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OTTOMAN ARCHIVES
AND ETHIO-OTTOMAN
RELATIONS
Dr. Yusuf SARINAY

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Dr. Yusuf SARINAY*

First of all, I would like to express my pleasure to be in Ethiopia, one of the ancient civilizations of the world and one of the first regions on which the holy religions had spread out.

1) History, Document and Archives

According to famous French Historian E.H. Carr, history is a continuous process of mutual interaction between historian and events and is an endless dialogue between today and past.

While researching and teaching past periods, it is inevitable to search connections between near and far environment, national unity and world's dimensions, past and future.

Either at national or international platforms, archives are the first sources states apply in order to solve their internal and external problems.

As Carr mentioned, each state's continuity from past to future is considered as its history. It is essential for their continuity to establish connections between past and future.

These connections are established by applying documents which take the most important place among the sources of history. Documents are the most reliable witnesses of history. The results not basing upon documents should be suspected. The provision

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“History is written with documents” is a fact accepted by all the scientific circles of the world. Pass de document pas de historie, that is “If there is no document, there is no history”.

Documents are collected, preserved and classified in the archives and are offered for service to researchers. History of a state and a nation as well as the main lines of a state’s and nation’s life are hidden in the archives.

Archives, with the simplest meaning, can be defined as the “collection of documents pertaining to the past of a state, a city or an individual”. Archives are the indispensable sources for people who will make researches on sociological, economic, historical and cultural matters and who will seek their legal rights. Archives are the most trustable sources which will help to find the right way in the future by connecting with past.

The fact that archives are the most reliable and objective sources for taking decision on political, economic, administrative, cultural and other national questions is a reality accepted by the international law.

2) General Directorate of State Archives and Ottoman Archives

Ottoman Empire has given great importance to archives. One of the best examples of this importance is the ferman issued by the Council of Army (Ordu Divanı) during the reign of Sultan Mustafa III (1757-1774). In this ferman, to protect the registers sent to the Army, the following orders were given to the authorities such as kadı (judge), naip (regent), ayan (chief of a village or town) and eşraf (notables of a town or village) who have been appointed in the administrative units being on the route going to Army:

When these register coffers reach your regions, keep them in safe places during the night. Because, these registers are of the nature of treasury of the Ottoman Empire. You must protect them. Even if one letter is damaged or harmed, you can not respond to it.

This ferman states that archives are considered equal to the “treasury of state” and that those who will cause to damage them will be punished heavily.

Due to the importance given to records in the Ottoman administrative understanding, authorities either in the center or in the provinces were obliged to keep their registers properly and to preserve them in the best way. Local judges and governors were assigned to record their decrees in registers, to preserve and to deliver these registers to the subsequent officials. By this way, the “Archives of Şeriyye Sicilleri” including many records have been reached today.

Ottoman bureaucracy used register method according to the filing method of today’s archival science. Decisions taken at the State’s Council of the Ottoman Empire were recorded in the registers such as Mühimme, Maliye, Rüus, Tahvil, Kayd-ı Divan. Documents belonging to the sub-divisions were kept in safe coffers covered with leather in archives repositories.

After the Conquest of İstanbul, appropriate buildings to preserve the collected materials have been built on various dates.

During the Ottoman period, collected archival materials were classified and some reforms were made. During the reign of Sultan Abdülhamid I (1724-1789) reforms started generally in the Ottoman Empire were seen in the archival field, too. Some regulations have been prepared for archives.

The most rooted application dates back to 1845. Documents were reviewed one by one and were classified according to its accumulation form. This method is the “Provenance” method which the General Directorate of State Archives uses today and is the healthiest method among the others.

Thereafter, the construction of a new archival building which will preserve all the documents of the State had been started. In 1848, State’s records have been transferred to this building. At this point , importance given to archives and documents by the Ottoman Empire can be seen clearly. This building was called Hazine-i Evrak (Treasury of Records). With a new application never seen before, the “Ministry of Hazine-i Evrak” has been established to execute the archival affairs.

As a result of this understanding, approximately 150 millions of archival materials were preserved at the Ottoman Archives. Some were classified and offered for service to researchers. Remaining materials are being classified in the quickest way. Also, activities for restoration and for obtaining the copies of the materials which are kept in the archives of some other states with various reasons are being carried out.

Ottoman Empire had ruled over Asia, Europe and Africa continents for a long period of approximately 600 years. After the dispersion of the Ottoman Empire 39 independent states have been founded. Some parts of the Ethiopian territories had stayed under the Ottoman rule.

General Directorate of State Archives, taking place in the central organization of the Prime Ministry, was appointed and authorized to execute any kind of function relating to the State Archives. This function is carried out at two Directorates as the Ottoman Archives and Republic Archives.

The most significant characteristic of the Ottoman Archives is that these archives include many documents related to these 39 independent states. The documents concerning the historical, legal, administrative, economic, religious, scientific, literary, esthetic, cultural, biological, geneological, demographic aspects and ethic, custom and usage and several social behaviours, the proof of citizen, state and international rights of these states are preserved at the Ottoman Archives.

As the archival materials pertaining to the Ottoman period had been spread out on a wide geographical area, exchanges of information and document are implemented by signing protocols on cooperation with the countries on this geography.

As is appreciated, to write a state's, a region's or world's history without making researches at the Turkish archives, owning a rich archival potential, will be deficient and incomplete.

It is not possible, without archives and without knowing archives, to write history by basing on the hypothesis, to judge about a certain period and to appraise a period within the framework of objective criteria.

The great leader and the founder of the Republic of Turkey, Mustafa Kemal ATATÜRK said:

“To write history is as important as to create history. If the writers remain loyal to the creators, the invariable truth can mislead the humanity”.

