

tion and a work of art. The opinion that „describing a travel always is a creative process in the course of which reality is subjectively transformed through the medium of the writer's personality, and expressed in a unique linguistic shape" (p. 12) merits special attention.

Mere fragments of the oldest travel reports from the 8th and 9th centuries have come down to us, and that only in an indirect way; they mainly concern Asia Minor. A real outburst of interest in the world surrounding the Arabs occurred in the 10th century. That is the classic period of travel literature. Such writers as Hārūn Ibn Yahyā, Aḥmed Ibn Faḍlān, Abū Dulaf, Ibrāhīm Ibn Ya'qūb and al-Uswānī come to the fore. Most of them were both writers and travellers. Only in the case of Ibrāhīm Ibn Ya'qūb the author considers the possibility of his having been the narrator of a story which was recorded by someone else; however, this does not seem to me to be a justified supposition. The period of documentary writings led on to literature containing more fiction and fantasy; the tales of Sindbad the Sailor can be mentioned as an example of this kind. During the early centuries of travel literature writers from Asia Minor held the dominating position, but already in the 12th century the centre of literary production was transferred to the countries of Maghreb and to Spain. The 13th and 14th centuries mark the origin of the classic genre of travel literature, the writings named „riḥla". Ibn Baṭṭūṭa (1304—1368 or 1377), who toured and described all of Near East and got as far as Bengal and West Africa (the kingdom of Mali among other places), is the most outstanding representative of this kind of literature. The last great traveller and writer of the Arab world was Leo the African (1485—1554), to whom we owe valuable relations on North and Central Africa.

In the conclusion of her work Maria Kowalska gives a brief appraisal of the travel literature of the Arabs. She ranks the relations of Ibn Faḍlān as the best from the point of view of both information content and artistic value, but regards Ibn Baṭṭūṭa as the most eminent representative of the literary genre she describes. The history of the Slavic countries, including Poland, was not the object of special interest of Arab travellers and writers, but in order to establish the reliability and documentary value of the passages devoted to things Slavic one has to acquaint oneself with all Arab travel literature.

Gerard Labuda

Iran Society. *Silver Jubilee Souvenir* (1944—1969), Calcutta 1970, pp. 397.

This voluminous book has been edited by the Iranian Society of Calcutta to commemorate the silver jubilee of its foundation. It contains a collection of twenty five articles on Persian lore by eminent iranologists of the world.

The material of the book is divided into two parts: 1. English section, and 2. Persian and Arabic section. The Contents of the volume runs as follows: (English section) *A Portrait of Ibrahim Adil Shah II by Farrukh beg*, by Prof. Nazir Ahmad; *A Jewish Persian Munazare*, by Prof. Jes P. Asmussen, *Iranian Armenians in India*, by (Mrs.) Annie Basil; *The Golden Link of Mysticism*, by Prof. Firoz C. Davar; *Contribution of Bengal to Arabic and Persian Literature in the Turko-Afghan Period* (A. D. 1203—1538); by Dr. Chinmoy Dutt; *Ganj-i Ma'ani of Muti'i*, Dr. Z. A. Desai; *The New Persian Type Kirdar, 'Work, Action' — A Semasiological Problem*, by Prof. dr. Wilhelm Eilers; *Muhammad 'Arif Shaida*, by Dr. M. A. H. Farooqi; *The Arabic Language in Khurasan*, by Prof. Richard N. Frye; *An Indian Prince and the French Revolution*, by Prof. Mohibbul Hasan; *Rudaki, the Father of Neo-Persian Poetry*, by dr. M. Ishaque; *James Morier and his Hajji Baba of Ispahan*, by Dr. Hasan Javadi; *The Concept of an ideal priest according to Manuschekhihr Goshnjaman*, by Prof. M. F. Kanga; *Glimpses of extinct Pahlavi Literature*, by Ervad Jamshid Cawasji Katrak; *The Iranian Constitutional Revolution of 1905—1911. A Brief Assessment*, by Prof. Nikki R. Keddie; *A Chapter on Ancien Persia in an Eleventh Century Hispano-Arabic work*, by Dr. M. S. Khan; *Muhammad Taqi Bahar as a Painter of Nature*, by Prof. Franciszek Machalski; *On the Sanscrit writings of Parsis*, by Dr. H. K. Mirza; *One more spurious manuscript of Rudaki's verses*, by Prof. Abdul-Ghani Mirzoev; *Persian Poets of Indian origin*, by Maulana Syed Sabahuddin Abdur Rahman; *The Iranian Bronze Plough Model from Marlik*, by Prof. Dr. Armas; *Salonen A Stone Tablet of Old Persian Cuneiform*, by Rev. Ralph Norman Sharp; *Some Cultural Aspects of the Qutb Shahi Kingdom on the eve of its dissolution*; by Prof. H. K. Sherwani. (Persian and Arabic Section): *Maliku'sh-Shu'ara Bahar*, by prof. Sha Islam Sha Mohammadof;

