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Dodl. c28f. 51 A letter by the friend of a poet  
sending in a poem in honor of Helton and  
asking him to reward the author

1 (To) his Honour, the ~~excellent~~ merchant, the accomplished  
scholar, Abu Said, my master and lord, may his glory be  
permanent, (From him) who is filled with  
reverence & admiration for him  
his veneration and spreading of his bounty, Ya'qub.

2 Ya'qub:

3 May God prolong the life of my Master and Lord, while  
the souls ~~are~~ seeking his news / and the hearts wish to be  
near to him and to meet him.

4 This is my letter to your Honour and I wish to make  
it resound so that I shall have the privilege of  
meeting you without needing <sup>in future</sup> a written communication,  
and shall quench the burning thirst of ~~the~~ yearning  
by your sweet

5 presence and your conversation, to which I look for-  
ward. Since I left you - may God never leave  
you - the everlasting, the <sup>والله الاقرب</sup>

6 the everlasting (or the most kept), I occupied myself  
- may I be made your ransom - with ~~months~~ reports  
about your goodness & with performing the countries  
with the description of your noble

7 generosity. Most of my time of leisure - although  
it was short - I ~~spent~~ <sup>filled</sup> with spreading <sup>the fame of</sup> your virtues  
~~embellished~~

8 and of the <sup>great number of</sup> your attainments and some of your  
~~ancestors~~ forefathers - may God protect you  
from the evils of destiny and preserve what

9 the exclusive love which ~~he~~ <sup>he</sup> took extended to me.  
10 ~~from~~ its calibris and may your <sup>your</sup> love  
~~remain~~

The reader knows that I praise you in private

(turbidness)  
perturbation / ~~line~~  
~~state of the~~

~~is~~ ~~undisturbed~~ ~~by~~ ~~(unpleasant)~~ ~~changes~~ ~~and~~ ~~tribulation~~  
When our third and my second, my lord

11 my lord, Abu Ayyūb ibn Sahl, who exalts your <sup>position</sup> im-  
portance, arrived from Almeria, (found) <sup>your</sup> quarters  
in his what he brought

12 <sup>that which</sup> delighted the friends and perfumed the lands,  
because of his fine qualities

13 and ~~was~~ excellent ability. The bountifulness of  
yearning to meet you made his eloquent

14 while he rendered <sup>my</sup> prose into poetry and  
<sup>made</sup> described with his (rhetorical) ornaments  
<sup>created</sup> something well rounded and well formed

15 in the poem which is here with sent (to you) and  
which <sup>tells</sup> expresses your excellence, lordship, fame and  
firmness of character. <sup>leadership</sup>

16 Likewise, it expresses his longing and striving  
to obtain from your side

17 the same love which I have obtained. By the  
the life of your lordship, <sup>he described his longing</sup> ~~for your house~~

18 <sup>from you</sup> ~~for your house~~ <sup>in a lovely song</sup> ~~intended to be~~  
~~praising you~~ ~~and~~ ~~your~~ ~~enjoyment~~ May God  
fulfil his hope

19 with regard to that which he intends in  
(his <sup>grace</sup> ~~grace~~). In this letter I have spoken to  
your Honour,