



Faculty of Humanities



Collections and models of ownership in manuscript collections of Ethiopia

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Islam in the Horn of Africa Project

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Originally based at the University of Florence (01.07.13)

Transferred to the University of Copenhagen on 01.02.14

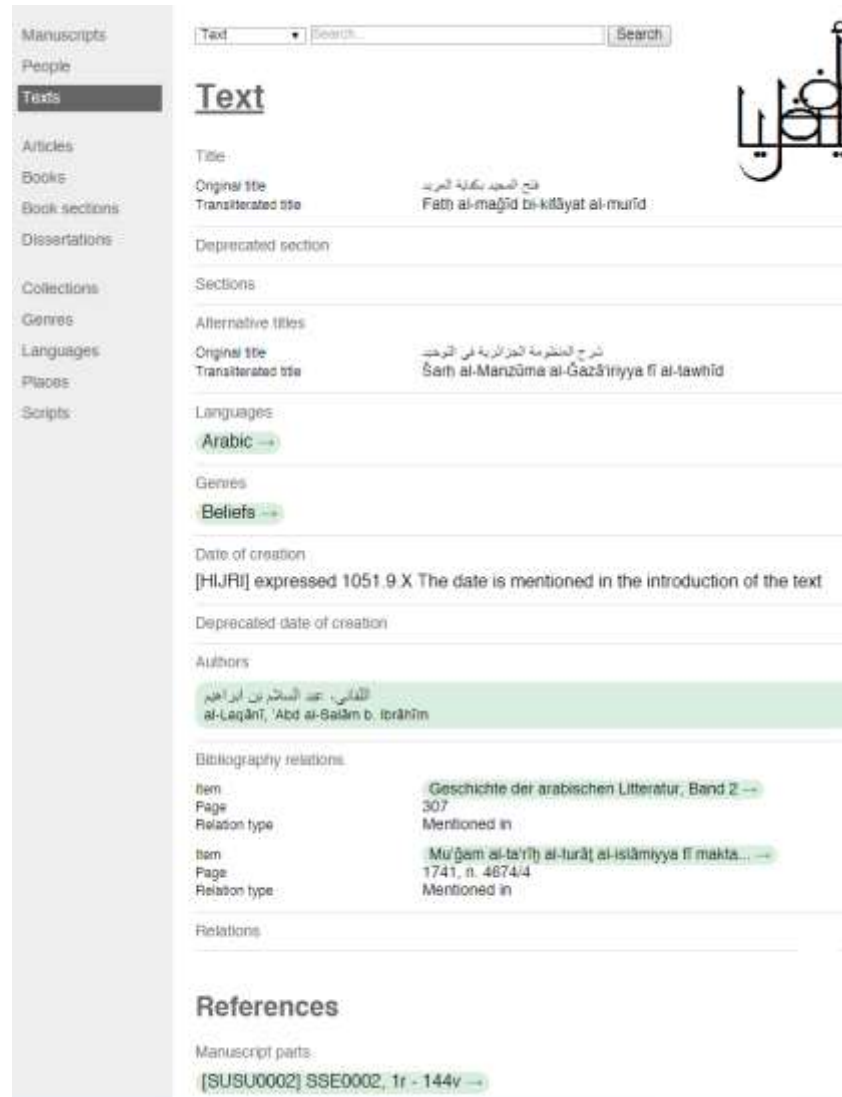
Now based at the Institute of Cross-cultural and Regional Studies/University of Copenhagen



The Database of IslHornAfr Project

Complex relational database of the works circulating among the Muslims in Africa:

- descriptions of texts and manuscripts
- authors
- places.
- bibliography
- no image will be displayed, due to copyright issues

