

*University of Durham*

CENTRE FOR MIDDLE EASTERN  
AND ISLAMIC STUDIES

A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF OMAN  
1900-1970

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A Bibliography of Oman 1900-1970

COMPILERS NOTE

Oman before July 1970 was officially known as the Sultanate of Muscat and Oman and until that date was little-known and difficult both to enter and to explore. Since 1970 Oman has increasingly begun to emerge on the world scene as a result of internal social, economic and administrative reformist changes. Travel to and within the country is now much easier and research programmes associated with development planning are proliferating. One such programme, financed by Petroleum Development (Oman) Ltd., is being conducted by a team from the University of Durham, directed by Professor H. Bowen-Jones.

This bibliography, also compiled as part of a joint project with the American University of Beirut dealing with the whole Arabian peninsula, is designed as a selective guide to recent works on Oman, produced between 1900 and the year of change 1970. Earlier material, particularly the accounts of travellers and diplomatic representatives is, of course, of considerable value to the attainment of an understanding of the forces which created the Oman of 1970. Since, however, access to the original documents is frequently difficult and their relevance to contemporary development work is extremely varied they have been omitted from this collection; most of the important items are referred to in the books listed in the first section of this bibliography. Also omitted are specialised reports unless they have been released and published. It is hoped later to produce addenda to this work, addenda which will contain information about the material now excluded.

The bibliography is divided into four main sections - General (including travel), the Physical Environment, the People, and Economic Development. Each of these main sections has been divided into a number of sub-sections but classification of some of the items is necessarily somewhat arbitrary - for instance a number of articles on locusts in the Soils and Biogeography sub-section might also be classified under Climatology and Meteorology.

There are also available a large number of books and articles dealing with the Arabian Peninsula in general; works which sometimes have reference to Oman. Such works have also been omitted from the bibliography as they are usually more pertinent to Saudi Arabia or the Arab/Persian Gulf and will be included in future bibliographies on those regions.

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