



Ain Shams University

Faculty of Arts

Ancient European Civilization Department

**An Edition of Some Unpublished Greek Papyri  
- With Commentary**

A THESIS

SUBMITTED FOR THE AWARD OF A Ph.D. DEGREE

BY

**Rasha Hussein Mahmoud El-Mofatch**

SUPERVISED BY

**Prof. Dr. Alia Hanafi Hassanen.**

**Assoc. Prof. Noha A. Salem**

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## **Abstract**

The Research aims to study new twelve Greek papyri that have not been read before. The researcher will edit and comment on the historical and linguistic contents of these documents. These documents are housed in the Egyptian Museum in Cairo and other places. The documents which are from the Egyptian Museum are from the collection of Catalogue General (numbers: CG. 10468 and CG. 10531), and from the collection of Michigan (number: 4750c/ 26/ BS1/ P I). The rest of them are from the collection of Lund University in Sweden (numbers: 22, 49.56, 123 136 178); the collection of Columbia University in the United States of America (numbers: 323a, 319); and only one piece is from the collection of Yale University in the United States of America (number: 4503).

The twelve papyri deal with different and multiple topics and dated to the Roman and Byzantine periods, from the beginning of the first century CE until the seventh century CE. Most of them bear certain dates and their provenances have been clearly mentioned.

## **A Summary of the subjects of the documents:**

### **- Document no. I**

It is from the collection of Lund University. Its provenance is Oxyrhynchus. It dated to the 41st year of Augustus's reign. This dark brown papyrus has some lacunae. All its margins are preserved except the right one. The recto side contains 8 lines. The Recto is a signature or subscription with an affidavit. This subscription appears in the legal documents. The verso side consists of two columns. The second column has an oath formula, which is used in documents that deal with financial transactions such as documents of divorce contracts and distribution of inheritance.

- **Document no. II**

It is from the collection of Lund University. Its provenance is unknown. It is dated back to the first century CE. It's a dark brown papyrus and all the margins are preserved. It contains 14 lines. Handwriting runs along the fiber, the ink is faded in a few lines with some lacunae. Verso is blank. The document is an account with names in one column. The purpose of the document is unclear, but it could be an account of payments for children or slaves because of the repeated number 1. There is only one female name in this list that full of male names

- **Document no. III**

It is from the collection of Michigan in the Egyptian Museum, It is from Karanis. It is dated back to 148-149 CE. The color of papyrus is light brown. The document has its upper and right margins only. The document is a notice of the death, it contains 10 lines on the recto side, 8 lines of them could be completed accurately. The last two lines do not fit with the formula of the notice of death. Verso side has a docket by a 2<sup>nd</sup> hand. This document has been published internationally in Germany in the year 2015 within the archive of Socrates, the Tax -Collector of Karanis. The notification of death was sent to the Royal writer of Asinoites, at which the sender announces the death of his brother with a request to remove or cancel the name of the deceased from the list of taxes.

- **Document no. IV**

It is from the collection of Lund University. The papyrus is dark brown, it is torn from the upper part of the beginning of the first three lines; there are some tracks because of worms. Its margins are preserved. It contains nearly

7 complete lines. The handwriting is Verschleifung. Verso is blank. It is from amphodon Dionusiou Topoi (Arsoinites). It is dated back to 3rd of August 162 CE, in the reign of Marcus Aurelius. The document is a receipt for a Poll-tax. The paid amount is 20 drachmas and 10 obols. This rate of payment has been paid by the privileged class in Arsoinites. Unfortunately, the taxpayer's name is missing.

#### **- Document no. V**

It is from the collection of Columbia University. It's a dark brown papyrus, nearly complete; all its margins are preserved. The handwriting runs along the fibers on the recto side by a professional hand. Verso is blank. It comes from Bithynon (Arsoinites). It dated back to 26th of December 165 CE during the reign of Marcus Aurelius. The document dated by the Roman month Hadrianos. It is a receipt of a poll tax. The paid amount is 20 drachmai with 10 obols. The payments have been paid by a father who paid for his son too.

#### **- Document no. VI**

It is from the collection of Columbia University. It comes from Arsoinites. It dated back to the 2nd cent. CE. The document has two sides. The recto side is a list of names with numbers. It contains 14 lines. It could be for a census-return. The list is full of Egyptian and Greek names (females and males names). It appears a rare name θνᾶς .

The verso side is a receipt of Μονοδεσμία χόρτου, all its margins are preserved except the right one. It contains nearly complete 6 lines. It dated to the 14th year of the reign of Marcus Aurelius (174-175 CE). We have also, a

payment for another tax εἴκοσιδραχμῶν χαλκοῦ in the same receipt. The name of the tax-payer does not come after the verb διέγραψε.

