and information departments in universities. Ankara University set up a librarianship department and library studies were given at the undergraduate level in 1954 for the first time. After that, two other library departments were set up at Istanbul University in 1964 and at Hacettepe University in 1972. Librarianship recognised as a profession when library studies were taught as a degree in different universities. In present, four state universities and one private university have a library and information departments running BA, MA and PhD programs. The Turkish government changed the name of these departments from librarianship to information and document management in 2003.

It is important to mention Turkish Librarians' Association (TKD) when talking about developments in libraries in Turkey as it has shaped the future of the libraries and has been giving immense support to library professionals. TKD was founded in November 1949 to increase quality and professional standards in libraries and to enable librarians to work in cooperation nationally and internationally. Today, TKD has 41 branches and 2000 members all over the country and publishes books with a quarterly journal. "Turkish Librarianship" journal is published since 1952 and indexed in LISA and ULAKBIM databases.

University and Research Librarians' Association (UNAK) was set up much later than TKD in 1991 to help and advice university and research librarians. UNAK provides professional platform where university librarians can discuss and find solutions to current issues or problems. The Association has been publishing quarterly journal "Information World" to inform librarians about the changes and new developments in the profession since 2000 and has 500 members.

With librarianship education and different research activities in universities along with the two associations' works mentioned above, Turkish librarianship and libraries gained a new dimension and started serving in a much more professional level than before.

Current Situation and Resource Sharing in Libraries in Turkey:

When we look at different type of libraries in Turkey, we realise that their situations and developments are different from each other. Public libraries work under the Ministry of Culture and Tourism and there are 1350 public libraries include 12,476,310 materials across the country. The number of public libraries is higher in major cities e.g. 43 public libraries in Ankara and 40 in Istanbul with over a million materials. According to Yilmaz² the number of public libraries determines libraries' functions and systems. An effective public library system can only be managed with enough number of public libraries in a country. However, one public library needs to serve 50,762 people in Turkey with average 6295 books. Yilmaz concludes that the number of public libraries in Turkey is very low and well below the European Union standards.

In spite of all the difficulties that public libraries are facing in Turkey, there have been promising initiatives such as PULMAN-XT (Public Libraries Mobilising Advanced Network) Project. PULMAN-XT was a European Commission's Information Society Technologies (IST) project, which aimed at sharing and promoting policies and practices among public libraries in Europe in order to make public libraries and cultural organisations part of eEurope. Public libraries in Turkey were part of PULMAN-XT project which was achieved by TKD. PULMAN-XT Turkey National Workshop was organised in November 2002 to discuss problems and difficulties that the public libraries are having and to find solutions. The project was completed in August 2003 and definitely made a big impact on public libraries in Turkey.

Academic libraries structured under Higher Education Council (YOK) and they are more developed in terms of electronic resources than the other type of libraries in Turkey. There are 78 universities in Turkey and 23 of which are private. Each university has their own library and documentation unit, which serves its staff and students to meet their information needs. Most of the university libraries are subscribing to different databases, e-journals available in their subject area and problems related to ICT are partly sorted in academic libraries.

² Yilmaz, Bulent. (2006). "Turkish public libraries in the process of access to the European Union: a quantitative evaluation". *Turk Kutuphaneciligi*, 20(1), 61-84.

School libraries are working under the Ministry of Education. Every school is supposed to have a library in Turkey to serve its school community including teachers. However, school libraries are not connected and organised to give high quality service to its users, they are not seen as an important part of the education system in Turkey and most of them are not functioning because of lack of resources, money, staff and management. Turkey has a large young population in school age and has a good potential to improve its school libraries with a stable management and strategic planning.³

Increased number of electronic information resources has forced libraries to share information in the most appropriate way and to create consortia in the world. ANKOS (Anatolian University Libraries Consortium) was set up in 1999 in order to access scientific information easily, and strengthen the partnership between university libraries.⁴

The Concept of Information Society in Turkey and in the European Union:

The European Union (EU) defines the 21st century as a period in which effect of science and technology will be felt more than ever before. There is a great need for research and development and also for investment on research activities to create a better future and to fulfil the requirements of the information society. Information Society Technologies (IST) were emphasised more and the highest investment was allocated into IST in the European Union fifth Framework Programme for 1998-2002. And the sixth Framework Programme for 2002-2006 included Europe Research Area (ERA) project and aimed at making Europe the most dynamic and competitive information society by 2010.

Turkey is determined to use and produce information as its national policy and it is aiming at being part of the information society and part of Europe. There have been different projects to promote research and scientific activities in Turkey.

³ Onal, Inci H. (2005). "New developments on the Turkish school library scene." *Journal of Librarianship and Information Science*, 37(3), 141-152.

⁴ Kandemir, Umran. (2003). *Professional development for librarians in Turkey*. Available at <URL:
<http://www.sla.org/division/dpam/conferences/2003/developing/developing.html>>

In order to organize and coordinate research and development, TUBITAK⁵ (The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey) was set up in 1963. TUBITAK's primary objectives are to develop science and technology policies, to support and encourage academic research and scientists. The Turkish government assigned TUBITAK as the national body for the European Union's Framework Programs for research and development in 2003.

