

****Papyrus no:** A1000

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

Physical description: 27 cm. x 19 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, 17 lines, parallel to the fibres. The papyrus piece was cut from a larger sheet.

Text:

RECTO

Script

Final 'alif extends below the connecting stroke. The tail of final *yā'* is often retroflex and is extended to the right.

Content

Fragment of a petition to an 'amīr. First full extant line reads: (د)فعت الى سيدي الامير
ابقاه الله قصة.

VERSO

Script

Final 'alif extends below the connecting stroke. *Jīm*, *hā'* and *kā'* are usually written with a single curved stroke. *Sīn* is written without teeth and surmounted by a horizontal stroke.

Content

Administrative list recording content of various petitions. Each entry opens with 'the petition of + personal name' (... قصة).

Papyrus no: A1001

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

Physical description: 26 cm. x 17 cm. Small *lacuna* in the middle. Writing on both sides. Recto, written in black ink, 4 lines, at right angles to the fibres. Verso, written in black ink, 1 line, parallel to the fibres.

Text:

RECTO

Script

Large hand. Tails of final *kāf* and *mīm* are extended to the left.

Content

Fragment of a letter. Extant portions of opening formula read: .. واتم نعمه عليك ...
(كورة الشرقية) وجعلت فداك Mentions the Eastern Province.

VERSO

Content

Address of the letter on the recto: لابي جعفر اطال الله بقاءه.

Papyrus no: A1002

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

Physical description: 25 cm. x 11.5 cm. Small *lacuna* in the middle. Writing on both sides. Recto, written in black ink, 24 lines. Verso, written in black ink, 6 lines. The papyrus piece was cut from a larger sheet. The script on the recto is written at right angles to the fibres and at right angles to the text on the verso. The script on the verso, written at right angles to the fibres, is the remainder of the text from the original sheet.

Text:

RECTO

Script

Angular features. Final 'alif extends below the connecting stroke. *Ṣād* is horizontally extended. Loops open.

Content

Letter. Text opens after *basmala*: ... قدمت اليك (ثوب). Mentions purchase of cloth.

VERSO

Script

Final 'alif extends below the connecting stroke. Meidal *bā'* written with high *hasta* when adjacent to *tā'*. *Dāl/dāl* approximates to a straight line. Initial *kāf* is horizontally extended. Sporadic diacritics.

Content

Fragment of a letter. Writer states that he will send the addressee money with a letter.

Papyrus no: A1003

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

Physical description: 15 cm. x 27 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, 10 lines, parallel to the fibres, upside down relative to the script on the recto.

Text:

RECTO

Script

Final 'alif extends below the connecting stroke. *Jīm*, *hā'* and *kā'* are usually written with a single curved stroke.

Content

Letter. Beginning and end missing. Concerns trade. Mentions arrival of people from the Maghrib.

VERSO

Content

Continuation of the letter on the recto. Includes a list of commodities, measured in *ratls*.

Papyrus no: A1004 (Box 7)

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

Physical description: 31 cm. x 12.5 cm. Small *lacunae* in the middle. Writing on both sides. Recto, written in black ink, 7 lines, at right angles to the fibres. Verso, written in black ink, 3 lines, parallel to the fibres.

Text:

RECTO

Script

Final *'alif* in some cases extends below the connecting stroke. *Dāl/dāl* approximates to a straight line. *Sīn/sīn* normally has teeth.

Content

Letter. Text opens, after *basmala*: اطال الله بقاءك وادام عزك. The body of the letter opens: كتابي اليك اعزك الله عن سلامة (شعير). Closes with the word الصدر, which refers to the blessings at the opening of the letter.

VERSO

Traces of the address of the letter on the recto.

Papyrus no: A1005 (Box 7)

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

Physical description: 37 cm. x 11 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, 18 lines, parallel to the fibres.

Text:

RECTO

Script

Final *'alif* extends below the connecting stroke. *Sin/šīn* normally has teeth.

Content

Letter. The right side is missing. Extant part of opening formula includes: وجعلنى الله (من كل سو و)مكروه فداك (الاعراب). The addressee is requested not to delay in writing (فاحب ان لا تبطى بكتاب). Closes with the conveyance of greetings.

