

I. BIBLE AND APOCRYPHA.

No.1. Manuscript on vellum. Size: 320 x 290 mm. 99 leaves written on both sides. The pages divided into 3 columns of 37 lines each. The volume is bound in wooden boards. The manuscript is apparently part of a full sized Bible which comprized both the Old and the New Testaments. Due to ignorance or carelessness on the part of the bookbinder, books of the two Testaments have been meddled together, so that the volume now consists of the following 3 parts:

- 1) Job and the books attributed to Solomon (including the apocryphal Wisdom),
- 2) The Epistles of St. Paul, the Revelation (uncomplete) and the Acts of the Apostles (uncomplete),
- 3) The Twelve Prophets according to their order in the Septuagint (which is different from the order of the Minor Prophets in the Hebrew Bible).

Several hands collaborated to copy this manuscript. The hand which wrote the first section distinguishes itself by its fine calligraphy. Beginnings of books and chapters and important words or passages are written with red ink. In the second section the writing is poor and faulty. Whole lines had to be erased and written anew by a corrector. In the third section no more red ink has been employed. Sometimes place has been left for the insertion of lines in red ink, but these places have been filled afterwards with the missing words in black ink.

Test collations of the books of the O.T. with the Asmara Bible Edition, of the Wisdom of Solomon with the text in Dillmann's Libri Apocryphi, 1894, and of the books of the N.T. with Platt's edition (Novum Testamentum, 1899), proved that there are numerous variants, among which quite interesting readings. The corrections are also interesting to study, although they are not always commendable. The owner or owners of the book have added marginal notes, partly in Amharic, some of them of a pious character and others of an exegetic nature.

- Fol. 1a THE BOOK OF JOB. Division into chapters is lacking.
- 9a THE BOOK OF PROVERBS. Divided, like the text of the Septuagint, into Misleiat (Proverbs) comprising chapters 1-24 and 30, 1-31, 9, and Tagsatsa Salomon (The reprimand of Solomon) comprising chapters 25-29 and 31, 10-31. The book is divided into small sections (kifl) which do not correspond to the traditional division into chapters. There are altogether 43 such divisions in the Misleiat and 4 in the Tagsatza.
- 16a THE BOOK OF ECCLESIASTES. Divided into 20 small divisions (kifls).
- 18b THE WISDOM OF SOLOMON. Divided into 28 kifls. In this and the following book, the writing is still nice, but the letters are slender and mean in comparison with the writing in the previous books.
- 24a THE SONG OF SONGS. Divided into 5 songs, namely 1, 1-2, 7; 2, 8-3, 5; 3, 6-5, 8; 5, 9-6, 8; 6, 9 ad finem. The songs 2-5 are headed by the following captions:
- 2, 8 - Second song relating the descent of the Unique and his incarnation by means of the Virgin;
- 3, 6 - Third song telling the ascension of Him who became man, to the God with whom he had been One.
- 5, 9 - Fourth song telling the praise of the Bride of the bridegroom
- 6, 9 - Fifth song being a Monologue of the Holy Christian Church.
- 26b THE EPISTLE TO THE ROMANS. This Epistle and all the following are preceded each by an introduction styled "mekeniat" = occasion, cause (full title: "the occasion of Paul's the Apostle's writing to..."). The introductions are of considerable interest. Only part of them can be traced in the N.T. manuscripts listed in the catalogues of other public

and private libraries hitherto published. But Dillmann lists in his Catalogue of the Ethiopic Manuscripts of the British Museum (London 1841), under No. 12 a "Mashafa Mekeniat" containing the introductions to all the ~~Book~~ Epistles of Paul without the texts of the Epistles. - In the title the Epistle of the Romans is designated as the first (1).

- 32a - THE FIRST EPISTLE TO THE CORINTHIANS. In fol. 38a a new handwriting begins. The letters are small, rather broad and rounded.
- 38b - THE SECOND EPISTLE TO THE CORINTHIANS. Besides the division into kifs, there is on the margin a division into smaller sections, altogether 50 of them, for instance: 1, 1-7; 8-14; 15-19 etc.
- 43b - THE EPISTLE TO THE GALATIANS.
- 45b - THE EPISTLE TO THE EPHESIANS. Divided into 30 small sections, besides the division into kifs.
- 48a - THE EPISTLE TO THE PHILIPPIANS.
- 49b - THE EPISTLE TO THE COLOSSIANS. In the title the name Colossians is written "qosaye", which is only a mistake. In the text, the name is written correctly "qolasaye".
- 51b - THE FIRST EPISTLE TO THE THESSALONIANS.
- 52b - THE SECOND EPISTLE TO THE THESSALONIANS.
- 53b - THE FIRST EPISTLE TO TIMOTHY
- 55a - THE SECOND EPISTLE TO TIMOTHY.
- 56a - THE EPISTLE TO TITUS.
- 57a - THE EPISTLE TO PHILEMON.
- 57b - THE EPISTLE TO THE HEBREWS,
- 62b - THE REVELATION OF ST. JOHN Only until Chap. 19.
- 69a - THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES. Only until Chap. 22. 17.
- 81a - THE BOOK OF HOSEA.
- 81b - THE BOOK OF AMOS.
- 85b - THE BOOK OF MICAH.
- 87b - THE BOOK OF JOEL.
- 88a - THE BOOK OF OBADIAH.
- 88b - THE BOOK OF JONAH.
- 89a - THE BOOK OF NAHUM.
- 90a - THE BOOK OF HABAKUK
- 90b - THE BOOK OF ZEPHANIAH.
- 91b - THE BOOK OF HAGGAI.
- (92a) - THE BOOK OF ZECHARIAH.
- 95a - THE BOOK OF MALACHI.

