

THE CATALOGUING OF THE HEBREW MANUSCRIPT FRAGMENTS OF ARXIU
HISTÒRIC DE GIRONA: PROCESS AND RESULTS

Just two years ago, the cataloguing of the Hebrew manuscript fragments found in the bindings of *the Arxiu Històric de Girona* (AHG) was initiated. After the first step of the restoration process was completed by the technical team of the Archive, 917 Hebrew fragments and 1151 Latin fragments had been obtained and digitalized.¹

This large number of Hebrew documents is one of the most important collections in Europe of considerable importance both for the various fields of Jewish literature and for the history of the Jewish community in medieval Catalonia. For the Project of cataloguing we initially developed an electronic database in Microsoft Access with the objective of adequately classifying all of these manuscript materials. At the same time, an internal web page was made so as to be able to do the work of cataloguing on line once connected to public web with the aim of making all this material at the disposal of researchers. Few time ago, the development of this base was finished so as to work on line, all the elements has been introduced until the date catalogued. In the month of January, the public part was opened.² This base was developed according to the NODAC norm of the archival cataloguing and description of the *Generalitat de Catalunya*,³ and included the description

of every one of the fragments which consist of: an internal catalogue number of identification, the external catalogue number of notarial registers, the measurements of the fragment, the support, a summary description of the text, the date, if possible, according to the Christian calendar and the Jewish computation, the author, the copyist and the owner (if known), the external description of the fragment, the language or languages, the type of writing, thematic and typological descriptors, the list of toponyms and anthroponyms of the text, and a space for observations. The public web contains the basic information along with the reduced images of the documents and is integrated in the space web of the *Direcció General del Patrimoni Cultural del Departament de Cultura i Comunicació de la Generalitat de Catalunya*.⁴ In this web page, it is possible to carry out searches by theme, dates, names and places. At the request of the users, the internal part offers the rest of the data for anyone interested to enlarge in the information of manuscripts. Out of 917 restored fragments, 362 were catalogued which were introduced in the web.

One of the advantages offered by this cataloguing process was the prior digitalisation of the entire manuscripts and being able to work with a data base on line. The variety of textual typologies, palaeographic, and the various state of conservation of documents, in some cases so fragmentary and damaged, that

¹ For a general updated overview and a complete bibliography on the topic see M. PERANI, A 2009 updated Overview on the "Gerona Genizah": a Ketubbah of 1377 from Castelló d'Empúries and other documents reused as binding, in *Hispania Judaica Bulletin*, 7 (2010).

² <http://manuscritshebreus.cultura.gencat.cat>

³ A. BERNAL; A. MAGRINYÀ, R. PLANES (ed.), *Norma de descripció arxivística de Catalunya*. NODAC) 2007,

Generalitat de Catalunya, Direcció General del Patrimoni Cultural, Subdirecció General d'Arxius, Barcelona, 2007.

⁴ <http://www.patrimoni.gencat.cat>

do not facilitate the task of cataloguing. The study was carried out following the order of signature of the extracted manuscripts. Both Hebrew and Latin fragments were jointly ordered in 11 boxes following the grouping of the notarial books by order of extraction and by chronological order. Initially, they were assigned a catalogue number composed of the number of the box, the catalogue number of the notarial book and the number of the fragment according to the order of extraction of the bindings. Within every box, there were various categories of documents, which s

Talmudic commentary to *Berakot*,⁸ often Catalan words are combined for Hebrew ones in *aljamia*. In the documents of accountants' registers and inventories, most of the Catalan words are proper names and toponyms. Besides, we find words referring to farming products, tissues, colours, house elements, food, administrative words and jobs. The months and festivities are almost always in Catalan, as well as the use of Catalan particles (prepositions and articles). We encounter as well a text in Arabic, a work of Arabic medicine and Hebrew writing of Yiṣḥaq ben Hunain ben Yiṣḥaq.⁹

As regards timeline, being fragmentary manuscripts, we rarely find the date in the documents which are not of an economic type. The dates of the registers that appear in the Hebrew manuscripts constitute the *terminus ante quem* for the dating of the manuscripts themselves. The dates of the protocols give us the superior chronological limit. We can delimit those fragments from the second half of the XIII century to the mid XV century.

Textually, among the documents that have been catalogued, we can establish the following classification:

1. Texts of economic character
2. Talmudic commentaries and *midrašim*
3. Biblical commentaries
4. Internal documents of the community
5. Liturgical texts
6. Biblical and Talmudic texts
7. Other medieval texts (Poetic compositions, literary, juridical and medical works) and *responsum*.

8. Calligraphic texts
9. Illegible fragments

The economic texts are the most numerous. The habitual writing is cursive and in rare occasions we find semi-cursive writing. The support is always the paper. The most important bulk is constituted by private documents where loans are recorded, often to Christians. There are many fragments isolated, part of moneylenders' notebooks, some of them would be quite extensive which denote the professionalization of these, and others that are loose, and we can not discern whether they were usual moneylenders or no.

