

I, 42 *A Contribution to the Poor by Abu 'l-Riḏā*

{Fustat, ca. 1230–40}

Bodl. MS. Heb. c. 28 (Cat. 2876), fol. 47

Ed. Ashtor "Documents," 140–45.

Abu 'l-Riḏā { Joseph III } Ibn al-Lebdi pledged one-half a dirhem (per week, for 'bread for the poor'), as most middle-class people did; see the discussion in Goitein, *Med. Soc.*, 2:488–90, especially 488 bottom. {According to TS NS J 422, Abu 'l-Riḏā's great-grandfather, Abu 'l-Barakāt I, made the exact same contribution; see above, 254, n. 2.}

I, 43–44 *Lebdis Preceding the Time of Joseph I*I, 43a *Poem in Honor of Samuel Ibn al-Lebdi*

Ca. 1000

Bodl. MS. Heb. d. 36 (Cat. 2776, no. 3), fol. 9

Ed. Mann, *The Jews*, 2:14–15 {Mirsky, *Ibn Khalfūn*, 80–82}.

A poem of fifteen lines in honor of Samuel Ibn al-Lebdi by the Spanish Hebrew poet Isaac b. Khalfūn (active around 1000). The warm, personal poem makes the impression that its writer had visited the man praised, but now was separated from him 'by deserts and seas.' The identification of the poet was made by Schirmann, "Ibn Khalfūn," 298.¹

¹ {On Isaac b. Khalfūn, see Schirmann-Fleischer, *Poetry in Muslim Spain*, 173–76; Fleischer, "Secular Poetry," 87–88 and the literature cited there.}