

# From the Greeks to the Arabs and Beyond

## Volume 1

# Islamic Philosophy, Theology and Science

TEXTS AND STUDIES

*Edited by*

Anna Akasoy  
Emilie Savage-Smith

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# From the Greeks to the Arabs and Beyond

*Volume 1*  
*Graeco-Syriaca and Arabica*

*By*

Hans Daiber

*In collaboration with*

Helga Daiber



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Cover illustration: (Pseudo-)Plato, *Waṣīyyat Aflātūn li-Aristāṭālīs*, admonitions directed to Aristotle and attributed to Plato, a text different from the known version. Copy from the 12th/18th century, *Daiber Collection III*, MS 82, fol. 70 r.

Back cover illustration: Alexander the Great, *Letter of consolation*, sent to his mother. Copy from the 12th/18th century, *Daiber Collection III*, MS 82, fol. 66 v.

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*Hoc opus dedicamus  
carissimis filiis nostris*

*Verena, Maximilian  
Mathilde, Ferdinand, Aurelia et Ava-Marie*





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- 25 Lucien, *Dialogues des morts et Menippe*. Traduction arabe avec introduction et notes par ELIAS SAAD GHALI (1967) 668
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- 27 WILLIAM FRANCIS RYAN and CHARLES B. SCHMITT (eds.), *Pseudo-Aristotle, The Secret of Secrets. Sources and Influences* (1982) 679
- 28 NEIL LINLEY (ed., transl.), *Ibn at-Ṭayyib, Proclus' Commentary on the Pythagorean Golden Verses* (1984) 682
- 29 RICHARD GOULET (ed.), *Dictionnaire des philosophes antiques (Aba(m)mon à Axiothéa)* (1989) 688
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# Abbreviations

- AALR* *Atti dell'(a R.) Accademia dei Lincei. Rendiconti. Classe di Scienze Morali, Storiche e Filologiche.* Roma
- AAWG.PH* *Abhandlungen der Akademie der Wissenschaften in Göttingen. Philologisch-historische Klasse.* Göttingen
- AAWLM.G* *Abhandlungen der Akademie der Wissenschaften und der Literatur in Mainz. Geistes- und sozialwissenschaftliche Klasse.* Wiesbaden
- AIVS* *Atti del (R.) Istituto Veneto i Scienze Lettere ed Arti.* Venezia
- AJSL* *American Journal of Semitic Languages and Literatures.* Chicago
- AKM* *Abhandlungen für die Kunde des Morgenlandes.* Leipzig
- ANRW* *Aufstieg und Niedergang der Römischen Welt.* Ed. WOLFGANG HAASE. Berlin/New York
- APAW.PH* *Abhandlungen der (K.) Preussischen Akademie der Wissenschaften. Philosophisch-historische Klasse.* Berlin
- ArOr* *Archiv Orientální.* Praha
- ASL* *Aristoteles Semitico-Latinus.* Leiden/Boston/New York/Köln
- ASP* *Arabic Sciences and Philosophy.* Cambridge
- BGA* *Bibliotheca Geographorum Arabicorum.* Lugduni Batavorum
- BiOr* *Bibliotheca Orientalis.* Leiden
- BIPh* HANS DAIBER, *Bibliography of Islamic Philosophy.* I: Alphabetical List of Publications. II: Index of Names, Terms and Topics. Leiden/Boston/Köln 1999. = *Handbuch der Orientalistik* I, 43/1–2. *Supplement.* Leiden/Boston 2007. = *Handbuch der Orientalistik* I, 89
- BO* *Beiträge zur Orientalistik.* Leipzig
- BSOAS* *Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies.* London
- BTS* *Beiruter Texte und Studien.* Beirut/Wiesbaden
- CAG* *Commentaria in Aristotelem Graeca.* Berolini
- CCAA* *Corpus Commentariorum Averrois in Aristotelem.* Cambridge, Mass.
- CGAL* GEORG GRAF, *Geschichte der christlichen arabischen Literatur.* Città del Vaticano
- CNWS* *Center voor Niet-Westerse Studies.* Leiden
- CQ* *Classical Quarterly.* Oxford.
- CSCO* *Corpus Scriptorum Christianorum Orientalium.* Roma (etc.)
- EI* *Enzyklopädie des Islam.* Leiden. I–IV, 1913–1934. Ergänzungsband 1938
- EI<sup>2</sup>* *The Encyclopaedia of Islam.* Leiden. New edition. 1ff., 1960ff. *Supplement* 1980ff.
- EnAC* *Entretiens sur l'Antiquité Classique.* Genève
- EPhM* *Études de la philosophie médiévale.* Paris

