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The Best Divisions for Knowledge of the Regions: Translation of Ahsan Al-Taqasim Fi Ma Rifat Al-Aqalim

By Al-Muqaddasi

Garnet Publishing Ltd, United Kingdom, 2001. Paperback. Book Condition: New. New edition. 239 x 170 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. One thousand years ago al-Muqaddasi, the man from Jerusalem, wrote in Arabic an epic geographical treatise, which is also a great work of literature. This treatise was based on some twenty years of experiences undergone and observations noted in his survey of the realm of Islam, from the Atlantic to the Indian Ocean. Early in the second half of the nineteenth century the German orientalist, Aloys Sprenger, brought to the attention of the West a manuscript of al-Muqaddasi's work. Sprenger's enthusiasm over the content of the manuscript is reflected in his judgement that its author is the greatest geographer of all time; and this view is shared by many scholars. The translation by Basil Anthony Collins published here is the first rendition into a Western language of al-Muqaddasi's treatise. Al-Muqaddasi was born in the year 945 of the Common Era (CE), which corresponds to the year 334 of the Islamic calendar (AH), and he died towards the close of the millennium. Defining the area of his study as that where the presence of the religious...



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