VERSO

Script

Final *'alif* extends below the connecting stroke. *Sin/šīn* in many cases is written without teeth and asurmounted by a horizontal stroke.

Content

Letter. At the top of the sheet there is an address (لابى امعاويه اكرمه), which may belong to the letter on the recto. The text opens, after the *basmala*: يا سيدى اطال الله. فاحب ان تكتب الى برايك: فيما كتبت به اليك. Closes with blessings: اسل الله ان تحفظك.

Papyrus no: A1006 (Box 7)

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

Physical description: 34 cm. x 12 cm. Small *lacunae* in the middle. Writing on one side only, in black ink, 11 lines, at right angles to the fibres.

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. *Sīn/sīn* normally has no teeth.

Content

End of a letter. The writer expresses the hope that he will meet the addressee in the near future.

Papyrus no: A1007 (Box 7)

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

Physical description: 31 cm. x 13 cm. Writing on one side only. Recto, written in black ink, 4 lines, at right angles to the fibres.

Text:

Script

Final *'alif* generally does not extend below the connecting stroke. *Dāl/dāl* approximates to a straight line. *Sīn/šīn* sometimes has teeth other times does not.

Content

End of a letter. The writer asks the addressee to make inquiries for him concerning barley (أحب جعلت فداك ان تسال لي عن شعير). It closes with the phrase: مثل الصدر, i.e. repeat the formula that appears at the beginning of the text.

Papyrus no: A1012 (Box 7)

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

Physical description: 32 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*, *ḥā'* and *kā'* are usually written with a single curved stroke. *Dāl/dāl* approximates to a straight line. *Sīn/sīn* normally has no teeth.

Content

End of a letter. The writer states that he has received news from somebody (وقد جعلت فداك واطال الله بقاءك: (وردني خبر من ..

Papyrus no: A1013 (Box 7)

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

Physical description: 36 cm. x 10.5 cm. Small *lacunae* in the middle. Writing on both sides. Recto, written in black ink, 14 lines, at right angles to the fibres. Verso, written in black ink, 24 lines, parallel to the fibres.

Text:

RECTO

Script

Final 'alif does not extend below the connecting stroke. *Dāl/dāl* approximates to a straight line. *Sīn/šīn* normally has no teeth and is surmounted by a horizontal stroke.

Content

Letter. Opening is missing. The writer states that he has sent something to the addressee (وقد انفذت كله اليك). Mentions wheat. Closes with the *tašliya*.

VERSO

Script

Written with thick pen. Final 'alif generally extends below the connecting stroke slightly. *Sīn/šīn* has teeth.

Content

Letter. The beginning is missing. Only fragments of the opening formulae are extant. Refers to the purchase of almonds (لوز). Closes with the conveyance of greetings.

Papyrus no: A1018 (Box 7)

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

Physical description: 33.5 cm. x 13.5 cm. Small *lacunae* in the middle. Writing on one side only, in black ink, 4 lines, at right angles to the fibres.

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. *Sīn/sīn* normally has no teeth.

Content

End of a letter. Mentions the arrival of somebody. The writer gives instructions concerning wheat and requests the addressee not to be slack in performing them (لا تتوانا في ذلك).

Papyrus no: A1023 (Box 7)

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

Physical description: 34 cm. x 13.5 cm. Writing on both sides. Recto, written in black ink, 1 line, at right angles to the fibres. Verso, written in black ink, 2 lines, parallel to the fibres.

Text:

RECTO

Script

Hā' is written with a single curved stroke. *Sīn* has no teeth.

Content

Fragment of a letter ? Only two instances of a *ḥasbala* formula (حسبنا الله ونعم الوكيل), written one next to the other, are extant. These possibly occurred at the beginning of a letter, which is now lost.

VERSO

Script

Sīn is written with and without teeth.

Content

Address of letter on the recto: لآبى الحسن حفظه الله من على بن احسن

Papyrus no: A1027 (Box 7)

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

Physical description: 30.5 cm. x 11 cm. Small *lacunae* in the middle. Writing on one side only, in black ink, 20 lines, at right angles to the fibres.

Text:

RECTO

Script

Final 'alif extends below the connecting stroke. Final *kāf* has two strokes.

