

The Coptic Archive of Dioscorus of Aphrodito:

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Abstract:

The dissertation contains two parts;

The first part: An Introduction

It includes a brief and general introduction for papyrology, especially the Coptic papyrology, its importance, and the problems which the Coptic papyrologists meet. Then it discusses a historical idea about the Coptic archive of Dioscorus of Aphrodito; dealing with the archives in general, and the importance of these archives which gives fruitful results to the study of the ancient Egyptian history. Then the discovery will be discussed of the papyri treasure in Kom Ishqaw (Greek, Coptic, and Arabic papyri), especially the Coptic Archive of Dioscorus. It will demonstrate the carelessness of the Coptic papyri, due to which many of these papyri disappeared and were destroyed. The book gives an idea about the historical importance of the Coptic Archive of Dioscorus. This archive provides us a clear picture of social life in Egypt in the 6th century. Hereafter the book gives a general idea about Kom Ishqaw (the name of the village, its meaning, the history and the geographical place).

At the end of this part, Dioscorus will be studied (his family, growth, education, culture and work; he was a lawyer and a poet, speaks and writes fluently Coptic and Greek as well. Then the historical and linguistic background for the Coptic collection; including the background of the selection of the texts/selected texts, preliminary remarks, criteria for the selection of the texts, the texts not included in this dissertation, sources of the texts, description of the texts (palaeography analysis, orthography, punctuation, terms, superlinear marks, and dialectal variations), then the monastic titles which are mentioned in the texts of the collection.

The second part: the Texts

The second part focuses only on the texts; transcription, translation and commentary. This part discusses these points for each text:

- Technical description: the main information about the papyrus.
- The reading of the text.
- Commentary on the text.

At the end of the dissertation comes the conclusion, appendix, indexes, bibliography and plates are included as well.

Key words:

- Papyrology
- Archives
- Kom Ishqaw
- Aphrodito
- Dioscorus
- Coptic papyri
- Greek papyri
- Coptic texts
- Egyptian Museum in Cairo
- Coptic Museum in Cairo.
- Life in 6th century