

III, 26 *Calendar for 1461 E.D. (1149/50 C.E.)*

Yemen, 1149/50

TS 12.320

A calendar written by Ben Yijū for the year September 1149–September 1150, which seems to indicate that, as before in India and later in Egypt, he planned to organize in Yemen a private service led by him. Additional calendars written by Ben Yijū are found in II, 16*v* and III, 51.

{This calendar is written on the blank space between the end of the text and the address on III, 1*v*. It appears to be a simple, straightforward calendar, listing the days on which months begin and on which occur festivals and fast days. He wrote similar calendars for the preceding three years, 1458–60 E.D. on II, 16*v*. The very beginning of a calendar for 1461 is preserved there as well and was probably a rough copy. I see no indication in the calendars for these four years that Ben Yijū intended them for anything but his personal use. Contrariwise, in III, 51, he listed monthly contributions to a synagogue. I am also unaware of evidence for a private prayer service he led in India. On his heading a congregation in Yemen, see the introduction to III, 31; for Egypt, the introduction to III, 41 and III, 51.}

III, 27 *Sundry Accounts Written by Abraham Ben Yijū*

{Yemen, apparently 1140–44, 1149–1152}

TS 12.235

Written on verso of III, 9. See the description of the manuscript there. The accounts were written in three different places on the blank space between the end of the letter in III, 9 and its address:

- A) Twelve lines, about 11 cm long, on the left side of the paper, beneath the address and in the same direction. Large bold letters; the beginning of the lines are almost completely illegible, owing to damage by water or holes in the paper. Between lines 10 and 11, another line, written in smaller letters, is inserted.
- B) At an angle of ninety degrees to the first 4–6 lines in A, thirteen lines of 2–4 cm are written in small letters on the right side of the page. They are effaced to such a degree that even an ultraviolet photograph could bring out only single, incoherent words. {The third line before the end includes “Sheikh Sa’id al-‘Aṭṭār” (Perfumer/Druggist).}
- C) Beneath B, there are other accounts written in the same direction as A, of which, owing to their bad state of preservation, even the number of lines could not be made out. The ends of three lines of C are visible beneath A.

Whether these accounts were written in India or in Yemen will be ascertained after one or more of the smaller coins mentioned here is identified. As pointed out in note 2, the Indian coins usually listed by Ben Yijū do not occur here. I am inclined to assume that these accounts were written in Yemen.

Despite its poor state of preservation, the document is not without interest. We learn about the daily life of the Maghrebis in Yemen (or India), as well as about smaller coins used there at that time. {In the notes evidence is adduced to the likelihood that the account was written in Yemen. The dates are those of Ben Yijū’s likely stays in Yemen; see the introduction to III, 21 (page 648).}