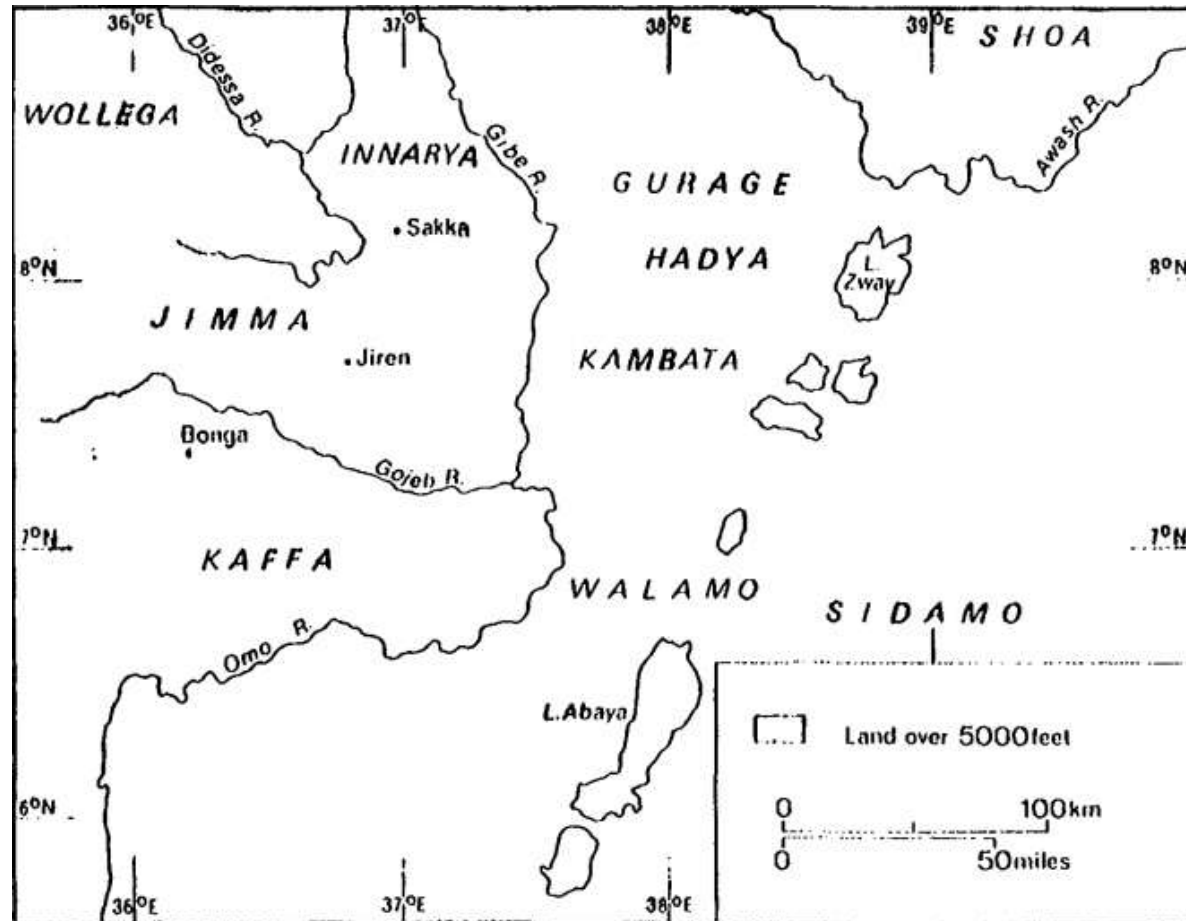


The screenshot displays the IslHornAfr database interface. On the left is a sidebar with navigation links: Manuscripts, People, **Texts**, Articles, Books, Book sections, Dissertations, Collections, Genres, Languages, Places, and Scripts. The main content area is titled 'Text' and shows details for a specific entry. At the top right of the main area is a search bar with a dropdown menu set to 'Text' and a 'Search' button. The entry details include:

- Title:**
 - Original title: فتح المجد بكافة المرید
 - Transliterated title: Fath al-mağīd bi-kāfiyat al-murīd
- Deprecated section:**
- Sections:**
- Alternative titles:**
- Original title:** شرح المنظومة الجزالية في التوحيد
- Transliterated title:** Sharḥ al-Manzūma al-Jazā'iriyya fī al-tawhīd
- Languages:** Arabic →
- Genres:** Beliefs →
- Date of creation:** [HJRI] expressed 1051.9 X The date is mentioned in the introduction of the text
- Deprecated date of creation:**
- Authors:**
 - اللدائي، عبد السلام بن إبراهيم
 - al-Laḡānī, 'Abd al-Salām b. Ibrāhīm
- Bibliography relations:**
 - Item: Geschichte der arabischen Literatur, Band 2 →
 - Page: 307
 - Relation type: Mentioned in
 - Item: Mu'jam al-ta'riḥ al-islāmiyya fī makta... →
 - Page: 1741, n. 4674/4
 - Relation type: Mentioned in
- Relations:**
- References:**
 - Manuscript parts: [SUSU0002] SSE0002, 1r - 144v →