- GAL* CARL BROCKELMANN, *Geschichte der arabischen Litteratur*. 2., den Supplementbänden angepaßte Auflage. Vol. 1. 2. Supplementband 1–3. Leiden 1937–1949
- GAL S* *GAL Supplementband*
- GALex* *A Greek and Arabic Lexicon (GALex). Materials for a Dictionary of the Medieval Translations from Greek into Arabic*. Ed. GERHARD ENDRESS and DIMITRI GUTAS. Fasc. 1ff. Leiden/New York/Köln 1992ff. = *Handbuch der Orientalistik* I, 11.
- GAS* FUAT SEZGIN, *Geschichte des arabischen Schrifttums*. I–XV. Leiden/Frankfurt a.M. 1967–2010.
- GSL* ANTON BAUMSTARK, *Geschichte der syrischen Literatur*. Bonn 1922
- HWPPh* *Historisches Wörterbuch der Philosophie*. Darmstadt 1971–2007
- IC* *Islamic Culture*. Hyderabad
- IHC* *Islamic History and Civilization*. Studies and Texts. Leiden/Boston
- IOS* *Israel Oriental Studies*. Tel Aviv
- IPTS* *Islamic Philosophy, Theology and Science*. Texts and Studies. Leiden/Boston
- IS* *Islamic Studies*. Karachi
- IslQ* *Islamic Quarterly*. A review of Islamic culture. London
- JA* *Journal asiatique*. Paris
- JAOS* *Journal of the American Oriental Society*. Baltimore
- JHI* *Journal of the History of Ideas*. New York
- JHS* *Journal of Hellenic Studies*. London
- JNES* *Journal of Near Eastern Studies*. Chicago, Illinois
- JPh* *Journal of Philosophy*. New York (etc.)
- JRAS* *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland*. London
- JSAI* *Jerusalem Studies in Arabic and Islam*
- JSSt* *Journal of Semitic Studies*. Oxford
- KNAWL* *Koninklijke Nederlandse Akademie van Wetenschappen, afd. Letterkunde*  
→ *MNAWL* → *VNAWL*
- MFOB* *Mélanges de la Faculté Orientale de l'Université Saint Joseph*. Beyrouth
- MIDEO* *Mélanges de l'Institut Dominicain d'Études Orientales du Caire*. Cairo
- MME* *Manuscripts of the Middle East*. Ed. JAN JUST WITKAM. Leiden
- MNAWL* *Mededelingen der Koninklijke Nederlandse Akademie van Wetenschappen, afd. Letterkunde*. Amsterdam
- Mus Helv* *Museum Helveticum*. Basel
- MUSJ* *Mélanges de l'Université Saint-Joseph*. Beyrouth
- MW* *Muslim World*. Hartford, Conn.
- NAWG* *Nachrichten der Akademie der Wissenschaften in Göttingen*. Göttingen
- OC* *Oriens Christianus*. Wiesbaden
- OCP* *Orientalia Christiana Periodica*. Roma

