

DARFUR HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS: A CATALOGUE

by

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Dedicated to the memory of my friend and mentor

The late Dr. Muḥammad Ibrāhīm Abū Salīm (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

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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 1981.¹ 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.² 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 &

¹ *A Catalogue of Dār Fūr Documents*, mimeograph, Department of History, University of Bergen. 1981.

² I have discontinued my earlier practice of writing the province’s name as Dār Fūr.

Abu Salim (1983) 79-99).³ 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,⁴ 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.⁵

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 [ʿUthmān 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*

⁴ See further, Saeed M.A. El Mahdi, *A Guide to Land Settlement and Registration*, Khartoum 1971.

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* Riḥaymat 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 titled 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 Masālit was divided into eight Arab amirates and five Masālit *firsha* (the Masālit equivalent of *shartay* elsewhere in Darfur)—the Arabs form at most 25% of the population of Dār Masālit; 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 °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 °Abd al-Raḥīm and Dr. A.J. Arkell.⁹ The documents listed here were generally written on imported paper, mainly from Italy, in what might be termed a Sudanese hand. They were usually

⁹ °Alī Dīnār's correspondence is described in A.B. Theobald, *'Alī Dīnār: Last Sultan of Darfur, 1898-1916*, London 1965, 226-27. Unfortunately the papers of Muḥammad °Abd al-Raḥīm, also the CRO, are for the moment neither fully catalogued nor accessible. See Ali Salih Karrar, Yahya Muhammad Ibrahim and R.S. O'Fahey, "The life and writings of a Sudanese historian: Muhammad 'Abd al-Rahim (1878-1966)", *SAJHS*, vi, 1996, 125-36.

I have described Dr. Arkell's papers, deposited at the School of Oriental and African Studies in London, in *Sudan Notes and Records*, lv, 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 °Alī 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 °Uthmān and °Alī Ṣāliḥ 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.

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THE CATALOGUE

ARCHIVE 1: seven documents in the possession (1970) of °Abd Allāh Jiddaw Muḥammad of al-Firsh, al-Fāshir District.

DF1.1./1 CONFIRMATORY CHARTER

Sultan Ḥusayn al-Raṣīd b. *al-sultān* Muḥammad °Ajīb (Abu Kowda),¹⁰
faqīh Idrīs °Abd 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 °Alī Dīnār,
faqīh Idrīs °Abd Allāh al-Kinānī,

confirming his estate,

undated.

Text & transl. in O’Fahey & Ahmad (1973), 1, 30-35.

DF3.1/3 ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER

*abū’l-jabbāyyīn °umūm Dār Fūr*¹¹ Yāsīn Aḥmad & °Uthmān b. °Abd al-
Raḥmān,

faqīh Idrīs °Abd Allāh al-Kinānī,

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 °Alī Dīnār as the latter approached al-Fāshir in October of that year; see DF14.4/1 and DF251.28/32.. According to oral sources, °Alī Dīnār spared his life and made him *sultān al-ḥadādīn*, "king of the iron-workers", a despised endogamous caste in Darfur. For a variant version, see Mūsā al-Mubārak al-Ḥasan, *Ta’rīkh 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^ʿbān 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-ʿumda Yūsuf b. *al-maḡdūm* Muḥammad Sharīf,

al-ʿumda Muḥammad Maḥdī,

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.

Text and transl. in O’Fahey & Ahmed (1973), 1, 36-39.

DF7.1/7 ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER

¹² On whom, see Mūsā al-Mubārak al-Ḥasan, *Taʾrīkh Dār Fūr al-siyāsī*, Khartoum, n.d. 224 ff., where the name is spelt Umm Baddā al-Raḍḍī.

Sultan °Alī Dīnār,

Ādam Yaḥyā,

faqīh Idrīs °Abd 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 ŞULḤ

Settlement of a boundary dispute between the Banī °Umrān and the Ma°āqiliyya.

Undated: Condominium: in transcription only.

DF9.2/2 ŞULḤ

Settlement of a boundary dispute between the Banī °Umrān and the Ma°āqilliya.

Jumāda I 1335/February-March 1917 :Condominium.

