

Vol. XII, Parts 3 and 4.

BULLETIN
OF THE
SCHOOL OF ORIENTAL AND
AFRICAN STUDIES,
UNIVERSITY OF LONDON



Oriental and African Studies

presented

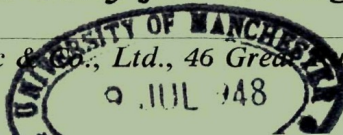
to

Lionel David Barnett

The School of Oriental and African Studies
1948

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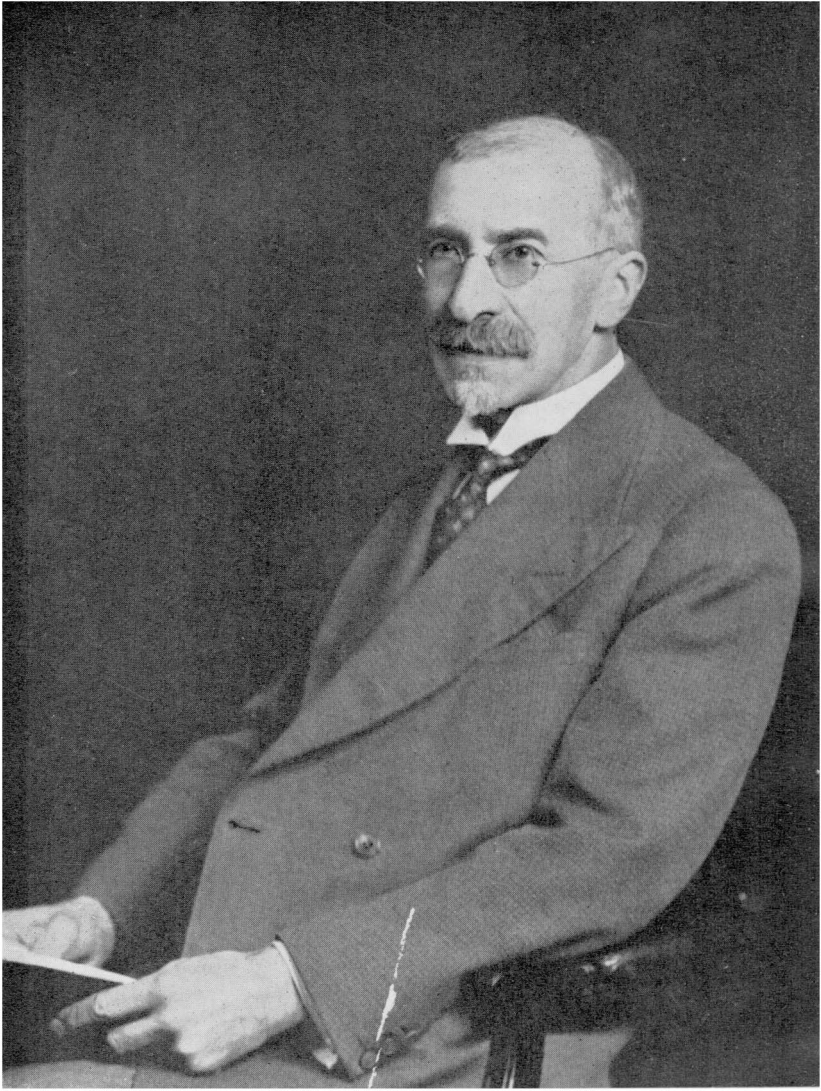
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Published by
THE SCHOOL OF ORIENTAL AND AFRICAN STUDIES

Agents: Messrs. LUZAC & Co., LTD., 46 Great Russell Street, W.C.1.



H. D. Barnett

BSOAS. XII, 3 and 4.]

[Frontispiece.

Oriental and African Studies

presented

to

Lionel David Barnett

by

his colleagues, past and present

*“C’est, à la vérité, une bien bonne
et profitable coutume de trouver
moyen de recognoistre la valeur des
hommes rares et excellens.”*

DEAR BARNETT,

The dedication to you of this number of the Bulletin (of which from 1940 to 1947 you have been the Editor) is a tribute by your colleagues in the School of Oriental and African Studies, and the British Museum, as also on behalf of your former colleagues at University College, London, to a long career of eminence in many fields of Oriental Learning. It is nearly forty years ago that one of our number consulting a Brahman Pandit on a question of Hindu theogony was referred to "Barnett" as an authority whom all would recognize and whom it was superfluous further to describe.

But this is more than a tribute to great learning; it is an expression of personal affection inspired by the modesty with which that learning has been borne and the never-failing helpfulness not only to other scholars but to the public at large in which it has found expression. The great series of catalogues of the Oriental Books and Manuscripts at the British Museum prepared by you or under your guidance and inspiration have placed in your debt unnumbered students who would have been helpless without them. The volumes which you have written for the cultured lay public have demonstrated once again that it is often the greatest masters of learning who are the simplest and easiest for the beginner to understand; while in your larger works you have shown yourself a pioneer in innumerable languages and many scripts. Nor is it only in the field of language study that your work is of enduring value. The sociologist, the historian, and the student of legal origins, in Aryan, Dravidian, Sinhalese, and Tibeto-Burman studies will continue for years to come to profit by your labours in these fields, and there is hardly a branch of Oriental learning which you have not touched upon and in touching illuminated.

To speak of all your work in detail would carry us far beyond the limits permissible in a dedication. But a tabular statement of your life and work is appended for perpetuation of testimony.

With all best wishes for many more years of happy and beneficent scholarship, we are, on behalf of all your colleagues,

Your devoted friends.

*“ Πολλάκι που μνήσεσθε μαθήματα πάντοσ’ ἔϊσα
τάμα, καὶ ὡς σοφὸς ἦν, ὡς τε φίλοισι φίλος.”
εἰ τὰ τοιαῦτ’ αὐδῶν ἀπέβη Βάρνεττος ἑταίροις,
πάντες ἂν “ ὡς μέτριος κόμπος ” ἐπηγέσαμεν.*

†J. A. S.

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Born Liverpool, 21 October 1871; educated Liverpool Institute and University College, Liverpool; admitted Sizar at Trinity College, Cambridge, 7 October 1892; Scholar of Trinity, 1893; Sir William Browne's Medallist, (Greek ode) 1893, 1894, 1896, (Greek epigram) 1893; Class I, Division 1, Classical Tripos, Part I, 1894; Craven Scholar, 1894; Class I (with special distinction in Language), Classical Tripos, Part II, 1896 (Chancellor's Medallist); B.A., 1896; Craven Student, 1897; M.A., 1899; Assistant Keeper, Dept. of Oriental Printed Books and MSS., British Museum, 1899-1908; Litt.D. (Vict.), 1900; Professor of Sanskrit, University College, London, 1906-17; Keeper of the Dept. of Oriental Printed Books and MSS., British Museum, 1908-36; Lecturer in Sanskrit, School of Oriental Studies, 1917-48; Lecturer in Ancient Indian History and Epigraphy, School of Oriental Studies, 1922-48; Vice-President, Royal Asiatic Society, since 1934; Fellow of the British Academy, 1936; Companion of the Bath, 1937; Honorary Librarian, Royal Asiatic Society, since 1939; Librarian, School of Oriental and African Studies, 1940-47.