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from  
Letter of the Jewish Community of Gaza  
to that of ~~Old Cairo~~<sup>Fustat</sup> regarding the Estate of  
a man who had died in <sup>the</sup> Fayyum <sup>district</sup>, Egypt

(ca. 1020)

PER H 94 + ed Ascal. Texts, pp. 31-37.

The letter is signed by 15 persons, not all of whom were citizens of Gaza, as is expressly stated. Among the signatories was ~~the~~<sup>a</sup> most prominent ~~member~~<sup>Jewish notable from</sup> of the community of Fustat. <sup>2</sup> The head of the Gaza community, who, as was customary, signed last, somewhat distanced from the others, was ~~Yehoshua~~<sup>Yehoshua</sup> calls himself "descendant of the cub of the Lion of Judah", i.e. he was a ~~member~~<sup>descendant</sup> of the ~~house~~<sup>house</sup> of the former Patriarch ~~that~~<sup>who</sup> claimed to belong to the house of King David. Known from his kinyan on his only son who died ca. 1026. <sup>3</sup>

Written around 1020, when, because of the quick succession of ailing, elderly Jews the central authority was weakened.

Ephraim knew of course Jewish law very well, but (a) discrepancy of Hal. law. Acc. to Isl. law, the sisters could