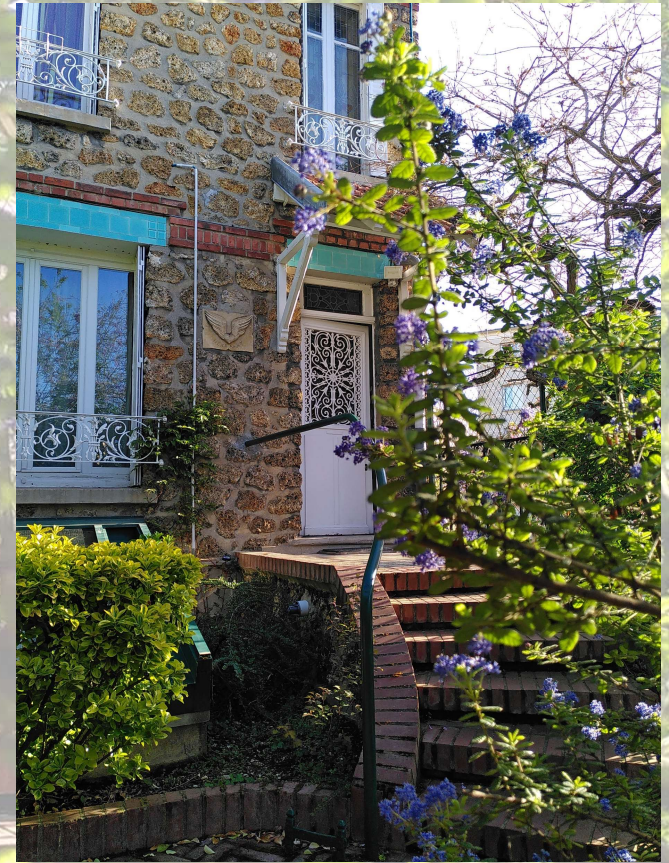


Biographical Department and its Collection

History and digitized future



No. 34 Rue de la Tuilerie

From residence and workspace to Biographical Department before 1995



Front garden Rue de la Tuilerie
34



Front room and study Nekbakht and Inayat Khan



The living quarters of Nekbakht and her successors



Kitchen in Munira's time

Living, first floor

Can you still recognise BD furniture?

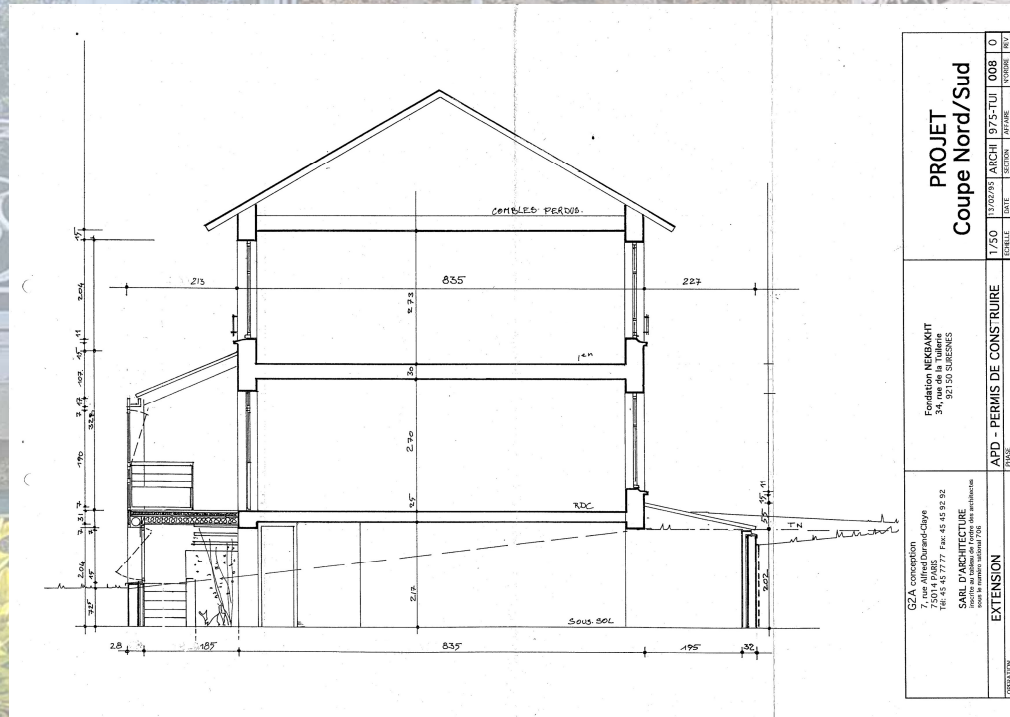
The display case – now in the front room – and the embellished bookcase – now in the Biographical Department



Lack of space for the collection

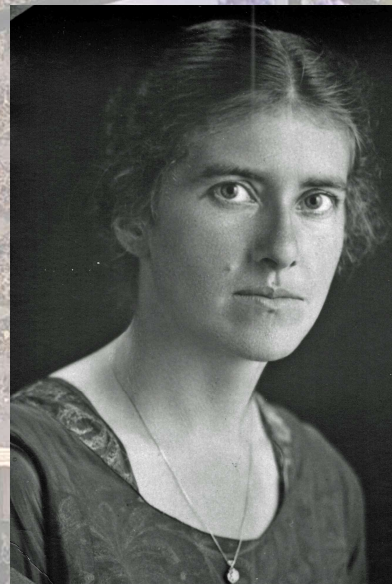
Blueprint for the revamp of the Biographical Department basement in 1995

