

Littman, E. 1913d "Safaitic Inscriptions," Pp. 278-81 in *Syria. Publications of the Princeton University Archaeological Expedition to Syria* (Div. IV, Sect. C, Part 3, Umm Idj-Djimal, Leyden) 278-81.

## INSCRIPTIONS FROM SOUTHERN HAURAN

The majority of these inscriptions were published in an article of mine entitled "*Ṣafā-Inschriften*" which appeared in *Mélanges Syriens offerts à Monsieur René Dussaud*, vol. II. The inscriptions from Umm idj-Djimâl were published from my copies by H. Grimme in his book *Texte und Untersuchungen zur safatenisch-arabischen Religion*, pp. 126 ff. In the following notes I shall refer to my article by *S.I.* and to Grimme's publication by *Gr. U.G.*

## UMM IDJ-DJIMÂL

1269. On a stone in the west wall of a house in the eastern part of the town. The stone measures  $74 \times 39$  cm. The letters are, except the  $\beth$ ,  $10\frac{1}{2}$ –16 cm. high. Photograph and squeeze. — *S.I.*, No. 1. — *Gr. U.G.*, No. 1.

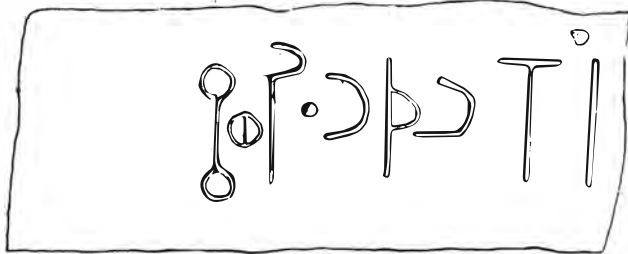


Scale 1 : 10

לוהב בן שמת  
ד אל רוח

By (For) Wahb b. Shāmit  
of the tribe of Rawāḥ.

1270. On a stone in a low wall near the preceding inscription. The stone measures  $81 \times 32$  cm. The letters are deep and well cut; they are, except the  $\beth$ ,  $8\frac{1}{2}$ –19 cm. high. The  $\beth$  seems to have been added later; it is  $5\frac{1}{2}$  cm. high and a great deal finer and shallower than the other letters. Photograph and squeeze. — *S.I.*, No. 2. — *Gr. U.G.*, No. 2.

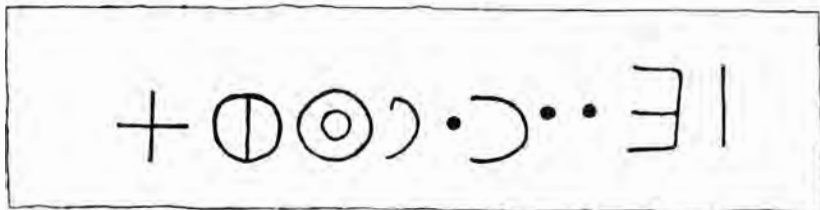


Scale 1 : 10

לובר בן עוה

By (For) Zabd b. Ghuwaith.

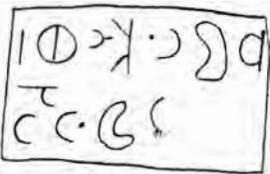
1271. On a stone used as a lintel in the church north-east of the "barracks"; see Div. II, A, pp. 166 ff. The stone measures  $109 \times 27$  cm., the letters, except  $\beth$ , are  $7\frac{1}{2}$ –11 cm. high. Squeeze. — *D.M.* 904. — *S.I.*, No. 3. — *Gr. U.G.*, No. 3.



Scale 1:10

Nos. 1269-1271 are the best executed Safaitic inscriptions known so far. Their letters have a monumental character. It is not improbable that the stones bearing them were originally lintels of small buildings, either private houses or funerary structures. In Umm idj-Djimâl there were many sepulchral buildings with Nabataean and Greek inscriptions, and some of such buildings may have had Safaitic inscriptions. Such a structure at the northern end of the Şafā mountains was described by Wetzstein; see *S.I.*, commentary on No. 4. If we have here funerary inscriptions ל must be translated "For". But if these inscriptions indicated proprietors of houses ל would be paraphrased by "Belonging to".

1272. In a house in the W. part of the town; on a stone built into a pier in the south-western room of the second story. This pier stands over an arch of the ground story, to support the roof of the house. The stone measures 64 × 33 cm. The letters, except ל, are 5-12 cm. high. — *S.I.*, No. 5. — *Gr. U.G.*, No. 4.



Scale 1:20

This inscription is not so well executed as those on the preceding three stones. Still it is not likely to be a simple graffito as the inscriptions of the Ḥarrah. Two persons are seldom the authors of one Safaitic inscription; see above Nos. 1058 and 1121. An inscription of three persons is No. 427. Here two persons, probably of the same family — perhaps they had a common grandfather — may have been buried in the same funerary structure.

