

CUS417/39.50

Dear Sir,

The question of repairing the tomb of Avicenna arose through reports of Dr. Sa'eed of Hamardan and Dr. Neligan of Teheran. Recent photographs show considerable delapidation, and there is no one in official charge. Dr. Funk has obtained estimates on this and £400 or £500 would cover the whole expense. The idea is to get permission from the authorities, possibly through the Foreign Office or through the Ambassador in Persia, then issue a circular in English, French and Arabic. I think a good many of the Mohammedan physicians in Algiers, Egypt and India would be interested. I think their active co-operation is essential and, as a preliminary, I am trying to get the names of one or two men. Do you happen to know of any in India or Persia?

I know Avicenna only through his medical writings and that not, of course, first-hand. We might induce Margoliouth who has written on him to give a lecture, after which, if preliminaries are arranged satisfactorily, I could mention the scheme and ask the support of the Society.

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