*Papyrus no:* A1322 (Box 5)

**Date:** 3rd century A.H./9th century A.D.

**Physical description:** 35 cm. x 28 cm. Small *lacunae* in the middle. Writing on both sides. Recto, written in black ink, 9 lines, at right angles to the fibres. Verso, written in black ink, 1 line, parallel to the fibres.

**Text:**

**RECTO**

**Script**
Final 'alif extends below the connecting stroke. *Jīm*, *hā*’ and *kā*’ are usually written with a single curved stroke. *Dāl/dāl* approximates to a straight line. *Sin* normally has no teeth and is surmounted by a stroke. Several unconventional ligatures.

**Content**
Letter. The first few words are missing. Opens with blessings: *لاَبَيِّ العبَاس*. The writer reports the arrival of 'Abū Ja’far and 'Abū Tabīb. There is a reference to the ‘the receipt of the money of Admaniyya (a place name?)’ (*النَّفَاق الفِي مَال أَدْمَانَيْنَة*). The writer requests the advice of the addressee (*عَلَى نُصْرُكَ فَلَا تَحْذَرِِْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْ**النَّفَاق الفِي مَال أَدْمَانَيْنَة*). The writer requests the advice of the addressee (*عَلَى نُصْرُكَ فَلَا تَحْذَرِِْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْْ*

**VERSO**

Address of letter on the recto: *لاَبَيِّ العبَاس*.
**Papyrus no:** A1324 (Box 3)

**Date:** 3rd century A.H./9th century A.D.

**Physical description:** 32 cm. x 24.5 cm. Small lacunae in the middle. Writing on both sides. Recto, written in black ink, 17 lines, at right angles to the fibres. Verso, written in black ink, faint in places, 14 lines, parallel to the fibres + two in right margin.

**Text:**

**RECTO**

**Script**

Final ‘alif extends below the connecting stroke. Sin normally has no teeth. Shin is written without teeth and is surmounted by a horizontal stroke.

**Content**

Letter. Text opens after basmala: جعلت فذاك واطال الله بفاك وادام عزك وكرامتك. The writer expresses the wish that the addressee will come to visit him in the near future. Closes with the conveyance of greetings from various people.

**VERSO**

At the top of the sheet there are traces of the address of the letter on the recto. In the bottom half there is a second letter:

**Script**

Final ‘alif extends below the connecting stroke. Jīm, hā’ and kā’ are usually written with a single curved stroke. Dāl/ḍal approximates to a straight line. Sin is written without teeth.

**Content**

Letter. Parts are obliterated. Text opens after basmala: ابفناك الله. The writer complains that somebody had ceased corresponding with him (قد قطع كتابه).
*Papyrus no:* A1326 (Box 5)

**Date:** 3rd century A.H./9th century A.D.

**Physical description:** 30.5 cm. x 30 cm. Small *lacunae* in the middle. Writing on both sides. Recto, written in black ink, 7 widely spaced lines, at right angles to the fibres. Verso, written in black ink, 7 lines, parallel to the fibres.

**Text:**

**RECTO**

**Script**

Large hand. Final 'alif does not extend below the connecting stroke. Final ya’ extends backwards.

**Content**

Official letter. Text opens after *basmala*:

>This is a letter from 'Abū al-Qāsim 'Ayyūb ibn 'Ahmad, the accountant of 'Abū 'Ayyūb, may God cause his strength to endure, over the warehouse of 'wisdom', to Muḥammad ibn Masūr*. Concerns some matter relating to this warehouse.

**VERSO**

Same hand as on recto. Contains fragments of monetary accounts.
Papyrus no: A1329 (Box 3)

Date: 3rd century A.H./9th century A.D.

Physical description: 30 cm. x 20.5 cm. Small lacunae in the middle. Writing on both sides. Recto, written in black ink, 18 lines, at right angles to the fibres. Verso, written in black ink, 1 line, parallel to the fibres.

Text:
RECTO
Script
Final 'alif extends below the connecting stroke. Sin normally has teeth. Sporadic consonantal diacritics.

Content
Letter. Text opens after basmala: حَفُظُكَ اللّهُ وَعَافِكَ. The writer reports that he has acquired a plot of low lying land in a place known as إِنَّهُ مَرَاح (Arabic: إِنَّهُ مَرَاح) and requests him to send urgently what he can of the dues (فَرايِكَ حَفُظُكَ اللّهُ في تَعْجِيلَ الْكَتَابِ إِلَيْهِ بِمَا يَكُفُّهَا مِنَ التَّرْسِيْمِ). Closes with same blessing as appears at the opening.

