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Planches.

1. littérature chrétienne syriaque — Manuscrits — Fac-similés — Collections. 2. Manuscrits coptes — Collections.

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THE SYRIAC COLLECTION OF THE COPTIC MUSEUM

BY

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The Manuscript Section of the Coptic Museum combines some ecclesiastical and history of Saints Manuscripts (Mss) written in syriac.

The monastery of Virgin Mary known as Deir al-Suryān in Wādī El-Naṭrūn might have been the source of these Mss.

Father ʿAbd El-Masiḥ Ṣalīb Al-Masʿūdī mentioned that this monastery was inhabited by both syriac and coptic monks in the eleventh century¹. Among these monks some were charged of copying books². This fact is attested by coptic museum Mss: A book on the second Part of the Synaxarium from Baramhat to the end of the year, was written in arabic—dated 15 cent.—, where the first 11 folios and the last 17 are missed. These missed folios are replaced by another ones written in Caršūnī³. (see plate I).

The syriac collection of the coptic museum I can mention, as found in the register of Mss. of the museum, is as follows:

1. Book on the syriac Rites, Caršūnī, incomplete at the beginning, 128 folios 15 lines, 10×7 cm.

All folios have arabesques with interlaced lines and titles in Red⁴.

2. Book on the syriac Rites, Caršūnī, 311 folios, 13-16 lines, 27×10 cm., titles in Red⁵.

1) Coptic Museum Mss. 6434: Al-Qummuṣ ʿAbd El-Masiḥ Ṣalīb Al-Masʿūdī Al-Barāmūsī, *Tuḥfat al-sā'ilīn fī ḍikr adyirat ruḥbān al-miṣriyyīn*, 1910, p. 22.

2) Émile Clément AMÉLINEAU, *Histoire de Saint Pakhome et de ses communautés*, in *Annales du Musée Guimet*, t. 17, Paris, 1989, pp.3-8; Raouf HABIB, *The coptic museum, a general guide*, Cairo, 1967, p. 43.

3) Coptic Museum Mss. 745, 39 Lit., Simaika, I: 176, 39 Lit.

4) Simaika, I: 189 Lit. 695.

5) Simaika, I: 327 Lit. 695.

3. Misselaneous:

- * Parts of parchment leaves: on the history of Saints⁶.
- * Fragments, part of parchment leaf: from the Bible⁷. (see plate II)
- * Fragments, part of paper leaves: Various Topices⁸.

This collection Dr Bo Holmberg, the researcher at the Faculty of Lund in Sweden, has get the right to catalogue by the agreement of the Board of the directors of the coptic museum in 1986.

This collection needs further studies.

6) Mms. Register of the coptic museum: 2585, 2586, 2602, 2604, 2690.

7) Mms. Register of the coptic museum: 2693.

8) Mms. Register of the coptic museum: 2587, 2598, 2600, 2601.

