FIELD NOTES ON SYRIAC MANUSCRIPTS IV: SIX PHILOSOPHICAL MANUSCRIPTS IN THE COLLECTION OF THE CHALDEAN ANTONIAN ORDER OF ST. HORMIZD (O.A.O.C.)

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ABSTRACT

The article describes six manuscripts (Syr. 169 – 174) of philosophical content belonging to the collection of the Chaldean Antonian Order of St. Hormizd (at present located in Erbil). As well as remedying the shortcomings of earlier catalogues that fell short of properly identifying the texts, the article seeks also to consider the production of these manuscripts in the context of the early history of the monastic order established by Gabriel Danbo.

As already pointed out by Jacques-Marie Vosté, many manuscripts held at the library of Our Lady of the Seeds (also known as Notre-Dame des Semences) originate from the period of

restoration of the monastery of Rabban Hormizd. The restoration was initiated by Gabriel Danbo (alternative spelling, Dambo) (1774–1832), who in 1808 managed to gain control of the by-that-time abandoned monastery of Rabban Hormizd near Alqosh in order to establish a new monastic community that later became known as the Antonian Order of St. Hor-

I am grateful to Abbot Dr. Samer Soreshow Yohanna, the Superior General of the O.A.O.C., who kindly provided me with copies of the manuscripts. At the time of photographing none of the manuscripts had modern foliation, added only recently by the team of IRHT which is currently in charge of cataloguing of a selection of manuscripts belonging to O.A.O.C. I am indebted therefore to André Binggeli and Flavia Ruani for putting at my disposal the preliminary descriptions of Syr. 169 – 173 prepared by Manhal Makhoul, which have enabled me to make use of the recently added foliation as well as the dimensions.

[The descriptions prepared by Manhal Makhoul have been published online at http://syriac.msscatalog.org/ (accessed 13 February, 2023) right before the final submission of the present article and hence it was impossible to take them fully into consideration; Makhoul's catalogue entries provide thorough physical description of the codices, but are not precise, and occasiannly erroneous, in identification of the texts].

For previous installments see *Hugoye* 20.2 (2017), 419–434, *Hugoye* 21.1 (2018), 21–42, and *Hugoye* 23.1 (2020), 99–130. The research leading to this article has received funding from the European Research Council under the European Union's Seventh Framework Programme (FP₇/2007–2013) / ERC Grant Agreement n. 679083 as part of the research project 'Transmission of Classical Scientific and Philosophical Literature from Greek into Syriac and Arabic' (HUNAYNNET), carried out at the Austrian Academy of Sciences.

¹ J.-M. Vosté, Catalogue de la Bibliothèque syro-chaldéenne du Couvent de Notre-Dame des Semences près d'Alqosh (Iraq) (Rome-Paris, 1929), 4 (the catalogue was published originally as J.-M. Vosté, "Catalogue de la Bibliothèque syro-chaldéenne du Couvent de Notre-Dame des Semences près d'Alqosh (Iraq)," Angelicum 5 (1928), 3–36, 161–194, 325–358, 481–498).

mizd.² Despite various difficulties, Danbo's enterprise enjoyed success, and the number of monks grew yearly. One of his primary goals was to prepare educated clergy, particularly for the Chaldean mission. Apparently, the copying of manuscripts went hand in hand with education, and this explains the presence in the Antonian Order's collection of a large number of manuscripts containing texts of different genres that were produced during the 19th century, first at the monastery of Rabban Hormizd and subsequently at the monastery of Our Lady of the Seeds (built in 1858), which was situated close to Algosh and offered a more secure and appropriate setting for the monastic community.

Special attention in the curriculum was devoted to the study of philosophy and logic: we are informed that Danbo invited two learned teachers to instruct the monks in these subjects.3 It is also possible that Danbo himself taught philos-

² For the history of Rabban Hormizd following its re-opening by Danbo, see D. Wilmshurst, The Ecclesiastical Organisation of the Church of the East, 1318-1913, CSCO 582 / Subsidia 104 (Louvain: Peeters, 2000), 263-270. One of the most important sources for the period under consideration remains the Life of Gabriel Danbo (a French translation is available in M. Brière, "Histoire du couvent de Rabban Hormizd de 1808 à 1832," Revue de l'Orient Chrétien 15 (1910), 410-424; 16 (1911), 113-127, 249-254, 346-355). A more detailed historical account can be found in S. Bello, La congregation de S. Hormizdas et l'église chaldéenne dans la première moitié du XIX^e siècle, OCA 122 (Rome, 1939). For the Antonian Order, see also C. Karalevskij, "Antonins chaldéens," DHGE 3 (Paris, 1924), cols. 870-873. Among the unexplored sources relating to the history of the monastery of Rabban Hormizd belongs also the monastery's history composed by Samuel Giamil (the text remains unedited, but for a summary, see A. Vaschalde, "The Monks of Rabban Hormizd," The Catholic University Bulletin 8 (1902), 472-482, here 475-482).

³ Bello, La congregation de S. Hormizdas, 57-59.

ophy.⁴ The study of philosophy and logic was carried on also after Danbo's assassination in 1832. Thus we know that Jeremiah Timothy Maqdasi (1847–1929), before his consecration as a Chaldean bishop of Zakho in 1892, taught philosophy in the monastery of Our Lady of the Seeds.⁵ Perhaps teaching needs compelled him to compose the *Book of Logic* which seems to have enjoyed great popularity, judging from the number of extant (not only East Syriac but also Syrian Orthodox) copies.⁶ We are aware of yet another philosophical output – this time, however, produced by the monks of Rabban Hormizd during the lifetime of Danbo. Two manuscripts have preserved an exposition of Aristotelian logic in twelve-syllable metre (covering the *Isagoge, On interpretation* and *Prior Analytics*) composed by three monks of Rabban Hormizd in the year 1831.⁷

⁴ According to Badger, Danbo taught grammar, philosophy, and rhetoric during the first decade of the 19th century in a school that he established in Baghdad (G.P. Badger, *The Nestorians and their Rituals*, vol. 1 (London, 1852), 162, cf. Bello, *La congregation de S. Hormizdas*, 29).

⁵ See the introduction to his *Book of Logic* (unedited). A brother of Samuel Giamil, he is better known for his *Grammaire chaldéenne* (Mosul, 1889). For further details, see R. Macuch, *Geschichte der spät- und neusyrischen Literatur* (Berlin, 1976), 408–409.

⁶ This remains unedited. For a provisional list of manuscript copies, see G. Kessel, "The Syriac Commentary Tradition: An Update," in *La philosophie en syriaque*, Études syriaques 16, ed. E. Fiori and H. Hugonnard-Roche (Paris: Geuthner, 2019), 389–416, here 392 n. 7.

⁷ This work has not received any scholarly attention to date (cf. H. Murrevan den Berg, Scribes and Scriptures: The Church of the East in the Eastern Ottoman Provinces (1500–1850), Eastern Christian Studies 21 (Louvain: Peeters, 2015), 353–354; Kessel, "Syriac Commentary Tradition," 392). According to the description of the manuscript olim Alqosh, Notre-Dame des Semences / Vosté 69 (Vosté, Catalogue de la Bibliothèque syrochaldéenne, 28–29), Damianos composed a section dealing with Isagoge,

This philosophical exposition in verse form sheds light on the philosophical curriculum in the monastery. Particularly noteworthy is the study of logic in the form of the so-called 'truncated' or 'short' Organon. A similar profile for the philosophical curriculum can be inferred from analyzing the manuscripts with philosophical content undertaken below.

The philosophical manuscripts presented in this article illustrate how the newly established order satisfied its demand in texts. First, the manuscripts were available locally from the monastery of Rabban Hormizd and the town of Alqosh. By going through the manuscripts available locally, Gabriel Danbo and his assistants could easily come across old manuscripts that could be put to use by means of new copies made either by the local professional scribes in Algosh or by the monks themselves. Secondly, if unavailable locally, copies of the required texts could be commissioned or copied personally through the Chaldean network of churches and monasteries.8 Hence, one can easily imagine how, in our case, Gabriel

Sim'on Lewis - On Interpretation and Aklemandros - Prior Analytics. The authors can be identified with Damianos, son of Telko, Shem'on Louis of Piyōz and Clement of Telkepe, who entered the monastery of Rabban Hormizd in 1832, 1822, and 1823 respectively (Wilmshurst, Ecclesiastical Organisation, 264); all three were also active as copyists (for Damianos, see ibid, 266 and n. 369, 257 and note 323; for Shem'on Louis: ibid, 239 and note 219, 269 and note 378; and for Clement of Telkepe: ibid, 228-229 and note 150).