Temporary storage in 2024



Workers in the Biographical Department

Nekbakht en Kismet finalize Inayat Khan's biography and turn shorthand into longhand



Nekbakht – then known as Sakina Furnée – in a group photograph in 1922

Her niece Kismet Stam – portrait made in 1922

Munira en Elise continue Nekbakht's work
Sharif Graham assists Munira



Munira van Voorst van Beest and Elise Guillaume in 1971
On the desk: card indexes en micro fiches



Munira and Sharif Graham
in the back yard in 1989

Sharif Graham - Anne Louise Wirgman – Hind Wakach



Sharif Graham en Anne Louise Wirgman at Munira's grave in 2012



Hind Wakach –
Information specialist
2024

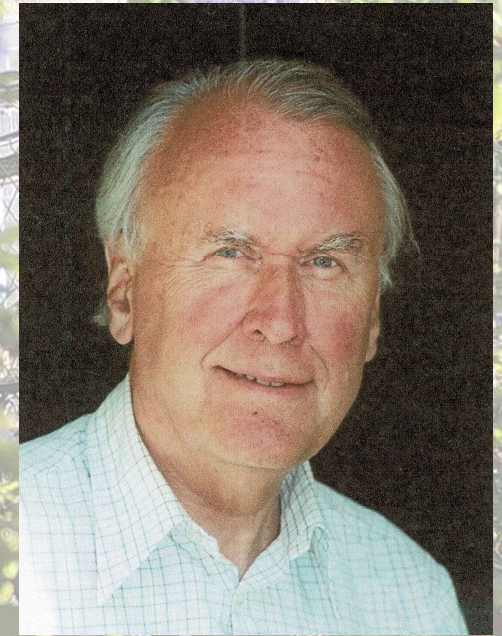
Deciphering shorthand notes and publication



Berthie van der Bent and Shabaz Kiss in 2012
- Working on Nekbakht's shorthand-



Anneke Strijbos
- Responsible for Kismet's
shorthand-



Ameen Carp in 1994
- The publisher-

Plans for the collection

- By end 2023 a new inventory summary of the complete collection of the BD
- Using standard procedures and systems employed by libraries, archives and museums.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P
	Repository	Owner	Categories	Title of archive or subcollection or object or item	Original archivist or collector	(Sufi) persons	Language	Date start	Date end	Abstract	Estimated value for usergroups	Physical Size	Physical Condition	Physical Location	Arrangement (grouping of the collection)
18	347 Nekbakht Fnd	Nekbakht Fnd	11 Other	White papers on Suresnes in Dutch Pts I + V / Instute Soufi + Soufi Anonyme / Sale of land papers (to be sorted and catalogued)								0,1		RdIT 34 / Walk in safe / right / book case / Shelf: 1 / Box: 1	
19	348 Nekbakht Fnd	Egeling Stichting; Inayat Stichting	11 Other	(1) The purchase of Fazal Manzil (2) The settlement of the estate of Inayat Khan (3) The condition of buildings and inventory and the decisions of the local government Fazal Manzil and the other properties after WW-II.	Roehrs ; Inayat Khan, Mary	Family Inayat Khan ; Egeling	French; English	1905 (appr)	1954 (appr)	Original documents about (1) The purchase of Fazal Manzil (2) The estate of Inayat Khan (3) Fazal Manzil and the other properties after WW-II. Given on loan to the Nekbakht Foundation by Zamir Roehrs and Mary Inayat Khan on 20160227 for registration, transcribing and translating for researching the history of the property. - See: "20160516_ALW_DocumentsRelatingFazalManzilPurchase" and "20210325_ALW_History of Fazal Manzil" in 3.64 Digital Archive Board Nekbakht Foundation and "20160229_ALW_LoanAgreement_DocsOrientalRoom" in 3.11.6_Loans-in-out Digital Archive Board Nekbakht Foundation.		0,1		RdIT 34 / Walk in safe / right / book case / Shelf: 2 / Box: 5	
20	349 Nekbakht Fnd	Nekbakht Fnd	02 Information about HIK, family, Mureeds of HIK time	Biography II								0,1		RdIT 34 / Walk in safe / back / 1st bookcase / Shelf: 3 / Box: 2	
21	350 Nekbakht Fnd	Nekbakht Fnd	06 Correspondence	Correspondence between Mureeds in folder								0,02		RdIT 34 / Walk in safe / back / 1st bookcase / Shelf: 3 / Brown folder	
	351 Nekbakht Fnd	Fdd Fazal Manzil ; Harper, David	02 Information about HIK, family, Mureeds of HIK time	Claire and David Harper Archives_LargePressCuttings_GreenFolder. In custody since 20211103.	Harper, David	Inayat-Khan, Khair-un-nissa ; Inayat-Khan, Noor						0,3		RdIT 34 / Walk in safe / right / book case / Shelf: 6 / Box: 1	



Dreams of the future:

