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« Recherches sur la tradition arabe du *Roman d'Alexandre* »

English summary :

This thesis deals with the issue of the Arabic translation of the Greek *Alexander Romance* by Pseudo-Callisthenes.

By a philological study of the various Greek recensions (α , β (L, λ), ϵ , γ) as well as numerous Arabic sources (religious, historical, geographical, popular philosophical and fictional) it will be shown how the *Alexander Romance*, as a special example of the *Graeco-Arabic* translation movement, was rendered into Arabic. Apart from the written tradition, either in the form of a translation from the Greek or a paraphrase, the oral tradition based on Surah 18 of the *Quran* plays a central role.

The influence of not just one but several (α , β , ϵ , γ) recensions of the Greek *Alexander Romance* can be traced in various Arabic and Oriental sources. Especially the Byzantine β -recension must have played an important part in the East.

The aim of the dissertation is to give a detailed overview of those chapters of the *Alexander Romance* which have been received in the Orient in order to illustrate how ancient Greek literature made its way into the Islamic world. These chapters show also which elements of the biography of the Macedonian have aroused the interest of not only Islamic but also Christian authors of the Umayyad and especially Abbasid times.

Of special importance are the rhetorical features characteristic of the Greek *Alexander Romance* which have shaped many Islamic letters and speeches.

The present work is meant to be a synthesis of the most important Arabic translations of the Greek *Alexander Romance*.