22 ON KJ.11 21.2 JOIKE 1812 LAINU ALEK 1137 226 ו חביצורא צפר הארפרג ארו חביצי צערמור וצראי בישרא د ا دار مود مها له ما ه ما هم مع دورا عمار مداد موام مداده 25005 18 12 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 232 2 תיואל צפים ווסאן פצים תם אול שנים באצ היה אלבאינט אב ושי טפּאַס(ן) כּנָי און טור בון וויב און פּאַרוא פּאַמוּרוא בוני וויב און און פּאַרוא פּאַמוּרוא פּאַמוּרוא פּאַרויא בוני וויב און און פּאַרויא פּאַריא פּאַרויא פּאַרויא פּאַרויא פּאַריא פּאַרויא פּאַריא פּאַרא פּאַריא פּאַריא פּאַריא פּאַריא פּאַריא פּאַריא פּאַריא פּאַרא פּאַראַרא פּאַרא פּאַראַרא פּאַראַרא פּאַראַרא פּאַרא פּאַראַרא פּאַרא אַראַראַרא פּאַראַרא פּאַראַרא פּאַרא שלול, וסאינ אאן, בוני אן לאס ן כון בינינא ן אינואני, ואנה אאן, בוני אן לאס ן כון בינינא ן אינואני, ואיני אאן איני בוני אן לאס ן כון בינינא ארבופי לה ואיניסערכיזי לאיג

Tilm & Rbo Co

Fr. 2 Mx 56.84 (1.) 6. M.MV 2134 18. (34 V. 4 Meczel 6. וו גראו ול מא מרציף פ. ביורא פי בויסטגרל מגראו וואנונ מימר ביור פי בויסטגרל מגראו וואנונ מימר טימרי ודגצ ופארי תכן ומן שכן ופי סאינ ליוג ما عدار ورب ريمرر دورود وعر عداء وعدر رعدراء الم وا किंग प्रवट निक महिला भिल्या भीन विश्व करा कि ה לא יון או מחונה ווצו אפיון א יב. דוקצון ווא אפיון מנם פעם ואאוו אן בזהרב שלפון אייא ערטומיא תנים אונאצי אן על. אאזים תרסם נוצי פילים יפן און איזא אנתבי לא אנט ולן אן 230 - 6 x2 621 230 x12 11. 612 GE 169 CK3 - CE3 الجالج بموادع عرب الخالج دامدكر وحد المرارية או באיף בל מא ארב כפן בני פאוצא אופאפים ואוכה און כצכא וא ואו בכל ואן בזארב ואן בהאמיה בואר בי פי כוון ווצי ברב كا يُمرو عالم العالماء على مادور على والم العالماء على مواده على والم العالماء אלבלאבל אובה אליונים פיבוני לאבינתי (נ) סת אלפבי ופת חלבואת וכצול אאונגע אאונגע אאונגע אאונגע אאונגע אאי אין גול אי אי אי אנאע אונצער אינצער אונצער אונערא אונערא אונגער אונערא אונגער אונערא אונגעריא אונצער אונערא אונגעריא אונגעריי

Rahmar 200 15 015 אינים בור הול הלצע הל שתע הןעניני בך. אוני ברי ולי בלצ איל אונים סר אולנא למלמין ולנאים יוצף מעוכל דואפאיבט פי שנא אויצא איוורנ אין עוארי לאיבט איוני אינים איני هند ار مروم سات سا عماء مع نداره ما داد هما مامع دامان

ביניאה שלאוה הדיר

82 TA STE . IRMIC. ARE IGHT. UNRV. VEC3CH AJ CHE YER HAN אינופט זוא יחונא יא א א צביעט וכון לב נונטא וון בי בדם אומנחב ובי אולאסבם פי לחיד אמוני ואמול און אלי עבל. פון סוא או בצלה בן אלי הבלך וא כתרו SAVA REJOU SUNG SENT, JINJEV. NOLUS ود اودا راديد ، ود مركم به المرد بروء كر ادم و والا المرد مرد مرد كر ادم و والا المرد الم אאון או עצר את קרע אופא ואנת א אצי ואנתאו אנ וממנים שנין ומנין שפות בפסטאו מלבים ביא ניווס נפיא מנעם 1/2, 1/49 Vris, 5 x2 122 5,234 17 113 x3 5,7182 שני שמון שולם כינת יבון דולמי ומאברת בתאמתוא אלי אלדלה איופס מוש בני ול בי ול היי ואליבינות אוצא אי ופסט פי ביופתא ופי במים אלאפיא נאתן עניבונו כדרי ענים כבנים of Fre pl 1:20x 1801. 6 81 102 118 6- FI 52 AUNEN 37 אם שולצה ל צולם וא מפין מרש סרם יוכעירא ומעארא צוימוי N3 x266) 2, M. 1.31 6.1 1. 1.3 100 A.S. 100 500 1001 : 11/1 2/2 \$10 371 PHON 01/13 الما عدد عدد مهم ودو إله في هدا عدد الما عدد