The folios 98b and 99a are covered by a hymn to the honour of St. Peter and St. Paul, written according to the well known pattern of the Ethiopic Salams, in which every member of the body of the Saint is addressed and praised in turn.

No. 2. Manuscript on vellum. Size: 250 x 190 mm. 119 leaves written on both sides. Each page is divided into two columns of 24 lines each. The margins of the leaves are brown and worn out. The first and the last leaf are worm eaten. The volume is bound in wood-covers with leather back. The writing is big and calligraphic. The book-headings are decorated with pen-and-ink drawings. The writing and the drawings have a striking likeness with the Manuscript Orient. 650 of the British Museum (see facsimile in W. Wright's Catalogue of the Ethiopic Manuscripts in the British Museum, London 1887), which is dated from the reign of Zar'a Ya'kob (1434-68). Paleographically, the manuscript seems to belong approximately to the same period. On the verso of the fly-leaf at the beginning of the volume, there is an eulogy from another, less skilled hand, which has become partly illegible, but which shows clearly that the manuscript was written for a Falasha or belonged at some time to a Falasha. For the purpose of public or private reading, the book is divided into sections to be read each on its day, between the 26th Maskaram and the 15th Teqemt. The dates are written with red ink at the top of the leaves on which the respective sections begin.

Fol. 1a - THE PROVERBS OF SOLOMON. Same division as in Manuscript No.1. The text had many faults, which have been corrected by another hand. The text shows numerous variant readings, as compared with the Asmara Edition of the Ethiopic Bible.

36a - THE BOOK OF ECCLESIASTES.

48b - THE WISDOM OF SOLOMON.

59a - THE WISDOM OF JESUS SON OF SIRACH.

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No.3. Manuscript on vellum. Size: 210 x 230 mm. 147 leaves written on both sides. 19 lines on each page. Nice, careful writing. The manuscript does not seem to have been in extensive use. It is bound in leather-covers with leather back. Both covers are decorated with a cross in a square frame. Three leaves are added in front of the manuscript. The first remained blank, while the two other ones are written on both sides. The writing on these pages is ugly and careless. The text on them is the well known morning prayer "Kidān zanagēh (Compare Billmann's Catalogue of the Ethiopic Manuscripts of the British Museum No.20 and others.) The volume belonged to a certain Honorius.

Fol. 1a - THE BOOK OF PSALMS. The headings of the Psalms differ partly from the headings found in the printed editions. Remarkable are the subtitles in Psalm 118. They are apparently translated from Hebrew or Aramaic, as they reveal an understanding of the meaning of the Hebrew names of the letters of the Alphabet.

117a - THE CANTICLES OF THE PROPHETS AND THE PRAYER OF MOSES, a collection of poetical sections from canonical and apocryphal books usually printed together with the Ethiopic Psalter. It consists of the following pieces:

117a The Song of Moses, Ex.15,1-9

118a - The Prayer of Moses, Deut.32,1-21

119a Another Prayer of Moses, Deut.32,22-43

120b The Prayer of Hannah, I.S.2,1-10

121a The Prayer of King Hizkiah, Jes.38,20-20,

121b The Prayer of Manasseh (apocryphal)

122b The Prayer of the Prophet Jonah, Jon.2,3-10

123a The Prayer of Daniel, Dan.3,26-45 (Sept.text)

124a The Prayer of the Three Youths, Dan.3,52-56 (Sept.text)

124a The Blessing of Hananiah, Azariah and Mishael, Dan. 3,57-88 (Sept.text)

125a The Prayer of Habakkuk, Hab.3,2-19,

126a The Prayer of Isaiah, Jes.26,9-20

126b The Prayer of Mary, Lk.1,46-55

127a The Prayer of Zechariah, Lk.1,67-79

127b The Prayer of Simon, Lk.2,29-32

127b - THE SONG OF SONGS. Divided into 5 songs, as in Ms.No.1, but song 1, 3 and 4 have no titles and the headings of songs 2 and 5 are fragmentary.