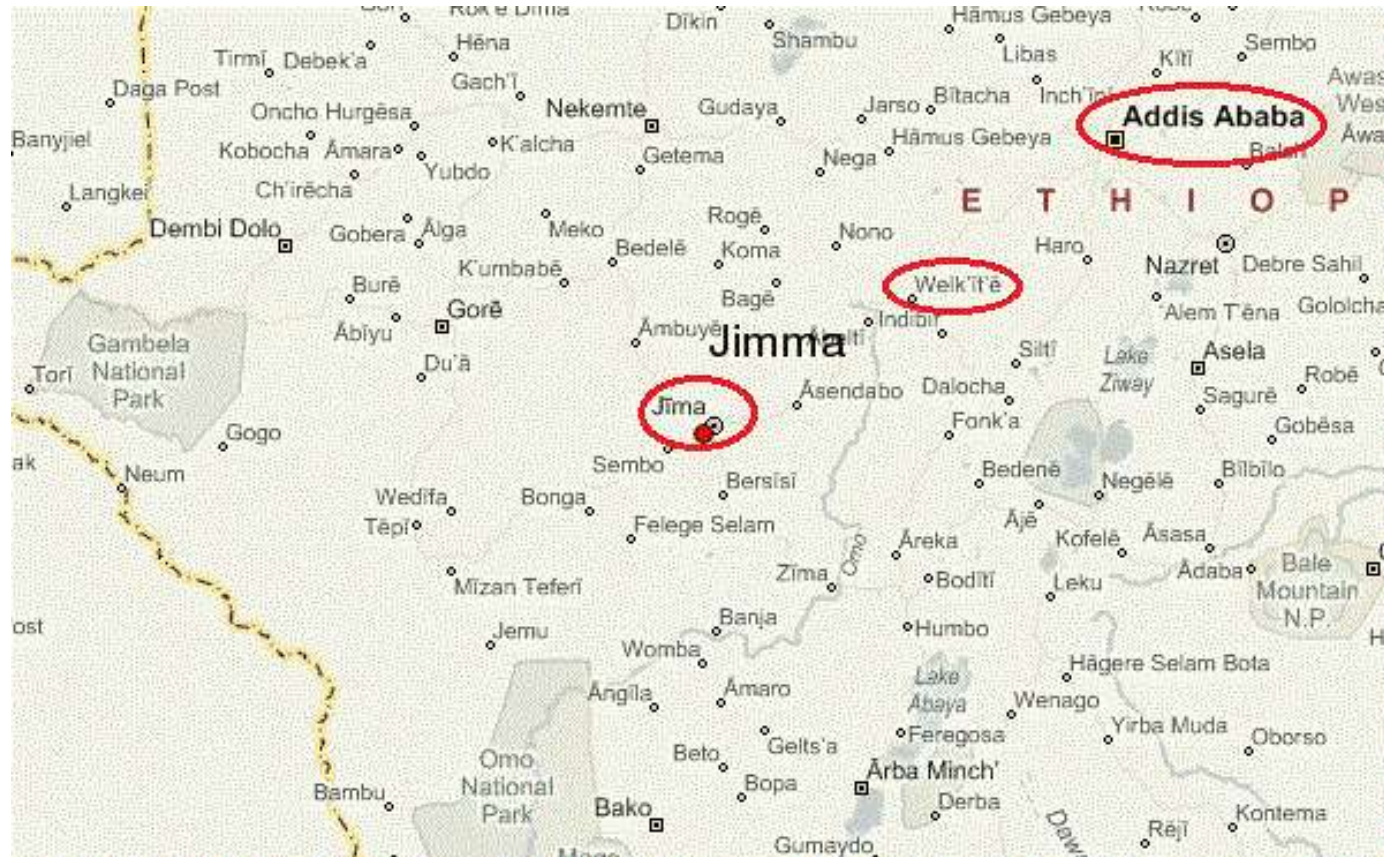


Area of work of the first mission (November-December 2014)



Oromo Kingdoms. Cambridge History of Africa IV 84.