*Mas'alatu Sifatiz-Zakirin wal mutafak-kirin of Al-Shaykh Abi Abdir Rahman as-Sulami*, by Maulana Abu Mahfuzu'l Karim Masumi.

The large index including names of persons, places, books and some important specific terms has been added.

„*Farhang-e Irānzamīn*” („The Culture of Iran”). Chief editor: Dr. Īrağ Afšār. Teheran, 1972. Vol. XVIII, pp. 432.

Contents: 'Obaid-e Zākānī, *Montahab-e ātār be kūšeš-e Īrağ Afšār* (Selected poems from the works of 'Obaid-e Zākānī edited by Īrağ Afšār (pp. 1—85); Katirā'i Maḥmūd, *Farhang-e loğāt-e 'āmiyāneh* (Vocabulary of popular words), pp. 86—122; Šabā 'Aliredā, *Aš'ārī be lahğehā-yi ḥorāsānī* (Poetry in Ḥorāsānī dialect), pp. 122—129; Takizādeh S. Ḥasan, *Ḳesmat-e edāfi-ye Toḥfato'l-molūk* (Addenda to...), pp. 130—137; Takizādeh S. Ḥasan, *Takvīm va pañje-ye kāšān* (Calendar and intercalaries of Kāšān), pp. 138—142; Šāleḥ 'Alipāšā, *Takvīm va pañje-ye kāšān* (Calendar and intercalaries of Kāšān), pp. 142—156; Dānešpažūh Moḥammad Taḳī, *Esfahān va ṭāvūs-e ḥāne-ye ān* (čand matn) — (Isfahan and its domestic peacock), pp. 157—243; Lāhiğī Šams ad-dīn, *Šarḥ-e ḳašīde-ye masīḥī-ye Ḥākānī* (Commentary on a Christian ḳašīda by Ḥākānī), pp. 244—360; Katirā'i Maḥmūd, *Ketābšenāsi-ye kasravī* (Bibliography by Kasravī), pp. 361—398; Rīks, *Daryānavardī dar ḥaliğ-e fārs* (Navigation in Persian Gulf), pp. 399—432).

„*Ay mosavluri Pilologia. Philologia Orientalis*”. Vol. II. Tbilisi, 1972, pp. 277. Edited by Oriental Institute of the Academy of Sciences, Georgian SSR.

The Georgian „Review of Oriental Studies” Volume Two is dedicated to the memory of the late V. S. Puturidze (1893—1966), an eminent orientalist, especially in the field of iranology. It contains thirty five articles and seven book reviews written by Georgian and Russian orientalists in Russian and Georgian languages. Those in Georgian are supplied with short summaries in Russian. (Except one paper in German by J. Oelsner, Jena DDR).

