

ABD AL-MASIH IBN ISHAQ AL-KINDI.

This pseudonym was used by a Nestorian author about 825 in defence of Christianity in [reply](#) to 'Abdallah ibn Isma'il al-Hashimi, the pseudonym of a [Muslim](#) author. This is one of the most important texts in Arabic [Christian apologetic literature](#) in reaction to Islam (analysis and bibliography are in Graf, 1944, Vol. 1, pp. 135-45).

Despite the importance of this text, it would appear that the Copts in the Middle Ages were not acquainted with it, although they possessed other, rare apologies, such as those of the Nestorians 'Ammar al-[Basri](#) (c. 820) and [Hunayn ibn Ishaq](#) (d. 873), or that of the Melchite Qusta ibn Luqa (d. c. 912). The Copts came to know this text only in the nineteenth century, and authors such as the *qummu*s [SARJIYUS](#) (Sergius) were able to make use of it owing to the two editions made in Cairo (1885 and 1912) by the Society for Promoting [Christian](#) Knowledge.

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