Main cities involved in the mission



Map of South Western Ethiopia

Sites studied during the mission

Wolkite zone:

Zabi Molla

Seddeqa

Jimma – Agaro zone:

Warukko

Tije

Suuse



King Abba Jifar II
(d. 1932).



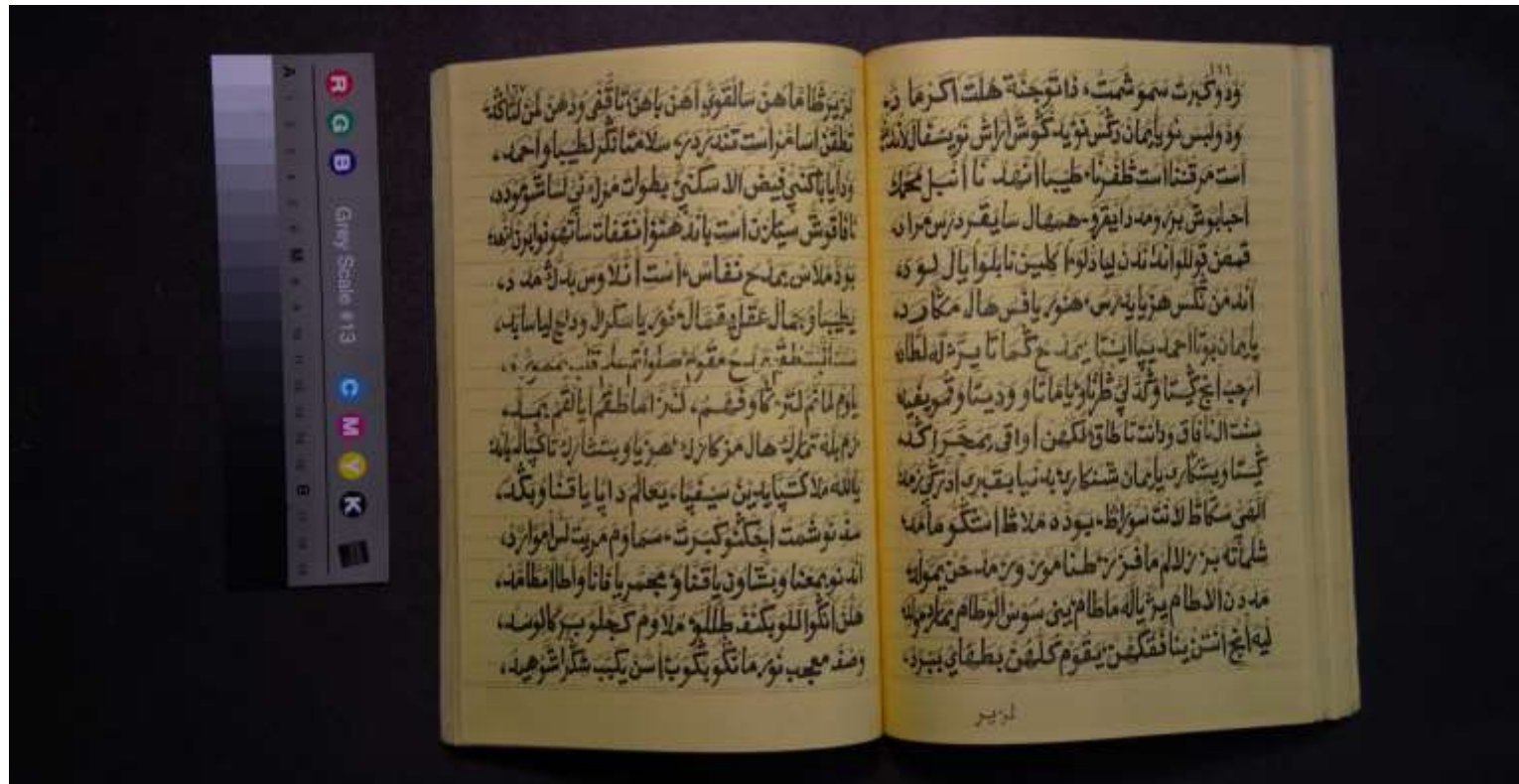
Languages found in the manuscripts

1. Arabic
2. Amharic (‘aǧamī)
3. Afaan Oromo (‘aǧamī)

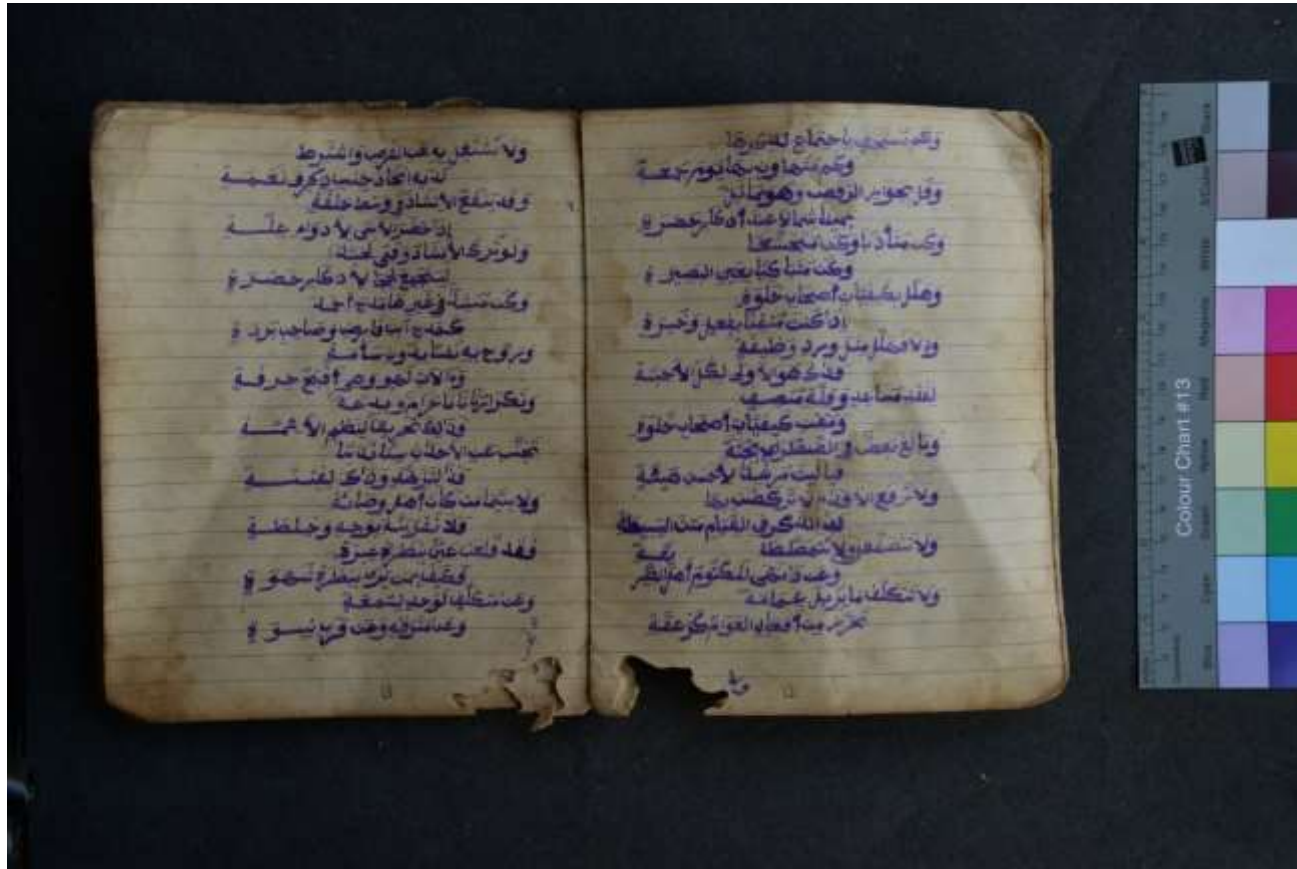
Incipit of of the Dalā'il al-Ḥayrāt, IES 2638, f. 6r.



An example of Amharic 'aḡamī



Manuscript sample



Collection of devotional poems, Tije collection.

Evaluation of the situation of collections in Ethiopia

1. Evidence of the presence (or absence) of an active transmission of Islamic knowledge connected with the manuscripts and their owners (both teaching and ritual use)
2. Model of ownership (single-multiple inheritors, custody)
3. Position of the owners in local society
4. Evidence of knowledge of Arabic language
5. Genres of texts found in the collections



Two main groups of collections

Persistent tradition Vs Interrupted tradition

Incipit of of the Dalā'il al-ḥayrāt, IES 2638, f. 6r.