To be able to support information technology, to provide technological facilities and information for universities and research institutions ULAKBIM⁶ (Turkish Academic Network and Information Centre), which works in cooperation with TUBITAK, was founded in 1996. ULAKBIM carries out research and development work in information technologies, improves national network and makes sure that the network meets the demand of users.

There has not been any official body to monitor and evaluate works on information society and information communication technologies. In 1996, the Turkish Government decided to form information policy and information infrastructure in order to develop and improve information technologies and enable the country to reach the information society. Turkey's position in information technology, different approaches in the world, Turkey's needs and requests were examined and TUENA⁷ (Turkey National Information Infrastructure) report was produced in 1999. This report is the first one of its kind but it does not include libraries into the process directly. The report summarizes the information society in Turkey and works to be done to be compatible in the global world.

Despite all these positive initiatives and works, it is still difficult to form an information policy, to encourage scientific research and development and to provide financial support for scientific work in Turkey. However, the increased number of internet users, publications that Turkish researchers produced and published in foreign scientific journals, competitive academic libraries, Tuena report and eTurkiye projects is all good signs for Turkey to be part of the information society.

⁵ *Tubitak*. (2005). Available at: <URL: <http://www.tubitak.gov.tr>>

⁶ *Ulakbim*. (2005). Available at: <URL: <http://www.ulakbim.gov.tr/eng/>>

⁷ Gurbuz, Ilkay. (2003). *Avrupa Birliği ve kutuphaneler*. MA Thesis, Istanbul University.

Whereas, in the European Union, research and development activities included libraries, which aimed at information awareness, information retrieval, protecting cultural heritage and learning for all. Libraries play a very important role in the EU as they are part of the information society technologies and support e-learning, communication, network technologies and digitisation.

One of the EU IST Programme project is called DigiCult⁸ (Digital Heritage and Cultural Content), which acts as a domain of research activity. DigiCult provides necessary resources to organisations to use all the opportunities that are provided by digital technologies. There is also DELOS⁹ (Network of Excellence on Digital Libraries), which is again funded by the EU IST Programme to support and facilitate digital library projects in Europe. Calimera¹⁰ (Cultural Applications: Local Institutions Mediating Electronic Resource Access) is another project which aims to develop partnership between museums, libraries and archives to include everyone in the information society. Social inclusion and giving everyone equal opportunities to benefit from new technologies are essential part of the information society. Calimera works especially with public libraries and support their projects to increase quality of their services in 42 countries.

In order to be part of the information society and be competitive, the European Union created new projects and activities to support and facilitate research, education, learning, reading and included all its citizens into the process.

Conclusion:

The advanced technology and the Internet is making a great impact on societies and changing the world that we live in. In the 19th century the industrial revolution changed people's life and created new opportunities for people. A strong industrial society required labour work, natural resources and energy.

⁸ *Cordis*. (2004). Available at: <URL: <http://www.cordis.lu/ist/ka3/digicult/home.html>>

⁹ *Delos*. (2005). Available at: <URL: <http://www.delos.info>>

¹⁰ *Calimera*. (2005). Available at: <URL: <http://www.calimera.org/staticpages/whaticalimera.aspx>>

However, the information society requires information and human resources who can retrieve the information, understand it and produce more information which can be used for development and growth. Libraries are in the centre of research, information, knowledge, learning, new technologies, gaining new skills and has an important part to play in information societies.

The European Union recognises the importance of information society and includes different projects related to libraries, learning and research in their five years Framework Programs in order to keep its research facilities up to date and use information. New countries in the EU or candidates like Turkey need to adapt to changes or increase their standards to the European Union level. There have been initiatives taken in Turkey in terms of IST and ICT to organise and disseminate information as mentioned in this article. However, Turkey still needs to develop more to reach information society.

It is important to protect cultural heritage, to educate people and to provide and use information in the most convenient and ethical manner. In this respect, libraries can offer a lot with good policies and management. It will take time for Turkish libraries to be part of information society but it will be interesting and exciting to watch the changes both in the European Union and Turkey.

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NEWS AND NOTES

Publications

Encyclopedia of the Bible and its Reception:

Publication of this major new reference work was recently announced by de Gruyter. It will eventually consist of 30 volumes, with an expected publication frequency of 3 volumes per year. The first volumes are due out in 2009. ABTAPL are pleased to announce that following negotiations with de Gruyter, ABTAPL member libraries which fall into certain categories may now order the volumes at a significant discount on the €238 per volume list price. The discounts offered, for teaching institutions with less than 150 FTE students or non-teaching institutions with a book stock of under 20,000 volumes - 30% discount on the list price. For teaching institutions with 150 - 400 FTE students or non-teaching institutions with a book stock of between 20,000 - 50,000 volumes - 20% discount on the list price.

Email: Nils.Andenaes@degruyter.com

Conference

Librarians' Christian Fellowship annual conference is to be held on Saturday 25 April 2009 at St. Nicholas' Church, Maid Marian Way, Nottingham, from 10.30.a.m. - 4.45.p.m. The speakers are to be the Rev. Andii Bowsher, a member of the teaching staff at St. John's College, Nottingham, and the Rev. Rhona Floate, a former librarian who is now a parish priest in the Church of England.