For example, we know that during a visit to Diyarbakır in order to receive the ordination in 1823, several monks produced a copy of the *Book of Dia*logues by Jacob bar Shakkō (Antonian Order, Syr. 180 / olim Notre-Dame des Semences / Vosté 64) on the basis of the manuscript copied by Chaldean patriarch Joseph II (olim Diyarbakır / Scher 140 = Mardin, Chaldean Church / HMML Project number CCM 338).

Danbo, being interested in supporting the study of philosophy in his monastic community, in 1821/2 requested that a professional scribe Shem'on – residing at that time in Algosh – produce a copy of a collection of philosophical works (Syr. 169) based on an old codex. One may assume this was found at the abandoned monastery of Rabban Hormizd or in Algosh. A further copy based on the same exemplar was produced before 1840 by a professional scribe (Syr. 171). Syr. 171, in turn, appears to have been used as a model for Syr. 170 that was copied by one of the monks during the second half of the 19th century. During the third decade of the 19th century another monk at Rabban Hormizd – Vincentius – copied the first three books from the Cream of Wisdom by Bar Ebrōyō (Syr. 172). The manuscript Syr. 174 illustrates that leaders of the monastic community were well aware of the holdings of the neighbouring collections. This particular manuscript was copied from an exemplar that was at that time kept in the collection of the Chaldean Patriarchate in Mosul. Although we cannot be sure whether the copy was produced in Mosul or Rabban Hormizd, it is reasonably safe to assume that the copy was made by one of the community's monks. Manuscript Syr. 173 has much in common with a few other manuscripts of philosophical content, such as Algosh, Chaldean Diocese / HMML Project number DCA 61 and Cambridge Add. 2812. Given that both of these manuscripts were produced in Alqosh, it is highly probable that Syr. 173 was produced by one of the monks relying on an exemplar available locally.

Notwithstanding the availability of catalogue descriptions for the six philosophical manuscripts analysed below, a new examination is worthwhile for one main reason: none of the

available catalogues provides an adequate description of their contents.9 The catalogues of Addai Scher (covering only Syr. 170 and Syr. 171) and Jacques-Marie Vosté offer imprecise and occasionally mistaken descriptions and neglect several items altogether. The catalogue of B. Ḥaddād and J. Isḥāq – at least in the case of the six manuscripts under consideration – provides no additional information beyond that of Vosté. Moreover, Ḥaddād and Isḥāq failed to identify one manuscript – Syr. 172 – in the catalogue of Vosté. The catalogue descriptions prepared by Manhal Makhoul are more detailed but not sufficiently precise in the identification of the texts. This has been rectified in the present study.

In relation to earlier catalogues' shortcomings, the most significant ones are as follows: Proba's commentary on Porphyry's Isagoge, present in Syr. 169 and Syr. 170, is identified as a translation of Isagoge (Scher) or even as a translation of Isagoge, Categories and Prior Analytics (Vosté, Haddād-Isḥāq); Bar Zō'bī's *Mēmrā* on philosophy in Syr. 173 is assigned to Prōbā (Vosté) or Aritotle (Makhoul); texts overlooked by all earlier catalogues include: Proba's commentary on On Interpretation in Syr. 169 and Syr. 171; two lives of Aristotle in Syr. 170; Bar Zō'bī's Mēmrā on divisions of philosophy in Syr. 171; a metrical letter (otherwise attributed in the East Syriac manu-

⁹ Scher, A., "Notice sur les manuscrits syriaques conservés dans la bibliothèque du couvent des Chaldéens de Notre Dame-des-Semences," Journal Asiatique 10^e série, vol. 7 (1906), 479-512 & 8 (1906), 55-82; Vosté, Catalogue de la Bibliothèque syro-chaldéenne; B. Haddad and J. Ishaq, Almakhtūtāt al-suryāniyya wa-l-'arabiyya fī khizānat al-rahbāniyya alkaldāniyya fī Baghdād (Syriac and Arabic Manuscripts in the Library of the Chaldean Monastery Baghdad), part 1. Syriac Manuscripts (Baghdad, 1988).

scripts to Rabban Qāmīshōʻ of Nuhādrā) in Syr. 173; Makhoul's descriptions overlooked two lives of Aristotle in Syr. 170, Bar Zōʻbī's $M\bar{e}mr\bar{a}$ on divisions of philosophy in Syr. 171, a metrical letter and an anonymous $m\bar{e}mr\bar{a}$ on the mind in Syr. 173 and misidentified the contents of Syr. 172.

Out of the six manuscripts described in the present study, only two - Syr. 169 and Syr. 171 - have been used in scholarship. 10 Hence the significance of most of the manuscripts as witnesses to the works they contain remains to be explored. Nevertheless, some general observations can be made already at this stage. All the texts but one are attested in other manuscript copies, some of which are much older and originate from the monastery Dayr al-Suryān in Egypt. The only exception is the commentary on On Interpretation by Paul the Persian, the only known copy of which is Syr. 171. In the case of one more work – a complete version of Prōbā's commentary on Isagoge - besides two fragments from a manuscript from Dayr al-Suryān, three manuscripts of the Antonian Order are the only known witnesses. As far as identification of the texts present in these six manuscripts is concerned only one - an anonymous mēmrā on the mind that can be found in Syr. 173 escapes precise identification.

They feature particularly in the studies of Henri Hugonnard-Roche see below under Syr. 171, no. 7 and 8 and also his H. Hugonnard-Roche, "Sergius de Rešayna: Commentaire sur les *Catégories* (à Théodore). Livre premier," *Oriens-Occidens. Cahiers du Centre d'Histoire des sciences et des philosophies arabes et médiévales* 1 (1997), 123–135 = idem, La logique d'Aristote du grec au syriaque. Études sur la transmission des textes de l'Organon et leur interprétation philosophique, Textes et traditions 9 (Paris: Vrin, 2004), 187–231.

Though it may be premature to deal with the filiation of the manuscripts under consideration before any in-depth textual analysis has taken place, a couple of preliminary observations can be ventured here. For one manuscript - Syr. 174 one can state positively that its exemplar was olim Mosul, Chaldean Patriarchate / Scher 35, an important early modern East Syriac philosophical manuscript that was used as a model for several manuscripts. Three manuscripts – Syr. 169, Syr. 170 and Syr. 171 – are remarkably similar in their contents. My selective collation of these three manuscripts allows me to posit that: first, Syr. 169 and Syr. 171 were independently copied from the same exemplar. The exemplar appears to have been quite old and defective, and at least some of its folios were in the wrong sequence. At the same time, Syr. 171 seems to be a more accurate copy in comparison to Syr. 169.12 Secondly, Syr. 170 seems to have been copied from Syr. 171. Notwithstanding the relationship between these three manuscripts that has been just outlined, the nature of the puzzling textual variation remains to be clarified.

Finally, it is necessary to say a few words about the history of the manuscript collection of the Antonian Order, which saw multiple relocations.13 After being moved to the newly built

¹¹ G. Kessel & N. Bamballi, "Field Notes on Syriac Manuscripts II: A Philosophical Manuscript olim Mosul 35 Rediscovered," Hugoye: Journal of Syriac Studies 21.1 (2018), 21-42.

¹² For a similar assessment of Syr. 169 and Syr. 171, see H. Hugonnard-Roche, "Le commentaire syriaque de Probus sur l'Isagoge de Porphyre. Une étude préliminaire," Studia graeco-arabica 2 (2012), 227-243, here 231.

¹³ A brief survey can be found in S.S. Yohanna, The Gospel of Mark in the Syriac Harklean Version: An Edition Based upon the Earliest Witnesses, Biblica et Orientalia 52 (Rome, 2015), 109-111.

monastery of Our Lady of the Seeds near Alqosh, the collection remained there for about a century, with hundreds of manuscripts being added throughout that period. For security's sake, a part of the collection was moved to the monastery of St. George near Mosul, where it remained from *circa* 1963/4 to 1974. All the manuscripts were subsequently transferred to the newly built monastery of St. Antony in Baghdad. During a further period of significant instability in the country, in 2006, the collection was re-located again, this time back to the monastery of Our Lady of the Seeds. Lastly, several years ago, on account of the ISIS invasion of Iraq, the collection was once again removed, this time to Erbil, where the Antonian Order had just built a cultural center called the 'Scriptorium Syriacum', which currently houses and takes care of the entire collection.

SYRIAC 169

olim Alqosh, Notre-Dame des Semences / Vosté 51

Summary:

- ı. Prōbā, Commentary on Porphyry's *Isagoge*
- 2. Aristotle, Categories (version of Jacob of Edessa)
- 3. Sergios of Rēš'aynā, Commentary on Aristotle's Categories
- 4. Aristotle, On Interpretation (version of Prōbā)
- 5. Prōbā, Commentary on Aristotle's On Interpretation

Paper. - 260 ff. - 1 col., 27 l.

310-350 × 210-227 mm.

East Syriac handwriting with minimal vocalization.