Guided by this principle, we desire the history writers to remain loyal to the history creators. Because, scientific works basing upon archives will remove the subjective political approaches coming from the prejudice and misinformation. Archives are the authentic documents which reflect the reality in

the most objective way among the other historical sources. What we particularly desire is that the judgements on historical subjects to be put forward by basing upon the authentic sources of history, which are archives.

History is considered both as an information exercise made on the past experiences and as a human movement to create new works and sudden and slow changes in the society. Societies establish their futures with the inspiration of their history.

“Transparency” which is the common principle of modern archives is the basic principle of our archival studies. Classified documents are quickly opened to researchers without any restriction. Up to now, at the Ottoman Archives thousands of researchers belonging to 74 countries carried out and are still carrying out researches. Among them are mainly the U.S.A., England, France, Canada, Israel, Hungary, Japan, Spain, Italy, Russia, Bulgaria, Albania, Greece, Iran, Romania and Egypt.

3)Ethio-Ottoman Relations (Abyssinia)

a) Ottomans’ South Policy

In 1517 Ottomans took Egypt and reached the Red Sea. The Red Sea was an important passage way for selling the goods brought from South Asia and India at the European and Ottoman markets. This trade was occurring from the Strait of Malaka in Southeast Asia to India, from the seaport on the coasts of Malaka to the Persian Gulf and through the Tigris and the Euphrates in Iraq and was reaching Syrian seaports. The most important goods of this profitable trade were sugar, date, ivory, valuable stones, orange, cotton, various paints, wool, spice, etc. There are documents related to especially the spice trade at the Ottoman Archives. Due to these documents we know that in this region, during the Ottoman rule,

spice trade was continued and importance was given to this trade. Some of these documents are the laws of sanjaks.¹

The Yemeni who had accepted Islam during the period of the Prophet Muhammed were struggling with the Portuguese from the beginning of the 16th century.

The Portuguese were the ruler of the Indian Sea. They had strong fleets. They were going the long way around in the Persian Gulf and the Red Sea. The Portuguese, by using the advantage of the discovery of the Cape of Good Hope, were intending to move the riches of the east to the west.

Portuguese were acting with religious, political and particularly economic anxiety. They were getting ready to capture Jidda and Mecca in response to Jerusalem being at the hands of the Muslims. They had a strong fleet. Apart from moving the riches of the region to Europe by capturing the strategical points, they also tried to strengthen Christianity.

Imperialistic and political activities of the Portuguese called the Ottoman Empire's attention to this region after the Egyptian rule. Ottoman-Portugal struggle was carried out through Egypt.

In this struggle, we see Selman Reis as the first person who was appointed during the time of the governor-general of Egypt, Ahmet Pasha. Selman Reis took the islands being at the hands of Portuguese and tried to take Yemen into the Ottoman rule. Later on, he went towards the Suez (1524). The document related to the activities of Selman Reis is kept at the Archives of the Topkapı Palace Museum and was published by Fevzi Kurtoğlu with the title "Selman Reis Memorandum". This document dated 6 June 1526

¹ Kanunname-i Mısır, Deposit treasury book, no. 2068, p.46

contains detailed information concerning various seaports and Portuguese's activities.²

Another important person of the Ottomans' south policy is the governor-general of Egypt, Hadım Süleyman Pasha. First of all, he aimed to make attacks on Yemen and Aden and to take the region under his control and organized a fleet with 80 ships. Some Muslim states, being on the shores of West India, were seeking the Ottomans' support and patronage against the Portuguese. Ottoman Empire aimed to prevent exploitation of the region on the disadvantage of the native people.

b) Establishment of the Province of Abyssinia

One of the most important phases of the Ottomans' south policy was the conquest of Abyssinia and the establishment of a new province in this region. This policy was a movement leaded by economic facts.

Ottoman Empire tried to dominate in the region for the security of east trade and for the Muslims living in Abyssinia. Ottomans learned about the little Muslim states of Abyssinia through their officials and contacted with them.

Struggle between Portuguese and Ottomans had lasted over long years. After the Indian and Yemeni attacks, the governor-general of Egypt, Hadım Süleyman Pasha appointed Özdemir Bey to attack on the south following the River Nile. Özdemir Bey had captured the fortresses of İbrim and Der and also Magrak and Say under the Func domination. Even a fortress had been constructed in Say in order to secure the southern boundaries. The native beys in Sevvakin accepted the Ottoman domination and surrendered this important port to Özdemir Bey.

² Archives of the Topkapı Palace Museum, N.E. 6455

Upon the Portuguese provocations on the people in Abyssinia, Ahmed bin İbrahim declared war against the Kingdom of Abyssinia in 1527. He gained great success with the Ottomans' support during this struggle. The Sultan and the Caliph Sultan Süleyman the Magnificent had been very pleased about this success and addressed him as the "Sultan Ahmet El Hakim be Vilayet-i Habeş".³

After the struggles lasting over long years, we see the famous Turkish sailors Piri Reis⁴ in 1552 and Seydi Ali Reis⁵ in 1554.