VERSO
Adddress of the letter on the recto: لاَيِّ العلا.
**Papyrus no:** A1330 (Box 3)

**Date:** 3rd century A.H./9th century A.D.

**Physical description:** 30 cm. x 19 cm. Small *lacunae* in the middle. Writing on both sides. Recto, written in black ink, 18 lines, at right angles to the fibres. Verso, written in black ink, 1 line, parallel to the fibres.

**Text:**

**RECTO**

*Script*

Final 'alif extends below the connecting stroke. *Bā*’ is distinguished from *tā*’ by a high vertical extension, e.g. كتبت ‘I have written’ (line 5). *Sin* normally has teeth.

*Content*

Letter. Text opens after *basmala* with a blessing that has an usual syntax: انا أفتحك والله يبقيك ويدم سلامك وعافيك. The writer states that he has already sent the addressee a letter (وكتبت عليك كتاب قبل هذا). He requests him to send pieces of money (وأبعث الي) 

**VERSO**

Address of the letter on the recto: لابي علي الشاكري.
**Papyrus no:** A1333 (Box 3)

**Date:** 3rd century A.H./9th century A.D.

**Physical description:** 37 cm. x 25 cm. Small *lacunae* in the middle. Writing on both sides. Recto, written in black ink, 22 lines, at right angles to the fibres. Verso, written in black ink, 22 lines, parallel to the fibres, and upsided down relative to the text on the recto.

**Text:**

**RECTO**

**Script**

Final 'alif extends below the connecting stroke. *Dāl/dāl* approximates to a straight line. *Sin* normally has teeth.

**Content**

Letter. Text opens after basmala: 

اكركمكما الله وابقناكما وإن تعممه علىكما في الدنيا والآخرة

Mentions the sum of seven hundred dinārs and several commercial transactions.

**VERSO**

Continuation of the letter on the recto.
**Papyrus no:** A1334 (Box 3)

**Date:** 3rd century A.H./9th century A.D.

**Physical description:** 32 cm. x 24 cm. Small *lacunae* in the middle. Writing on both sides. Recto, written in black ink, 19 lines, at right angles to the fibres + 2 lines in the right margin. Verso, written in black ink, 7 lines, parallel to the fibres.

**Text:**

**RECTO**

**Script**
Final 'alif extends below the connecting stroke. Jim, hā' and kā' are usually written with a single curved stroke. Sin and ṣīn normally have no teeth. Ṣīn is surmounted by three dots, sometimes arranged on a horizontal plane.

**Content**
Letter. The beginning is missing. There is a large space left between paragraphs at the top of the leaf. Concerns commercial transactions. Mentions wheat (سع) and a certain 'Abu Bišr. The writer request the addressee to send him his news.

**VERSO**
Continuation of the letter on the recto. Refers to al-Fusṭāṭ.
*Papyrus no:* A1335 (Box 5)

**Date:** 3rd century A.H./9th century A.D.

**Physical description:** 34 cm. x 26 cm. Small *lacunae* in the middle. Writing on both sides. Recto, written in black ink, 16 lines, at right angles to the fibres. Verso, written in black ink, 1 line, parallel to the fibres.

**Text:**

**RECTO**

**Script**

Final 'alif extends below the connecting stroke. *Jim*, *hā* and *kā* are usually written with a single curved stroke. *Dāl* approximates to a straight line. *Sin* has no teeth and is surmounted by a horizontal line.

**Content**

Letter. Beginning is mostly lost. Fragments of the opening blessings survive (e.g. واتم نعمة عليك). Mentions somebody known as Ya'qūb al-Jihī (?) who is responsible for the oil press of the addressee (يعقوب الجهی الموکل بمعصرتك). Closes with blessings (آطال الله يفاك ...).

**VERSO**

Address of letter on recto: لَأَيِ الْعیاس اطال الله بقاء من على بن عبد الرحمن.
*Papyrus no:* A1337 (Box 5)

**Date:** 3rd century A.H./9th century A.D.

**Physical description:** 33 cm. x 20.5 cm. Small *lacunae* in the middle. Writing on both sides. Recto, written in black ink, 23 lines, at right angles to the fibres. Verso, written in black ink, 1 line, parallel to the fibres.