There are also some documents from sales records, where several transactions are recorded with tissues: bedspreads, blankets, mattresses, etc...;¹⁰ records of various accounts in which transactions with animals (oxen), wheat, grape, and varied payments (candles, paper, a transaction with the court, etc.) are registered;¹¹ one very rare fragment that contains the notes of a Jew relating to a building firm;¹² one tissues inventory;¹³ or a listing count of tax meat help (*ajuda* or *'ezer*) of the year 1345.¹⁴

From this set of fragment, more than 200 toponyms are taken. The major part of the towns belongs to the Catalan regions of the Alt and Baix Empordà, La Selva, Pla de l'Estany and Gironès. Until now a thousand of names have been listed out of all catalogued documents, most of them from the notebooks of loans. 70% are Christian names.

Biblical and Talmudic commentaries follow in number. There is a small percentage in parchment, 5

⁸ Gi 2,62, 1-5, 7, 9-14/1393-1395.

⁹ As part of a compilation. This text is joined with a fragment of the Avraham ben Šemuel ha-Levi ibn Ḥasday's work בן המלך והגזיר (Gi 1, 256 codavant 2, 3, 8, 9 and 8'(5)/1397).

¹⁰ Gi 1,258-codarrere 1-6 and codavant 1.

¹¹ Gi 1,140/1391-1392.

¹² Gi 1,115-codavant 3/1377.

¹³ Gi 1,160-codavant 5/1361-1362.

¹⁴ Gi 1,160-codavant 6 / 1361-1362.

documents, and the rest is on paper. The dominant writing is *Sephardic* semi-cursive. Most of them are rabbinical commentaries on various treaties of the Babylonian Talmud and the Bible or to other commentators. Among the fragments catalogued, the most frequent authors is Šelomoh ben Yiṣḥaq (Raši), followed by Moses ben Naḥman (Ramban), Šelomoh ben Adret (Rašba) and David Qimḥi (Radaq). There are some fragments with commentaries on the Talmud and the Bible the authorship of which is not yet unidentified.¹⁵ In some cases we find comments on comments from other authors, intermixed and with some *midrašim*.¹⁶

There is also a set of documents relating to domestic issues, decisions and rules of the community: the imposition

two of the *Targum Onquelos*,³¹ a fragment of the tractate *Nedarim*,³² and two fragments of parchment of the *Šabbat* tractate of the Babylonian Talmud.³³

Finally, there are several documents with calligraphic practices which might be made by an adult, dispersed practice of some scribe or calligraphic practices with an unsafe letter and less careful of any person who is learning to write or of a child.

The possibilities for investigation that these documents offer us are many and of great importance. The documents allow us to conduct a comparative study of Hebrew and Latin sources related to the Jewish communities of Girona. Moreover, these sources shed new light on the economic system of that period, the relationships between Jewish moneylenders and those receiving loans, and the commercial movements and migrations of the Jewish and Christian populations from the Girona area. We can obtain from these documents important information regarding the history and configuration of the internal workings of the Jewish community, data concerning the booklore circulating among the Jews in that period, other precious information for the study of Catalan linguistics, and new data for more accurate palaeographic study of the script used in this Catalan region. However, all this will be possible only after concluding the process of detaching, extracting, and cataloguing all the fragments. Only then will we be able to evaluate the true importance of these Hebrew manuscripts hidden for about seven centuries in the cardboards of bindings of notarial registers.

I present now a list with a brief textual description of the 362 Hebrew fragments that have been classified:

Gi 1,5 /1341-1343

- a) Seven fragmented paper folios containing several parts of Naḥmanides' commentary to Talmud Babli *Baba Batra* (2a-4b) (Gi 1, 5, 1-3, 5-6, 8 and 10/1341-1343).
- b) A damaged paper folio (171 x 133 mm) containing a part of Naḥmanides' commentary to Talmud Babli *Hullin* (Gi 1,5, 7/1341-1343).
- c) A paper fragment (109 x 187 mm) List of some lending deeds of the decades of year [13]60.³⁴ It can read various amounts of money, Christian names, names of towns and transactions with wheat. (Gi 1, 5, 4BT/F1 12 Tfl 0 0 1 420.7 EMC /P Tfl MCID 121M

³¹ Gi 1,221-codarrere 1 and 3/1382-1383.

³² Gi 1,347-codarrere 1.

³³ Gi 1,260-codavant 2 and codarrere 1/1400.

and various amounts of money. Appears a women named Dolça and other names of the notables of the Girona's community (R. Yossef, R. Yişhaq and R. Yedayah). On verso only remaining parts of a letters and words, perhaps they are some calligraphic practices. There is also a drawing of a horse (*Gi 1,51-codarrere 1/1361*).

