

## THE EDITION OF SYROHEXAPLA MATERIALS

M.H. GOSHEN-GOTTSTEIN

The full publication of the new fragments of the Syrohexapla, announced previously,<sup>1</sup> will be delayed for some more time<sup>2</sup> owing to other obligations. Bearing in mind the current work on the recensions of the Septuagint<sup>3</sup> it seems important to draw attention to this material so as to enable other scholars to peruse it prior to publication.

Also the new fragments were found in the course of my inquiries into the history of the Peshitta text.<sup>4</sup> Whereas previously I had paid attention to those portions in lectionaries expressly superscribed as presenting the Septuagint in its Syriac garb, further study showed that a fair number of portions which lack this superscription may be attributed to the Syrohexapla on internal evidence. All these are, in general, of the same textual character, whether expressly attributed to the LXX or not.<sup>5</sup> The obvious differences between the way the text was copied in lectionaries and the way it was transmitted in Biblical MSS proper (often with marginal notes from the Three) need not detain us here. But the Syrohexapla portions in the lectionaries which can be controlled by the use of the Syrohexapla MSS sufficiently prove that, by and large, the text of the lectionaries may be relied upon. On the other hand, a considerable number of chapters, previously known from a unique MS only, can now be paralleled and checked from the lectionary texts.<sup>6</sup>

- 1 Cp. my *Text and Language in Bible and Qumran* (1960), s.v. Syrohexapla; *Textus* 1 (1960) 211; 2 (1962) 53. The previous studies are: "Eine Cambridger Syrohexaplahandschrift", *Le Muséon* 67 (1954) 291 f.; "Neue Syrohexaplafragmente", *Biblica* 37 (1956) 162 f. (= N.S.).
- 2 Although the fragments are ready for publication, it seems necessary to re-check the originals and to finish certain studies of the Syrohexapla in general.
- 3 I refer not only to the problems raised at present by the character of the Qumran texts but also by studies like Bo Johnson's *Die hexaplarische Rezension des 1. Samuelbuches* (Lund 1963). But for my delay the material quoted by him (from my earlier publication) as Sy-g (*ib.*, p. 21 f.) could have been more comprehensive.
- 4 More specifically, during my study of the text contained in lectionaries. The greater part of the spade work was carried out in 1956.
- 5 There exists, of course, the problem of the small fragments of quotations. Cp. meanwhile Baumstark, *Oriens Christ.* 30 (1933) 208.
- 6 A few readings may also be gleaned from the list of quotes in the first part of Add. 17162.

The following list contains only those fragments of the Syrohexapla which to my knowledge have not been published.<sup>7</sup> All the fragments come from MSS in the British Museum, apart from No. 5 which comes from a Vatican MS:

1.	Gen.	28:10–22	Add. 14487	fol. 29a
2.	Gen.	49: 8–18	Add. 14486	fol. 25b
3.	Lev.	8: 1–4	Add. 14487	fol. 29b
4.	Lev.	23:33–41	Add. 14487	fol. 25b
5.	Deut.	32: 1–43	Borg. Sir. 113	fol. 130a <sup>8</sup>
6.	1 Sam.	2:12–17, 22–23	Add. 17195	fol. 18b <sup>9</sup>
7.	1 Sam.	16:13	Add. 14487	fol. 31a
8.	1 Sam.	20:42	Add. 17195	fol. 20b <sup>10</sup>
9.	2 Sam.	6: 1–6, 13–14	Add. 14487	fol. 26a
10.	2 Chr.	15: 8–15	Add. 17195	fol. 22b
11.	2 Chr.	17: 3, 7–9	Add. 17195	fol. 35a
12.	2 Chr.	24: 6–12	Add. 17195	fol. 37a
13.	2 Chr.	30:18–20	Add. 17195	fol. 35a <sup>11</sup>
14.	2 Chr.	36:11–13	Add. 17195	fol. 23a

7 The exact details with regard to each portion will be given in the forthcoming publication which will also contain corrections and additions to N.S.

8 This fragment differs from all the others with regard to the type of MS, the text and the age. It is a 19th cent. copy of a MS written in 1438 Sel. The Syrohexapla text is added as an interlinear addition to the Peshitta and readings from the Three are found on the the margin. The degree of correctness of the text which we can reconstruct can be gauged by comparing the text of the Song of the Sea, similarly executed (*ib.* fol. 128b), with the text printed by Lagarde. Since Deut. 32 obviously was added quite often to MSS of Psalms and Odes, we should stand a good chance to recover in full the Syrohexapla of that portion from some other MS.

I need hardly add that this new find fully substantiates my position with regard to the text of the Cambridge MS. (see above n. 1). Cp. my remarks in N.S., 163 f. to the queries of Mercati, *Biblica* 36 (1955) 227 f. My position meanwhile has been endorsed also by Schneider, "Biblische Oden im syrohexaplarischen Psalter", *Analecta Biblica* 10 (1959) 65 f.

9 Cp. N.S., 162, n. 6.

10 This corroborates the text in N.S., 179.

11 Slightly different from the text in Add. 12168 printed by Gwynn, *Remnants of the Later Syriac Versions of the Bible* (1909) ii, 14.