**Text:**

**RECTO**

**Script**

Well executed script. Final 'alif extends below the connecting stroke. Sin normally has teeth. Final yā' sometimes extends horizontally backwards.

**Content**

Letter. Text opens after *basmala*: حفظك الله وكبلاك ورعاك. The writer states that he has undertaken a boat trip from Fustat to al-Fayyum, which took him five days. Closes with the conveyance of greetings to various people and blessings.

**VERSO**

Address of the letter on the recto: إلى داود بن إبرهم من عمران بن إبرهيم.
**Papyrus no:** A1339 (Box 6)

**Date:** 3rd century A.H./9th century A.D.

**Physical description:** 44 cm. x 28 cm. Small lacunae in the middle. Writing on one side only, written in black ink, faint in places, 17 lines, at right angles to the fibres.

**Text:**

**Script**
Large script. Final 'alif generally extends below the connecting stroke. Sin/šin normally has teeth.

**Content**
End of a letter. Mentions the receipt of money by the ‘office of the governor’ (الدنير وتصبح في ديوان السلطان). The verb sahha is used elsewhere to refer to receipts by government offices.
Papyrus no: A1341 (Box 5)

Date: 3rd century A.H./9th century A.D.

Physical description: 32.5 cm. x 21 cm. Small lacunae in the middle. Writing on both sides. Recto, written in black ink, faint in places, 10 lines, at right angles to the fibres + 3 lines in right margin. The verso is blank.

Text:

Script
Final 'alif extends below the connecting stroke. Jīm, hā' and kā' are usually written with a single curved stroke. Dal/dal approximates to a straight line. Sin normally has teeth.

Content
Letter. The basmala is followed by the hamdala and the tasliya. This is followed by the opening blessings: المَالِكُ الْعَزِيزُ وَالْعَلِيمُ The writer complains that he has not received news from the addressee. Mentions a certain 'Abū Ṭāhir.
**Papyrus no:** A1344 (Box 6)

**Date:** 3rd century A.H./9th century A.D.

**Physical description:** 42.5 cm. x 23 cm. Small lacunae in the middle. Writing on both sides. Recto, written in black ink, 22 lines, at right angles to the fibres. Verso, written in black ink, 1 lines, parallel to the fibres.

**Text:**

**RECTO**

**Script**

Final 'alif extends below the connecting stroke. Jim, hā' and kā’ are usually written with a single curved stroke. Dāl/dāl approximates to a straight line. Sin/sin normally has teeth.

**Content**


**VERSO**

Traces of the address of the letter on the recto.
**Papyrus no:** A1346 (Box 6)

**Date:** 2nd century A.H./8th century A.D.

**Physical description:** 48 cm. x 20.5 cm. Small *lacunae* in the middle. Writing on both sides. Recto, written in black ink, 36 lines, at right angles to the fibres. Verso, written in black ink, 1 line, parallel to the fibres.

**Text:**

**RECTO**

**Script**
Features of script of early papyrus period. Independent 'alif bends to the right at the bottom. The upper part of *dalidal* bends backwards. *Sädad* is horizontally extended. Finalya‘ is extended backwards.

**Content**
Letter. Beginning is missing. Traces of the opening formula of the early papyrus period: (غلامنة) (أحمد البك الله). Concerns a slave girl.

**VERSO**
Traces of the address of the letter on the recto.
**Papyrus no:** A1347 (Box 5)

**Date:** 3rd century A.H./9th century A.D.

**Physical description:** 42 cm. x 26.5 cm. Small *lacunae* in the middle. Writing on both sides. Recto, written in black ink, 24 lines, at right angles to the fibres. Verso, written in black ink, 1 line, parallel to the fibres.

**Text:**

**RECTO**

*Script*

Final 'alif does not extend below the connecting stroke. Dāl/dāl approximates to a straight line. Sin normally has teeth.

*Content*

Letter. Beginning is missing. Traces of the initial blessing are extant: وسعادتک. Concerns trade. Mentions a quantity of baskets (تنفی), expressed in Greek numerals, the arrival of a boat (مرکب) at night. The addressee is asked to do something on Saturday, since the disbelievers are working today. Mention a press (معصرة). Closes with the blessing with which it began.

**VERSO**

Address of letter on the recto: لامی العباس اطال الله بقاه.
**Papyrus no:** A1349 (Box 4)

**Date:** 3rd century A.H./9th century A.D.

**Physical description:** 39 cm. x 21 cm. Small *lacuna* in the middle. Writing on both sides. Recto, written in black ink, 19 lines, at right angles to the fibres. Verso, written in black ink, 1 line, parallel to the fibres.