After Ahmet El Mücahid has died at the war with Portuguese, Sultan Süleyman the Magnificent has assigned Özdemir Pasha in order to strengthen domination in the region and to establish a province. In 1548 Özdemir Pasha became the governor-general of Yemen.⁶ Consequently, he was appointed as the Serasker of Abyssinia and the province of Abyssinia had been founded on July 5, 1555. 1.400.000 coins was given to Özdemir Pasha as a salary.⁷

After the establishment of province, firstly kadılık (offices of cadis) and financial organization had been founded in order to apply the laws and to ensure sovereignty. On November 30, 1555 Abdülvehab Efendi was appointed as the first cadi of Abyssinia.⁸ On April 25, 1565 a person named Hasan was assigned as the first chief of the province's treasury.⁹

³ Kanun-name, Library of Veliyüddin Efendi, no.1970, record 39/a

⁴ Cengiz Orhonlu, Hint Kaptanlığı ve Piri Reis, Belleten, Issue 134 (Ankara 1970), pp. 235-254

⁵ Cengiz Orhonlu, Seydi Ali Reis, Journal of History Institute, Issue 1 (İstanbul 1970), pp. 39-56

⁶ BOA. KK. Ruus, no.213, p. 212 (Annex 1)

⁷ BOA. KK. Ruus, no.213, p. 212 (Annex 2)

⁸ BOA. KK. Ruus, no.214, p. 24 (Annex 3)

⁹ BOA. KK. Ruus, no.74, p.563 (Annex 4)

Özdemir Pasha had many other attacks on this region. Many tribes on the south of the Sudan had remained loyal to him. Lastly, during an expedition against the Beja tribes living on the southeast of the Sudan, he had got sick and after coming back to Deberva, he had died in 1560.

After Özdemir Pasha's death, his son Osman Pasha took the rule in 1561. Osman Pasha took Sevvakin again and dispersed the tribes which were massacring muslims and requisitioned the water wells and made the people suffered by waterlessness by selling water on the black market. He decided to protect the wells by surrounding them with a fortress.¹⁰

Osman Pasha was sending information relating to his activities and to the conquered regions to İstanbul. Sultan sent him fermans ordering to spend effort on the protection of the conquered regions and of the people.¹¹ In order to satisfy the means of subsistence in the conquered regions it was ordered that 300.000 coins were transferred to the conquered regions from the treasures of Abyssinia, Egypt and Yemen.¹²

Sevvakin was a sanjak attached to Egypt. After the establishment of the Abyssinia province, Sevvakin became the central sanjak of the new province that is the center of province. Judges of province have settled in Sevvakin.

State officials who have been assigned to the province of Abyssinia were particularly selected among the people served in the near regions. The best examples to this were Özdemir Pasha and his son Osman Pasha. Because this region was very far from the capital

¹⁰ BOA. KK. Ruus, no.218, p. 168 (Annex 5)

¹¹ BOA. Mühimme Register, no. 5, decree 704

¹² BOA. Mühimme Register, no. 5, decree 1163 (Annex 6)

of the Ottoman Empire. For this reason, to govern the region it was necessary to know the region very well.

The province of Abyssinia was ruled, such as the provinces of Basra, Yemen and Lahka, with *salyane* (yearly tax taken from the products). However, as the sources of income of the province were not enough, it was supported by the treasury of Egypt. Military force requirement of the province was obtained from Egypt and Yemen. Also, saddle horses were obtained from Yemen.

At this point, I would like to mention about an Ottoman project which shows the foreseeing viewpoint of the region. In order to ward off the threats on the region and to give military and economic support to the inoffensive muslims living here, it was planned to unite the Mediterranean with the Red Sea. As the first step of this project, it was ordered engineers and architects to prepare a report by making research and estimation works in the region. (15 January 1568)¹³

In the 18th century the province of Abyssinia was ruled together with the Sanjak of Jidda. Due to this new administration, the governor-general of Abyssinia had been responsible of arranging all affairs of the bands of Hadjis such as bed and board, etc.

Because of the distance between the region and İstanbul and of the various problems occurred in the Ottoman Empire, state lost the control of this region. In 1869, with the opening of the Suez Canal which was planned by the Ottoman Empire previously, Western states' struggles to dominate on the region were accelerated.

¹³ BOA. Mühimme Register, no. 7, decree 721 (Annex 7)

From this period on, Ethiopia, to protect its independency and honor resisted against the colonist and occupant states. This resistance shown by the Ethiopian people within any kind of impossibility and poverty was considered as an appreciated behaviour.

We see that during the reign of Sultan Abdülhamid II, relations with Abyssinia were restarted. Mutual visits were realized by delegations.

During the time of Menelik II, King of Abyssinia, Ato Josef and Kont dö Leonitif were sent to İstanbul as ambassador. This delegation presented the king's letter of good will¹⁴ as well as the several presents to the Ottoman Sultan. Among them, a lion and a golden buckler pleased the Sultan. Menelik II stated in his letter that the muslims being in his state worship freely and they are acted equal to the Christian citizens. Also, in this letter he requested support for the Abyssinian properties in Jerusalem, especially for the Monastery of Deyrü's Saltana.¹⁵

Ottoman Sultan replied to this close relation by promising that their request concerning Jerusalem will be responded and sent a delegation to Abyssinia. Sultan Abdülhamid II stated in his letter sent by the ambassador that the close relations of Abyssinians to muslims were known for a long time and that this is a tradition coming from ancestors.¹⁶ It is understood that the Ottoman Empire tried to solve the problem concerning the monastery in Jerusalem and made some correspondence on this matter.¹⁷ Ottoman Sultan sent a delegation with some presents like two horses, pistol, rifle, telescope, watch, sword, etc.¹⁸

¹⁴ BOA. YEE. 62/41 (Annex 8)

¹⁵ BOA. Y. PRK. NMH. 4/41 (Annex 9)

¹⁶ BOA. Yıldız Sarayı Hümayunu Başkitabet Dairesi (Annex 10)

¹⁷ BOA. HR. SYS. 54/12 (Annex 11)

¹⁸ BOA. Y. PRK. NMH. 7/66 (Annex 12)

It is understood that Menelik II wrote a letter thanking for the realization of their requests relating to the monastery in Jerusalem.¹⁹ While the Ottoman delegation was going to Addis Ababa, they have been met in Harrar with a ceremony by muslim people consisting of Arabian, Indian and native people. Those people gave a petition to the delegation to be forwarded to the Sultan. In this petition they asked ten thousand golden coins as a loan for the construction of a mosque and requested support for the assignment of the governor of Harrar, Abdullah Pasha who was relieved of duty to be charged again.²⁰

c)From the Ottoman Tolerance to the European Colonialism

Within the context of general Turkish history, Ottoman Empire represents a period of developing political and administrative understanding. It ensured justice, peace and trust to people living under its domination and hinterland with a fair understanding which was the basic principle of its institutions. Turkish justice and tolerance was known on a large scale and societies living under oppression desired to be ruled by the Ottoman domination.