133b - THE PRAISE OF MARY (WEDASSE MARYAM). These praises, which are usually printed together with the Psalms (Addis Ababa 1918, Rome 1921 etc.) are written on two columns on each page.

146a - A PRAYER TO THE VIRGIN AND TO THE HOLY TRINITY.

No.4. Manuscript on vellum. Size 115 x 110 mm. 150 leaves written on both sides. 25 lines on each page. The volume is bound in wooden boards. The writing careless. Several hands have collaborated in copying the volume.

1a THE BOOK OF PSALMS

112a THE CANTICLES OF THE PROPHETS AND THE PRAYER OF MOSES. Compare description in Ms.No.3.

125a THE SONG OF SONGS.

133b THE PRAISE OF MARY.

No.5. Manuscript on vellum. Size 195 x 215 mm. 105 leaves written on both sides. The pages divided into two columns of 23 lines each. Nice, careful writing. Many marginal notes. The volume has wood-covers and leather back.

Fol. 1b - THE EPISTLE OF ABBA SALAMA ON THE DOGMA OF THE TRINITY. The introduction is in Ge'ez. The text itself is in Amharic.

3a - THE BOOK OF ENOCH. Many variant readings, as compared with Charles' edition. The division into chapters is different.

45a - THE BOOK OF JOB.

70b - Remarks in Amharic: 1) on the weights "talaq awaqi" and "tanash awaqi".
2) on the computation of the fast "arba tom".

71a - THE BOOK OF DANIEL.

87a - THE BOOK OF EZRA. (This is the apocryphal 4th book of Ezra.

103b - An interpretation of the vision of the eagle in Ezra 11-12.

104a - A religious song in 7 strophes. The first three bear the heading "Wazema" (Dillmann Lex.s.v.: "modus quidam cantandi hymnos ecclesiasticos"), the other 4 bear the heading "selasse" (Dillmann, Lex.s.v.: "genus carminis ex ternionibus constans"). The page is completed by a short prayer under the heading "mawadis zaekul som".

104b - An extract from the BOOK OF PHILOSOPHERS (Mashafa Falasefa).

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II. FALASHA LITERATURE AND PRAYERS.

No.6. Manuscript on vellum. Size: 110 x 70 mm. 60 leaves written on both sides. 14 lines to the page. The volume has wood covers wrapped in linen.

Fol. 1a - THE BOOK OF THE DISCIPLES (ARDE'ET). This is the Falasha Version of the Book Arde'et published by E. Littmann in The Journal of the American ~~Society~~ Oriental Society, Vol. XXV, pp. 1-48, which represents the Christian Version. The Falasha Version has been published by Aescoly in his book Recueil de Textes Falachas, Paris 1951, together with a French translation. His text is based on the manuscript of the Collection d'Abbadie in the Bibliotheque Nationale of Paris. The text of the present manuscript shows numerous variant readings and completes certain lacunae in the text published by Aescoly. It includes the book designed as "Acts of Moses" (compare Wrights Catalogue Ms CLXIX) and reaches until page 142 of Aescoly's printed text.

38a - FALASHA PRAYERS. All these prayers are published by Aescoly in the book mentioned above, out of a manuscript in the Collection d'Abbadie.

38a corresponds to Cantique Aescoly p. 152

39b " " Hymne " " 156

41a " " Psaume et Priere " 158

48b " " Priere magique " 176,

56a " " " " 186.

No.7. Manuscript on vellum. Size 130 x 190 mm. 64 leaves written on both sides. Each page divided into two columns of 18 lines each. 4 blank leaves at the beginning and 3 at the end of the volume. The volume is bound in wood covers wrapped in cotton-cloth. The manuscript consists of two parts. Fol. 1-33a is distinctly Christian. With fol. 33b starts the Falasha section of the manuscript, beginning with the usual Falasha ~~and~~ ~~theology~~ ~~As~~ ~~there~~ ~~is~~ ~~no~~ ~~visible~~ ~~separation~~ ~~between~~ ~~the~~ ~~two~~ ~~sections~~ ~~and~~ ~~the~~ ~~writing~~ ~~seems~~ ~~to~~ ~~be~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~same~~ ~~hand~~, it must be assumed that a Christian copyist has copied the text, from 33b on, from a Falasha manuscript.

.The writing of the manuscript is nice and careful. The volume bears in two places the stamp of an Abyssinian Library or Monastery, but the text of the stamp is illegible.

Fol. 1a - THE PRAYER OF THE VIRGIN AT BARTOS (Beyrouth?), known from the Manuscript CLXVIII.4 in Wrights Catalogue of Ethiopian Manuscripts in the British Museum, page 112. Compare also Dillmann's Catalogue of British Museum Manuscripts Ms.78,6; the same's catalogue of Berlin Manuscripts No.73,2 and 74,1, and Zotenberg's Catalogue of Paris manuscripts No.56, 57,1 etc.