DF10.2/3 ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER

[Musaym Kashām] °Urabī,

Shaykh Ḥasab Allāh Khalīl and shaykh *faqīh* Muḥammad Ḥusayn, concerning the disposition of land.

1335/1916-17.

DF11.2/4 CHARTER?

Sultan °Alī Dīnār,

... ..

8 Rabī^c 1317/16 August 1899.

A forgery?

ARCHIVE 3: Two documents in the possession (1970) of ^cAlī Ḥasab Allāh of al-Fāshir.

DF12.3/1 SIJILL

Hearing before the *ḥikimdār* Ismā^cīl Ayyūb Pasha¹³ of a dispute over land between Abu'l-Ḥasan and Riḍwān.

30 Rabī^c 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,
faqīh ^cAbd ^cAllāh b. Abū'l-Ḥasan,
confirming his estate.

Text and transl. in O'Fahey & Ahmed (1973), 2, 14-20, and transl. in O'Fahey & Abu Salim (1983)35-37.

ARCHIVE 4: One document in the possession (1970) of *malik* Riḥaymat Allāh Maḥmūd al-Dādiṅqāwī of al-Fāshir.

DF14.4/1 LETTER

Sultan Ḥusayn b. *al-sulṭān* Muḥammad ^cAjīb [Abū Kowda],
"our brother" Sultan ^cAlī 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 °Alī Dīnār,

°Irayqāt tribe,

appointing Muḥammad °Alī Ṣāliḥ as their chief and delimiting their boundaries.

15 Rabī° 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
|
Muḥammad
|

°Abdullāhi

|

al-Dōma

|

Muḥammad

”The Simiat consist of twelve *khashm al-buyūt*, originally from the Berti.¹⁴ 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 °Alī Dīnār,

al-Dōma Muḥammad,

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

22 Dhu’l-qa°da 1316/3 April 1899.

DF17.6/2 ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER

Sultan °Alī Dīnār,

¹⁴ See further, Ladislav Holy, *Neighbours and Kinsmen. A study of the Berti people of Darfur*, london, 1975, ix, 139 & 141.

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 *sīn* 1316/2 November 1898.

DF18.6/3 ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER

Sultan °Alī 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 °Alī 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 °Alī 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 °Alī Dīnār,
 al-Dōma Muḥammad, °*umda al-Simiyāt*,
 recipient is to return some Birqīd (Birged), who have deserted their land
 to their chief, Aḥmad Duḥaysh.
 26 Ṣafar 1317/6 July 1899.

DF22.6/7 ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER

Sultan °Alī Dīnār,
 al-Dōma Muḥammad, °*umda 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 °Alī Dīnār,
 al-Dōma Muḥammad, °*umda 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 °Alī 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 °Alī Dīnār,

al-Dōma Muḥammad, °*umda al-Simiyāt*,

huts and a storage enclosure (*zarība mashayyina*) are to be erected on deserted land.

19 Muḥarram 1319/8 May 1901.

DF26.6/11 ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER

Sultan °Alī Dīnār,

al-Dōma Muḥammad al-Simiyātī,

recipient is to give 10 *ardabbs* from his revenues to Jārayn Bāsī.

5 Ṣafar 1319/24 May 1901.

DF27.6/12 ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER

Sultan °Alī Dīnār,

al-Dōma 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-Fāshir: the *muqaddam* is to appoint a deputy to recite the Qur'ān for victory.¹⁵

19 Jumāda II 1322/31 August 1904.

ARCHIVE 7: thirty-five documents in the possession (1974) of *al-ḥājj* Abū Bakr Maḥmūd °Alī Najm al-Dīn of al-Fāshir. They concern the

¹⁵ Probably on the occasion of a campaign against *faqīh* Sinīn, who was based at Kabkābiyya; on Sinīn (Sanīn), see Theobald (1965), *passim*.

affairs of °Ali 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 °Alī Dīnār,

°Alī 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 °Abd Allāh, *qādī °umūm Dār Fūr*,¹⁶

the shaykhs and people of Azaqarfa district,

°Alī Najm al-Dīn possesses a charter of Sultan °Alī 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 °Alī Dīnār,

°Alī Najm al-Dīn,

granting privileged status (*ḥurma*).

