



Unpublished Coptic Papyri from the Coptic Museum in Cairo

Linguistic and Paleographic study

Thesis submitted for M.A Degree in Egyptology
Faculty of Archaeology Cairo University

Presented by

Sally Adel Hosney

Supervised by

Professor Dr.

Zainab Mahrous

Late Professor Dr.

Mohammed Abdel Haleem

Nur El-Din

Late Professor Dr.

Adel Farid Tobia

Cairo (2020)

Summary:

This thesis is presenting the transcription, translation, and commentary of four unpublished Coptic papyri that were preserved in the Coptic Museum papyri storage.

The first papyrus, chapter one, is a monastic letter with a homily's context. This text was written by two hands, the sloppy spelling of the text which was written by hand B as a result of the nearly illiterate person who seldom had occasion to write as its obvious from his handwriting which was drawn not just written, this text provides a lot of biblical quotations that some of them are firstly found in Sahidic dialect. These all quotations were derived from the Old Testament; I compared them with the available Coptic versions of the Old Testament and with the Septuaginta.

The second papyrus, chapter two, is a private letter as a response to a previous received letter, this kind of documentary texts provides us with some aspects about the daily life of Copts in this time moreover the current situation of the writer.

The third papyrus, chapter three, maybe a complaint that was written to be delivered to Pesentius (?), the Bishop of Coptus and one of the famous Coptic bishops, who lived in the seventh century. Moreover, the unique text that was written on this manuscript, I identified the name of the mysterious monastery called "the monastery of Zwile", and according to Timm this place, located in Coptus, has not yet been determined.

The fourth papyrus, chapter four, is a short receipt that was written in two paragraphs with the same handwriting; the first paragraph documented the receiving of loan, whereas the second paragraph documented another financial matter.

Finally, I presented a paleographic analysis of the four papyri that were published in this thesis comparing with each other, in addition to some comparing with other manuscripts.

Contents

Summary	I
Keywords	III
Dedication	IV
Acknowledgement	V
Contents	VI
List of Abbreviations	VII
List of Tables	IX
List of Plates	X
Notes on Editorial	XI
Preface	XIII
Chapter one: P.copt.cair.828	1
Chapter two: P.copt.cair.3362	71
Chapter three: P.copt.cair.3518	85
Chapter four: P.copt.cair.3454	111
Chapter Five: Paleographic study	125
Conclusion	139
Plates	141
Bibliography	147