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Islamic Heritage Foundation deserves to be congratulated on bringing the project to a successful conclusion.

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COLIN WAKEFIELD

HANDBLIST OF MANUSCRIPTS IN THE LIBRARIES OF SHAYKH SERIGNE MOR MBAYE CISSE, AL-ḤĀJJ MALICK SY & SHAYKH IBRĀHĪM NIASSE. Compiled and edited by OUSMANE KANE. (Handlists of Islamic Manuscripts Series: VIII. African Collections—Senegal.) London, Al-Furqān Islamic Heritage Foundation, 1997. xi + 463 pp.

The Arabic introduction to the Handlist describes the history and general characteristics of the three libraries in question. The manuscripts of the first library and its foundation are closely connected with the Murīdiyyah order, described as the most powerful economic, political and social group in Senegal from the end of the nineteenth century. The first library surveyed, in Diourbel, was founded in 1913, and all the manuscripts were copied locally, most by pupils at the religious educational institution with which it was associated. The Handlist contains entries for 511 manuscripts (pp. 1–256). The manuscripts are generally in very good condition. The second library is that of Al-Ḥājj Malick Sy, a private library in Tivaouane, a town associated with the Tijāniyah order, especially the branch set up by Mālik ibn ‘Uthmān Sy. Ousmane Kane describes how Malick Sy’s collection was dispersed with the result that he was able to examine only a small part of it comprising mainly fatwas, and legal works. Among the manuscripts that were not seen are writings by Malick Sy himself and astronomical works which he is known to have owned. Only 41 manuscripts are catalogued in this Handlist (pp. 257–276). Most of the manuscripts are unbound and in a poor state of preservation. The third collection catalogued here, 252 in number, is that of Shaykh Ibrāhīm Niasse in Kaolack. It is considered to be the oldest and most varied of the Senegalese collections. Ibrāhīm Niasse, who died in London in 1975, collected manuscripts on his travels and inherited his father’s collection. The manuscripts date mainly from the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries and are generally well preserved. Among subjects covered are law, Koranic exegesis, Sufism, language, history, biography and poetry. The volume is produced to a high standard in what might almost be called the Al-Furqān house style and is completed by full indexes to all three collections.

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COLIN WAKEFIELD

THE MINGANA AND RELATED COLLECTIONS: A SURVEY OF ILLUSTRATED ARABIC, GREEK, EASTERN CHRISTIAN, PERSIAN AND TURKISH MANUSCRIPTS IN THE SELLY OAK COLLEGES, BIRMINGHAM. By LUCY-ANNE HUNT. Birmingham, The Mingana Collection, The Edward Cadbury Charitable Trust, 1997. 93 pp.

In this survey of Byzantine and Near Eastern manuscripts Lucy-Anne Hunt identifies and describes, often for the first time, the illustrated and illuminated manuscripts in the Selly