

MIDDLE EAST LIBRARIES COMMITTEE

**Union Catalogue of
Persian Serials & Newspapers
in British Libraries**

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with an introduction by John Gurney

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PREFACE

One of the main concerns of the Middle East Libraries Committee (MELCOM) has been the co-ordination of acquisitions amongst its constituent members. To achieve this, it resolved to compile union lists of serials and newspapers in the Middle Eastern languages as a first step to subsequent rationalization. The present work was started on completion of MELCOM's *Union catalogue of Arabic serials and newspapers in British libraries*, edited by Paul Auchterlonie and Yasin Safadi (London, 1977). With a similar listing of Turkish language periodicals, now being undertaken by Muhammad Isa Waley, the three main languages of the Middle East will have been sufficiently covered to allow for a successful future co-operative acquisitions policy.

The compilation of the Persian serials catalogue was made possible only by the generous assistance of the British Library which allowed the editor time to work on the project besides paying for assistance in listing its extensive holdings. The School of Oriental and African Studies also made a considerable grant which enabled additional help to be employed, and above all acknowledgement must be made to Dr Khatib-Chahidi, former Cultural Attaché of the Iranian Embassy, London, for his very generous support.

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Ursula Sims-Williams
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