DARFUR HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS: A CATALOGUE

by

R.S. O’Fahey

University of Bergen

Bergen

2006
Dedicated to the memory of my friend and mentor
The late Dr. Muhammad Ibrāhīm Abū Saлим (1927-2004)

&

to the memory of the brothers, al-Ṭayyib and Ibrāhīm Muḥammad al-Nūr, Fulani merchants and scholars who made this collection possible through their material generosity, but, more importantly, who through their generosity of spirit, scholarship and understanding
CONTENTS

Note to the Second Edition
The Sultans of Darfur
Introduction to the First Version (March 1981)
The Catalogue: DF1.1.1 to DF380.60/8
Index of Archives
Bibliography
NOTE TO THE SECOND EDITION

The present work is a revised and extended version of the first catalogue, made as a typescript for limited circulation under a similar title in March 1981. This version is intended as source-book to my ongoing project to lay out and make available the sources on the customary and sultanic law of Darfur. The next stage will be the publication of my notes on the same topic from the Condominium sources. A third stage, which will have to involve lawyers from Darfur, will be to extract from this body of material some general principles to act as guidelines for the redistribution of land in the province.

Thus my purpose in preparing this second version of the Catalogue is far from purely academic; the issue of land is a vital, contentious and fundamental issue in the ongoing conflict in Darfur, as I have discovered working as a consultant to the UN Mission to the Sudan (UNMIS) and the African Union (AU) over the last year. There will, assuredly, be no peace in Darfur until a just and equitable land settlement is reached. The collection I made back in the 1970s as part of my research as a professional historian now has a contemporary political aspect, and it would be naïve of me to pretend otherwise. Thus, one collection listed here, from Dār Suwaynī (DF306.45/1 to DF320.45/15), photographed in 1965 by Professor Joseph and Dr. Marie-José Tubiana at Dor in 1965, has recently been deliberately destroyed. The perpetrators of this particular cultural atrocity evidently were unaware that copies exist in France and Bergen and that translations have been published (O’Fahey &

---

2 I have discontinued my earlier practice of writing the province’s name as Dār Fūr.
The significance of the documents listed here is enhanced by the 1 January 1956, when the Sudan attained formal independence, principle adopted in the Abuja negotiations between the Khartoum Government and the rebel movements, namely that no documents issued after the end of colonial rule would be accepted as valid. Nothing has been said about the legal status of documents issued before the colonial period.

On this latter point I can make a few preliminary remarks which I shall pursue in greater detail elsewhere: the British were unhappy to discover that both in the Gezira region and in Darfur, there was evidence of a system of private landownership, the ḥākūra system. These were grants of allodial estates made by the Funj or Darfur sultans to members of the ruling dynasty (women included), title-holders and holy families. Although the British accepted the principle of land settlement and registration along the Nile and in urban areas, away from the Nile they emphasised communal or tribal land rights. This was a simplification of a much more complex system; de facto the British knew this but shied away from dealing with the issue in any formal way.

The overwhelming majority of the documents listed here concern land and provide a vivid insight into the land tenure system under the sultans, which system was continued under the Condominium (1916-56) and during the first years of independence (1956-1970s). When I

---

3 This is not the first time such vandalism has occurred in Darfur’s history; I quote from my fieldnotes, 8 June 1970 al-Fāshir, "One of the elders of the [Native Administration] Court said, 'Osman Jano [‘Uthmān Jānū, Mahdist Governor of Darfur, 1887-89] said that the Mahdist state had come to develop the spiritual life and to deny worldly things, so he had many documents burnt,’" plus ça change ....
5 A hint of this comes out in S.R. Simpson, "Town planning and development during the Condominium: two extracts from a memoir", in *The Modernization of the Sudan*, ed. M.W. Daly, New York 1985, 73-84. Simpson’s papers in the Sudan Archive, University of Durham, are the essential starting point for any study of land tenure and land settlement under the Condominium.
photographed many of the documents listed here, I did so in the courtyard of the Native Administration Court in al-Fāshir presided over by its president, malik Rihāymat Allāh Maḥmūd al-Dādingāwī. The principle then was that if a litigant produced a sultanic document, a determination was made as to whether it was authentic or not; if it was determined that it was authentic, it was accepted as a valid title deed.\(^6\) The system began to unravel in the 1970s for three reasons, the abolition of native administration from 1970 onwards,\(^7\) environmental degradation and the concomitant loss of soil fertility from the mid-80s and, perhaps most importantly, population pressure (from c. 2 million in 1956 to over 6 million today). But the principles on which the system was based are still those most acceptable to the communities in Darfur. This latter point was made clear to me at meetings I have had in both Khartoum and Darfur (May-June 2005) and with the leaders of the Darfur movements recently (February 2006) in Abuja, Nigeria.\(^8\)

There is much confusion among outside experts and, indeed, among Darfurians themselves about the land system as it developed in Darfur. It is not customary law as understood in a Southern Sudan context, but rather a mixture of Islamic and sultanic law, thus in no way significantly different from much of the Muslim world, for example the Ottoman Empire. Darfur has had a written land law for some three

\(^6\) DF78.8/10 and DF125.13/10 are transcripts of court hearings before the sultan concerning the authenticity of earlier documents, while DF271.33/6, DF272.33/7 and DF374.60/1 are examples of forged charters. The latter document was probably forged in the nineteenth century.

\(^7\) Its partial re-introduction since 1991 has been vitiated by the lack of any consultation with the communities involved.

\(^8\) On land as a political issue in Darfur, see Julie Flint & Alex de Waal, *Darfur. A short history of a long war*, London 2005, 3. 8-9, 42-43, 45, 58-59 & 125. The land issue is a *leitmotif* in the rhetoric of both the rebel movements and the Arab militias (*janjaweed*) and motivates many of the Khartoum Government’s local administrative decisions. The most egregious example of ethnic gerrymandering was in 1994 when Dār Masālīt was divided into eight Arab amīrates and five Masālīt *firsha* (the Masālīt equivalent of *shartay* elsewhere in Darfur)—the Arabs form at most 25% of the population of Dār Masālīt; Flint & de Waal (2005), 58-59.
hundred years; the earliest documents listed here date from about 1700-1720 (DF142.18/2 & DF160.18/20).

I intend, at a later stage, to scan the entire collection for wider distribution.
R.S. O’F.
March 2006

THE SULTANS OF DARFUR

Scan diagram
INTRODUCTION (March 1981)

The historian of Africa is frequently obliged to become his own archivist. Such, at least, has been my experience in the years I have devoted to the history of the Darfur Sultanate.

The following catalogue of approximately 350 documents (372 are listed, but this includes a number of repetitions), issued mainly by the sultans of Darfur or their officials, is based upon the card index of the photographic collection kept at the Department of History, University of Bergen. The majority were photographed by myself in the course of visits to the province in 1970, 1974 and 1976. The other documents come either from printed sources or have been deposited at Bergen by friends and colleagues. To the latter I am most grateful; all readily understood the advantages of making the collection as comprehensive as possible.

The catalogue is far from being an exhaustive list of all the Arabic material originating in Darfur; it does not include the correspondence of the Mahdist administration in the province (1886-1898) or the letters of Sultan ī-Alī Dīnār (1898-1916) now located in the Central Records Office, Khartoum [now, the National Records Office], nor does it list the numerous historical fragments, genealogies and king-lists to be found in the papers of Muḥammad ī-Abd al-Raḥīm and Dr. A.J. Arkell. The documents listed here were generally written on imported paper, mainly from Italy, in what might be termed a Sudanese hand. They were usually

---


I have described Dr. Arkell’s papers, deposited at the School of Oriental and African Studies in London, in Sudan Notes and Records, iv, 1974, 172-74.
written on the *recto* only, continuing in the righthand margin where necessary. They range in date from about 1710 (DF142.18/2 & DF160.18/20) to 1968. The overwhelming majority of the documents from the pre-1874 Sultanate are charters granting landed estates, rights over people or privileged status, or are records of court cases arising from disputes over land. Those from ʿAlī Dīnār’s reign are more varied in content and, taken together, give a detailed and vivid picture of his administration.

A set of those documents photographed by myself has been deposited at the CRO under ”Miscellaneous, O’Fahey”.

The work of registering and photographing the documents has been carried out in close co-operation with the CRO, whose Director, Dr. M.I. Abu Salim, has given unfailing support to the enterprise. I am most grateful to sayyids Aḥmad Muḥammad ʿUthmān and ʿAlī Şāliḥ Karrār who were with me in Darfur in 1974 and 1976 respectively. I must also thank the Province Administration officials and in particular the former Commissioner, sayyid al-Ṭayyib al-Mardī, for all their help. Finally, but not least, I owe an immense debt to the owners of the documents for their generous hospitality and enthusiastic help.

R.S. O’Fahey

Bergen
THE CATALOGUE


DF1.1/1 CONFIRMATORY CHARTER
Sultan Ḥusayn al-Raḥīd b. al-sulṭān Muḥammad cAjīb (Abu Kowda),10 faqīḥ Idrīs cAbd Allāh and others,
Confirming their estate.
2 Jumāda II 1316/18 October 1898.
Text & transl. in O’Fahey & Ahmad (1973), 1, 24-29.

DF2.1/2 CONFIRMATORY CHARTER
Sultan cAlī Dīnār,
faqīḥ Idrīs cAbd Allāh al-Kīnānī,
confirming his estate,
undated.
Text & transl. in O’Fahey & Ahmad (1973), 1, 30-35.

DF3.1/3 ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER
abū’l-jabbāyyīn ʿumūm Dār Für11 Yāsīn ʿAḥmad & ʿUṭmān b. ʿAbd al-Raḥmān,
faqīḥ Idrīs cAbd Allāh al-Kīnānī,

10 A pretender, allegedly of Bideyat origin, who seized al-Fāshir in mid or late 1898 and proclaimed himself sultan. He tried to negotiate with cAlī Dīnār as the latter approached al-Fāshir in October of that year; see DF14.4/1 and DF251.28/32. According to oral sources, cAlī Dīnār spared his life and made him sulṭān al-hadādīn, ”king of the iron-workers”, a despised endogamous caste in Darfur. For a variant version, see Mūsā al-Mubārak al-Ḥasan, Taʾrikh Dār Fūr al-siyāsī, Khartoum n.d., 225-34.
11 Head of the tax-collectors.
recipient is not to be molested by the tax collectors.
19 Sha‘bān 1319/1 December 1901.
Text & transl. in O’Fahey & Ahmed (1973), 1, 44-47.

DF4.1/4 ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER
Ambaddā al-Raḍḍī,\(^{12}\)
Idrīs ʿAbd Allāh,
Recipient is not to be molested.
3 Dhu‘l-ḥijja 1314/5 May 1897 [Mahdiyya].
Text & transl. in O’Fahey & Ahmed (1973), 1, 21-23.

DF5.1/5 ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER
\(al-\text{'umda}\) Yūsuf b. \(al-maqdūm\) Muḥammad Sharīf,
\(al-\text{'umda}\) Muḥammad Mahdī,
complaint by ʿAbd Allāh ʿAbd al-Hādī.
1925 : Condominium.

DF6.1/6 ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER
Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,
Idrīs ʿAbd Allāh and his brother,
Recipients are not to be molested.
Rajab 1317/November-December 1899.

DF7.1/7 ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER

\(^{12}\) On whom, see Müsā al-Mubārak al-Ḥasan, \(Ta‘rīkh Dār Fūr al-siyāsī\), Khartoum, n.d. 224 ff., where the name is spelt Umm Baddā al-Raḍḍī.
Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,
Ādām Yaḥyā,
faqīḥ Idrīs ʿAbd Allāh to be helped to rebuild his mosque.
28 Dhu’l-Ḥijja 1317/19 May 1900.

ARCHIVE 2: four documents located in file no. DP 66.K.1.29, Arida Omodia (al-Fāshir Province Archives).

DF8.2/1 ṢULONG
Settlement of a boundary dispute between the Banī ʿUmrān and the Maʾāqiliyya.
Undated: Condominium: in transcription only.

DF9.2/2 ṢULONG
Settlement of a boundary dispute between the Banī ʿUmrān and the Maʾāqiliyya.
Jumāda I 1335/February-March 1917: Condominium.

DF10.2/3 ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER
[Musaym Kashām] ʿUrabī,
Shaykh Ḥasab Allāh Khalīl and shaykh faqīḥ Muḥammad Ḥusayn,
concerning the disposition of land.
1335/1916-17.

DF11.2/4 CHARTER?
Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,
... ...
8 Rabī‘ 1317/16 August 1899.
A forgery?

DF12.3/1 SIJILL
Hearing before the ḥikimdār Ismāʿīl Ayyūb Pasha of a dispute over land between Abu’l-Ḥasan and Riḍwān.
30 Rabī‘ 1291/6 May 1875.
The only extant document issued by the Turco-Egyptian administration in Darfur, 1875-82.

DF13.3/2 CONFIRMATORY CHARTER
Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn, 
.faqīḥ ʿAbd ʿAllāh b. Abū’l-Ḥasan, 
confirming his estate.


DF14.4/1 LETTER
Sultan Ḥusayn b. ʿal-sulṭān Muḥammad ʿAjīb [Abū Kowda],
”our brother” Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,

13 Hill (1967), 183-84.
asserting his claim to Darfur and offering to negotiate a settlement of their differences.

Undated [1898]: see DF 251.28/32.

ARCHIVE 5: One document located in file [number missing] Beira Omodia (al-Fāshir Province Archives).

DF15.5/1 ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER
Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,
ʿIrāqī tribe,
appointing Muḥammad ʿAlī Ṣāliḥ as their chief and delimiting their boundaries.
15 Rabīʿ II 1318/13 July 1900 [transl. only]
transl. in O’Fahey & Ahmed (1973), 1, 7-9.

ARCHIVE 6: Twelve documents in the possession (1970) of Bashār al-Ḥājj of Dār Simiyāt, al-Fāshir District. This archive was later partly incorporated into ARCHIVE 28, but the separate numbering of the documents has been retained.

From my fieldnotes, 14 June 1970,
"Bashār’s pedigree:—

Bashār
   |
   al-Ḥājj
      |
   Muhammad
"The Simiat consist of twelve *khashm al-buyūt*, originally from the Berti. Bashār could remember only the following names:—

Kajanga — the *khashm al-bayt* of al-Dōma

Safartu
Wad Bertu
Wafanga,
Nangze.
Tagarangze,
Difarwertu,
Jidaybo.”

**DF16.6/1**

ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER

Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,
al-Dōma Muḥammad,

revenues from Dār Simiyāt not yet received: Simiyāt “is allocated to our palace”: send 50 *ardabb* before the beginning of next month.

22 Dhu’l-qa‘da 1316/3 April 1899.

**DF17.6/2**

ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER

Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,

---

al-Dōma Muḥammad and the shaykhs of al-Simiyāt and al-Hamar, requests that they come to him "to assist in the deliberations and consultations".

17 sin 1316/2 November 1898.

DF18.6/3 ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER

Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,
Muḥammad Quwwa,
all guns and ammunition are to be confiscated: it is forbidden to carry them in public.

16 Rajab 1316/30 November 1898.

DF19.6/4 ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER

Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,
al-Dōma Muḥammad,
"officials of the granary” are coming: the kharāj is to be collected and stored.

5 Rajab 1317/9 November 1899.

DF20.6/5 ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER

Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,
Ādōma (sic) Muḥammad, ‘umda al-Simiyāt,
recipient is not to interfere with a Zaghāwa community in his district who have complained of his exactions.

9 Shawwāl 1317/10 February 1900.

DF21.6/6 ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER
Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,  
al-Dōma Muḥammad, ʿumda al-Simiyāt,  
recipient is to return some Birqid (Birged), who have deserted their land to their chief, Ḥmad Duḥaysh.  
26 Ṣafar 1317/6 July 1899.

DF22.6/7 ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER  
Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,  
al-Dōma Muḥammad, ʿumda al-Simiyāt,  
Jād Allāh is coming with fifteen men to cut wood for saddle-frames for camels: he is to be assisted.  
21 Ṣafar 1318/20 June 1900.

DF23.6/8 ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER  
Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,  
al-Dōma Muḥammad, ʿumda al-Simiyāt,  
recipient has allowed unauthorized travellers through his district on the road to Omdurman and has been involved in trade himself: no one is allowed [to trade] without the sultan’s permission.  
28 Ṣafar 1318/27 June 1900.