One of the most significant characteristics of the Ottoman Empire which had dominated on a wide geographical area stretching over three continents is that it had never put pressure on the people having different religions and cultures and that it had never intervened to their religious, social and cultural lives.

In the history of the Turkish nation, there is not any facts like colonization, assimilation or extermination of people. This fact can be clearly seen on the structures of societies which once lived under

¹⁹ BOA. Y. EE. 62/34 (Annex 13)

²⁰ BOA. Y. PRK. AZJ. 53/106 (Annex 14)

the Ottoman rule. If the Ottoman Empire would have applied a policy of assimilation and colonization, the societies in the Middle East, Africa, the Balkans and Caucasia would not have had their own national and cultural features. As is known, none of them uses Turkish as the official language.

Ottoman Sultans, carrying the title of “caliph”, were interested in the muslims all around the world. Also, they gave any kind of religious freedom to Jews, Christians and other people with different religions. It acted according to the understanding “giving is better than taking”. Money for removing the loss of subsistence in Abyssinia was obtained generally from the treasury of Egypt.²¹ Materials such as pickax, shovel, iron, lead, etc. which were necessary for the construction of fortresses in Abyssinia were transferred from Egypt.²²

By this way, Ottoman Empire ensured many societies with different ethnic features and social structures to be lived together in peace and trust for centuries.

Opposite to this understanding, European states acted in an understanding of colonization. It is possible to review Europe’s imperialistic movements in two phases.

First one is the period of discoveries. During this period, from the XVIth century on Europeans started discoveries with the aim to capture underground and overground riches of the territories outside their borders. They tried to get the riches of the states even by exterminating the people.

²¹ BOA. Mühimme Register.

See also BOA. KK. Ruus, No. 214, p.15

²² BOA. Mühimme Register, No.28, decree 564 (Annex 15)

In this first phase, Europeans carried every kind of valuable mines and other raw materials to their countries. The riches of these societies form the basis of the richness of Europe.

Second phase is the “industry reform” started with the economic power obtained from this exploitation. At this point, Europeans saw the other people as a community which provides cheap labour-power and cheap raw material and consumes the products.

Africa continent suffered at a great extent as a region on which the most cruel rules of imperialism were applied. The negativeness resulted from the fact that European colonists carried the natural sources of this continent to their countries and tortured the people by acting them as a slave caused the people in Africa to be suffered so much.

This reality of European understanding of colonization are today expressed even by European people having common sense. It becomes a theme for television and cinema films.

Europe exploited and made the people second, third class humans and authorized itself to train these people. Europe claimed to bring civilization to these societies, but; unfortunately, it brought only suffer and tear. It only took. It always acted according to the understanding of “right belongs to the strong”.

Ethiopian people gave great importance to living independent and free against the colonization activities of the western states. For this reason, it constitutes an exceptional region not allowed to colonization in Africa. This feature is one of the most significant similarities between Turks and Ethiopians who defended the same values during history.

One of the main reasons directed the Ottomans to this region was that the navigation activities were not sufficient in South Asia against the strong European colonists and that these powers converted their military and economic colonist activities in Eastern Africa and South Asia into a massacre and genocide.

In order to prevent this exploitation and to provide a proper administration over the people in this region, Ottoman Empire transferred financial sources from Egypt many times. That is, it always tried to give in this region.

As the provinces of Africa were very far from the center of the state, this caused some difficulties in the Ottoman administration. However, principles of Ottoman rule were tried to be applied without any concession.

Ottoman domination was seen particularly in north and east Africa. In the continent of Africa where the colonist states were interested as regards to its geographical position, human and nature sources. Ottoman existence in Egypt and Arab Peninsula became a barrier for the colonization.

Ottomans' activities in Africa, especially the economic and military activities in the province of Abyssinia had never carried a colonist intention like Spain and Portugal. Oppositely, it tried to protect and support the rights of oppressed people.

However, against the developing and strengthening European states Ottoman Empire retreated in time. It had to withdraw from this region and ended its life within the history. After the First World War, it collapsed and was occupied by the Western states.

Upon this, due to the Turkish War of Independence under the leadership of Atatürk, Turkish nation founded the independent and

modern Republic of Turkey. Independence struggle of Turkey became a model for societies under colonization.

Atatürk's Turkey, on the one hand made rooted reforms on internal policy with the aim to civilize people and on the other hand, followed an antirevisionist foreign policy although she was an inheritor of an empire. In the light of Atatürk's principle "Peace at home, peace at world" she followed a pacifist policy and opposed to aggressiveness and colonization. Within this context, when Italy attacked Ethiopia in 1935, Turkey accorded with a great sense to the sanctions taken by the League of Nations against Italy even by envisaging economic damage and Italian threat.

Conclusion

During the history Ottoman Empire had never carried a colonist intention. It gave importance to document as a treasure and provided them to be reached today. Many important records related to the history of approximately 40 independent states which once lived under the Ottoman domination were kept up safe to now. Sources at the Ottoman Archives are of great significance for these countries to document their social life, cultural features and citizen and state rights in the past.

There is no doubt that the documents which belong to the Ottoman period and exist at the foreign archives are very important not only for Turkey but also for these countries. Turkish documents and the ones in foreign languages are very significant sources. It is necessary to appreciate these records in order to put forward the past periods in a realistic way.

