

Kosugi **Yasushi**, Yūsuf Ḥusain **Ībiš**, Yūsuf Quzmā **Ḥūrī** (eds.):
Fihris mağallat al-Manār, 1898–1935—The Index of
Al-Manar. Beirut (Turāt), Tokio (Mašrū^ʿ dirāsāt al-ḥaḍāra
al-islāmīya/The Islamic Area Studies Project) 1998. 418 pp.

It is hardly possible to write the history of Islamic modernism without the journal *al-Manār* that was founded by Muhammad Rašid Riḍā in 1898. Its first 34 volumes cover the period until Rašid Riḍā's death in 1935, a last volume was completed under the supervision of the Muslim Brotherhood in 1940. All volumes contain detailed tables of contents or alphabetical indices, but these are not always easy to handle, especially in the widespread microfiche edition. Most of the users of *al-Manār* in the past therefore will regretfully have missed an index for the entire journal. This shortcoming has now finally been remedied by the book under review compiled by the "Islamic Area Studies Project" that had been established at the University of Tokyo in 1997. The two Arabic co-editors Yūsuf Ībiš and Yūsuf Ḥūrī are experienced scholars in this field, as they previously edited the "Political essays of Muḥammad Rašid Riḍā (*Maqālāt aš-šaiḥ Muḥammad Rašid Riḍā as-siyāsīya*) in five volumes (Beirut 1994).

The index is certainly far from being exhaustive in every regard, but this is hardly to be expected with regard to 35 volumes of 800 and more pages each. And surely every expert will know an article in his special field of interest that he

may not find in this index. Nevertheless, its approximately 12,000 entries are definitely more than a preliminary survey, the more so as even book reviews and biographies are included (s.v. *kutub* and *tarāğim wa-siyar*, respectively). As is always the case with indices like this, some patience and imagination is needed to use it, and sometimes it tends to be a bit confusing, because only some of the keywords are printed in bold type. But once the user has become accustomed to these peculiarities, he will be able to cruise much more easily the enormous ocean of information around the *Manār* that ranges from the *Iḥwān aṣ-Ṣafā'* and the inevitable Ibn Taimiyya to the Vatican's attitude with regard to National Socialism and from agriculture to Shi'ism or the British policy in the Middle East. Three pages are devoted to articles on Muhammad 'Abduh, and a long separate section (pp. 366sqq.) deals with the famous fatwas issued by Rašīd Riḍā.

It is very much to be regretted that the book has not been given an ISBN. Therefore the only way to obtain a copy (free of charge, by the way!) seems to be to order it directly from the editors (Islamic Area Studies, fax: 81-3-5841-2686; e-mail: i-inr@l.u-tokyo.ac.jp). Individuals will be sent a paperback edition, libraries and institutions a hardback copy.

Rainer Brunner, Freiburg i. Br.