Contemporary foliation in Syriac letters on the verso side of each leaf.

Possession note 'of the monastery of Rabban Hormizd' and a seal in Arabic (undeciphered) on f. 1r.

CONDITION: The manuscript consists of 27 quires which are signed on the first and last page of each quire. The manuscript is complete, although three quires are irregular: 17, 2-17¹⁰, 18⁴, 19-26¹⁰, 27⁹.

DATE: the manuscript does not have a colophon and most probably never had one; nevertheless, the year – AG 2133 [CE 1821/2] – as well as the scribe's name, are mentioned in a decorative border (f. 1v).14

SCRIBE: deacon Shem'on (mentioned on ff. 1v, 30v, 158r).

On palaeographic and chronological grounds, the scribe of the manuscript can be identified as deacon Shem'on (the son of Peter, the son of Denhā), who belonged to the scribal Asmar family of Telkepe. ¹⁵ On the basis of the evidence provided by the manuscripts copied by Shem'on, we can reconstruct only the main stopovers during his life. 16 He started his career as a

¹⁴ Scribe Shem'on from the Asmar family with whom the scribe of the present manuscript is identified, employed the same method to document his name and the year of manuscript's copying in at least two other manuscripts ('Agrah, Chaldean Archdiocese / HMML Project number ACA 3 and Duhok, Chaldean Church / HMML Project number DCD 9).

¹⁵ On this scribal family, see Wilmshurst, Ecclesiastical Organisation, 226– 227 and passim.

¹⁶ To the list of six manuscripts indicated by Wilmshurst (Wilmshurst, Ecclesiastical Organisation, 226 n. 132), we can also add manuscript no. 12 from the collection of the Babel College (indicated in Shikwānā, I. M. Haţţāţūn mašāriqa, vol. 2 (Duhok, 2013), 68*, no. 222).

scribe in the second decade of the 19th century in Telkepe, where he had as his master deacon Joseph of the Pallat family. From there, he moved to Alqosh, where he was active during the third decade of the century. For the most part, he was commissioned to copy Biblical and liturgical texts. The manuscript Syr. 169 is the only known manuscript with philosophical content that he had produced. It seems, then, that the production of the given manuscript was initiated by Gabriel Danbo (or his assistants), who was interested in procuring copies of philosophical texts for the community.¹⁷

CATALOGUE DESCRIPTIONS: Vosté, *Catalogue de la Bibliothèque syro-chaldéenne*, 22 (no. 1 is mistaken and no. 5 is missing); Ḥaddād–Isḥāq, *Al-makhṭūṭāt al-suryāniyya wa-l-ʿarabiyya*, 82* (no. 1 is mistaken and no. 5 is missing); Makhoul, "Erbil-Ankawa, O.A.O.C., syr. 169". ¹⁸

The manuscript was used as an exemplar for Mingana Syr. 606, copied in Algosh in 1933. 19

A large number of the lacunae are noticeable in the manuscript and have to do with the defective condition of the exemplar. The scribe marked such problematic sections of the text with white spaces. The form of the lacunae suggests that

¹⁷ A personal connection between deacon Shem'ōn and Gabriel is attested by the colophon of manuscript Duhok, Chaldean Church / HMML Project number DCD 9 (1822 CE), where after the names of the Pope and Chaldean patriarch, the scribe mentions 'Gabriel, the abbot of Mar Hormizd'.

¹⁸ http://syriac.msscatalog.org/71255 (accessed 13 February, 2023).

¹⁹ This has been established already earlier, see, for example, Hugonnard-Roche, "Le commentaire syriaque de Probus sur l'*Isagoge*," 231.

the missing sections of text were not caused by the loss of respective folios but rather by their illegibility, perhaps due to water damage.

1. ff. 1v-3ov

Prōbā, Commentary on Porphyry's *Isagoge* In two sections (ff. 1v–24r; 24v–30v).

Title:

مامه میتم میزمکامی میرمانی میزمکامی میدیم حامه میرمانی میزمکامی میرمانی میزمکامی میزمکامی میرمانی میر

Incipit:

Desinit:

... مهلز هی هلی دهن مهمهدز مهم معقی هلی دمهدی المه دمست های مهندی هدیم حدد حمدندی های دهادیم های در المهددی های در المهددیم می در المهددیم های در المهددیم می در المهددیم در المهدیم در المهددیم در المهددی

Final rubric:

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Multiple diagrams (ff. 5r–v, 11v, 12r, 21r–v, 22v, 24r) and variant readings in the margins. The text's opening title implies that the commentary on Isagoge initially formed part of a tripartite corpus that also contained Prōbā's commentaries on Aristotle's *Categories* and the *Prior Analytics*. Out of those three commentaries, the one on the *Categories* has not come down to us. A scribal note on f. 1v ('Be aware, o reader, that I begin from the second section, because I could not find the first sec-

tion in the manuscript') is puzzling because the text of the commentary is complete.

ED.: A. Baumstark, *Aristoteles bei den Syrern vom v.-viii. Jahrhundert.* Bd. 1, Syrisch-Arabische Biographieen des Aristoteles. Syrische Commentare zur ΕΙΣΑΓΩΓΗ des Porphyrios (Leipzig, 1900), 4^*-12^* [ed. of the second section], 148-156 [Germ. transl.]

LIT.: see G. Kessel, "The Syriac Commentary Tradition: An Update," in La philosophie en syriaque, Études syriaques 16, ed. E. Fiori and H. Hugonnard-Roche (Paris: Geuthner, 2019), 389–416, here 393 (1.2.1).

2. ff. 30v-57v

Aristotle, *Categories* (version of Jacob of Edessa)

Title:

وزرجالماس ماسامه ورود المربعة الماملين والموروب والموروب المربعة المر

Incipit:

אסמסנים אספים אסיי אסיים אסמים צייים אסמים צייים אסמים א

Desinit:

יי שרא גיא גיב ביניא גינא אבינים בוניאיא פרשים ביניא ייניא ארבינים. ייניא איניא איניא איניא איניא איניא איניאי Final rubric:

معمصابع صبالملمينتها بسعدة صتمر مراممه ماء بماء بماء

Glosses (ff. 41r, 45v) and multiple variant readings in the margins. The name of Jacob of Edessa is not indicated (the earliest attestation for that is provided by Vat. sir. 158). The text form belongs to the same branch represented by the manuscript *olim* Mosul / Scher 35.

ED.: S. Schüler, Die Uebersetzung der Categorieen des Aristoteles von Jacob von Edessa (nach einer Handschrift der Bibliothèque nationale zu Paris und einer der Königl. Bibliotheken zu Berlin) [PhD thesis] (Berlin, 1897), 21–31 [ed. up to 3b32]; Kh. Georr, Les Catégories d'Aristote dans leurs versions

syro-arabes (Beyrouth, 1948), 253–305; digital edition by Y. Arzhanov available at https://hunaynnet.oeaw.ac.at/categoriae.html#cat_syr_jacob.

LIT.: see Kessel, "Syriac Commentary Tradition," 397–398 (2.1.2).

3. ff. 58r-158v

Sergios of Rēš'aynā, Commentary on Aristotle's Categories

Title:

Incipit:

Desinit:

יי אילי נשטא אונדיא לא מדיר אושטא י אלא ביז ניטיא יי אילי בייניין אייר ייי דר אונייטא

Final rubric:

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The text is divided into seven $m\bar{e}mr\bar{e}$, which are preceded by a prologue: prologue (ff. 58r–60r), $m\bar{e}mr\bar{a}$ i (ff. 60r–69r), $m\bar{e}mr\bar{a}$ ii (ff. 69v–85r), $m\bar{e}mr\bar{a}$ iii (ff. 85r–111r), $m\bar{e}mr\bar{a}$ iv (ff. 111r–129r), $m\bar{e}mr\bar{a}$ v (ff. 129v–138v), $m\bar{e}mr\bar{a}$ vi (ff. 138v–150r), $m\bar{e}mr\bar{a}$ vii (ff. 150r–161v).

Multiple diagrams (ff. 69r, 84r–85r, 86v, 110r–111r, 129r, 138v, 150r, 158r–v) and variant readings in the margins; several extensive lacunae indicated by white spaces (ff. 125v, 154r, 154v–155r, 155v–156r, 156v–157r) suggest that the exemplar used by the scribe was defective.

ED.: edition is in preparation by Y. Arzhanov; a summary of the contents can be found in G. Furlani, "Sul trattato di Sergio di Rêsh'aynâ circa le Categorie," Rivista di studi filosofici e religiosi 3 (1922), 135–172; D. King, "Why the Syrians Translated Greek Philosophy and Science," in Why Translate Science? Documents from Antiquity to the 16th Century in the Historical West (Bactria to the Atlantic), Handbook of Oriental Studies I/160, ed. D. Gutas (Leiden: Brill, 2022), 170–253, here 224–229 [ed. of several fragments from the Prologue and Books 2 and 7], 189–194 [English tr.].