DF24.6/9 ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER  
Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,  
al-Dōma Muḥammad al-Simiyātī,  
the rainy season has come: the people are to prepare a field for the sultan: recipient is to send a report on the size of the cultivation.  
23 Muḥarram 1318/28 May 1900.
DF25.6/10  ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER
Sultan ʕAlî Dînâr,
al-Doına Muḥammad, ʕumda al-Simiyāt,
huts and a storage enclosure (zarība mashayyīna) are to be erected on deserted land.
19 Muḥarram 1319/8 May 1901.

DF26.6/11  ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER
Sultan ʕAlî Dînâr,
al-Doına Muḥammad al-Simiyātī,
recipient is to give 10 ardabbīs from his revenues to Jārayn Bāsī.
5 Ṣafar 1319/24 May 1901.

DF27.6/12  ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER
Sultan ʕAlî Dînâr,
al-Doına Muḥammad al-Simiyātī,
the sultan has written to the muqaddam of the fuqarā’ in recipient’s district to collect the ”emergency provisions” and bring them to al-Fāshīr: the muqaddam is to appoint a deputy to recite the Qurʾān for victory.\footnote{Probably on the occasion of a campaign against faqīh Sinīn, who was based at Kabkābiyya; on Sinīn (Sanīn), see Theobald (1965), passim.}
19 Jumāda II 1322/31 August 1904.

ARCHIVE 7: thirty-five documents in the possession (1974) of al-ḥājj Abū Bakr Maḥmūd ʕAlî Najm al-Dîn of al-Fāshīr. They concern the
affairs of ʻAli Najm al-Dīn, leader of a Jawāmi‘a community, at Jadīd al-Sayl, northeast of al-Fāshir between about 1890 and 1900.

DF28.7/1  CHARTER
Sultan ʻAlī Dīnār,
ʻAlī Najm al-Dīn,
granting recipient authority over his community (26 names are listed) permitting them to develop some deserted land at Saylī: their zakāh is to be brought to the sultan by the recipient.
10 Muḥarram 1318/10 May 1900.

DF29.7/2  ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER
Idrīs ʻAbd Allāh, qādī ʻumūm Dār Fūr,16
the shaykhs and people of Azaqarfa district,
ʻAlī Najm al-Dīn possesses a charter of Sultan ʻAlī Dīnār, dated 5 Shawwāl 1318/4 February 1901, granting him his grandfather’s land at t.k.lī and al-Bayya: the recipients are to keep away from it.
16 Rabī‘ 1319/3 July 1901.

DF30.7/3  CHARTER
Sultan ʻAlī Dīnār,
ʻAlī Najm al-Dīn,
granting privileged status (ṣurma).
28 Jumāda II 1316/15 November 1898.

DF31.7/4  LETTER

---
16 On whom, see Theobald (1965), 212-3.
Sultan ۶Alî Dînār,
۶Alî Najm al-Dîn,
condolences on the recipient’s illness: offering to act as guardian to his children.
8 Jumāda II 1319/22 September 1901.

DF32.7/5 CHARTER
Sultan ۶Alî Dînār,
Hamad ۶Abd al-Qâdir, nā’ib (deputy judge),
granting land at. z.nāra near al-Fāshir (boundaries given) because of recipient’s position as nā’ib shar‘ī.
24 Dhu’l-ḥijja 1318/14 April 1901.

DF33.7/6 LETTER OF APPOINTMENT
Sultan ۶Alî Dînār,
Hamad ۶Abd al-Qâdir,
appointing recipient nā’ib shar‘ī of the Jadīd [al-Sayl] and al-Simiyāt districts. ۱۷
1316/1898-99.

DF34.7/7 SIJILL
Hearing of a dispute over land between Ādam ... al-Burqāwī and Maḥmūd ۶Alî Najm al-Dîn: refers to earlier documents.
24 June 1954: Condominium.

DF35.7/8 ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER

۱۷ A position he evidently held under the Mahdiyya, as the following documents evidence.
Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,
ʿAlī Najm al-Dīn,
recipient had been ordered to supply some wood but has been dilatory:
the sultan reproves him.
28 Ṣafar 1317/8 July 1899.

Df36.7/9 LETTER
Ḥamad ʿAbd al-Qādir, nāʾib Jadīd al-Sayl,
Muḥammad al-Rayyaḥ, nāʾib ʿumūm al-ghurūb,18
Ḥamad, acting as executor for the sons of al-Nūr Ādam, requests
authorization for an exchange of slaves between al-Nūr’s sons and ʿAlī
Najm al-Dīn.
Undated (1311/1893).
DF36.7/9 to DF38.7/11 concern the same topic.

DF37.7/1019 LETTER
Muḥammad al-Rayyaḥ, nāʾib al-sharʿī bi-Dār Fūr,
Ḥamad ʿAbd al-Qādir,
authorizing the exchange of slaves requested in DF36.7/9.
27 Ṣafar 1311/9 September 1893.

DF38.7/11 LETTER
Hamad ʿAbd al-Qādir, nāʾib Jadīd al-Sayl,
ʿAlī Najm al-Dīn,

18 Evidently deputy judge for Darfur; see Holt (1970), 264 on Mahdist judicial administration.
19 Same recto as DF36.7/9.
execution of the exchange of slaves (description or *awṣāf* given) authorized in DF37.7/10.
29 Ṣafar 1311/11 September 1893.

DF39.7/12 LETTER
Maḥmūd Aḥmad,20
"all the people of the twenty-four villages listed below”,
in response to a petition from ḍAlī Najm al-Dīn complaining of interference by the *mulāzimiyā*,21 Maḥmūd has appointed his son, Zā’id, [to administer] the district.
12 Jumāda II 1314/16 November 1896.

DF40.7/13 FRAGMENT
A list of villages ”that have left the Jadīd al-Sayl district (*khūṭ*) and those within it”.
 Probably written by ḍAlī Najm al-Dīn.
 Undated.

DF41.7/16 PETITION
Thābit Abbākr and others,
Ṣalāḥ Abū,
asking for confirmation of ḍAlī Najm al-Dīn’s authority over them.
DF48.7/21 was written in answer to the petition.
Undated (1896).

---
20 Mahdist governor of Darfur and Kordofan, 1892-96; Hill (1967), 224.
DF42.7/15 PROCLAMATION

Uthmān Ādam,22

”all the people of the country generally”,
warning the people of Darfur against supporting the revolt of Abū Jummayza.
10 Shawwāl 1307/30 May 1890 check date

DF43.7/16 LETTER

Bishāra Zayn,

ʿAlī Najm al-Dīn,
enclosing a copy of ʿUthmān Ādam’s proclamation, i.e. DF42.7/15, and ordering recipient to inform his people.
13 Shawwāl 1307/2 June 1890 check date

DF44.7/17 ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER

Sutan ʿAlī Dīnār,

ʿAlī Najm al-Dīn,
ordering the payment of 30 dollars within four days.
10 Dhu’l-qaʿda 1317/12 March 1900.

DF45.7/18 LETTER

al-Ḥur Raddī,

Sh.q.r. and Maḥmūd ʿAlī Najm al-Dīn,
asking them to hand over a donkey to bearer without delay.
1306/1888-89.

22 Mahdist governor of Darfur and Kordofan from 1887 until his death in 1889 after his victory over Abū Jummayza; see Hill (1967), 367
DF46.7/19       ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER
Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,
ʿAlī Najm al-Dīn,
acknowledging receipt of a ”milk camel”.
1316-7/1898-99.

DF47.7/20       ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER
Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,
ʿAlī Najm al-Dīn,
”our sons” are coming to collect wood: do not delay.
24 Jumāda II 1317/7 November 1899.

DF48.7/21       ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER
Ṣalāḥ Abū,
ʿAlī Najm al-Dīn,
has received a petition (i.e. DF41.7/14) from a group of people who say that they owe their agricultural labour to recipient: he is to investigate the matter.
29 Rajab 1313/15 January 1896.

DF49.7/22       ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER
Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,
ʿAlī Najm al-Dīn,
reminding recipient of an earlier demand (i.e. DF60.7/33) for a hundred wooden poles needed for weapons.
6 Rabīʿ II 1317/14 August 1899.
DF50.7/23      ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER
Sultan ʿAlî Dînâr,
Ḥamîd Bishâra,
in response to DF51.7/24: ʿAlî Najm al-Dîn is responsible for the petitioners.
22 Ramaḍân 1316/3 February 1899.

DF51.7/24      PETITION
Ḥamîd Bishâra and others,
Sultan ʿAlî Dînâr,
ʿAlî Najm al-Dîn has been neglecting them.
3 Ramaḍân 1316/15 January 1899.

DF52.7/25      SIJILL
Hearing of a dispute before … between faqîh Markaz and ʿAlî Najm al-Dîn over the alleged illegal sale of a cow.
15 Muḥarram 1317/26 May 1899.

DF53.7/26      ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER
Sultan ʿAlî Dînâr,
ʿAlî Najm al-Dîn,
acknowledging receipt of 50 ardabbs from Jadîd al-Sayl.
[date missing]

DF54.7/27      ADMINISTRATIVE TITLE
al-abū Sitayba Khāṭir,\(^{23}\)

ʻAli Najm al-Dīn and others,
requisition of grain for the palace.
17 Shaʿbān 1317/21 December 1899.

DF55.7/28

ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER

al-abū Sitayba Khāṭir,
ʻAli Najm al-Dīn,
order that Jadīd al-Sayl is to pay an additional 50 dollars a month.
22 Shaʿbān 1317/26 December 1899.

DF56.7/29

ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER

al-abū Sitayba Khāṭir,
ʻAli Najm al-Dīn,
four named people at Umm Tayṭī are not to be disturbed.
2 Muḥarram 1316/23 May 1898.

DF57.7/30

LIST
Livestock owned by ʻAli Najm al-Dīn and others: listed Muḥammad al-Faḍl.
1319/1901-2.

DF58.7/31

ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER

Sultan ʻAli Dīnār,
ʻAli Najm al-Dīn,

\(^{23}\)An official responsible for the management of the court household; he held the titles, malik al-warabāya, "master of the narrow gate", and amīn al-takkiyya, "master of the cloth [tax]"; see O’Fahey (1980), 27.
order to give 4 *ardabbs* and water [?] to Mūsā’s party.
Sha‘bān 1317/May-June 1899.

**DF59.7/32**  
**ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER**

Sultan Ğalī Dīnār,
Ğalī Najm al-Dīn,
order to give 3 *ardabbs* to al-Ḥājj,
22 Sha‘bān 1317/27 December 1899.

**DF60.7/33**  
**ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER**

Sultan Ğalī Dīnār,
Ğalī Najm al-Dīn,
order to send 100 wooden poles needed for the weapons (see DF49.7/22)
2 Rajab 1316/16 November 1898.

**DF61.7/34**  
**ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER**

Sultan Ğalī Dīnār,
Ğalī Najm al-Dīn,
order to give 5 *ardabbs* to Ādam Rijāl.24
18 Sha‘bān 1317/22 December 1899.

**DF62.7/39**  
**ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER**

Maḥmūd Aḥmad,
Ğalī Najm al-Dīn and the people of Jadīd al-Sayl,

---

24 Ğalī Dīnār’s leading general (d. 1911) and ancestor of the present maqdīms of Nyala; see Hill (1967), 26, which is not entirely accurate.
because of various misfortunes and in response to a petition, the recipients are granted a complete remission of taxes.

17 Rajab 1309/16 February 1892.


**ARCHIVE 8:** eleven documents in the possession (1974) of ʿAbd al-Mājīd Mukhtar al-Sanūsī of al-Fāshīr. They concern the affairs of a Fulani family living just north of al-Fāshīr. ʿAbd al-Mājid was a member of the Fallāta ʿĪsā; his pedigree is,

```
  ʿĪsā
    | al-Barnāwī
    | Jalāl al-Dīn
    | Jimayl
    | Dushash
    | Muhammad
    | al-Sanūsī
    | Mukhtar
```
Abd al-Majid

DF63.8/1 SIJILL
Hearing before qāḍī Ḥuthmān of a dispute between faqīh Jalālā and walad al-sultān25 Muḥammad Ḥūd: defendant sued for trespass by his slaves (see also DF64.8/2).
25 Rajab 1267/7 June 1851.

DF64.8/2 SIJILL
Hearing before Saʿīd ʿAbd al-Jabbār of a dispute between faqīh Jalāl al-Dīn and faqīh Ḥūṭ, defendant sued for trespass by his slaves (see DF63.8/1).
6 Ṣafar 1268/6 June 1852.

DF65.8/3 SIJILL
Hearing before the maqdūm Khalīl26 of a dispute between his brothers and faqīḥ al-ḥājj Jalāl al-Dīn over their community’s land.
1279/1862-63.

DF66.8/4 ŞULH
Settlement before the maqdūm Khalīl of the dispute heard in DF65.8/3.
Undated.

DF67.8/5 LETTER
Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn,

---

25 “Son of the sultan”, a formal title.
26 Probably Khalīl b. ʿAbd al-Sīd, who also held the title, malik korkwa "king of the spearmen"; see O’Fahey (1980), 91.
Yaḥyā and his brothers, recipients are not to interfere with the faqīh Ḥasab’s farm. Undated.

DF68.8/6 SIJILL
Hearing before qādī al-ḥājj ʿIzz al-Dīn27 of a dispute between faqīh Ahmad al-Bukhārī and the Awlād Abū Qurūn over the ownership of twelve fields.
4 Shaʿbān 1227/13 August 1812.

DF69.8/7 SIJILL
Hearing before the malik … of a dispute between Ahmad al-Bukhārī and walad al-sulṭān ʿAqrab over land.
5 Jumāda I 1230/15 April 1815.

DF70.8/8 SIJILL
Hearing before malik Raḥm28 of a dispute between Ḫasab and Jalāl al-Dīn with Abbakr Dardīr over land and a well.
1281/1864-65.

DF71.8/9 TADHKIRA
Record of an agreement among the descendants of Ismāʿīl over rights to land.
28 Jumāda II 1278/22 January 1860.

27 On whom, see O’Fahey (1977a), passim.
28 On whom, see O’Fahey (1980), 112.
Hearing before Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn of a dispute between *faqīh* Jalāl al-Dīn and *faqīh* Madanī b. Ṣāliḥ over land: the dispute involved forged charters.

126[0-69]/1844-54.

**ARCHIVE 9:** two documents in the possession (1974) of Ḥamād Muḥammad al-Ṭayyib of al-צayb.

**DF74.9/1**  
ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER  
Sultan ṣAlī Dīnār,  
maqdūm Ṣāliḥ b. al-maqdūm Muṣṭafā,  
the sultan has ordered ṣAbd al-Rahmān Makkī [and his people] to resettle their former lands.²⁹  
17 Dhu’l-ḥijja 1317/16 April 1900.

**DF75.9/2**  
ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER  
Sultan ṣAlī Dīnār,  
Ṣāliḥ b. Ṣāliḥ Makkī,  
recipient has resettled some deserted land: sultan confirms their rights there.  
23 Jumāda II 1320/27 September 1902.


²⁹ From my fieldnotes, "linguistic peculiarity in this document: al-qunfūd = in ordinary Sudanese Arabic, al-nukhāla: when one threshes the grain, the husks left still have some grains adhering in them. These husks — al-qunfūd — can be stored and used in the difficult period just before the next harvest.”
DF76.10/1 LETTER
Confirmation by malik Tībn Saʿd al-Nūr of the sale of a slave woman [description given] at a public auction.
21 Ṣumādān 1332/13 August 1914.

DF77.10/2 LETTER
Confirmation issued by Ibrāhīm Maḥmūd Bakhīt for Muḥammad ʿUthmān for the sale of a slave woman [description given].
25 Rabīʿ II 1328/6 May 1910.

DF78.10.3 LETTER
Concerning al-Fāshir market.
Undated: Condominium.

DF79.10/4 LETTER
Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,
al-Bidayn Şāliḥ, Aḥmad Muḥammad and Aḥmad Dūd,
giving them permission to travel to Kordofan to trade: trade goods and animals listed.
22 Ṣafar 1324/17 April 1906.

DF80.10/5 LETTER
Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,
Bakhīt Tāj al-Dīn and Shaykh al-Ghalī Tāj al-Dīn,31

---

30 Maqdūm of the South; also held the titles, ʿasiymi dogala [guardian of the children of the court school] and malik al-naḥāṣ [master of the royal drums]; see O’Fahey (1980), 91 and Hill (1967), 359.
31 The latter was nāṣir of the Habbānīyya; see Hill (1967), 134-35.
ordering them to withdraw their troops from Kalaka and send them home.

DF81.10/6 LETTER

Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,
Muḥamad ʿUhmān Abū [Takkiyya],
giving recipient permission to undertake a trading journey and listing his animals.
2 Rabī‘ I 1319/19 July 1901.

