



Archives and Special Collections Department,  
American University of Beirut  
Beirut, Lebanon  
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## **Philip Khoury Hitti Collection, 1910-1976**

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the University Libraries, AUB  
Prepared by Samar Mikati

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## Descriptive Summary

**Call No.:** AA:6.2.8.1

**Library Catalog ID:** [b14621149](#)

**Record Creator:** Hitti, Philip Khuri, 1886-1978.

**Collection Title:** Philip Khoury Hitti Collection, 1910-1976.

**Collection Dates:** 1910-1976

**Physical Description:** 1 linear foot, (3 document boxes)

**Abstract:** Historian; scholar of Islam; member of the AUB Board of Trustees: 1945- 1978; taught at AUB, Columbia and Princeton Universities. The Philip Khoury Hitti collection contains personal papers, addresses, articles, correspondence, interviews, honoring and memorial ceremonies, in addition to material related to his work on Arabic manuscripts, and some Foreign Reports: Bulletin, evaluation, and interview.

**Language(s):** English and Arabic

## Administrative Information

**Source:** The collection was donated by Dr. Hitti to President Samuel Kirkwood in 1969.

**Access Restrictions:** The collection can be used within the premises of the Archives and Special Collections Department, Jafet Memorial Library, American University of Beirut.

**Photocopying Restriction:** No photocopying restriction except for fragile material.

**Preferred Citation:** Philip Khoury Hitti Collection, 1910-1976, AA:6.2.8, Box no., File no., American University of Beirut/Library Archives.

## Scope and Content

The collection includes Philip Khoury Hitti's biographical information, addresses, correspondence, invitation cards, honoring, and memorial ceremonies; in addition to a bibliography of his work, and research material used by the historian.

## Arrangement

The Collection is arranged in three series:

**Series I:** Biography, addresses, correspondence, articles, honoring, interviews etc...

**Series II:** Bibliography of his work.

**Series III:** Secondary Resources

## Biographical Sketch

Born in 1886, Philip Khoury Hitti got his B.A. from the American University of Beirut in 1908. He taught at AUB before moving to Columbia University where he taught Semitic languages and completed his Ph.D. in 1915. The same year, he returned to the American University of Beirut and taught there until 1926 when he was offered a chair at Princeton University.

At Princeton, Hitti occupied the post of Professor of Semitic Literature and Chairman of the Department of Oriental Languages, and was instrumental in developing a pioneer academic

program in Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies until he retired in 1954. After retiring, Hitti accepted a position at Harvard. He also taught in the summer schools at several U.S. universities and served as an advisor to the Arab delegation at the San Francisco Conference, 1945, which established the United Nations. He was honored by Princeton University with the LITT.D. in 1966 and by the Lebanese Government with La Medaille D'honneur du Merite Libanais en Vermeil, Officier de L'Order du Cedre in 1946, and by the Order of Merit, First Degree, from the Syrian Government in 1953. Dr. Hitti died in 1978.

## **Subject Headings**

Hitti, Philip Khuri, 1886-1978.  
American University of Beirut -- Faculty.  
Historians -- Biography.  
American University of Beirut. Board of Trustees.  
Historians, Arab.  
History -- Study and teaching.  
History -- Study and teaching (Higher).  
Malik, Charles Habib, 1906-1987.  
Busts.  
Memorial rites and ceremonies.  
Manuscripts, Arabic.

## **Container List**

### **Series I: Biography, addresses, correspondence, articles, honoring, interviews etc.**

#### **Box 1:**

- File 1:** Biography.
- File 2:** Addresses: Commencement address at AUB, 1946;  
Current Trends in Islam, 1951;  
Honoring Charles Malek, 20 Nov. 1945;  
Farwell Banquet to Beautitude Patriach Bulus Maouchi , N.Y, USA, 7 Oct. 1962;  
Address at Lion's Club, Aley, Lebanon, 22 Aug. 1969.
- File 3:** Articles by him, 1910-1970.
- File 4:** Correspondence, 1930-1970.
- File 5:** Honoring of Dr. Hitti, 1934-1967.
- File 6:** Invitation cards to various functions, 1929, 1963,1965, 1966, 1979.
- File 7:** Interviews, 1960, 1971-1972.
- File 8:** Memorial ceremony, memorial hall and bust, 1979, 2006.
- File 9:** Visits to Beirut and Brazil.