**Text:**

**RECTO**

*Script*

Final ‘*alif* extends below the connecting stroke. *Jim*, *hā*’ and *kā*’ are usually written with a single curved stroke. *Dāl/dāl* approximates to a straight line.

*Content*

Letter. Text opens after *basmala*: حفظك الله وَبِكَ اِحْمَادٍ. The writer states that he is writing to the addressee this morning to inform him of the pleasing news that certain goods have reached the family وَكَتِبَتْ اِسْلَاحًا یَّلَّا اِنْ وَصِیَّلَ بَعْرُ وَقَدْ وَصِیَّلْتَ الی. note the orthography of *as-sabāḥ*.

**VERSO**

Traces of the address of the letter on the recto.
**Papyrus no:** 1351

**Date:** 3rd century A.H./9th century A.D.

**Physical description:** 51 cm. x 19 cm. Writing on both sides. Recto, written in black ink, 20 lines, at right angles to the fibres. Verso, written in black ink, 16 lines, parallel to the fibres, and upside down relative to the text on the recto.

**Text:**

**RECTO**

**Script**
Final 'alif extends below the connecting stroke. Jīm, hā' and ǧāʾ are usually written with a single curved stroke. Dāl/dāl approximates to a straight line. Sin/sin is written without teeth. There are numerous unconventional ligatures between letters.

**Content**
Letter. Text opens, after basmala: اطال الله يفقك وادام عرك.

**VERSO**

**Content**
Letter written in same hand as recto. Opens: جعلت فذاك واعرك الله.
*Papyrus no:* A1354 (Box 6)

**Date:** 2nd century A.H./8th century A.D.

**Physical description:** 33 cm. x 23 cm. Small lacunae in the middle. Writing on both sides. Recto, written in black ink, 25 lines, at right angles to the fibres. Verso, written in black ink, 14 lines, parallel to the fibres.

**Text:**

**RECTO**

**Script**

Script of the early papyrus period. The upper part of the stroke of dāl/dāl bends backwards. The lower stroke of initial ‘ayn extends to the right. The top of final ‘ayn is ‘V’-shaped. Kāf is generally hairpin-shaped even in final position. Sporadic consonantal diacritics. The dots of ṣīn are arranged in a straight line.

**Content**

Letter. Beginning missing. Writer is concerned about somebody who has disappeared (لم ارا له وجهه ... ولا يرفع بقول راسا). Reports the birth of a slave (غلام) and slave-girl (جاریة). Closes with the conveyance of greetings.

**VERSO**

**Script**

Script of early papyrus period. Same hand as on recto.

**Content**

Letter. Right corner is damaged with some text loss. Opens with address after the basmala: لا بي محمد (۴) من أم وراعة. This is followed by the opening formula that is characteristic of the early papyrus period: سلام عليك فلبي احمد الله الذي لا إله إلا هو. Mainly contains conveyance of greetings.
*Papyrus no: A1355 (Box 4)*

**Date:** 1st-2nd century A.H./7th-8th century A.D.

**Physical description:** 44 cm. x 22 cm. Small *lacuna* in the middle. Writing on both sides. Recto, written in black ink, 23 lines, at right angles to the fibres. Verso, written in black ink, 7 lines, parallel to the fibres. Ink is faint in places due to rubbing.

**Text:**

**RECTO**

**Script**
Features of early papyrus script. Final 'alif extends below the connecting stroke. *Hasta* of *tā* slants to the right. The tail of final qāf projects straight downwards before bending to the left. The bottom stroke of initial 'ayn extends to the right. In some cases there are large spaces between the letters of a word. *Fā* has a lower diacritic and qāf a single upper diacritic. Final nūn extends downwards as a vertically line. *Šād* is horizontally extended.

**Content**
Letter. Early epistolary formula. Address comes after the *basmala*: من وسامة بن طلقة. The writer announces the death of somebody (أبو[I توفى}). This is followed by blessings and a eulogy of him.

**VERSOS**

**Script**
Same hand as recto

**Content**
Address of letter on recto and additional message from the writer of the recto, in which he requests the addressee pay a dirham to the wife of his maternal uncle.
Papyrus no: A1356 (Box 5)

Date: 3rd century A.H./9th century A.D.