DF82.10/7 LETTER

Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,
Sulaymān b. al-ḥājj Ṣāliḥ al-Majbarī,
acknowledging letter and presents: Majābra merchants will be well received: presents following.
Muḥarram 1323/April-May 1905.

DF83.10/8 LETTER

Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,
Bakhīt [Ṭāj al-Dīn? See DF80.10/5],
the sultan has sent Muḥammad Kebkebe with two companies (bulūk) of jihādiyya troops.
18 Șafar 1334/5 January 1916.

---

32 From Libya; the Majābra are a Cyrenaican tribe well-known as traders in the Saharan region. They were early supporters of the Sanāsiyya ṭariqa, see E.E. Evans-Pritchard, The Sanusi of Cyrenaica, Oxford 1949, 16.
33 Maqdūm of the South and sultan of the Beigo; see O’Fahey (1980), 91.
DF84.10/9       LETTER
Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,
ʿAbd al-Raḥmān Ḥammūda,
granting pardon to the recipient’s people at Kafūṭ (Kofod): they are to return to their homes before the ”coming of our horsemen”.
21 Jumāda I 1317/27 October 1899.

DF85.10/10       LETTER
Sultan Muḥammad Ṣāliḥ b. Muḥammad Yūsuf al-ʿAbbāsī,34
Muḥammad Abū Tackiyya,
safe-conduct for recipient, ”merchant and servant” of Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār.
12 Muḥarram 1320/21 April 1902.

DF86.10/11       LETTER
Sultan Aḥmad al-Ghazālī,35
[to an unnamed group of merchants],
safe-conduct: ”merchants are the cause of the prosperity of the lands”.
1319/1901-2.

The texts and transl., with an extensive commentary, of all the documents

34 Sultan of Wadai, 1901-9, known as Dūd Murra.
35 Sultan of Wadai, 1901.
of this archive are published in O’Fahey, ”A Prince and his neighbours”,

**DF87.11/1**  **SIJILL**

Hearing before [qāḍī] al-ḥājj Muḥammad Ḥārith of a dispute between
bāsī Kiriyū and Bukr b. Muḥammad Tūr over land.
1261/1845-46.

**DF88.11/2**  **CHARTER**

Sultan Muḥammad al-Faḍl,
ʿAbd al-Qāsim b. Muḥammad Tūr b. Ḥāfīẓ [b. Sultan Aḥmad Bukr],
confirming an estate [ḥākūra] at Biliyü (J. Bilio: northeast of Mellit).
1225/1810-11.
The second in a sequence of four charters, _viz_. DF92.11/6; _DF88.11/2_;
DF89.11/3 & DF91.11/5.

**DF89.11/3**  **CHARTER**

Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn,
Bukr b. Muḥammad Tūr,
confirming an estate at Biliyü.
26 Ramaḍān 1257/11 November 1841.
The third in a sequence of four charters, _viz_. DF92.11/6; DF88.11/2;
_DF89.11/3_ & _DF91.11/5_.

**DF90.11/4**  **CHARTER**

Sultan Muḥammad al-Faḍl,
the maternal relatives of Muḥammad Tūr,
confirming privileged status [jähr].
1220/1805-6.

DF91.11/5 CHARTER
Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,
ʿAlī w. ʿUmar, ʿUmar Bukr and others,
confirming the rights, estate [Biliyü], and privileges granted in the
previous three charters.
5 Shaʿbān 1316/19 December 1898.
The fourth in a sequence of four charters, viz. DF92.11/6; DF88.11/2;
DF89.11/3 & DF91.11/5.

DF92.11/6 CHARTER
Sultan ʿAbd al-Raḥmān,
Muḥammad Tūr b. Ḥāfīz b. al-sulṭān Aḥmad Bukr,
confirming rights over the estate of Biliyü originally granted by Sultan
Bukr and granting rights to the service (khidma) of three men who had
quarrelled with the recipient.
Rajab 1200/April-May 1786.
The first in a sequence of four charters, viz. DF92.11/6; DF88.11/2;
DF89.11/3 & DF91.11/5.

ARCHIVE 12: twenty-three documents in the possession (1974) of
Āḍam Rijāl ʿAlī of Khirībān, al-Fāshir District.

Āḍam Rijāl b. ʿAlī b. Muḥammadayn b. Madaṇī, a Tunjurāwī from
Tamra Kere, just north of Jafeina. One of his ancestors, al-faṣīḥ ʿAbd
Allāh Maṭlūq, a Tunjurāwī from Jabal Ḥurayz, was a wazīr to Sultan Muḥammad Tayrāb.

Ādam Rijāl and Muḥammad Ādam brought a handwritten book of fiqh and from its pages produced the following documents. Beyond allowing us to photograph the documents, they were not communicative.

**DF93.12/1**  LETTER

*Qāḍī al-faqīh Ḥabīb,*

al-Ṭayyib,

ordering the recipient to provide maintenance for his wife.

Undated.

**DF94.12/2**  SIJILL

Hearing before maqdūm Aḥmad Bukr and shartay Muḥammad Ḥummārū of a dispute over land concerning al-Ḍaw Abū’l-Taymān w. Ṭīt [or Tayti].

15 Dhu’l-qaʿda 1316/27 March 1899.

**DF95.12/3**  LETTER

*Ibrāhīm ʿAbd al-Dāfī,*

ʿAlī Muḥammadayn,

demanding taxes of 5 dollars.

1318/1900-1.

**DF96.12/4**  LETTER

*fāqīh al-ḥājj Wādī,*

*bāsī Abū Ḥasan,*
recipient as commissioner (muwajjah)\(^{36}\) formerly demarcated the estate of Badawī b. āb Allāh Maṭlūq at Khirībān: he is to come and confirm the boundaries.

Undated (seal-date 1217/1802-3)
Transl. in O’Fahey & Abu Salim (1983), 64.

**DF97.12/5**  LETTER

*āmīn* Hasan b. al-maqdūm Muḥammad Sa’d al-Nūr, faqīh Muḥammadadāyn,

āb Allāh has complained of the theft of his donkey: recipient is to come and explain immediately.

Undated.

**DF98.12/6**  LETTER

*āb shaykh dālī* Raḥm,\(^{37}\)

*malik* s.n.f.t.i, recipient, who is the head of a slave settlement (*ʿabidiyya*) is stay away from the estate of Shaykh Madanī.

Undated (seal-date 1263/1846-47)
Transl. in O’Fahey & Abu Salim (1983), 68-69.

**DF99.12/7**  SIJILL

Hearing before *maqdūm* Hasan Siqirī\(^{38}\) of a dispute between *faqīh* Kabbāsh and *faqīh* Muḥammad b. Madanī over land.

---

\(^{36}\) The term used of an official sent by the sultan or senior title-holder to demarcate the boundaries of land to be given as an estate.

\(^{37}\) The *āb shaykh dālī* was the head of the slave hierarchy who would thus be the appropriate official to write such a letter.

DF100.12/8 SIJILL
Hearing before qādī al-ḥājj ʿIzz al-Dīn of a dispute between faqīh Aḥmad and Muḥammad Nartaq over land.
Undated (seal-date 1187/1773-74).
The first in a sequence of sijills viz. DF100.12/8; DF103.12/11 & DF105.12/13.
Transl. in O’Fahey & Abu Salim (1983) 54-56.

DF101.12/9 LETTER
Sultan Muḥammad Shalabi b. al-sulṭān ʿUmar b.l.m.ī, takanāwī Yahyā b. āb takanāwī Muḥammad,
informing the recipient that the sultan has granted him authority over several Tunjur clans in northern Darfur.
Undated (seal-date 1241/1825-26).
Transl. in O’Fahey & Abu Salim (1983), 49.

DF102.12/10 SIJILL
Hearing before qādī Ḥammād of a dispute between Ādam and Muḥammadayn b. Madanī over land.
1280/1863-64.
Transl. in O’Fahey & Abu Salim (1983), 70-73.

DF103.12/11 SIJILL

38 Hasan Segere, maqḍūm of the North (dār al-rīh) and holder of the Fur title, abbo iringa; he died in about 1856; O’Fahey (1980) 89. See also Jörg Adelberger, Vom Sultanat zur Republik: Veränderungen in der Sozialorganisation der Fur (Sudan), Stuttgart 1990, 154-55.
Hearing before qāḍī Muḥammad al-Ḥārith of a dispute between Muḥammad and Madanī over land.
1249/1833-34.
The second in a sequence of sijills, viz. DF100.12/8; DF103.12/11 & DF105.12/13.

DF104.12/12 SIJILL
Hearing before qāḍī al-ḥājj Ḫız al-Dīn of a dispute between Badawī and walad al-sulṭān Ṣaqrāb: defendant is sued for trespass.
1220/1805-6.
The first in a sequence of two sijills, viz. DF104.12/12 & DF113.12/21.
Transl. in O’Fahey & Abu Salim (1983), 61-63.

DF105.12/13 SIJILL
Hearing before malik Ḫabd Allāh b. al-malik Ibrāhīm b. Ramād39 of a dispute between Ḫalī and Madanī b. Ḫabd Allāh Maṭlūq over land.
Undated (seal-date 1255/1839-40).
The third in a sequence of sijills, viz. DF100.12/8; DF103.12/11 & DF105.12/13.

DF106.12/14 SIJILL

---
39 Son thus of a famous figure in early nineteenth century Darfur; see O’Fahey (1980), 12, 36, 41, 47 & 82.
Hearing before *malik* Raḥm of a dispute between Muḥammadayn b. Madanī and *walad al-sulṭān* Muḥammad Hüd: defendant is sued for trespass.
1289/1872-73.
Transl. in O’Fahey & Abu Salim (1983), 74-75.

**DF107.12/15**  
**CHARTER**  
Sultan Muḥammad al-Faḍl,  
Badawī b. ʿAbd Allāh Maṭlūq al-Tunjūrāwī,  
confirming privileged status (*jāh*).  
1221/1806-7.  

**DF108.12/16**  
Sultan ʿAbd al-Raḥmān,  
Badawī b. ʿAbd Allāh Maṭlūq,  
confirming privileged status (*jāh*), originally granted to his father by Sultan Muḥammad Tayrāb.  
Undated (seal-date 1214/1799-1800)  
Transl. in O’Fahey & Abu Salim (1983), 47.

**DF109.12/17**  
**CHARTER**  
Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn,
Madanî b. ʿAbd Allāh Maṭlūq al-Tunjūrāwī, confirming privileged status (jāh), originally granted by Sultan Muḥammad Tayrāb.
24 Ramaḍān 1257/8 November 1841.
Transl. in O’Fahey & Abu Salim (1983), 49-50.

DF110.12/18 LETTER
Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn,
takanāwī Muḥammad,
faqīh Muḥammad claims that faqīh Kabbāsh and others have stolen four donkeys and six waterskins: find out who are the culprits and send them to us.
Undated.
Transl. in O’Fahey & Abu Salim (1983), 64-65.

DF111.12/19 CHARTER
Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn,
faqīh Muḥammad b. Madanî b. ʿAbd Allāh Maṭlūq, granting recipient an estate (ḥākūra) at Kamala Kīrī40 (Khīrībān).
25 Dhu’l-qaʿda 1258/28 December 1842.
Transl. in O’Fahey & Abu Salim (1983), 50-51.

DF112.12/20 CHARTER
Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,

40 Fur, kamala keirei, "the camels can go no further".
Muḥammad b. Muḥammadayn b. Madanī, confirming rights over an estate at Kamala Kīrī (Khirībān) and referring to earlier charters from Sultans Aḥmad Bukr, Muḥammad Tayrāb, ʿAbd al-Rahīm al-Rashīd, Muḥammad al-Faḍl and Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn. 2 Ṣafar 1318/12 June 1899. Transl. in O’Fahey & Abu Salim (1983), 52-53.


DF114.12/22 SIJILL Hearing before deputy [judge] of Kayla, Bayra, Māla and Wanna [districts], acting on behalf of the deputy [judge] of Kutum [district] of a dispute between Yūsuf Muḥammad and Ṣādiq over the ownership of some grain. 16 Dhu’l-hijja 1316/27 April 1899.

DF115.12/23 TADHKIRA Record of an agreement over the allocation of fields. 1344/1925-25: Condominium.

DF116.13/1 LETTER
Maqdūm, āb shaykh dālī ʿAbd al-Qafā,
Shaykh Šāliḥ,
informing recipient that al-ḥājj Ādam is the āb shaykh dālī’s servant: ”his dwelling is my dwelling”: no one is to interfere with him.
Undated (seal-date 1275/1858-59).

DF117.13/2 LETTER
Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn,
malik Ḥanafī,
recipient is to give the merchant (al-jallābī) Kayr thirty head of cattle from those belonging to the palace (bayt al-jibāʾī).41
Undated.

DF118.13/3 PROMISSARY NOTE
al-sharṭāya Muḥammad b. Yūsuf,
al-ḥājj Ādam,
promises to pay recipient twelve cattle by 6 Shawwāl.

41 Literally, ”the house of tribute”.

Undated (seal-date 1261/1845-46).

**DF119.13/4**  
**CONTRACT OF SALE**

faqiḥ ʿUmar and al.ḥājj Ādam have bought two cows from … .
Undated.

**DF120.13/5**  
**LETTER**

Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn al-Mahdī,  
"the descendants of Zaydān, the people of Shoba”,
following a court hearing (i.e. DF125.13/10), the sultan confirms the authenticity of their charters.
1271/1854-55.
Text and transl. in *SAJHS*, 2, 1991, 79-87 [the document’s catalogue number is given there incorrectly as 125.13/10].

**DF121.13/6**  
**CHARTER**

maqdūm āb shaykh dālī ʿAbd al-Qafā,  
*al-ḥājj Ādam,*
confirming his privileged status,
1281/1864-65
Text and transl. in O’Fahey (1991), 101-5.

**DF122.13/7**  
**SIJILL**
Hearing before qādī Bilāl, acting for the shaykh al-Islām Muḥammad Ishāq, of a dispute between malik Tūtir (Tawtir) and Saʿīd b. al-ḥājj Ādam over the ownership of a runaway unnamed slave woman.

Undated


One of two such documents, the other being DF175.18/35.

DF123.13/8 CHARTER
āb shaykh dālī Aḥmad Shāībū, al-ḥājj Ādam,
confirming recipient’s privileged status (ḥurma) and immunity (ḥurma).
1283/1866-67.
Text and transl. in O’Fahey (1991), 107.

DF124.13/9 SIJILL
Hearing before amin, maqdūm Khalīl of a dispute between ʿAbd al-Muqīm and Bilayl: plaintiff sues for the return of three fields he had bought from a third party.43
1272/1855-56.
Text and transl. in O’Fahey (1991), 88-93.

DF125.13/10 SIJILL
Hearing before Sultan Muḥammadal-Ḥusayn of a dispute between the Awlād Īmā and Awlād Zaydān over land: the case involved the question of the authenticity of earlier sultanic charters.44

---

42 On whom, see O’Fahey (1977), 121-22.
43 A rare reference to the purchase of land.
1271/1854-55.
 Tex and transl. in O’Fahey (1991), 82-87.

**ARCHIVE 14:** six documents in the possession (1974) of Naṣr al-Dīn 
‘Izz al-Dīn of Jadīd al-Sayl, al-Fāshir District.
I include here the notes I took, 20 March 1974, from al-ḥājj Abū Bakr.

”Al-ḥājj Abū Bakr belongs to the Jawāmiʿa clan of Jadīd al-Sayl. He explained that the Jawāmiʿa of Jadīd al-Sayl are divided into five sections, viz. —

(1) Awlād Jāmiʿ
(2) Awlād Mūruj
(3) Awlad Sulaymān
(4) Jaʿafīrī (sic)
(5) Ghanamiyya.⁴⁵

”He further explained that ‘Izz al-Dīn, the qāḍī al-quḍāt of al-Tūnisī, was from the Awlād Jāmiʿ: a brief pedigree

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jalāl al-Dīn</th>
<th>Muslim</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

”Al-ḥājj Abu Bakr’s pedigree.”