**- Document no. VII**

It is from Catalog General. Its provenance could be Tebou- Topos in Antaiopolites. It dated back to the second century CE. It is a medium brown papyrus. It is torn from the top and right side while it has the left and lower margins. It contains 25 lines. There are two handwritings in it: uncial and cursive. There are γ and θ besides some lines which assume that is a monthly or weekly account or report. The verso is glued. The text document is a day-book deals with wheat and barley tax. There are references in the document about the granary and the donkeys that were certainly important for delivering wheat or barley to the store. This day-book for a land of orchards and taxes that paid in kind by wheat and barley. This is confirmed by the verb περιεγένετο, which is widely known in the tax and receipts records followed by the type and quantity of the crops, as well as ἐδηλωθησαν which is a part of an oath- formula.

**- Document no. VIII**

It is from Catalog General. It is from Hermopolis and it dated back to 284-286 CE. This brown papyrus is torn from the left and right margins, but the upper and lower margins are preserved. It damaged in many places especially after line 8. The text consists of 21 lines and has two handwritings. The verso is glued. The document is a petition to the Prefectus of Egypt Marcus Aurelius Diogenes from Aurelia Ammonia alias Demetria, daughter of Polydeukes. Aurelia Ammonia alias Demetria is the mother of Aurelia Charite. The petitioner submitted her complaint that is about taxes imposed upon farmers in her lands in Pallantos.. The document has terms

appear in the official letters such as Τοῦδε τοῦ and ἐπίσταλμα. Lines 19-20 are a short subscription could be written by the hand of the Perfectus of Egypt himself.

**- Document no. IX**

It is from the collection of Lund University. Its provenance is unknown. It dated back to the second or third century CE. The dark brown papyrus is torn from its upper and lower edges. Its right and left margins are preserved. It has paths because of worms. It contains 15 lines. The verso is blank. The text is a list of a work day in gardening. This list shows the day, the tasks of the workers and their wages.

The document is a record of work in the fields and orchards. It begins from the eighth to the tenth of the same month. The paid wages for the workers is 1 drachma and 3 obols. The young workers receive the half of the adult's fees. The document also has a reference to the flute-player and their wages; the flute-players have been hired during the grape picking season. The land in the document is μηχανὰς as is a piece of land that is irrigated by the water-well.

**- Document no. X**

It is from the collection of Lund University, Its provenance could be Arsinoites and it is dated back to the 5th CE. The document is dark brown. It is a long strip torn from its right and left margins. Its upper and lower margins are preserved. It has two sides; the recto is a list of arrears of artabai in 23 lines. It begins with the symbol χμγ. The list includes Egyptian, Greek, Roman and Jewish names. The total amount is only preserved. The verso contains 20 lines and it is a list of amounts only by artabai. It was difficult to

explain the values in lines 4, 14, 15 and 16, but it has been presented 3 suggestions for them.

**- Document no. XI**

It is from the collection of Lund University, its provenance could be Oxyrhynchus and it dated to the 5th or 6th century CE. The color of the papyrus is very dark brown; all the margins are preserved except the right one. It contains 10 lines and there is a large vacate after line 4. The verso is blank. The document is a list of Egyptian and Greek names. The purpose of this list is unknown, but it could be a list of the heirs of two persons, which is necessary for legal matters and liturgy labors. It contains a rare name Ἀῶτος.

**- Document no. XII**

It is from the collection of Yale University, its provenance could be Oxyrhynchus. It dated back to 6th -7th cent. CE. It is a brown papyrus consisting of 4 fragments, the fragments numbered 1, 2, 3 can be connected to give a continued text. All margins are preserved except the right one. It has two sides; the recto side is a letter between a monk and a lady could be a nun for sending leather goods on the occasion of the feast in the month of Tybi. The opening and closing formulas of the letter are the well-known formulas of this kind of letters in the Byzantine period from the 6th to the 8th centuries CE. The verso should have the names of the sender and the addressee but it is hard to read them because the letters are very faded.

### Method of Publication

- [ ] Square brackets indicate a lacuna in the papyrus.
- [[ ]] Double square brackets indicate deletion in the original.
- <> Angular brackets indicate omission in the original made by the editor.
- { } Braces indicate superfluous letters in the original, it should be omitted.
- ( ) Round brackets indicate resolution of a symbol or abbreviation.
- ED Indicate insertion above the line in the original.
- . Dots underneath letters indicate letters doubtfully read.
- [...] Dots within brackets indicate the approximate number of letters lost or deleted.
- . . . Dots without brackets indicate mutilated or otherwise illegible letters.

## ABBREVIATIONS

- A Grammar of the Greek Papyri of the Roman and Byzantine Periods: Phonology, Vol. I, II (Testi e documenti per lo studio dell' antichità), Milano, 1976.
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Handbuch	= Harrauer,Hermann , Handbuch der Griechischen Paläographie, Stuttgart , 2010.
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Arabic abstract