Content

Letter. Right side is missing. Only fragments of the opening formula are extant:

(الصبي) (جعلني من كل سو) ومكروه فداك

Papyrus no: A1030 (Box 7)

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

Physical description: 35 cm. x 11 cm. Small *lacunae* in the middle. Writing on both sides. Recto, written in black ink, 14 lines, at right angles to the fibres. Verso, written in black ink, 12 lines, faint in places, parallel to the fibres.

Text:

RECTO

Script

Final 'alif does not extend below the connecting stroke. *Jīm*, *ḥā'* and *kā'* are usually written with a single curved stroke. *Dāl/dāl* approximates to a straight line. *Sīn/šīn* normally has no teeth.

Content

Letter. Text is missing at the top and on both sides. Mentions 'the house of slaves' (بيت قيان).

VERSO

Script

Final 'alif does not extend below the connecting stroke. *Jīm*, *ḥā'* and *kā'* are usually written with a single curved stroke. *Dāl/dāl* approximates to a straight line. *Sīn/šīn* is written without teeth and is, in most cases, surmounted by a horizontal stroke.

Content

Letter. Opens *جعلني الله فداك واطال الله بقاءك*. Mentions some event that is to take place at noon (في هذا الظهر). Closes with blessings: *وانا اسال مد الله في عمرك*.

Papyrus no: A1032 (Box 7)

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

Physical description: 37 cm. x 13 cm. Small *lacunae* in the middle. Writing on both sides. Recto, written in black ink, 28 lines, at right angles to the fibres. Verso, written in black ink, 2 lines, parallel to the fibres.

Text:

RECTO

Script

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

Content

Letter. Beginning is missing. The writer states that he is leaving for some place (لأخارج).

VERSO

The address of the letter on the recto: ... لابي يعقوب ...

Papyrus no: A1034 (Box 7)

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

Physical description: 27 cm. x 24.5 cm. Writing on both sides. Recto, written in black ink, 11 lines, at right angles to the fibres. Verso, written in black ink, 13 lines, parallel to the fibres.

Text:

RECTO

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. *Sīn/šīn* normally have no teeth.

Content

Letter. Beginning and left side are missing. The extant portion contains a long request introduced by the formula: ... فان رايت لا افراك الله مكروها ان تتفضل باسعافك The request extends over 6 lines, its closure being marked by the formula ان شا الله. Ends with the *taṣliya*.

VERSO

Script

Final 'alif does not usually extend below the connecting stroke. *Jīm*, *ḥā'* and *kā'* are usually written with a single curved stroke. *Dāl/dāl* approximates to a straight line. *Sīn/šīn* is written without teeth and is, in most cases, surmounted by a horizontal stroke.

Content

Letter. The beginning and right side are missing. The writer comments on a letter he has received from the addressee: « ورد على كتابكما وبذلك الخط الذى » Closes with the *taṣliya*.

Papyrus no: A1039 (Box 7)

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

Physical description: 37 cm. x 16 cm. Small *lacunae* in the middle. Writing on one side only. Written in black ink, 16 lines, at right angles to the fibres.

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. *Sīn/šīn* normally has teeth.

Content

Letter. Beginning, end and left side are missing. Mentions the *karāj* tax.

Papyrus no: A1041 (Box 7)

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

Physical description: 39 cm. x 15.5 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, 33 lines, parallel to the fibres.

Text:

RECTO

Script

Final 'alif extends below the connecting stroke. *Sīn/šīn* normally has teeth.

Content

Letter. Text missing at beginning, end and right side. The writer requests news from the addressee to grant him reassurance (literally: coolness of eye):
خبير ورقة: عيين

VERSO

Script

Final 'alif extends below the connecting stroke. *Dāl/dāl* approximates to a straight line. *Sīn/šīn* is written without teeth and is, in most cases, surmounted by a horizontal stroke.

Content

Letter. Text missing at the beginning and the bottom. The traces of the opening formula indicate that an address followed the *basmala*, which is a characteristic feature of letters from the early papyrus period. The letter is addressed to a woman, as is indicated by the feminine inflection of verbs. The addressee is asked to write a letter by a condition request formula: وان استطعت ان تكتبي بنفسك ... فافعلي

Papyrus no: A1042 (Box 7)

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

Physical description: 36.5 cm. x 17.5 cm. Small *lacunae* in the middle. Writing on one side only, in black ink, 13 lines, at right angles to the fibres.