⁴⁴ Compare DF72.8/10, also a hearing before the sultan on a question of the authenticity of charters. Perhaps, the expertise of the sultan’s secretaries was needed.
⁴⁵ On the various divisions of the Jawāmiʿa, see MacMichael (1922), i, 225-26.
Khalīfa
|
Hadī
came from Kordofan and settled at Jadīd al-Sayl.
|
Ismāʿīl
|
Najm al-Dīn
|
ʿAlī
|
Maḥmūd
|
Abū Bakr

**DF126.14/1**  **CHARTER**

Sultan ʿAbd al-Rahmān, the Awlād faqīḥ Muḥammad ʿIzz al-Dīn, confirming an endowment (waqf) at Qiraywūd al-Zaraf (Jadīd al-Sayl District) first granted to faqīḥ Muḥammad ʿIzz al-Dīn by Sultan Muḥammad Dawra (r. c. 1720-30) and confirmed by subsequent sultans: the endowment was confirmed again in DF128.14/3.

Undated (seal-date 1214/1799-1800).


**DF127.14/2**  **LETTER**

---

46 The subject of most of the documents in ARCHIVE 7.
Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn, 

_faqīh_ Saʿd al-Dīn, 

ordering the recipient and the _fuqarā_ under him to make a thousand recitations of the Qurʾān to protect the state from its enemies. 

Undated. 

Transl. in O’Fahey & Abu Salim (1983), 42.

DF128.14/3 CHARTER 

Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn al-Mahdī, 

_faqīh_ Ibrāhīm b. Saʿd al-Dīn, 

confirming an endowment ( _waqf_ ) in support of the mosque at Jadīd al-Sayl: see DF126.14/1. 

1260/1844-45. 

Transl. in O’Fahey & Abu Salim (1983), 40-41.

DF129.14/4 CHARTER 

Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn al-Mahdī, 

_faqīh_ ʿIzz al-Dīn, 

recipient has asked for and has been granted the estate ( _ḥākūra_ ) called ”Bayd”, formerly owned by _ḥabbūba ḫa ṭa_ Umm Būṣa, the mother of Sultan Muḥammad al-Faḍl. 

1263/1846-47. 

Transl. in O’Fahey & Abu Salim (1983), 42-44.

DF130.14/5 CHARTER 

---

47 The walls of a mosque built of fired red brick said to have been built by Sultan ʿAbd al-Raḥmān were still standing in the 1970s. The term, _waqf_, appears only rarely.
Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,
*faqīh* Jiddaw b. Bukhārī,
confirming an estate granted by Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn to the recipient’s grandfather.
4 Shaʿbān 1316/18 December 1898.
Transl. in O’Faheyy & Abu Salim (1983), 44-45.

DF131/14/6       PEDIGREE

**ARCHIVE 15 = ARCHIVE 29**


Df138.16/1       CHARTER
Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,
Abbakr Khamīs,
confirming an estate in the *shartāya* of Khāṭir Ibrāhīm (al-Ṭawīla District).
14 Dhu‘l-qāda 1316/4 April 1899.

DF139.16/2       CHARTER
Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,
Abbakr Khamīs,
confirming an estate at Umm Shidayra (al-Ṭawīla District) formerly belonging to the recipient’s grandfather.
18 Dhu’l-qa‘da 1317/20 March 1900.

ARCHIVE 17: one document in the possession (1974) of ʿumda Ādam Ḥusayn of Miliṭ (Mellit), Northern Darfur District.

DF140.17/1 HISTORY
A brief history of the tribes and pre-Islamic sultans of Darfur: concludes with a magical formula. 2ff.

ARCHIVE 18: fifty-eight documents in the possession (1974) of al-ḥājj Muḥammad Sulaymān of Miliṭ (Mellit), Northern Darfur District. This is the largest single family archive found in Darfur. They concern the affairs of the Awlād Jābir, a section of the Zayyādiyya, over a period of some 200 years. The owner’s pedigree was as follows,

Muḥammad Abū Khurayz
   |
  ʿAbdullāhi
   |
Ibrāhīm
   |
Sulaymān

Muḥammad

DF141.18/1 CHARTER
Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn,
faqīḥ Ibrāhīm,
confirming the privileged status (jāh) of the descendants of ʿAbd al-Hamīd al-Jābirī.
1279/1862-63.
The last in a sequence of charters, viz. DF142.18/2; DF173.18/33; DF145.18/5; DF149.18/9 & DF141.18/1.

DF142.18/2 CHARTER
Sultan Muḥammad,
the Awlād Jābir; faqīḥ ʿAbd al-Ḥamīd, faqīḥ al-Zayn ... granting privileged status (jāh).
Undated.
The first in a sequence of charters, viz. DF142.18/2; DF173.18/33; DF145.18/5; DF149.18/9 & DF141.18/1.

DF143.18/3 CHARTER
Al-āb al-takanaway Muḥammad Sulaymān Ādam Umm Dayn,
faqīḥ Ibrāhīm,

---

49 Sultan Muḥammad Dawra (r. c. 1720-30): the charter bears the seal of his father, Sultan Aḥmad Bukr (c. 1700-20), and was probably issued in the latter’s reign.
confirming the privileged status of the descendants of ŠAbd al-Ḥamīd al-Jābirī.
1279/1862-63.
The last in a sequence of charters, viz, DF180.18/40; DF148.18/8; DF163.18/23; DF158.18/18 & *DF143.18/3*.

**DF144.18/4**  CHARTER

Sultan ʿAlī Dinār,
the shaykhs of the Zayyādiyya,
confirming that *faqīḥ* Abū Umm Dūrayn, of the Maḥāmid people, is
”master of the mosque” and possesses ancient charters of privileged status.
1316/1898-99.

**DF145.18/5**  CHARTER

Sultan ʿAbd al-Raḥmān,
*faqīḥ* Fāris b. ŠAbd al-Ḥamīd al-Jābirī,
confirming privileged status.
Undated (seal-date 1214/1799-1800): incomplete.
The third in a sequence of charters, *viz*. DF142.18/2; DF173.18/33; *DF145.18/5*; DF149.18/9 & DF141.18/1.

**DF146.18/6**  SIJILL

Hearing before *malik* Yahyā of a dispute between Shaykh ʿAffūn and Sālim Kabnaqar: plaintiff sues for the payment of local taxes.
Undated.
DF147.18/7    CHARTER
Maqdūm Ādam Ḩiqrā,\(^{50}\)
faqīh Ibrāhīm,
confirming the privileged status of the descendants of ṢAbd al-Ḥamīd al-Jābīrī.
1277/1860-61.

DF148.18/8    CHARTER
Takannāwī malik Ahmad Žill al-Sayf,
faqīh ṢAbd al-Faraj,
confirming privileged status.
10 Muḥarram 1264/18 December 1847.
The second in a sequence of charts, viz. DF180.18/40; \textit{DF148.18/8};
DF163.18/23; DF158.18/18 & DF143.18/3.

DF149.18/9    CHARTER
Sultan Muḥammad al-Faḍl,
faqīh Sulaymān,
confirming the privileged status of the descendants of ṢAbd al-Ḥamīd al-Jābīrī.
1222/1807-8.
The fourth in a sequence of charters, viz. DF142.18/2; DF173.18/33;
DF145.18/5; \textit{DF149.18/9} & DF141.18/1.

DF150.18/10   LETTER
Sultan ṢAbd al-Raḥmān,

\(^{50}\) The Fur title, \textit{Iringa}. 
*takanawī* Aḥmad al-Badawī, recipient is to investigate a dispute over some land between two groups of *fuqarā*.
Undated.

DF151.18/11 LETTER

*al-āb al-takanawī malik* Muḥammad Nūr al-Dīn, *faqīh* Yaʿqūb, recipient is to stay away from the land of the *faqīhs* Ḥammūd and Bakhīt.
Undated.

DF152.18/12 CHARTER

*amīn malik* Muḥammad al-Faḍl b. al-wazīr ʿAbd al-Bārī, *faqīh* Sulaymān Abū Khurayṣ, confirming the recipient’s privileged status.
Undated
Compare DF179.18/39 issued by Muḥammad al-Faḍl’s father.

DF153.18/13 SIJILL

Hearing before *faqīh* Aḥmad Zarrūq, acting for the *amīn malik* Muḥammad w. *al-malik* Ādam Būsh,51 of a dispute between *faqīh* Sulaymān and *dimlij* Ādam Jakhkhānayn: defendant is accused of illegally taxing the plaintiff’s community.
1244/1828-29.

DF154.18/14 CHARTER

---

51 On Ādam Būsh, see O’Fahey (1980), 89, 99 *et passim.*
al-sulṭān al-khalīfa al-ḥājj Iżāq.\textsuperscript{52}

faqīh Ḥammadū and his brothers, the Awlād Yaḥyā, confirming their privileged status and their land at al-Karas and al-Tamr.
Undated (seal-date 1193/1779-80).

DF155.18/15 CHARTER

Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn, faqīh ʿAbd, his brother faqīh ʿUbayḍ and faqīh Bakhīṭ, the descendants of Yaḥyā, confirming their privileged status and land at al-Tamr.
Undated (seal-date 1256/1840-41).
The last in a sequence of charters, viz., DF160.18/20; DF166.18/26 & DF155.18/15.

DF156.18/16 LETTER

Sultan Ibrāhīm, the faqīhs Yaḥyā and Ibrāhīm, ordering the recipients to make a thousand recitations of the Qurʾān, "For victory over the enemy, security for the country and to make the rains fall”.
Undated.\textsuperscript{53}

DF157.18/19 SIJILL

\textsuperscript{52} Son of Sultan Muhammad Tayrāb, who was appointed as his father’s chosen successor (khalīfa) when the latter invaded Kordofan. When Tayrāb died in Kordofān in 1785-86, the army there chose ʿAbd al-Rahmān al-Rashīd b. Ahmad Bukr as the next sultan. There ensued a three-year long civil between Išāq, supported by his Zagāwā maternal kin, and ʿAbd al-Rahmān. Išāq was killed in battle; see further, O’Fahey (1980), 17-8 et passim. The present document is the only one extant known to have been issued by him.

\textsuperscript{53} Probably to be dated to the time of al-Zubayr’s invasion, 1873-74.
Hearing before qādī Muḥammad al-Ḥārith b. al-ḥājj ʿIzz al-Dīn of a dispute between Muṣṭafā b. al-faqīh Tāḥa b. āb al-takanāwī and faqīh Bakhīt over ownership rights (shirka or sharika) in land at al-Tamra.

14 Dhuʾl-qaʿda 1256/7 January 1841.

**DF158.18/18** CHARTER

*Al-āb al-takanāwī maqdūm Muḥammad al-Arbāb,*

the sons of faqīh Ābd al-Farāj,

confirming their privileged status.

Undated.

The fourth in a sequence of charters, viz., DF180.18/40; DF148.18/8; DF163.18/23; **DF158.18/18** & DF143.18/3.

**DF159.18/19** SIJILL

Hearing before qādī Muḥammad b. al-qādī Khalīl, from the entourage (ṭaraf) of the iy(a) bāsī al-mayrām Zamzam,54 acting for the qādī Muḥammad Abuʾl-Qāsim, of a dispute between Shaykh Rājīl and faqīh Bakhīt over land.

1260/1844-45.

**160.18/20** CHARTER

**Sultan Muḥammad Harūt,**55

Al-Ḥāfīz Ābd al-ʿAzīz and his brothers,

granting them an estate at al-Tamrū.

---

54 Sister of Sultan Muhammad al-Husayn; on whom, see O’Fahey (1980), 33-35 et passim.
Undated.
The first in a sequence of charters, *viz.* DF160.18/20; DF166.18/26 & DF155.18/15.

161.18/21 LETTER
*Al-abū al-takanāwī* Muḥammad Arbāb,
*al-malik al-shartāya* d.k.mī [Dokumī],
informing recipient that he is not to interfere in the affairs of the *faqīhs* Bakhīt and Sulaymān.
Undated.

DF162.18/22 LETTER
The *maqdūm* Ḥasan Siqirī, *iriqā*,
*malik* Muḥammad f.l.w.ā and *malik* d.k.mī [Dokumī],
the dispute between *faqīh* Bakhīt and *sharīf* ʿAbd al-Manān has been settled in the former’s favour: recipients are to keep away from his land.
Undated.

DF163.18/23 CHARTER
*Al-āb al-takanāwī* Abū Bakr Muḥammad Naṣr al-Dīn,
*faqīh* Ibrāhīm,
Confirming privileged status.
Undated.
The third in a sequence of charters, *viz.* DF180.18/40; DF148.18/8; *DF163.18/23* & DF143.18/3.
DF164.18/24   LETTER
Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn al-Mahdī,
*malik* Aḥmad Zill al-Sayf,
ordering the recipient to come to court if he has a complaint against *faqīh* ʻAbd al-ʻAzīz.
Undated.

DF165.18/25   LETTER
Qādī Ādam Ḥadīd, acting for his father *shaykh al-Islām*, qādī Muḥammad Ishāq,
*al-sharīf* ʻAbd al-Manān,
concerning the marriage of the recipient’s niece.
Undated.

DF166.18/26   CHARTER
Sultan Muḥammad Tayrāb,
*faqīh* Aḥmad and his brother, *faqīh* ʻAbd Allāh,
confirming their privileged status and land at al-Tamr.
Undated (seal-date 1172/1758-59).
The second in a sequence of charters, viz. DF160.18/20; DF166.18/26 & DF155.18/15.

DF167.18.27   LETTER
Shaykh quḍāt al-Islām, qādī al-ḥājj ʻIzz al-Dīn,
*faqīh* Bakhīt,
in answer to the recipient’s letter: he is to come with his complaint.
Undated.
DF168.18/28 LETTER
Qâdî Muḥammad al-Ḥārith, 
faqîh Bakhît w. ʿAbd al-Rasûl, 
with reference to a complaint by Shaykh Khālid, the recipient is stay away from him. 
Undated.

DF169.18/29 LETTER
Shaykh al-quṭāt, qâdî Muḥammad al-Ḥārith, 
Awlâd t.q.l. and h.w.i, 
faqîh Bakhît has complained that recipients have trespassed on his land: recipients are to stay away or bring their complaint to court. 
Undated.

DF170.18/30 SIJILL
Hearing before qâdî Ḥasan, acting for his brother qâdî Muḥammad Ishāq, of a dispute between faqîh Ibrâhîm and Abûn, representing his four aunts: plaintiff brings an action for injury caused by the defendant’s slave. 
1279/1862-63. 
Text and transl. in O’Fahey, ”The case of Ādam’s ear”, Sudan Texts Bulletin, Coleraine, iii, 1981, 38-43, but for a better interpretation of the document than mine, see Lidwien Kapteijns, ibid, 54-55.

DF171.18/31 PETITION
Ishāq Aḥmad, 
Ambadâ al-Raḍî, wakîl markaz al-Fâshir wa-ʿumūm al-ghurûb,
the petitioner’s people have been unjustly treated.  

DF172.18/32 LETTER
Ambaddā al-Raḍḍī,
Muḥammad … ,
the bearer of the letter is to have his complaint investigated: in response to DF171.18/31.
22 Dhu‘l-qa‘da 1314/23 April 1897.
Written on the same recto as DF171.18/33.

DF173.18/33 CHARTER
Sultan Muḥammad Tayrāb,
malik Sulaymān,
confirming the privileged status of the sons of faqīh ʿAbd al-Ḥamīd al-Jābirī.
Undated.
The second in a sequence of charters, viz. DF142.8/2; DF173.18/33; DF145.18/5; DF149.18/9 & DF141.18/1.

DF174.18/34 CHARTER
Al-amīn malik al-ḥājj ʿAbd Allāh b. al-amīn al-malik Ibrāhīm Ramād,
the sons of faqīh ʿAbdall (sic),
confirming their privileged status and land at Tamra.
30 (?) Shawwāl 1258/c. 6 October 1842.

DF175.18/35 SIJILL
Hearing before qādī Muḥammad Ishāq of a dispute between malik Abū Bakr and ʾAbd Allāh and Ādam: plaintiff sues for the return of his slave-girl, Saʿda.

1290/1873-74.

DF176.18/36 LETTER
Al-ʾāb al-takanāwī Ādam Tinbūkī,
Baraq and Ḥassūb,
faqīh ʾAbd Allāh has complained that recipients have over-taxed him: they are to return what they have taken.
Undated: seal in the form of a camel-brand.

DF177.18/37 LETTER
Al-amīn al-maqdūm ʾAbd al-Sīd,
al-ʾāb al-takanāwī, faqīh Muḥammad Šābūn Sulaymān,
faqīh Muḥammad Bakhīt has complained that recipient has trespassed on his land: he is to stay away.
Undated.

DF178.18/38 LETTER
Al-amīn al-malik ʾAbd Allāh,
faqīh Dayyīf,
warning recipient to keep away from the faqīhs Naṣr and Sirāj,
Undated.