- OLZ* *Orientalistische Literaturzeitung*. Berlin (etc.)  
*OrChr* *Oriens Christianus*. Roma  
*PhAnt* *Philosophia Antiqua*. Leiden  
*RAC* *Reallexikon für Antike und Christentum*. Stuttgart  
*RE* *Real-Encyclopädie der classischen Altertumswissenschaft*. Neue Bearbeitung. Hrsg. v. AUGUST FRIEDRICH PAULY und GEORG WISSOWA. Stuttgart 1894 ff.  
*Rech.ILO*, nouv. sér. *Recherches publiées sous la direction de l'Institut de Lettres Orientales de Beyrouth*. Beyrouth  
*REI* *Revue des Études Islamiques*. Paris  
*REI. HS* *Revue des Études Islamiques. Hors Série*. Paris  
*ROC* *Revue de l'Orient Chrétien*. Paris  
*RRAL* *Rendiconti della Reale Accademia dei Lincei. Classe di Scienze Morali, Storiche e Filologiche*. Roma  
*RSO* *Rivista degli Studi Orientali*. Roma  
*RUSCH* *Rutgers University Studies in Classical Humanities*. New Brunswick/Oxford/London  
*SGA* *Studia Graeco-Arabica*. Pisa  
*SI* *Studia Islamica*. Paris  
*SIFC* *Studi Italiani di Filologia Classica*. Firenze  
*SPAW.PH* *Sitzungsberichte der Preußischen Akademie der Wissenschaften. Philosophisch-Historische Klasse*. Berlin  
*SVF* *Stoicorum Veterum Fragmenta*. Ed. HANS VON ARNIM. Stutgardiae 1903–1905  
*TAPhS* *Transactions of the American Philosophical Society*. Philadelphia, Pa.  
*VNAWL* *Verhandelingen der (K.) Nederlands(ch)e Akademie van Wetenschappen (te Amsterdam). Afdeling Letterkunde*. Amsterdam  
*WBG* *Wissenschaftliche Buchgesellschaft*. Darmstadt  
*WdF* *Wege der Forschung*. Darmstadt  
*WI* *Die Welt des Islam*. Berlin  
*WKAS* *Wörterbuch der Klassischen Arabischen Sprache*. Wiesbaden  
*ZA* *Zeitschrift für Assyriologie und vorderasiatische Archäologie*. Leipzig  
*ZDMG* *Zeitschrift der Deutschen Morgenländischen Gesellschaft*. Wiesbaden  
*ZGAIW* *Zeitschrift für Geschichte der Arabisch-Islamischen Wissenschaften*. Frankfurt a.M.  
*ZKG* *Zeitschrift für Kirchengeschichte*. Stuttgart  
*ZS* *Zeitschrift für Semitistik und verwandte Gebiete*. Leipzig

# Rules of Transliteration

The transliteration follows the rules of the *German Oriental Society*.

In addition:

- īy → iyy
- ūw → uww
- au → aw
- ai → ay

# List of Publications

Not included in H. DAIBER, *From the Greeks to the Arabs and Beyond*

A list of publications (until 2008) can be found in *Islamic Thought in the Middle Ages. Studies in Text, Transmission and Translation*, in Honour of Hans Daiber. Ed. by ANNA AKASOY and WIM RAVEN. Leiden/Boston 2008, pp. XI–XXIV. Another list (until 2009) is in AMIR LJUBOVIC, *Cetrdeset godina ynanstvene I Akademske karijere Prof. Dr. Hansa Daibera. Povodom knjige islamska misao u dijalogu kultura*. In *Prilozi* 58, Sarajevo 2009, pp. 205–213.