本本の文の後國國國際問題

Will of a Rose Water Merchant, Appointing His Mother-in-law as Sole Executor

Old Cairo, July-August 1157

-Vignus - Drekoveeg Reinez Collection Heb. 22

(The appointment of women as executors is in accordance with ancient Jewish law (see the recent discussion by S. Lieberman, <u>Tosefta Ki-Fshutah</u>, New York, 1955, I, p. 304). What is remarkable in the present will is the fact that the testator appoints his mother-in-law, although his wife had already borne him three children and although his own parents were still alive. Clearly, the mother-in-law had already conducted his affairs during his last illness (see below, Section B). The document is instructive with regard to several other points.)

This testimeny was given before us, we, the undersigned witnesses.

Thus it was: We were asked to call on M. and R. Joshua, by-named

Abu 'l-gasan, son of M. and R. Samuel, the elder, the chorister, by
mamed Abu 'l-Ridā, which we did. We found him ill, confined to his

bed, but his senses were functioning and his mental faculties com
plete; he spoke correctly, understanding what he said and what was

said to him, being sware of his affairs just as anyone walking on

his feet in the markets; he recognized each of us fully, by his

name, person, and family name. We asked him about the time, the

place, and the date, and a number of other things, the like of

which a man in his state should be asked, and he answered appropriately

in correct form and slear language.

After all this, he declared before us: "Let it be known to you that I am seriously ill and do not know what will happen to me, for life and death are in the hand of the Creator - blessed be He - and I have shildren. I wish to make a will, to be remambered and written down by you, in order that action should be taken exactly in accordance with it after my death, so that my mind will be at rest when I pass away from this world.

B. First of all, I hereby appoint my mother-in-law, called Mubaraka, a) the daughter of Gifarl - may God be pleased with him) - as sole executor to take care of all my children, to take over all that I leave, and to collect all that is could to me by anyone, in order to preserve it for my children. For I know her love and devotion to them, her foresight, and her religiosity. I hereby declare that a more statement of hers shall be regarded by me during my life time and by my heirs after me as trustworthy as the testimony of two competent and reliable witnesses, with regard to any action taken by her yfor mex from eternity to this hour and to be taken by her in future from now on and after my death, during my lifetime and after my decomes, with regard to all and everything, as well as to all I leave behinds under no circumstances shall she ever be obliged to give an eath, whether simple or selem, not even a secondary one, or to be

obliged to some under a "general bane so)

ceive for the benefit of my children; furthermore, a head ernament for my boy Hiba, on which there are four needles and a half moon of gold, lent to me, which have to be given back to their preprietors; d) furthermore, a silver oup and a silver baby's rattle; a pair of golden bracelets, another pair made of amber, a pair of golden twisted anklets; a pair of two halves of women's belts, adorned with jewels; but pairs of golden rings; settees and (ether) furniture, two turbans and a nigfiyya garment, besides that in which I shall be buried.

The head ornament, the silver cup, the baby's rattle, the settees, the supboard, the two turbans, and the nigflyya shall belong to my bey Hibs - may God assist him; the pairs of the golden and amber bracelets and the pair of the golden twisted anklets shall belong to my two daughters, Sitt al-Fakhr and Sitt al-Banāt, to each one piece of each pair, while to each shall be given one pair of rings; likewise, to each, one piece of the two halves of belts, or as their grand-mother, my executor, my mother-in-law, Mubāraka, shall decide.

