

**Papyrus no:** D36

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

**Physical description:** 21 cm. x 9.5 cm. Writing on one side only. Recto, written in black ink, 17 lines, parallel to the fibres.

**Text:**

**Script**

Generally well executed script. Final *'alif* generally extends below the connecting stroke. Initial *kāf* is hairpin-shaped.

**Content**

Poetry. Verses rhyme in final *lām*. The end of each verse is marked by a circular siglum with a dot in the middle.

**Papyrus no:** D48

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

**Physical description:** 21 cm. x 21 cm. Small *lacunae* in the middle. Writing on one side only. Written in dark brown ink, 24 lines, parallel to the fibres.

**Text:**

**Script**

Small hand. Final *'alif* extends below the connecting stroke. *Sīn/šīn* is written with teeth.

**Content**

Traditions of the prophet (*hadit*).

**Papyrus no:** D212

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

**Physical description:** Two pieces. Piece A: 18 cm. x 11.5 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, 15 lines, parallel to the fibres. Piece B: 15 cm. x 15 cm. Small *lacunae* in the middle. Writing on both sides. Recto, written in black ink, 13 lines, at right angles to the fibres. Verso, written in black ink, 13 lines, parallel to the fibres.

**Text:**

*RECTO*

**Script**

Well executed script. Final *'alif* extends below the connecting stroke. Medial *ṣād* and *dād* are horizontally extended. *Sīn/sīn* are written with teeth.

**Content**

Traditions of the prophet (*ḥadīth*).

*Papyrus no:* D222

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

*Physical description:* 16 cm. x 19 cm. Small *lacunae* in the middle. Writing on both sides. Recto, written in black ink, 7 lines, parallel to the fibres. Verso, written in black ink, 3 lines, at right angles to the fibres. The papyrus piece was cut from a larger sheet. 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*

Final 'alif does not extend below the connecting stroke. *Jīm*, *ḥā'* and *kā'* are usually written with a single curved stroke. *Sīn/šīn* is written with teeth.

*Content*

Letter. Opens after the *basmala*: العلى ... النازل فى اكناف 'The one dwelling in the protection of the exalted ...' The remaining portions of the letter contain various expressions of praise on the addressee.

*VERSO*

*Script*

Large hand. Only a few isolated letters are extant. Well executed. Large spaces between lines

*Content*

Probably a fragment of an official letter.

*Papyrus no:* D226

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

*Physical description:* 21 cm. x 19 cm. Small *lacunae* in the middle. Writing on one side only. Written black ink, 9 lines, at right angles to the fibres.

*Text:*

*Script*

Final 'alif extends below the connecting stroke. *Sīn/šīn* is written with teeth. Final *yā'* extends backwards.

*Content*

Poetry. The ends of verses are indicated by a circular siglum.

*Papyrus no:* D241

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

*Physical description:* 21 cm. x 20.5 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, 17 lines, parallel to the fibres.

*Text:*

*RECTO*

*Script*

Well executed script. *Hastae* are vertically extended. Final *'alif* extends below the connecting stroke. Sporadic consonantal diacritics. Words split across lines.

*Content*

Legal text concerning divorce.

*VERSO*

The same continued.

**Papyrus no:** D271

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

**Physical description:** 21 cm. x 17 cm. Writing on both sides. Recto, written in black ink, 3 lines, at right angles to the fibres. Verso, written in black ink, 4 lines, right angles to the fibres. 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**

Final 'alif extends below the connecting stroke. Initial *kāf* is hairpin shaped.

**Content**

Title page of a book on divorce: كتاب ... الطلاق. The last part of the author's name is extant: .... بن الفرج

*VERSO*

**Script**

Large hand. 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. Wide spaces between lines.

**Content**

Fragment of official correspondence.

**Papyrus no:** D321

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

**Physical description:** 27 cm. x 15 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, 8 lines, parallel to the fibres.

**Text:**

*RECTO*

**Script**

Mostly large hand. Final 'alif extends below the connecting stroke. *Sīn/sīn* is written with teeth.

**Content**

Magical text and poetry.

*VERSO*

The same continued.



**Papyrus no:** D325/1

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

**Physical description:** 11 cm. x 7.5 cm. Small *lacunae* in the middle. Writing on one side only. Written in black ink, 15 lines, parallel to the fibres. Text is missing on the left side.

