

CONTENTS

LIST OF PLATES	xi
GLOSSARY	xiii
INTRODUCTION	xv
ABBREVIATIONS	xxvi

BOOK I

I. THE MANDAEANS (OR ŞUBBA) OF IRAQ AND IRAN	1
II. MANDAEAN RELIGIOUS LITERATURE	20
III. RITUAL DRESS AND INSIGNIA	30
IV. LAY LIFE	41
V. MARRIAGE	59
VI. COSMOGONY, ASTROLOGY, AND HOLY-DAYS	73
VII. BAPTISM	100
VIII. THE <i>MANDA</i> OR CULT-HUT	124
IX. THE PRIESTHOOD: CONSECRATION OF THE PRIEST, OR <i>TARMIDA</i>	146
X. THE PRIESTHOOD (<i>cont.</i>): THE HIGH PRIEST OR <i>GAN-</i> <i>ZIBRA</i>	169
XI. DEATH AND RITES FOR THE SOULS OF THE DEAD	178
XII. EATING FOR THE DEAD	204
XIII. THE PARSİ RITUAL MEALS	225
XIV. THE MANDAEAN ALPHABET	240
APPENDIX. THE ' <i>ASUTH MALKA</i> '	245

BOOK II. LEGENDS, MAGIC, AND FOLK-LORE

NOTE	249
I. LEGENDS OF CREATION, THE FLOOD, ETC.	
A. CREATION	251
B. CREATION AND THE FLOOD	251
C. THE CREATION OF MAN	257
D. AND E. THE FLOOD	258
F. THE MANDAEAN NATION	259
G. ANOTHER VERSION OF THE RED SEA STORY	264
II. OF ABRAHAM AND YURBA	265

III. HOW HIBIL ZIWA FETCHED RUHA FROM THE DARK- NESS	269
IV. THE STORY OF QIQEL AND THE DEATH OF YAHYA	273
V. NEBUCHADNEZZAR'S DAUGHTER	282
VI. SUN STORIES	288
VII. THE BRIDGE AT <u>SHUSTER</u>	289
VIII. THE FIRE-WORSHIPPER AND ADAM BUL FARAJ .	292
IX. HOW DANA NUK VISITED THE SEVENTH HEAVEN .	300
X. THE MILLENNIUM	308
XI. CONCERNING THE MOUNTAIN OF THE MADDAI AND HOW THE TURKS CAME TO TAKE IT	309
XII. HOW THE MANDAI AND THEIR <i>GANZIBRA</i> LEFT THE MOUNTAIN FOR A BETTER COUNTRY	319
XIII. THE CHILD CONCEIVED ON THE 29 TH NIGHT OF THE MOON	326
XIV. THE <i>KANSHI UZAHLA</i>	330
XV. THE HAUNTINGS	333
XVI. THE PLAGUE IN <u>SHUSTER</u>	341
XVII. THE STONE-THROWING	345
XVIII. THE KAFTĀR	349
XIX. BIBI'S SONS AND THEIR STRANGE ADVENTURE	350
XX. <u>SHAIKH ZIBID</u>	353
XXI. OF BEHOLDING EVENTS IN TRANCE	358
XXII. HOW EVIL SPIRITS ABUSE THE DEAD, ETC. .	359
XXIII. MEN WHO HAVE RETURNED FROM DEATH, ETC.	363
XXIV. OF THE POWER TO SEE SPIRITS	366
XXV. THE <u>SĪMURGH</u> : THE TRUE HISTORY OF RUSTAM AND HIS SON	369
XXVI. HIRMIZ <u>SHĀH</u>	385
XXVII. THE MAN WHO SOUGHT TO SEE SIN, THE MOON .	389
XXVIII. THE <u>SĪMURGH</u> AND HIRMIZ <u>SHĀH</u>	393
SOME BOOKS MENTIONED OR QUOTED	400
INDEX	405

