



Budapest February the 6th 1909



My dear deodorald! Indeed it is long time ago that I did write you and you seem to apply against me the rule of plati. You must excuse my silence. I had a bad winter-time not even by bodily sufferings, but all kinds of multifarious sorrows and trouble filled my inner life, and such condition of soul is all but ~~encouraging~~ ^{stimulating} to take the pen. Your account of your eastern trip interested us all very highly, me, my wife and my son and we read it with deep sympathy. You had the good chance to experience very important and instructive sides of Muslim public and private life and I do not doubt that these practical every day studies will give a great ascendancy to your "études de cabinet". I was a young man of 22-23 years when I passed a year in eastern countries and in society of Muslim scholars, and - I cannot deny - even as grey-haired old men I feel every moment the decisive influence that year made on the very direction of my scientific work - if I dare speak of such a thing.

What did you begin to work after your re-establishment in your old situation? I can not doubt, it must be now the Islam, which governs your interests. Have you

some special question is raised? There are many
unsettled questions in our religious history of Islam.
Have you published some articles on your journey?
and if so, in which periodicals? Have you copies for me?
You may suppose that all in connection with the events
and episodes of your journey is of the highest interest
for me. Do not forget to reserve me a copy of all you
are publishing. I must confess, I neglected ^{the years} during
your absence, for my part, but it was always very
trifling articles of no importance. You do not lose
much in missing them. But you did, without doubt,
read what I published 1907 and 1908 in the *Zeitschrift*
DMG on some Islamic topics. I hope to
can send you in a few weeks the paper I presented
to the Copenhagen-Congress on „Neoplatonic and
gnostic elements in the hadith“, which will appear
in Beyd's *Zeitschr. für Islamologie*. I and others
(Wolters etc.) have suspended for a time our
collaboration in the *DMG*; you can guess the
reason if you read the minutes of the last
General Assembly, published in the *III. Heft* for
1908. It is a pity, that one makes this periodi-

cal, founded by my great teacher Fleischer and
in which I am wont to publish my shorter essays
since 1870, inaccessible to a certain class of
scholars having other views ^{on} ~~of~~ literary intercourse
is the present editor, Professor Fischer. But we
hope they will give some reparation in due form
and then we can be in state to return to our ancient
literary gathering-place. I finished this winter
my notes appended to the Would-be-American
Lectures. I gave in those notes not only references
& regarding the text, but also little excursions being
having in view not the general reading public but
in first line the „Fachgelehrte.“ I have yet much
to say on the Islamic matters and have a good large
deal of notes and systematic literary collections
at my disposition, the fruit of four decades sleep-
lessness. But I fear, I will never find the inner
 repose required to the elaboration of those rich ma-
terials. They point now so much in Cairo and
in India; useful theological documents of the
best scientific period of Islam; Mr. Yahuda in Cairo,
whom you know, is so kind as to forward me with the
most important productions of the press; it most
cases works which I had to study in my youth out

of manuscripts. I can now lay aside all ~~the~~ my
extracts and use the printed editions,

Can you do something in America in the interest of our
"Encyclopedia of Islam"? We fear, the undertaking
will have to fight against very prosaic (financial)
difficulties. We need subscriptions of governments
and scientific bodies. You will oblige our friend
Froust, who replaces now de Goeje in the office of
the President of the Committee, when you will
reflect on that question and could stimulate American
institutions and rich private men to subscribe
- I mean not for copies alone, but - for substantial
subvention - sums during some years. We will
then care that America should be represented in
the Committee of ~~Management~~ Management etc.

Do not blame me for this bad English.
It is a dialect, I use for my own.

Many friendly compliments on my behalf
and the behalf of Mrs. Goldzicher to Mrs.
Macdonald, whom I have to thank for the
friendly words appended to your last letter.

Yours truthfully
I Goldzicher