

Collection Care Digitisation Form

Object Reference	Arabic 704
Title	Koran

Conservation

Suitable For Photography?	Yes	
Conservation work needed? yes	Details: Discuss and plan a means of support for the binding during photography. Hrs: 3 days (21 hrs) Costs:£	
Dimensions (mm)	Closed	Open (maximum)
	H: 876mm W: 592mm D:184mm	H: W: D:

Condition rating				4	
Sensitivity category		2			
Environmental category		2			

Handling Issues

Weight of volume	yes
Heavy boards	Yes
Loose/Detached Boards	No
Loose/detached pages	No
Assistance recommended	Yes
Ink Fading/Flaking	No

Comments:

Arabic 704 is an extremely large bound manuscript.

The manuscript has a tight back and is sewn on 7 cords, it has a sewn end-band at the head and at the tail; these are made from white and brown thread.

The text block is paper and the text is illuminated. The illumination appears mostly stable although previous damage is evident.

The volume is covered with leather and finished with blind tooling.

The leather covering is worn on the spine, the edges and corners of the boards, and at the hinges.

The volume opens well and the margin between the gutter and the text is wide.

Recommendations:

Photography will take place in the conference room.

Three people will be required to move the manuscript from the Blue storage area. Two people to move the volume and one to open the doors etc.

A flat trolley will be needed, with a robust board larger than the volume. Two people will then need to lift the volume on to a sheet of plastazote placed on top of this board and trolley. The volume can then be transported in the lift to the Conservation Studio.

Due to access restrictions, the book will need to be transported to the conference room on a vertical trolley. A plastazote wedge will be made to support the text block and prevent it dropping. The volume then needs to be wrapped in plastazote to protect it whilst on the trolley. The volume will be supported on a board and strapped to the trolley while it is moved to the conference room, in the lifts, via the sub-basement; this route avoids steps.

The manuscript will be supported during photography using 6 x 706mm angled plastazote foams, 3 to support each board.

Ideally the manuscript should be kept in the conference room while it is digitised, keeping transportation and handling of the volume to a minimum. Prior to and during digitisation the temperature and RH will be monitored in the conference room.

Conservator: E.Sheldon

Date: 09/11/2010