33b - FOUR FALASHA PRAYERS.

33b - A prayer published by Aescoly in his Recueil de Textes Falachas page 152, according to a manuscript in the Collection d'Abbadie,

34b -, a magic prayer

38a - A prayer for the Sabbath,

39a - another magic prayer.

40a - THE BOOK OF THE DISCIPLES (ARDEET). See remarks to Manuscript No.6.

46a - THE ACTS OF MOSES. This text is published according to a manuscript of the collection d'Abbadie by Aescoly in his above mentioned book, as a continuation of the Book of the Disciples. Our text reaches until page 143 of Aescoly's book.

No.8. Manuscript on paper. Size 170 x 110 mm. 56 leaves written on both sides. 18-20 lines on each page. The writing looks rather unexperienced. The orthography is careless. The volume is bound in wood-covers.

Fol. 1a - THE ACTS OF MOSES. Not identical with the Acts of Moses which form part of the Book of the Disciples (see remarks on Manuscripts No.6 and 7). The book is a dialogue between God and Moses on ~~the~~ Mount Sinai. Moses asks and gets explanations about the recompense for the fulfilment of the commandments and about the punishments for various sins.- In the introductory eulogy and in the second colophon the book is styled as "Gadla Muse" = Acts of Moses. But in the first colophon the work is styled as "Nagara Muse" = The Words of Moses.- In the introductory eulogy and in the second colophon the name of the copyist is given as Abba Anania. This is the name given as copyist also in the Paris manuscript of the collection d'Abbadie described by Conti-Rossini under No.220. According to the first colophon, the book has been translated from an Arab original during the reign of the Emperor Joas (Joas I 1755-1769).

14a - THE DEATH OF AARON (MOTA ARON). In the colophon the book is styled as "Gadla Aron" = Acts of Aron. According to the introductory eulogy, this is a Homily of St. Jacob of Serug pronounced on the Sabbath (or Sunday?) commemorating the death of Aaron. The copyist is again Abba Anania.

40b - THE ACTS OF SUSANNA (GADLA SOSENA). This was originally a Christian work, praising and illustrating the might of the Angels, particularly of Michael and Gabriel. The story of Susanna is only a short episode (fol.43a-45a). It is virtually the same story as in the apocryphal book of Susannah, but Susannah is here the daughter and the widow of kings and her deliverer is, instead of Daniel, the angel Michael. The Falasha copyist, again Abba Anania, has expurgated all manifest Christian expressions, but he has left such traces as "God ~~the Father~~ signing her face three times with the sign of God". The only trace of this book in other collections of Ethiopic Manuscripts seems to be Dillmann's Notice on manuscript 69,10 in his Handschriftenverzeichnis der Kgl. Bibliothek in Berlin (Berlin 1878). But as Dillmann gives there no specimen of the text, no comparison could be made.

No. 9. Manuscript on vellum. Size 127 x 90 mm. 77 leaves written on both sides (2 leaves blank). Each page divided into two columns of 17 - 19 lines each. Nice, careful writing.

- Fol. 1a - PRAISE OF WISDOM (Wedasse Tebab). A praise of the Patriarchs from Enoch to Moses and Aaron. Special stress is laid on the holiness of the priestly clothes and of the priestly liturgy.
- 6a - THE ACTS OF ABRAHAM (Gadla Abraham). An extract of this book has been published by Conti Rossini in his Appunti di Storia e Letteratura Falascia. Aescoly published the whole text in his Recueil de Textes Falachas, according to the manuscript d'Abbadie 107 (Conti Rossini No.219). The present manuscript is better and serves to complete some of the lacunae of the d'Abbadie manuscript.
- 26a - THE DEATH OF ISAAC (Eraftu laishaq).
- 44b - THE DEATH OF JACOB (Filsatu laabuna Ya'qob).
- 60a - THE HOMILY OF ST. EPHRAEM SYRUS ON ABRAHAM AND SARAH.

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No.10. Manuscript on vellum. Size 130 x 95 mm. 86 leaves written on both sides (two detached).

- Fol. 1b - THE WORDS OF MOSES (Nagara Muse). Identical with the Gadla Muse of Manuscript No.8. The text is interrupted in fol.4b and continues only from folio 80b on.
- 5a - THE ACTS OF ABRAHAM. See Manuscript No.9.
- 27a - THE DEATH OF ISAAC. " " " "
- 44b - THE DEATH OF JACOB. " " " "
- 60a - THE HOMILY OF ST. EPHRAEM ON ABRAHAM AND SARAH. The same as in Manuscript No.9.
- 80b - THE WORDS OF MOSES continued.

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No.11. Manuscript on vellum. Size 135 x 100 mm. 78 leaves written on both sides. The manuscript looks very old. The parchment is browned and badly worn out, very dry and brittle. 13-16 lines to the page.. Careful writing. Damaged wood covers.

