

PREFACE

Dr. Tuckerman's Planetary Tables¹ for the period from -600 to 0 proved so useful in many ways that their continuation up to modern times seemed desirable. That such an undertaking was made possible is due to the generosity of the IBM and to the willingness of the American Philosophical Society again to sponsor the publication in its *Memoirs*.

The new tables cover important periods in the history of astronomy: the Roman imperial period which comprises the works of Ptolemy (second century A.D.) and Theon's "Handy Tables" (fourth century) as well as the whole development of islamic astronomy from the Abbasids (ninth century) to the Mongols (Ulugh Beg, fifteenth century) and the contemporary Hindu and Byzantine astronomy. The extension until 1650 was chosen in order to include the observations of Brahe and Kepler which form the foundation of the "Astronomia Nova."

The computation was carried out, as in the first vol-

ume, for 7 P.M. Babylon/Baghdad time, chosen because of the evening epoch of the Babylonian lunar calendar. This arrangement remains advantageous for the islamic period. The following little table indicates the modifications which apply for some important meridians.

	Longitudes		Δt Baghdad	Local time
	Greenwich	Baghdad		
Toledo	- 4; 2*	- 48; 27*	- 3; 14 ^h	3; 45 p.m.
Greenwich	0	- 44; 25	- 2; 58	4
Hven	+ 12; 45	- 31; 40	- 2; 7	5
Prag	14; 25	- 30; 0	- 2; 0	5
Constantinople	28; 57	- 15; 28	1; 2	6
Alexandria	29; 55	- 14; 30	- 0; 58	6
Damascus	36; 19	- 8; 6	- 0; 32	6; 30
Baghdad/Babylon	44; 25	0	0	7
Samarkand	66; 57	+ 22; 32	+ 1; 30	8; 30
Ujjain	75; 50	+ 31; 25	+ 2; 6	9

All dates are given in the julian calendar. After 1582 one obtains gregorian dates by adding 10 days to the julian dates.

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¹ Mem. Amer. Philos. Soc. 56 (1962).