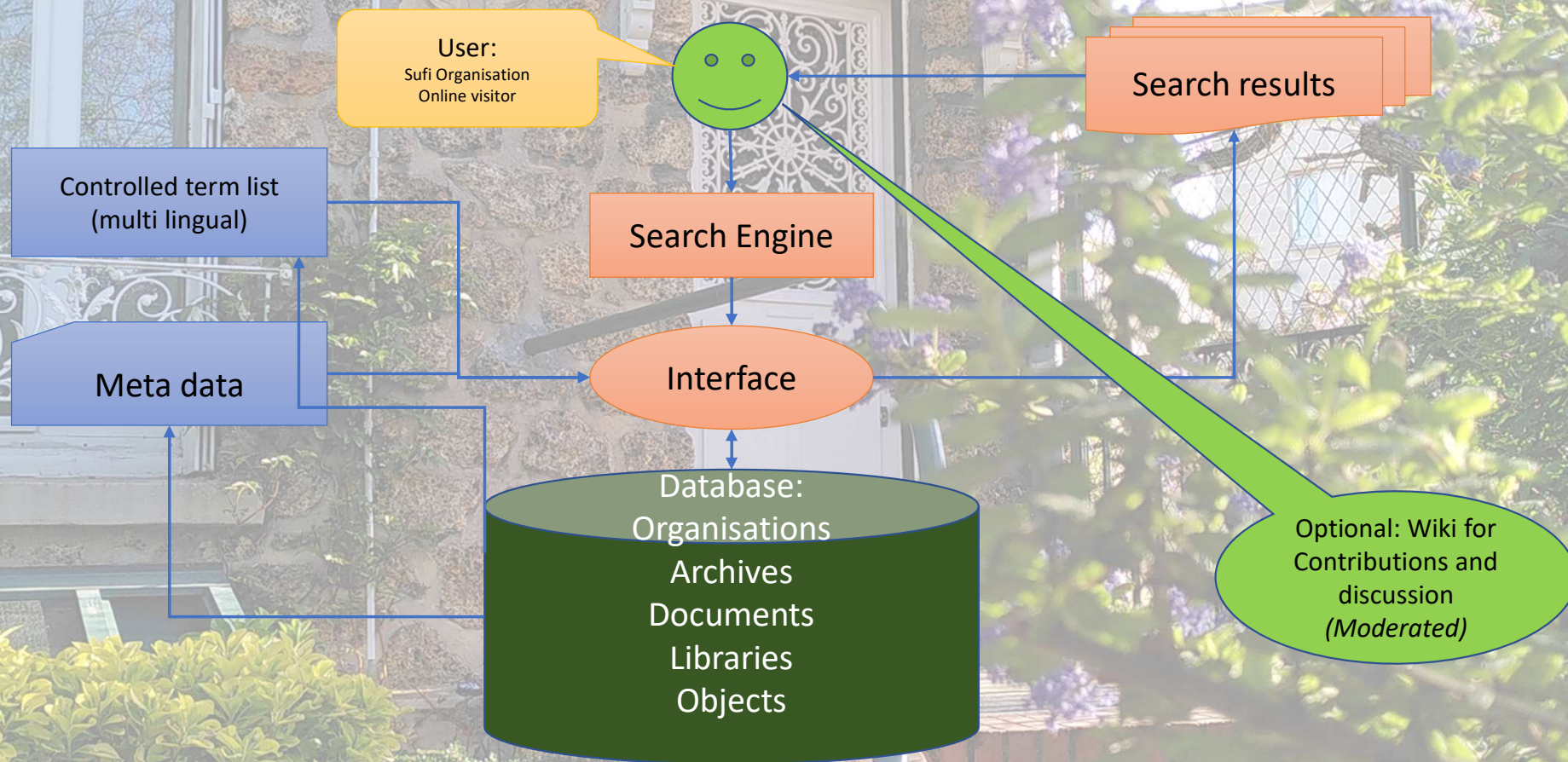
Making the collections accessible via internet together with related organisations and individuals.

The information is currently scattered over various collections of related organisations, and situated in several countries.

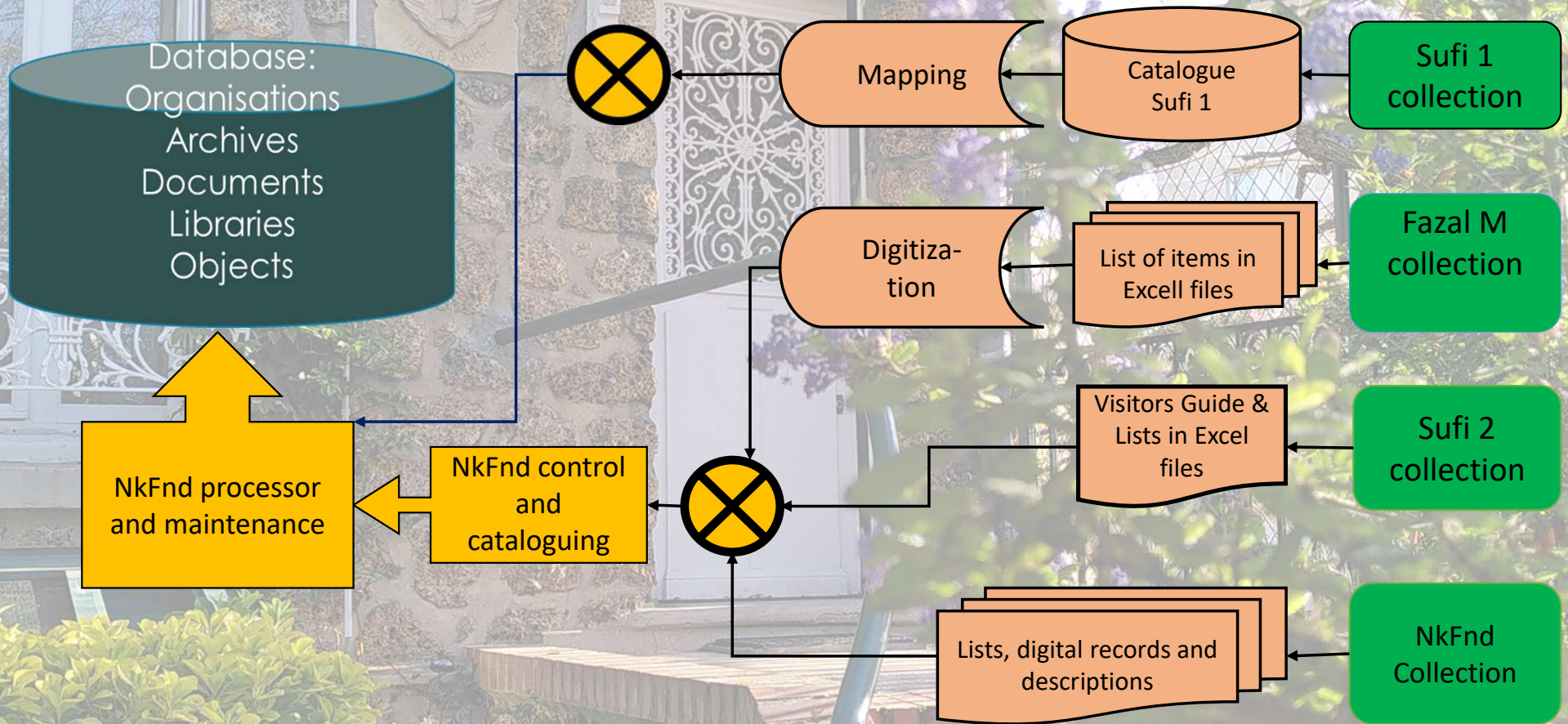
Our knowledge will increase and we can tell new stories as we start to share our information via the internet.