It is essential to create a common historical perspective and philosophy with the aim to remove the remains of colonization period for the establishment of a national culture. The indispensable

way of this target is to carry out researches on the essential sources of history and on the materials related to history.

It must be known that archives play a great role in the establishment of a national culture and identity at the states' and nations' lives.

I would like to underline that the ocean of documents, being at the Ottoman Archives, which were accumulated as a result of the Ottoman Empire comprising a period of 600 years is open to native and foreign scholars and researchers.

I assure that the interest shown us in Ethiopia is a reflection of the rooted friendly relations between our countries basing upon history. I wish that the cooperation we will start between our archives due to this visit will strengthen our friendship. I am paying my respects to all you. Thank you.

ANNEXES

ANNEX 1

Appointment of Özdemir Pasha to the province of Yemen

اودومور پاشا به ولایت یمن اودومور پاشا اودومور
سوالکنف ذالهد یعنی اودومور پاشا اودومور
سوالکنف ذالهد یعنی اودومور پاشا اودومور

ANNEX 2

Allowance given to Özdemir Pasha

و رتبه عنان طوق زکیم بازر و هلاک و فوف رالیه لعلی اودومور
سفارشی اودومور مؤثر الله طوعه صلیک اودومور
و یو عن لعلی لعلی صلیک اودومور

Appointment of Mevlana Abdülvehab as the Cadi of Abyssinia

22

Assignment of Hasan, working in Egypt, as the chief of treasury of the province of Abyssinia

[illegible]

ANNEX 5

Construction of a fortress in Sevvakin

مسألة ٢٩ نواة الدج

[illegible]

**Satisfying the means of subsistence in the conquered regions
with money transferred from the treasures of Egypt and Yemen**

25

Preparation of a fleet in order to rescue India from the Portuguese occupation and opening of a canal to put the fleet into the Suez

26

ANNEX 8

Letter of good will sent by the King of Abyssinia to the Ottoman Sultan

Le lion vainqueur de la Éribu
de Juda Menelik II élu du Seigneur Roi des
Rois d'Éthiopie, parviennne à notre honorable
ami le Sultan Abd-ul-Hamid Han
Empereur d'Ottoman. Salut avec vous.

Notre honorable ami nous demandons
par cette lettre les nouvelles de votre santé
précieuse. C'est par lettre que les amis
qui sont loin se rapprochent et revivent
dans la mémoire.

Nous espérons que vous nous ferez
parvenir de vos bonnes nouvelles.

Nous prions Dieu de prolonger votre
Règne et donner à vos peuples la paix et
le repos.

Écrité en ville d'Addis-Abeba le 3 Hamlié'
(juillet) 1899.


መላ፡ አንበሳ፡ እኩም ነገደ፡ ይሁዱ፡ ደግማዊ፡ ምኒልክ፡ ሥራው፡ አን
ዚአብሔር፡ ትጉሠ፡ ነገሥት፡ እኪት ዮሴፍ፡ ያዱስ፡ በእባብ፡ ሆነ
ደጃችን፡ በሥልጣን፡ ኑብዱል፡ ሐላፊ፡ ህጉ፡ የሀይማኖትና፡ ጥበቃ
ሠ፡ ነገሥት፡
 ሰላም፡ ሐርሰዎ፡ ይሁን፡

የዘቡር፡ ወደ ጆችንን፡ ደላንነት፡ በዚህ፡ ወገቀት፡ ከገጠ ይቃላቸዋል፡
በፋቅ፡ ያሉት፡ ወደ ጆች፡ ይመጡ ይቀርብና፡ ይመጡ ይሰቱሳሰቡ፡ ደ
በዓለ፡ ነው፡ ነርሰዎም፡ ደላንነትዎን፡ ይሰታውቁናል፡
በሀገ፡ ተሰፋ፡ ከሀገ፡ ከግዚኩ በሐረር፡ ከመገግ ሥትዎ ለ
ፋትን፡ ለሐዘን በዎም፡ ለሀምሮ፡ ለጊዮትን፡ ከጥጥ ለጥ
ልን፡ ከጥ ለምሮ ለን፡ ሐምሌ፡ ፫ ቀን፡ ፫ ፳ ፪ ፺ ፱ ዓመት፡ ም
ሐጊት፡ ከዚህ፡ ከበባ፡ በተላ፡ ተጻፈ፡

ANNEX 9

Letter of support request sent by the King of Abyssinia, Menelik II, to the Ottoman Sultan

جانب من الجوانب هفت بادشاهی ۱۸۸۹ تا بحیدر حبشه قالی هستونه لك
 حضرتی طرفه ارسال امانه نامه لك ترجمه می صورتید


 نظام السلطنة
 محمد و طه
 مد

بملا لقا ب
 بعد از آنکه دول ساره بعضی ملوک نائل سرتی اولی خدمتده قدس شریفه ک محل محفوظه مقبول اندک
 لفظاً طرفه اشرف جانب شهر بزرده فقط و تسویه جوریدنی سفیر مرزده کله منونیه خبر اوده بوشهر
 دار و قیده قوت ، دولتونیت ، طرفه عرصه عتیا قلعه و طرفه تصویب ایله اوله نوله
 زمره طرفه باله اشرف جانب ملوکانه لری عرصه و تسیراید بورز ممالک را خدمتده مملکه الجبهه معمارک
 کله سرتی ایله اجرای آیه ایدیه و تبعه خستیان فرله ماواة یاسرینه ماعده ایدیه دخی
 مع المنونیه ذات کتوبات هفت بادشاهی استلاید و مملکت عاریه بجا نی سفیر مرز قوت
 ، دولتونیت ، و آنور و زف ، و تودیه تقدیم قنوبه صلح برارسلایله التونده معمول
 برالقا خدمت عبارت اوله بار بار نا حیدانه ملک لفظاً قبول جولنی جهایلر