**Text:**

**Script**

Small, well executed script. Final *'alif* generally extends below the connecting stroke. Final *kāf* is hairpin-shaped.

**Content**

Letter. Opening of text immediately after the *basmala* is missing. The writer is requesting the addressee to grant him something that he requires (فانا اسلك الحاجة). Ends with the conveyance of greetings.

*Papyrus no:* D325/2

*Date:* 2nd-3rd century A.H./8th-9th century A.D.

*Physical description:* Two pieces. 10.5 cm. x 5 cm, 5.5 cm. x 3 cm. Piece 1: Writing on both sides. Recto, written in black ink, 7 lines, at right angles to the fibres. Verso, written in black ink, 7 lines, parallel to the fibres. Piece 2: Writing on both sides. Recto, written in black ink, 6 lines, at right angles to the fibres. Verso, written in black ink, 5 lines, parallel to the fibres.

PIECE 1

*Text:*

*RECTO*

*Script*

Small hand. Features of early papyrus script. Final *'alif* extends below the connecting stroke. The loops of *ṣād/dād* and *ṭā'/zā'* are angular and horizontally extended. The vertical *hasta* of *ṭā'* slants to the right.

*Content*

Text containing instructions for a ethical way of life. Refers to Bilāl, the freedman of 'Abū Bakr. Possibly ḥadīth.

*VERSO*

The same continued.

PIECE 2:

Fragment from the same text.

*Papyrus no:* D433

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

*Physical description:* 24 cm. x 8 cm. 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:*

*Script*

Well executed script. Final *'alif* extends below the connecting stroke. Sporadic consonantal diacritics. The diacritical dots of *šīn* are written on a horizontal plane.

*Content*

Poetry of a pious content. End of verses are preserved on the recto, rhyming in *yā'*. The text on the verso opens اشكر لرب العلمين 'Give thanks to the Lord of the Universe'.

*Papyrus no:* D511

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

*Physical description:* 20 cm. x 10 cm. Writing on both sides. Recto, written in black ink, 13 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*, *hā'* and *kā'* are usually written with a single curved stroke. *Dāl/dāl* approximates to a straight line. *Sīn/sīn* is written without teeth.

*Content*

Fragment of the Qur'ān. Text on the right side is missing. Surat al-Insān. The end of the text at the bottom of the page is marked by a siglum consisting of a two concentric circles.

*VERSO*

*Script*

Same hand.

*Content*

Fragment of the Qur'ān. Surat Yā' Sīn. Text on the left side is missing.

*Papyrus no:* D512

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

*Physical description:* 21 cm. x 13 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, 10 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 *kā'* are usually written with a single curved stroke. *Dāl/dāl* approximates to a straight line. *Sīn/sīn* is written without teeth.

***Content***

Fragment of the Qur'ān. Al-Fātiḥa and al-Baqara.

*VERSO*

***Script***

Mostly smaller hand than on recto. Final *'alif* sometimes extends below the connecting stroke.

***Content***

Pious pronouncements based on Qur'ānic verses.

**Papyrus no:** D634

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

**Physical description:** 16 cm. x 15 cm. Small *lacunae* in the middle. Writing on both sides. Recto, written in dark brown ink, 18 lines, parallel to the fibres. Verso, written in black ink, 7 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**

Well executed script. Final 'alif extends below the connecting stroke. Numerous consonantal diacritics.

**Content**

Poetry. Incipits of verses are indented into both margins.

*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. *Ṣīn/ṣīn* is written without teeth.

**Content**

Fragment of a letter.

*Papyrus no:* D710

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

*Physical description:* 16 cm. x 12 cm. Small *lacunae* in the middle. Writing on both sides in brown ink. Recto, 10 lines, parallel to the fibres. Verso, 7 lines, at right angles to the fibres and with the text upside down relative to the recto.

*Text:*

*Script*

Final 'alif sometimes extends below the connecting stroke. *Jīm*, *hā'* and *kā'* are usually written with a single curved stroke. *Dāl/dāl* approximates to a straight line. *Sīn/sīn* is written without teeth. Sporadic consonantal diacritics.

*Content*

Traditions of the prophet (*ḥadīth*).

*Papyrus no:* D787

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

*Physical description:* 10 cm. x 7 cm. Writing on both sides. Recto, written in black ink, 11 lines, at right angles to the fibres. Verso, written in black ink, 7 lines, parallel to the fibres.