- Fol. 1a - THE BOOK GORGORIOS (Zagorgorios Nabiye). The text has been published by Joseph Halévy in his book Teezaza Sanbat together with a French translation. Our manuscript shows numerous variant readings, omissions and additions as compared with Halévy's text.
- 21a - THE DEATH OF MOSES (MOTA MUSE). This text has been published by Dr. J. Faitlovitch in 1906 together with a translation.
- 31a - A PRAYER enumerating the different divine names. To each of them is attributed one of the Biblical miracles.
- 35a - VARIOUS FALASHA PRAYERS AND HYMNS. Identical with the prayers contained in manuscript No. 17, but as usual with many variants.
- 76a - A SHORT BIBLICAL HISTORY.
- 78b - A PRAYER FOR MERCY. Unfinished. The last lines illegible.

No.12. Manuscript on vellum. Size 150 x 115 mm. 46 leaves written on both sides. Two blank leaves at the beginning, one at the end. Bound in wood-covers.

- Fol. 1a - THE DEATH OF ABRAHAM (Filsata Abraham). Identical with the Acts of Abraham of Manuscripts No.9 and 10, but with numerous variant readings.
12b - THE DEATH OF ISAAK (Erafta Ishaq).
23b - THE DEATH OF JACOB (Eraftu wafilsatu laabuna Ya8qob).
33a - THE HOMILY OF ST. EPHRAEM ON ABRAHAM (Dirsana za-darasa ya-yebe qedus Efrem ba-enta Abraham);
42b - DISCOURSE ON THE ANGEL OF DEATH'S VISIT TO MOSES (Nagar za-kama mas'a mal'aka mot haba Muse naviye). Identical with the Death of Moses in Manuscript No.11.

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No.13. Manuscript on Vellum. Size 130 x 100 mm. 98 leaves written on both sides.

- Fol. 2a - THE DECALOGUE.
11a - THE ACTS OF ABRAHAM (Gadla Abraham).
27a - THE ACTS OF ISAAK (Gadla Ishaq). Identical with the Death of Isaak in the preceding manuscripts.
40a - THE ACTS OF JACOB (Gadla Ya'qob). Identical with the Death of Jacob in the preceding manuscripts.
52a - THE HOMILY OF ST. EPHRAEM ON ABRAHAM (Dersana Abraham).
68a - THE DISCOURSE ON THE SABBATH (Nagara sanbat).
78a - THE BOOK OF ENOCH (extracts).
85b - PRAYERS.
98a - A MAGIC SPELL AGAINST SNAKE)STING.

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No.14. Manuscript on vellum. No covers. Size 205 x 135 mm. 32 leaves written on both sides. Each page divided into two columns of 14-16 lines each. Two blank leaves at the beginning, two at the end.

- Fol. 1a - HOMILY OF ST. EPHRAEM ON ABRAHAM (Dersana Abraham).
16a - THE ACTS OF MOSES (Gadla Muse). Like in Manuscript No.8, the book has a colophon stating that it has been translated from an Arab original at the time of the Emperor Joas (Joas Adgam Sagad 1755-1769) in the year 7250 after the Creation (corresponding to A.D.1758).

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No.15. Manuscript on vellum. Size 150 x 120 mm. 50 leaves written on both sides. One blank leaf at the end. The parchment is brownish and looks very old. The volume is bound and has wood-covers.

- Fol. 1a - THE BOOK OF BARUCH. Text published by Joseph Halévy in his Te'ezaza Sanbat, Paris 1902, pages 80-96, on the basis of another manuscript,
23b - THE DEATH OF MOSES (Mota Muse). Text published by Dr. J. Faitlovitch, Paris 1906.
33b - THE BOOK OF GORGORIOS. Text printed by Joseph Halévy in the above mentioned Te'ezaza Sanbat, pages 97 - 107, on the basis of another manuscript.

No.16. Manuscript on vellum. Size 195 x 145 mm. 24 unbound leaves written on both sides. 13 lines to the page.

Fol. 1a MOTA ARON (The Death of Aron). A midrashic amplification of the relation on the death of Aaron, substantially identical with the book of the same name in Manuscript No.8.

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No.17. Manuscript on vellum. Size 160 x 120 mm. 60 leaves written on both sides. Each page is divided into two columns of 14-16 lines each. Two blank leaves at the beginning, three at the end. The volume is bound in wood covers. The manuscript contains PRAYERS OF THE FALASHAS. The text is Ghe'ez interspersed with Agau. The prayers are distributed according to the seven days of the week.

Fol. 1a - Introductory prayer

7a - Prayers for Sunday

16b - " " Monday

17a - " " Tuesday

17b - " " Wednesday

20a - " " Thursday

21a - " " Friday. They include a song of praise in honour of Isaak (25a-26b)

26b - " " Sabbath. They include extracts from Baqadami gabra Egziabher (see manuscripts No.25 and 26) and from Teezaza Sanbat (Manuscripts No.27 and 28).

