

Rough copies of two memos, written by Ben Yijū in Aden about transactions

with the Nāḥodā (ship's owner) Abū ^cAbdallah ibn (Abu) 'l-Katā'ib

No. 66 - concerning goods brought from India

No. 67 - concerning goods sent there, as well as about sums due to the Nāḥodā for
the transport of the goods mentioned in No. 66

University Library Cambridge Or 1080 J 95 (verso)

For the description of the ms., see No. 65. No. 67 is written upside down to No. 66. A blank space of about seven lines has been left between the two. In No. 66, the beginnings of ll. 1-7 were torn away, but not much is lost.

The Nāḥodā Abū ^cAbdallah ibn Abu 'l-Katā'ib was drowned on his way from Aden to India in 1146, cf. above No. 208(60x), ll. 18-25. We find him doing business together with his father Abu 'l-Ḥasan here, No. 67, ll. 26 and 31, just as above No. 26, l. 19. The terminus ad quem of Nos. 66-7 is, therefore, summer 1146. As, however, Ben Yijū was at that time in India, see No. 58 and 59a-b, and had been established there for many years, these statements must have been written before that year. As we have many letters written to B.Y. from Aden to India during the years 1133-1140 and again from 1145-1148, it is feasible to assume that he paid a visit to Aden in the early forties of the twelfth century and that these memos were written at that time.

While the honorific name Abu 'l-Ḥasan was very common among Jews at that time, Abu ^cAbdallah is seldom found, if at all, cf. University Library Cambridge T. - S. 16.179 and 13 J 17, fol. 2. On the other hand, the name Abu 'l-Katā'ib was borne