- b) Three paper fragments. Part of an accounting notebook (*Gi 1,51-codarrere 2, 5 and 6 /1361*).
- c) Two small paper fragments. Part of an accounting notebook (*Gi 1,51-codarrere 3 and 4/1361*).
- d) Five paper bifolia and one part of paper folio containing an accounting notebook of a Jewish moneylender of years [13]20 to [13]30 (*Gi 1,51- codavant 1-5 and codarrere 1/1361*). There are fragments of this notebook in two bindings: *Gi 1,62- codavant 1-2/1363* and *Gi 1,140-codavant 4-5 and 8/1391-1392*). According to the structure and the scripture can be linked to documents *Gi 1,56 - codarrere 1; codavant 2/1361-1362* and *Gi 1,140-codarrere 1/1391-1392*. Appears in these fragments many Christian names and town names. Many of these loans are signed in *Maçanet de la Selva* and *Franciac* (*Caldes de Malavella*). There are also many Catalan words: names of months and holidays, prepositions and a wide range of products.³⁵

³⁵ These fragments have many similarities to the notebook of accounts published by J.CASANOVAS, M.CASTELLS, S. GARCÍA and J.R. MAGDALENA, *Libro de cuentas de un prestamista judío gerundense del siglo XIV*, Universitat de Barcelona, Barcelona, 1990.

Gi 1,56/1361-1362

- a) A fragment parchment (140 x 289 mm) containing some calligraphic practices and a drawing of a dog. Also there is a text dated to the year 1353 and signed by the king Peter III (*Gi 1,56- codavant 1 /1361-1362*).³⁶
- b) Two paper fragments containing an accounting notebook of a moneylender of years 1338, 1339 and 1340 (*Gi 1,56-codarrere 1 and codavant 2 /1361-1362*).

Gi 1,62/1363

Two paper fragments that are related to the accounting notebook described in the previous two group of documents, for the records of the years 1324 and 1325, and subsequent registers of the years 1326, 1327 and 1328 (*Gi 1,62-codavant 1-2 /1363*).

Gi 1,90/1369

- a) Two parchment fragments (225 x 148 mm per foli) containing several parts of Raši commentary to Talmud Babli *Hullin* (21a/b, 44b and 45a/b) (*Gi 1,90 - codavant 1 and codarrere 1/1369*).
- b) A paper bifolium (200 x 274 mm) containing commentaries to Talmud Babli *Hullin*, *Mo'ed Qaṭan* and *Nedarim* (*Gi 1,90 - codavant 2/1369*).
- c) A damaged paper folio (229 x 170 mm). Only remaining parts of a few

³⁶ And other witnesses' signatures certified by royal notary Pere Marchesii. Cf. A.M. NAVARRO, *Signos notariales medievales de la colección de pergaminos del Archivo Histórico de Elche*, in *Anales de la Universidad de Alicante. Estudios Históricos*, 1 (1982), pp. 207-222.

letters and words (Gi 1,90-codavant 3/1369).

- d) A paper bifolium (202 x 275 mm) containing parts of Raši commentary to Talmud Babli *Pesaḥim* (3a/b, 8b and 9a/b) (Gi 1,90-codavant 4/1369).
- e) Four damaged paper fragments, containing parts of various commentaries to Talmud Babli *Šabbat* (Gi 1,90-codavant 5, 7, 10 and 14/1369).
- f) A paper bifolium fragment (151 x 242 mm) containing part of the text of a poetic composition (Gi 1,90-codavant 6/1369).
- g) Four damaged paper fragments almost illegible (Gi 1,90-codavant 8, 9, 11 and 13/1369).
- h) A paper bifolium fragment (35 x 251mm). There are only parts of a line of the text (Gi 1,90-codavant 12/1369).
- i) A paper bifolium (200 x 281 mm) containing commentaries to Talmud Babli *Hullin* and *Hagigah* (Gi 1,90-codarrere 2/1369).
- j) Two bifolia and three paper fragments. Only remaining parts of a few letters and words (Gi 1,90-codarrere 3,5,6 and 7/1369).
- k) Seven damaged paper fragments de paper. There are only as few lines and words of the text (Gi 1,90-codarrere 4,8, 9,10,11,12 and 13/1369).

Gi 1,99/1371

Thirteen paper bifolia containing parts of the work *Torat ha-Bayit* of Šelomoh ben Adret (Gi 1,99-codarrere 1-6 and codavant 1-7/1371).

Gi 1, 109/1374-1375

A parchment fragment (194 x 274 mm) containing part of Naḥmanides' commentary to Talmud Babli *Hullin* (Gi 1,109-codarrera 1/1374-1375).

Gi 1,110/1374-76

Four paper bifolia and two paper fragments of different parts of the text of Genesis of *Targum Pseudo-Jonathan* (Gi 1,110-codarrere 1-6/1374-76).