Physical description: 37 cm. x 30 cm. Small lacunae in the middle. Writing on both sides. Recto, written in black ink, 21 lines, at right angles to the fibres. Verso, written in black ink, 14 lines, parallel to the fibres.

Text:

RECTO

Script
Final 'alif does not extend below the connecting stroke. Jīm, hā' and kā‘ are usually written with a single curved stroke. Dāl/dāl approximates to a straight line. Sin normally has teeth.

Content
Official letter. Beginning is missing. The body of the text consists mainly of a list of personal names. Some of the final blessings are extant (أوزاد في فضلء واحسانه البلاد).

VERSO

Address of the letter on the recto, written upside down relative to the text on the recto. Also traces of another letter.
**Papyrus no:** A1357 (Box 6)

**Date:** 3rd century A.H./9th century A.D.

**Physical description:** 38 cm. x 26 cm. Small *lacunae* in the middle. Writing on both sides. Recto, written in black ink, 15 lines, at right angles to the fibres. Verso, written in black ink, 16 lines, parallel to the fibres.

**Text:**

**RECTO**

*Script*

Final 'alif generally extends below the connecting stroke. *Sin*/*sīn* has teeth.

*Content*

Letter. Beginning is lost. Writer requests a report on events in an estate (*ضيحة*). He states that he has sent a messenger to Fustāṭ to bring back a speedy reply from the addressee.

**VERSO**

*Script*

Final 'alif generally extends below the connecting stroke. *Jīm*, *hā* and *kā* are usually written with a single curved stroke. *Dāl*/*dāl* approximates to a straight line. *Sin*/*ṣīn* is written without teeth.

*Content*

Letter. Beginning is missing. The writer requests the addressee to dispatch textiles, include two shirts (*فميصين*). Closes with formula: *جعلت فذاك ياخي واطلال الله يفاقك*.
Papyrus no: A1360 (Box 4)

Date: 3rd century A.H./9th century A.D.

Physical description: 34 cm. x 23 cm. Small lacuna in the middle. Writing on one side only. Written in black ink, 11 lines, at right angles to the fibres.

Text:

Script
Final 'alif extends below the connecting stroke. Jim, hā' and kā' are usually written with a single curved stroke. Dal/dal approximates to a straight line. Sin has no teeth and is surmounted by three dots or a stroke.

Content
Letter. Text opens after basmala. جعلت نداءك وأكرمك. Letter divided into paragraphs that are separated by spaces. The writer request the addressee to reply to explain the action of various people in connection with a surety (ضمان). Closes with the same formulae as it began with.
**Papyrus no:** A1361 (Box 6)

**Date:** 3rd century A.H./9th century A.D.

**Physical description:** 34 cm. x 29 cm. Small *lacunae* in the middle. Writing on one side only, written in black ink, 16 lines, at right angles to the fibres, + lines in the right margin.

**Text:**

**Script**

Final 'alif extends below the connecting stroke. *Jīm*, *ḥā‘* and *kā‘* are usually written with a single curved stroke. *Dāl/dāl* approximates to a straight line. *Sin/sīn* normally has teeth.

**Content**

Letter. Beginning and end are missing. Refers to dispatch of two pieces of papyrus (قطراسين) and cloths (رِياض) and also monetary transactions involving dirhams and dinārs.
**Papyrus no**: 1363

**Date**: 3rd century A.H./9th century A.D.

**Physical description**: 50 cm. x 21 cm. Writing on both sides. Recto, written in black ink, 25 lines, at right angles to the fibres. Verso, written in black ink, 1 lines, parallel to the fibres.

**Text**:

**RECTO**

**Script**

Final 'alif extends below the connecting stroke. ḫim, ḥāʾ and ǧāʾ are usually written with a single curved stroke. Daal/ḏāl approximates to a straight line. Sin/ṣin is written without teeth. There are numerous unconventional ligatures between letters.

**Content**

Letter. Text opens, after basmala: حفظك الله وأيماك. The opening formula is in a separate paragraph. The writer confirms the receipt of a letter. He mentions the affairs of his estate. Closes with the same formula as it began.

**VERSO**

Address of the letter on the recto.
**Papyrus no:** A (1367 piece 1) (Box 2)

**Date:** 3rd century A.H./9th century A.D.

**Physical description:** 10 cm. x 24 cm. Small *lacuna* in the middle. Writing on one side only. Two pieces of papyrus have been glued together. Right piece: 6 lines, written in black ink, at right angles to the fibres. Left piece, 5 lines, written in black ink, at right angles to the fibres. The verso contains a mark consisting of circular shapes.