In this way we can also interest a younger generation and enable them to interact.

Sketch of such a system – user perspective



2nd sketch – collection perspective



United we stand:

A very important moment in Emery Down in 1920

Anne Louise found, in november 2023, in the SIFS archive in The Hague, the text that explains a drawing displayed in the Biographical Department:



On Tuesday August 7th 1920 I stayed with Aimée (Miss Dowland) at Woodlands, Emery Down, Hampshire.

Murshid did not talk much in his usual way of teaching as he was much occupied with decisions about the Headquarters of the Movement. On Tuesday we all walked in the Forest and in the most beautiful part we stood still in an absolute silence of nature. Suddenly a small wind rose from just behind us and every tree and shrub bent and rustled and then began to be violently agitated.

Murshid made a slight gesture and spoke one word very low, the word I believe to have been *Allah*, and on the instant there was utter stillness. The wind neither came from a distance nor passed away beyond us; it rose and fell immediately where we stood. When we came in Miss Dowland asked him what the little wind was and he said *It was a very important moment, there are initiations on every plane. Again he said, this place will be historical, important events are happening on the astral plane.*

On the day he was leaving for Town Miss Dowland asked him if this time during which we had been with him had not been an initiation. He replied, *Yes, and a very high initiation.*

Archive and library in the BD



The safe with storage boxes

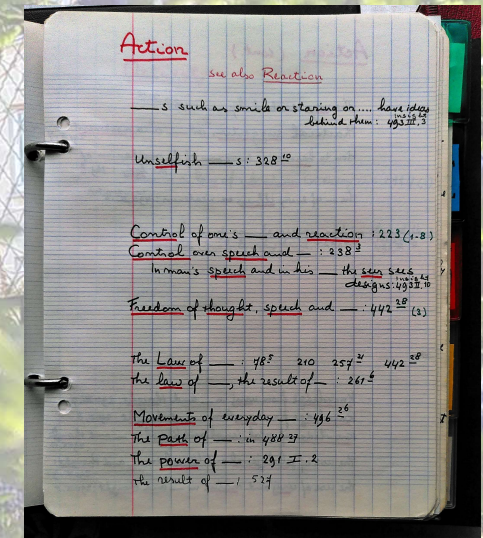
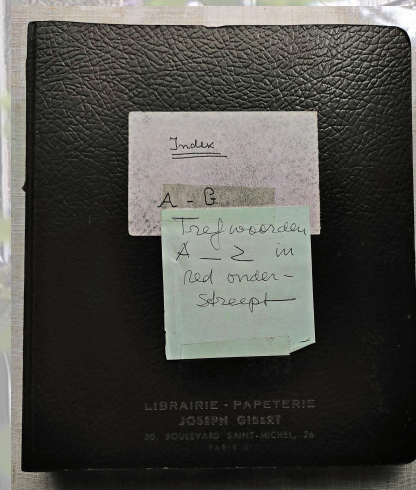
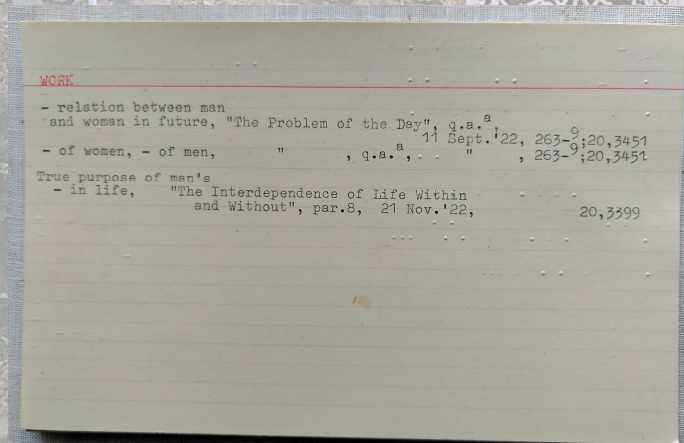