Gi 1,114/1376-1377

- a) Four paper bifolia fragments containing a part of Šelomoh ben Adret's commentary to Talmud Babli *Šabbat* (Gi 1,114-codarrere 1-4/1376-1377).
- b) A parchment fragment (137 x 170 mm) containing part of the text of a poetic composition (Gi 1,114-codarrere 5/1376-1377).

Gi 1,115- /1377

- a) Four paper folios containing various poetic compositions (Gi 1,115-codarrere 1-3 and codavant 1/1377).
- b) Six small paper fragments. There are only parts of lines and letters (Gi 1,115-codarrere 4-10/1377).
- c) A damaged paper fragment (155 x 141 mm) There are only a few words of the text (Gi 1,115-codavant 2/1377).
- d) A small paper fragment (145 x 105 mm) containing the notes of a Jew relating to a building firm. He registers the construction of a wall that must maintain a certain distance to another wall, as

prescribed by law. Also he registers what he pays to his labourers, and the cost of materials and work: a room, some little roofs for Bellšom Canet, a lintel for Vidal de Belcaire. He registers for every day of work the cost of materials (beams, stones, chalk and lime) and another expenses. There are mixed terms in Hebrew and Catalan: the names of persons and the names of some material like 'guix' (chalk) (גיֵש) (Gi 1,115-codavant 3/1377).

- e) A paper fragment (105 x 141mm) that it appears to be a draft containing several discussions on goodness, death and birth (Gi 1,115-codavant 4/1377).
- f) A paper fragment (57 x 81 mm). There are only parts of lines and letters (Gi 1,115-codavant 5/1377).
- g) Two small paper fragments that are part of an accounting notebook. (Gi 1,115-codavant 6 and 7/1377).

Gi 1,130/1383-1384

A paper fragment (128 x 155 mm) containing some lines of the text of Raši's commentary to Talmud Babli *Gittin* (Gi 1,130-codarrere 1/1383-1384).

Gi 1, 140/1391-1392

- a) A small paper fragment (31 x 109 mm). There are only a few lines containing some lending deeds of the year [13]41 (Gi 1,140-codarrere 1/1391-1392). They are linked with the group of documents Gi 1,51/1361, Gi 1,62 /1363 and Gi 1,56-codarrere/1361-1362.
- b) Eight damaged paper folios containing an accounting notebook of payments and varied transactions of the decades of the year [13]30 (Gi

1,140-codavant 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 9, 10 and 11/1391-1392).

- c) Three paper fragments containing a list of some lending deeds of the years 1330 to 1336. There is the versicle Job 8:7 in the folio 5b. (Gi 1,140-codavant 4, 5 and 8/1391-1391). They are linked with the group of documents Gi 1,51/1361, Gi 1,62 /1363 and Gi 1,56-codarrere/1361-1362.
- d) Small paper fragment (63 x 52 mm) containing only one Christian name: "Pere de sa Carner" (Gi 1, 140-codavant 12/1391-1392).

Gi 1,160/1361-1362

- a) Fifteen paper fragments containing a list of some lending deeds of the years [13]40 to [13]50. Some documents of this group use directly the Latin words *kalendae* (קלינד), *nonae* (נונש) and *idus* (יד) instead of Hebrew words כני' (כניסה), חצי and יצי' (יציאה) (Gi 1,160-codarrere 1-8 and codavant 1-4; 7-9/1361-1362).
- b) A paper fragment (277 x 95 mm) containing a inventory of textiles and clothes. Many Catalan words appear in Hebrew script: *vànova* (bedspread) (ונובה), *esponeres* (a cloth to cover one side of the bed) (אשפוניריש), *llistada* (striped) (לישטדה), *blau* (blue, m.) (בלב), *blava* (blue, f.) (בלבה), *grogà* (yellow, f.) (גרוגה). (Gi 1,160-codavant 5/1361-1362).
- c) A paper fragment (277 x 95 mm) containing a listing count of tax meat help (*ajuda* or 'ezer) of the year 1345 (Gi 1,160-codavant 6/1361-1362).

