

“The most productive translator of Toledo School”

Who is Gerard of Cremona?

Gerard Cremonensis who also known as Gherardus Cremonensis or Gerard of Cremona was an Italian translator of scientific books from Arabic into Latin. He was one of the well known and leading translator of Toledo Translation School which is a translation activity that took place in Spain during the twelfth and thirteenth centuries.

Gerard of Cremona was known as the most productive translator of the Tolado School at the time and translated 87 books. His well known translation is Ptolemy's *Almagest* which is 2nd-century mathematical and astronomical treatise on the apparent motions of the stars and planetary paths.

Gerard of Cremona is best known for his translations of scientific and philosophical works from Arabic into Latin. During the 12th century, many classical Greek and Roman texts, as well as Arabic scientific and philosophical works, were translated into Latin, contributing to the intellectual revival in Western Europe.

His Life

Gerard Cremonensis was born in 1114, Cremona, Lombardy, Northern Italy. He started his first scientific studies in Italy. Gerard, educating himself on the limited knowledge that his hometown could offer, however he was not satisfied with philosophy of his Italian teachers, he went to the Toledo School in 1141 and he remained there for the rest of his life then died in 1187 in Toledo.

Gerard, whose name is identified with the translation of *Almagest* by Ptolemy and who influenced the knowledge of astronomy in Europe until the 15th and 16th centuries with his outstanding work, is considered the most prolific translator of the 12th century. He has written 71 translations, including 3 debates, 17 geometry, 12 astronomy, 11 philosophy, 21 medicine, 3 chemistry and 4 mysterious science treatises. With some other additions the number of his Works reaches to 87.

DOKUZ EYLÜL ÜNİVERSİTESİ
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GERARD OF CREMONA

Notable translation works of Gerard of Cremona

Ptolemy's *Almagest*

Avicenna's *Canon of Medicine*

Euclid's *Elements of Geometry*

Alfraganus's *Element's of Astronomy*

Al-Khwarizmi's *On Algebra and Almuçabala*