The library



The library- collection of photo's

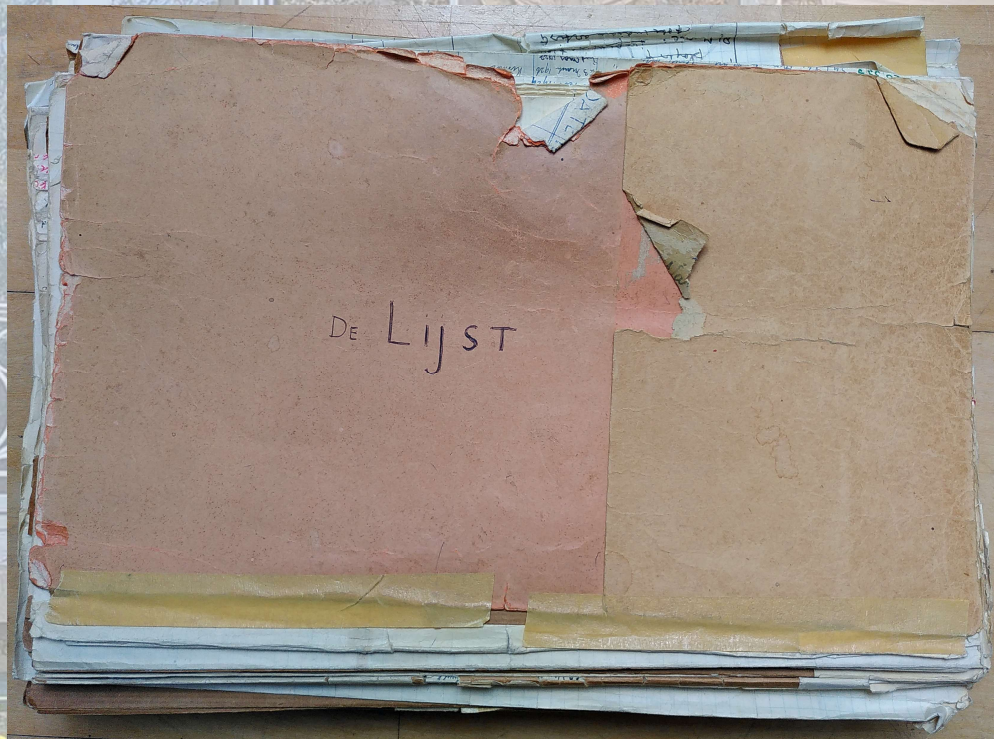
Systems used by Nekbakht and Munira



The boxes and index cards that Munira en Elise worked with

An index with keywords from Munira's time

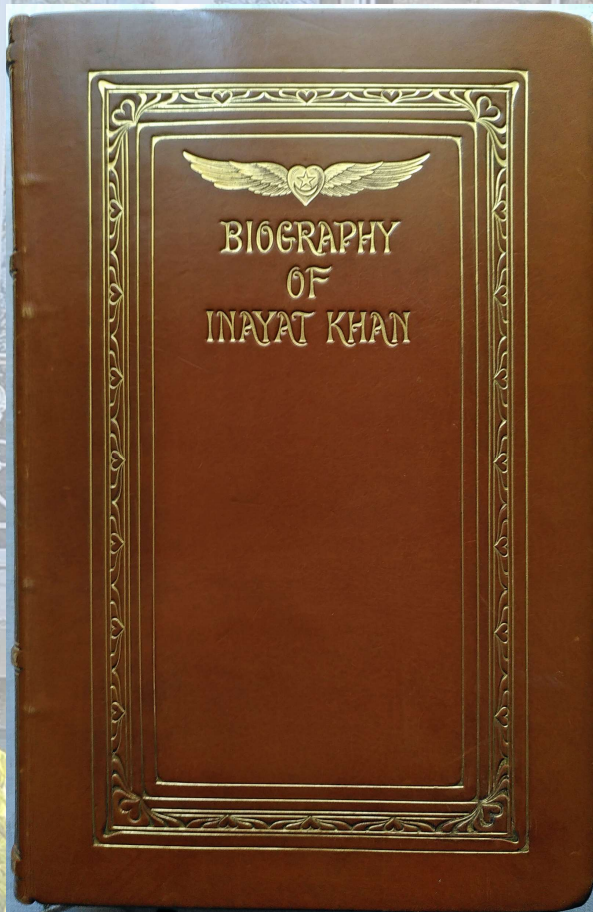
“The List” of Munira



Munira worked for years almost daily to expand this systematic list – an enormous leporello with information

No.	Title	Date	Author	Notes
20.100	100	1922	Sakina	
20.101	101	1922	Sakina	
20.102	102	1922	Sakina	
20.103	103	1922	Sakina	
20.104	104	1922	Sakina	
20.105	105	1922	Sakina	
20.106	106	1922	Sakina	
20.107	107	1922	Sakina	
20.108	108	1922	Sakina	
20.109	109	1922	Sakina	
20.110	110	1922	Sakina	
20.111	111	1922	Sakina	
20.112	112	1922	Sakina	
20.113	113	1922	Sakina	
20.114	114	1922	Sakina	
20.115	115	1922	Sakina	
20.116	116	1922	Sakina	
20.117	117	1922	Sakina	
20.118	118	1922	Sakina	
20.119	119	1922	Sakina	
20.120	120	1922	Sakina	
20.121	121	1922	Sakina	
20.122	122	1922	Sakina	
20.123	123	1922	Sakina	
20.124	124	1922	Sakina	
20.125	125	1922	Sakina	
20.126	126	1922	Sakina	
20.127	127	1922	Sakina	
20.128	128	1922	Sakina	
20.129	129	1922	Sakina	
20.130	130	1922	Sakina	
20.131	131	1922	Sakina	
20.132	132	1922	Sakina	
20.133	133	1922	Sakina	
20.134	134	1922	Sakina	
20.135	135	1922	Sakina	
20.136	136	1922	Sakina	
20.137	137	1922	Sakina	
20.138	138	1922	Sakina	
20.139	139	1922	Sakina	
20.140	140	1922	Sakina	
20.141	141	1922	Sakina	
20.142	142	1922	Sakina	
20.143	143	1922	Sakina	

