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16. MAKING A CONTRACT ON A DEBT AFTER A SMALL INITIAL PAYMENT

Mosseri
Messert L-31

9/22

This is to inform the elder, the teacher Abu '1- 22,
(may his) Ro(ck) ke(ep) him, that I intend to come to him today
with his kind permission, together with two Jewish persons
entitled to testify, in order to witness the acknowledgment of
the debt still remaining with you. The original debt was
63 dirhems; received from you 6 ~~dirhems~~^{dirhems}, the balance being 57
~~dirhems~~^{dirhems}. And Peace. Solomon.

The normal procedure would have been to enter the payment
on the reverse side of the deed of debt. Here, clearly no such
deed had existed. The writer Solomon, son of Elijah, the judge,
and himself a teacher, had obviously given the loan in an
informal way, but had received less payment than he had expected,
wherefore he now wished to have the debt registered in a proper
legal way.

We see, it was not only the notables who were difficult
debtors. Among persons of equal standing, too, the creditor
had to make special efforts to secure his money.

4
15. MAKING A CONTRACT ON A DEBT AFTER A SMALL INITIAL PAYMENT

Mosseri
Mosseri L-31

6/22

This is to inform the elder, the teacher Abu '1- 27,
(may his) Ro(ck) ke(ep) him, that I intend to come to him today
with his kind permission, together with two Jewish persons
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