LIST OF PLATES

Sacraments.	Final blessing	<i>Frontispiece</i>
1.	<i>a.</i> Mandaean of priestly caste. <i>b.</i> Hirmiz bar Anhar in his silver shop in Baghdad	<i>Facing p. 2</i>
2.	<i>a.</i> Priest wearing <i>rasta</i> . <i>b.</i> Old woman wearing <i>rasta</i>	32
3.	<i>a.</i> Looping up the <i>sadra</i> . <i>b.</i> Placing myrtle wreath on head	34
4.	Slaughter of a Chicken. <i>a.</i> The preliminary <i>rahmi</i> . <i>b.</i> Ablution of <i>margna</i> . <i>c.</i> The slaughter of a chicken	48
5.	<i>a.</i> Reed-hut village. <i>b.</i> Şubbi boat-builders pitching a boat	52
6.	Marriage. <i>a.</i> The Wedding Procession. The bride. <i>b.</i> The rites inside the <i>andiruna</i>	64
7.	Marriage. <i>a.</i> Bringing the clothes. <i>b.</i> Bridegroom holding ganzibra's <i>naşifa</i>	66
8.	Marriage. <i>a.</i> The bridegroom eating half the <i>şā</i> . <i>b.</i> Bride and bridegroom after marriage	68
9.	<i>a.</i> Rapidly disappearing Mandaean graves. <i>b.</i> <i>Mandelta</i> built by a priest	80
10.	Baptism. <i>a.</i> <i>Rishama</i> . <i>b.</i> Preliminary prayer in the <i>yardna</i>	102
11.	<i>a.</i> Ritual apparatus. <i>b.</i> Consecration of myrtle wreath	106
12.	<i>a.</i> Consecration of the banner. <i>b.</i> The banner ready for use	108
13.	Baptism. <i>a.</i> The triple submersion. <i>b.</i> Dipping the forehead	110
14.	Baptism. <i>a.</i> Baptism of infant. <i>b.</i> Mixing dough for the <i>pihtha</i>	112
15.	Ceremonial washing of pots	114
16.	Baptism. <i>a.</i> The first <i>kushṭa</i> . <i>b.</i> The blessing in the water	116
17.	Sacraments. <i>a.</i> The signing with sesame. <i>b.</i> Giving the <i>pihtha</i>	118
18.	Sacraments. <i>a.</i> Giving the <i>mambuha</i> . <i>b.</i> The <i>kushṭa</i>	120
19.	<i>a.</i> The <i>Mandi</i> , Litlata. <i>b.</i> The <i>Mandi</i> , Qal'at Salih	124
20.	Reed guest-house, framework showing <i>shebāb</i> and <i>ahtār</i>	126
21.	<i>a.</i> <i>Jemāli</i> type hut. <i>b.</i> <i>Mandi</i> at Litlata	128
22.	Yearly Consecration of Cult-hut. <i>a.</i> The lustration of façade. <i>b.</i> The cleansed <i>mandi</i>	132
23.	Consecration of Cult-hut. <i>a.</i> Sacrifice of the dove. <i>b.</i> Pounding of the dates and sesame	134
24.	Consecration of Cult-hut. <i>a.</i> The slaughter of the sheep. <i>b.</i> In foreground, a priest bakes meat. In background, the ganzibra prays silently before sacrificing the dove	136

25. *a. Zidqa brikha* before baptism of polluted priest. *b. and c.* Triple baptism of polluted priest *Facing p.* 176
26. *a. Lofani* in a private house. *b. Panja.* Sacrifice of sheep for *lofani* 204
27. *a. Lofani:* the breaking of bread. *b.* Slaughter of sheep for *zidqa brikha* 206
28. *a. Zidqa brikha.* Preparations. *b.* Kneading dough for the *fatiri* 208
29. *a.* The *ša.* *b.* The *ahaba d mania* 216

Note. Geographical names are printed without diacritical signs.