Here is the contents of the reviewed Volume (in English and German): A. Shanidze, *A Note on the Scientific Activities of V. Puturidze*; S. Jikia, *The Iranic Studies of the Scientist*; R. Kiknadze, *The Life and Activities of V. Puturidze*; G. Tsereteli, Balakhshi and Badakhshi in the Rustaveli's poem „The Knight in the Panther's Skin”; V. Akhvlediani, *On the Signification of the term „Niaphor”*; N. Makharadze,

*Zur Bedeutung des Verbums „Sulva”*; M. Bogolubov, *On two Aramaic Inscriptions from the Collection of Pogon*; N. Babalishvili, *A Hebrew Epitaph from Borjomi*; T. Chkheidze, *Notes on the Middle Persian Syntax*; D. Kobidze, *Etymology of the Word Dashushi*; I. Kaladze, *The Poem „Jamshid o Khorshid” by Salman Saveji*; N. Gigashvili, *Some Notes on the Georgian Translation of the Poem „Shirin o Khosro” by Khosro Dehlevi*; L. Gyunashvili, *On the Story „Shurabad” by M. Džemalade*; A. Gwacharia, *Übersetzungen der persischen Fabeln von A. Sulchanashvili*; T. Chavchavadze, Y. Marr and *Problems of the Persian-Russian Dictionary*; L. Asatiany, *The Functions of Pronominal Enclitics in the Classical and Modern Persian Literary Languages*; V. Minorsky, *A Greek crossing on the Oxus*; A. Arends, *From the History of the Capture of Khorezm by Mahmud Ghaznavi*; O. Chekhovich, *Newly discovered Documents of Khoja Ahrar*; D. Katsitadze, *Once more about the Persian Source of Parsadan Gorgidjanidze*; V. Dondua, *King Vakhtang VI-th in Quest of Political Orientation*; V. Gabashvili, *The Publications of Persian Documental Sources in Georgia*; and *Problems Concerning Persian Diplomacy*; K. Kutsia, *Chobanbeg-Kodav-Sargale*; K. Tabatadze, *The Meaning of the Word Dad Eli*; E. Machavariani, *Georgian-Persian Illuminated Historical Documents*; L. Chilashvili, J. Gyunashvili, *A Bowl from Gremi with a Persian Inscription*; O. Akimushkin, *Once more about Siavus-Beg Painter*; A. Cheishvili, *The Order of the Khan of Yerevan on the Appointment to the Office of Eshik-āqāsi*; O. Gvilava, *A Document about Iranian Turkomans*; S. Jikia, „Macevani” and „Ateni” in Turkish Documents; V. Chochiev, *Concerning the Meaning of the Term „Arnavut”*; G. Puturidze, *Ewlijā Tshelebi as a Historian*; L. Davlianidze, *About some Information recorded by Abraham Erevanc'i*; Leila Tsereteli, *Grammatik und Wörterbuch der griechischen Sprache in lateinischer Bearbeitung*.

Gerard Fussmann, *Atlas linguistique des parlers Dardes et Kafirs*, par... T. I. Cartes, T. II. Commentaire. Paris 1972. Publications de l'École Française d'Extrême-Orient. Vol. LXXXI.

Gunnar Bech, *Beiträge zur genetischen idg. Verbalmorphologie*, Det Kongelige Danske Videnskabernes Selskab. Historisk-filosofiske Meddelelser 44, 5. København 1971, pp. 73.

„*Studia Orientalia*” edidit Societas Orientalis Fennica. Vol. XL, pp. 41 + 13. Contents: Heikki Palva, *Balgāwi Arabic 1. Texts from Mādabā*; Heikki Palva, *Balgāwi Arabic 2. Texts in the dialect of the*

*Yigūl-Group*; Heikki Palva, *Notes on Classification in modern colloquial Arabic*; Asko Parpola, *De novis libris iudica*. — Inhalt der *Studia Orientalia* I—XXXIX, zusammengestellt von István Kecskeméti.

