



AMEEL: Arabic and Middle Eastern Electronic Library

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Genesis

- Builds on previous TICFIA grant and is an obvious next step:
 - OACIS: a bibliographical building block, a union list of periodicals from and about the Middle East
 - See: <www.library.yale.edu/oacis>
 - No. of OACIS partners US, ME: 21 to date, 3 pending
 - Approximately 14,000 unique titles
 - Serials printed in approx 60+ languages, top 5: Arabic, English, Turkish,
 - Persian, French
- And now AMEEL:
 - <www.library.yale.edu/ameel>



Ambitious Aims (1)

- Primary goals:
 - Create underlying architecture for a digital library on the middle east
 - Enable linking of numerous diverse resources to this site
 - Develop and digitize content, particularly selected scholarly journals
- Additional goals:
 - Develop ILL infrastructure with Middle East
 - Two one-week training workshops for Arabic OCR

Ambitious Aims (2)

- Allow scholars, students, teachers and others to search, retrieve and view academic resources via:
 - Internet directory
 - New digital objects
 - Existing digital content
 - Middleware for connectivity and searching
- Synergize with other grants and projects
 - NEH Iraq
 - MEDL? Others?



Initial and Ongoing Partnerships

- OACIS union catalog partners
 - 20+, incl. Halle and Alexandria
- CAORC (Council of American Overseas Research Centers)
- Publishers
 - OUP, JSTOR, Brill, others
- Intellectual property experts
- Funding agencies
- Strong interest from Yale President's Office
- Now inquiries from others



Our Time Frame

- Year 1:
 - Lay groundwork
 - Workflow; standards; policies; participants
- Year 2:
 - Create new content, OCR
 - Link existing content such as union catalogs
 - ILL partnerships with several ME libraries
 - First Arabic OCR workshop
- Year 3:
 - Expand connectivity to publishers' contents
 - Expand ILL
 - Second Arabic OCR workshop
- Year 4:
 - Continue, test, survey, publish, promote



Demonstration [Elizabeth]

- Internet directory
- Contents to date
- Conditions of publication
- Feedback form
- OACIS to AMEEL: *Abu Naḍḍara*
full text



THANK YOU!

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