

Eth. **ሰበረ**. This is fairly clear evidence that Ar. **تَبَر** is a secondary formation and in all probability from the Aram. as Fraenkel, *Vocab*, 25, noted (so Ahrens, *Christliches*, 27).

تِجَارَة (*Tijāra*).

ii, 15, 282; iv, 33; ix, 24; xxiv, 37; xxxv, 26; lxi, 10; lxii, 11. Merchandise.

It will be noticed that the word occurs only in late passages. In three passages (ii, 15; iv, 33; xxiv, 37) it bears the sense of *trafficking* rather than *merchandise* or the substance of traffic, and this latter is perhaps a derived sense. The word **تاجر** *merchant* does not occur in the Qur'ān, nor any derived verbal form.

There can be no doubt that the word came from the Aram. Fraenkel, *Fremdw*, 182, thinks that **تجارة** was formed from the verb

تجر which is a denominative from **تاجر**, the form which he thinks was originally borrowed from Aram. In view, however, of the Aram. **ܬܢܐܪܐ**; Syr. **ܬܢܐܪܐ**, both of which have the meaning *mercatura*, there would seem no reason for refusing to derive the Ar. **تجارة** directly. In fact, as Fraenkel's discussion shows (p. 181), there is some difficulty in deriving **تاجر**, a participial form, from Aram. **ܬܢܐܪܐ**; Syr. **ܬܢܐܪܐ**, and Nöldeke had to suggest a dialectal form **ܬܢܐܪܐ** to ease the difficulty.

If, however, the original form in Ar. were **تجارة** from **ܬܢܐܪܐ**, and the verb **تجر** a denominative from this, it is easy to see how **تاجر** a *merchant*, i.e. "one who traffics", would be formed as a participle from this verb.

That the borrowing was from the Aram. is clear from the fact that the original word was the Akk. *tamkāru* or *tamgāru*,¹ whence comes the Armen. **թանկար** or **թանգար**,² so that in the Aram. **ܬܢܐܪܐ**

¹ Zimmern, *Akkad. Fremdw*, 16.

² Hübschmann, *Arm. Gramm*, i, 303.