



Eighteenth Century Collections Online

A Middle East resource

Held in over 1,000 institutions across the world, *Eighteenth Century Collections Online* (ECCO) is now recognised by researchers and students worldwide as the essential research and teaching tool for 18th century studies. Based upon the English Short Title Catalogue, ECCO Parts I and II offer students and researchers access to the most comprehensive online library of book titles printed in the United Kingdom in the 18th century. The collection contains every significant English-language and foreign-language title printed in the United Kingdom between the years 1701 and 1800 — 182,000 titles comprising more than 32 million pages.

Discovering the Middle East in the 18th century:

ECCO is an essential resource for the history of the Middle East and North Africa during the 18th century, offering researchers and students deep insights into the interaction between Europe and the Arab Islamic world during this period. The archive covers such key areas such as Islamic religious, philosophical, legal, political thought and literature and includes translations of important Arabic works. Researchers can examine the culture and society of the Middle East as seen through the eyes of Arab scholars as well as those of Western travellers, diplomats, writers and philosophers.

Research across many disciplines:

ECCO has been organised into subject areas which meet the needs of many different departments within your institution — from history and literature to economics and science. Each module contains within it thousands of books related to a particular discipline — for example, your users can search across over 14,000 books in the Medicine, Science and Technology module to uncover numerous 18th century scientific inventions, discoveries and experiments that shaped the course of science and the Industrial Revolution. Each of these subject areas in Parts I and II combined offer an abundance of material that relate directly to the study of the Middle East and its relationship with Europe and the rest of the world including:

History and Geography (13,000 + titles)

eg. *The chevalier D'Arvieux's travels in Arabia the desert*, 1718

Social Sciences and Fine Arts (46,000+ titles)

eg. *[An] account of the monies, weights, and measures in general use in Persia, Arabia, East India, and China*, 1789

Medicine, Science and Technology (14,000+ titles)

eg. *Astronomical and geographical essays*, 1799, by George Adams

Literature and Language (43,000+ titles)

eg. *Abdeker: or, the art of preserving beauty. Translated from an Arabic manuscript*, 1754

Religion and Philosophy (48,000+ titles)

eg. *Sentences of Ali son-in-law of Mahomet, and his fourth successor. Translated from an authentick Arabick manuscript in the Bodleian Library at Oxford*, 1717

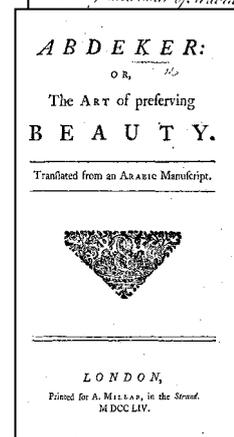
Law (12,000+ titles)

eg. *Remarks of a Persian traveller on the principal courts of Europe*, 1736

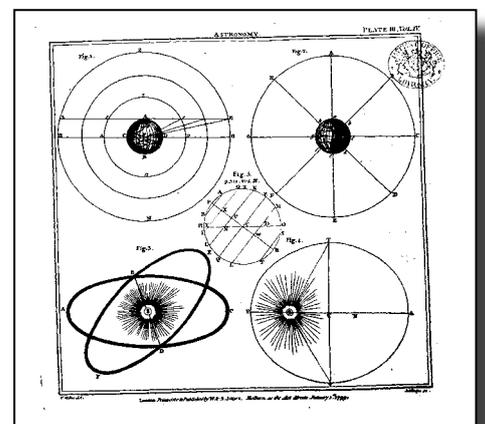
General Reference (4,500+ titles)

eg. *Egypt delivered; or, the Conqueror Conquered Being a Full Account Of the whole Proceedings and Death of Buonaparte with Most of his Officers and his Whole Army*, 1799

Portrait of the grand Emir of Arabia in ye Desert
The chevalier D'Arvieux's travels in Arabia the desert, 1718



Abdeker: or, the art of preserving beauty. Translated from an Arabic manuscript, 1754



Astronomical and geographical essays, 1799, by George Adams



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East meets West:

Since the rise of Islam in the 7th century there has been a constant exchange of thought and ideas between Europe and the Arab-Islamic world: the influence of Islamic art and architecture; the impact of the Spanish Islamic philosophers; and the financial instruments of long-distance trade. *ECCO* enables researchers to explore this ongoing interaction into the 18th century as it developed into the Ottomans adopting new European military and the Europeans developing a fascination with the “oriental” in the arts and crafts.

