



26 27 28 29 30  
 26 27 28 29 30  
 26 27 28 29 30  
 26 27 28 29 30  
 26 27 28 29 30

margin

1  
 2  
 3  
 4  
 5  
 6

verso

1  
 2  
 3

Obviously the part of the letter which contained the address  
 was torn away. The two parts together are 28 cm long, 20 broad  
 middle brown & rather smooth.  
 Same hand as C 28 f 55 (the same scribe) although  
 the bigger & clearer letters.

Opt C 28 f. 12

11/11/11 ...

16. ...

... 14

... 1139 ...

... HN 2 ...

... HN 2 ...

17. ...

18/11/11 ... HN 4

20. ...

21. ...

margin

2. ...

... form ...

4. ...

... 11/11/11

Address not clear, ...

... C 28 f. 55

Cowley ...

...

19.11.11  
2) ~~1000000~~ 1000000  
1000000

TRANSLATION

- 1 The letter of your-honor, my Master, the illustrious merchant - <sup>the presence of</sup> <sup>most</sup> <sup>shikh has arrived</sup> May God  
 prolong your life and make permanent your <sup>might,</sup> ~~strength, greatness~~ rank
- 2 <sup>h</sup> lightness, loftiness, excellence, ascendancy and authority and subdue your  
~~enemies~~ and enemies.
- 3 It was the most enjoyable newcomer and the most splendid visitor. I read  
 it with joy and studied it with happiness and pleasure.
- 4 God - may His Omnipotence be exalted - knows the intensity of my longing and  
 yearning for you and my regret that so much time
- 5 Passes without my seeing you, and I implore the Creator - may He be praised -  
 and ask His grace that
- 6 He may grant and facilitate in the near future in joy and in the best state  
 in His grace. His kindness is sufficient - to effect this.
- 7 Your servant congratulates you upon the imminent high feast. God - may  
 He be praised - (may) grant you
- 8 many pleasant and prosperous years and may you be privileged to behold the  
beauty of the Lord and to visit in His temple.
- 9 and may this not be at the end of your life (= May the Temple be built soon).  
 May He fulfill your good hopes and the hopes had for you by your friends.
- 10 The Creator knows the anguish of my heart and my distress of mind, when  
 I heard
- 11 about your illness. However, He - may He be praised - has already granted  
 you helath and he will make it permanent for you in His mercy.
- 12 Your servant also was seriously ill and was forced to remain at home for

a number of days until God granted

13 health. They thank God for his loving kindness etc.

He - may He be praised - knows how deeply I was afflicted by the death  
of the girl,

14 the daughter of your brother - may God have mercy upon him - and how you  
were afflicted by it. For I know your character and your great tenderness  
15 and how you share the sorrows of strangers, let alone those of your own  
family. God - may He be praised - may make this the  
16 last of your griefs and may never let have you bad tidings and may let hear  
me from you only what gives me pleasure  
17 and widens my heart, in His mercy.

Your excellent honor mentioned and ordered that I should deliver  
18 the canvas bundle of silk which was not fastened and which bore the Hebrew  
19 inscription "for the Merchant Abu l-Barakât, son of Hârit." Your servant  
has executed your order and delivered in contents to the aforesaid, after  
having opened it  
20 and weighed and counted the pieces. The weight was thirty two Roth and the  
number 38.  
21 The merchandise was brought to his place. He offered it for sale and will  
sell it in these two days. I inform you  
22 of this so that you may let its sender know.

It would be very fitting - may God make your glory permanent - if you  
honored your servant  
23 with your kind letter comprising news from you and informing me of whatever  
service,

24 order or prohibition, so that I should read this and carry it out, in  
accordance with which is  
25 due to you on my side. Such a letter would also satisfy me that you en-  
joy complete health. For the Creator of everything knows  
26 how much I worry about you. God - may He be praised - may never let me  
have bad tidings about you, but give me joy  
27 through fulfilling the hopes I put in you.

His high honor is served with the best greeting in the choicest  
28 salvation, in the measure of my longing for you, my gratefulness to you  
and my praise of you. May I ask you to convey to my Lord,  
29 the excellent merchant Abū Alī, your brother, my best and choicest greetings  
and inform him of my longing  
30 and yearning for him. And to all whom your patronage (solicitude) encompasses,  
my best and choicest greetings.

Margin

1 Likewise, please excuse shortcomings  
2 and mistakes in my style. For, as  
3 the proverb has it: Where there is complete confidence,  
4 criticism disappears, may God never put me to trial with you,  
5 for you are prone to overlook my defect,  
6 Your well being may increase incessantly!

Verso Address, Right side -

To the Presence of the illustrious Sheibh Abū said, his h(onor), g(reatness and)  
h(oliness), O (Master) a(nd) t(eacher) Halfon, the honored prince, the wise and  
the prudent, son of his honor, gr., ho., o.m.a.t. Nethanel the honored gentleman

m(ay he rest in) E(den).

Left side -

His servant

Sa dān b. Tābit, the Levi

Bagdādi.