**Text:**

**Script**

- Right piece: Final 'alif sometimes extends below the connecting stroke. *Jim* is written with a single curved stroke.
- Left piece: Final 'alif extends below the connecting stroke. Final *nun* extends to the left in a straight, oblique stroke.

**Content**

- Right piece: Fragment of a letter. The writer asks the addressee to send his news. Contains the end of a request formula: موفقًا أمنًا من فضل الله
**Papyrus no:** A (1367 piece 2) (Box 2)

**Date:** 3rd century A.H./9th century A.D.

**Physical description:** 9.5 cm. x 23.5 cm. Writing on both sides. Recto, written in black ink, 4 lines, at right angles to the fibres. Verso, written in black ink, 3 lines, parallel to the fibres.

**Text:**

**RECTO**

*Script*
Final 'alif does not extend below the connecting stroke. Many unconventional ligatures.

*Content*
End of a letter. Closes with the tasliya.

**VERSO**

*Script*
Final 'alif extends below the connecting stroke. The hasta of ی slants to the right.

*Content*
End of a letter. Closes with the tasliya.
**Papyrus no:** A (1367 piece 3) (Box 2)

**Date:** 3rd century A.H./9th century A.D.

**Physical description:** 21.5 cm. x 12.5 cm. Writing on both sides. Recto, written in black ink, 9 lines, at right angles to the fibres. Verso, written in black ink, 2 lines, parallel to the fibres.

**Text:**

**RECTO**

*Script*
Final 'alif sometimes extends below the connecting stroke. Dāl approximates to a straight line.

*Content*
Letter. Left side is missing. Text opens after basmala: ابفاك الله. Contains the request: ‘Be sure not to disobey him!’. Refers to a certain 'Abū ‘Alī, who is described as خليفته ‘his proxy’ (?).

**VERSO**

*Script*
The tail of final yā’ extends to the right.

*Content*
Traces of an address.
**Papyrus no:** A1368 (Box 4)

**Date:** 2nd century A.H./8th century A.D.

**Physical description:** 23 cm. x 28 cm. Small lacuna in the middle. Writing on both sides. Recto, written in black ink, 12 lines, at right angles to the fibres. Verso, written in black ink, 14 lines, parallel to the fibres. Text is missing at the bottom.

**Text:**

**RECTO**

**Script**

Final 'alif extends below the connecting stroke. Marked horizontal extensions of connecting strokes and of final kaf. The tail of final ya' extends backwards. Apart from these extensions there are no distinctive features of early papyrus script.

**Content**

Letter. Early epistolary format. Address after basmala and blessing formula: احمد الله تابع. The writer states that he has received the addressee and that he has understood the contents.

**VERSO**

**Script**

Final 'alif extends below the connecting stroke. The loop of mim is sometimes open.

**Content**

Letter concerning family matters. The beginning is obliterated.
Papyrus no: A1369 (Box 6)

Date: 3rd century A.H./9th century A.D.

Physical description: 30 cm. x 26 cm. Small lacunae in the middle. Writing on both sides. Recto, written in black ink, 16 lines, at right angles to the fibres, + lines in right margin. Verso, written in black ink, 3 lines, parallel to the fibres.

Text:

RECTO

Script
Final ‘alif extends below the connecting stroke. ḫim, ḫā' and ḫā' are usually written with a single curved stroke. Dal/dal approximates to a straight line. Sin/sīn normally has no teeth.

Content
Letter. Text opens, after basmala: إِبْنَاكُمَّ اللَّهُ وَحَفَظْكُم. Mentions monetary transaction involving qirāṭs, also a ship (مَرْكَب) and a slave-girl (جارية).

VERSO
Traces of the address of the letter on the recto.
**Papyrus no:** A1371 (Box 4)

**Date:** 3rd century A.H./9th century A.D.

**Physical description:** 29 cm. x 25 cm. Small *lacuna* in the middle. Writing on both sides. Recto, written in black ink, 27 lines, at right angles to the fibres. Verso, written in black ink, 15 lines, parallel to the fibres. Text is missing at the top and bottom of the sheet.

**Text:**

**RECTO**

*Script*

Final 'alif extends below the connecting stroke. *Jīm*, *ḥāʾ* and *ṣāʾ* are usually written with a single curved stroke. *Dāl* approximates to a straight line.