## Series II: Bibliography of his work

### Box 2:

**File 1:** Bibliography of his works, 1916-1932.

**File 2:** His work on Arabic Manuscripts.

**File 3:** Foreign Reports: Bulletin, evaluation, and interview, 15 June - 25 July 1960.

**File 4:** Notes.

**File 5:** Press Clippings (Arabic), 1919-1976.

**File 6:** Press clippings (English), 1945-197.

**File 7-8:** Reprints of articles by him, 1944-1959.

## Series III: Secondary Resources

### Box 3:

**File 1:** Drafts of articles written at Princeton University

**File 2:** Secondary Resources

- Proceedings (Extract from volume 1, 1951).
- The 'Anazah Tribes.
- The Lords of Bethsan in the Kingdom of Jerusalem and Cyprus.
- Three Questions Concerning the Assises de Jerusalem.
- The Use of History by Modern Arab Writers.
- The Rise and Decline of Frankish Seignury in Syria in the Time of the Crusades.
- La Syrie et sa Mission Historique.
- Is the Qur'an Translatable?

**File 3:** Secondary Resources

- The kalam Arguments for Creation in Saadia, Averroes, Maimonides and St. Thomas.
- The Eastern-Orthodox Church.
- Syrie 1938.
- A new Arabic Geographical Manuscript.
- The Historical Work of Niqula El-Turk, 1763-1828.
- Third Preface to Volume XXXIII.
- A Diatribe of Galen.
- The Origin and Historical Significance of the Present Day Arabic Proverbs.
- Les aventures d'un Prisonnier Arabe et d'un Practice Byzantin à l'époque des guerres Bulgaro-Byzantines.

## Related Material at AUB

### Books

- Garrett, Robert; Faris, N.A. (1938). *Descriptive catalog of the Garrett collection of Arabic manuscripts in the Princeton University library*. Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press. [CA:R 091.016:S585s:no.22B:c.1](#)
- Hitti, P.K. (1916-1924). *The origins of the Islamic state being a translation from the Arabic, accompanied with annotations, geographic and historic notes of the Kitab futuh al-buldan of al- mam bu-l Abbas Ahmad ibn-Jabir al-Baladhuri*. New York: Columbia University Press. [J 953:B171:v.1-2:c.1](#)
- Hitti, P. K. (1921). *Educational guide for Syrian students in the U.S*. New York: Sheffield Academic Press. [CA 371.98:H67e:c.1](#)
- Hitti, P.K. (1924). *The Syrians in America*. New York: G.H. Doran. [J 325.256:H67s:c.1](#)
- Hitti, P.K. (1932). *Kufic inscriptions*. Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press. [CA:LF 417:H67k:c.1](#)
- Hitti, P.K. (1937). *History of the Arabs*. London: Macmillan. [CA 953:H67h:c.1](#)
- Hitti, P.K. (1943). *The Arabs: a short history*. Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press. [J953:H67a:c.1](#)
- Hitti, P.K., Levi della Vida, G., Obermann, J. [et. al.] (1944). *The Arab heritage*. Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press. [CA 953:A658a:c.1](#)
- Hitti, P.K. (1950). *Precis d'histoire des Arabes*. Paris: Payot et cie. [J 953:H67aF:c.1](#)
- Hitti, P.K. (1951). *History of Syria including Lebanon and Palestine*. New York: Macmillan. [CA 956.9:H67h:c.1](#)
- Hitti, P.K. (1957). *Lebanon in history from the earliest times to the present*. London: Macmillan. [CA 956.9:H67L:c.1](#)
- Hitti, P.K. (1959). *Syria, a short history being a condensation of the authors "History of Syria, including Lebanon and Palestine."* New York: Macmillan. [CA 956.9:H676s:c.1](#)
- Hitti, P.K. (1961). *The Near East in history a 5000 year story*. Princeton, N.J.: Van Nostrand. [CA 956:H676n:c.1](#)
- Hitti, P.K. (1962). *Islam and the West a historical cultural survey*. Princeton, N.J.: Van Nostrand [J 297:H676i:c.1](#)
- Hitti, P.K. (1962). *Lebanon in history from the earliest times to the present*. London: Macmillan & Co., Ltd. [CA 956.9:H67L2:c.1](#)
- Hitti, P.K; (1964). *History of the Arabs*. London: Macmillan. [CA 953:H67h8:c.1](#)
- Hitti, P.K. (1966). *The origins of the Druze people and religion with extracts from their sacred writings*. New York: AMS Press. [CA 297.85:H67or:c.1](#)
- Hitti, P.K. (1967). *Lebanon in history from the earliest times to the present*. London: Macmillan. [J 956.9:H67L3:c.1](#)
- Hitti, P.K. (1968). *History of the Arabs from the earliest times to the present*. London: Macmillan. [CA 953:H67h10a:c.1](#)
- Hitti, P.K. (1970). *Islam, a way of life*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press. [J 910.03:H676i:c.1](#)

- Hitti, P.K. (1973). *Capital cities of Arab Islam*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press. [J 910.031:H676c:c.2](#)
- Malik, C. H. (1955). *Swift seasons roll : a tribute to Philip K. Hitti*. New York: American Friends of the Middle East. [CA 928.927:H676a:c.1](#)
- Usamah ibn Munqidh; Hitti, P.K. (1987). *An Arab-Syrian gentleman and warrior in the period of the Crusades memoirs of Usamah Ibn-Munqidh*. Princeton: Princeton University Press. [J 956.9102:U843i:1987:c.1](#)  
[J 953:H67h10A](#) حتي، فيليب خوري. (٢٠٠٠). تاريخ العرب. بيروت: دار الكشاف.

