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Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- Illustrations -- Acknowledgements -- Argument and Historiographical Setting: Books, Documents and Social Practice -- Part I The Narrative -- 1 Making a Living in Endowments -- 2 Beyond Endowment -- 3 Archival Practices and Pragmatic Literacy -- 4 Lists and Inventories: The Sale Booklet's Documentary Logic -- 5 The Making and Unmaking of a Prestige Library -- 6 Book Prices -- Looking Beyond Jerusalem: The Dynamics of the Written Word and its Materiality -- Part II The Documents -- 7 Analysis and Edition of the Sale Booklet -- 8 Analysis and Edition of the Documentary Network around the Sale Booklet -- Appendix 1 Overview of Documents Linked to Burhn al-Dn's Life and Estate -- Appendix 2 Edition of Sixteen Documents Linked to Burhn al-Dn's Life and Estate -- Appendix 3 List of Edited aram al-sharf Documents -- Bibliography -- General Index -- Index of Authors in Burhn al-Dn's Library -- Index of Book Titles in Burhn al-Dn's Library -- Index of Buyers in the Auction of Burhn al-Dn's Estate -- Index of Subjects in Burhn al-Dn's Library -- Index of Objects Other than Books in Burhn al-Dn's Estate -- Index of aram al-sharf Documents
Sommario/riassunto	Explores the only known private book collection from medieval

Jerusalem Translates, edits and discusses the most important Arabic medieval book list for Jerusalem – the largest known dataset on book prices Rethinks the notion of archival and documentary practices in the Mamluk period Provides a new angle on the economic history of the book in the late-medieval period Combines social history and material philology in the field of Middle Eastern history In the late medieval period manuscripts galore circulated in private collections and in educational libraries in the cities of the Middle East. Yet very few have left a documentary trail or have survived as an easily identifiable compact corpus. Writing their histories, understanding their social settings and comprehending their intellectual profiles is therefore a challenge. This book discusses the only known private book collection from pre-Ottoman Jerusalem for which we have a trail of documents. It belonged to an otherwise unknown resident, Burhn al-Dn; after his death, his books were sold in a public auction and the list of objects sold has survived. This list – edited and translated in this volume – shows that a humble part-time reciter of the late 14th century had almost 300 books in his house, evidence that book ownership extended beyond the elite. Based on a corpus of almost fifty documents from the aram al-sharf collection in Jerusalem, it is also possible to get a rare insight into the social world of such an individual. Finally, the book gives a unique insight into book prices as it will make available the largest such set of data for the pre-Ottoman period.

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