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No.18. Manuscript on vellum. Size 115 x 85 mm. 53 leaves written on both sides. 13 lines on each page. 2 blank leaves at the beginning and 2 at the end.

PRAYERS OF THE FALASHAS.

Fol. 1a - Introductory praise of God.

" 3b to the end of the manuscript, the text is identical with the prayers contained in Manuscript No.11.

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No.19. Manuscript on brownish paper. Size 170 x 115 mm. Each page is divided into two columns of 20-25 lines. 60 leaves bound in wood-covers. One vellum fly-leaf at the beginning and one at the end of the volume.

FALASHA PRAYERS, apparently destined for the Seventh Sabbath.

Fol. 1a - Various prayers starting with "Hearken Israel". The prayers contain numerous Agau elements. There are, interspersed among the prayers, citations from the Teezaza Sanbat. In 2b Abba Sabra and Abba Segal are named as authors.

8a - The same prayers as in the Saatat Manuscript No.23, pages 48-226

20a - Canticles and Prayers of the Prophets

34a - Ezra Apocalypse

27b - probably a chapter of the Book of Enoch

56a - Alphabetic prayers, disposed according to the Hebrew alphabet.

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No.20. Manuscript on vellum. Size 160 x 115 mm. 174 pages numbered with Ethiopic numbers. 2 blank leaves at the beginning, one at the end. According to the colophon, the manuscript has been copied under the reign of Menelik.

Page 1 - Prayers, identical with those in manuscript No.19 fol.1a-8a,

29 - An alphabetic prayer, identical with Ms.No.19 fol.56b-60b

- Page 35 - Prayers as in Manuscript 19, fol.8b etc.
- 109 - Prayers like in Manuscript 19, fol.28b etc.
- 110 - Prayers for the Seventh Sabbath, like in Ms.19, fol.40b-46b
- 126 - The Cleaving of the Red Sea
- 129 - The Songs of the Prophets and the Prayer of Moses, like in Manuscript 19, fol.29b etc.
- 155 - Final Eulogy
- 159 - Various additional prayers

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No.21. Manuscript on vellum. Size 115 x 75 mm. 56 leaves written on both sides. Very faulty writing. 2 blank leaves at the beginning. The volume is bound in wooden covers protected by linen coating. According to the colophon, the manuscript has been copied in the reign of Menelik. The contents of the book is identical with the text published by Aescoly in the Recueil de Textes Falachas under the heading Mashafa Astar'i.

Fol. 1a - Prayers

- 28a - Verses from Isaiah followed by prayers.
- 36a - Extracts from the Book of Gorgorios.
- 40a - Extracts from the Exode.
- 42a - Extracts from Deuteronomy
- 44b - Extracts from the 4th Book of Ezra.
- 55a - Final Eulogy.

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No.22. Manuscript on paper. Size 110 x 105 mm. 107 leaves written on both sides. Bound in wood-covers. 8 leaves loose. The first 11 leaves badly damaged.

Falasha Prayers.

Fol. 1a - Same prayers as in Ms.No.6 (fol.38a and on). In Aescoly's Recueil de Textes Falachas these prayers are printed on page 168 and on.

- 22a - Same prayers as in Ms. No.6 fol.48b and on; Aescoly, Recueil, pages 176 and on.
- 36a - Magic Incantation. Aescoly, Recueil page 190.
- 41a - Prayer. Aescoly, Recueil, page 186. To be found also in Ms. No.6 fol.56a.
- 55a - THE BOOK ARDEET (THE BOOK OF THE DISCIPLES).

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No.23. Manuscript on vellum. Size 155 x 120 mm. 242 pages numbered by the copyist by means of Ethiopic figures. On the fly-leaf at the beginning of the book an enumeration of the possessor's family members in Amharic. Each page is divided into two columns of 19 lines each.

Page 1 - THE BOOK OF THE HOURS (SAATAT), containing various prayers with numerous admixtures in Agau.

96 - THE CANTICLES OF THE PROPHETS. The same as in Manuscript No.3, but without the last three Canticles from the New Testament.

104 - Psalm 118.

128 - A Hymn on the passage of the Red Sea.

131.- THE PRAYER OF MOSES (exodus 15) followed by Psalms and Fragments of Psalms.

150 - THE BOOK OF EZRA. Identical with the text published by Joseph Malevy in his Teezaza Sanbag, Paris 1902, pages 57-79, but with many variant readings. The same book is listed under the heading Apocalypse of Ezra in Wrights Catalogue of Ethiopic Manuscripts in the British Museum under XXVI,7.

174 - Other prescriptions for the Sabbath.

175 - Various Prayers.

226 - THE DEATH OF MOSES (MOTA MUSE).

