

19.2

51123



St. George's Hotel
Herne Bay
Kent
England
August 1, 1906.

Dear Sir,

As a friend of the
late Count Soudenhave
- Kalergi. by whom^t
I believe, my name
was formerly mentioned
to you, I am taking
the liberty of sending
you a copy of a little
work written by me
in collaboration with
Mr. A. D. Russell,

Chief Magistrate of the
Gambia, entitled
"First steps in
Muslim Jurisprudence."

The Bāḳirat-al-Ḥād
of Shu Abū Layd has
a certain quaintness
& charm of ^{his} ^{own}
which I think will
interest you, & we have
done our best to make
the notes reliable, while
keeping them simple

I think it right to say
frankly that besides
the pleasure of submitting
this little work to the
most eminent Orientalist

of the day, I have a
special purpose in
writing to you. As you
will see mentioned in
the Preface, Mr. Russell
& myself have been, for
the last few years, engaged
upon a larger & more
important work for the
British Colonial Service,
& it would be of the
utmost value to us if
you, with your world-
wide renown as an
Oriental scholar,
could give us a
recommendation as to
the value of these
"first steps", which
being shown to

the Colonial Office, might
serve also as some
guarantee for the probable
value of the larger work.

It is with much diffidence
that I make this request,
& my apology for doing,
so much be the loss
which we have both
sustained in the death
of Count Tondenhovian-
Kabergi, who was
to me a true friend &
had promised to bring
my work under your
notice.

With regard to the
larger work in
preparation, it may
perhaps be not
without interest to you



if I explain that the
British Government has,
in response to representation
made by Mohammedans
in one & all the West
African Colonies, decided
to recognise Mohammedan
Law in those Colonies,
in so far as regards
marriage, custody of
children, guardianship,
Wills, succession, Evidence,
& gifts. our work, therefore,
will be of much
importance, & we are
very anxious that it
should, at the outset,
receive the sanction

of your encouragement.
If you would later
on allow me to send
you the completed
proofs of the first
volume, in advance of
publication, for any
remarks or suggestions
which you might be
kind enough to make,
it would be a further
favour.

Again apologising
for my boldness in
thus approaching
you,

I am, dear
Sir,

Yours respectfully
Abdullah al-Maimun
Sahrawardy

