

## THE ARAB AND OTHER CULTURES

The Arab culture is not isolated from other cultures. Throughout any historic period it has never been isolated, secluded, motionless, solid, drowsy, inactive, or unable to act and closed to being acted upon. The Arab culture is lively and vigorous growing and developing based on the abilities of the Arab Muslim community to enhance the intellect, the mental power, and maturity of their civilization. Thanks to its possession of sources of faith derived from the eternal values stemming from the Divine Revelation, either from the Qur'an or the Prophetic Tradition, it brings people out of the darkness of distrust, arrogance, polytheism and deviation to the light of monotheism, belief, truth, knowledge, and guidance. Thus, the Islamic Arab culture shapes the intellect, the feelings, and the civilization through a profound and comprehensive concept, by which the great scholar, Ibn Hald, is well known in his reference book "El-Mukaddime".

This paper is written based on this viewpoint, which explains the ingredients of the Arab culture and its most conspicuous features. The paper reaches to the conclusion that one of the most important characteristics of the Islamic Arab culture is its openness to the Eastern and Western cultures, taking care not to miss its inalienable foundations. This mixture and combination has enriched, strengthened and immunized it.