DF179.18/39 CHARTER
Al-amīn ʾAbd al-Bārī,
faqîh Sulaymân,
confirming privileged status of the sons of Abû Khurayṣ and their sons.
Dhu’l-ḥijja 1231/December 1815-January1816.
Compare DF152.18/12.

DF180.18/40  CHARTER
Takanawî Ādam b. al-takanawî Tinbûkî,
the sons of faqîh Muḥammad Abû Khurayṣ al-Jâbirî,
confirming their privileged status.
Undated.
The first in a sequence of charters, viz., DF180.18/40; DF148.18/8;
DF163.18/23 & DF 143.18/3.

DF181.18/41  CHARTER
Malik al-Ḥâjj, deputy (nâ‘ib) of malik Musallam,56
faqîh Fâris b. al-faqîh Muḥammad Abû Khurayṣ,
confirming the privileged status of the descendants of faqîh ʿAbd al-
Ḥamîd al-Jâbirî,
Undated.

DF182.18/42  LETTER
Qâdî ʿumûm Dâr Fûr Idrîs ʿAbd Allâh,
Ādam Tamîm Bishâra,57
faqîh Muḥammad Ishâq and others have sultanic charters: they are not to
be disturbed.

56 On whom, otherwise Musallim, see O’Fahey (1980), 82-83 & 98-99.
57 Shartay or malik of the Berti; see Hill (1967), 26; sixteenth ruler of the Berti, see Holy (1974), 118.
25 Rabī‘ I 1329/26 March 1911.

DF183.18/43 LETTER
Sutan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn,
malik Aḥmad Zill al-Sayf,
recipient’s brothers have trespassed on the land of the people of the faqīhs Bakhīt and Ḥammūd: they are to be kept away.
Undated.

DF184.18/44 LETTER
Al-āb al-takanāwī Muḥammad Arbāb,
Malik Muḥammad d.k.mī [Dokumī] and malik Muḥammad f.l.w.a,
informing the recipients that faqīh Bakhīt and sharīf ūb al-Manān have had their dispute heard before qāḍī Muḥammad al-Ḥārith, who has awarded judgment to Bakhīt.
Undated: seal in the form of a camel brand.

DF185.18/45 LETTER
Qāḍī Muḥammad al-Ḥārith,
Muṣṭafā b. Ṭāha,
d.qū [Dugu] and faqīh Bakhīt have complained that recipient has trespassed on their land: he is to stay away or else bring his complaint to court.
Undated (seal-date 1248/1832-33).

DF186.18/46 LETTER
Al-shartay al-malik Muḥammad d.k.mī [Dokumi], malik Aḥmad Arbāb and malik f.l.w.a.,
‘hind shāsh sayyidinā … rāḥitaka, reporting on a meeting to settle their dispute with faqīh Bakhīt.
Undated: seal in the form of a camel brand.

DF187.18/47   GENEALOGY
Of the khabīr Yahyā.
Undated.

DF188.18/48   LETTER
Shaykh al-Islām, qādī al-ḥājj ʿIzz al-Dīn, wakīl Aḥmad d.q.ū [Duggu],
informing recipient that Muḥammad sh.q.r. is coming to investigate the dispute between shāfī ʿAbd al-Manān and faqīh Bakhīt.
Undated.

DF189.18/49   LETTER
ʿAbd Allāh, Ahmād w. Abū Khayr,
recipient is to bring his complaint to ʿAbd Allāh.
1327/1910-11.

DF190.18/50   SIJILL

---

58 An official of the sultan, since sayyidinā invariably refers to the sultan, while rāha is usually used only of the āb sayyik dālī.
59 A large-scale merchant.
60 Possibly the sixth Berti ruler, Aḥmad Duggu (early nineteenth century); see Holy (1974), 118.
Hearing before *al-abū warandaladh* fn1 *faqīh* Baraka, acting for *sittunā* Umm al-Nāṣir īya bāšī *al-mayram* Zamzam fn2 of a dispute between Shaykh Rājil and Abū Zayd over land. 21 Ramaḍān 1289/22 November 1872.

DF191.18/51 SIJILL
Hearing before *faqīh* Ḥūrayṣ of a dispute between wife and husband, Ḥalima and q.ī.l: the wife sues for maintenance (*nafaqa*).
Undated.
Text and transl. in O’Fahey and Sharif Harir, ”Two husbands and a daughter from Dār Fūr”, *Sudan Texts Bulletin*, vii, 1986, 30-42.

DF192.18/52 RECORD OF SETTLEMENT
Settlement before the *maqdām* Khalīl of a dispute between *faqīh* Bakhīt and *sharīf* cʿAbd al-Manān over land.
Undated.

DF193.18/53 RECORD
Record, made before witnesses, of the land of the sons of *faqīh* ʿAbd Allāh (b.) *al-faqīh* Muḥammad Bakhīt by Muḥammad Sh.q.r.ā for *qāḍī* *al-ḥājj* ʿIzz al-Dīn.
Undated.
See DF188.18/48.

---

fn2 Sister of Sultan Muḥammad al-Husayn. After her brother went blind in 1856, she became effective ruler of the sultanate; see O’Fahey (1980), 33-35 et passim.
DF194.18/54 SIJILL
Hearing before faqīr Allāh Yaʿqūb Jabal of a dispute between sharīf Nūr al-Shām and Ādam and Nūrayn over a bull.
Undated.

DF195.18/55 LETTER
Faqīh, ibn amīr al-muʿminīn Nūrayn Jaʿfar al-Nūr, 
”our followers”, Ḥammūda and his brothers,
they are to meet him at Abū Sunayṭ in four or five days.
Undated.

DF196.18/56 SIJILL
Hearing before faqīh Baraq, acting for iyyā bāsī al-mayram Zamzam Umm al-Naṣr, of a dispute between Abū Zayd and Saykh Rājil over shares in some land.
20 Ramaḍān 1270/16 June 1854.

DF197.18/57 SIJILL
Hearing before qāḍī Nūr al-Dīn, acting for qāḍī Muḥammad al-Ḥārith, of a dispute between Ādam b. Ramaḍān and shāʿib Ādam over land.
1264/1847-48.

DF198.18/58 PEDIGREE
Pedigree of the Awlād Jābir.
Undated: 8ff.

---

63 A son of Sultan Muḥammad al-Fadl, who fathered Maqbūla, who married the Mahdi and was the mother of ʿAbd al-Raḥmān al-Mahdi.

DF199.19/1 CHARTER
Sultan Muḥammad al-Faḍl,
Shaykh Ḥammād b. Ḥabīb Allāh,
confirming privileged status and land.
Undated.

DF200.19/2 SIJILL
Hearing before qāḏī Muḥammad al-Ḥārith b. al-ḥājj ʿIzz al-Dīn of a dispute between ʿDiyāʾ al-Dīn and Iṣḥāq b. Ḥabīb Allāh over land.
Shawwāl 1253/December 1837-January 1838.

DF201.19/3 CHARTER
Malik Ḥamad Duqū b. ʿAmāra,65

---

65 Almost certainly the sixth Berti ruler; see Holy (1974), 118, where his name is given as Aḥmad Duggu.
the sons of Ḥabīb Allāh and others, confirming privileged status. 
Undated.

DF202.19/4 LETTER
Concerning the administration of Jugo Jugo District.
26 March 1917: Condominium.

ARCHIVE 20: one document in the possession of (1974) Ḥusayn Ahmaday Ādam Tamīm, shartay or malik of the Berti,66 of Milīṭ (Mellit), Northern Darfur District.

DF203.20/1 PEDIGREE
Pedigree of shartay Aḥmaday Ādam Tamīm.67
Undated: 4 ff.

ARCHIVE 21: one document in the possession (1974) of ʿAbd al-
Raḥmān Muḥammad Maḥmūd of al-Fāshir.

DF204.21/1 LETTER
H.A. MacMichael,68
the chiefs of Jabal Marra, summoning them to surrender with their weapons.
17 July 1916.

66 Succeeded as eighteenth ruler of Dār Berti in 1964; Holy (1975), 118.
67 Seventeenth ruler (1934-64) of Dār Berti; Holy (1975), 118.
68 Served in Darfur 1916-8; see Sudan Political Service, 15.

DF205.22/1  CHARTER
Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn,
the khabīr Muḥammad Kannūna,
confirming recipient’s estate in the district of Lubaykh (Kobbei).
20 Jumāda I 1256/20 July 1840.

DF206.22/2  SIJILL
Hearing before the wazīr Ādam Bōsh69 of a dispute between the khabīr Muḥammad Kannūna and ʿAbd Allāh w. Dānī over the boundaries of the former’s estate.
18 Rabīʿ II 1262/15 April 1846.
Transl. in O’Fahey & Abu Salim (1983), 109-12.

DF207.22/3  CHARTER
Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn,
the sons of the khabīr Muḥammad Kannūna,
confirming recipients’ possession of their father’s estate.
1267/1850-51.
Transl. in O’Fahey & Abu Salim (1983), 113-14.

DF208.22/4  CHARTER
Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn al-Mahdī,

---

69 On whom see O’Fahey (1980), passim.
The khabîr ĉAlî Ibðhîm, confirming the grant by the same sultan [see DF209.22/5] of the village of n.q.r." (Ungorei) as an estate. 1284/1867-68. Transl. in O’Fahey & Abu Salim (1983), 118.

DF209.22/5 CHARTER
Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn al-Mahdî, ”our servant” (khaddāminâ), the khabîr ĉAlî Ibðhîm, granting him the village of n.q.r." (Ungorei) as an estate. Date missing [the document is incomplete]. Transl. in O’Fahey & Abu Salim (1983), 117-8.

DF210.22/6 REPORT
Report by the amîn ĉAbd Allâh of the demarcation, before witnesses, of the boundaries of the village of n.q.r. (Ungorei), ”with its fields, both fallow and cultivated”. 8 Dhu’l-ḥijja 1268/24 September 1852. Transl. in O’Fahey & Abu Salim (1983), 115-7.

DF211.22/7 CHARTER
Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn al-Mahdî, the mayram Fāṭima Umm Dirays, granting the recipient an estate in the district of al-Dîr. 13 Shawwâl 1273/6 June 1857. Transl. in O’Fahey & Abu Salim (1983), 104-6.

---

70 On whom, see O’Fahey (1980), 141-42.
DF212.22/8    TESTAMENTARY DEPOSITION (wašiyya)
of the sharīf al-Ma‘zūzī b. ʿAbd Allāh al-Shinjīṭī71 concerning his
property and the marriage of his daughters, and naming ʿAlī bayk
[Ibrāhīm] as executor.
1 Shaʿbān 1296/21 July 1879.

ARCHIVE 23: two documents in the possession (1974) of Abū Bakr
Taldīs of al-Fāshir.

DF213.23/1    CHARTER
Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,
the fuqarāʾ, the sons of shaykh al-ṣ ...,
confirming their estate at Shaqara.
17 Ṣafar 1319/5 June 1901.

DF214.23/2    CHARTER
Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,
Maḥmūd w. ʿAlī,
confirming recipient’s ancestral estates.
13 Rajab 1328/21 July 1910.

ARCHIVE 24: one document in the possession (1974) of Ibrāhīm Ādam
Muḥammad of al-Fāshir.

The owner was from Nigia, east of al-Fāshir. A faqīh family —
Jaʿaliyyīn Ganibānī from al-Matamma. Pedigree thus,

71 Or al-Shinjīṭī, from Shinqīṭ in Eastern Mauritania,
Abū Bakr Ṭalab

| Muhammad |
| Ahmad |
| Ābd Allāh |
| Sulayk |
| Muhammad |
| Ādam |
| Ibrāhīm [owner] |

DF215.24/1   CHARTER

Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn,
"the falqanāwīs\(^\text{72}\) of our brother, the respected Abū Bakr Ṭalab",
granting recipients privileged status (jāh).
25 Rabī\(^{c}\) II 1257/16 June 1841.


DF216.25/1   SIJILL

---

\(^{72}\) Royal messengers or heralds; see O’Fahey (1980), 150.
Hearing before the council (majlis) of the maqdūm Sharīf Ādam of a dispute between Ḥawwa bt. ʿĀṭiyya Allāh al-Fallātiyya and Aḥmad Bukr al-Fallāti over land.
18 Ṣafar 1335/15 December 1916: Condominium.

DF217.25/2 RECORD
Record of the settlement of a dispute over some land owned by various Fallāta of al-Fāshir.


DF218.26/1 CHARTER
şultan ʿAlī Dīnar,
Shaykh Ādam Muḍḍawī,
confirming an estate granted to the recipient by the takanāwi Abū Bakr.
24 Jumāda II 1316/9 November 1898.


DF219.27/1 KING-LIST
List of the rulers of Darfur: transcribed from an original allegedly written by faqīh Sinīn\(^{73}\) of Kabkābiyya.
Undated.

\(^{73}\) See Hill (1967), 331-32.

DF220.28/1 LETTER
Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,
al-Dōma Muḥammad, ʿumda of Dār Simiyāt,
as part of a general demand for money, recipient is to pay 60 ṫiyāls for Simiyāt District.
2 Dhuʾl-qaʿda 1320/31 January 1903.

DF221.28/2 LETTER
Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār.
al-Dōma Muḥammad, ʿumda of Dār Simiyāt,
the sultan has forgiven the bloodprice (dam) for a killing: neither the recipient nor the dead man’s relatives are to interfere ….
Incomplete: the top of this document is glued together with the bottom half of the following document.

DF222.28/3 LETTER
[Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār]
….. ….. ,
concerning the giving of support to a mosque?
25 Rabīʿ II 1325/7 June 1907.
Incomplete.
DF223.28/4 LETTER
Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,
al-Dōma Muḥammad, ʿumda of Dār Simiyāt,
[too damaged to read]
Ramaḍān 1316/January-February 1899.

DF224.28/5 LETTER
Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,
al-Dōma Muḥammad,
ordering recipient to come [to al-Fāshir] by 20 Dhuʾl-qaʿda with all the soldiers, horses and weapons of his district to celebrate the feast of [? ʿīd … al-mubārak),
2 Dhuʾl-qaʿda 1329/25 October 1911.

DF225.28/6 LETTER
Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,
al-Dōma Muḥammad al-Simiyātī,
a general decree to all districts ordering prayers for rain, since the rains are late.
16 Jumāda I 1321/10 August 1903.

DF226.28/7 LETTER
Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,
al-Dōma Muḥammad, ʿumda of al-Simiyāt,
demand for 100 riyāls.
Date missing.
DF227.28/8 LETTER
Sultan ˁAli Dīnār,
al-Dōma Muḥammad, ʻumda of Dār Simiyāt,
demand for 300 ardabbs [of grain].
1321/1903-4.

DF228.28/9 LETTER
Sultan ˁAli Dīnār,
al-Dōma Muḥammad, ʻumda of Dār Simiyāt,
demand for 50 tōbs to be paid to ˁArabī Dāf Allāh’s men.
5 Rabī’ I 1320/12 June 1902.

DF229.28/10 LETTER
Sultan ˁAli Dīnār,
al-Dōma Muḥammad, ʻumda of Dār Simiyāt,
recipient is to give 10 ardabbs to the people of "our sons, the sons of the sultans, Manṣūr and Bukhārī".
13 Jumāda I 1318/78 September 1900.

DF230.28/11 LETTER
Sultan ˁAli Dīnār,
al-Dōma Muḥammad, ʻumda of Dār Simiyāt,
demand for 100 tōb dammūr.75
22 Rabī’ I 1318/20 July 1900.

74 A Mahdist commander, who joined ˁAli Dīnār in 1902; see Hill (1967), 58.
75 Pieces of locally-spun cloth.
DF231.28/12 LETTER
Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,
al-Dōma Muḥammad,
as part of a general demand to all districts, recipient is to pay 60 riyāl to the bearer, Hārūn Ismāʿīl.
End of Ramaḍān 1319/mid-January 1902.

DF232.28/13 LETTER
Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,
to chiefs and notables generally,
those who have legal suits pending from the time of Ambādā al-Raḍḍī and Abū Kawda are to present their claims and documents al-Dōma Muḥammad, ʿumda of Dār al-Simiyāt.
5 Ramaḍān 1316/17 January 1899.

DF233.28/14 LETTER
Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,
al-Dōma Muḥammad,
the sultan has sent a letter to the fuqarāʾ of Jadīd al-Sayl76 in response to the recipient’s complaint that they have been illegally taking taxes in his district: his district ”belongs to the palace”.
Date missing.

DF234.28/15 LETTER
Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,
al-Dōma Muḥammad and all the notables of al-Simiyāt,

76 Which borders Dār Simiyāt.
the sultan wishes to rebuild the land following his return [to Darfur]: all are to undertake the rebuilding of villages and the re-peopling of their district.
20 Rabī‘ 1317/28 August 1899.