Rare and precious documents: The Biography calligraphed by Kismet Stam



Palma 7-12 '67

Herewith I declare that the copy of the Biography of Pir-o-Murshid Inayat Khan, which I have hand-written and have had bound in leather ornamented with a design of Sufi-cufflers in gold, is destined to be kept in the Biographical Department of the Sufi Movement

Kismet

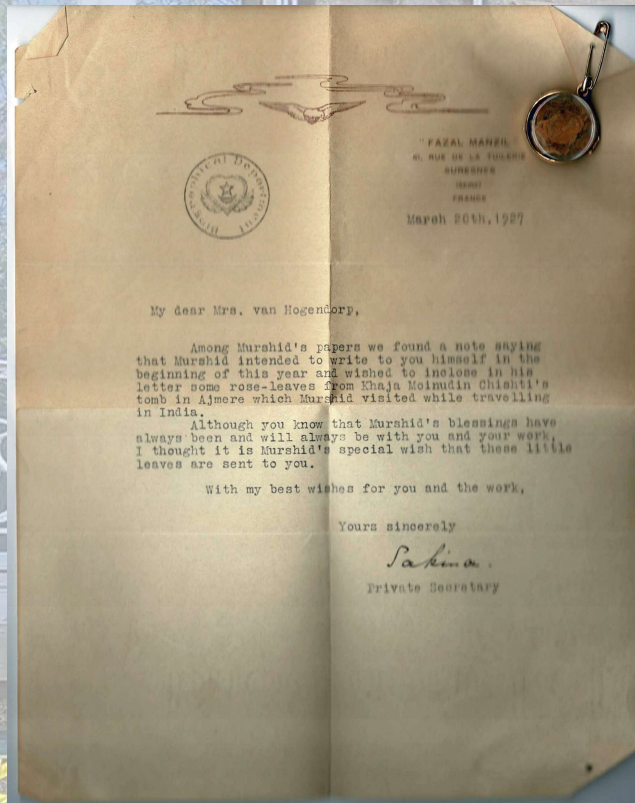
INFANCY

Inayat was born in Baroda, a city in Gujerat Presidency, on Wednesday the 5th of July at 11.35 p.m. in the house of Moula Bakht.

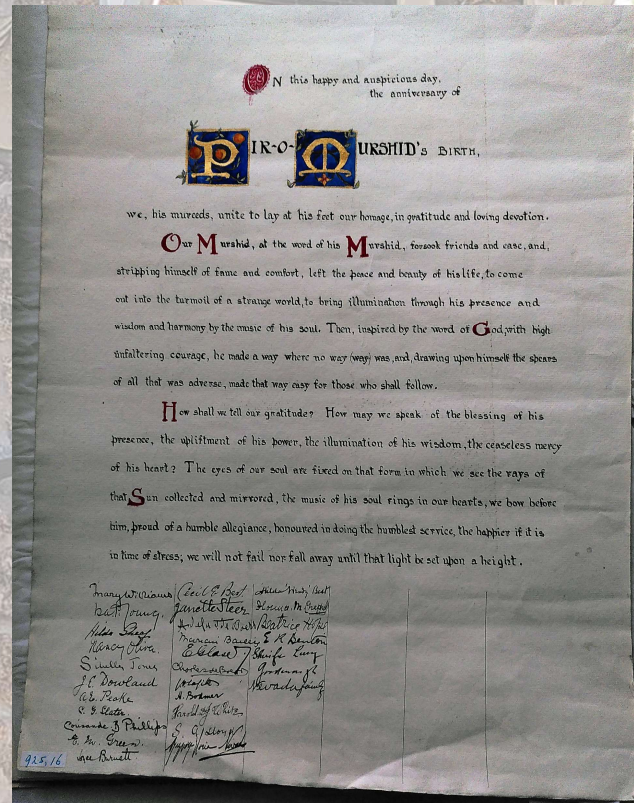
The aunt of this infant child, Inayat Bibi, always held the ideal that the world should become a better and higher place. She had suffered for this ideal and was dying for its sake. On her deathbed she was told of the birth of a child in her home, and she said: "He is born with the ideal for which I am dying, and my only satisfaction in the hour of my death will be that this child should be called by my name, Inayat." (which means Benignity.)

One evening Inayat's father brought him home some sweets, but finding the child asleep, put them aside till morning. During the night Inayat had a vision in which he saw exactly what his father had done. As soon as he awoke the child called out for the sweets, but his mother not knowing what the father had done, said there were none. Inayat persisted till at last his mother asked him: "Where?" "Over there," replied he pointing with his hand. His mother went thinking to pacify the child, but to her great surprise found he was right. There were some sweets where he had said. On inquiry she learned what had occurred. "But," said his father, "Inayat did not know, for he was fast asleep."

