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Statement About Collections Made in Minyat Elfta in Connection with the Fine Imposed by Sultan Baibars on Christians and Jove in 1265

2.-8. 13.543

(This short decement from a little Sepa in lower Egypt school a great disaster which befold Christians and Jows in 1265, at the begins ning of the Haluk rule. Then, during Saltans Baibars' great was against the Grusaders, a church burnt down in Marareth and shortly afterwards a deveatabing fire broke out in Cairs, the Christians and, eddly enough, the Joss with them were accused of having set the term on fire. Baibars gave against to burn the Christians and Joss in the capital, and only the intervention of the Commander of his troops induced him to change his mind. A fine of the enermous sum of SCO,000 dinars, to be paid in the installments, was imposed on the numbellavors. Our document, which reports how much was collected in Minyst Mitta until April 34, which reports how much was collected in Minyst Mitta until April 34, little term were able to help the inhabitants of the capital, who were immediately involved. The statement was sent to Saire, and therefore found its way into the Genisa.)

He, the congregation of Minyst lifts Jamid, make the following statements When, in the month of Av 1878, b) the decree of the king?) same upon us because of our many sing, mosessitating a collection, we extracted strength from weakness and joined level in its tribulation, despite our inability to do so, our poverty and indigence, and make

collections twice, once on the twelfth of Av...d) and the second time on the eighth of Marheshman 15770) of (the era of) the documents. In the following, we give the details of what was brought together on these two dates, specifying our names.

(Eighteen names, all in Arabic, follow, including those of two doctors, two tax-farmers, a person bearing the family name Goldsmith, and another Perfumer or Druggist. Seven persons were related to each other, and five were Kohanim, two of whom were brothers. Coptic numerals, only partly preserved, indicate the amount contributed by each individual.)

(Continued in another, less beautiful, but still well-trained hands)

The total collected on the two aforementioned dates, until the seventh of the month of Typer, in the year 1877^f) of (the era of) the documents, one thousand, twenty and a half and a quarter si(lver) dirhams. E) we have put our signature at the bottom of this document as a proof of the correctness of the details stated.

(There follow seven signatures, with one exception totally or partly legible. All the names are exclusively in Habrew, but seems, or all of them, were certainly borns by the person who appear above, in the list of contributors with Arabic names. Thus Ussiah b. Pathahia - two Bibli-eal names very rarely found at that time - is identical no doubt with Abu 'l-Giss b. Futth, and Shelah ha-Rofe (the Hebrew word for physician) must be identified with Abu al-Fadl al-Tablb in the Arabic list, since the other doctor is called Jeseph, a name whose spelling is identical in the two languages.)

Hotes

- a) The Muslim and Christian sources about this event are carefully collected and discussed in R. Strauss, The History of the Jews in Egypt and Syria under Manluk Rule, I (Jerusalem 1944), pp. 65-7 (in Hebrew).
- b) Began on July 18, 1268.
- e) A reference to God rather than to the Sultan. In plain language, this Hebrew phrase means: "when it became mesessary."
- d) July 26, 1265. As the continuation shows, the same year as above is intended.
- e) October 19, 1265.
- f) April 14, 1266.
- g) According to the Genisa documents of that period, one gold disar comtained 13 1/3 Hugra or silver dirhams. Thus, the little community had contributed about 76 disars to the first installment of the fine, 500,000 disars, to be paid by the Christians and Jews of Caire, or Egypt, in that year.

About the strange use of saying "1/2 and 1/6" instead of 5/4, see

דר יית על ייפסיקהיי בעיירה פנייה ופתא בקשר לגזירת הסלטאן ביברס שנת אתקעז (1265/6)

12,543

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1 בקדל נחן קהל סנייה זפתא גואד אן למא ורד עלינא בזירת
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- צ המלך בערונותינו הרבים בחדש אב אמא ש(בת אתק)עו בנבאיה
 - 3 אכרגגא מן אלביעף קווה ושארכנא ישראל פי שדאידהם
 - 4 עלי עדם קדרתנא וצעפנא ופקרנא פרתין אלפרה אלואחדה
 - 5 תאריכהא תאני עסר אם נאלסרה לאלתאניה
 - 6 תאריכהא תאפן מרחשון שנת אֹמֹלְעוֹ לשטרות והדא
 - 7 תפציל מא אררהנאת פי אלתאריכין בתפציל אסאמינא
- אלטיך אלמכין אל/ בן מכתאר פי אלתאריך אלאול ופי אלתאני אלשיך אבו אלעו 8
 - 9 בן פתוח עטאר אול תאריך ותאביה אלסיך יוסף אלחכים פי אלאולי
- בי אלתאני אלכהן בן ראצי פי אלתאני פקסאבת נצר בן (פתרחיי) פי אלתאני פקס 10
 - מלשיך אסחק בן פתרה פי אלאול ופי אלתאני אבר אלרצא אכוה בו
 - פי אלאול ופי אלתאניאבר אלפצל אלטביב פי אלאול ופי אלתאני טרור צאיג 12 פי אלאול ופי אלתאניאבר אלפצל אלטביב פי אלאול ופי אלתאני
 - 13 פי אלאול ופי אלתאני מרסי בן אלכהן לפי אלאול ופי אלתאני מכלץ אכות
 - אבר סרוד בן אברהים פי אלאול פקס מכלץ וזכי אולא אברהים אול ותאגי 14
 - 15 יוסף כהן צאמן אתפהנה ארל ותאני אבו עלי צאפן ארל ותאני
 - - מלתאריכין אלמדכורין אלי סלך אלסאבע מחדש אייר שנת 17
 - ואללי לשטרות אלף דרהם ועשרין דרהם ונצף ורבל וְקְּ (רה
 - 19 פּּדְרלך וצפנא כטוטנא בצחה מא נסב פי הדא אלמכתוב
 - עובדיה בר עזרא יצתק בר
 - 20 עזיה בר פתחיה
 - בר אלעזר גע אהרון בר ... בין בר בר אלעזר גע אהרון בר
 - בצ יוסף אל נאר.