No.24. Manuscript on vellum. Size 125 x 95 mm. 50 leaves written on both sides. The last ten leaves are bound upside down. The first 40 leaves contain the BOOK OF EZRA or EZRA APOCALYPSE (see Manuscript No.23). The last 10 leaves contain again the beginning of the same book and reach until page 66 of Halevy's printed text.

No.25. Manuscript on paper. Size 165 x 100 mm. 167 leaves written on both sides. 13 lines per page. Very big letters (8-9 to the line). The words and lines written in red ink are very pale and difficult to read. Careful writing. Corrections by another hand.
Contents: BAQADAMI GABRA EGZIABHER (In the Beginning created God), a book attributed to Abba Sabra (15th century). The book consists of pious lectures and poetic prayers.
Folio 161a-167 b PRAYER OF MOSES PRONOUNCED ON MOUNT SINAI. This did probably not belong to the above book.

Next

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No.26. Manuscript on vellum. Size 155 x 135 mm. 56 leaves written on both sides. Two columns to the page, each of 12-20 lines. Irregular writing. At the beginning of the volume 2 leaves written by another hand have been added. The contain a fragment of a description of the heavenly liturgy held by the angels.
Contents: BAQADAMI GABRA EGZIABHER. (See Manuscript No.25).

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No.27. Manuscript on vellum. Size 111 x 99 mm. Unbound. 57 leaves written on both sides.

Fol. 1a - TEEZAZA SANBAT (The Precepts of Sabbath). The text has been published by Joseph Halevy according to another manuscript (Teezaza Sanbat, Paris 1902), accompanied by a French translation. An English translation has been published by Wolf Leslau (Falasha Anthology, New York 1952).

47a - THE BOOK OF THE ANGELS. Text published by Halevy together with a French translation in his Teezaza Sanbat.

50a - VARIOUS PROVERBS.

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No.28. Manuscript on vellum. Size 135 x 115 mm. 41 leaves written on both sides, unbound.

Fol.1a - TEEZAZA SANBAT. See Manuscript No.27

39a - THE BOOK OF THE ANGELS. See Manuscript No.27.

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III. CHRISTIAN LITURGY AND THEOLOGY.

No.29. Manuscript on vellum. 126 leaves written on both sides. Each page divided into two columns of 18 lines each. Vigorous, pleasant and careful writing. Size 215 x 215 mm. Leather bound. Back missing. Contents of this manuscript are in the main identical with contents of Ms.89 Bf Zotenberg's Catalogue des Manuscrits Ethiopiens de la Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris 1877.

Fol.1a - Prayer of St. Basil for Monday,

14b - Another prayer of St. Basil for Monday,

15b - Prayer of St. Ephraem for Tuesday,

38b - " " " " " Wednesday

56b - " " " John for Thursday,

79b - " " Abba Synoda for Friday,

88b - " " Abba Pachomios for Friday,

96b - Prayer of St. Athanasius for Saturday,

~~100b~~ 109b - Prayer of St. Cyrill for Sunday.

No.30. Manuscript on vellum. Size 210 x 210 mm. 86 leaves written on both sides. Each page is divided into two columns of 21 lines each. Wood-covers without back. The manuscript is protected by a leather-sheath. Fol. 1a - ARGANON. The text is in the main identical with the other known manuscripts of the Arganon, for instance Ms. 97 of Zotenberg's Catalogue. It is divided into seven parts:

- 1a - for Monday
- 16a - " Tuesday
- 30a - " Wednesday
- 44a - " Thursday
- 58a - " Friday
- 70a - for Saturday
- 76a - for Sunday.

82a - An invocation to the Virgin.

Attached to the Manuscript is a primitive aquarelle of the Virgin with Jesus in her arms. In the two upper corners, the Angels Michael and Gabriel.

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No.31. Manuscript on vellum. Size 150 x 105 mm. 195 leaves written on both ~~the~~ sides and 2 fly-leaves. ~~195 lines~~ Each page divided into two columns of 17-19 lines.

Fol. 3a - THE FIVE PILLARS OF MYSTERY (5 A'emada Mistir). After an eulogy in Ghe'ez, the text is in Amharic.

- 3a - Introduction,
- 33a - The Mystery of the Trinity.
- 45b - The Mystery of the Incarnation.
- 65a - The Mystery of Baptism.
- 77a - The Mystery of Sacrifice.
- 84b - The Mystery of Resurrection.

The book deals with theological problems and contains numerous citations from the Church Fathers.

97a - THE STORY OF CREATION (Sena Fitrat). Wright (Catalogue of Ethiopic Manuscripts in the British Museum, page 264) and Abbadie (Catalogue Raisonné de Manuscrits Ethiopiens appartenant à Antoine d'Abbadie, page 5) translate the title "The Beauty of Creation", which is erroneous. The book is a kind of catechism in questions and answers following the order of the Biblical narration of the Creation of the World. This copy seems to be complete, while the copy listed by d'Abbadie under No.6 (Conti Rossini's No.146) is incomplete, as stated by Abbadie himself.