Gi 1, 178/1368

- a) Part of a paper bifolium (163 x 236 mm) containing a list of some lending deeds. They are dated according to the Christian calendar. However, appear the year 108. A combination between Christian months and year according to the Jewish calendar is possible (1348) (Gi 1,178-codarrere 1/1368).
- b) Two parts of paper bifolium containing an accounting notebook of a moneylender of years [13]45 to [13]47. The records are orderly in alphabetical order. (Gi 1,178-codarrere 2 and 4/1368).
- c) A paper damaged folio (145 x 153 mm) containing part of a ritual prayer (Gi 1, 178-codarrere 3/1368).
- d) A small paper fragment (57 x 62 mm) containing a list of some lending deeds of the year [13]55 (Gi 1,178-codarrere 5 and 11/1368).
- e) A paper fragment (163 x 87 mm) containing an accounting notebook of a moneylender of the years 88, 90, 91, 92, 93 and 95 (Gi 1,178-codarrere 6/1368).
- f) A paper fragment (157 x 94 mm) containing various accounts and another records: There are several debts, a privilege, a payment to an individual named Šelomoh, a imposition of a *herem* in the month of October or a register of the tax wine help (*ajuda* or *'ezer*) (Gi 1,178-codarrere 7/1368).³⁷
- g) Three paper fragments. There are only parts of lines and letters (Gi 1,178-codarrere 8, 9 and 10/1368).

- h) A paper fragment (85 x 81 mm) containing a list of some lending deeds of the years 56, 57 and 58 (Gi 1, 178-codarrere 11/1368).
- i) A paper damaged folio (256 x 102 mm) containing some lending deeds of the years 53 and 55 and a calligraphic practices (Gi 1,178-codarrere 12/1368).
- j) A paper fragment (161 x 78 mm) containing an accounting notebook with the names of some Jews (Gi 1,178-codarrere 13/1368).

Gi 1,182/1368-1369

- a) A parchment (202 x 281 mm) containing several parts of David Qimchi's commentary to Isaiah (65) (Gi 1,182-codavant 1/1368-1369).
- b) A part of a paper bifolium (282 x 197 mm) containing a text of reconciliation between Šelomoh Falco and Šelomoh Gracian. There are two witnesses: Vidal (...) sa Porta and Yosef Bell[šom] (Gi 1,182-codavant 2/1368-1369).
- c) Three damaged paper bifolia containing parts of a ritual prayer. There is part of the *Hal·lel*. At the upper margin of the right of the fragment Gi 1,182-codavant 3b there is a marginal note which corresponds to Isaiah 52:9. Also there is a crown's drawing in the inferior margin (Gi 1,182-codavant 3, 4 and 9/1368-1369).
- d) Six damaged paper bifolia containing several parts of Raši's commentary to Judges (1) and Joshua (18; 23; 24) (Gi 1,182-codavant 5, 6, 7, 8, 10 and 11/1368-1369).

³⁷ Cf. E. FELIU, *Llibre de comptes de Jucef Zabara...*, pp. 94 and 130 (lin.11), there is a record of a *herem* in the month of october.

Gi 1, 198 /1374-1375

A paper fragment (157 x 200 mm) containing some calligraphic practices (Gi 1, 198-codarrere 1/1374-1375).

Gi 1, 211/1378-1379

Two paper bifolia containing an accounting notebook of a moneylender with records of the years [13]30 to [13]40 (Gi 1,211-codavant 1 and 2/1378-1379).

Gi 1, 212/ 1379

Five damaged paper bifolia containing an accounting notebook of a moneylender containing records of the years 60 to 70. There are some Jews' names of Barcelona (Gi 1,212-codavant 1-5/ 1379).

Gi 1, 219 /1381-1382

- a) A paper fragment (280 x 200 mm) containing some calligraphic practices and a drawing of curvilinear forms (Gi 1,219-codarrere 1/1381-1382).
- b) A paper fragment (146 x 128 mm) containing a commentary and various glosses to several parts of works of rabbinic literature, Talmud and Bible (Gi 1,219-codarrere 2/1381-1382).
- c) A small paper fragment (148 x 91 mm) with some calligraphic practices (Gi 1,219-codarrere 3/1381-1382).
- d) A damaged paper bifolium (277 x 175 mm) with another calligraphic practice and a Latin text (Gi 1,219-codavant 1/1381-1382).

Gi 1, 221/1382- 1383

- a) Two paper fragments containing part of the text of Exodus (3) of *Targum Onquelos* (Gi 1,221-codarrere 1 and 3/ 1382- 1383).
- b) Small paper fragment (85 x 184 mm). There are only a few lines and words of a text that talk about hens and cooks (Gi 1,221-codarrere 2/1382- 1383).
- c) A small paper fragment (95 x 44 mm) containing money accounts of the year [13]45 (Gi 1,221-codarrere 4/1382- 1383).

Gi 1, 231/ 1387

- a) Five damaged paper fragments almost illegible (Gi 231-codarrere 1,3,4,5 and 6 / 1387).
- b) A small paper fragments (124 x 50 mm) with a dog's drawing and some letters (Gi 1,231-codarrere 2/ 1387).
- c) Ten small damaged paper fragments. Only remaining parts of a few letters and words (Gi 1,231-codavant 1-10/1387).

