

M312: Gila and Mishael Caspi Judaica Collection : Microfilm (2 reels)

Copies of manuscripts, the bulk from the 18th-20th century, on permanent deposit with the National Library of Israel; inventoried and described by Benjamin Richler, National Library of Israel.
[Annotations in brackets with reel and item number added by Bowdoin College.]

1. Zohar (Hebrew: זוהר, lit *Splendor* or *Radiance*) is the foundational work in the literature of Jewish mystical thought known as Kabbalah

Paper. 297 leaves. Yemenite semi-cursive script.

Copied from the Mantua 1558 edition in Yemen in 1695 for Suleiman Said and Salem Wena.

[reel 2, 23rd item on reel]

2. Amulet

[reel 2, 21st item on reel]

3. Yemenite Diwan. Collection of Yemenite liturgical poems. Sporadic vocalization, some of it supralinear.

Paper. 162 leaves. 18th cent. Yemenite square script.

[reel 2, 22nd item on reel]

4. Three Scrolls (Canticles, Ruth, Ecclesiastes). Aramaic translation in the margins. Vocalised. The transcription of the Scrolls is followed by Solomon ben Isaac's (Rashi) commentary, without vocalization. On the last page another hand added a prayer written for Said ibn Amran al-Buda.

Paper. Yemen. 18-19th cent. Yemenite square and semi-cursive scripts. Owner (flyleaf): Yahya b. Joseph Khalif.

[reel 1, 8th item on reel]

5. Pentateuch (fragment). Only from Genesis 29:23 to 41:4. Biblical text in square script with vocalization and accents. In the margins of the text the Targum of Onkelos (vocalized) and the Arabic translation by Seadiah b. Joseph al-Fayyumi (Seadiah Gaon) after each verse. In four columns and in "windows", Rashi's commentaries and nine other commentaries are copied, the latest of which were composed and printed in the final years of the 18th cent.

I could not find a similar ms listed anywhere else.

[21] leaves. Large folio. Paper. 19th cent. Yemenite square and semi-cursive scripts.

[reel 1, 6th item on reel]

6. Kabbalistic poem. According to the colophon this poem included 63 stanzas of which only about 46 remain.

6 leaves. Paper. Small octavo. Yemenite script. 19th cent.

[reel 1, 15th item on reel]

7. Yemenite Diwan. Collection of Yemenite liturgical poems.

Paper. Thin folio. Yemenite square script. 18th cent.

[reel 1, 17th item on reel]

8. Prayers and liturgical poems for the Jewish New Year, by Yemenite poets.

13 leaves. Paper. Yemenite square script. 19th cent.

[reel 2, 1st item on reel]

9. Yemenite liturgical poems.

Paper. 11 leaves. Octavo size. Yemenite script. 19-20th cent.

[reel 1, 10th item on reel]

10. Fragment from Moses b. Maimon's (Maimonides) Halakhic treatise "Mishneh Torah", Book 14 (Sefer Shofetim), Laws of kings (hilkhot melakhim) chapters 10-11.

1 leaf. Paper. Yemenite script. 17th cent.?

[reel 1, 13th item on reel]

11. Yemenite apocalyptic treatise. Published from other mss by Y. Ratzabi in Folklore Research Center Studies, 1 (1970), Heb. Sect., pp. 310-312. This version is close to, but not identical, with the "Zadok MS" (a ms owned by a Mr Zadok). The date for the coming of the Messiah is 5660=1900 (in the other mss it is 5666).

1 leaf. 19th cent. Yemenite script

[reel 1, 14th item on reel]

12. Yemenite poems. With vocalization.

[4] leaves numbered 33-35, 37. 18-19th cent. Yemenite script.

[reel 2, 14th item on reel]

13. Fragment from a Sephardic rite prayerbook. On ff. 1-2 the end of a chapter on the order of the books of the Bible and other masoretic matters. On f. 3r: magical formulas in Hebrew and Spanish in Hebrew characters. On ff. 3v-5v: liturgical poems (part of a kerovah) for the fastday of 17 Tammuz. F. 6 is a separate leaf with other penitential liturgies.

Parchment. 6 leaves. 14-15th cent. Sephardic squar script.

[reel?]

14. Unknown kabbalistic treatise by [?] Simeon b. Shalem [Shabazi??]. On f. 8r-v there is a note in the margin by "the author Bizfat [=Simeon in the atbash code] b. Shalem"

Paper. 16 leaves. Yemenite script. 19th cent.?

[reel 2, 2nd item on reel]

15. "Hupat Hatanim". Collection of liturgical poems, mainly by Yemenite poets. Not a copy of the printed books. Includes several poems by Hayyim ben Moses [Luzi or Shekedi] one of them, in Arabic, on the troubles of 1936 in Palestine (f. 371r). Many of the poems by Shekedi are included in another compilation found in the Ben Zvi Institute in Jerusalem, MS 1238, described in the catalogue by Y. Tobi. Shekedi lived in Petah Tikva in Palestine. Incomplete. Many leaves missing. Originally included close to or over 400 leaves.