## I Monographs

- 1 *Das theologisch-philosophische System des Mu‘ammar Ibn ‘Abbād as-Sulamī (gest. 830 n. Chr.)*. Beirut/Wiesbaden 1975. = IPTS 19.
- 2 *Gott, Natur und menschlicher Wille im frühen islamischen Denken*. Rede, uitgesproken in het Nederlands bij de aanvaarding van het ambt van gewoon hoogleraar in het Arabisch en de Islam aan de Faculteit der Letteren van de Vrije Universiteit te Amsterdam op 15 juni 1978. Amsterdam 1978.  
Revised → no. 12, ch. 2 and → no. 30.
- 3 *Aetius Arabus*. Die Vorsokratiker in arabischer Überlieferung. Wiesbaden 1980. = *Akademie der Wissenschaften und der Literatur, Mainz. Veröffentlichungen der Orientalischen Kommission* 33.  
An expanded version of H. DAIBER, *Die arabische Übersetzung der Placita philosophorum*. PhD Saarbrücken 1968.
- 4 *Wāṣil Ibn ‘Aṭā’ als Prediger und Theologe*. Ein neuer Text aus dem 8. Jahrhundert n. Chr. Leiden 1988. = IPTS II.
- 5 *Catalogue of the Arabic Manuscripts in the Daiber Collection (I)*. Institute of Oriental Culture, University of Tokyo. Tokyo 1988.
- 6 *Naturwissenschaft bei den Arabern im 10. Jahrhundert n. Chr.* Briefe des Abū l-Faḍl Ibn al-‘Amīd (gest. 360/970) an ‘Aḍudaddaula. Mit Einleitung, kommentierter Übersetzung und Glossar herausgegeben. Leiden 1993. = IPTS XIII.
- 7 *The Islamic Concept of Belief in the 4th/10th Century*. Abū l-Laiṭ as-Samarqandī’s Commentary on Abū Ḥanīfa (died 150/767), al-Fiqh al-absaṭ. Introduction, Text and Commentary. Tokyo 1995. = *Studia culturae islamicae* 52.
- 8 *Catalogue of the Arabic Manuscripts in the Daiber Collection II*. The Documentation Center for Asian Studies, Institute of Oriental Culture, University of Tokyo. Tokyo 1996. XX, 320 pp.

*Daiber Collection I* and *Daiber Collection II* are accessible on the internet: [http://ricasdb.ioc.u-tokyo.ac.jp/daiber/db\\_index.html](http://ricasdb.ioc.u-tokyo.ac.jp/daiber/db_index.html).

- 9 *Bibliography of Islamic Philosophy*. I: Alphabetical List of Publications. II: Index of Names, Terms and Topics. Leiden/Boston/Köln 1999. = *Handbuch der Orientalistik I*, 43/1–2.

- 10 *The Struggle for Knowledge in Islam*. Some Historical Aspects. [Followed by a Bosnian translation]: *Borba za znanje u Islamu*. Neki historijski aspekti. Sarajevo 2004.

A collection of mostly previously published articles. It contains: H. DAIBER, *From the Greeks to the Arabs* II/1 (pp. 7–39; Bosnian version pp. 11–43); H. DAIBER, *From the Greeks to the Arabs* IV A/6 (pp. 40–51; Bosnian version pp. 44–55); article no. 29 (pp. 52–66; Bosnian version pp. 56–70); H. DAIBER, *From the Greeks to the Arabs* II/28 (pp. 87–104; Bosnian version pp. 92–109). Moreover, on pp. 67–86: *Rationalism in Islam and the Rise of Scientific Thought: The Background of al-Ghazālī's Concept of Causality*, a conference paper of the *International Conference on al-Ghazālī's Legacy: Its Contemporary Relevance (24–27 October 2001)*, The International Institute of Islamic Thought and Civilization (ISTAC), Kuala Lumpur. This version can be found in Bosnian translation in the Bosnian part pp. 71–81. The chapter is revised and essentially expanded in → H. DAIBER, *From the Greeks to the Arabs* II/31. In addition to the Bosnian translation of the mentioned articles, the Bosnian part contains a Bosnian translation of H. DAIBER, *From the Greeks to the Arabs* II/8 (pp. 110–153) and H. DAIBER, *From the Greeks to the Arabs* II/39 (pp. 155–180).