**Copy of the Arabic translation of the letter sent by the Sultan
Abdülhamid to the King of Abyssinia**

بلد زراعت و تجارت
بائن کتابت دار مس

[illegible]

عبدالعزیز
الہادی

ANNEX 11

Letter sent by the Ottoman Sultan regarding the efforts to solve the problems about the Monastery of Deyrü's Saltana

۵

خارجہ نظارت جیلوسہ

۱۰

دولتہ افغ حضرتی

فدے حبیبو عالم اسلام و افغ و عقارت کئی اذن و رخصتی الیہ و کیکوی طرفین و باہر تخاصی سارہ جاتین
 بیج و زہدہ رھد صورتھ نقف ایضہ بیان و برلاسہ حبسہ قیسہ طرفہ کونہ دہان نامہ دہ بیان ایلیکی فدی نہ فدی
 اسرار انیظ بیکہ استدان معلما حامی زاید نظارت جیلوسہ باتقیم توراہ دورہ معلوم و دیوان ۱۲ - ۱۳
 ذکرہ و معفراتی سکرارہ سے لری اقدام اول امر دہ بویا بیک معلقات و معطلہ عید زورنم استغایہ لزوم کر تہ
 و اولان تکرار اعادہ بیروند زہدہ لغاری قسہ افسد تقضایہ ایضا و با برہی باش امر و فدا حضرت سہ ملا و کدر

ادبی محمد علی و ابی محمد علی

تواری محمد علی

محمد علی

ایده اصول و روش به در بوجهه دار ^{ایش}
و این به یکدیگر می‌افزاید
و این به یکدیگر می‌افزاید و دارد سه لغت اعاد شده از روزگار

ANNEX 12

List of presents sent to the emperor and empress of Abyssinia and copies of the sent letters

به تعالی

جستار امپراطوری و یارهای همتا و اصحاب و مریدان
در دست و لاکار و زعفران و جالب و کباب و کباب و کباب

به تعالی

جستار امپراطوری و یارهای همتا و اصحاب و مریدان
در دست و لاکار و زعفران و جالب و کباب و کباب
همه کباب و کباب و کباب

طراز سرای لهما بولی

تربیفات محمود داری

صبح ایرا طوری حس حضرتی کیونہ

ایک قلم	ایک بوکلم	ایک کجاده	ایک بوکلم
طوب	عذر	عذر	طوب
۱۰	۵	۱	۵
ایک بوکلم	مرصع	عذر	عذر
عذر	عذر	عذر	عذر
۱۰	۵	۱	۵

صبح ایرا طوری حس حضرتی کیونہ

ایک کجاده	ادفعہ حالی	یونہ کجاده	دوربہ	مرصع
عذر	عذر	عذر	عذر	عذر
۱	۱	۵	۱	۱
دو کلم	ایک قلم	مرصع	ایک قلم	ایک قلم
عذر	عذر	عذر	عذر	عذر
۱	۱	۱	۱	۱
ایک کجاده	مرصع	مرصع	مرصع	مرصع
عذر	عذر	عذر	عذر	عذر
۱	۱	۱	۱	۱

بسمه سرای هما یوری
نشریات عمومی داره سی

جسج ایرا طوری حضرتیه نامه الهیجیه صوره سی

الی حضرته الملك الربیع والنجی العظیم المنیع ملك المملکة الفخریة الحبیه ارام به نقلا منک
اما بعد فاننا نبهتکم علیکم الربیع مایعیه بفقلم الکرام لانه من لا یحرمم والتدیرم ونهزی الی حضرتکم واجب التعلیل
والتعظیم ثم نری ان کتاب جلالکم والوسام العالی قد انما علی به لکاتبه لطفه العبد آنور وزق فقلونا
الکتاب المستطاب وقلنا الوسم ساریه بفقلم محونا حامدیه ودعونا لفقلمکم وللمملکة الحبیه بار وبارک الوسم
والنجاح ولقد اسدنا بحبه رسولکم المومنین به لاکرام مایعیه بفقلم العالی وبقنا الی معابکم یا درنا صاحبه
المیزادی مصوبا بالوسم المصیح العرفی من الطبقة الاولى لفقلمکم وایام السفقه من الطبقة ارازا الی
صاحبه الارضین المملکة الفخریة مع قبیل من سوحدات مملکتنا فاللهول قبول ذلك متکدیبه هذه الوسيلة ذریقه
لاهدأ مرسوم العظیم والتدیرم بفقلم العالی اکبرم هرر فی استیلول دار الخلدفة العبد

بلند سرائی هما یونی

تشریفان عمربه داره سی

رحم

حسب امراموری حقیریه نامه تهنیتیه موده سی

حسب نامه دولت محترم بنی محترم و محترمی و ملت مددی اولم به نفعاً ملکه حقیریه مقام داری
 حکماید بریه بویه احترام و تبریم زان امراموری بریه بیه و واجبه تحسین و تعلیم انباه اولدنه حده بیه اولور که
 کاتب حصصی امراموری موسواتور و زان بریه ایال سور بلا نامه حکماید بریه نامه علیکدی واصل دست احترام
 اولدی طرف مادیله ابراهیم سور بلا آثار محبت موجب ممنونیت اولدیمی کی نامه علیکدی بنک اهلای و محترم
 موقوفه محضی اولدنه زان حسنه لر بیه موقوفی و ممالک حکماید بریه معمری نمی ایله و مقام حسنه لر بیه
 علویه مناسبه مویله حقه مراسم احزاب اولدنه بالیقده زان امراموری بریه بریه نه ده وضع نامه عظمی
 اولد حسنه امراموری حقیریه بریه نه ده تحفه نامه زیانم و ممالک مسوجات نفیسه نه بر مقداری ایال
 سوی حسنه لر قلمس اولدنه بونون حسنه قوی تمس مقام علی حکماید بریه مراسم تعلیم و اهدای ایفاء و سلیحه ایاز قلدی

