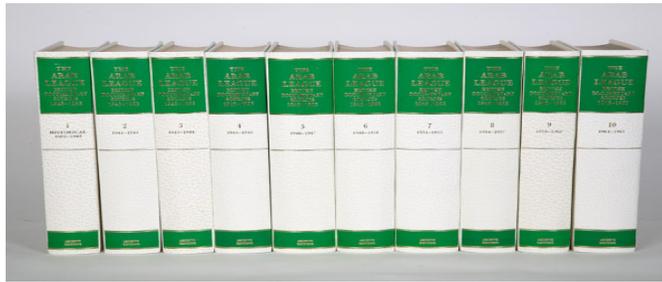


The Arab League: British Documentary Sources 1943–1963 Editor: A. Burdett



On 22 March 1945 the Pact of the Arab League States was signed in Cairo by Egypt, Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Transjordan and Saudi Arabia. Its objectives were closer unity between members, the safeguarding of their sovereignty and co-ordinated political action. Here now in facsimile are the authentic documents of that time, and the following 20 years, following the aims and the progress of the main organ of Arab unity this century. Details include: the origins of the Arab League; its creation and inauguration; issues such as the boycott of Jewish firms and products; policy on Palestine; collective security; inter-Arab, and foreign, relations.

Historical Overview

On 22nd March 1945 the Pact of The Arab League States was signed in Cairo by representatives of Egypt, Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Transjordan and Saudi Arabia. Its objectives were closer unity between members, the safeguarding of their sovereignty and co-ordinated political action on Arab questions.

These are the main historical topics covered in these volumes - documents now published for the first time.

- Origins of the Arab League, foundations of its world role and importance
- The impulse to Arab unity in history; formative events and conferences in the early 20th century
- Birth of the Arab League: proposals for Arab unity 1941-1943
- Birth of the Arab League: Arab leaders talk in Alexandria, 1943-44
- Inauguration of the Arab League, 1944-46
- Arab League views of British and French roles in the Middle East
- The Arab League boycott of Jewish firms and products
- Arab League policy on Palestine
- Organisation, leadership and criticism of the Arab League
- Collective security and the Arab League Treaty of Joint Defence
- Reports of Arab League Council sessions
- Internal relations between member states
- Texts of inter-Arab treaties and agreements
- Foreign relations with Western powers

Documentary Importance

Thanks to extensive research the editor has been able to assemble a comprehensive collection of documents from the records of the Foreign Office and the Colonial Office at the Public Record Office, London. Here now in facsimile are the authentic period documents, most in English or translated into English, some in Arabic or French, recording the origins, the creation, the aims and the development of the Arab League. The collection includes two different types of papers, most significantly records generated by Arab League officials, in the form of communiqués, agendas and minutes of meetings, resolutions, correspondence, reports and treaties. The second category covers internal British government reports and briefings from British Ambassadors and political officers in the field.

In the absence of a substantial historical collection of Arabic archives this publication becomes the most important and useful research source for background reference on the key formative years of the Arab League.

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