ECCO also reflects the new levels of understanding Western writers were developing about the geography and history of the Middle East. For instance, researchers can explore the works of Enlightenment thinkers who regarded aspects of the Middle East to be superior to the Christian West eg. in Montesquieu's *Lettres Persanes* or the works of Edward Gibbon who praised the relative religious tolerance of the Middle East as opposed to the intolerance of the Christian West.

The rise and fall of Empires:

ECCO traces the shift in the power relationship between the great empires of the East —the Ottomans, Safavids and Mughals — and Europe, as Europe developed the superior political, military and economic strength to erode the power bases of these empires. Researchers can read numerous accounts of the declining fortunes of the Ottomans, Safavids and Mughals as they struggled to retain control of the Muslim world from the Atlantic coast of north Africa through to India. For the Ottomans, the main European threat came from Russia and *ECCO* chronicles the hostilities between the Turkish Sultans and the expansionist impulses of the Russian Tsars; in particular, the wars with Russia that occurred in the middle and late 18th century that proved devastating for the Ottomans and saw Russia claim control of the Crimea.

Modernity and the Middle East:

ECCO ends where the westernisation of the Middle East begins. Researchers can read Napoleon Bonaparte's account of his expedition into the Ottoman province of Egypt and his army's occupation of the country from 1798. Although the occupation lasted only three years, it exposed the people of Egypt to the ideas of the Enlightenment and the new technology of Europe, changing the course of the Middle East's relationship with Europe for centuries to come.

Topics covered:

- External threats from European powers
- History of science, technology and medicine in the West
- Islamic theology and philosophy and history (Ottomans, Safavids and Mughal empires)
- Intellectual and technological exchanges between the Middle East and Europe
- European travels to the East and Muslim travels to Europe

Quick facts for *ECCO* Parts I and II:

- More than 32 million pages
- More than 182,000 titles
- More than 200,000 volumes

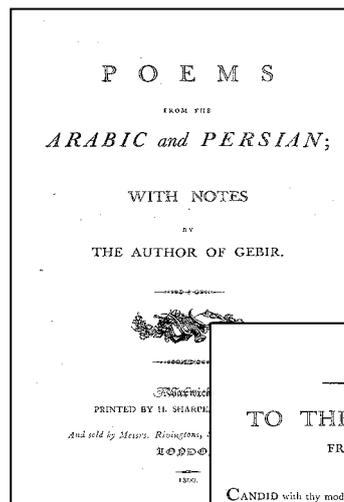
ECCO/*EEBO* cross-searchability

Institutions with access to both *ECCO* and *Early English Books Online (EEBO)* from ProQuest are able to cross-search both collections. Users can extend their searches across centuries' of publications from the first book published in English through to the folios of Shakespeare and the classics of Defoe.

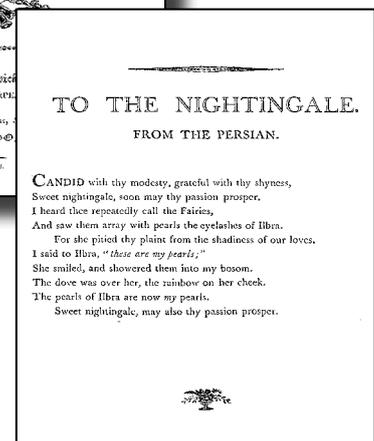
Retrieving regionally relevant content:

A keyword search across the archive yields thousands of documents:

- 'Africa*' = 2,694 results
- 'Persia*' = 2,457 results
- 'Arab*' = 2,392 results
- 'Egypt' = 2,165 results
- 'Oriental*' = 958 results
- 'Ottoman' = 281 results



Poems from the Arabic and Persian, 1800,
by Walter Savage Landor



CANDID with thy modesty, grateful with thy shyness,
Sweet nightingale, soon may thy passion prosper,
I heard thee repeatedly call the Fairies,
And saw them array with pearls the eyelashes of Ibra.
For the pilot thy plaint from the shades of our loves,
I said to Ibra, "these are my pearls."
She smiled, and showered them into my bosom.
The dove was over her, the rainbow on her cheek.
The pearls of Ibra are now my pearls.
Sweet nightingale, may also thy passion prosper.