- 11 *Bibliography of Islamic Philosophy. Supplement*. Leiden/Boston 2007. = *Handbuch der Orientalistik I*, 89.

- 12 *Islamic Thought in the Dialogue of Cultures. A Historical and Bibliographical Survey*. Leiden/Boston 2012. = *Themes in Islamic Studies* 7.

This is a completely revised and expanded text with indices of a version that appeared in 2008 in Sarajevo in German (*Islamisches Denken im Dialog der Kulturen*. Innovation und Vermittlung zwischen Antike und Mittelalter), in English (*Islamic Thought in the Dialogue of Cultures*. Innovation and Mediation between Antiquity and Middle Ages) and in Bosnian (*Islamska misao u dijalogu kultura*. Inoviranje i posredovanje između antike i srednjeg vijeka). These versions contain an epilogue by NEVAD KAHTERAN, *Comparative Considerations as a New Paradigm: The Idea of Cross-cultural or Multicultural Philosophy* (15 pp.).

## II Articles

- 13 Anfänge und Entstehung der Wissenschaft im Islam. In *Saeculum* 29, Freiburg/München 1978, pp. 356–366.  
English version in nos. 17 and 24. Revised in no. 12, edition 2012, ch. 1.
- 14 Briefe des Abū l-Faḍl Ibn al-ʿAmīd an ʿAḍudaddaula. In *Der Islam* 56, 1979, pp. 106–116.  
Revised in H. DAIBER, *From the Greeks to the Arabs* III B/8 and edited in no. 6.
- 15 Vom Nutzen der Metaphysik, auch in der Philologie. In *Der Islam* 58, 1981, pp. 310–320.  
A reply to J. VAN ESS, Vom Nutzen der Philologie, auch in der Metaphysik. In *Der Islam* 58, 1981, pp. 293–309 (a review of H. DAIBER, *Das theologisch-philosophische System des Muʿammar Ibn ʿAbbād as-Sulamī*, see no. 1).
- 16 De zendeling Raimundus Lullus en zijn kritiek op de Islam. In *Historische betrekkingen tussen moslims en christenen*. Nijmegen 1982. In *Midden Oosten en Islampublicatie* 9, pp. 21–32.  
Revised German versions are no. 18 and H. DAIBER, *From the Greeks to the Arabs* IV A/5.
- 17 The Qurʾān as Stimulus of Science in Early Islam. In *International Conference on Science in Islamic Polity, Its Past, Present and Future* (Islamabad, 19–24 November 1983). Papers presented, vol. 1, Islamabad 1983, pp. 122–130.  
Based on no. 13. Republished in no. 24. Revised in no. 12, edition 2012, ch. 1.
- 18 Der Missionar Raimundus Lullus und seine Kritik am Islam. In *Estudios Lulianos* 25, Palma de Mallorca 1981–1983, pp. 47–57.  
Revised version of no. 16. An expanded version in H. DAIBER, *From the Greeks to the Arabs* IV A/5.
- 19 The Qurʾān as a Matter of Dispute. New Material on the History of the Ḥanbalite-Ashʿarite Controversy in the 12/13th Century A.D. In *Proceedings of the Thirty-First International Congress of Human Sciences in Asia and North Africa* (Tokyo and Kyoto, 31.8.–7.9.1983), vol. 1, Tokyo 1984, pp. 282–283.  
Expanded version in H. DAIBER, *From the Greeks to the Arabs* III A/12.
- 20 Anfänge muslimischer Theologie im Lichte eines neuen Textes von Wāṣil Ibn ʿAṭāʾ. In *Islão e Arabismo na Península Iberica. Actas do XI congresso da União Europeia de Arabistas e Islamólogos*: Evora, Faro, Silves, 29. set.–6 out. 1982. Evora 1986, pp. 383–391.  
An expanded version with text is in no. 4.
- 21 Theophrasts Meteorologica in syrisch-arabischer Überlieferung. In *Symposium Graeco-Arabicum II*. Akten des Zweiten Symposium Graeco-Arabicum Ruhr-Universität Bochum, 3.–5. März 1987. Amsterdam 1989. = *Archivum Graeco-Arabicum* I, pp. 10–18.  
An expanded version with texts is H. DAIBER, *From the Greeks to the Arabs* I/12.

