

Notes

- a) This word (lf) is written above the line (see below).
- b) This quarter is frequently mentioned in the Geniza documents. It was situated to the east of the Qasr al-Sham<sup>c</sup>, the ancient Byzantine fortress (see p.      and the map of Fustat in EI, s.v. Cairo).
- c) As this son does not receive anything, it seems that the "selling" to him of one-half of the house, while each of his two brothers got one quarter, was a mere formality to ensure that he, the first-born and right hand of his father, should get a double share (see p.      ).
- d) It is evident that Bayān must have had a child by that time, although legally he was still a minor (see below).
- e) I.e. she was not to repay them to the legal heirs, the sons.
- f) Obviously, this son lived in a distant country and had little contact with the rest of the family.
- g) About this man, see p.      .
- h) Bayān, who must have been a boy of 15<sup>46</sup>, was nearing maturity and would soon be able to take care of his property himself. However, Bahā was a minor, the guardianship for whom was confided to the Jewish court of justice, which, in its turn, would appoint a relative to look after him under its supervision (cf. p.      ).
- i) This confirms that our document was a deathbed will, which was irrevocable.

followed by 307 a

1. Ed. S. D. Goitein, Sefunot, 8 (1964), 122-125.
2. "The Queen of the House," a common name.
3. For this phrase see A14, n4, above.
4. A market near the north-east corner of "the Fortress of the Candles," the old city of Fustat. It was called also Habs Banāna, TS Arab, Box 40, f. 58, col. II, or Banānāt, Casanova, Reconstitution, p. 19.
5. This interlinear note does not contain anything additional. The witness repeated the dying woman's words verbatim.
6. Who had concurred.
7. Meaning: "exceedingly tall."
8. The old lady would bring up the slave child, free her later (usually on deathbed), and provide her with some means. About such pious deeds see Med. Soc. I, 135.
9. Meaning her parents.
10. In medieval Egypt an irdabb comprised about 150 pounds of wheat, see Hinz, Masse, p. 39.
11. The Heb. term shetār is used here in midst of the Arabic text, which means that this document was made out by a Jewish authority. The preceding word is bdlk (bidhalika) not kdik <sup>as in the edited text</sup> which is a misprint.
12. "Half-and-half," that is, silk and linen woven together, see Dozy, Supplément, s.v. <sup>T</sup>the braid was needed for keeping the corpse in proper position.
13. I read now ts' ly y (=10). The expenditure on the burial equipment by far exceeds that commonly found in Geniza documents.

~~Atk,~~  
 The document does not state, as usual that  
~~the patient died from the illness reported as~~  
~~fatal. It will be assumed that the patient was a~~  
~~man, as the name is given above.~~  
 A market near the north-east corner of the fortress of the  
 Candia, the old city of Ratis. It was called also Habs  
 Bana, TS Arab, Box 40, E. 53, col. II, on Bana, Casanova,  
 Reconstructions, p. 19.

2. This interlinear note does not contain anything additional.
3. The witness repeated the dying woman's words verbatim.
4. Who had occurred.
5. Meaning: "exceedingly tall."
6. The old lady would bring up the slave child, free her later  
(usually on deathbed), and provide her with some means.
7. About such phrase books see Med. Soc. I, 135.
8. Meaning her parents.
9. In medieval Egypt an arab comprised about 150 pounds of  
wheat, see Hinz, Masse, p. 39.
10. The Heb. term sherar is used here in midst of the Arabic  
text, which means that this document was made out by a  
Jewish authority. The preceding word is sharar (sharara)  
not sharar which is a misprint.
11. "Half-and-half," that is, silk and linen woven together, see  
Bozy Supplement, s.v. the word was needed for keeping the  
corpses in proper position.
12. I read now as ly y (=10). The expenditure on the burial  
equipment by far exceeds that commonly found in Geniza  
documents.

14. Abū was erroneously omitted by the printer. At the time of this will the boy <sup>and</sup> ~~at~~ the girl must have been mere children.
15. Different, of course, from his contemporary namesake Aaron B. Joshua<sup>x</sup> Ibn al-‘Ammānī, Jewish chief judge of Alexandria, who was not a Kohen.
16. Omitted by the printer.
17. Because of the bad preservation of the manuscript it is not clear to which word this note refers.
18. The <sup>~</sup>A<sup>~</sup>. form of the name Aaron.
19. The devines reciting prayers and the poor paying their respects during the seven days of mourning had to be fed and remunerated.
20. The document was written (which means also: formulated) by the prominent judge Nathan B. Samuel he-hāvēr, see Med. Soc. II, p. 513, sec. 18. The witnesses probably were friends of the family.

Deathbed declarations often end with a note stating when the testator died. Shall we assume that our Sitt al-Ahl survived and was finally reunited with her widely traveled husband?