LIT.: to the literature indicated in Kessel, "Syriac Commentary Tradition," 398 (2.2.1), one should add also M. Perkams, "Aristoteles, Ordner der Wissenschaften: Ein Bild des Sergios von Rēš'aynā, seine Rezeption bei Paul dem Perser und die spätantiken Wurzeln der arabischen Aristoteles-Eulogien," in Überleben im Schatten: Geschichte und Kultur des syrischen Christentums. Beiträge des 10. Deutschen Syrologentages an der FU Berlin 2018, Göttinger Orientforschungen, I. Reihe: Syriaca 58, ed. Sh. Talay (Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz Verlag, 2020), 179–202.

4. ff. 159r-168r

Aristotle, *On Interpretation* (version of Prōbā) In five sections.

Title:

בים אבים אבים בים בים המשמש שושלטלישינה אירים א

arcina ribux co sen ach. och chied co

Desinit:

ש בי ש המשטרבוא המשטר המשטר איז א היז ארשאר ... Final rubric:

علحه مهةه حمد

Several extensive lacunae (ff. 159v, 160r–v, 161r–v, 162r–v) indicated by white spaces suggest that the exemplar was defective.

ED.: J.G.E. Hoffmann, De Hermeneuticis apud Syros Aristoteleis (Leipzig, 1869), 23, 25, 27, 29–55 [partial ed., up to 23b15], A. Baumstark, "Aristoteles περὶ ἑρμηνείας p. 23b 16 ff. syrisch," Zeitschrift für Assyriologie und verwandte Gebiete 13 (1898), 116–119 [ed. of the ending, 23b16–24b9]; digital edition available at

https://hunaynnet.oeaw.ac.at/de_interpretatione.html#de_int_syr_anon. *LIT*.: see Kessel, "Syriac Commentary Tradition," 401 (3.1.1).

5. ff. 168v–259r Prōbā, Commentary on Aristotle's *On Interpretation*

Title:

مدلک دور وروم درور کرون دورد مراکم درور درور درورد درورد

Incipit:

מש הפבואה בענהא . הנושא הא הלך נפגמש האישש. הנושש הש הלל המנעלה ... Desinit:

... מי, עוד האפיד הלא פתא האבעה א נמסבן למי בג למי . על מי, הלא פשבעא. האבעה א נצד.

Final rubric:

שלת פסשמה הבאכה הכלסוף המוימיונים הכפשם לפוסכה מבמכה

The text consists of a prologue and five sections $(ps\bar{a}q\bar{e})$: prologue (ff. 168v–172v), section 1 (ff. 171v–188r), section 2 (ff. 188r–214v), section 3 (ff. 214v–235r), section 4 (ff. 235r–249v), section 5 (ff. 249v–259r).

Occasional lacunae (the most extensive on ff. 222r–223r) indicated by white spaces; marginal glosses.

ED.: Hoffmann, *De Hermeneuticis apud Syros*, 62–90 [ed. of section 1 and beginning of section 2], 90–112 [Lat. transl.]; a new edition is in preparation by H. Hugonnard-Roche.

LIT.: to the literature indicated in Kessel, "Syriac Commentary Tradition," 402 (3.2.2), one should add also H. Hugonnard-Roche, "La tradition du *Peri hermeneias* d'Aristote en syriaque, entre logique et grammaire," in *Les auteurs syriaques et leur langue*, Études Syriaques 15, ed. M. Farina (Paris: Geuthner, 2018), 55–93, here 78–83.

SYRIAC 170

olim Alqosh, Notre-Dame des Semences / Scher 49; Alqosh, Notre-Dame des Semences / Vosté 52 earlier shelfmark (f. 1r): 49

Summary:

- ı. Prōbā, Commentary on Porphyry's *Isagoge* (incomplete)
- 2. Pseudo-Ammonius, Two Lives of Aristotle
- 3. Aristotle, *Categories* (version of Jacob of Edessa)

4. Sergios of Rēš'aynā, Commentary on Aristotle's *Categories* (incomplete)

Paper. – 149 ff. – 1 col., 20 l.

235-237 × 170-174 mm.

Amateur East Syriac handwriting with vocalization.

No pagination or foliation. - Catch-words, sometimes not accurate.

CONDITION: it was not possible to establish the quire composition relying on the available images. The manuscript is incomplete both at the beginning and end. Inferring from Scher's description, it appears that the manuscript contained the complete text of Sergios' commentary on Categories, which was followed by Aristotle's On Interpretation (in the version of Prōbā) and Prōbā's commentary on that treatise (similar to Syr. 169 and 171). Vosté's brief description is puzzling: on the one hand, he equals the manuscript's contents to that of Syr. 169, on the other hand, his indication that the codex consisted of 14 quires suggests that it was in the same condition as it is today.

F. 84 is a singleton that belongs to a different (probably 16th c.) manuscript and contains ch. 2 of the second book of Bar 'Ebrōyō's Treatise of treatises (Teāgrat teāgrātā).

DATE: 2nd half of the 19th c.

SCRIBE: not indicated.

CATALOGUE DESCRIPTIONS: Scher, "Notice sur les manuscrits syriaques," 498 (no. 2 is missing); Vosté, Catalogue de la Bibliothèque syro-chaldéenne, 22; Ḥaddād-Isḥāq, Al-makhṭūṭāt alsuryāniyya wa-l-'arabiyya, 82*–83*; Makhoul, "Erbil-Ankawa, O.A.O.C., syr. 170".²⁰

ı. ff. 1r–42r

Prōbā, Commentary on Porphyry's *Isagoge* (incomplete at the beginning)

In two sections (ff. 1r-31v; 31v-42r).

Incipit mut. (first section):

Desinit:

יי שלי גי שרי י שירי אפאבי ארי שהם שוא ישבר : רשי בשתא שנא י שירי בארביר רפי לבליא שנא י בינ בסנינא נארשא ביר אבי

Final rubric:

علم هموله مهنامه به معرقه به مهنوه ملعمه بدحسه لعنه معنوبه به معرفه مهنوبه به معرفه مهنوبه بهداره معرفه بهداره معرفه الم

Multiple diagrams (ff. 1r–v, 11v, 27r–28r, 29r, 31v); the variant readings are not provided.

ED.: see Syr. 169, no. 1.

2. ff. 42r–43v <Pseudo>-Ammonius, Two lives of Aristotle

First life

_

²⁰ http://syriac.msscatalog.org/71256 (accessed 13 February, 2023).

Title:

Incipit:

... השיבים המשבע אנסים הישה הבישה הבלה בביאה הבלה בביאה הבלה בביאה בביאה בביאה בביאה בביאה בביאה הביאה בביאה הביאה בביאה בביא

... صحه مروع حدومه من دمانهاه اللهم حمونه موم حمن وراده محد حسده مدومه حمادته موهد.

Second life

Title:

صبعتغع حملتسح

Incipit:

.... പ്രാധ തരാപ്പായായ . പ്രയ യോഗ്യ പ്രാ മന്റിന് വിശ്യാം പ്ര

... سعهم مخمع حمنه ومالمهم مهم مهمد ...

Final rubric:

outlations wiser work where you

The attribution to Ammonius (*sc.* Hermeiou, spelled in the manuscript as AMQNIS) is today considered spurious. This text was neglected by Vosté and hence adds to our knowledge about the manuscript tradition of the two lives.

ED.: both lives were fully transcribed in E. Sachau, Verzeichniss der syrischen Handschriften, Bd. 1 (Berlin, 1898), 335–336; Baumstark, Aristoteles bei den Syrern, 2* (first Life), 2*-3* (second Life).

LIT.: see G. Kessel & N. Bamballi, "Field Notes on Syriac Manuscripts II: A Philosophical Manuscript olim Mosul 35 Rediscovered," *Hugoye: Journal of Syriac Studies* 21.1 (2018), 21–42, here 30–31.

3. ff. 43v–85r

Aristotle, Categories (version of Jacob of Edessa)

Title:

معملام معالمه بدء صنمر حراحه عمه

Incipit:

אסמסנטמא אסבים שמת אמא מפאמיים. גשנים באמא בליים: האמא ...

Desinit:

reacons out of mired reservoired makes relative

The text form belongs to the same branch which is represented by the manuscript *olim* Mosul / Scher 35; glosses and variant readings are not provided.

ED.: see Syr. 169, no. 2.

4. ff. 85r-149v

Sergios of Rēš'aynā, Commentary on Aristotle's *Categories* (incomplete at the end)

Title:

בבלבה איז בבעה אונים אין בלומט איז ברונים בר האים באלים מין בלומטים איז בלומט בא מין בלומט בין באנים איז בילים Incipit:

מלא אמיזא בן סגמיא אם אנים. לאגסיא הבספא מים המלאמת עסיבא ...