Gi 1, 234/ 1388-1389

- a) A damaged paper folio (116 x 156 mm) containing part of a list of Jews' names. (Gi 1,234-codarrere 1/1388-1389).
- b) A damaged paper folio (160 x 143mm). There are only a few words (Gi 1,234-codarrere 2/1388-1389).
- c) A paper fragment (88 x 161 mm) containing a list of money accounts and two names: Llobet and Šemuel Šalom (Gi 1,234-codarrere 3/1388-1389).

- d) A paper fragment (115 x 37 mm) containing part of an accounting notebook (Gi 1,234-codarrere 4/1388-1389).
- e) Two paper fragments. There are only a few words and the name of a place: Barcelona (Gi 1,234-codarrere 5 and 6/1388-1389).
- f) Two small paper fragments. There are only a few words and letters. (Gi 1,234-codarrere 7 and 8/1388-1389).
- g) Two damaged folios and seven paper fragments containing part of a list of Jews' names and money accounts (Gi 1,234-codavant 1-9/1388-1389).
- h) Small paper fragment (36 x 98 mm) with the end of a document of economic nature with the signature of Šemuel Bonafos (Gi 1,234-codavant 10/1388-1389).

Gi 1, 237/1389-1390

- a) Two paper folios containing several parts of Raši commentary to Talmud *Yebamot* (Gi 1,237-codarrere 1 and codavant 1/1389-1390).
- b) Two damaged paper fragments. There are only parts of lines and letters and refers to *Tosefta* (Gi 1,237-codarrere 6 and codavant 8 /1389-1390).
- c) A paper fragment (103 x 141 mm) with some calligraphic practices (Gi 1,237-codavant 6/1389-1390)
- d) A paper fragment (57 x 116 mm). There are only parts of letters (Gi 1,237-codavant 9/1389-1390).

Gi 1, 239/1390-1391

Five parts of bifolia and a paper fragment containing several parts of

Sefer ha-Manhig (*Manhig 'Olam*) of Avraham ben Natan ha-Yarḥi (Gi 1,239-codarrere 1, 2, 3, 4 and codavant 1, 2/1390-1391).

Gi 1, 255/1397

- a) Four paper bifolia containing part of a ritual prayer with the prayers of *Yom Kippur* (Gi 1, 255-codavant 1,2, 4 and 5/1397).
- b) Two paper bifolia containing part of the Genesis (8) of *Targum Onquelos* (Gi 1,255-codavant 3 and 6/1397).

Gi 1, 256/1397

- a) Five folios and seven paper fragments containing an accounting notebook of a moneylender with records from the late fourteenth century to the early fifteenth century (Gi-1,256 codavant 1, 3', 4, 4', 5', 6, 7, 7', 8'(3), 8'(4), 8'(6), and s.n /1397).
- b) Part of two bifolia and three paper fragments containing parts of a compilation which contains a book of Medicine of Yiṣḥaq ben Hunain ben Yiṣḥaq and the work *Ben ha-melek we ha-nazir* of Avraham ben Šemuel ha-Levi ibn Ḥasday (Gi 1, 256 codavant 2, 3, 8, 9 and 8'(5) /1397).
- c) Six damaged paper fragments. There are only parts of lines and words (Gi 1,256-codavant 5, 6'(1), 6'(2), 6'(3), 8'(1) and 8'(2)/1397).

Gi 1, 258

- a) Seven paper fragments containing a list of sales of tissues. Many Catalan words appear in Hebrew script: *matalaf* (מטלאף) (mattress), *flassada*

(פלסדה) (blanket), *vànova* (ונובה) (bedspread) or *trosser* (טרושיר)³⁸ (Gi 1,258-codarrere 1-6 and *codavant* 1).

b) Seven paper fragments containing an accounting notebook of a moneylender with records from the years 60 to 70 (Gi 1,258-codarrere 7 and *codavant* 2-7).

Gi 1, 260/1400

a) A bifolium paper (235 x 152 mm) containing several drafts of documents of the community. Some parts of the text are the conditions of tax help (*ajuda* or 'ezer) for buyers. There is also a text granting Šemuel Cresques the permission to own goods that had belonged to Esther, daughter of Miriam and Yišḥaq Abed. (Gi 1,260-codavant 1/1400).³⁹

b) Two parchment fragments containing several parts of Talmud Babli Šabbat (82b-83b and 77b-78b) (Gi 1,260-codavant 2 and *codarrere* 1/1400).⁴⁰

c) A paper fragment (228 x 105 mm) containing a decision taken by the Jewish community in reference to the conduct of an individual named Šelomoh. Transgressors receive excommunication (*herem*) (Gi 1,260-codavant 2" /140). Two more fragments of this document are

found in 5,120 *codarrere* 6 and 7/1361.⁴¹

d) Four small paper fragments containing part of a list of money accounts (Gi 1,260-codavant 11, 12, 13 and 16/1400).

e) Five paper fragments. There are only parts of lines and words (Gi 1,260-codavant 3, 14, 15 and *codarrere* 2 and 3/1400).

