

Nota

*The Dawn of Hebrew Linguistics - The Book of Elegance
of the Language of the Hebrews by Saadia Gaon*

*Introduction and Critical Edition by Aron Dotan, Volume I:
Introduction, Volume II: Text and Translation, World Union
of Jewish Studies, Jerusalem 1997. 668 pages.*

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For more than a thousand years the composition of Rabbi Saadia Gaon (882-942), פְּצִיחַ לְגֹהַ אֶלְעִבְרָאֲנִיךְ (=The Book of Elegance of the Language of the Hebrews)¹ lay undisturbed. Then Harkavy discovered the main manuscript of the work in the Russian National Library in St. Petersburg (RNL),² and in 1898 he announced his discovery, mentioning the names of the

1 Below: Elegance.

2 Formerly known as the Saltykov-Šchedrin Public Library in Leningrad, Ms. II Firk., Evr.-arab. I., 3073.