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ABSTRACTS

THE VOLUNTATIVE MODALITY IN BENGALI

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The aim of this paper is to show what means are used to express voluntative modality in the Bengali language. The article presents a detailed analysis of lexico-syntactic means (modal verbs and modal auxiliaries in construction with infinitives or verbal nouns), of morphological means (the moods), and of lexical means (verbs, nouns, and adjectives). It shows that the means of expressing voluntative modality in Bengali are numerous and varied. Most frequently they express various shades of specific modal relations. On the other hand, one and the same modal expression can be used to express various kinds of modal meaning (for instance, the notional verb in the infinitive form combined with the verb *pārā* can express possibility, permissibility as well as ability to perform an action).

Key words: voluntative modality, necessity, possibility, permissibility, intention, modal verbs, modal auxiliaries, modal words, moods

THE 14th RAMAḌĀN COUP IN IRAQ

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The 14th Ramaḍān 1382 (8th February 1963) coup that finally put an end to the regime of ʿAbdalkarīm Qāsim came from the Arab nationalist quarter; no other element in the political spectrum was prepared to undertake the

task. The Communists and the left still tacitly supported °Abdalkarīm Qāsim, and in any event they had too little support in the army officer corps. The Kurds had weakened the fighting capacity of the army, but they were in no position to overthrow the regime by themselves. However, there was no real unity of purpose among Arab nationalists beyond their common desire to be rid of the “Sole Leader” (az-Za°im al-Awḥad) and to reorient foreign policy toward some kind of union with other Arab countries. This action was no palace coup. The Ba°thists and their nationalist allies only succeeded in gaining control of the government after a day of fierce fighting with the defenders of the regime, which cost hundreds of lives. At last the rebel forces broke through into the Ministry of Defence compound, capturing °Abdalkarīm Qāsim and his colleagues on 9 February. They were immediately brought before a tribunal of Ba°thist and pan-Arab officers, sentenced to death and summarily shot.

Key words: the regime of °Abdalkarīm Qāsim; the coup of 8 February 1963; the Ba°th Party; pan-Arab Iraqi Officers

LES ÉTUDES d’OKINAWA: au-delà du JAPON MODERNE

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The aim of this article is to show the wide range of the Okinawan studies. It displays a panel of the main works conducted in the field through the centuries. We suggest that it is possible to adopt a different point of view than the one held in Japan which explains that the Okinawan studies began at the end of the 19th century and were mainly led in Okinawa and then in mainland Japan.

Key words: Okinawa, Ryūkyū, Meiji, Hondo, post-war, Okinawan studies

LEPSIUS No. XXV: A PROBLEM OF TYPOLOGY

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The author discusses several problems related to the typological determination of the tomb known as Lepsius no. XXV recently excavated by the Czech Institute of Egyptology (Charles University in Prague) at Abusir in Egypt. The archaeological excavations revealed a large tomb with badly damaged tomb’s superstructure and substructure. The whole tomb can be divided into two parts, eastern and western. In both parts of the tomb’s substructure a descending corridor built in the north-south direction and remains of the burial chamber were uncovered. In the eastern part of the tomb’s superstructure an entrance with part of a corridor leading deeper into the core of the superstructure was discovered. No traces of any relief decoration were preserved. Some graffiti were found during the excavations including inscriptions in which two signs for the pyramid occur. Very modest remains of the burial equipment and other artefacts including anthropological finds were also discovered during the excavations. In several publications this tomb was described by the excavators as a double pyramid. This study challenges the conclusion that L 25 is to be interpreted as the double pyramid. In this paper I argue in favour of an alternative interpretation, according to which the architectural remains of the tomb Lepsius no. XXV from the typological point of view indicate rather a mastaba than a double pyramid.

Key words: Lepsius no. XXV, Egypt, Abusir, typology, pyramid, mastaba

SIMPLIFIED ARABIC OR BILINGUALISM?
Academic Discourse Confronted with Literary Evidence.

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Simplification of Standard Arabic is one of the most hopeful reform strategies proposed to make communication in the recent Arabophone space more efficient. The overwhelming impact of the Arab cultural tradition with the Classical Arabic of the early Arab grammarians as its linguistic ideal removes nearly all language reform activities to the realm of theory. The reality of a prestigious substandard, identified in native terms with *luġa wuṣṭā* or *luġa mutawassiṭa*, still unrecognized as an autonomous and fully-qualified linguistic entity, is confronted with the idea of bilingualism that has to end the era of diglossia.

Key words: diglossia, bilingualism, cultural tradition, Standard / Intermediate / Colloquial Arabic, simplification of Arabic, case and verbal mood inflection (*iʿrāb*)

IRAQ ON THE EVE OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR

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By the mid-1930s, several officers of the Iraqi army had become actively interested in politics and found that the army's reputation for suppressing the Assyrian rebellion was a political asset. The most influential officers were true nationalists, that is, pan-Arabists, who inspired many of the junior officers. They looked to the examples of neighbouring Turkey and Iran, where military dictatorships were flourishing. Under the leadership of General Bakr Ṣidqī the army took over the government in the fall of 1936, and opened a period of military meddling in politics. During December 1938 General Nūrī as-Saʿīd, a staunch partisan of close ties with Great Britain seized power. While professing democratic principles, he and his followers did not hesitate to use identical repressive measures to their predecessors. Nūrī as-Saʿīd used the outbreak of the war as an excuse for imposing emergency legislation upon the country and abandoning all pretence of democracy.

Key words: Iraq 1939, the death of King Ghāzī, the army's role in politics, the outbreak of World War II, rise of anti-British feelings

FORMATION OF EARLY NOH DRAMA
AND LEGENDS OF YŪZAKI

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This paper is based partly on official noh research done in Japan and overseas, and partly on my field research at Yūzaki in February 2008. I am outlining the development from the earliest known records of performing forms towards the medieval sarugaku, and through that onto the classical noh drama. The breaking point might have been at Yūzaki, a countryside community in central Nara Basin. It is reported to be the birthplace of Zeami and the cradle of the classical noh which Kannami made out of the sarugaku performances played at the local Itoi shrine. Two lines of development started then, the one leading to the formation of the exclusive art of noh in Kyoto, while the original annual sarugaku performances at Itoi shrine in Yūzaki might have continued unchanged well into the 19th century.

Key words: noh, Kannami, Kan'ami, Zeami, sarugaku, sangaku, shushi sarugaku, okina, Itoi shrine, Kasuga shrine, Yamato sarugaku, Kanze, Menzuka, Tōya, Ise-kō, Yūzaki

CONTEXTUALIZING THE PAST: THE SAINT AND 'HIS' ENVIRONMENT

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Saint Eknāth is one of the most popular saints of the Marathi speaking people of Western India. His poetical works have been hitherto noted by many scholars of Marathi literature, as well as by historians. Based mainly on the analysis of the hagiographies, histories and the saint's own literary works this article is an attempt to contextualize Eknāth's legacy with the historical environment he lived in. By doing this I hope to show that particular attention paid to the environment around a historical figure significantly broadens our means of understanding the past.

Key words: saint, environment, past, Deccan, Marathi