Desinit mut. (mēmrā iii):

... הצושה בעציש האיצים להניב המשלה הציצה יידים שניבה המשלה במשלה המשלה המשלה המשלה המשלה השלה של המשלה המשלה ה

= Syr. 169, f. 100v, lines 15–17.

The text is divided into three $m\bar{e}mr\bar{e}$, which are preceded by a prologue: prologue (ff. 85v–88v), $m\bar{e}mr\bar{a}$ i (ff. 88v–103r), $m\bar{e}mr\bar{a}$ ii (ff. 103v–127r), $m\bar{e}mr\bar{a}$ iii (ff. 127v–149v).

Diagrams on ff. 103r, 125r–127r, 128v; variant readings are not provided.

ED.: see Syr. 169, no. 3.

SYRIAC 171

olim Alqosh, Notre-Dame des Semences / Scher 50; Alqosh, Notre-Dame des Semences / Vosté 53 earlier shelfmark (f. 1r): 50

Summary:

- 1. Yōḥannān bar Zoʻbī, *Mēmrā* on divisions (*sc. dihairesis*) of philosophy
- 2. Prōbā, Commentary on Porphyry's *Isagoge* (incomplete)
- 3. Aristotle, *Categories* (version of Jacob of Edessa)
- 4. Sergios of Rēš'aynā, Commentary on Aristotle's Categories
- 5. Aristotle, On Interpretation (version of Prōbā) (incomplete)
- 6. Prōbā, Commentary on Aristotle's *On Interpretation*
- 7. Paul the Persian, Commentary on Aristotle's $On\ Interpretation$
- 8. Severos Sēbokht, Letter to Yonan on some difficulties in Aristotle's *On Interpretation* and *Prior Analytics* (incomplete)

Paper. – 233 ff. – 1 col., 28 l.

 $322-327 \times 220-225$ mm.

East Syriac handwriting with minimal vocalization.

No pagination or foliation. – Catch-words, sometimes not accurate.

Possession note on f. 233v dated to CE 1840: 'this book belongs to the monastery of Rabban Hormizd'.

CONDITION: The manuscript is incomplete at the end and consists at present of 24 quires (of 10 ff. each), which are not signed. The leaves from quires <1> and <2> are misplaced. Quire <1> wants four folios after f. 16r, and quire <15> wants three folios between ff. 140 and 141. Quires <2>-<14> and <16>-<24> are complete.

DATE: 1st half of the 19th. c. (but before 1840).

SCRIBE: not indicated.

CATALOGUE DESCRIPTIONS: Scher, "Notice sur les manuscrits syriaques," 498 (no. 1 and 6 are missing, no. 2 is mistaken); Vosté, *Catalogue de la Bibliothèque syro-chaldéenne*, 22–23 (no. 1 and 6 are missing, no. 2 is mistaken); Ḥaddād—Isḥāq, *Al-makhṭūṭāt al-suryāniyya wa-l-ʿarabiyya*, 83* (no. 1 and 6 are missing, no. 2 is mistaken); Makhoul, "Erbil-Ankawa, O.A.O.C., syr. 171" (no. 1 is missing).²¹

1. ff. 2r–3v, 14r–16r <Yōḥannān bar Zoʻbī>, *Mēmrā* on divisions (*sc. dihairesis*) of philosophy In seven-syllable metre.

Title:

حصحنه معنقسه حملقه عدده

²¹ http://syriac.msscatalog.org/71257 (accessed 13 February, 2023).

Incipit:

Desinit:

... ەەەد عقىلەم حىر رقىمە بىصىمىم كەمىسىم

Final rubric:

معرف مرامع المار مرامع الماركة المارك

Although the author's name is not indicated in the manuscript, the text is identical to the one preserved in several other copies.²²

ED.: not edited.

LIT.: H. Daiber, "Ein vergessener syrischer Text: Bar Zo'bī über die Teile der Philosophie," Oriens Christianus 69 (1985), 73–80.

2. (reconstructed order of folios) ff. 10r–11v, 4r–9v, 12r–13v, 17r–30v (incomplete at the beginning)

Prōbā, Commentary on Porphyry's *Isagoge* In two sections (beginning is wanting, ff. 10r–11v, 4r–9v, 12r–13v, 17r–25v; 25v–30v).

²² In addition to three manuscripts identified by Daiber (Daiber, "Ein vergessener syrischer Text," 73–74) one can now add seven more: *olim* Diyarbakır / Scher 106 = Mardin, Chaldean Church / HMML Project number CCM 20 (1458/9 CE), *olim* Diyarbakır / Scher 107 = Mardin, Chalden Church / HMML Project number CCM 22 (1681 CE), Tehran, Chaldean Church MS 1 / HMML Project number TEH SJ 1 (1724 CE), Siirt / Scher 97 (18th c.; lost), Erbil, Chaldean Archdiocese MS 145 / HMML Project number ACE 141 (1801 CE), Alqosh, Chaldean Archdiocese / HMML Project number DCA 128 (19th c.), Baghdad, Chaldean Patriarchate / HMML Project number CPB 350 (1894 CE).

Incipit mut. (first section):

حبل کسی مسل دون سلم : دیمه امه سلم دههدید. در مودونه ...

= Syr. 169, f. 1v, lines 15-17.

Desinit:

... שלי בי שרא יצבר אפאבי ארא שפט שרא ישברא י רטיים אויי ביי בטייניא בייער בי באוציא שייאי ביי בטייניא בייער בייער בייער אראבייער אראבייער פייער בייער בייע

Final rubric:

אבר מטום שמינים אלימשאים איז הבישטים הרייורי המיני אות מטול היייור איזה איזה איזה איזה איזה היייור המינים האילימש היייור המינים האילימשים האילימשי

Multiple diagrams (ff. 4v–5r, 12r, 23r–v, 24r, 25v) and variant readings in the margins; the variant readings are slightly different from those present in Syr. 169.

ED.: see Syr. 169, no. 1.

3. ff. 30v-51v

Aristotle, Categories (version of Jacob of Edessa)

Title:

ei کی مصلحه میالی میانده کندسته میلملی میلاملیه دنه کی به ملکه تنده میله میلاملیه میلاملیه میلاملیه میلاملیه به تفکیل

Incipit:

Desinit:

... سلم دم وحديم ودلمهمدن ويعمم ملس حديم

Final rubric:

reacons orthogonization will mproportion reduced

Glosses and multiple variant readings in the margins differ slightly from those in Syr. 169. The text form belongs to the same branch represented by the manuscript *olim* Mosul / Scher 35.

ED.: see Syr. 169, no. 2.

4. ff. 51v–129v Sergios of Rēš'aynā, Commentary on Aristotle's *Categories*

Title:

בים בים הבים אים בין בים הין הבים הין הבים הין הבים הין הבים בין הבים הין הבים הין הלים שון הלים היו היים בין Incipit:

מלאה זין המינה בי סינבים הם היים קשינים. וידטפט שם נמונה יים מינבים היים במענים היים היים היים היים מינבים היים

Desinit:

Final rubric:

star tocate and responsive recess to any after estables is a serve to single from the serve to serve t

Another final rubric:

The text is divided into seven $m\bar{e}mr\bar{e}$, which are preceded by a prologue: prologue (ff. 51v–53r), $m\bar{e}mr\bar{a}$ i (ff. 53r–6or), $m\bar{e}mr\bar{a}$ ii (ff. 6or–72r), $m\bar{e}mr\bar{a}$ iii (ff. 72r–92r), $m\bar{e}mr\bar{a}$ iv (ff. 92r–106r), $m\bar{e}mr\bar{a}$ v (ff. 106r–113r), $m\bar{e}mr\bar{a}$ vi (ff. 113r–122v), $m\bar{e}mr\bar{a}$ vii (ff. 122v–129v).

Multiple diagrams (ff. 6or, 71r–72r, 73r, 91r–92r, 105v–106r, 113r, 122v, 129r–v) and variant readings in the margins; the reading seem to agree with those present in Syr. 169. Several extensive lacunae indicated by white spaces (ff. 125v, 126r–v, 127r, 127v–128r) suggest that the exemplar used by the scribe was defective; the lacunae are identical to those present in Syr. 169.

ED.: see Syr. 169, no. 3.

5. ff. 129v–142r

Aristotle, *On Interpretation* (version of Prōbā) (incomplete) In five sections.

Title:

סיצרים וום יותי בסי בבא יוצא יוצא יוצא בעל בתוב בתוב בסי בתוב בסי בתוב בסי בתוב בסי בתוב בסי בתוב בסי בתוב בסי

Desinit:

ש בה ש המשטרבונים המשטרבונים של היו א המשטר המשטרבונים... המשטר המשטרבונים אין אין אין אין אין אין אין אין אין Final rubric:

علحه معود محلد

Several extensive lacunae (ff. 130r-v, 130v-131r, 131v, 132r-v) indicated by white spaces suggest that the exemplar was defective. Lacunae are identical to those present in Syr. 169.