D. Instructions concerning some partnerships and other assets.

Furthermore, I possess eight flasks of rose water in partnership with

Mufaddal, the son of Hiba, the silk merchant - may God be pleased with him. 1) while two flasks and another quantity consisting of a bottle and a half of rose water are with Abu 'l-Hasan, the Karaite, also in partnership with Mufaddal. Of the latter quantity, ten out of twenty-four parts belong to me and to Mufaddal and the rest to Abu 'l-Hasan, the Karaite. After the capital and (stipulated) profit will have been paid back to us, the remaining profit shall be given to him as a remuneration for his services. He owes me and Mufaddal three dinars less one-sixth: I also possess safflor, the profit of one-half of which belongs to the abovementioned Karaite, who has twenty pounds of it. When everything will be sold, the Karaite will receive his share of the profits, and according to what has been said, remuneration for his services. From the total due to him, three dinars less one-sixth shall be deducted and the 4800 KD balance shall be paid to him.

E. Details concerning the testator's wife and son.

My wife, Sitt al-Dar, the daughter of M. and R. Japheth, the elder - m(ay he rest in) E(den) - will live with her children. None of my children, not anyone else having rights in my estate, is entitled to raise any claims against her or to impose on her any cath, etc., 1) as long as she remains unmarried.

After my death, my mother-in-law will take care of my estate

and make the necessary expenses according to her judgement. Whatever remains, after my instructions have been carried out, will be
given, through her, to my son Hiba. She, to the exclusion of others,
is alone entitled to dispose of my property or the property of my
children after me.

Take notice of all this and write it out as a deed to serve as an instrument for securing rights and as a proof for those to whom I have willed.

F. Concerning the testator's parents.

Six dinars of the most readily available money, which I shall leave, shall be given to my father and four to my mother to serve them in case of an emergency."

G. Concluding details.

We took notice of all that he willed and set down the main points in his presence; then we left. We wrote and signed this testimony and gave it to Mubaraka, his mother-in-law, whom he had appointed as executor for his children, to serve her and all of them as an in-strument for securing rights and as a proof.

He also mentioned that he did not owe a thing to any one.

This happened during the first decade of the month of Av in the year one thousand four hundred and eight of the era of the documents, in Fustat, Egypt, under the authority of our lord Magliah ha-Kohen,

Head of the Academy, "The pride of Jacob" - may his name last forever, like the meon. The signing was deferred until the middle decade of the month."

Ratified, confirmed, and valid.

(In a postsoript, Mufaddal, the testator's partner, is freed from the obligation to give any oath (See Section D). The document was written and signed by Halfon b. Manasse (see p.), and signed first by the judge, Mathan b. Solomon (see p.).)

Notes

- a) "The blessed one," the rather rare female equivalent of the common male name Mubarak, Hebrew, Mevorakh.
- b) This is a Muslim eulogy, usually referring to a dead saint, and is normally not said with regard to a Jewish person. See, however, below, Note i.
- o) For the meaning of these legal phrases, see p.
- d) Hiba the word means "a gift" and is an equivalent of Hebrew Nathan was still a little boy, who were a shashiya, or turban, bedecked with jewelry. It was common practice to borrow jewelry from friends to be wern on special eccasions (e.g. as the first cutting of the hair of a child).
- e) Literally, "a poppy," khuskhasha, because the rattle had the form of that plant (see Barthélemy, Dist. Arabe-Francais, p. 203).
- f) Of the thirteen types of anklets, called khalikhil, described with illustrations by Paul Eudel, Dictionnaire des bijoux de l'Afrique du Mord, Paris, 1906, pp. 97-102, none has this form, which, on the other hand, was common for bracelets (see E. W. Lane, The Manners and Customs of the Modern Egyptians, Appendix A, pp. 575-4). However, the anklet known as radif consists indeed of three twisted, rather heavy threads, and was popular as early as Roman times (see Eudel, op. cit., pp. 189-90, where an illustration is also given).

- g) About this important piece of a lady's attire, see p.
- h) A fabric made half of silk and half of cotton (of. p.).
- i) See above, Note b.
- k) Literally: "Her hand shall be in the hand of her children."
- 1) The same legal phrases as above, Section B.
- m) The first decade of the month of Av is a period of intense mourning for the Temple of Jerusalem, and was regarded as inauspicious, wherefore all legal transactions, or at least their validation, were deferred to the second decade.
- n) The Palestinian house of learning, which had moved to Egypt and whose head was at that time the highest religious authority for Jews living in the Fatimid empire.

Comments

1. Hiffs, "protection (of the family)," an extremely rare name, occurring also in Ms. T.-S. 12.8, written in Alexandria 1070. It could be read also Haffs, "protector," but the first form is preferable, as our document is written with great care and normally indicates the double consonants with a shadda, including such dialect forms as yadd and shayy.