Library of the *ḥaḍra* of Zabi Molla, Wolkite.

Library of Zabi
Molla, Wolkite.



Boards for the
study of the Quran
in the library of
Zabi Molla,
Wolkite.



Šayḥ Nāṣir in the
mosque of
Warukko



Interior of the
mosque of
Warukko



Manuscripts and
printed books
outside the
mosque of Tije



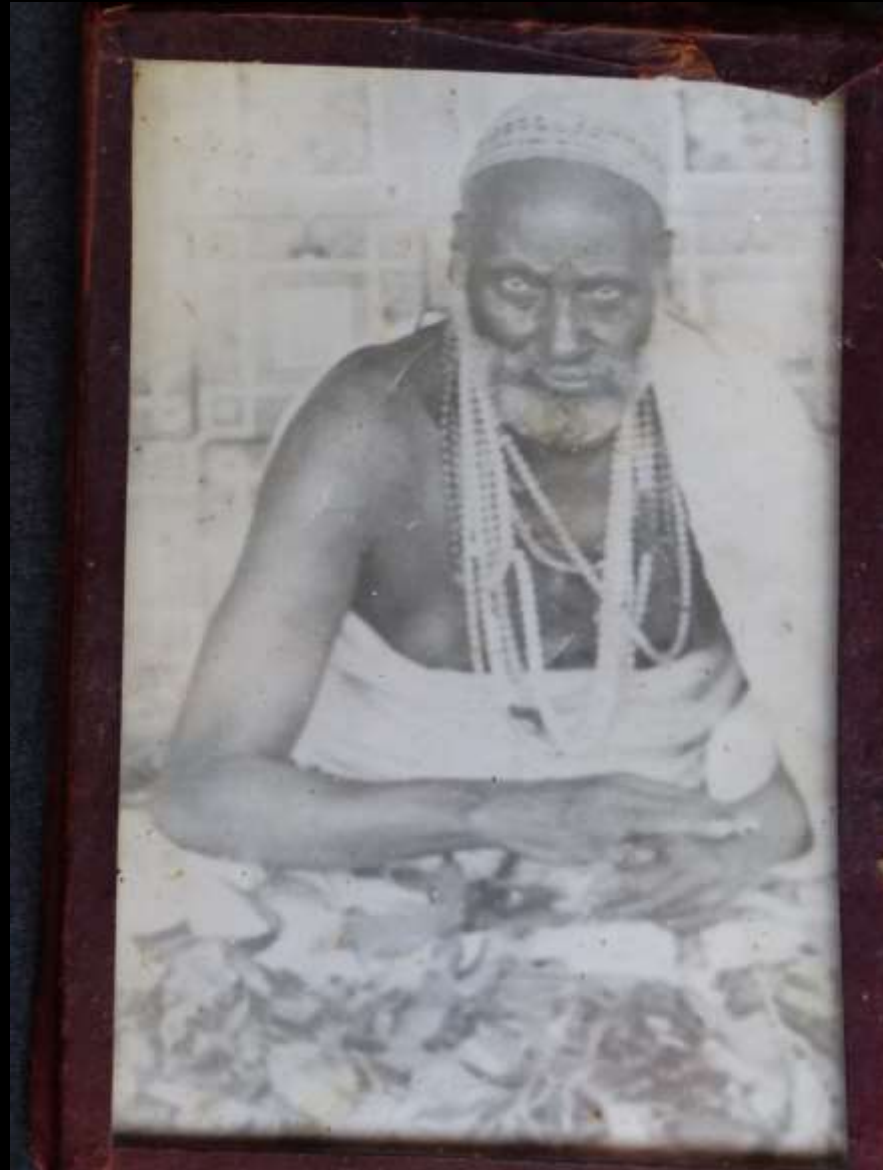
Sted og dato
Dias 18



The house of the
descendants of
Shekota Tije.



