

about an Estate Courts - Elders

Action [Against a Man] from Nisibis (Naṣībīn), Mesopotamia,
[Brought] Before the Elders of Damietta^a, Egypt

September 9, 989

(In Hebrew)

Oxf. Bodl. Ms. Hebr. a2 (Catal. 2805), f. 3

Text in Assaf, Tarbiz 9 (1938), 208/9

The following occurred in the presence of the elders who have signed at the bottom of this document. On Monday, the seventh of Tishrī, four thousand seven hundred and fifty of (the Creation of) the World in Ḥānēs^{a)} in Egypt, Sahl and Ḥusain, the sons of the late Judah - m(ay he rest in) p(eace) - appeared before us, complaining about this Neṭīra ha-Kohen son of Tobias, from the town of Naṣībīn, with regard to the estate of their father, this late Judah - m.p. - and said: "Our father went to his eternal abode according to God's decree and left with this Neṭīra, son of Tobias, one thousand three hundred and twenty silverpieces, and we now claim the estate of our father from this Neṭīra."

We listen^{ed} to the words of these heirs and then sent for this Neṭīra. He appeared before the elders, and they admonished him and said to this Neṭīra, son of Tobias: "Take heed for yourself, lest you be punished because of these orphans; save your soul on the Day of Judgement." After the elders had thus admonished him and he had conversed with them, he confessed and said: "This late Judah, the

father of these heirs, has given me one thousand three hundred and twenty silverpieces, and they are with me, available in my possession." We confirmed what this Neṭīra had confessed before God and the elders, whereupon these two brothers, Sahl and Ḥusain, sons of the late Judah, demanded their share of the estate of their father and each received the share belonging to him; Sahl received three hundred and thirty silver pieces⁶⁾..., while Ḥusain has already received his share of three hundred and thirty silver pieces.

(Seven lines of legal phrases to the effect that the two brothers had no more claims against Neṭīra.)

Notes

*) Biblical name of an Egyptian town (see Isaiah, ch. 30, v. 4).

Geographically, Damiette is very far away from the ancient

Hānēs, but is always called by this name in mediaeval Hebrew

documents. Those "identifications" were made quite arbitrarily.

**) There were obviously four sons entitled to inherit the estate.

2. Action Against a Man from Nisibis (Nagibin), Mesopotamia,
Brought Before the Elders of Damietta^a, Egypt

September 9, 989

(In Hebrew)

Oxf. Bodl. Ms. Hebr. a2 (Catal. 2805), f. 3

Text in Assaf, *Tarbis* 9 (1938), 208/9

The following occurred in the presence of the elders who have signed at the bottom of this document. On Monday, the seventh of Tishri, four thousand seven hundred and fifty of (the Creation of) the World in Hānās* in Egypt, Sahl and Husain, the sons of the late Judah - m(ay he rest in) p(ease) - appeared before us, complaining about this Netira ha-Kohen son of Tobias, from the town of Nagibin, with regard to the estate of their father, this late Judah - m.p. - and said: "Our father went to his eternal abode according to God's decree and left with this Netira, son of Tobias, one thousand three hundred and twenty silverpieces, and we now claim the estate of our father from this Netira."

He listen^{ed} to the words of these heirs and then sent for this Netira. He appeared before the elders, and they admonished him and said to this Netira, son of Tobias: "Take heed for yourself, lest you be punished because of these orphans; save your soul on the Day of Judgement." After the elders had thus admonished him and he had conversed with them, he confessed and said: "This late Judah, the

father of these heirs, has given me one thousand three hundred and twenty silverpieces, and they are with me, available in my possession." We confirmed what this Netira had confessed before God and the elders, whereupon these two brothers, Sahl and Husain, sons of the late Judah, demanded their share of the estate of their father and each received the share belonging to him; Sahl received three hundred and thirty silver pieces*... while Husain has already received his share of three hundred and thirty silver pieces.

(Seven lines of legal phrases to the effect that the two brothers had no more claims against Netira.)

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- e) Biblical name of an Egyptian town (see Isaiah, ch. 30, v. 4).
Geographically, Damiette is very far away from the ancient Hanes, but is always called by this name in mediaeval Hebrew documents. These "identifications" were made quite arbitrarily.
- ee) There were obviously four sons entitled to inherit the estate.