Gi 1, 264

a) Three folios and a paper fragment containing several parts of David Qimḥi commentary to 1 Samuel (3) (Gi 1,264-codarrere 1, 2, 3 and 4).

b) Three paper fragments with a list of some money accounts and Jews' names (Gi 1,264-codarrere 5, 6, 7 and 8).

c) Two damaged paper fragments. There are only parts of words and letters (Gi 1,264-codarrere 9 and 10).

d) A paper fragment (182 x 125 mm) with some calligraphic practices and drawings (Gi 1,264-codarrere 11).

e) A paper folio (155 x 121 mm) containing part of a ritual prayer (Gi 1,264-codarrere 12).

f) Three paper fragments containing a decision taken by the Court of Girona's community, in reference to another decision from Barcelona's Court concerning to an individual named Momet Bonafed, dated in the month of *Tevet* of the year 5067 (December 1306/January 1307) (Gi 1, 264-codavant 1, 2 and 3).

g) Part a paper bifolium (192 x 211 mm) containing some money

³⁸ Medieval Catalan word that can translate for "bundle of clothes". Cf. "TROSSA, [TROÇA] s. Feix, bolic de roba, farcell de diverses coses embolicades ensem, sarró, sac de viatge; TROSSAR v. a. Metre en trossa, en feix; enfarcellar" in G. COLÓN DOMÈNECH, *Vocabulari de la llengua catalana medieval de Lluís Faraudo de Saint-Germain*, Institut d'Estudis Catalans, Barcelona, www.iec.cat/faraudo.

³⁹ Eduard Feliu identified this fragment for the exhibition *Els documents amagats dels jueus de Girona*, 2003.

⁴⁰ *Ib.*

⁴¹ Eduard Feliu identified the fragment Gi 1, 260-codavant 2"/140.

accounts and Jews' names (Gi 1, 264-codavant 4).

Gi 1, 278

- a) Two damaged paper folios and five fragments. Part of them are illegible. It seems a draft document (Gi 1,278-codarrere 1, 3, 5, 6 and codavant 3, 5, and 6).
- b) Two paper fragments. There are only parts of lines and words (Gi 1,278-codarrere 2 and 4).
- c) Two damaged paper bifolia containing part of the text of a poetic composition (Gi 1,278-codavant 1 and 2).
- d) Two parts of a paper folio containing part of Šelomó ben Adret's commentary to Talmud Yerushalmi *Berakot* (Gi 1,278-codavant 4).

Gi 1, 347

A parchment fragment (203 x 275 mm) containing part of the text of Talmud Babli *Nedarim* (32a-b) (Gi 1, 347-codarrere 1).

Gi 2,10

A small paper fragment (77 x 169 mm) with two words that seems calligraphic practices: רחוק and הללה (Gi 2, 10-1).

Gi 2, 20

Two damaged paper fragments. There are only parts of lines and words (Gi 2,20-codarrere 1-2 and codavant 1).

Gi 2,62 / 1393-1395

- a) Seven parts of bifolia and four paper fragments containing several parts of a commentary to Talmud

Babli *Berakot* with many Catalan words in Hebrew script (Gi 2,62-11b): *lliri* (לירי) (lily), *violes* (ויאולש) (violets), *roses* (רושיש) (roses), *nou moscada* (אנוו מושקדש) (nutmeg), *sucré* (סוכרי) (sugar), *canella* (קנילא) (cinnamon), *gingebre* (גינגברי) (ginger) (Gi 2,62, 1-5, 7, 9-14/1393-1395).⁴²

- b) A paper fragment (142 x 145 mm) containing a draft of several sentences, some isolated letters and a Latin text. (Gi 2,62-6/1393-1395).
- c) A paper fragment (149 x 98 mm) containing several times the word אמן (Gi 2,62-8/1393-1395).

Gi 2, 81

Nine fragmented paper bifolia containing several parts of Raši's commentary to Talmud Babli *Berakot* (30a - 60b) (Gi 2,81-6, 7, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 21).

Gi 2,212

Small notebook of ten paper pages which contains status of accounts of the year 1443 of Yossef Zabara, Treasurer's collector of Girona's of the Jewish community (Gi 2212, 1-9).⁴³

Gi 5,120/1361

- a) A paper folio (274 x 187 mm) containing a document draft of a Court Girona's community in reference to a conflict of a *ketubbah* of a woman named *Falcó*. No other name, place or date appears (Gi 5,120-codarrere 1 /1361).⁴⁴

⁴² Eduard Feliu identified the fragment Gi 2,62-11.

⁴³ Studied and edited by Eduard Feliu. See footnote 25.