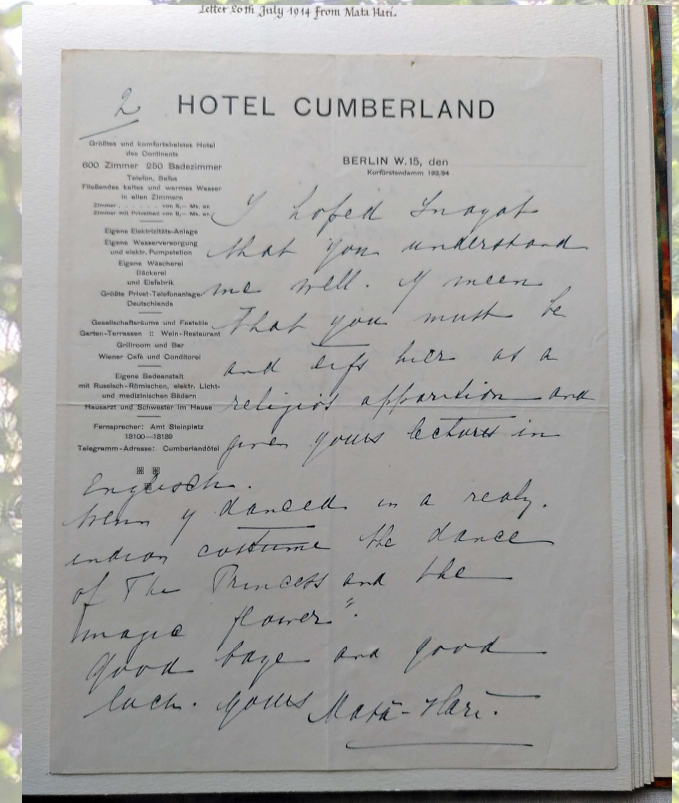
Remarkable documents



Letter by Nekbakht (Sakina) with Inayat Khan's medallion, addressed to Mahtab van Hogendorp

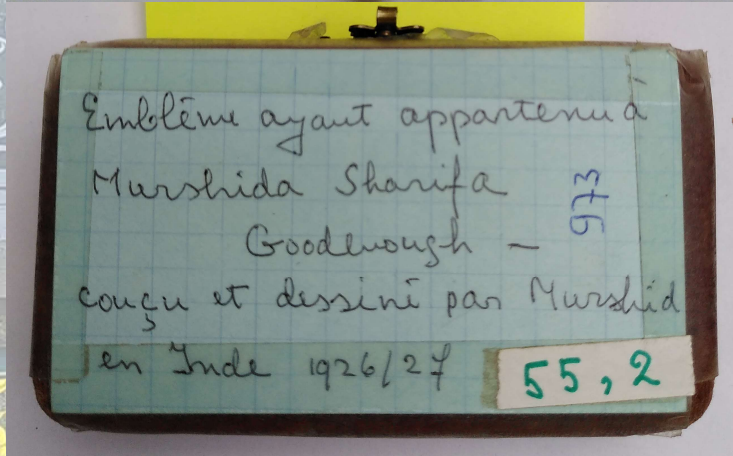


Embellished congratulations by English mureeds – on the occasion of Inayat Khan's birthday