Apparently, the scribe used the same imperfect exemplar as the copyist of Syr. 169. Namely, having reached on f. 133r τως και και (= οὐδὲ ἀπόφασις μία· οὐδὲν γὰρ, De int. 8, 18a21) he jumped to τως και ή ἀπόφασις, De int. 21, 21b15). Similar to Syr. 169, this

καὶ ἐνέργεια δυνάμεως προτέρα, De int. 13, 23a22-23) is followed διαφέρει τοῦτο εἰπεῖν ἢ ἔστιν ἵππος καὶ ἄνθρωπος λευκός, De int. 8, 18a21–22). However, unlike the scribe of Syr. 169, the scribe of Syr. 171 marked the transition spots with a red line and added a marginal note next to the first mark saying: "Proceed from this red line to another red line". Again, unlike the scribe of Syr. 169, who resumed copying beginning from *De int.* 8, 18a21–22, then copied only a few lines and, instead of continuing, jumped to De int. 8, 18a23-24, the scribe of Syr. 171 copied the text without further omissions.

ED.: see Syr. 169, no. 4.

6. ff. 142r-223v

Prōbā, Commentary on Aristotle's On Interpretation

Title:

מתוא ויסנים האסה ויביטיד שומש ויבישבי ויהשוישוניתו Incipit:

سرمل المحققة حليمة المحسر من مهل لعلم بملسر حسم دم حیل مستسلم ...

Desinit:

... מֹ, ציי האכיל הלא כלא האבעה שחסים למ בה למ ישב מֹי, وتع حعدسه، وبمدسه ما

Final rubric:

שלע פהים הבאכה הכאסיא בשיישאינכשנהם הכבים لعنوب محمنعا

The text consists of the prologue and five sections ($ps\bar{a}q\bar{e}$): prologue (ff. 142r-145v), section 1 (ff. 145v-158r), section 2 (ff.

158r–181r), section 3 (ff. 181r–200r), section 4 (ff. 200r–214r), section 5 (ff. 214r–223v).

Occasional lacunae (the most extensive on ff. 187v–189r) indicated by white spaces and marginal glosses identical to those present in Syr. 169.

ED.: see Syr. 169, no. 5.

7. ff. 223v-231r

Paul the Persian, Commentary on Aristotle's *On Interpretation* (translated from Persian into Syriac by Severos Sēbokht)

Title:

Desinit:

... מבל באביא הבים הכפשמה בלאבי : ב, מוא מנונא שפייאת בתניב

Final rubric:

the comin repentation of the color of air.

Diagram on f. 228r.

ED.: H. Hugonnard-Roche, "Sur la lecture tardo-antique du *Peri Hermeneias* d'Aristote: Paul le Perse et la tradition d'Ammonius," *Studia graeco-arabica* 3 (2013), 37–104; S. Hayati & P.S. Stevenson, *Peri Hermeneias by Paul the Persian* (Tehran, 2016); a new English translation is in preparation by D. King.

LIT:: to the literature indicated in Kessel, "Syriac Commentary Tradition," 402 (3.2.1), one should add also Hugonnard-Roche, "La tradition du Peri hermeneias d'Aristote en syriaque," 64-78.

ff. 231r-233r

Severos Sebokht, Letter to Yonan on some difficulties in Aristotle's On Interpretation and Prior Analytics (incomplete at the end)

Title:

אני אמן שו אבי בי בישה ניסטים אינים שרי ביש ושו אין אילא

Incipit:

لاسم المستداد المستد المستداد المستداد المستداد المستداد المستداد المستداد المستداد ۵هجه خود س

Desinit mut.:

... מלעשע בה מופ מעולה בן האיני ועק בי האיני ועק = ed. Hugonnard-Roche, 68 l. 23

ED.: H. Hugonnard-Roche, "Questions de logique au VII^e siècle. Les épîtres syriaques de Sévère Sebokht et leurs sources grecques," Studia graecoarabica 5 (2015), 53-104.

LIT.: see Kessel, "Syriac Commentary Tradition," 403 (3.2.4).

SYRIAC 172

olim Algosh, Notre-Dame des Semences / Vosté 6223

²³ Haddād and Ishāq as well as Makhoul failed to identify this manuscript as olim Notre-Dame des Semences / Vosté 62 (see the concordance, Ḥaddād–Isḥāq *Al-makhṭūṭāt al-suryāniyya wa-l-ʿarabiyya*, 514*), albeit its description in the catalogue of Vosté (Vosté, Catalogue de la Bibliothèque syro-chaldéenne, 25) perfectly matches the actual manuscript Syr. 172 (for

earlier shelfmark (endleaf): 183

Summary:

Grigorios bar Ebrōyō, Cream of Wisdom (Isagoge, Categories, On Interpretation, Prior Analytics) (incomplete)

Paper. – 159 ff. – 1 col., 20 l. 220–223 \times 160–163 mm. Amateur East Syriac handwriting with vocalization. Contemporary foliation that runs until f. 108. Catch-words, sometimes not accurate.

CONDITION: The manuscript consists of 16 quires which are signed on the first and last page of each quire. The quires are usually of 10 ff., except for quire 13 (8 ff.) and quire 14 (12 ff.). The first folio of the first quire is wanting.

SCRIBE: scribe's name is indicated on f. 47v as 'and slightly differently on f. 159r as 'and corresponds to Vincentius. Vincentius, the scribe of the manuscript, is likely to be identical to the monk Vincentius who is known to be a monk at the monastery of Rabban Hormizd. The Life of Gabriel Danbo mentions that Vincentius hailed from Alqosh and entered the monastery of Rabban Hormizd in 1823.²⁴ It is not certain if he died during the plague in 1828,²⁵ as asserted by

several other additional identifications, see H. Kaufhold's review of the Ḥaddād and Isḥāq's catalogue in *Oriens Christianus* 74 (1990), 265)

²⁴ Brière, "Histoire du couvent de Rabban Hormizd," 114, cf. Wilmshurst, Ecclesiastical Organisation, 264.

²⁵ Cf. Brière, "Histoire du couvent de Rabban Hormizd," 120–121.

Shikwānā.26 The amateur handwriting of the manuscript suggests that Vincentius was not a professional scribe; no other manuscript produced by him is known. 27

DATE: ca. 1823-1828.

CATALOGUE DESCRIPTIONS: Vosté, Catalogue de la Bibliothèque Ḥaddād–Isḥāq, *Al-makhṭūṭāt* svro-chaldéenne, 25; suryāniyya wa-l-'arabiyya, 83*; Makhoul, "Erbil-Ankawa, O.A.O.C., syr. 172" (treats the first three sections as Proba, Commentary on Porphyry's Isagoge and Aristotle's Categories and On Interpretation respectively).28

The manuscript has not been known earlier as a witness to Bar 'Ebrōyō's Cream of Wisdom.29 Although a manuscript of similar content is known to have been held at the Chaldean collection in Diyarbakır (olim Diyarbakır / Scher 32 = HMML Project number CCM 383), a quick comparison of the two copies demonstrates that they are not directly related. It remains to be explored if the present manuscript is related to the two manuscript copies of Butyrum Sapientiae held in collection of the Antonian Order (Syr. 177 = Vosté 60, Syr. 178 = Vosté 61).

²⁶ I.M. Shikwānā, *Ḥaṭṭāṭūn mašāriqa* (Duhok, 2007), 30*, no. 39.

²⁷ No scribe with this name is documented by Wilmshurst. Shikwānā records only this manuscript as produced by monk Vincentius (Shikwānā, Hattātūn mašāriga, 30*, no. 39). Giamil's history of the monastery of Rabban Hormizd may contain further details about him (see footnote 2).

²⁸ http://syriac.msscatalog.org/71258 (accessed 13 February, 2023).

²⁹ Missing in the census of Takahashi (H. Takahashi, Barhebraeus: A Bio-Bibliography, Gorgias Eastern Christian Studies 9 (Piscataway, N.J.: Gorgias Press: 2005).

None of the two manuscripts has been properly described, and their precise content remains so far unknown.³⁰

Ff. 1r-159r

<Grigorios bar 'Ebrōyō>, Cream of Wisdom (Isagoge, Categories, On Interpretation, Prior Analytics) (incomplete at the beginning)

Incipit mut. (Prologue):

حقیم سته لمتاب ماهتمه سمیم مونسمه منهمه منهمه

= Florence, Biblioteca Laurenziana, Or. 69, f. 2v, col. B, lines 12–14

Desinit:

Explicit:

علم حموحہ بہدلہ لیتمہ مدحبہ ملکھہ عمدسہ بسل محنز حلاحہمہ

Isagoge (ff. 1r–24r):

Proem. (ff. 1r), ch. 1 (ff. 1r–10v), ch. 2 (ff. 10v–17r), ch. 3 (ff. 17r–20r), ch. 4 (ff. 20r–24r).