*Text:*

*RECTO*

***Script***

Features of early papyrus script. Initial *'alif* bends to the right at the bottom. The lower stroke of initial *'ayn* is horizontally extended to the right. The loop of medial *dād* is horizontally extended.

***Content***

Fragment from the Qur'ān. Surat al-Taḥrīm.

*VERSO*

***Script***

Written with fine pen. Final *'alif* extends below the connecting stroke. Connecting stroke is horizontally extended to stretch words.

***Content***

Fragment of an account. There are various columns, headed by titles الورق 'black dirhams', القسمة 'the share'. Amounts are expressed in Greek numerals.



**Papyrus no:** D947

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

**Physical description:** 22 cm. x 15 cm. Small *lacunae* in the middle. Writing on both sides. Recto, written in black ink, 19 lines, parallel to the fibres. Verso, written in black ink, 19 lines, at right angles to the fibres.

**Text:**

*RECTO*

**Script**

Small hand. 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* is generally written with teeth.

**Content**

Fragment of the Qur'ān. Al-Kahf.

*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/sīn* is written without teeth. Unconventional ligatures.

**Content**

Pen trials, including exercises in writing epistolary formulae.

*Papyrus no:* D953

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

*Physical description:* 19.5 cm. x 19 cm. Small *lacunae* in the middle. Writing on both sides. It is not possible to identify with any certainty which side is recto of text. The side that is written at right angles to the fibres is designated here the recto. Recto, written in black ink, 20 lines, at right angles to the fibres, isolated words are written in left margin. Verso, written in black ink, 19 lines, parallel to the fibres, isolated words are written in the right margin.

*Text:*

*RECTO*

*Script*

Small hand. Well executed script following a straight line across the page. Final *'alif* extends below the connecting stroke.

*Content*

Collection of ḥadīth. The ḥadīth passages are separated by a circular siglum.

*VERSO*

The same continued.

**Papyrus no:** D1081

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

**Physical description:** 23 cm. x 7 cm. Thick papyrus strip. Writing on one side only. Black ink, 16 lines, parallel to the fibres.

**Text:**

**Script**

Well executed script. Final 'alif generally does not extend below the connecting stroke. Sporadic diacritics on consonants.

**Content**

Text of a liturgical nature. Pious phrases and quotations from the Qur'ān. Text closes with a line of dashes.

**Papyrus no:** D1143

**Date:** 2nd-3rd century A.H./8th-9th century A.D.

**Physical description:** 10 cm. x 9 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, 8 lines, parallel to the fibres.

**Text:**

*RECTO*

**Script**

Features of script from early papyrus period. Final *'alif* extends below the connecting stroke. The stroke of *dāl* bends round at the top. The loop of medial *šād* is horizontally extended.

**Content**

Fragment of a scientific contents, refers to the colour (اللون) and nature (الطباع) of substances.

**Papyrus no:** D1325

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

**Physical description:** 29 cm. x 24 cm. Small *lacunae* in the middle. Writing on one side only. Written in dark brown ink, 31 lines, at right angles to the fibres.

**Text:**

**Script**

Small hand. 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.

**Content**

Collection of ḥadīth literature.

*Papyrus no:* D1415

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

*Physical description:* 33 cm. x 21 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, 24 lines, parallel to the fibres.

*Text:*

*RECTO*

*Script*

Well executed hand. Final *'alif* extends below the connecting stroke. *Sīn/šīn* is written with teeth. Final *yā'* bends backwards.

*Content*

Qur'ān. Al-Hāqqa.

*VERSO*

The same continued.

*Papyrus no:* DQ44

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

*Physical description:* 15 cm. x 14 cm. Writing on both sides. Recto, written in black ink, 11 lines, parallel to the fibres. Verso, written in black ink, 10 lines, at right angles to the fibres. This is apparently a leaf from a codex. The right half of the recto and the left half of the verso are blank.

*Text:*

*RECTO*

*Script*

Well executed script. Final *'alif* occasionally extends below the connecting stroke. All letter forms are clearly distinguished. No clear features of early papyrus script. Copious vocalization.

*Content*

Fragment of a poetic text. Only the beginnings of verses are preserved.

*VERSO*

The same continued. Only the ends of verses are preserved. The rhyme is in *-ān*.