„*Bulletin de l'Ecole Française d'Extrême-Orient*, Tome LIX. Paris 1972, pp. 342. Table des matières: I. *P. Z. Pattabiramin* (1906—1971) par Jean Filozat; II. *Ateliers publics et filatures privées à Pondichéry après 1816*, par Mireille Lobligeois; III. *Inscriptions modernes d'Angkor 1, 8 et 9*, par Saveros Lewitz; IV. *Aspects de la littérature en prose dans le Sud de l'Inde*, par R. E. Asher; V. *Le Prasat Prei près d'angkor Vat*, par J. Dumarcay; VI. *Etudes d'épigraphie cambodgienne*, par Claude Jacques; VII; VII. *Inscriptions modernes d'Angkor, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16a, 16, et 16c*, par Saveros Lewitz; VIII. *Un jātaka concernant le dernier repas de Buddha*, par Ginette Martini; IX. *Les nécropoles princières de l'île de Madurā*, par Denys Lombard; X. *Un chinois à Java (1729—1736)*, par Claudine Lombard-Salmon. Comptes rendus: D. L. Snellgrove, *Four Lamas of Dolpo, autobiographies of four Tibetan lamas (15-th-18th centuries)*, par R. A. Stein; David Snellgrove et Hugh Richardson, *A cultural history of Tibet*, par R. A. Stein; J. M. Cadet, *The Ramakien* (The Thai epic), par Louis Gabaude; Kulamito, being a priest's name for M. L. Manich Jumsai, *Understanding thai buddhism*, par Louis Gabaude; *Visakha puja* 2514, par Louis Gabaude; Ray A. Olsson, *The Ramakien*, par Louis Gabaude; M. L. Manich Jumsai, *Ramayana Thai*, par Louis Gabaude; Cao Huy Thuân, *Christianism et colonialisme au Vietnam (1857—1914)*, par Nguyễn Hurū Đẳng.

Jean Boisselier, *La vie et l'oeuvre d'Henri Marchal* (1876—1970). Extrait du „*Bulletin de la Société des Études Indochinoises*”. Nouvelle série — tome XLVII, No. 1., 1972, pp. 36.

C'est une esquisse sur la vie et l'oeuvre de l'archéologue français Henri Marchal, qui avait consacré toute sa vie au service de l'art khmer et presque un demi-siècle d'activité à la conservation de ses monuments.

L'article de M. Jean Boisselier pourra rendre sans doute bon service aux chercheurs de l'art cambodgien.

Franciszek Machalski

‘Abdišō Bar Bahrīz, *Ordnung der Ehe und der Erbschaften sowie Entscheidung von Rechtsfällen*, herausgegeben, übersetzt, kommentiert und mit einer Einleitung versehen von Walter Selb, Wien 1970, pp. 208, Österreichische Akademie der Wissenschaften, Philosophisch-Historische Klasse, Sitzungsberichte — 268, Band, 1 Abhandlung, Hermann Böhlaus Nachf. — Kommissionsverlag der Österreichischen Akademie der Wissenschaften.

This edition of an important juridical Syriac text has been prepared by the eminent specialist on the ancient law — professor dr. Walter Selb from the University of Vienna. It consists of the facsimile of the manuscript Vat. Syr. 599 fol. 155v—175— with the critical apparatus taking into consideration three other relevant versions and with a parallel translation. There is also an introduction and a lengthy commentary containing both juridical remarks and a comparison with other Syriac legal texts, especially B.Nat. Fonds Syr. 354 fol. 138r—147r (this has been published in an analogous way in an Appendix) and with the compendia by Ibn at-Ṭayyib and by ‘Abdišō Bar Brīkā. In the final note the editor emphasises the fact that we may expect new discoveries in this field and that text editions are necessary to prepare the way for compiling a history of the Oriental Christian law. There is no doubt that he himself has already made a great contribution to this important enterprise and that we may expect from him equally valuable contributions in the future.

Andrzej Zaborski