

1. Background

This collection is an offshoot of a project that collected and compiled *kitab*s or Islamic books written in the Arabic script² from Southeast Asia. This project was undertaken by the afore-mentioned study group at the Center for Islamic Studies at Sophia University, led by Kawashima from the same university.³ The focus of the project was on the network of Muslims in Southeast Asia that was linked to the production, publication, and circulation of printed *kitab*s within the region. In the first phase of their work, the study group collected around 1,800 titles of such *kitab*s, which were later compiled and published in the catalogue of the collection.⁴ In the second phase, the group collected some 500 titles of additional *kitab*s, the compilation of which is presently under way.

The study group's focus was the accumulation of *kitab*s written in Southeast Asian languages that use the Arabic script and those written in the Arabic language. However, the group also collected some Islamic books written in non-Arabic scripts such as Burmese, Thai, and Lontara (Bugis and Macassar) in Myanmar, Thailand, and Sulawesi in Indonesia, respectively, although on a smaller scale. We have already compiled and published a catalogue of Islamic books from Myanmar in Arabic, Urdu, and Burmese [Saito et al. 2020]. It is therefore opportune to present a paper detailing Islamic books in Arabic, Malay (*Jawi* script), and Thai, collected in the Bangkok metropolitan area.⁵

2. Method of Collecting Islamic Books

The abovementioned study group collected Islamic books from the Bangkok metropolitan area by entrusting Ogawa, an anthropologist specializing in Muslim communities in Southern Thailand, to purchase Islamic books in the Bangkok metropolitan area in February 2014. Ogawa visited Islamic bookshops and an Islamic printing company in the area, and purchased Islamic books in Arabic,

² The term "Arabic script" is used here to include the *Jawi* script: that is, Malay and other Austronesian languages written in the Arabic-based script with some modifications.

³ This project was a part of the National Institutes for the Humanities "Islamic Area Studies" program, and was implemented in liaison with IAAMES (formerly called the Institute of Asian Cultures) and the Center for Islamic Studies at Sophia University.

⁴ This collection is also currently retained by IAAMES. For details about the collection, see its catalogue [Kawashima et al. 2010; 2015], the latter of which is also available in PDF form on the institute's website:

http://dept.sophia.ac.jp/is/iac/en/library_info/collection/

⁵ A catalogue of Islamic books from the southern Sulawesi including those in the Lontara script is forthcoming.

The Collection of Islamic Books from Bangkok, Thailand, at Sophia University: A Catalogue with Comments

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I. Introduction

KAWASHIMA Midori

A study group researching Islam in Southeast Asia at the Center for Islamic Studies at Sophia University collected a total of 94 titles of Islamic books in Arabic, Malay, and Thai circulating in the Bangkok metropolitan area in Thailand. These books comprise the collection of Islamic books from Thailand currently retained at the Institute of Asian, African, and Middle Eastern Studies (IAAMES) at Sophia University in Tokyo. This paper describes and discusses this collection and also the distribution of Islamic books in the Bangkok metropolitan area. It is presented in three parts. The first part is an introduction by Kawashima that provides the background of the collection, information on the method used to collect the books, the rules applied in the catalogue, and a general observation on these books and the composition of the collection. In the second part, Ogawa provides a brief account of Muslims in Thailand and describes the distribution of Islamic books in the Bangkok metropolitan area based on a field survey. The third part is a catalogue of the collection co-authored by Fathurahman, Kawashima, Kobayashi, Nishi, and Nurtawab, and edited by Kawashima.

¹ Kawashima was in charge of planning and coordinating the project, editing this paper including the catalogue, writing the introduction (part I), and describing some of the books (part III); Ogawa described the distribution of Islamic books in the Bangkok metropolitan area in his essay in part II; Fathurahman and Nurtawab were in charge of bibliographic data for Arabic and Malay works in part III-1; and Nishi and Kobayashi for Thai and Arabic works in part III-2, respectively. We would like to express our gratitude to Ms. Yanagiya Ayumi, Collaborative Fellow of IAAMES, Sophia University, for providing expert advice on cataloguing and the bibliographic data, and also Dr. Moteki Akashi, IAAMES Collaborative Fellow, for assisting with the editorial work.

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