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No.32. Manuscript on vellum. Size 160 x 105 mm. 166 leaves written on both sides. 2 fly-leaves at the beginning and one at the end. Each page divided into two columns of 17-19 lines each. Bound in wood-covers. On the verso of the first fly-leaf, a later hand has added a short biography of Abba Tarbu, who was put into prison by Diocletian on account of his Christian faith and liberated by Constantin. On the recto of the second fly-leaf, another hand has added a summary of the contents of the manuscript,

Fol. 1a - THE FIVE PILLARS OF MYSTERY. Same text and division as in Manuscript No.31.

76a - THE STORY OF CREATION. Same text as in Manuscript No.31.

111a - THE TEACHINGS OF FAITH (Haymanot Tamaru).

130b - ADHORTATIONS FROM THE SCRIPTURES. (Mi'idan), collected by "seven learned monks".

159a - CHURCH ORDINANCE (Yaserata beta kristiyan na gar).

No.33. Manuscript on vellum. Size 135 x 100 mm. 169 leaves written on both sides, 13 lines to the page. 2 fly-leaves at the beginning. The title page decorated with a primitive geometric ink-drawing. THE VIVIFYING TRACT (Dersana Mahyawil). This is a story of the passion of Christ. The book is allegedly the work of the 4 Evangelists and the 3 virgins Barzeda, Mathilda and Elisabeth. The beginning corresponds with the lines cited by Dillmann in his Codices Aethiopici in ~~Museum~~ Museo Britannico 1847, manuscript XL. The story of the passion is interspersed with legends from ~~an~~ apocryphal sources. The book is divided into seven sections, to be read each on one day of the week. Each section ends with a long prayer. The first section begins with an invocation of the Holy Trinity.

- 1a - Lecture for Monday
- 30a - " " Tuesday
- 52b - " " Wednesday
- 73b - " " Thursday
- 97b - " " Friday
- 119a - " " Saturday
- 140a - " " Sunday.

The British Museum Manuscript listed by Dillmann is likewise divided into seven sections, but there each part is attributed to one of the seven prayer-hours of the day.

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No.34. Manuscript on vellum. Size 140 x 120 mm. 28 leaves written on both sides. Each page divided into two columns of 15 lines each. THE HOMILY ON SABBATH (Dersana Sanbat), attributed to Jacob of Serug. Dillmann expresses doubts about the authenticity. The beginning is evidently an imitation of the Falasha book Te'ezaza Sanbat ~~homily~~ interspersed with Christian expressions. There are manuscripts of this homily at the British Museum (Dillmann Ms. XVIII) and at the Paris' Bibliothèque Nationale (Conti Rossini No.243.)

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IV. PROFANE LITERATURE.

No.35. Manuscript on vellum. Size 125 x 110 mm. 30 leaves written on both sides. Each page divided into two columns of 19 lines. Nice, careful writing. Bound in leather.

SAWASEW - Ethiopic-Amharic Vocabulary (compare Dillmann's Catalogue No.70 and 72)

- Fol. 1a - no special title,
- 3b - on metal implements,
- 4a - on wood implements,
- 5a - on agriculture
- 8b - on the senses,
- 9a - on water
- 10a - on man,
- 11a - on houses,
- 11b - on animals,
- 12a - on diseases,
- 12b - on clothing,
- 14a - on musical instruments,
- 14b - on the body,
- 16b - phrasary.

Manuscript on vellum. Size: 85-95 x 73-60 mm. 72 leaves written on both sides (pages 1a, 53-55 are blank). The pages are one-columned of around 10 to 14 lines each. The volume is bound in carton boards. The mss is incomplete.

1b - 27 b : Weddase Maryam zäqeddus Efrem.

28a - 72b : Yäsäne Golgota

Manuscript on vellum. Size: 90 x 68 mm. 35 leaves written on both sides (leaves 1-4, 33b-35 are blank). The pages are one-columned of around 10 lines each. The volume is bound in wooden boards. Names are written with red ink. Written for Gäbrä Kidan.

5 - 20 : Lefafä sedeq

21 - 23 : Mängädä sämay .

24 - 28a : id.

28b - 32a : id.

Manuscript on vellum. Size: 1657 X 46 mm. Three pieces of parchment sewn together. Written only on recto. Upper part imperfect. Includes coloured drawings.

Sälot [bə]entä maesäromu [lä]aganent... Prayer relating to evil spirits.
In geez.

Manuscript on vellum. Size: ca1545 X 92 mm. Two pieces of parchment sewn together. Written only on recto. Imperfect, script not clear, spelling mistakes. Includes coloured drawings.

...bäesaru läsäytan asmatä hayyala... Charm. In geez.