Dear Sir George,

We have only got this far - ascertaining the probable cost for the repair and for a small sum for permanent maintenance. Dr. Nelligan of the Embassy at Teheran has the matter very much at heart and has with Dr. Funk and Dr. Sa'eed, obtained the necessary details. With this information we bring the project before the Historical Section of the Royal Society of Medicine, and the President of this Society and of the College of Surgeons and of the College of Physicians would, I am sure, join in asking the Foreign Office to ask the co-operation of the Shah. Nelligan thought that it might be better arranged quietly, as if we asked the Government co-operation it makes it a sort of official affair. We suggest to have the French Society for the History of Medicine co-operate.

I am sorry you cannot make out a case for Avicenna. After all, he is one of the great names in medicine and had force enough to control the Schools for many centuries, and, if for nothing else, we owe the Arabs some gratitude as transmitters. His tomb lies desolate and it will do the profession good to restore it.

Thank you for your delightful letter. I will keep you informed as to our progress.

Sir George Birdwood,
5, Windsor Road,
Ealing . W.

May 6th 1914.