DF235.28/16 LETTER
Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,
Al-Dōma Muḥammad, ʿumda of al-Simiyāt,
[very faint: apparently a complaint that people have not been paying their taxes promptly enough].
7 Rabī‘ I 1318/5 July 1900.

DF236.28/17 LETTER
Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,
al-Dōma Muḥammad al-Simiyātī,
demand for camels to carry grain.
2 Shaʿbān 1318/25 November 1900.

DF237.28/18 LETTER
Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,
al-Dōma Muḥammad, shartaya Simiyāt,
demand for camels.
28 Dhuʾl-qaʿda 1331/29 October 1913.

DF238.28/19 LETTER
Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,
al-Dōma Muḥammad, ʿumda of al-Simiyāt,
the bearer of the letter, al-Sa‘īd ʻĀmir, is going to Omdurman on the sultan’s business: he is to be given assistance.
4 Rabī‘ II 1317/12 August 1899.

DF239.28/20 to DF241.28/22: previously catalogued as DF16.6/1 to DF18.6/3.

DF242.28/23 LETTER
Sultan ʻAlī Dīnār,
al-Dōma Muḥammad,
the sultan has written to Muhammad al-r.ī.n., ʻUmar al-jabāī and to his son, Ḥusayn, concerning the storage of the taxes from the recipient’s district.
5 Ṣafar 1317/15 June 1899.

DF243.28/24 to DF250.28/31: previously catalogued as DF20.6/5 to DF26.6/11.

DF251.28/32 Another version of DF14.4/1.


77 Tax collector.
DF252.29/1   CHARTER
Sultan Muḥammad Faḍl,
faqīḥ ʿAbd Allāh al-Ṭayyib,
granting an estate in the district of al-Ṭawīla.
Dated sometime between 1218/261803-11: in poor condition.

DF253.29/2   CHARTER
The ʿabūʾl-jabbayyīn ʿAbdul-Nur al-Dīn,
faqīḥ ʿṢiddīq b. ʿAbd Allāh,
confirming an estate.
Undated.
Text and transl. in O’Fahey (1990), 80-83.

DF254.29/3   LETTER
Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn,
faqīḥ ʿAbd Allāh,
confirming the settlement of a boundary dispute.
1274/1857-58.
Text and transl. in O’Fahey (1990), 77-80.

DF255.29/4   SIJILL
Hearing before ʿqādī al-ḥājj Izz al-Dīn of a dispute between the Awlād Awd and ʿAbd al-Ḥamīd over land.
1226/1811-2.
In very poor condition, but see DF7.29/6.
Text and transl. in O’Fahey (1990), 74-77.

78 Chief of the tax collectors.
DF256.29/5 COPY
An early copy of DF254.29./3.

DF257.29/6 COPY
An early copy of DF255.29/4


DF258.30/1 LETTER
Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,
Khāṭir Ibrāhīm and the shartays of Ṭawīla (district),
announcing the coming of the maqḍūm Aḥmad Bayḍa.
1325/1907-8.

DF259.31/1 to DF261.31/3 have been deposited in the National Records Office, Khartoum.

DF259.31/1 SIJILL
Hearing before an unnamed official of a dispute between Bōsh Jumʿ[a] and ʿAbd al-Raḥmān Daldan (Fur, Daldang) over some animals.
Undated.

260.31/2 LETTER
Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,
Ṣābūn,
a group of thirteen persons named in the letter are to be sent to the sultan without delay.
2 Rabīʿ I 1318/9 July 1900.

DF261.31/3 LETTER
Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,
Khalīl Aḥmad and the muqaddam of the fuqarāʾ of Dōbō, ordering them to come to al-Fāshir: ”… if there is tardiness by one of the fuqarāʾ, I hereby inform you that he will be killed by hanging as a warning to the others”.
14 Rajab 1328/22 July 1910.

DF263/31.4 RELIGIOUS FORMULA (ḥijāb)
1 ff. Modern.

DF263.31/5 RELIGIOUS FORMULA (ḥijāb)
1 ff. Modern.


DF264.32/1 PEDIGREE
Of the shartays of Dār Inga: written by shartay Ādam ʿAbd al-Jalīl.
10 Jumāda II 1355/28 August 1936.
2 ff.

**DF265**  
**HISTORY**  
Of the tribes and rulers of Darfur: written by *shartay* Ādam ēAbd al-Jalīl.  
7 Jumāda II 1355/25 August 1936.  
7 ff.

**ARCHIVE 33:** eight documents in the possession (1976) of Maḥmūd Muḥammad Sharīf of Kutum, Northern Darfur District.

**DF266.33/1**  
**LETTER**  
Sultan ēAlī Dīnār,  
the *maqdūm malik* Muḥammad Sharīf Ādam,  
appointing him *maqdūm* of the Kutum region.  
Jumāda II 1317/August-September 1899.

**DF267.33/2**  
**LETTER**  
Sultan ēAlī Dīnār,  
appointing him *maqdūm* of Dār al-Riḥ [i.e. Northern Darfur].  
22 Jumāda II 1317/28 September 1899.  
An English transl. found in file DP.FD: 66.K.15 El Fasher District: Azagarfa Omodia (al-Fāshir mudīriyya Archives) is given in O’Fahey & Ahmad (1973) 1, 10-11 [this was published before the Arabic original had been located].

**DF268.33/3**  
Another copy [in a different hand] of DF267.33/2.
DF269.33/4  CHARTER
Sultan ۶Alî Dînâr,
the maqdûm Muḥammad Sharîf Ādam,
restoring to the recipient seven ancestral estates in Northern Darfur.
1317/1899-1900.
Text and transl. in O’Fahey & Ahmad (1973), 1, 12-7.

DF270.33/5  LETTER
Sultan ۶Alî Dînâr,
the notables and chiefs generally,
announcing the appointment of Muḥammad Sharîf Ādam as maqdûm of Dâr al-Rîḥ.
22 Jumâda II 1317/28 September 1899.
Written on the same day as DF267.33/2.

DF271.33/6  CHARTER
Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn,
shartay Ahmâd b. ۶Alî,
confirming an estate.
Undated.
Apparently, but not certainly, a forgery: at bottom ”Seen G.Sarsfield Hall, 6/2/21”. ۷۹

DF272.33/7  CHARTER
Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn,

shartay ʿAlī b. Muḥammad, confirming an estate. 1281/1864-65.
At top, ’’This is a forged document, see NDD file 91.C 6/1-2’. This is probably true [O’Fahey].

DF273.33/8  IJĀZA
Granting the Tijāniyya wīrd to Maḥmūd Muḥammad Sharīf.

ARCHIVE 34: two documents, transcribed from originals, located (1976) in file NDD/66 B 4/2/5, Kutum majlis, Northern Darfur District.

DF274.34/1  CHARTER
Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn, the dimlij 80 Muḥammad and others, granting them an estate. 9 Șafar 1271/31 October 1854.

DF275.34/2  CHARTER
Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn, faqīḥ Muḥammad Tūtū b. ʿUmar, confirming privileged status (jāh), originally granted by Sultan ʿAbd al-Raḥmān. 1257/1841-42.

80 Sub-district chief subordinate to a shartay.
**ARCHIVE 35:** one document in the possession (1976) of *malik* Muḥammad ʾAbd al-Raḥmān Ḥasan al-Nabī of Kutum, Northern Darfur District.

DF276.35/1  **CHARTER**
Sultan ʾAlī Dīnār,
Badawī Ẓayn al-ʾAbidīn,
confirming an estate at Kafūt (Kofod), originally granted by Sultan Muḥammad al-Faḍl in 1233/1817-8.
1328/1910-11.


DF277.36/1  **DESCRIPTION**
Of the boundaries of Dār Surayf (Sereif)
Undated.

**ARCHIVE 37:** three documents transcribed (1975) by Ibrāhīm Mūsā Muḥammad from the originals, which are in the possession of Sharīf Ḥāmid of Kattāl, al-Fāshir District.

DF278.37/1  **SIJILL**
Hearing before faqīh Salāma Mālik\textsuperscript{81} of a dispute between Ādam al-Iriqāwī and Sharīf Ḥāmid over land.
1279/1862-63.

DF279.37/2
Another contemporary copy of DF278.37/1.

DF280.37/3
CHARTER
Transcription not available.

ARCHIVE 38: seven documents in the possession of the late Şāliḥ Marjān of Nyala, Nyala District: photographed by Dr. Muḥammad Aḥmad Bidayn.\textsuperscript{82}

DF281.38/1
CHARTER
Al-āb dimā\textsuperscript{83} Tayrāb b. dimā ᶜ Abd al-Raḥmān,
faqīh Yūnis b. al-faqīh Dahmān,
confirming privileged (jāh) originally granted by dimā ᶜ Abd al-Raḥmān.
Undated.

DF282.38/2
CHARTER
The amīn Zāʾid Harīrķū,
faqīh Yūnis b. al-faqīh Dahmān,
\begin{flushright}
\textsuperscript{82} Who subsequently published a valuable account of the Fulani of Darfur, namely al-Fallāta al-Fulānīyyīn fī’l-Sūdān, Cairo: the Sudanese Study Centre, n.d. [1995].
\textsuperscript{83} Title of the hereditary ruler of the Zalingei District; in Fur, \textit{aba diīmāng}. The present \textit{dimangawi}, Fādil Sissei Atim, is the eighteenth of his line.
\end{flushright}
confirming privileged status.
Undated.

DF283.38/3 CHARTER
The maqdūm Aḥmad, faqīh Yūnis b. al-faqīh Dahmān,
confirming privileged status.
Undated (seal-date 1271/1854-55).

DF284.38/4 CHARTER
The maqdūm Muṣṭafā al-Imām Aḥmad, faqīh ʿAlī Sharīf Aḥmad al-Fallāṭī,
confirming privileged status and referring to a charter issued by Sultan Muḥammad Abūʾl-Khayrāt b. al-sulṭan Ibrāhīm.

DF285.38/5 LETTER
Sultan Muḥammad Abūʾl-Khayrāt,
the shaykhs of the nomads of Dār al-Ṣaʿīd [i.e. Southern Darfur],
acknowledging their letters and announcing his coming.
Date illegible.

DF286.38/6 CHARTER
Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn,
faqīh Yūnis b. al-faqīh Dahmān,
confirming privileged status.

84 Almost certainly Āḥmad Shaṭṭa b. ʿAbd al-ʿAzīz; see O’Fahey (1980), 91 et passim.
85 “Shadow sultan”, active 1888-90.
Date illegible.

DF287.38/7 CHARTER
Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,
faqīh ʿAlī al-Shārīf Aḥmad ”from the Fallāta tribe”,
confirming privileged status.
…1317/…1899-1900.

ARCHIVE 39: four documents photographed by Dr. Sherif Mahmoud el Hakim in Dār Zayyādiyya, Northern Darfur District.

DF288.39/1 CHARTER
Sultan ʿAbd al-Raḥmān,
faqīh Ṣāliḥ [b. ʿAlī],
confirming privileged status originally granted to the recipient’s father.
Incomplete.

DF289.39/2 CHARTER
Sultan Muḥammad al-Faḍl,
faqīh Ṣāliḥ ʿAlīlī [or ʿUlaylī],
confirming an estate at Kōma (Dār Zayyādiyya): the recipient has produced charters from Sultan Aḥmad Bukr (r. c 1700-20) and his successors.
Undated (seal-date 1218/1803-4).

DF290.39/3 CHARTER
Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn,
\textit{faqīh} Muḥammad b. \textit{al-faqīh} Ḥabīb, confirming the privileged status granted by Sultan ʿAbd al-_RAḥmān to recipient’s grandfather. Incomplete: seal-date 1256/1840-41.

DF291.39.4 CHARTER

The ṭiyā bāṣī al-mayram Zamzam Umm al-NAṣr, \textit{faqīh} Abū Bakr b. \textit{al-faqīh} Muḥammad of the Awlād Jundī, confirming the privileged status granted by Sultans Muḥammad Tayrāb and ʿAbd al-RAḥmān to the recipient’s grandfather, \textit{faqīh} ʿAlī. Undated.

ARCHIVE 40: one document, in an English transl only, located (1976) in file NDD/66 B 4/2/5 (Dar Anka-Beri), Kutum majlis, Northern Darfur District.

DF292.40/1 CHARTER

Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn, \textit{shartay} Ādam Dōbā b. ʿAbhād Abū, confirming a charter of Sultan Muḥammad al-Faḍl issued for the recipient’s father, which promulgated the boundaries of Dār Beiri after their demarcation by the takeṇāwī Muḥammad Arbāb. Date not given.

To be compared with DF304.44/3. It would appear that we thus have a description of the boundaries of Dār [\textit{rū}]\textsuperscript{86} Beiri [Bire] first promulgated

\textsuperscript{86} \textit{Rū} = \textit{ro}, Fur, ”river, farm, estate”.

by Sultan Muḥammad al-Faḍl, then confirmed by Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn and, finally by ʿAlī Dīnār in 1901.

**ARCHIVE 41**: three documents collected by the late Dr. Muhammad Ibrāhīm Abū Saлим in Dār Maʿāliyya, Nyala District, in the early 1960s. The documents are deposited in the Central [National] Records Office and published in Abū Saлим (1975), 119-22.  

---

**CHARTER**  
DF293.41/1  
Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn,  
*faqīḥ* Khalil, *faqīḥ* Muḥammad Kurra and others,  
confirming an estate at Jabal Mūsū.  
10 Rajab 1296/3 June 1879.  
Since Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn died in 1873, the year must be incorrect.

---

**CHARTER**  
DF294.41/2  
Sultan Muḥammad al-Faḍl.  
the Awlād Ambaddā,  
granting privileged status: the Awlād Ambadda are the ”followers of our brother, *faqīḥ* Muḥammad Jaʿfar al-Ḵādiq”: warning *bāsī* ʿAbd Allāh and *al-malik* ʿAbd Allāh *sūmin duqāl* not to interfere.  
Undated.  
Abū Saлим (1975), 121.

---

87 On the circumstances of their collection, see Muḥammad Ibrāhīm Abū Saлим, *Fi shakhsiyat al-Ṣūdāniyya*, Khartoum 1979, 73.  
CHARTER
Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn,
Muḥammad Tamīn al-Dār b. al-shaykh Ambādā and the Awlād Abū Qāʿūd,
confirming their privileged status.
5 Shaʿbān 1257/22 September 1841.
Abū Salīm (1975), 122.

ARCHIVE 42: one document in transcription: in the papers of the Rev.
Dr. A.J. Arkell, the Library, School of Oriental and African Studies,
London (accession no. 210522), file 16, ff. 60-61.89

CHARTER
Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn,
faqīh ʿAlī Dīnār,
confirming privileged status.
Undated.
Text and transl. in O’Fahey & Ahmad (1973), 2, 7-13.

ARCHIVE 43: five documents, the photographs of which were located
by Professor J.L. Spaulding in the photographic collection of the Ministry
of Information, Khartoum. The Ministry’s number is also given.

LETTER
(IND 293) Sultan Ṭāhir Dīnār,

89 See further, my "The Sudan Papers of the Rev. Dr. A.J. Arkell", Sudan Notes and Records, lv, 1974,
172-74.
Maḥmūd Ādam, mugaddam of the fuqarā’ of Dāra, ordering the recipient to come with the fuqarā’ of his district to al-Fāshir by 15 Shaʿbān [to celebrate Ramaḍān].
29 Rajab 1325/7 September 1907.

DF298.43/2 LETTER
(IND 295) Sultan ə Alī Dīnār,
Maḥmūd Ādam, mugaddam of the fuqarā’ of Dāra, ordering the recipient and his fuqarā’ to spend Ramaḍān with the sultan: they are to assemble by 15 Shaʿbān.
1324/1906-7.

DF299.43/3 LETTER
(IND 296) Sultan ə Alī Dīnār,
the notables and officials, the sultan is desirous of rebuilding mosques and restoring religion: Maḥmūd Ādam has complained of the obstruction of his efforts to rebuild a mosque: he is not to be hindered.
17 Dhū‘l-ḥijja 1317/18 April 1900.

DF300.43/4 LETTER
(IND 291 or 298) Sultan ə Alī Dīnār
Maḥmūd Ādam, imām of the mosques of Kalambāwa (Kalamboa)90 and kh.m.ī, ordering his officials to help the recipient to restore his mosques.
Date missing.