‘Abd al-Fattāḥ
Muṣ‘īd al-Dīn al-
Ṣiddīqī



Sted og dato
Dias 20



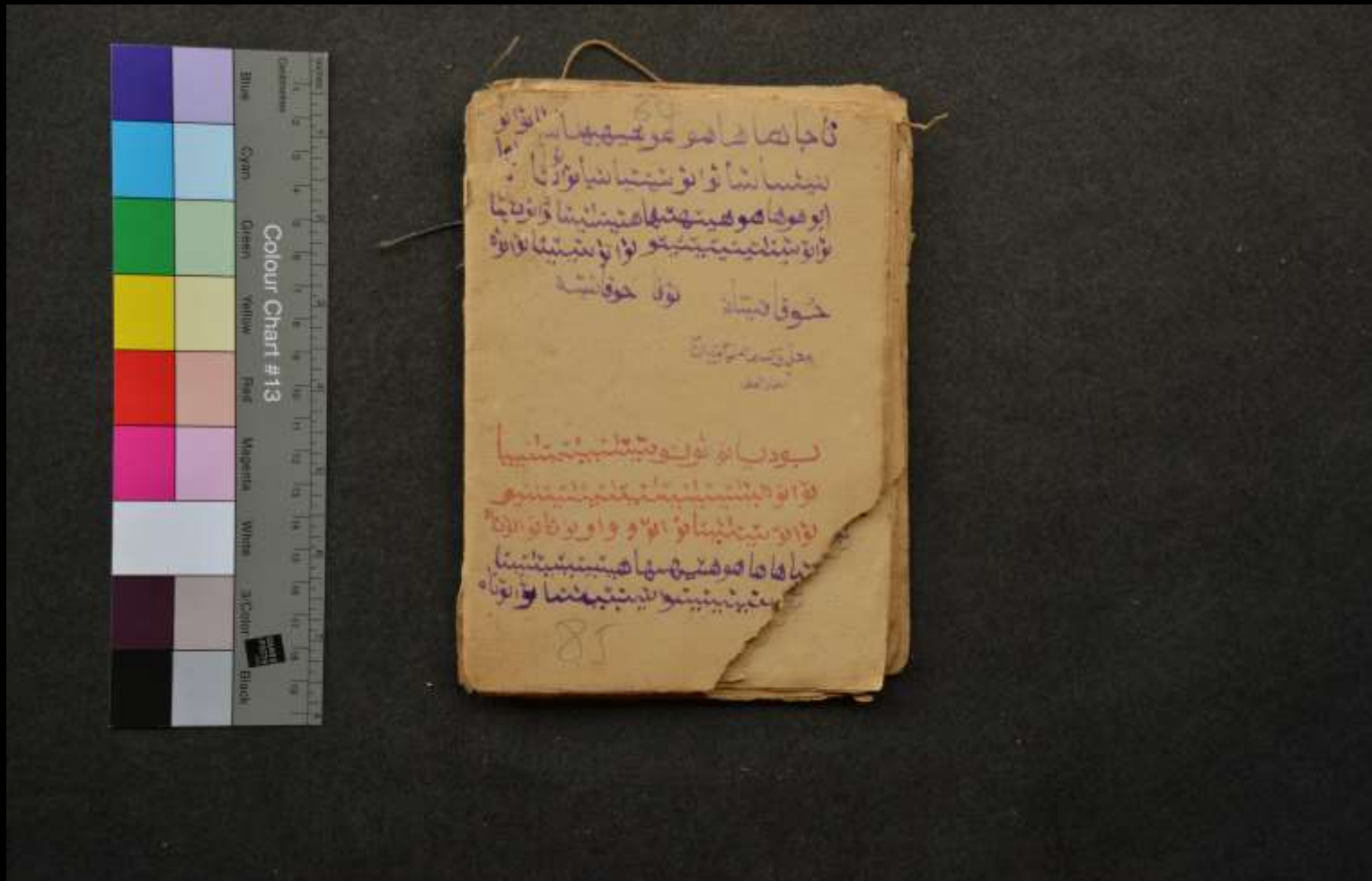
Interior of the Great Mosque of Seddeqa.



Quran reciters outside the Great Mosque of Seddeqa.



Text composed by ‘Abd al-Fattāḥ Muṣ‘īd al-Dīn al-Ṣiddīqī, constituted of a series of letters without an evident meaning.



Sted og dato
Dias 23

Farming activity
in Seddeqa.



Bags of
manuscripts
outside the
mosque of
Seddeqa.



The guardian of Suuse manuscripts with some mebers of his family.



Conclusions

Typological classification of the collections:

1. Museum - Library: Zabi Molla - Seddeqa
2. Texts in use: Warukko
3. Inherited books: Tije - Suuse