- 22 Die Autonomie der Philosophie im Islam. In *Knowledge and the Sciences in Medieval Philosophy I*, Helsinki 1990. = *Acta Philosophica Fennica* 48, pp. 228–249.  
Revised in no. 12, edition 2012, ch. 4.
- 23 Lateinische Übersetzungen arabischer Texte zur Philosophie und ihre Bedeutung für die Scholastik des Mittelalters. Stand und Aufgaben der Forschung. In *Rencontres de cultures dans la philosophie médiévale*. Traductions et traducteurs de l'antiquité tardive au XIVe siècle. Louvain-La-Neuve/Cassino 1990 (1991), pp. 203–250.  
Revised in no. 12, edition 2012, ch. 5.
- 24 The Qurʾān as Stimulus of Science in Early Islam. In *Islamic Thought and Scientific Creativity 2/2*, Islamabad 1991, pp. 29–42.  
See no. 17. Revised in no. 12, edition 2012, ch. 1.
- 25 Doxographie und Geschichtsschreibung über griechische Philosophen in islamischer Zeit. In *Medioevo XVI*, Padova 1990 (published 1992), pp. 1–21.  
Revised in H. DAIBER, *From the Greeks to the Arabs I/3*.
- 26 Science and Technology Versus Islam: A Controversy from Renan and Afghānī to Nasr and Needham and Its Historical Background. In *Annals of Japan Association for Middle East Studies* 8, Tokyo 1993, pp. 169–187.  
Also in no. 28. Integrated in H. DAIBER, *From the Greeks to the Arabs III B/3*. Arabic version in H. DAIBER, *From the Greeks to the Arabs III B/2*.
- 27 L'incontro con la filosofia islamica. In *Storia della filosofia. 2: Il medioevo*. A cura di PIETRO ROSSI, CARLO A. VIANO. Roma/Bari 1994. = *Enciclopedia del sapere*, pp. 180–195.  
Revised in no. 12, edition 2012, ch. 6.
- 28 Science and Technology Versus Islam: A Controversy from Renan and Afghānī to Nasr and Needham and its Historical Background. In *Journal for the History of Arabic Science* 10/1–2, Aleppo 1992–1993–1994, pp. 119–133.  
Also published in no. 26. Integrated in H. DAIBER, *From the Greeks to the Arabs III B/3*. Arabic version in H. DAIBER, *From the Greeks to the Arabs III B/2*.
- 29 Von der Weisheit Gottes zur Wissenschaft. Wege des Wissens im Islam. In *Evangeliū und Wissenschaft*. Beiträge zum interdisziplinären Gespräch 42, Marburg 2003, pp. 3–13.  
Slightly expanded version of a contribution that appeared in *Neue Zürcher Zeitung* (2 March 2002), with additional bibliography. Also in no. 10, pp. 52–66 (English version) and pp. 56–70 (Bosnian version). An expanded version appeared in 2008. = H. DAIBER, *From the Greeks to the Arabs III B/3*.
- 30 Frühe islamische Diskussionen über die Willensfreiheit des Menschen. In *Hat der Mensch einen freien Willen? Die Antworten der großen Philosophen*, Stuttgart 2007, pp. 324–339.  
A revised version of no. 2. Slightly expanded in no. 12, edition 2012, ch. 2.

- 31 Islamwissenschaft zwischen Philologie und Kulturwissenschaft. Einheit und Vielfalt einer Disziplin. In *Spektrum Iran*. Zeitschrift für islamisch-iranische Kultur 20. Jg., 1/2, Berlin 2007, pp. 65–81.  
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