

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910811807303321
Titolo	The Arabic script in Africa : studies in the use of a writing system // edited by Meikal Mumin, Kees Versteegh
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Boston : , : Brill, , 2014
ISBN	90-04-25680-6
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (420 p.)
Collana	Studies in Semitic languages and linguistics, , 0081-8461 ; ; volume 71
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Disciplina	492.7/11096
Soggetti	Arabic language - Writing Arabic alphabet Africa Languages
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Most of the papers in the present volume are based on presentations at the TASIA (The Arabic Script in Africa-Diffusion, Usage, Diversity and Dynamics of a Writing System) workshop, which took place on April 6-7, 2010, at the University of Cologne, Germany.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	section I. General problems of Arabic-script based traditions -- section II. North Africa -- section III. West Africa -- section IV. East Africa -- section V. South Africa.
Sommario/riassunto	The Arabic script in Africa contains sixteen papers on the past and present use of Arabic script to write African languages. These writing traditions, which are sometimes collectively referred to as Ajami, are discussed for single or multiple languages, with examples from all major linguistic phyla of Africa but one (Khoisan), and from all geographic areas of Africa (North, West, Central, East, and South Africa), as well as a paper on the Ajami heritage in the Americas. The papers analyze (ethno-) historical, literary, (socio-) linguistic, and in particular grammatological aspects of these previously understudied writing traditions and exemplify their range and scope, providing new data for the comparative study of writing systems, literacy in Africa, and the history of (Islam in) Africa.