## Serials

- See also AUB Bulletin, v. 22, no. 7, February 26, 1979, p. 1-2
- See also Al-Kulliyah, v. 2, December 1910, p:35-42;
  - v. 4, November 1912, p:15-16;
  - v. 7, May 1921, p.101-106;
  - v. 8, November 1921, p.4;
  - v. 9, October 1922, p.4-8; April 1923, p.93-94; May 1923, p.109-111;
  - v. 11, July 1925, p.161-162, p.162;
  - v. 13, November 1926, p.24;
  - v. 16, March 1930, p.123;
  - v. 21 November 1934 , p.16-17; December 1934, p.52-53;
  - v. 21 May 1935, p.148; July 1935, p.215-218;
  - v.31 June 1956, p. 3-8;
  - v.34-35, Summer 1959, p.3;
  - v.33, Nov.& Dec. p.24,45; Summer 1969, p.32-33; Autumn 1970, p:31, 39;
  - v. 45, Summer Spring 1970, p:2, 12
- Directory of alumni, 1870-1952 / American University of Beirut, Alumni Association CARAU 378.5692:A512w:1870-1952:c.1 p:68

## Archival Material

- Genevieve Maxwell Collection AA:6.2.12
- Bayard Dodge Collection, 1895-1972 [AA:2.3.4](#)
- Personnel Department, 1924- 2005 AA:2.5.0.3
- Students Awards AA:1.9.1.2

## Photographs

- Hiking Party to the Cedars of Lebanon, 1947. [Ph:AUB:1923/09:1:39](#)
- Preparatory School Graduates, 1924. [Ph:AUB:1924\(5\):1:39](#)
- Commencement 1946. [Ph:AUB:1946/06/26:1:43](#)
- Dinner in honor of Philip Hitti by AUB Alumni of North America, 1954. [Ph:AUB:1954/11/20:1-10:46](#)
- Board of Trustees Members departure from New York City to Beirut, 1956. [Ph:AUB:1956/04/12:1:47](#)
- Board of Trustees Members visiting President Camille Chamoun, 1956. [Ph:AUB:1956/06\(1\):1:47](#)

- Portrait of Philip K. Hitti, 1959. [Ph:AUB:1959\(17\):1:48](#)
- Board of Trustees Reception, 1960s. [Ph:AUB:1960s\(78\):1:49](#)
- Board of Trustees members of the American University of Beirut, 1966. [Ph:AUB:1966/06\(1\):1:51](#)
- Board of Trustees members, 1968. [Ph:AUB:1968/06/25:1:52](#)
- Memorial ceremony for Philip Hitti, 1979. [Ph:AUB:1979/02/19:1-2:55](#)
- Commencement, 1969. [Ph:AUB:1969/06/23:1-8:52](#)
- Board of Trustees members, 1970. [Ph:AUB:1970/06/23-25:1-4:52](#)
- AUB Alumni Association 50th Anniversary, 1975. [Ph:AUB:1975/04\(4\):1:54](#)

## Book Reviews

- Syria [Book review] a short history. الأبحاث . v.12 (1959). v.12, pt.1 (آذار 1959) p:133
- Lebanon in history [Book review]. – زيادة نقولا عبود، ١٩٠٧-٢
- History of the Arabs [Book review]. 1919، عبد العزيز، الدوري
- History of Syria, including Lebanon and Palestine [Book review]
- The World of Islam [Book review] – زيادة، نقولا عبود، ١٩٠٧-٢٠٠٦ عالم الإسلام

## Digital Resources

- [Philip Khuri Hitti Papers at University of Minnesota](#)
- [World Aramco: A Talk With Philip Hitti by John R. Starkey](#)
- [Philip Hitti Prize at the American University of Beirut. Given annually to outstanding students of the Senior class in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences](#)
- [Philip Hitti and Enjoyable Orientalism](#)
- [Descriptive Catalog of the Garrett Collection of Arabic Manuscripts in the Princeton Library by Philip Hitti, Nabih Amin Fares and Butrus Abd-al- Malik](#)