



Christmas Greetings

The Son of man came not to be ministered unto,  
but to minister, and to give his life  
a ransom for many. MATT. 20:28.

With best wishes from Mr & Mrs Shella bear

*Rev. and Mrs. C. W. Ruth*  
*announce the marriage of their daughter*  
*E. Naomi*  
*to*  
*Rev. William Girdlestone Shellabear*  
*on Tuesday, June the third*  
*One thousand nine hundred twenty-four*  
*Drew Forest, Madison, N. J.*

*At Home*  
*after September fifteenth*  
*43, Madison Avenue*  
*Madison, New Jersey*



Drew Theological Seminary, Madison, New Jersey, U.S.A.

28 March 1923

Professor C. Sneuck Hurgrenje  
Leiden University,

Dear Sir,

I enclose a letter of introduction from Dr. Macdonald of Hartford, under whom I had the privilege of studying the Arabic language for two years. As stated in his letter, I am very anxious to spend a short time at Leiden this summer, in order to get some assistance in my study of the Arabic language and of the Mohammedan religion, especially with reference to the Dutch East Indies.

Our scholastic year here ends in the middle of May, and I hope that it may be possible for me to reach Leiden by the 1st of June. I understand that your work at Leiden continues until the end of July. In that case I might be able to put in about 6 weeks or more of study.

I have a fair knowledge of the Dutch language, though it is a long time since I have had any practice in speaking it, and I think if there are lectures that I could attend as an auditor I could get a pretty good understanding of the subject. Any lectures connected with the East Indies would probably be helpful to me; but I am particularly anxious to have your help in Arabic, and in the study of Islam.

Would you kindly write and let me know whether I may have the privilege of attending your classes, and may also have your direction in regard to what studies I should undertake in the library at Leiden. Is it necessary for me to make a formal application to study at Leiden?

Sincerely yours,

W. G. Shellabear



1923-04-27

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Madison, New Jersey  
U.S. America

27 April 1923

My dear Sir:

I was very much gratified to receive your kind letter stating that you and your colleagues would be willing to put some of your spare time at my disposal.

To have your personal advice and instruction will be very much more valuable to me than merely to attend lectures, and I look forward with great pleasure to the privileges which I shall enjoy at Leiden.

I have taken my passage on the ss. Volendam, and hope to arrive at Rotterdam on May 28<sup>th</sup>. I shall get to Leiden as quickly as possible after that.

Thanking you in anticipation for your readiness to help me in this matter

Very Sincerely Yours

W. G. Shellabear



1923-07-31

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2 Quebec Road, Dereham, Norfolk, England

31 July 1923

My dear Professor,

I am wondering whether you and Mrs Hurgronje and your little daughter are back yet in Leiden, as I want you to get word from me before I cross over to America.

At the Bible Society at Amsterdam I had a very interesting time after you left Leiden. They have decided to print a tentative version of one Gospel from my translation of the Bible, in parallel columns with Klinkert's latest edition -- both to be in romanised Malay, Dutch spelling. The idea is to circulate this Gospel among the missionaries and native Christians in the Dutch Indies, so as to give them the opportunity of comparing my translation with Klinkert's, because mine has hitherto only been printed in the Arabic character, and for that reason is almost unknown to many of them. My suggestion is that it is quite unnecessary to have two different versions of the Bible in the so-called High Malay, and that Klinkert's translation and mine ought to be unified, and a standard edition prepared, which would be published in the Arabic character by the British and Foreign Bible Society, and in the Dutch romanised by the Netherlands Bible Society. I hope this may ultimately be done, and the tentative version of Klinkert's translation and mine in parallel columns I look upon as a first step in this direction.

I am staying for two or three weeks with my sister, and having a very pleasant time. I saw a few of the Royal Asiatic meetings, but the Bible Society work at Amsterdam made me almost too late. I met Margoliouth, and he has given me some information about the text books he uses in his Arabic classes at Oxford. I was rather surprised to find that he uses the Arabian Nights.

Over



I cannot tell you <sup>how</sup> much I enjoyed my two months in Holland, and how thankful I am that I came over, and had the privilege of making the acquaintance <sup>of</sup> you and Mrs Hurgronje. I shall return to America with new inspiration for my teaching work, and new ideals as to what it is possible for students of the Arabic language to accomplish.

Mr. Malcolm S. Pitt has just written to me saying that he has taken his passage to Europe, and expects to reach Leiden about the end of September. He is the man about whom I spoke to you as coming over to study Arabic under you. I have arranged for him to live at the Zendingshuis and he is glad to have the privilege of living there. I hope that he will find that his knowledge of German will be sufficient to enable him to get along all right in your classes. Of course he will regularly enrol as a student at the University.

I trust that Mrs Hurgronje will have received a little present which I order<sup>ed</sup> to be sent to your home from Fortmann's, as some slight recognition of all the kindness which I received in your very hospitable home. I also was able to get for her "Het Leven is als en Damp," about the name of which I had such trouble, as you will perhaps remember. I hope it will be of some interest.

Very sincerely yours,

W. G. Sheilabea

I am staying for two or three weeks with my sister, and having a very pleasant time. I saw a few of the Royal Asiatic meetings, but the Bible Society work at Amsterdam made me almost too late. I met Margoliouth and he has given me some information about the text books he uses in his Arabic classes at Oxford. I was rather surprised to find that he uses the Arabian

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Professor C. Snouck Hurgronje

Rapenburg Hotel Koppelpaarden

~~Leiden,~~

Costerhout N. Br. HOLLAND



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