*Content*

Letter. Opening is missing. Concerns commercial matters. Mentions various commodities and their prices, including flax (*كاين*), saffron (*زعفران*).

**VERSO**

*Script*

Final 'alif does not extend below the connecting stroke. The loop of *mīm* is sometimes open.

*Content*

Beginning of a letter. Only the initial blessings are extant. Opens on the same line as *basmala*: إِبْرَاهِیْمُ ٱللّٰهُ. The address is placed at the top of the pages.
**Papyrus no:** A1375 (Box 4)

**Date:** 3rd century A.H./9th century A.D.

**Physical description:** 39 cm. x 31 cm. Small *lacuna* in the middle. Writing on one side only. Written in black ink, 7 lines, at right angles to the fibres. Large spaces between the lines (4-5cm.). Text missing in the top lefthand corner.

**Text:**

*Script*
Final 'alif extends below the connecting stroke. *Sin* has no teeth and is surmounted by a stroke.

*Content*
Letter. Judging by the large spaces between the lines it was of an official nature. Text opens after basmala. The writer confirms the receipt of a sum of money, apparently in connection with an 'iqta‘. Closes with the formula with which it opened.
Papyrus no: A 1384 SEE JILL
Papyrus no: A1384

Date: 3rd century A.H./9th century A.D.

Physical description: 20 cm. x 11 cm. Small lacunae in the middle. Writing on one side only. Written in black ink, 11 lines, at right angles to the fibres.

Text:

Script
Final ‘alif extends below the connecting stroke. Jīm, hā’ and kā’ are usually written with a single curved stroke. Sin/shīn is written without teeth. There are numerous unconventional ligatures between letters.

Content
Fragment of a letter. Text opens, after basmala: ِجعلني الله فداك. The writer acknowledges the receipt of a note (ruq'a) from the addressee and mentions a transaction consists of two dinārs.
**Papyrus no:** A 1384/1

**Date:** 3rd century A.H./9th century A.D.

**Physical description:** 12 cm. x 12 cm. Writing on one side only. Written in black ink, 9 lines, at right angles to the fibres.

**Text:**

*RECTO*

**Script**

Final 'alif extends below the connecting stroke. Jīm, hāʾ and kāʾ are usually written with a single curved stroke. Dāl/dāl approximates to a straight line. Sīn/sīn is written without teeth.

**Content**

Fragment of a letter. Only the end of the letter is extant. The writer requests the addressee respond immediately upon receipt of the letter. Closes: ابقاك الله وحفظك.
Papyrus no: 1395

Date: 3rd century A.H./9th century A.D.

Physical description: 23 cm. x 11 cm. Writing on both sides. Recto, written in black ink, 50 lines, parallel to the fibres. Verso, written in black ink, 33 lines, at right angles to the fibres. The papyrus piece was cut from a larger sheet. The script on the verso is the remainder of the text from the original sheet.

Text:

RECTO

Script
Large hand. Distinct letter shapes. Final 'alif usually does not extend below the connecting stroke. Sin/sin is written with teeth. There are numerous diacritical dots. Two dots are arranged vertically.

Content
Pious text. Closes ادعوا بما احببتي, which could be rendered 'I pray for what I want' or 'Pray for what you want'.

VERSO

Script
Large hand. Final 'alif does not extend below the connecting stroke. Jîm, ḥā' and kā' are usually written with a single curved stroke. Dāl/dāl approximates to a straight line. Sin/sin is written without teeth.

Content
Fragment of a letter. Contains the petition formula: ... If you, may God preserve your life, resolve to command ...'. Closes: جعلتك فداك اطلال الله يبارك
**Papyrus no:** 1397

**Date:** 3rd century A.H./9th century A.D.

**Physical description:** 59 cm. x 21 cm. Writing on one side only, 26 lines, at right angles to the fibres. Text is complete.

**Text:**

**Script**
Large hand. Well executed hand. Final 'alif extends below the connecting stroke. Sin/Sin is written with teeth. There are no unconventional ligatures between letters.

**Content**
Petition to an 'amīr. After the basmala the text opens: اصلى الله الامير واطال بقاه ‘May God cause the 'amīr to prosper and prolong his life’. The body of the text contains the petition formula فان را الامير ... فليفعل ‘If the 'amīr determines to ... let him do so’. The writer requests aid for his family.

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