⁴⁴ Eduard Feliu identified this fragment for the exhibition *Els documents amagats dels jueus de Girona*,

- b) A paper bifolium (280 x 203 mm) containing several drafts of documents of Jewish community: payments records to some Jews with Catalan words in Hebrew script such as *violaris* (ויאולריש) or *censals* (שנצלש). In some cases they could be documents by accounts auditors, while in other cases, debts owed to the community are referred to without mentioning which communities. There are names which are clearly written: Bonastruc, Astruc, Todrosa ben Hasday from Barcelona, Astrug Asmies. In one place in the document there is a reference to the *Sefer haskamot* ("Book of Agreements") of the community. This is the book which contains the approved and registered orders. The subject of the delegates and some affairs of the community of Barcelona are also mentioned. At the beginning of the verso the date is indicated according to the Jewish calendar: 5115 (1355) (*Gi 5,120-codarrere 2/1361*).⁴⁵
- c) A paper bifolium (280 x 202 mm) containing more drafts of documents of Girona's community: a list of posts of the aljama with the names of the individuals who held them such as collectors, tax administrators, judges of the rabbinical court, accounts revisers, executors or auditors; a statement by the rabbinical court referring to the sale of houses in the Jewish quarter of Girona which belonged to the teacher Hanania, son of the teacher Yişhaq, sold in Maymon Vidal to pay money to Bonafilla, Hanania's widow, that she needs as payment of the *Ketubbah*; some drafts which contain different proofs of writing of the agreements of the community and the appointments of the auditors and controller of the personal tax declarations and the revisers of documents. One of these mentions the duration until June 1353 (*Gi 5,120-hecodarrere 3/1361*).⁴⁶
- d) A parchment fragment (270 x 110 mm) containing a document of economic and legal type. There are several witnesses regarding certain amounts of money. Also referred to pieces of land, properties and other possessions. There is a part which says that Šem Tov forced a boy, Iqsal, to be in his service. Some Catalan prepositions appear in the text (*Gi 5,120-codarrere 4/1361*).
- e) A paper fragment (187 x 12 mm). There are only parts of letters (*Gi 5,120-codarrere 5/1361*).
- f) Two small fragments part of document *Gi 1,260-codavant 2" /140* containing a decision taken by the Jewish community in reference to the conduct of an individual named Šelomoh. Transgressors receive excommunication (*herem*) (*Gi 5,120-codarrere 6 and 7/1361*).
- g) A paper fragment (27 x 15 mm) with some illegible lines (*Gi 5,120-codarrere 8/1361*).
- h) A paper fragment (42 x 35 mm). There are only parts of lines and words. It appears to be a draft because there are words crossed out and other words written on top (*Gi 5,120-codarrere 9/1361*).
- i) A paper bifolium (199 x 280 mm) containing a draft of a decision in reference to some houses of

2003.

⁴⁵ Ib.

⁴⁶ Ib.

Barcelona. There are several witnesses (Gi 5,120 - *codavant* 1/1361).

- j) A damaged paper fragment (273 x 103 mm). It appears to be a Talmud commentary. In line nine Raši is mentioned (2a) (Gi 5,120 - *codavant* 2/1361).
- k) Part of a paper bifolium (64 x 280 mm). There are only parts of lines and words. (Gi 5,120 - *codavant* 3b/1361).

Gi 5, 136/1351-1352⁴⁷

- a) Two paper bifolia containing the text of some poetic compositions (Gi 5,136-1 and 2/1351-1352).
- b) Four paper bifolia containing some commentaries to Talmud Babli *Abodah Zarah* and *Berakot* and commentaries to some *midrašim* (Gi 5,136-3, 6, 7 and 8).
- c) A paper bifolium (177 x 271 mm) containing some commentaries (many of Naḥmanides) to Exodus. (Gi 5,136-4).
- d) A damaged paper bifolium (165 x 275 mm) containing some commentaries to *Ḥiduše ha-Rašba* (Šelomoh ben Adret) (Gi 5,136-5/1351-1352).
- e) A part of paper bifolium (290 x 133 mm), containing statements in front the rabbinical court, which is dated to the year 5109 (1309), and where mentioned Yišḥaq, Yossef and Šelomoh Benvenist (Gi 5 136-9/1351-1352).

⁴⁷ These fragments are described by Meritxell Blasco Orellana in the article *Estudio diplomático y paleográfico de los fragmentos hebraicos extraídos del protocolo notarial de Ramon Peralada* (*Arxiu Històric de Girona*), in *Anuari de Filologia. Estudis hebreus i arameus*, vol. XXVI, section E, 12 (2004), pp. 69-80.

Castelló d'Empúries, 764/1473-1477⁴⁸

Large size parchment (620 x 480 mm) containing a *ketubbah* of the marriage of David son of Mešullam of Gallac and the virgin Astruga, daughter of Avraham son of Yossef Al Gallet, was celebrated on the 3th of May of the year 1377 according to the Christian era.

⁴⁸ Document translated and edited by Mauro Perani. See footnote 1.