90 Between Nyala and Manawāshī.
DF301.43/5  LETTER
Jumā'a Bakhīt, *maqdūm ‘umūm al-ṣa‘īd,*
Maḥmūd Ādam,
ordering his officials to assist the recipient to restore mosques.
Dhūl-Ḥijja 1316/April-May 1899.

ARCHIVE 44: four documents photographed by Professor Mūsā Ādam ṣAbd al-Jalīl at Kutum (1977), Northern Darfur District. See further ARCHIVE 60.

DF302.44/1  LETTER
Sultan ṣAlī Dīnār,
Jiddaw w. Ādam,
recipient is to return a cow to Muḥammad w. Najba who has complained of being oppressed.
3 Rajab 1318/27 October 1900.

DF303.44/2  LETTER
Sultan ṣAlī Dīnār,
Jiddaw w. Ādam,
appointing recipient *shartay* of Mashā on *rahad* Kutum.
23 Ṣafar 1322/9 May 1904.

DF304.44/3  DESCRIPTION
*Kashf bayān ḥudūd rū Bayrī maʿaʾl-sharāṭī,*
Of the boundaries of Där Beiri, with a letter approving them from Sultan ³Alî Dînîr.
17 Jumâda II 1319/1 October 1901.
Under the confirmation from Sultan ³Alî Dînîr is a note in English, ”Seen. E.G. Sarsfield-Hall. … March 1916, N.D.D. [Northern Darfur District]”. ⁹¹

DF305.44/4    CHARTER
Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn,
shartay Ādam ḏaw b. al-malik Ḍ̄amad Abū Ṭ̄alab,
granting an estate.
1278/1861-62.

ARCHIVE 45: fifteen documents photographed by Professor J & Madame M.-J. Tubiana (1965) at Dîr (Dîr Suwaynî), Northern Darfur District. See further, J. & M.-J. Tubiana, ”Mission au Darfur”, L’Homme, vii/1, 1967, 89-96, and J-F. Fourcade, ”Documents arabes intéressant l’histoire du Dâr-Fûr”, Dossiers de la R.C.P. no. 45, CNRS Paris, 1, 1968, 35-53. It appears that this collection were subsequently deliberately destroyed, but the circumstances are unclear.

DF306.45/1    SIJILL
Hearing before the qirqîdd⁹² Ibrâhîm Khalîl Râmadân of a dispute between bâsî Nûr al-Dîn and malik Muḥammad Rîl over land.
1243/1827-28.

⁹¹ Sarsfield-Hall served in Northern Darfur in 1916.
⁹² On this title, see O’Fahey (1980), 152-53.

DF307.45/2    SIJILL
Hearing before the wazīr Yūsuf b. Fiṭr of a dispute between al-ḥājj ʿUmar and bāsī Nūr al-Dīn, representing his uncle, malik Maydōb, over land.
Undated.

DF308.45/3    SIJILL
Shaʿbān 1245/February-March 1830.

DF309.45/4    SIJILL
1243/1827-28.
Text in Abū Salīm (1975), 96-97; transl. in O’Fahey & Abu Salīm (1983), 92-93.
DF310.45/5  LETTER
Sultan Muḥammad al-Faḍl,

shartāya Muḥammad Rīl,

warning recipient to keep away from the estate of his uncle, bāsī Nur al-Dīn.

Undated.

Text in Abū Salīm (1975), 98; transl. in O’Fahey & Abu Sali (1983), 90.

DF311.45/6  CHARTER
Sultan ʿAbd al-Rahmān al-Rashīd,

malik Nūr al-Dīn b. Yahyāʾ,

granting the recipient three nomads, ”whom he has brought back from dār al-ṣabāḥ [i.e. Kordofan], as herders for his camels.”

Undated.


DF312.45/7  RESCRIPT
From Sultan Muḥammad al-Faḍl confirming the judgment given in DF307.45/2.

1223/1808-9.

Text in Abū Salīm (1975), 101-3; transl. in O’Fahey & Abu Salim (1983), 96-98.

DF313.45/8  LETTER
Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn,

shartāya Ṭāhir,
warning him to keep away from the estate of his uncle, bāsī Nūr al-Dīn. Undated.


DF314.45/9 CHARTER
Sultan Muḥammad al-Faḍl, bāsī Nūr al-Dīn, granting him the estate of Qumqūm [c. 40 klm. NNE of Dūr].
1238/1822-23.


DF315.45/10 CHARTER
Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn, Sultan Ādam,
granting recipient authority over his people, the Marārīt.93

Text in Abū Salīm (1975), 107-8.

DF316.45/11 CHARTER
Sultan ʿAbd al-Raḥmān al-Rashīd, Nūr al-Dīn,
granting the recipient his maternal kin.
1216/1801-2.

Text in Abū Salīm (1975), 109-10; transl. in O’Fahey & Abu Salim (1983), 81-82.

DF317.45/12  CHARTER
Sultan ʿAbd al-Raḥmān,
amīn Muḥammad b. al-amīn ʿAlī,
granting the recipient fifty-one Arab nomads [whose names are listed] whom he has brought from dār al-ṣabāḥ [i.e. Kordofan].
Date missing (seal-date 1799-1800].
Text in Abū Salīm (1975), 111-2; transl. in O’Fahey & Abu Salim (1983), 77.

DF318.45/13  CHARTER
Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn,
bāṣi Nūr al-Dīn,
confirming the estate of Qumqūm.
12 Ramaḍān …

DF319.45/14  CHARTER
Sultan Muḥammad al-Faḍl,
wazīr amīn faqīh Ḥamīd, ibn al-sūltan,
granting recipient forty-seven Arab nomads who had previously been granted to the amīn Muḥammad b. al-amīn ʿAlī [see DF317.45/12].
1221/1806-7.

DF320.45/15  CHARTER
Sultan Muḥammad al-Faḍl, Nūr al-Dīn b. al-malik Yahyā³, confirming the grant of his maternal relatives [see DF316.45/11]. 1225/1810-11.

Text in Abū Salīm (1975), 117-8; transl. in O’Fahey & Abu Salim (1983), 82-84 with facsimile.


DF321.46/1  CHARTER
[details to come].

DF322.46/2  CHARTER
Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn, the Barriyāb fuqarā⁷, confirming their privileged status which had been granted to the recipients by Sultan Ṭabd al-Raḥmān. The recipients had shown the latter

a charter from Shaykh āAjib of the āAbdallāb.\textsuperscript{95} The charter includes a detailed genealogy.

7 Rabī II …

[Location details to come].

ARCHIVE 47: five documents in the possession of Tāj al-Dīn Badawī of Kutum, Northern Darfur District: photographed by O’Fahey in Khartoum, 1977. See also ARCHIVE 35.

DF323.47/1 CHARTER
Sultan āAlī Dīnār,
Badawī Zayn al-āAbidīn,
confirming an estate at Kafūt [Kofod]: see DF276.35/1.
1328/1910-11.

DF324.47/2 LETTER
Fatḥī Šāliḥ āAlī,
muffattish markaz al-Fāshir,
concerning a dispute between Iṣḥāq Abū and al-hājj Badawī Zayn al-āAbidīn over some land at Kafūt (Kofod).
22 March 1920.

DF325.47/3 LETTER
… … …
Shaykh āUmar and his associates,

\textsuperscript{95} āAjib was ruler of the northern provinces of the Funj Sultanate. This is one of the few examples we have of a holy family "transferring" their privileged status from one state to another.
concerning the land of Badawī Zayn al-ʾAbidīn at Kafūt.
5 September 1929.

DF326.47/4 DECLARATION
By a party of elders (ajāwīd) concerning the boundaries of some disputed land at Kafūt,
addressed to muḥattish al-Fāshir.
… 1927.

DF327 DECLARATION
Concerning boundaries of some land at Kafūt,
addressed to muḥattish al-Fāshir.
28 September 1937.

ARCHIVE 48: one document deposited in the history Museum,
University of Zaria, Northern Nigeria: transcription made available by
Dr. ʿUmar al-Naqar.

DF328.48/1 LETTER
Sultan Muḥammad al-Faḍl,
faqīh al-ḥājj Muḥammad al-Barnāwī,
granting recipient safe-conduct through Darfur.
Undated (seal-date 1218/1803-4).

ARCHIVE 49: six documents of Darfur provenance in the Sudan
Archive, University of Durham. See further, R.L. Hill, Handlist of Arabic

DF329.49/1 LETTER
Sultan Ishāq Abū Rish b. al-ḥājj Muḥammad,\(^{96}\)
\(Al-ḥājj\) Īsā Ḥasan,\(^{97}\)
letter of recommendation for recipient who is passing through on the pilgrimage.
29 Rajab 1309/28 February 1892.
Location: SA, Durham, Box 101/13/2 AR: Handlist, 172.

DF330.49/2 LETTER
Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,
Governor-General of the Sudan,
announcing the surrender of ʿArabī Daff ʿAllāh and listing arms, ammunition and horses captured.
10 Jumāda I 1320/14 August 1902.
English transl. only.
Location: SA, Durham, Box 101/28/7: Handlist, 67.

DF331.49/3 LETTER
Kelly, Col. Philip James Vandeleur,
Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,
[not seen].

\(^{96}\) Sultan of Dār Sīla, 1900-1916.
29 May 1916.
Location: SA, Durham, Box 101/28/3 AR: *Handlist*, 182.

**DF332.49/4** LETTER

Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,
the *sirdār*,
[not seen],
Location: SA, Durham, Box 101/28/1 AR: *Handlist*, 68.

**DF333.49/5** LETTER

Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,
*qumandān quwwat al-hudūd al-gharbaiyya* [Col. P.J.V. Kelly],
offering to come to al-Fāshir to surrender.
2 Ṣafīb 1334/4 June 1916.
Location: SA, Durham, Box 101/28/2 AR: *Handlist*, 69.

**DF334.49/6** LETTER

Kelly, Col. P.J.V.,
Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,
arrangements for his surrender,\(^9\)
9 June 1916.
Location: SA, Durham, Box 101/28/4 AR; *Handlist*, 183.

**ARCHIVE 50.** Seven letters sent between the French authorities in Cairo (1798-1801) and the Darfur authorities. See further, A. Auriant (pseud.),

\(^9\) Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār was killed in ambush on 6 November 1916.

**DF335.50/1**  
LETTER  
Sultan ʿAbd al-Raḥmān,  
"au glorieux sultan des armées françaises", congratulating Bonaparte on his victory over the Mamluks and requesting safe passage for a caravan led by the *khabīr* Yūsuf al-Jallābī.  
Undated [late 1798].  

**DF336.50/2**  
LETTER  
Sultan ʿAbd al-Raḥmān,  
"au sultan des Français, maître de la ville de Siout [Général Desaix],”  
requesting safe passage for the caravan bringing the letter: the sultan’s envoys are *al-ḥājj* Bilālī, Zāʾid and ”Fekka”.  
Undated [early January 1799].  
French transl., Auriant, 201-2.

**DF337.50/3**  
LETTER  
Général en Chef Bonaparte,  
Sultan ʿAbd al-Raḥmān,  
acknowledging receipt of the sultan’s letter (DF335.50/1): explaining that he has been absent in Syria and requesting that 2,000 male slaves be sent to him.
12 Messidor an VIII/30 June 1799.

*Piéces Diverses*, 216.

DF338.50/4 LETTER

Sultan ę Abd al-Rahmān,

"au général français à Siout [Donzelot],"

requesting safe passage for a small caravan and stating what the customs charges should be.

C. September 1800.


DF339.50/5 LETTER

Général de Brigade Donzelot,

au Général en Chef [ę Abd Allāh Menou],

announcing the arrival of a small caravan from Darfur with letter [DF338.50/4].

11 Vendimiaire an IX/3 October 1800.

Vincennes, B⁶ 54, 3.10. 1800.

DF340.50/6 LETTER

Général de Brigade Donzelot,

au Général en Chef,

enclosing a transl. of DF338.50/4.

21 Vendimiaire an IX/13 October 1800.

Vincennes, B⁶ 54, 13.10. 1800.
Sultan ʾAbd al-Rāḥmān, ḥaḍrat sulṭān frānṣīs [Menou], requesting safe passage for a caravan and introducing his envoys, al-ḥājj Bilāl, faqīh Aḥmad and Zāʾid.

Undated [1800].


ARCHIVE 51: two documents from the works of the traveller, Muḥammad b. ʾUmar al-Tūnīsī.⁹⁹ Al-Tūnīsī quotes other letters, which may or may not be authentic, but which I have not listed here.

D342.51/1 CHARTER

Sultan ʾAbd al-Rāḥmān, ʾUmar al-Tūnīsī, granting the recipient an estate Abūʿl-Judūl, comprising three villages, Jūltū, al-Dabba and Umm Baʿūḍa.

Undated.


DF343.51/2 LETTER
Sultan Muḥammad al-Faḍl, ... ... granting recipient(s) authority to go south on a slave-raiding expedition. Undated. French version in Mohammed el Tounsy, Voyage au Ouaday, transl. N. Perron, Paris 1851, 468-69.

ARCHIVE 52: four documents transcribed in Naʿūm Shuqayr, Taʾrīkh al-Sūdān al-qadīm waʿl-ḥadīth wa-jughrāfiyatuhu, Cairo n.d. [1903], ii, 139-41 & 148.

DF344.52/1 CHARTER

DF345.52/2 CHARTER
Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn, "our daughter" mayram Fāṭima Umm Dirays,  

---

100 A model letter, but there is no reason to doubt its general authenticity; see further, O’Fahey "Slavery and the slave trade in Dār Für", Journal of African History, xiv/1, 1973, 29-43.
confirming her husband’s gift to her of the estate ”Niʿama” [or ”Niʿma”].
7 Shawwāl 1269/15 May 1853.
Transl. in O’Fahey & Abu Salim (1983), 102-3.

DF346.52/3 CHARTER
Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn,
the mayram Zahra,
confirming the gift of some Māhriyya nomads by al-ḥājj Ahmad b. ʿĪsā to
Zahra’s baby daughter.
1268/1851-52.
Transl. in O’Fahey & Abu Salim (1983)103-4.

The above three documents are also translated in Kropácek, ”Title-deeds”, 33-50.

DF347.52/4 LETTER
Sultan Ibrāhīm,
Māḥmūd, the imām Ṭāha and all the merchants of Kubayh [Kobbei].
Announcing the death of his father, Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn, and
his own accession.
22 Ṣafar 1290/22 April 1873.

ARCHIVE 53: seven letters, mainly diplomatic, found in printed
sources.

DF348.53/1 LETTER
Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥaḍl,
Muḥammad ʾAlī Pasha, ruler of Egypt,
refuting the latter’s claim to Darfur and asserting his state’s independence: written by Muḥammad b. ʾAmmārī al-Azharī, tutor to the sultan’s children.
1245/1829-30.

Text in Shuqayr, Taʾrīkh, ii, 132-33: another version of the letter is given in Muḥammad ʾAbd al-Raḥīm, al-Durr al-manthūr fī-taʾrīkh bilād al-ʿarab waʾl-fūr, ff. 115, a manuscript history of Darfur located among the author’s papers in the National Records Office, Khartoum. Muḥammad ʾAbd al-Raḥīm says that the letter was taken to Egypt by the khabīr Abbakr al-Khandaqāwī.101

DF349.53/2 LETTER
Sultan Muḥammad al-Faḍl,  
faqīḥ Muḥammad al-Sāyyiḥ Muḥammad Abū Jubba,
accompanying a donation of slaves, cattle, horses, honey, gold and saddles, ”to assist the mosque and feed the poor”.  
Undated.
Facsimile in al-Shāṭir Buṣaylī ʾAbd al-Jalīl, Maʿālim taʾrīkh Sudan wādiʾl-ṉīl, Cairo 1955, 261.


DF350.53/3 LETTER
Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn,

---
Joseph Natterer [Austro-Hungarian vice-consul in Khartoum],
denying all knowledge of the death of Edouard Vogel, the German
traveller, and giving details of the death in al-Fāshir of the French
traveller, Charles Cuny.¹⁰³
7 Dhū’l-ḥijja 1278/5 June 1862.
German transl. in Petermanns Mittheilungen, 1862, 388-89: French
transl. (from the German) in C. Cuny, Journal de Voyage de Siout à El
Obeid, Paris 1858, 198-201.

DF351.53/4 LETTER
Sultan Muḥammad al-Husayn,
John Petherick,¹⁰⁴
giving him permission to visit Darfur if he so wishes, but insisting on
certain resistions of movement.
28 Ramaḍān 1280/26 February 1864.
Facsimile as frontispiece of vol. II of Mr. & Mrs. Petherick, Travels in

DF352.53/5 LETTER
Sultan Ibrāhīm,
Gustav Nachtigal,¹⁰⁵
granting him safe-conduct to the borders of Kordofan.
Undated.

