**“Al-Kitab” by Sibawaih**

The treatise “Al-Kitab” authored by Sibawaih in the VIII c. is often referred to as the “Qur’an of Arabic Grammar”, and its cornerstone. One of the transmitters of “the Book”, the famous grammarian Al-Mubarrad (825 – 899 yr.) as quoted by A. M. Harun in the “Introduction” prepared for the print of the treatise, characterized this prominent book on Arabic grammar as follows: “There has never been created in no science the book similar to “the Book” by Sibawaih; this is so because all the other books written in any sphere of science (for the purpose of clarification of their contents) need other books, while “the Book” by Sibawaih is an explicit study of its subject (“الكتاب”, 1988, Vol.1, p.5).

During the period of inception and the following maturity of the Arabic Linguistics Tradition (VIII-XV c.) the Treatise by Sibawaih played the role of the unique source of knowledge in all issues of Arabic Grammar and was the most discussed linguistic work with hundreds of commentaries dedicated to it.

It is no less important to the contemporary linguistics.

In 1881 “Al-Kitab” was first published by H. Derenburg with the introduction in French; since then all prints of the treatise (introduction into the scientific discourse new catalogues of “the Book” and commentaries) have been important occasions for the scientific community.

The latest Cairo print of “the Book” in 5 volumes (the third reprint), alighted in 1988, and supervised by the Egyptian philologist A. M. Harun, compared to all previous, is characterized by the use of previously unknown manuscripts, furnishing the text with wide reference apparatus and detailed commentary, making the life of researchers easier.