

13 HAZ 2007

Warner, Levinus (1608-1665)

وارنر، ليفينوس (١٦٠٨-١٦٦٥)
مستشرق ودبلوماسي هولندي .

درس العربية في ليدن وأتم رسالته فيها عام ١٦٤٢، ثم رحل إلى الأستانة لإتقانها. وشغل بعد ذلك منصب المقيم الهولندي في الأستانة وظل يشغل هذا المنصب حتى وفاته في سنة ١٦٦٥. وقد أنفق وارنر عدة آلاف على جمع الكتب التركية والعربية والفارسية وغيرها من التحف، فجمع مجموعة رائعة من المخطوطات التي ضمت بعض المتون التي لا تقدر بمال (وطبعت قائمتها سنة ١٦٧٤)، والتي تركها لجامعة ليدن وهي تعد أنفس المجموعات فيها .

درس العربية في ليدن على خوليووس، وذهب إلى تركيا لإتمامها، ثم عينته حكومة هولندا سفيراً لها في الأستانة ١٦٥٥، ففضى فيها عشر سنوات، ولما مات وقف مكتبته وقد جمعها مدة إقامته في الأستانة على جامعة ليدن فأعناها، ومجمع مكتبته للمؤرخ الشهير حاجي خليفة .

٢٥

ALEXANDER H. DE GROOT
(Leiden)

THE LEGACY OF A SEVENTEENTH CENTURY
ORIENTALIST

Scholarly interest in oriental affairs in 17th century Holland centred in the university founded at Leiden in 1575. The first professor of oriental languages was appointed in 1586. Printing in Arabic type was begun in 1595 by Franciscus Raphelengius (d. 1597) the pioneer of Arabic studies. The field was not left in abeyance thanks to the care of the »Arabisantium Princeps« Joseph Scaliger who coached young Thomas Erpenius.

The latter was appointed as the first full (ordinary) professor of Arabic a.o. oriental languages of Leiden University in 1612, the year when Holland acquired its first Capitulations from Sultan Ahmed I. Erpenius established Arabic printing in Leiden again in imitation of the French undertaking by ambassador Savary de Brèves. The Dutch ambassador in Istanbul, Cornelis Haga, helped in buying lettercopies to be used in the printing types¹.

A truly academic interest in the broadening of knowledge of Islamic languages and civilisation was thus able establish itself at Leiden. At the death of Erpenius in 1624 Jacobus Golius, his beloved pupil (1596-1667), succeeded to the chair and continued to make Leiden a leading centre of oriental studies in Europa. Golius added the study of Turkish to his curriculum. He is the author of a Turkish-Latin dictionary (unpublished ms. now in Oxford). His knowledge he had acquired in the Ottoman lands. Shortly after his appointment Golius asked for leave of absence for one and a half year to travel in the Middle East studying languages and collecting manuscripts. First he went to Aleppo where he earned an extra income working as a chancellor to the Dutch consul, N. Witsen. Then Golius moved to Istanbul where he also did diplomatic

¹ H. F. Wijnman, 'The Origin of Arabic Typography in Leiden' in *Books on*

the Orient, published by E. J. Brill Leiden, Holland, Leiden 1957, VII-XV.