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TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Dr. **Rami Saari** was my student from 1983 until 1992, the year in which he was awarded the Master's degree (Magister of Philosophy) in Semitic Languages and Finno-Ugric Studies in the Faculty of Arts at the University of Helsinki. Dr. Saari wrote his doctoral dissertation, "The Maltese Prepositions", under the supervision of Professor Gideon Goldenburg and Professor Alexander Borg at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem which awarded him his Ph.D. *summa cum laude* in May 2003.

Since publishing his thesis, Dr. Saari has been occupied mainly with the translation of foreign literature into Hebrew. These publications include tens of books, anthologies and articles, poetry and prose, translated from Finnish, Spanish, Portuguese, Catalan, Hungarian, Albanian, Estonian and Greek; as a rule the authors and their literary out-put have been introduced by him in insightful appendices in the publications. In addition to translations, Dr. Saari has dealt with various problems of linguistics and the theory of translation in his numerous scholarly articles.

Dr. Rami Saari has extensive experience as an academic teacher of Hebrew, Maltese and many other languages as well as comparative linguistics and translation technics. To the best of my knowledge, his students have always been very satisfied with the quality and spirit of his courses.

Dr. Saari's intention is to continue his research on some of the mechanisms of prepositions, but at the same time he also plans to study other morphologic and syntactic features of Maltese compared with additional languages.

Due to his knowledge of many languages, his erudition in the fields of linguistics, literature and translation, his laborious personality and the high scientific value of his research, I consider him as an ideal candidate for works which involve linguistic research and/or teaching.



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