



Address

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Dear Professor,

Perhaps you remember that some four years ago I gave a tentative translation of a portion of your Cult of Saint in Islam from your Muham. Studien II and that I had to give up the idea as I had doubts of its being a success here out in India. Every year however with the appearance of new books I am more and more convinced of the utility from a practical point of view -- academically your works are yet unsurpassed-- of bringing before the English reading students some portions of your Studien For though there have been published quite a dozen volumes in English subsequent to your studien not one of them has been able to throw more light on the subject: in fact all of them refer for fuller details to your works alone (Among the more important works of the class I may mention those of Huart, Browne and Nicholson)

I am particularly desirous of availing myself of your chapters devoted to the Iranian influence on Islamic culture. Thou several recent writers in English have touched on this subject, a source of pride to our Parsi community, your essays on Arab und Ajam and the Shuubiya and Kreimer



Krenmer's chapter to which you refer still remain standard contributions to the subject It was my idea first to translate these chapters directly; but I find that among the class of people for whom I intend to write there is a curious aversion to translations They much rather prefer any amount of borrowings if only they could be given some show of originality. I therefore intend to write on Islam's debt to ancient Persia relying mostly on your books and Krenmer But I hope to get some help from you and hence this letter. I shall feel highly obliged if you can provide me with as many passages as you conveniently can find in Arabic literature bearing on the manners and customs of Iran You are so steeped in Arabic literature that this may in itself not be difficult for you; but I shall be gratified ^{only} ~~if~~ even with fuller quotations (with translations) from the authorities you have already cited, For instance it would be very interesting to know more about the following in your Msh. Studien Erster Theil:-

al farisiju-l-munattaku; mardum (what we call the padan & which we still use). P 102, anmerk 3
 nari majusa . P 103 anmerk 1
 Kalam al khurs ibid &c &c

Your paper on Islamisme et Parsisme read before the Congress in 1900 and reproduced in l'histoire des Religions has furnished most illuminating facts Have you written any more on the subject, of such absorbing



absorbing interest to me ?

Unfortunately I read only German and French so that your works in Hungary are a sealed book to me I wish you full vigour of health to complete your Cyclopaedia of Islam which I am sure like Herbelot's will remain unsuperseeded for a century

Hoping to hear from you soon, whether you have the time to accord me the help or not, I beg to remain dear Professor

Yours with profound respects

J. K. Nariman