1273. On a slab of basalt the upper part of which is almost smooth; it was found in a house in the eastern part of the town near its south end. The stone measures

110 × 34 cm. The letters, except ל, are 5½-12 cm. high. The letters in the photograph are chalked. The photograph shows the inscription upside down. — *S.I.*, No. 6. — *Gr. U.G.*, No. 5.



לאנעם בן קצר

For 'An'am b. Kašir.

This is a funerary stele. Stelae with Nabataean, Greek, and later on with Arabic inscriptions are very often found in Syria.

1274. Fragment of a stele found in a pile of ruins in the eastern part of the town and brought into our camp by Professor H. C. Butler. The fragment is 33 cm. wide, on the left side 31 cm., on the right side 34 cm. high. Height of letters, except  $\beth$ : 7-11 cm. — *S.I.*, No. 7. — *Gr. U.G.*, No. 6.



Scale 1:20

לחם בן ע עמק

For Taim b. <sup>ʿ</sup>Atik.

The second letter of the second name has an unusual shape: it seems to be a  $\beth$  of which the horizontal line has been written at the bottom instead of in the middle. <sup>ʿ</sup>Atik is a common Arabic name, and <sup>ʿ</sup>Atik may be a variant of it, in which the *t* has become a *ʿ* by partial assimilation.

1275. On a stone in the east wall of a house on the street leading from the S.W. Church to the west gate, on the left as one goes north. The stone was so high that no measurements could be taken. I calculated the measurements of the stone at about 120 × 35 cm., the length of the inscription at about 80 cm. — *S.I.*, No. 8. — *Gr. U.G.*, No. 7.

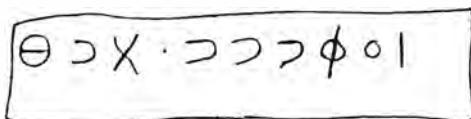


לבנל בן רנל

By (For) Bagāl b. Ra[w]āh.

The first name may also be read רנל (*Rāgil*). Only the upper halves of the first seven letters are visible; but the reading is reasonable certain.

1276. On a stone used in the wall of a house in the eastern part of the town. Approximate measurements: stone 110 × 30 cm.; height of letters 7-18 cm. — *S.I.*, No. 9. — *Gr. U.G.*, No. 8.



לעקרב בן ארו

By (For) <sup>ʿ</sup>Akrab b. <sup>ʿ</sup>Arwā(?).

The  $\aleph$  of the second name resembles a  $\eta$ ; but  $\eta$  yields no suitable name. <sup>ʿ</sup>Arwā is an Arabic woman's name, and it might be here perhaps a *metronymikon*. On the other hand, if we assume that the text is not complete we might read  $\dots$   $\eta$  and translate "By (For) <sup>ʿ</sup>Akrab b. Khair and  $\dots$  —", so that we would again have two different persons in one inscription.

1277. On a stone on the outside of a wall of the same church as No. 1271. The stone measures  $30\frac{1}{2} \times 24$  cm. The first letter is 16 cm. high. — *S.I.*, No. 10. — *Gr. U. G.*, No. 9.



Scale 1:15

לאדי

By <sup>ʿ</sup>Udaiy.

The letters are connected like a monogram. My reading is not certain, but probable.

1278. On a stone on the outside of the south wall of the "Church of the Convent", near the south-east corner of this church. The stone measures  $46 \times 39$  cm; height of letters: 6–10 cm. Squeeze. — *D.M.*, No. 903. — *S.I.*, No. 11. — *Gr. U.G.*, No. 10.

The stone contains three graffiti: *a*) upper line from right to left; *b*) middle line from left to right; *c*) perpendicular line on the right.



Scale 1:10

- |    |               |                               |
|----|---------------|-------------------------------|
| a) | להנא(ג) בן עו | <i>By han-Nā'ig b. Ghāwī.</i> |
| b) | לאראם         | <i>By 'Ar'as.</i>             |
| c) | לטן           | <i>By Zann.</i>               |

The last letter of the first name is according to my drawing and to the copy of M. Dussaud a ן; but on a photograph which Professor Jeremias kindly sent me a ן is recognizable. However, the name להנא is not known from other sources. The name in *c* may be לטן; for ן may be expressed by a dot as usual in this region, or by a short line as in the Ḥarrah and here in No. 1279. But the three signs may also be *wusûm*.

1279. On a stone in a wall of a house in the eastern part of the town. The stone measures  $36 \times 30$  cm. The letters are 3, 8, 14 cm. high. *S.I.*, No. 12. — *Gr. U.G.*, No. 11.



Scale 1:15

- [ל] בן דד [By (For) ...] b. Dād.

The letters are deeply cut, but the stone is not smoothed off. The stone seems to be the fragment of a funerary stele.