طریق ازین مضمون خود قضا کرده به حسب ابرار طوری حضرت زین
نار الله تعالی علیه صلوات

مقام ارشد
قورق
صحب
محرر
مجله ادبیات
کتاب

هشتاد و سه ساله بود که در ده روز کارش هفتاد و
 جان هشتاد و سه ساله بود که در ده روز کارش هفتاد و
 اولاد هشتاد و سه ساله بود که در ده روز کارش هفتاد و
 ایدسه و لطف حکم بزرگ بود که در ده روز کارش هفتاد و
 اشباب اب و بدو چو چو بود که در ده روز کارش هفتاد و
 مخلوق است الهی که در ده روز کارش هفتاد و
 چون یاد ویت و برلسه و برلسه که در ده روز کارش هفتاد و
 عبد و سلم افروز هفتاد و سه ساله بود که در ده روز کارش هفتاد و
 اولاد هشتاد و سه ساله بود که در ده روز کارش هفتاد و
 اوصاف برگزیده سید انصاف عالی هشتاد و سه ساله بود که در ده روز کارش هفتاد و
 هفتاد و سه ساله بود که در ده روز کارش هفتاد و
 ظهوره که در ده روز کارش هفتاد و
 بعد از آنکه در ده روز کارش هفتاد و

همتان امانت مودت دوست دلداران طهارت
 هاشم ازنده اعظم جور دانه قوت دولت بقا بد کتاب امر طری موسوات و زلف نام وادی کک ابری و تدریج کک از دلا
 هکایای ضحای زری طفره تدریج انیز اهدا جور دانه آتوره فاقه غایب نفس و نفع برتر کز سزا اطلبه موزده کجای و ضعیف
 و قفط ایل و طفره کک ازنده تدریج اهدا سلف اهدای رنجه از نقاد طوبی اید جک بدخواهان ک در حار صانعت اوقفا
 اشرای زنی اید بد قفطه کک بر صورت کک صیقل ازنده ابراز جور دانه سائر آثار مودت باعث کمال صیقلیت افسد نام
 ضعیف کک ایلو یزیک بر فقره سده مالک کک ازنده بولانه با خد سعادته سرتی نام اید اعیان آیه کجده نادونست ایلو ایلو
 ساد جور دانه دولت قمر کک اسلیم قفطه معتمد ابرازی بزم نجم کرم و خرم صلی به نعالی علم و سلم اندر قفطه یزیک زمانه
 سعادت نامه سلف اهدای زنی زلف و بونده دولت معزز نام ک صورتی بنوینا اهدای طلال اولی ملایم اول رده جانبیت
 حال امر طری ازنده هشتاد برینا ایلو ازده جور دانه اسلیم سوده اسلیم طلال کک ازنده اوصاف بر کیده کک ایلو طلال
 ضحای زنی آتیه با هده سده ایلو ازده ملکی ایلو یزیک و نس سرتی کک بونده سده قفطه ایلو طلال ایلو اول رده کک
 ساد آتیه وجود بونده دولت ساد یزیک بعد ما زنی آتیه مودت همت ازنده کجی جور دانه سرتی نام قفطه ایدیم
 ساد آتیه وجود بونده دولت ساد یزیک بعد ما زنی آتیه مودت همت ازنده کجی جور دانه سرتی نام قفطه ایدیم

حبه ارضی حضرت ایامی و زره
 نام هر چه ملواری صوره ی نقیصه حضور سكونوز حفته نا صایدی قوی
 ارمه و ایام حضرت اصغر و صبه هدایای شیرین بر قطعه دوزخ تسلیم و تقی
 حقه سوانح اولاد اردو و هر چه سیداری محبت علو ملو و عده حضور
 صاب و هر چه قضا و تقیلم اولی
 مطالع اولی و نظای محلی حضرت ایامی و زره
 و بدین سبب است که هر چه اولی
 صلاحیت اینها فیضی معوضه
 ۱۸
 سید قوی

صبیحہ امیرالحوری طرفتہ کلد بہ قولہ نیک بدیک ساعت بدہ و اثرہ نمانہ کورل
 اصابہ مورخہ نامہ تھینہ ملوکا با شخصی طوغیرہ وادہ کہہ حکم و لہذا باکی

امروزمابہ بودہ لیلی حالہ وادہ کونہ تر حکمی مدرصدہ

عبدملوکای

۱۱۵۰
 رخصتہ

ANNEX 13

Letter presented to the Ottoman Sultan to thank for opening of
a closed door in the Monastery of Deyrû's Saltana

٥

من قدس به تحت لاسه ملك صفة شيخه
السيد عبد الحليم من الملوك والسيما به سلام عليك ديار الله
تاج الجيوب فتح باب الجدير الذي لانه على وعمل في بسطة راحة
تكون في الدين والادب ربا يطمع عافيه بطول عمره مع آله واولاده وبسطة
به قباله من عافيتكم كاشفا هذه الورد اهله في القدر الشريف موزن زور
وهماه

بعد الاوقات
ديار الله نام صفة ملكا على مملكة لوزن برقوت صفة ايمية كارة
معدة في مملكة ريف تاج به جوده كوله بيا ياده يفظد دمشق اولدين وصفا
صفه زاهية صفه باوية كريمة على عافية والكون عرايد وسوقه ممتدة بولدين
و عافية على ريفه كارة ايمية كريمة تاج به كوله لوزن مملكة ريف ايمية كارة
معدة استوانه من قدس ترين اهله موزن زور كارة ايمية كارة