Text:

Script

Final 'alif does not extend below the connecting stroke. *Jīm*, *ḥā'* and *kā'* are usually written with a single curved stroke. *Dāl/dāl* approximates to a straight line. *Sīn/sīn* normally has no teeth.

Content

Letter. Right side and bottom are missing. Extant opening formula reads: **وزاد في احسانه اليك**. Writer states that he has received the addressee's letter. Refers to a sum of 1050 dinars and a half and a government office (الديوان).

Papyrus no: A1044 (Box 7)

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

Physical description: 37 cm. x 16 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, 17 lines, parallel to the fibres.

Text:

RECTO

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. *Sīn/šīn* normally has no teeth.

Content

Letter. Top is missing, which contained the *basmala*. The first line of the extant text contains the opening blessings: ابقاك الله وحفظك. The writer requests the addressee to pay to him three dirhams and send his news to him: فادفع الى ... الثلاثة الدرهم كما كتبت اليك فرايك ف، الكتاب بخبرك وحالك.

VERSO

Script

Final 'alif extends below the connecting stroke. *Sīn/šīn* is written without teeth. Sporadic consonantal diacritics.

Content

Letter. The top, bottom and left side are missing. The writer discusses the letter that he has received from the addressee.

Papyrus no: A1045 (Box 7)

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

Physical description: 37 cm. x 19 cm. Small *lacunae* 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, 3 lines + 11 lines, parallel to the fibres.

Text:

RECTO

Script

Final *'alif* extends below the connecting stroke. *Dāl/dāl* approximates to a straight line. *Sīn* and *šīn* normally have no teeth.

Content

Letter. The right side is missing. The beginning of the opening formulae is missing
واتم نعمته عليك واحسانه اليك Mentions the army commander (الامير) and the
governor (السلطان); also the deposit of documents as legal proof (حجة على ... فاحفظه
عندك).

VERSO

Traces of the address of the letter on the recto. Also, in another hand, and
account listing agricultural lands and cultivators. Amounts are expressed in Greek
numerals. Written with a fine pen, which is characteristic of official account.

Papyrus no: A 1067

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

Physical description: 23 cm. x 7.5 cm. Writing on both sides. Recto, written in black ink, 14 lines. Verso, written in reddy-brown ink, 6 lines, faint. The script on the recto is written at right angles to the fibres and on the verso parallel to the fibres.

Text:

RECTO

Script

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

Content

Letter. Beginning is missing. The writer asks the addressee to inform him if needs anything (وان تكن لك يا اخي حاجة في ناحية من النواحي او شى تشتهييه اعلمنى به). Closes with the formula: اطال الله بقاءك واعزك.

VERSO

Script

Final *'alif* in most cases does not extend below the connecting stroke.

Content

Fragment of a letter.

Papyrus no: A 1077

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

Physical description: 21 cm. x 9 cm. Writing on both sides. Recto, written in black ink, 9 lines. Verso, written in black ink, 15 lines. The script on the recto is written at right angles to the fibres and on the verso parallel to the fibres.

Text:

RECTO

Script

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

Content

Order of payment. Composed in the form of a letter. Opens and closes with: فدتك 'May my soul be your ransom'. Mentions the miller (الطحان) and the 'ass-driver' (الحمار).

VERSO

Script

Final 'alif extends below the connecting stroke.

Content

Letter sent by a freedwoman (مولاة) to a man called Shenudah (شنوده). Text opens after *basmala*: حفظك الله وابقاك and closes ... حفظك وامتع بك ... The address appears at the top of the recto: ... الى شنوده من عنت (?) مولاة ...

Papyrus no: A 1083

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

Physical description: 11.5 cm. x 10.5 cm + a small fragment 5 cm. x 5 cm.. Writing on both sides. Recto, written in black ink, faint in places, 5 + 2 lines. Verso, Coptic text written in black ink, 8 + 4 lines. The script on the recto is written at right angles to the fibres and on the verso parallel to the fibres.

Text:

RECTO

Script

Final 'alif does not extend below the connecting stroke. *Sin* is written without teeth.

Content

Fragment of a letter. Refers to land (الارض).