Categories, (ff. 24r-47r):

Ch. 1 (ff. 24r-29r), ch. 2 (ff. 29r-42v), ch. 3 (ff. 42v-47r).

³º Vosté, Catalogue de la Bibliothèque syro-chaldéenne, 25, Ḥaddād-Isḥāq, Al-makhṭūṭāt al-suryāniyya wa-l-ʿarabiyya, 86*-87*, cf. Takahashi, Barhebraeus: A Bio-Bibliography, 248.

On Interpretation (ff. 47r–95r):

Ch. 1 (ff. 47r–53r), ch. 2 (ff. 53r–62v), ch. 3 (ff. 62v–71v), ch. 4 (ff. 71v–76r), ch. 5 (ff. 76r–81r), ch. 6 (ff. 81r–84r), ch. 7 (ff. 84r–87r), ch. 8 (ff. 87r–92r), ch. 9 (ff. 92r–95r).

Prior Analytics (ff. 95r – 159r):

Ch. 1 (ff. 95r–99v), ch. 2 (ff. 99v–105v), ch. 3 (ff. 105v–113v), ch. 4 (ff. 113v–123r), ch. 5 (ff. 123r–127r), ch. 6 (ff. 127r–125v), ch. 7 (ff. 152v–159r).

ED.: this part of the treatise is unedited.

LIT.: N.P. Joosse, "Bar Hebraeus' באכ״ המיאסאל שבבר (Butyrum Sapientiae). A description of the extant manuscripts," Le Muséon 112 (1999), 417–458; H. Takahashi, Barhebraeus. A Bio-Bibliography, Gorgias Eastern Christian Studies 9 (Piscataway, N.J.: Gorgias Press: 2005), 245–254.

SYRIAC 173

olim Alqosh, Notre-Dame des Semences / Vosté 54

Summary:

- 1. (?) Rabban Qāmīshōʻ of Nuhādrā the Physician, Metrical letter (incomplete)
- 2. Anonymous Greek-Syriac glossary
- 3. Severos Sēbokht, Letter to Yonan on some difficulties in Aristotle's *On Interpretation* and *Prior Analytics*
- 4. Aristotle, *Prior Analytics*, book I, chapters 1–7 (anonymous Syriac version)
- 5. Prōbā, Commentary on Aristotle's *On Interpretation* (2nd section)
- 6. Yoḥannan bar Zō'bī, $M\bar{e}mr\bar{a}$ on philosophy (= "Universal canon")
- 7. Anonymous, mēmrā on the mind

8. Grigorios bar 'Ebrōyō, *Cream of Wisdom, On animals* (incomplete)

Paper. – 108 ff. – 1 col., 16 l. $170-173 \times 110-115$ mm. Amateur East Syriac handwriting with vocalization. Contemporary foliation.

CONDITION: The manuscript is incomplete and consists at present of 14 quires which are signed on the first and last page of each quire. The first folio of the first quire is wanting; the number of quires missing after quire 14 is impossible to ascertain. The composition of quires is irregular: 1^6 , 2^8 , $3-9^8$, 10^{10} , 11^6 , $12-13^8$, 14^6 .

DATE: 19th c.

SCRIBE: not indicated.

CATALOGUE DESCRIPTIONS: Vosté, *Catalogue de la Bibliothèque syro-chaldéenne*, 23 (no. 1 is missing); Ḥaddād–Isḥāq, *Almakhṭūṭāt al-suryāniyya wa-l-ʻarabiyya*, 84*–85* (no. 1 is missing); Makhoul, "Erbil-Ankawa, O.A.O.C., syr. 173" (nos. 1 and 7 are missing, no. 6 is attributed to Aristotle).³¹

In its contents, the manuscript is similar to Alqosh, Chaldean Diocese / HMML Project number DCA 61, with which it has in common five items (1-5 = 19, 14+15, 7, 8, 9). Interestingly, an anonymous glossary of Greek words (no. 2) can be found as

³¹ http://syriac.msscatalog.org/71300 (accessed 13 February, 2023).

two independent items in DCA 61 (14+15). Another four items are also present in Cambridge Add. 2812 (1806 CE): 3-6=10, 11, 12, 9.e. A further manuscript with seven text items (1, 3–6, and 8) in common is Baghdad, Chaldean Patriarchate / HMML Project number CPB 350 (1894 CE).

1. ff. 1r-5r

<(?) Rabban Qāmīshōʻ of Nuhādrā the Physician>, Metrical letter (incomplete at the beginning)

Incipit mut.:

Desinit:

... שב אמנים י משארם י משארט י מבבדים ... שב ... שב אמנים י משארט י אמנים, אמנים י משארט י משארט י משארט י משארט י

ED.: F.Y. Dolabani, Egrōtō d-Dawīd bar Pawlōs d-metīdaʿ d-Bēt Rabban (Mardin, 1953), 18–22.

Lit.: see G. Kessel & Y. Arzhanov, "Field Notes on Syriac Manuscripts III: A Previously Unknown Philosophical Manuscript from Alqosh," *Hugoye: Journal of Syriac Studies* 23.1 (2020), 99–130, here 126–127.

2. ff. 5r-16v

Anonymous Greek-Syriac glossary

Title:

שון מן שיות שריות ביים שריו המשב השל אשו היושטו Incipit:

... האמים בא הא הא מאפאר ... האמים מיש הא מאפשם... Desinit:

... دلمه حده فلم . وزلمة محمد حدم

The text is identical to two glossaries in Alqosh, Chaldean Diocese / HMML Project number DCA 61, no. 14 and 15.

Lit.: see Kessel-Arzhanov, "Field Notes on Syriac Manuscripts III," 124-125.

3. ff. 16v–29r Severos Sēbokht, Letter to Yonan on some difficulties in Aristotle's *On Interpretation* and *Prior Analytics*

Title:

ب المحدود محدود الله مدر محدود المدر المد

Incipit:

لزسم بملهم مدسل بملهم. بمس زمست مطنز سحب حجيسه. معدونه هذر مدم علم ...

Desinit:

… هے۔ جمعیحیں جبور ہماہہ میں حدیدہ محمد حدیثیہ، علم

ED.: Hugonnard-Roche, "Questions de logique au VII^e siècle," 53–104. LIT.: see Kessel, "Syriac Commentary Tradition," 403 (3.2.4).

4. ff. 29r–52r

Aristotle, *Prior Analytics*, book I, chapters 1–7 (anonymous Syriac version)

Title:

Incipit:

Desinit:

حاتسر ساس جعم من مستسر ساسا مرتب لهماه...

Final rubric:

حعمصلع صبلاملهم الاستحداد متلاملاء علع

ED.: I. Friedmann, Aristoteles' Analytica bei den Syrern [PhD thesis] (Berlin, 1898); A. Nagy, "Una versione siriaca inedita degli Analitici d'Aristotele," Rendiconti della Reale Accademia dei Lincei, Classe di scienze morali, storiche e filologiche, ser. 5, vol. 7 (Roma: Tipografia della Accademia, 1898), 321-347.

Lit.: see Kessel-Arzhanov, "Field Notes on Syriac Manuscripts III," 120-121 and Kessel, "Syriac Commentary Tradition," 404 (4.1.1).

5. ff. 52r-54v

Prōbā, Commentary on Aristotle's On Interpretation (2nd section)

Title:

בשם אובות בשוחש האלים כל באביא בביאובר שהוא والمرام والمعموم والمدارة والمرام والم والمرام ومسر وجم به و دحومه المراد حسود

Incipit:

בבינן הין הכך סהמ מנא פמסה אלאא כהמ העדעה ל כח ... Desinit:

... بشه بصبح. حشر بهمامه مه لم ممامهر

ED.: Hoffmann, De Hermeneuticis apud Syros, 88 l. 7 – 89 l. 23. Lit.: see Syr. 169 no. 5 and Kessel-Arzhanov, "Field Notes on Syriac Manuscripts III," 121-122.

6. ff. 54v-59r <Yoḥannan bar Zō'bī>, Mēmrā on philosophy (= "Universal canon")

Title:

حكحنك تحل فالعموم يحبه داله

Incipit:

Desinit:

... حلمه مدهمه مسلم لمهمن حسمه لشحم

Final rubric:

حمصيمه حمامليه حمد

In other manuscripts, the text has the title *Metrical mēmrā on philosophy*.

ED.: unedited.