¹⁰² On whom, see Hill (1967), 292-93.
¹⁰³ Ibid. 106.
¹⁰⁴ Ibid. 305-6.
¹⁰⁵ Ibid. 289.

**DF353.53/6**  
**LETTER**  
Sultan Ibrāhīm,  
The Khedive Ismāʿīl,  
announcing the death of his father, Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn, and the arrival of his envoy, *al-ḥajj Ḥamza Imām, sirr tujjār Dār Fūr*, and his brother, Mahmūd.  
Facsimile in J. Deny, *Sommaire des Archives Turques du Caire*, Cairo 1930, plate LIII. Deny (p. 549) says that there other letters from the Darfur sultans in the ā Abdīn Archives.

**DF354.53/7**  
**LETTER**  
Sultan Muḥammad Ḥārūn al-Rashīd,  
*shartay Tāhir*,  
ordering him to join the sultan.  
16 Shawwāl 1296/30 October 1879.  

**ARCHIVE 54**: seven documents of Kordofan provenence.

---

106 Where *al-khawājā*, in this context meaning "Christian”, is tactfully translated as "traveller".
107 Head of the Dafur merchants; see Hill (1967), 150-51.
108 “Shadow Sultan”, see *ibid*, 256-67.
DF355.54/1  

CHARTER

Sultan Muḥammad al-Faḍl,
Shaykh al-Ḍaw b. ʿAbd al-Ḥamīd al-Shuwayḥī,
confirming privileged status originally granted by Sultan ʿAbd al-Raḥmān al-Rashīd.

19 Dhū’l-Ḥijja 1220/30 March 1806.
Transcription in Ḫusayn Ṣīd Aḥmad al-Muṭṭī, Taṭawwur nizām al-qāḍāʾ ʿfiʾl-Ṣūdān, i (all published), Khartoum 1959, 52-53.

DF356.54/2  

SIJILL


11 Ṣafar 1224/28 March 1809.
Text in Husayn, Taṭawwur, 69-70.


DF357.54/3  

CHARTER

Malik Musallim [Musallam] al-Amīn,
Various Shanābla fuqarāʾ,
granting recipients an estate.
Undated (seal-date 1200/1785-86).

DF358.54/4 CHARTER

*Al-sulṭān al-maqdūm* Musallim,

al-Habīb w. Ḥammād,

confirming the privileged status (*jāh*) of a group of Kināna *fuqarā* living in the Jabal Taqalī region.

One of a sequence of seven charters of privilege photographed by Janet Ewald in Jabal Taqalī in 1978. Some of these documents are discussed, including several very poor facsimiles, in  İslām *Qādir Muḥammad*  İslām *Qādir* Dawra, *Ta’rīkh mamlakat Taqalī al-Islāmiyya*, Khartoum 1996, 106-7.  

DF359.45/5 LETTER

Sultan İslām Dīnār,

Sayyid Muḥammad al-Makki,  

announcing the coming of his *maḥmal* with his son, Şāliḥ, and asking for assistance.

Rabi İslām II 1322/May-June 1905.

---

109 Ewald argues in her *Soldiers, Traders and Slaves: State Formation and Economic Transformation in the Greater Nile Valley, 1700-1885*, Madison 1990, 113 & 214-5, n. 119 that this sequence was forged in the twentieth century. I am inclined to disagree at least in regard to the charter from Musallim (on which most of the other charters in the sequence appear to depend) because its witness list comprises Darfur notables who are identifiably contemporaneous with the *maqdūm* and it seems scarcely credible to me that such a list could have been created in twentieth-century Taqalī.

110 Head of the Ismā’īliyya *tarīqa*; on whom, see O’Fahey, *Arabic Writings*, 237-39. Al-Makki and the sultan undoubtedly met in Omdurman when both were in the service of the Khalīfa İslām *Abdollāh*.

111 See *EI* (2).
From a small collection of Ismāʿīliyya documents deposited in the National Records Office, Khartoum.

**DF360.54/6**  LETTER  
Sultan ʾAlī Dīnār,  
Sayyid Muḥammad al-Makkī,  
announcing the coming of his son ʾAbd al-Ṣamad,  
end of Rabīʿ II 1322/June 1905.  
Ismāʿīliyya collection, NRO.

**DF361.54/7**  LETTER  
Sultan ʾAlī Dīnār,  
Sayyid Muḥammad al-Makkī,  
announcing the coming of some of his people and describing his efforts to restore religion in Darfur.  
Dhū’l-Ḥijja 1322/February-March 1905.  
Ismāʿīliyya collection, NRO.

**ARCHIVE 55**: two genealogies. See also Archive 60.

**DF362.55/1**  PEDIGREE  
Of the Awlād Mabnī, a Misriyya clan in Jabal Mūn, Dār Masālīt.  
Undated: 1 ff.  
DF363.55/2     KING-LIST
Of the Fartīt, Tunjur and Fur rulers of Darfur.
Written by Yūsuf Abū Shōk of Kutum, Northern Darfur District.
Undated: 3 ff.
Photographed by Professor J. & M.-J. Tubiana at Kutum in 1970.

ARCHIVE 56: one document photographed by Dr. Terence Walz in Asyūṭ from among the papers of the al-Jawhari family.

DF364.56/1     SIJILL
Hearing before qādi Aḥmad w. Ṭāha of Kubayh (Kobbei) of a settlement concerning a disputed tamassuk [IOU].
11 Shawwāl 1279/22 December 1862.

ARCHIVE 57: two letters of appointment.

DF365.57/1     LETTER
Sultan ʻAlī Dīnār,
shartay Hārūn ʻAbd Allāh,
appointing recipient shartay of Jabal al-Ḥilla.
National Records Office, Khartoum, Miscellaneous 1/41/864.

DF366.57/2     LETTER
Sultan Muḥammad Abū‘l-Khayrāt,
shartay Muḥammad b. ʻIzz al-Dīn Sulaymān,
appointing recipient shartay of Dār Wanni.
National Records Office, Khartoum, Mahdiyya (class two; presently [1981] under re-organization).


DF367.58/1 LETTER
ʿĀmil al-Mahdī Ismāʿīl Abd al-Nabī,
faqīḥ Makkī and his people,
they are to make a recitation of the Qurʾān each Friday.
21 Jumāda II 1303/27 March 1886.

DF368.58/2 LETTER
Ismāʿīl b. ʿAbd al-Nabī,
various fuqārāʾ,
they are not to oppose faqīḥ Makki in collecting the ṭībra.
1303/1885-86.

DF369.58/3 LETTER
Faqīḥ Makkī,
Sultan Abbākr b. Ismāʿīl ʿAbd al-Nabī,
concerning the privileged status of certain villages belonging to faqīh
Makkī.
6 Dhū’l-ḥijja 1321/23 February 1904.

ARCHIVE 59: four literary pieces by Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār.112

DF370.59/1 AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL FRAGMENT
Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār.
9 Ramaḍān 1330/23 August 1912.
Xerox copy, Library, National Records Office, Khartoum. 17fff.

DF371.59/2 AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL FRAGMENT
Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār.
1340/1921-22
11 ff.: with minor lexical differences.
Arkell Papers, first batch, 3/13, ff.1-11, library, School of Oriental and
An abbreviated translation of one of these versions is given in Anon., ”A

DF372.59/3 DIWAN
Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,
Poetry in praise of the Prophet.
Khartoum, 1331/1913.
A printed pamphlet of 22 pages.

112 Item DF372.59/3 is the last to appear in the 1981 version of this list.
Copies in the Library, National Records Office, and the Sudan library, University of Khartoum.

DF373.59/4  KARĀMĀT
[The miracles of 'Ali Dīnār]
'Ali Dīnār seems to have sent a manuscript on this theme to the editor of The Sudan Times, who in turn forwarded a translation to L.B. Jureidini, who in turn published "The miracles of Ali Dinar", The Muslim World, vi, 1917, 409-14.
I have been unable to trace the original.

ARCHIVE 60: eight documents photographed in 2005 in Dār Zaghāwa by Dr. Jerome Tubiana. I give Dr. Tubiana’s numbering. Bire appears on the maps as Dār Beiri, one of the divisions of Dār Zaghāwa.

DF374.60/1 [Bire 1]  CHARTER
Sultan [Muḥammad] Ḥusayn,
(al-malik) Aḥmad Abā,
the malik has requested privileged status [hurma]: the sultan has assigned him an estate.
1278/1861-62.
I am fairly confident that this is a forgery; the seal is crudely engraved and is quite different from the other seals of Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn and I know of no other sultanic charter that ends with intahā. It may be an old forgery since Dr. Tubiana reports that it is written on thick paper.

DF375.60/2 [Bire 2]  LETTER
Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,

the officials and soldiers of Dār Mashā,

appointing [name missing] shartay of Dār Mashā: ”we have arranged for him to re-establish the shartāya in the established way (ʿalā ʿl-madhhab al-qadīm)” : ”you are to receive him with obedience in accordance with our order”.

23 Ṣafar 1328/6 March 1910. See DF303.44/2.

DF376.60/3 [Bire 3] LETTER
Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,
”our son” [waladinā] Abū and Muḥammad Jiddaw Ādam,

DF377.60/4 [Bire 4] = 302.44/1

DF378.60/5 [Bire 5] LETTER
Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,
Jiddaw Ādam,
the bearer of the letter is our son (waladinā) Ḥusayn Ibrāhīm …

5 Rajab 1320/8 October 1902.

DF379.60/6 [Bire 6] LETTER
Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,
Jiddaw Ādam, ʿumda ? [Ḍāba],

14 Jumāda II 1319/28 September 1901.
DF380.60/7 [Bire 7] = DF304.44/3

DF380.60/8 [Twer 1] LETTER

Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn,
to the officials of the state,
_al-malik_ Baḥr w. Nuʿmān, _malik_ Dār Tōma, has complained about his border with Dār Suwaynī: the border is demarcated and described.
Date illegible.

INDEX OF ARCHIVES


ARCHIVE 2: Four documents located in file no. DP 66.K.1.29, Arida Omodia (al-Fāshir Province Archives).


ARCHIVE 5: One document located in file [number missing] Beira Omodia (al-Fāshir Province Archives).

ARCHIVE 6: Twelve documents in the possession (1970) of Bashār al-Ḥājj of Dār Simiyāt, al-Fāshir District. This archive was later partly incorporated into ARCHIVE 28, but the separate numbering of the documents has been retained.


ARCHIVE 15 = ARCHIVE 29


ARCHIVE 17: one document in the possession (1974) of ʿumda ʾĀdam Ḫusayn of Miliṭ (Mellit), Northern Darfur District.


ARCHIVE 20: one document in the possession of (1974) Ḫusayn Ahmaday ʾĀdam Tamīm, shartay or malik of the Berti, of Miliṭ (Mellit), Northern Darfur District.


ARCHIVE 29: six documents in the possession (1976) of Muḥammad and Ibrāhīm ʿAbd Allāh ʿAbd al-Rasūl of al-Ṭawīla, al-Fāshir District: previously listed, but not catalogued as ARCHIVE 15.


ARCHIVE 33: eight documents in the possession (1976) of Maḥmūd Muḥammad Sharīf of Kutum, Northern Darfur District.
ARCHIVE 34: two documents, transcribed from originals, located (1976) in file NDD/66 B 4/2/5, Kutum majlis, Northern Darfur District.


ARCHIVE 37: three documents transcribed (1975) by Ibrāhīm Mūsā Muḥammad from the originals, which are in the possession of Sharīf Ḥāmid of Kattāl, al-Fāshir District.

ARCHIVE 38: seven documents in the possession of the late Şāliḥ Marjān of Nyala, Nyala District: photographed by Dr. Muḥammad Ahmad Bidayn.

ARCHIVE 39: four documents photographed by Dr. Sherif Mahmoud el Hakim in Dār Zayyādiyya, Northern Darfur District.

ARCHIVE 40: one document, in an English transl only, located (1976) in file NDD/66 B 4/2/5 (Dar Anka-Beri), Kutum majlis, Northern Darfur District.

ARCHIVE 41: three documents collected by the late Dr. Muḥammad Ibrāhīm Abū Salīm in Dār Maʿāliyya, Nyala District, in the early 1960s.


ARCHIVE 43: five documents, the photographs of which were located by Professor J.L. Spaulding in the photographic collection of the Ministry of Information, Khartoum.
ARCHIVE 44: four documents photographed by Professor Mūsā Ādam ʿAbd al-Jalīl at Kutum (1977), Northern Darfur District.

ARCHIVE 45: fifteen documents photographed by Professor J & Madame M.-J. Tubiana (1965) at Dōr (Dār Suwaynī), Northern Darfur District.

ARCHIVE 46: two documents formerly in the possession of Dārdirī Ibrāhīm and now deposited in the National Records Office, Khartoum [miscellaneous].

ARCHIVE 47: five documents in the possession of Tāj al-Dīn Badawī of Kutum, Northern Darfur District.

ARCHIVE 48: one document deposited in the history Museum, University of Zaria, Northern Nigeria.

ARCHIVE 49: six documents of Darfur provenance in the Sudan Archive, University of Durham.

ARCHIVE 50: seven letters sent between the French authorities in Cairo (1798-1801) and the Darfur authorities.

ARCHIVE 51: two documents from the works of the traveller, Muḥammad b. ʿUmar al-Tūnisī.

ARCHIVE 52: four documents transcribed in Naʿūm Shuqayr, Taʿrīkh al-Sūdān al-qadīm waʾl-ḥadīth wa-juḡrāfiyatuḥu, Cairo n.d. [1903], ii, 139-41 & 148.

ARCHIVE 53: seven letters, mainly diplomatic, found in printed sources.

ARCHIVE 54: seven documents of Kordofan provenence.

ARCHIVE 55: two genealogies.

ARCHIVE 56: one document photographed by Dr. Terence Walz in Asyūṭ from among the papers of the al-Jawharī family.
ARCHIVE 57: two letters of appointment.

ARCHIVE 58: three documents photographed by Ibrāhīm Yaḥyā ʿAbd al-Raḥmān and Lidwien Kapteijns in Dār Masālīt.

ARCHIVE 59: four literary pieces by Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār.

ARCHIVE 60: eight documents photographed in 2005 in Dār Zaghāwa by Dr. Jerome Tubiana.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

ʿAbd al-Jālīl, al-Shāṭīr Buṣaylī (1955), Maʿālīm taʿrīkh Sūdān wādīl-Nīl, Cairo.


Abū Salīm, Muḥammad Ibrāhīm (1979), Fī shakhṣiyat al-Sūdāniyya, Khartoum.

Jörg Adelberger (1990), Vom Sultanat zur Republik: Veränderungen in der Sozialorganisation der Fur (Sudan), Stuttgart.


J. Deny (1930), *Sommaire des Archives Turques du Caire*, Cairo.


J.B. Jureidini (1917), ”The Miracles of Ali Dinar” *The Muslim World*, vi, 409-14


This work (603 pp.) presents annotated texts and translations of 119 mainly diplomatic letters from the various rulers of the states of the Wadai [Eastern Chad] and Darfur region in the period referred to in the title. It thus forms a very important counterpart to the present *Catalogue*.


John E. Lavers (1968), ”The Adventures of a Kano pilgrim 1892-1893”, *Kano Studies*, i/4, 69-81


This work provides a fundamental ethnographic map of Darfur, but its racial categorizations should be treated with caution.


al-Muftī, Ḥusayn Sīd Ahmad (1959), *Taṭawwur niẓām al-qaḍāʾ fi’l-Sūdān*, i (all published), Khartoum.


R.S O’Fahey (1992), ”A Prince and his neighbours”, *SAJHS*, 3, 57-93.


R.S. O’Fahey & Abdel Ghafar Muhammad Ahmad, (1973) *Documents from Dār Fūr*, fascicle 1 & 2, Programme for the Centre for Middle Eastern and African Studies, University of Bergen [mimeograph: available from the library of the Centre for Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies, University of Bergen].


Mr. & Mrs. Petherick (1869), *Travels in Central Africa*, 2 vols., London.


A monumental encyclopaedia of the tribes, clans and individuals of the Sudan.


*Sudan Political Service, 1899-1956*, Oxford, n.d. [a record of British officials who served in the Sudan Political Service].

A.B. Theobold (1965), *ʿAlī Dinār: Last Sultan of Darfur*. Pp. 226-27 give a brief description of the correspondence to, from and about ʿAlī Dīnār to be found in the British records preserved in the National Records Office, Khartoum.

