The handle http://hdl.handle.net/1887/20022 holds various files of this Leiden University dissertation.

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**Title:** Reading Arabic : legibility studies for the Arabic script
**Date:** 2012-10-25
The beauty of the Arabic script inhibits its reading.

In Arabic, guessing is faster than reading.

Type design is not a magic cure, but it can remove hurdles from the reading process.

In the quest for speed of reading, we should not forget to stop, every once in a while, to appreciate the view.

The vertical alignments in Arabic calligraphy reveal hidden musical scales.

Arabic type design is a question of national identity pitting traditional roots vs. modernity.

To be an Arabic type designer is to know very little about reading in Arabic or about the legibility of Arabic typefaces.

Designers research not only because they want to know, but also because they need to know.

Arabic type design reveals dichotomy in how the Arab world views itself and how the Western world sees it.

The real Arab Spring should happen in textbooks and classrooms and not only on the streets.

The Middle East crisis is not about land, oil, or religion, but a crisis of literacy.