28 Jumāda II 1316/15 November 1898.

DF31.7/4 LETTER

¹⁶ On whom, see Theobald (1965), 212-3.

Sultan °Alī Dīnār,

°Alī Najm al-Dīn,

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 °Alī Dīnār,

Ḥamad °Abd al-Qādir, *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 °Alī Dīnār,

Ḥamad °Abd al-Qādir,

appointing recipient *nā'ib shar'ī* of the Jadīd [al-Sayl] and al-Simiyāt districts.¹⁷

1316/1898-99.

DF34.7/7 SIJILL

Hearing of a dispute over land between Ādam ... al-Burqāwī and Maḥmūd °Alī Najm al-Dīn: refers to earlier documents.

24 June 1954: Condominium.

DF35.7/8 ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER

¹⁷ A position he evidently held under the Mahdiyya, as the following documents evidence.

Sultan °Alī Dīnār,

°Alī Najm al-Dīn,

recipient had been ordered to supply some wood but has been dilatory:
the sultan reproves him.

28 Şafar 1317/8 July 1899.

Df36.7/9 LETTER

Ḥamad °Abd al-Qādir, *nā'ib Jadīd al-Sayl*,

Muḥammad al-Rayyaḥ, *nā'ib °umūm 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 °Alī
Najm al-Dīn.

Undated (1311/1893).

DF36.7/9 to DF38.7/11 concern the same topic.

DF37.7/10¹⁹ LETTER

Muḥammad al-Rayyaḥ, *nā'ib al-shar'ī bi-Dār Fūr*,

Ḥamad °Abd al-Qādir,

authorizing the exchange of slaves requested in DF36.7/9.

27 Şafar 1311/9 September 1893.

DF38,7/11 LETTER

Ḥamad °Abd al-Qādir, *nā'ib Jadīd al-Sayl*,

°Alī 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 Septeber 1893.

DF39.7/12 LETTER

Maḥmūd Aḥmad,²⁰

”all the people of the twenty-four villages listed below”,

in response to a petition from °Alī Najm al-Dīn complaining of
interference by the *mulāzimiyya*,²¹ Maḥmūd has appointed his son, Zāʿid,
[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 (*khutt*) and those
within it”.

Probably written by °Alī Najm al-Dīn.

Undated.

DF41.7/16 PETITION

Thābit Abbakr and others,

Ṣalāḥ Abū,

asking for confirmation of °Alī 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.

²¹ See Holt (1970), 207.

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,

°Alī Najm al-Dīn,

enclosing a copy of °Uthmān 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 °Alī Dīnār,

°Alī Najm al-Dīn,

ordering the payment of 30 dollars within four days.

10 Dhu’l-qa°da 1317/12 March 1900.

DF45.7/18 LETTER

al-Nūr Jadīd,

Sh.q.r. and Maḥmūd °Alī 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 °Alī Dīnār,
 °Alī Najm al-Dīn,
 acknowledging receipt of a "milk camel".
 1316-7/1898-99.

DF47.7/20 ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER

Sultan °Alī Dīnār,
 °Alī 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,
 °Alī 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 °Alī Dīnār,
 °Alī Najm al-Dīn,
 reminding recipient of an earlier demand (i.e. DF60.7/33) for a hundred
 wooden poles needed for weapons.
 6 Rabī° II 1317/14 August 1899.

DF50.7/23 ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER

Sultan °Alī Dīnār,

Ḥamīd Bishāra,

in response to DF51.7/24: °Alī Najm al-Dīn is responsible for the petitioners.

22 Ramaḍān 1316/3 February 1899.

DF51.7/24 PETITION

Ḥamīd Bishāra and others,

Sultan °Alī Dīnār,

°Alī Najm al-Dīn has been neglecting them.

3 Ramaḍān 1316/15 January 1899.

DF52.7/25 SIJILL

Hearing of a dispute before ... between *faqīh* Markaz and °Alī Najm al-Dīn over the alleged illegal sale of a cow.

15 Muḥarram 1317/26 May 1899.

DF53.7/26 ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER

Sultan °Alī Dīnār,

°Alī Najm al-Dīn,

acknowledging receipt of 50 *ardabbs* from Jadīd al-Sayl.