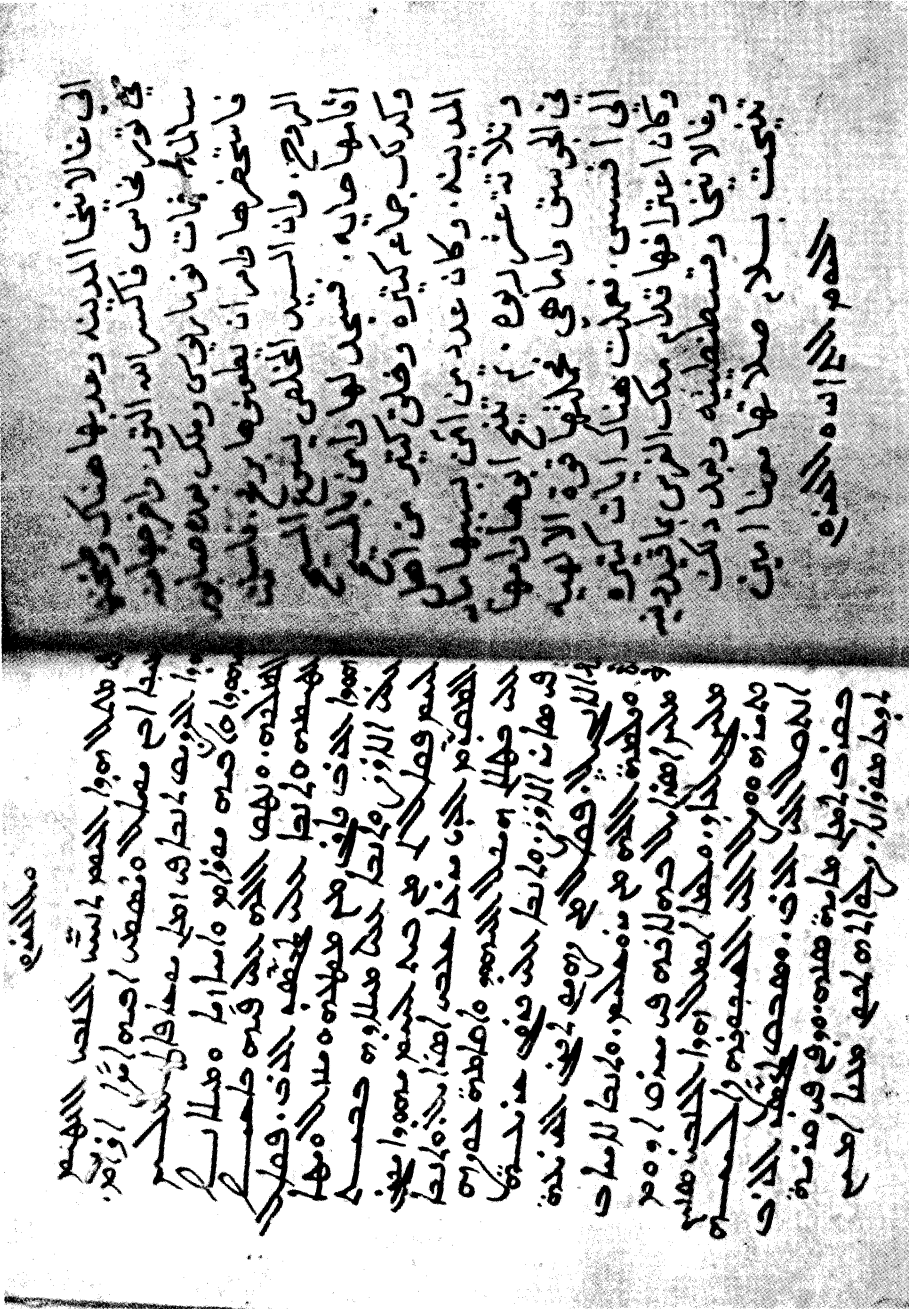


Plate I: Book on the second part of the Synaxarium

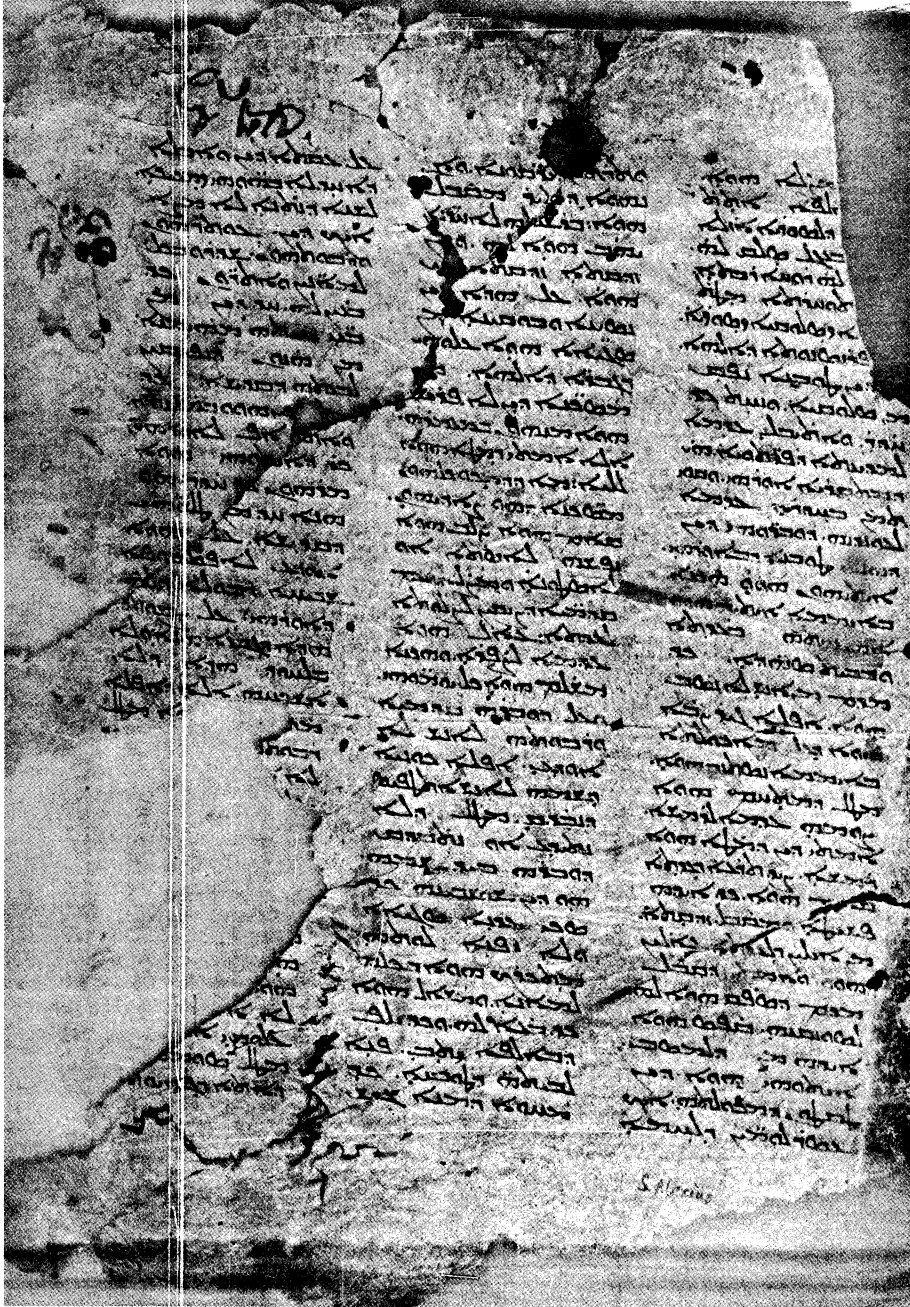


Plate II: From the Bible