Paper. Approx. 100 leaves. Palestine? Ca. 1936. Yemenite semi-cursive script.

[reel 1, 7th item on reel]

16. Fragment from a Yemenite prayer book, with a commentary. Includes only part of the Amidah (Eighteen Benedictions) for the daily morning service and the end of the prayer preceding it. Supralinear vocalization.

Paper. 2 leaves. 17th cent. Yemenite script.
[reel 1, 9th item on reel]

17. Fragment from Jacob ibn Habib's collection of Talmudic legends, "Ein Yaacov". The fragment includes legends from tractate Pesahim, ch. 4. Probably copied from a printed edition.
Paper. 1 leaf. 19th cent. Yemenite script.
[reel 2, 20th item on reel]

18. Collection of midrashim and tales. Incomplete. F. 8, in a different script, includes prayers for the Shabbat. F. 9, in a different script, includes a Yemenite version of the Grace after Meals, with supralinear vocalization.
Paper. 9 leaves. 18-19th cent. Several Yemenite scripts.
[reel 2, 13th item on reel]

19. Selihot (penitential liturgies). With supralinear vocalization. Fragment.
Paper. 8 leaves. 17th cent. Yemenite script.
[reel 2, 3rd item on reel]

20. Homilies for the weekly readings from the Torah (Pentateuch). Fragment. Only from the Book of Exodus, pericopes Va-Yakhel and Pekudei. Based on tales and proverbs.
Paper. 2 leaves, originally numbered 15-16. 19th cent. Yemenite script.
[reel 1, 16th item on reel]

[no number 21 on list]

22. Fragments from a collection of Yemenite piyyutim (liturgical poems) and Selihot (penitential liturgies). Two different hands, the second with supralinear vocalization.
Paper. 4 leaves. 18th cent. Yemenite script.
[reel 2, 4th item on reel]

23. Lots, fortunes, signs etc. in Judaeo-Arabic and Hebrew.
Paper. 12 leaves. 18-19th cent. Yemenite scripts.
[reel 2, 5th item on reel]

24. Fragment from Selihot (penitential liturgies) for the New Year.
Paper. 2 leaves. 18-19th cent. Yemenite script.
[reel 2, 6th item on reel]

25. Fragments from a collection of Yemenite piyyutim (liturgical poems) in Hebrew and Judaeo-Arabic.
Paper. 2 leaves. 18-19th cent. Yemenite scripts.
[reel 1, 12th item on reel]

26. Poem, or riddle. The name of the poet, mentioned near the end, is Said.
Paper. 1 leaf. 19th cent. Yemenite script.
[reel 1, 11th item on reel]

27. Fragment from a Yemenite Diwan.
Paper. 1 leaf. 19th cent. Yemenite script.
[reel 2, 7th item on reel]
28. Novellae on the laws of Shehitah (ritual slaughter)
Paper. 1 leaf. 18th cent. North African script.
[reel 2, 8th item on reel]
29. The "Kol Nidrei" liturgy for the Eve of Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement)
Paper. 1 leaf. 19-20th cent. Yemenite script.
[reel 2, 9th item on reel]
30. Homily for the pericope Va-Yakhel.
Paper. 1 leaf. 20th cent. Oriental-Sephardic script.
[reel 2, 10th item on reel]
31. Deed for the sale of a Torah Scroll.
Paper. 1 leaf. 2214 Sel. =1903. Southern Yemen. Yemenite square script.
[reel 2, 12th item on reel]
32. Letter from the scholar Isidore Goldblum in Paris to the scholar and book collector Solomon Joachim Halberstamm. Mentions other contemporary scholars and mss and books he saw.
Paper. 3 leaves. Paris, 1887. Ashkenazic cursive script.
[reel 2, 17th item on reel]
33. Bill of divorce issued in Melilia (Spanish Morocco) in 1908.
Paper. 1 leaf. Sephardic square script
[reel 2, 11th item on reel]
34. Small fragment from Midrash Hagadol on Leviticus 10.
Paper. 1 frag. 16th cent. Yemenite script.
[reel 2, 16th item on reel]
35. Small fragment from Joseph Karo's "Shulchan Arukh", Orach hayyim. Laws of washing hands and laws of tzitzit (fringes).
Paper. 1 fragment. 18th cent. Yemenite script.
[reel 2, 18th item on reel]
36. Yemenite poem.
Paper. 1 leaf. 19-20th cent. Yemenite script.
[reel 2, 15th item on reel]
37.
Fragment from laws of Shehitah (ritual slaughter).
Paper. 1 fragment. 18-19th cent. Yemenite script.
[reel 2, 19th item on reel]