

D. Rechtsurkunden und Verwaltungsdokumente

16. Homologia relating to a loan

Hadeer Belal (Cairo)

P.Heid. Inv. Kopt. 58
8th century

14,0 x 16,0 cm

Hermopolite (?)
plate XIX

This document belongs to the category of receipts which is referred to by the word *χομολογια*, “declaration”. 15 lines of the recto are preserved, written across the vertical fibers (*transversa charta*). On the verso a few letters are preserved.

The provenance of the text is unknown, However, thanks to the formulae used in this document and from existing parallels, it is possible to assume that it is a receipt for a loan: *επειδη* (line 2) introducing the context and remembering the loan, *τενογ ογν † χομολογει* (line 5) acknowledging the reimbursement of the debt, *εγωρχ νακ* (lines 9, 10) introducing the security clause, eventually the oath in (lines 10, 11). According to these formulae and structures which are quite the same as in CPR IV 186, it is clear that this document comes from Ashmounein/ Hermopolis. Furthermore, the quadrilinear and slightly ligaturred script is typical for professional scribes of the 8th century.

The papyrus has a light brown color. It is torn from its upper and right margins, and also has some lacunae in different parts especially in the top that contains the invocation formula and the names of the issuer and addressee. The text describes the loan transaction of a golden tremissis lent in Babylon, and then reimbursed and the author of the document, Kollouthos, acknowledges that it has been reimbursed to him.

Recto

↑

πρωμ . ε . [. . .] . [---]
πωεν πμακ(αριος) σαρα[---]
χε επειδη νταπατ[--- † ουτρινησιον]
ννουβ νακ 2ν βαβ[γλων --- τενογ]
5 ουν τιχομολογει χε απειτρινησι[ον ει ετοοτ μπουγ]
ετε σογ χογτη πε νμεσορη πεβοτ η[τιρομπε ται]
τεσσερεσκαιδεκατης ινδ(ικτι)ο(νος) νθε ντας . [---]
εμοσ μνται λααγ ν2ωβ νεμακ 2αρоч [?]
ωα ενε2 ειτε ανοκ ειτε ρωμε επαπροσωπ(ον) εγω[ρχ]
10 νακ ογν αισμην τιχομολογια νακ ειωρκ μ[πνογτε]
ππαντοκρατωρ ταροεις νακ προς τεσσομ . . . [?]
εγρ(άφη) μ(ηνι) με(σορη) κε ι(ν)δ(ικτιονος) ιδ σημ(ειον) +++ Κολλούθ(ου) ανοκ
κολλογθε πω . [---]
πετωρηρ 22αι τιστοιχ(ει) ετιχομολο(για) + φοιβαμμω[ν]

15 ΠΕΙΕΛ(Δ)Χ(ΙΣΤΟΣ) ΝΔΙΑΚ(ΟΝΟΣ) ΔΥΩ ΠΝΟΜΙΚ(ΟΣ) ΝΤΑΙΣ[ΣΑΙ ΣΑΡΟΥ ΧΝ-]
ΒΝΟΙ ΔΝ ΔΥΩ ΤΙΟ ΜΜΝΤΡΕ +

Verso:

→

[?]ΚΟΛΛΟΥΘΕ Π. . Ν.
..... νό(μισμα) γ' +

2 μακ pap (μακάριος) 3 ἐπειδή, [τριμήσιον] 5 οὖν, ὁμολογεῖν, τριμήσιον 7 read τεσσαρες-, ινδ^ο pap 9 εἴτε, εἴτε προσω^ν (πρόσωπον) 10 ὁμολογία 11 παντοκράτωρ, πρὸς 12 εγρ μ' μ^ε ι^δ pap, σημ Κολλου^θ pap 13 στοι^χ pap (στοιχεῖν), ὁμολο^ο pap (ὁμολογία) 14 ελ^χ pap (ἐλάχιστος) ΔΙΑΚ pap (διάκονος), ΝΟΜΙΚ pap (νομικός) 15 νοεῖν

[...] the man of [...] the son of the late Sara [...]: Since ... [...] gave a *tremissis* gold to you in Bab[ylon ... , now] (5) then, I confess that this *tremissis* [came to my hand today], namely the twenty–fifth of the month Mesore [in this present year], the fourteenth indiction year. According to what [...], I do not have anything with you about it (Lit: I have no affair at all with you about it) forever, neither me nor a man who is my representative. As a se[curity] (10) for you, therefore, I drew up this agreement for you (and) I swear by [the God] Almighty that I will observe (it) to you according to its power (/terms) (...).

Written in the month Mesore 25th the 14th indiction year. Signature of Kollouthos +++ I, Kollouthe the son [...] who has written above, I consent on this agreement † Phoibammon the humblest deacon and notary, I have written for him [because] (15) he does not know and I am a witness.

Verso:

[?] Kollouthe ...

... solidus 1/3

1 Expected here is the mention of the origin of the issuer (Kollouthos). Then in the lacuna ther should have been an epistolary formula (“writing to ...”) followed by the name of the addressee.

2 ΣΑΡΑ[...]. This name could be ΣΑΡΑΠΩΝ or ΣΑΡΑΠΑΜΜΩΝ. For the possible forms of these names see *Namen in koptischen dokumentarischen Texten* by M.R.H. Hasitzka, available online.

3 ΠΑΤ[...]: this could be either a proper name (for instance ΠΑΤΕΡΜΟΥΤΕ) or the possessive “my” followed by a substantive.

4 ΒΑΒΥΛΩΝ: The oldest part of the city of Cairo. In the Coptic documents, Babylon refers to Fustat, the new capital of the Arab conquerors. A detailed study on this name in the Greek and Coptic documents is still needed, since there is no entry in Timm, *Das Christlich-koptische Ägypten in arabischer Zeit*, 6 vols, Wiesbaden 1984–1992.

5 [ΤΕΝΟΥ] ΟΥΝ ΤΙΣΟΜΟΛΟΓΕΙ ΧΕ ΑΠΕΙΤΡΙΜΗΝΙ[ΟΝ ΕΙ ΕΤΟΟΤ ΝΠΟΟΥ]: The closest parallel here is CPR IV 186.9–10.

9 εἶτε ἀνοκ εἶτε ρωμε ἐπαπροσωπ(ο)ν: See T.S. Richter, *Rechtssemantik und forensische Rhetorik*, Wiesbaden 2008, 135 under “Verkettete Paarformeln”.

12 The triple cross used as a signature for illiterate people is very common in Hermopolite texts (P.Hermitage Copt.7.10, P.Laur.V 193.6 , P.Laur.V 196.2, CPR IV 48.24–7, 79.23–6).

15 [χΝ]βνοι ἀν : read [χε Ν]βνοι ἀν. This expression is frequent in Ashmunein documents and is also written χΝφνοι ἀν, in CPR IV 9.6, 16.13, 24.17; P.Laur.V 193.8); the replacement of φ by β is common in documentary texts, especially in those from Ashmunein and the Fayyum (see P.Bal. I, p.136).