ሞላ፡ እኖ በሰ፡ ዘእምነግደ፡ ያሁዳ፡ ያሳማዊ፡ ምኒል
 ክ፡ ለላዊ ሙ፡ እግዚአብሔር፡ ንጉሠ፡ ነግሠቱ፡) (ኢ
 ቶድድ ያ፡ ያድረሰ፡ ከክብር፡ ወደፍቅግ፡ ከላል
 ጣጥ፡ እብድል፡ ሐሚድ፡ ፡ ሞሐማንደ፡ ንጉሠ፡ ነግሠ
 ቶ፡ ሰላም፡ ለርሰዎ፡ ያሁጥ፡ ፡ ሞዲር፡ ላል ጣጥ፡
 ሞጥንቶ፡ በራቸንን፡ ሰላስበረቱልን፡ ሞረረሰውን
 ም፡ በረቃቃዎ፡ ሰላዲሱልን፡ በብዙ፡ እናመሰሰላ
 ናለን፤ እግዚአብሔር፡ ሙንግላላቶዎን፡ ከልጅ፡ ል
 ጅዎ፡ እያውጣ፡ ሰላምና፡ ጤና፡ ያሰጥዎ፡ ሰላ፡ ሐዝ
 ብዎና፡ ሰላ፡ ሙንግላላቶዎ፡ ክላር፤ አሰካሁን፡ ያ
 ህነን፡ ሞሞላኃና፡ ያላደረገ፡ እለመለካቸን፡ ፍጽ
 ም፡ ጤና፡ ሞጣጥቶዎን፡ ያሰቃ፡ እስክናገኛ፡ ድረ
 ስ፡ ነበር፡ ፡ እሁጥ፡ ግን፡ ያሰቃውን፡ ከሶማን፡ ያህ
 ነን፡ ሞሞላኃና፡ ያላደረገ፡ በኢየሩሳሌም፡ ሙሙሐ
 ረ፡ ባባ፡ ማሳደግቶ፡ እጅ፡ ልከንልዎቻል፡
 ጥር፡ ፲፫፡ ቀን፡ ፲፫፡ ፪፡ ሳመተ፡ ሞሐረቶ፡
 እዲሱ፡ ስበባ፡ ከተማ፡ ተጸረ፡

ጥዓ: አኅበሰ: ዘአምነገደ: ደህ: ጸ: ደግማዊ: ምዕረልነገ: ሥራው: ለግዚአብሔር: ገጉሠ: ነገሥት: ዘኢትዮጵያ: ደጽረሰ: ከክቡር: ወጃችገ: ሥልጣን: አብጽ: አልሀሚድ: ህን: የቡሰማንያ: ገጉሠ: ነገሥት: ሰላም: ለርስዋ: ደህ: ገ: ክቡር: ወደጃችገ: ብዙ: ደሰ: ህብጽ: ፍጹም: ጤና: መልሰሰምን: እዩሰማን: እገህን: እግዚአብሔር: ልደወቱን: ሰጠዋ: ሰለታላቱ: ሐዝዝዎና: ሰለ: ሰራው: መንግሥት: ቀ: ከብር: አሁንም: ደከውና: ለዚህ: እርሰዋን: ለምና። ደክምበት: ሰለ: ኢየሩሳሌም: እርሰታችን: ደጃዝማች: መሸሻን: ልከናል: ለአርሱም: ምሁራ: ሥልጣን: ሰጥተዋልና: ቃሉን: ደመቱልን: ብለን: እንለምንዎታለን: አሰካሁን: በርሰዎ: ቸርነት: ብቻ: ነበር: የኢየሩሳሌም: ነገር: የቀናልን: የዲር: ሥልጣንም: በር: የተከረተልን: አሁን: ግን: በእግዚአብሔር: ቸርነት: ረዳች: እገኝተንልዋታል: አረዳቱም: የቡመር: በን: እልክግብና: የሥልጣን: ሲሊም: ረረማን: ነው: ደህም: እውነተኛው: ነው: እጅ: አዲስ: አደደለም: አሰካሁን: ገበያችን: አርመናች: ለኢትዮጵያ: አጻሉ: ወረቀት: ሰዓሊቱ: የው: በየኩላቸው: ደሉ: ነበር: ዛሬ: ግን: ከነዚህ: የሊሉ: ረረማ: በኛ: እጅ: ተገኘ: ደህም: ከዋነ: እውነተኛው: ግ: ፍርድዎን: አንለምናልን: ጠበቃችንም: ቸርነት: ነው: ለመልክተኞቻችንም: ያሰለመዱትን: ቸርነት: ያረጉላቸዋል: ብለን: ተሰሩ: አላን: እግዚአብሔር: አርሰም: አጽሚና: ጤና: ሐዝዝዎም: ሰለምና: ሪረፍት: እንደሰጥልን: እግዚአብሔርን: እንለምናለን: ሐምሌ: ፫ተን: ፲፯ ፻፺፱ ግመተ: ምሐረት: ተጓረ:

**Petition written by the notables of Harrar to the Sultan
regarding the re-assignment of Abdullah Pasha and the loan
request**

الإدارة العامة للإحصاء
الرياض

ألف مستأن للشمس وزعم **والله** بيراكيدركم عباد الله في الأرض وحدهم ونحن جميعا لكم جنود

خالد بن الوليد السفاح لما قعدت عن شباب الختام والكفاح وخصها بأرق ذاك من جهنم ان يعلم العالم كله الذين في الحبشة عروضا ان يتأخروا

ملان
متر محمد
القاضي
الحاج يوسف
مسبب مستقيم و دهم
القاضي
يونس
ملان
الحاج يوسف
القاضي
يونس
ملان
متر محمد
القاضي
الحاج يوسف
مسبب مستقيم و دهم
القاضي
يونس
ملان

[illegible]

Construction of a fortress in Devariye and obtaining materials from the treasury of Egypt

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