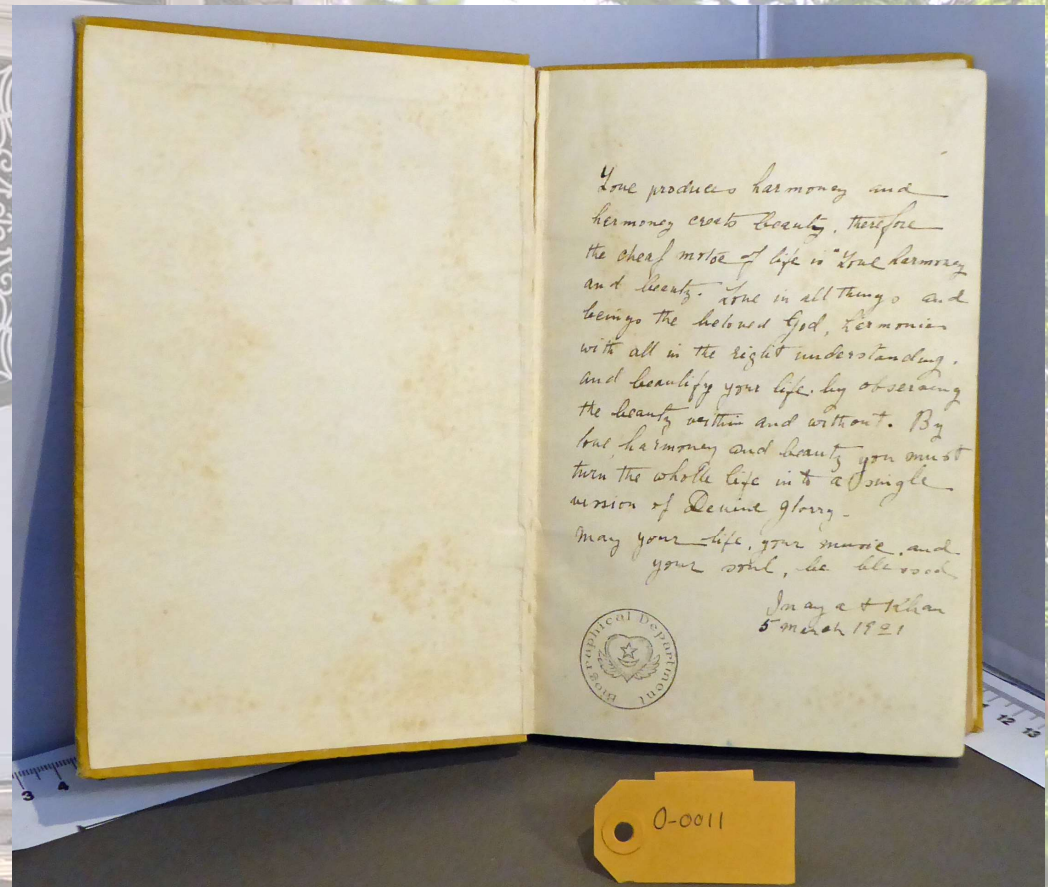


Sheet from a letter by Mata Hari to Inayat Khan with a proposal for a joint performance

Special objects— partly on display in Museum Fazal Manzil

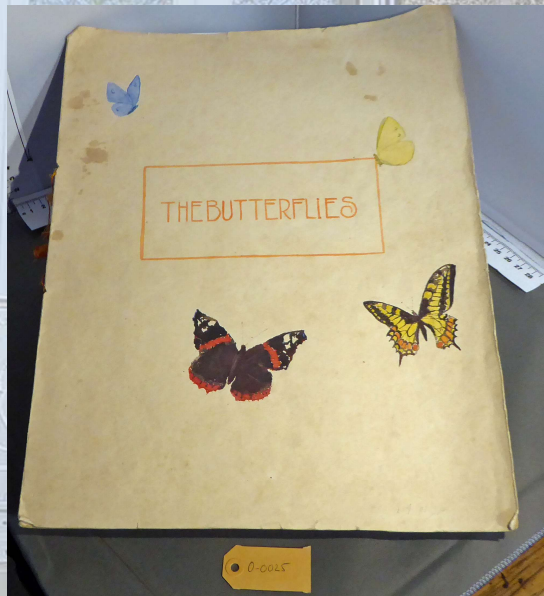


Necklace with Heart and Wings,
designed by Inayat Khan for Sherifa
Goodenough

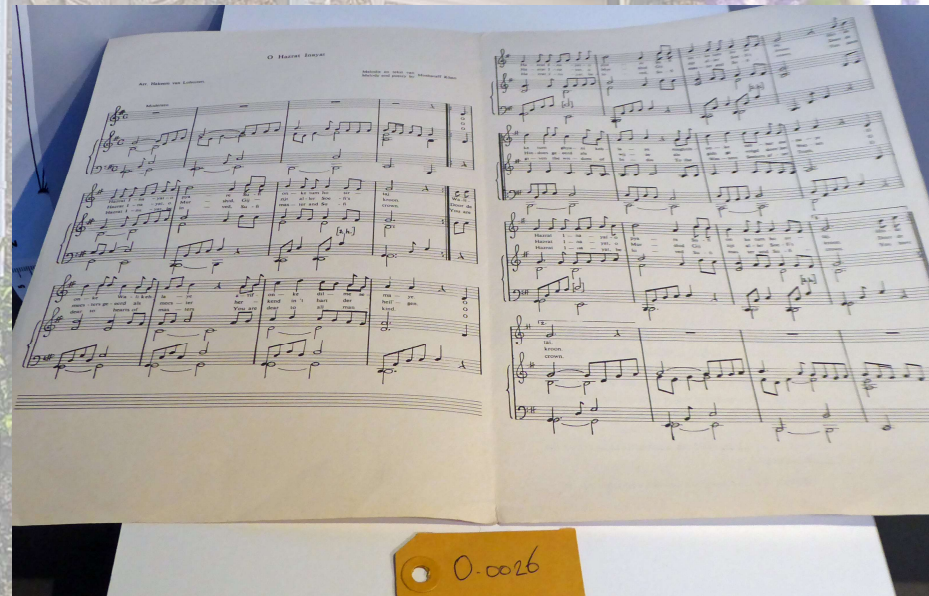


Copy of first edition of "In an Eastern Rosegarden" with
dedication by Inayat Khan, 1921

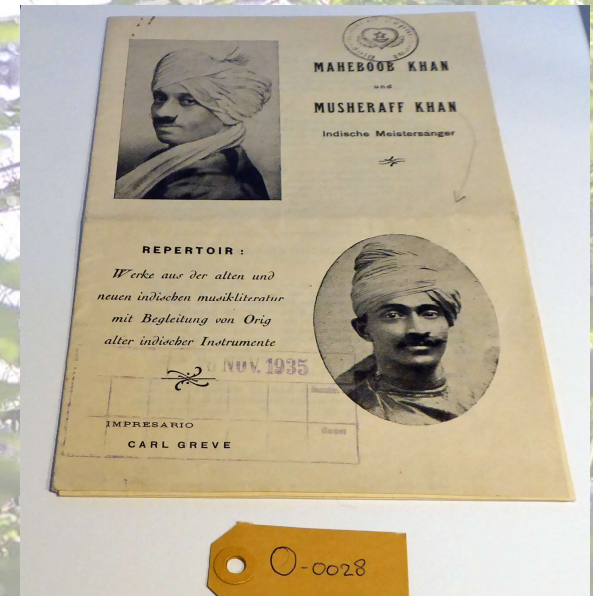
And of course: music!



Sheet music for "The butterflies" by Noor Inayat Khan



Sheet music "O Hazrat Inayat" by Musharaff Khan



Program for Maheboob and Musharaff Khan's music tour in 1935