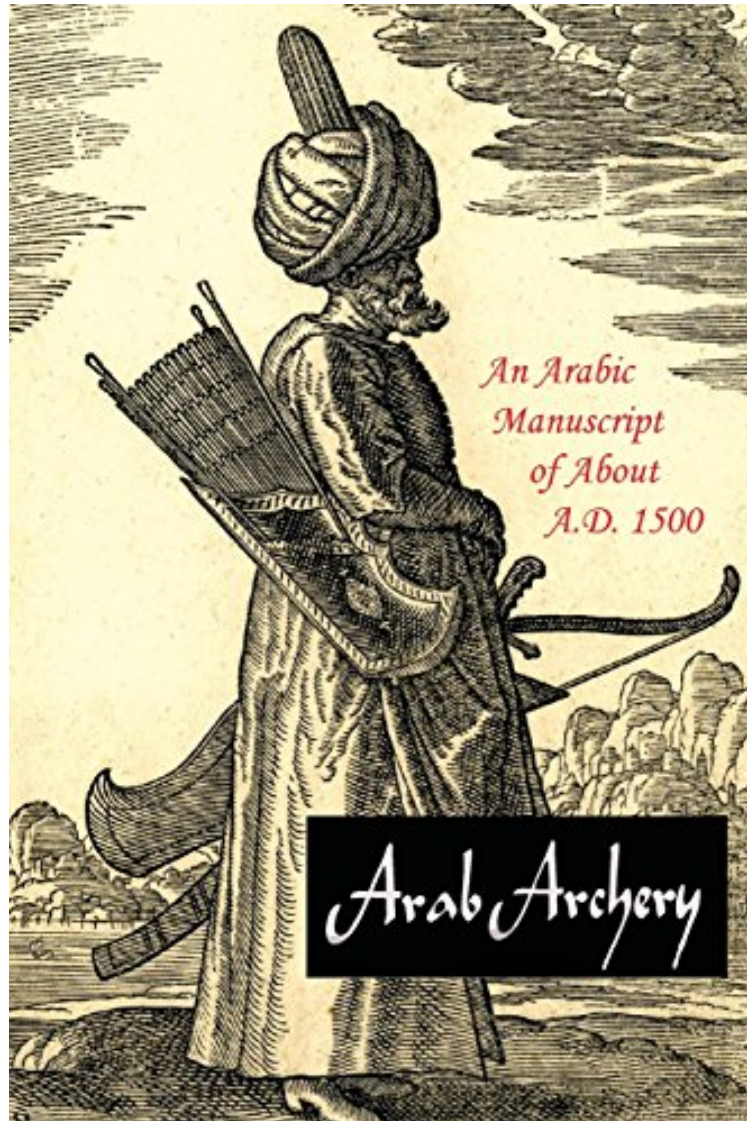


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## Arab Archery: An Arabic Manuscript of About A.D. 1500

*Robert Potter Elmer*

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**Robert Potter Elmer : Arab Archery: An Arabic Manuscript of About A.D. 1500** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Arab Archery: An Arabic Manuscript of About A.D. 1500:

10 of 10 people found the following review helpful. Great content, awful print. Don't buy it, but read my review if you want it for freeBy Koko WawaThe content of the book is definitely interesting. Some of the techniques I didn't even know existed even though I'm exposed to western and Asian styles of archery. Even though I managed to get a copy of

the original Arabic manuscript, and I speak Arabic at native level, still I find the translation great, even easier to understand on few occasions. The photos and diagrams are all great contribution added by the editor and translator as they don't exist in the manuscript. Would have given the book 5-star except for the fact that the physical aspects of the book are depressingly awful. First, it's not printed by a press, but copied by home-quality copier. To make matters worse, the source book they copied from is apparently a used book, so on some pages you find scribbles on the margins! My advice is: it's not worth paying for this book if you're not going to receive a professional quality book. If you are interested in the content, the book is available for free on the internet. Just go to [archerylibrary.com](http://archerylibrary.com) and read it for free. If you prefer it in physical form, print it on your home printer, you'd get the same quality as this book anyway. And to be clear I'm not paid to promote that website, and not affiliated with it in any kind, I just found it on Google.

15 of 15 people found the following review helpful. Excellent Primary Source Book By Ronin

The one real negative, which anyone who owns other Kessinger Publishing books should come to expect, is that the text is a copy from either the original source, or as is the case here, from a translation published in 1940 or 1945 (not sure which). Some of these books have better quality print than others, and I would say this book is overall very good. The worst quality is probably the images you can't really see on p41 showing the Turkish bow siper, and a demonstration of the "63" lock, and again on p97 showing knots, and the image of bows is about 45% visible. The Arabic finger reckoning image and the "6-different draws (locks) are great. The rest of the text is quite clear. Here is an interesting quote: On p26 it says, "The archer can determine the weight of his bow in several ways. One way is to take his bow, brace it, grasp the grip with his left hand, hold the string with the index, middle, and ring finger of his right hand, and then draw the string up to the elbow of the left arm. Next, release the ring finger and continue to draw until the full length of the arrow is drawn. If he can hold the drawn bow without shaking or trembling or straining, this will be the limit of his own draw and the one fit for aiming and shooting. If, on the other hand, at the release of the ring finger, his hand should shake and tremble and be unable to draw the string to the full arrow length, then the bow is a heavier one than he can handle." There are 47 chapters and the table of contents includes: 1) On the Holy War and Service of Archery Therein 2) The Excellence of the Arab Bow 3) Different kinds of Bows 4) Nomenclature 5) On the Master Archers 6) Principles of Loosing 7) Determining Various Factors of the Bow 8) Bracing 9) Curvature 10) Draws Locks 11) Aiming Releasing 12) Injuries Treatment 13) Corrections 14) Causing the Arrow to Move in Flight 15) Wind 16) Strings 17) Arrows, Targets, Accessories There's a lot more but that's the basics. This book is excellent for anyone interested in traditional archery or looking for primary source information on old world archery.

3 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Shiny Cover... Not so stellar inside. By NukeDog

A nicely bound (better quality paperback cover and adhesive binding) piece of crap! This publisher has fully demonstrated that they care nothing of the consumer's interest or needs. Rather, what concerns are carried forth with the manner of content quality is the publisher's singular intent to foist a low level crime upon it's purchasers by emptying their wallet of a few dollards. What good is an instructional manuscript if the images referenced therein are completely uncomprehendable and unuseable as printed (every image is 98% blacked out). DO NOT BUY FROM THIS PUBLISHER! You will be completely disappointed in the product.

2016 Reprint of the 1945 edition. Full facsimile of the original edition, not reproduced with Optical Recognition Software. When it was first published, this was the first work on the subject from the medieval Arab world that had been made available in English. The original manuscript which formed the basis for this translation is contemporary with Ascham's "Toxophilus", which is considered the only source of detailed knowledge of English archery. The Arabic manuscript is thorough and authoritative, evidently the work of an expert bowman. A vast amount of information concerning the long-range artillery, by which one eastern empire after another had been won, is here brought forward into full light after having laid hidden for centuries. It can still serve as a textbook on archery to this day.