Email: secretary@librarianscf.org.uk

British Library

Secure Electronic Delivery (SED) customers that have upgraded to Adobe Digital Editions (ADE) now have more time to download their documents from BL secure servers. SED documents will now remain on the servers for an extra 16 days before they expire, overcoming some of the deletion issues around extended time out of the office and holidays.

Lecture

An interesting lecture organized by the British Academy titled "New Greek texts from Oxyrhynchus" on Wednesday 24th June 2009 at the British Academy, London at 7pm to 8.30pm. Just over a hundred years ago, on a site some 100 miles south of Cairo, two Oxford scholars, on behalf of the Egypt Exploration Society, excavated some 50,000 pieces of ancient books and documents. More than seventy volumes of The Oxyrhynchus Papyri have so far been published including valuable texts.

<http://www.britac.ac.uk/events/2009>

THEOLOGICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTERS & OTHER PERIODICALS RECEIVED

Associazione dei Bibliotecari Ecclesiastici Italiani *Bollettino di Informazione*, Vol. 17, No. 3, 2008.

Association des Bibliothèques Chrétiennes de France *Bulletin de Liaison*, No. 137-138, November 2008. Has the theme of Libraries and Archives.

Librarians' Christian Fellowship *Christian Librarian*, No.43 Winter 2008 and No.44, Spring 2009.

American Theological Library Association *Newsletter*, Vol. 56 No. 1, November 2008.

WEBSITES

THE CATHEDRAL LIBRARIES AND ARCHIVES ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

<http://www.cofe.anglican.org/about/librariesandarchives/cathanddioceslibs/claabasicdetails.html>

HISTORIC LIBRARIES FORUM <http://www.historiclibrariesforum.org.uk>

THE PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION <http://www.publisherlookup.org.uk>

ENCYCLOPEDIA OF THE BIBLE AND ITS RECEPTION

<http://www.degruyter.de/cont/fb/th/thEbrEn.cfm>

CENTRAL LIBRARY, BIRMINGHAM

www.birmingham.gov.uk/artslibrary

For more information about the Early and Fine Printing Collection.

THE LIBRARY OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

<http://www.quaker.org.uk/library>

PLANTIN MORETUS MUSEUM

http://museum.antwerpen.be/plantin_Moretus/index_eng.html

LEUVEN BEGUINAGES

<http://www.leuven.be/showpage.asp?iPageID=1706>

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grand_B%C3%A9guinage,_Leuven

ART OF FAITH

A three-part DVD exploring the art and architecture of Judaism, Christianity and Islam.

Art of Faith is a visually sumptuous series revealing outstanding examples of the art and architecture of Judaism, Christianity and Islam. Presented and narrated by the broadcaster John McCarthy, the films bring to life many of the greatest and most significant religious buildings through stunning photography and interviews with the people who know and love them.

The programmes are filmed in twenty-seven key locations in eighteen countries, from Russia to the USA, India to Egypt, and the UK to Hungary. The architecture and art of each building is explored by rabbis, priests and imams, as well as congregation members and art historians, who explain the history of these sacred places and, in many cases, their importance today as places of lived faith.

Art of Faith enables viewers to enter into the lives of these people and gain a deeper understanding of the three Abrahamic faith traditions as well as the history and art of these great and glorious buildings.

Locations for Judaism

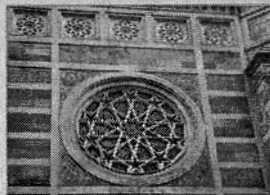
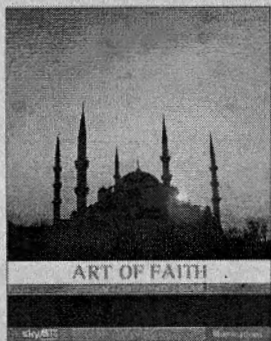
Synagogue, Masada * Old-New Synagogue, Prague * Synagogues, Toledo * Bevis Marks Synagogue, London * Dohary Street Synagogue, Budapest * Princes Road Synagogue, Liverpool * Central Synagogue, New York * Agoudas Hakehilos Synagogue, Paris * Beth Shalom Synagogue, Philadelphia

Locations for Christianity

St. Catherine's Monastery, Mount Sinai * Basilica of San Vitale, Ravenna * Durham Cathedral * Cathedral of Our Lady of Chartres * St. Mary Redcliffe, Bristol * St. Peter's Basilica, Vatican City * Cathedral of St. Basil the Blessed, Moscow * Chapel of Our Lady of the Rosary, Venice * Chapel of St. Ignatius, Seattle

Locations for Islam

Dome of the Rock, Jerusalem * Great Mosque, Kairouan * Mezquita, Cordoba * Sultan Ahmed Mosque, Istanbul * Registan, Samarkand * Taj Mahal, Agra * Shah Jahan Mosque, Woking * Assyafaah Mosque, Singapore * Brick Lane Jamme Masjid, London



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or telephone 020 7288 8444