7. ff. 59r–62r Anonymous, *mēmrā* on the mind

Title:

حمحنه المعلم وحصورة ومل لم حملالهم

Incipit:

לדב דבוחה העלה י את מהכן אלחה ...

Desinit:

...בינא השה משם מביב האבים

Explicit (?):

مهمينيم کے محمد محتوم ماسم

ED.: ? unedited.

8. ff. 62r-74v, 77r-81v, 75r-v, 82r-85v, 76r-v, 86r-108v (reconstructed order of folios)

<Grigorios bar ʿEbrōyō>, *Cream of Wisdom, On animals* (Ch. I.1.1 – III.3.4) (incomplete at the end)

Title:

Incipit:

תושמשלי אביבא לחידה אינו שניבא יורשטשיר ביני שניבא אינו אינו שניבא אינו שניבא אינו שניבא בינים אינו שניבים או שו

Desinit mut. (ch. III.3.4):

היה האוצ היז המממט האממט היא היא בבל ביט היסודים ... Florence, Biblioteca Laurenziana, Or. 83, f. 97r, col. B, lines 8–9

ED.: this part of the treatise is unedited.

LIT.: Joosse, "Bar Hebraeus' حمد איי אסאל ייבארא"; Takahashi, *Barhebraeus.* A Bio-Bibliography, 245–254.

SYRIAC 174

olim Alqosh, Notre-Dame des Semences / Vosté 55 earlier shelfmark (f. 1r): 177

Summary:

- 1. Prōbā, Commentary on Aristotle's Prior Analytics I 2-7
- 2. Severos Sēbokht, Discourse on Syllogisms in Aristotle's Prior Analytics
- 3. Prōbā, Commentary on Aristotle's Prior Analytics I 1
- 4. Severos Sēbokht, Letter to Aitalāhā regarding προτάσις in Aristotle's On Interpretation
- 5. Grigorios bar 'Ebrōyō, *Treatise of treatises* ($Te\bar{g}ra\underline{t}$ $te\bar{g}r\bar{a}t\bar{a}$)

Paper. - 183 ff. - 1 col., 20 l.

Amateur East Syriac handwriting with minimal vocalization. No pagination or foliation. – Catch-words, sometimes not accurate.

Possession note (f. 182v): 'this book belongs to the monastery of Mar Hormizd'.

Note on f. 48 r in pencil: حنعه تحالم حملت حملت حملت حملت حملت المراجعة الم

CONDITION: The manuscript consists of 17 quires which are not signed. The composition of quires is irregular: $<1^7>$, $<2>-<8^{10}>$, $<9^{12}>$, $<10>-<14^{10}>$, $<15^{12}>$, $<16^{10}>$, $<17^{12}>$.

DATE: 19th c.

SCRIBE: not indicated.

CATALOGUE DESCRIPTIONS: Vosté, *Catalogue de la Bibliothèque syro-chaldéenne*, 24; Ḥaddād–Isḥāq, *Al-makhṭūṭāt al-suryāniyya wa-l-ʿarabiyya*, 85* (erroneously identify the manuscript as Alqosh, Notre-Dame des Semences / Scher 45).

Although the manuscript has no colophon (and probably never had one), one can be certain that its exemplar was *olim* Mosul / Scher 35.³² All the texts that feature in Syr. 174 have identical textual profiles as those preserved in *olim* Mosul / Scher

³² For other manuscript copied directly from *olim* Mosul / Scher 35, see Kessel–Bamballi, "Field Notes on Syriac Manuscripts II," 24–26. It is now confirmed that Arthur Vööbus indeed had a microfilm copy of the Mosul manuscript (cf. Kessel–Bamballi, "Field Notes on Syriac Manuscripts II," 22), as I had a chance to find it in the Vööbus' microfilm archive, now kept at the Hill Museum & Manuscript Library.

35, and the text of *Tegrat tegrātā* demonstrates identical defects and lacunae.

When we compare the contents of the two manuscripts, it is easy to notice that out of 11 text items present in *olim* Mosul / Scher 35 the scribe of the Syr. 174 copied only text items 5-9. Although the scribe did not explain the reason for such selection, one may assume that he decided to omit those text items already available in the manuscript copies held at the monastery's library. Thus, Prōbā's commentary on Isagoge (no. 1 in olim Mosul / Scher 35) and Jacob of Edessa's translation of Categories (no. 3) can be found in the manuscripts Syr. 169, Syr. 170, and Syr. 171, and the two lives of Aristotle (no. 2) are attested by Syr. 170. Only the Syriac version of the Τέχνη γραμματική (no. 4) is not present in the collection of the Antonian Order. One can only speculate if that was indeed a deliberate decision and if a prohibitive remark left by the Chaldean patriarch Joseph VII Audo in a margin next to the beginning of the treatise in *olim* Mosul / Scher 35³³ played any role in that.

ı. ff. ıv–ıır [**M** 79v–90v (no. 5)] Prōbā, Commentary on Aristotle's *Prior Analytics* I 2–7

Title:

תחילטן הואיז הואיז הואיז הסמשי הסדטש

Incipit:

אלא הימישים בשרשה השבה השבה שלא האלא האלאה בהלהפה בישרשה בישרשה

Desinit:

... La et moder sunch service : La et circa Lunca

³³ Kessel–Bamballi, "Field Notes on Syriac Manuscripts II," 34.

Final rubric:

محسب مامزعا بمعمة مسلمامامرة معمع ملع

Ed.: A. van Hoonacker, "Le traité du philosophe syrien Probus sur les Premiers Analytiques d'Aristote," *Journal Asiatique* 9^e série, 16 (1900), 70–166, here 104–122.

Lit.: see Kessel–Bamballi, "Field Notes on Syriac Manuscripts II," 34–35 and Kessel, "Syriac Commentary Tradition," 405 (4.2.1).

2. ff. 11r–31v [M 90v–111r (no. 6)] Severos Sēbokht, Discourse on Syllogisms in Aristotle's Prior Analytics

Title:

which were set were when the set of the service of

Incipit:

ניצטע הלך ובארגי שה נימטא אילי נכוכטניקטא אטכינק היאר ל כבאבי שה נימטרי ...

Desinit:

... מינישא איז בביטא שליישאר הפראט אירע אירע אירע איישאר איישאר איישאר איישאר איישאר איישאר איישאר איישאר איישאר

Final rubric:

שלע ובבקר נישוא ובקרא ואיאוטלים ויבלכם שיע של ושיאים איא ובלכם שיע

Ed.: the edition of a fragment can be found in King, "Why the Syrians Translated Greek Philosophy and Science," 235–236 [Syr. text], 205–206 [English tr.].

Lit.: see Kessel–Bamballi, "Field Notes on Syriac Manuscripts II," 35–36 and Kessel, "Syriac Commentary Tradition," 405 (4.2.2).

Prōbā, Commentary on Aristotle's Prior Analytics I 1

Title:

תשבש תשפש זושבה תבולטותותו תשפש תומט

Incipit:

Desinit:

... دهه عهد لشه تصبح که تدهه حده خده. تدهه ترح خده دهه دها دله درات علم علم داره داره درات المادة ا

Final rubric:

אבאר השמשי עדמש שינביא

Ed.: van Hoonacker, "Le traité du philosophe syrien Probus," 83–104. Lit.: see Kessel–Bamballi, "Field Notes on Syriac Manuscripts II," 36–37 and Kessel, "Syriac Commentary Tradition," 405 (4.2.1).

4. ff. 44r–48r [**M** 124r–128v (no. 8)] Severos Sēbokht, Letter to Aitalāhā regarding προτάσις in Aristotle's *On Interpretation*

Title:

Incipit:

episs son acoldeds esuado founds essentis

Desinit:

Final rubric:

ماده محمومه لع بوراع بالمعموم بدون برهان بهاعاء

Ed.: H. Hugonnard-Roche, "L'Épître de Sévère Sebokht à Aitilaha sur le *Peri Hermeneias*. À propos des propositions métathétiques et privatives, et de l'existence du possible," in *Labor limae*. *Atti in onore di Carmela Baffioni*, vol. 1, Studi Magrebini 12–13, eds. A. Straface, C. De Angelo and A. Manzo (Napoli: Università degli Studi di Napoli 'L'Orientale', Dipartimento Asia Africa e Mediterraneo, 2014/5 [2017]), 337–366.

Lit.: see Kessel–Bamballi, "Field Notes on Syriac Manuscripts II," 37–38 and Kessel, "Syriac Commentary Tradition," 402–403 (3.2.3).

Incipit mut. (introduction to the treatise):

Desinit mut. (Book 4, ch. 4):

سه مص متع مصمح مر حر دهمته ماه سهم ...

The incomplete form of the text is due to the manuscript's exemplar.

Ed.: remains unedited except for a few fragments.

Lit.: see Kessel–Bamballi, "Field Notes on Syriac Manuscripts II," 38–39.