[date missing]

DF54.7/27 ADMINISTRATIVE TITLE

al-abū Sitayba Khāṭir,²³

°Alī Najm al-Dīn and others,

requisition of grain for the palace.

17 Sha°bān 1317/21 December 1899.

DF55.7/28 ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER

al-abū Sitayba Khāṭir,

°Alī Najm al-Dīn,

order that Jadīd al-Sayl is to pay an additional 50 dollars a month.

22 Sha°bān 1317/26 December 1899.

DF56.7/29 ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER

al-abū Sitayba Khāṭir,

°Alī Najm al-Dīn,

four named people at Umm Taytī are not to be disturbed.

2 Muḥarram 1316/23 May 1898.

DF57.7/30 LIST

Livestock owned by °Alī Najm al-Dīn and others: listed Muḥammad al-Faḍl.

1319/1901-2.

DF58.7/31 ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER

Sultan °Alī Dīnār,

°Alī 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 °Alī Dīnār,

°Alī Najm al-Dīn,

order to give 3 *ardabbs* to al-Ḥājj,

22 Sha°bān 1317/27 December 1899.

DF60.7/33 ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER

Sultan °Alī Dīnār,

°Alī 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 °Alī Dīnār,

°Alī 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,

°Alī Najm al-Dīn and the people of Jadīd al-Sayl,

²⁴ °Alī Dīnār's leading general (d. 1911) and ancestor of the present (1967), 26, which is not entirely accurate.

maqḏūms of Nyala; see Hill

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.

Text and transl. in J.O. Hunwick, "A Mahdist letter from Dār Fūr", *Fontes Historiae Africanae: Bulletin of information*, 11/12, 1986-87, 21-25; repr. in *SAJHS*, 13, 2002, 21-25.

ARCHIVE 8: eleven documents in the possession (1974) of °Abd al-Mājid Mukhtār al-Sanūsī of al-Fāshir. They concern the affairs of a Fulani family living just north of al-Fāshir. °Abd al-Mājid was a member of the Fallāta °Īsā; his pedigree is,

°Īsā
|
al-Barnāwī
|
Jalāl al-Dīn
|
Jimayl
|
Dushash
|
Muḥammad
|
al-Sanūsī
|
Mukhtār
|

°Abd al-Mājid

DF63.8/1 SIJILL

Hearing before *qādī* °Uthmān of a dispute between *faqīh* Jalāla and *walad al-sultān*²⁵ 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 Sa°id °Abd al-Jabbār of a dispute between *faqīh* Jalāl al-Dīn and *faqīh* Hūt, defendant sued for trespass by his slaves (see DF63.8/1).

6 Sha°bān 1268/6 June 1852.

DF65.8/3 SIJILL

Hearing before the *maqdūm* Khalīl²⁶ of a dispute between his brothers and *faqīh al-ḥājj* Jalāl al-Dīn over their community's land.

1279/1862-63.

DF66.8/4 ŞULḤ

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. °Abd al-Sid, 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 *qāḍī al-ḥājj* °Izz al-Dīn²⁷ of a dispute between *faqīh* Aḥmad al-Bukhārī and the Awlād Abū Qurūn over the ownership of twelve fields.

4 Sha°bān 1227/13 August 1812.

DF69.8/7 SIJILL

Hearing before the *malik* ... of a dispute between Aḥmad al-Bukhārī and *walad al-sultān* °Aqrab over land.

5 Jumāda I 1230/15 April 1815.

DF70.8/8 SIJILL

Hearing before *malik* Raḥm²⁸ of a dispute between Ḥasab 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 Ismā°īl 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.

DF72.8/10 SIJILL

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 Ḥammād Muḥammad al-Ṭayyib of al-Fāshir.

DF74.9/1 ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER

Sultan °Alī Dīnār,

maqdūm Aḥmad b. *al-maqaḍūm* Muṣṭafā,

the sultan has ordered °Abd al-Raḥmān Makkī [and his people] to resettle their former lands.²⁹

17 Dhu'l-ḥijja 1317/16 April 1900.

DF75.9/2 ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER

Sultan °Alī Dīnār,

°Abd al-Raḥmān Makkī,

recipient has resettled some deserted land: sultan confirms their rights there.

23 Jumāda II 1320/27 September 1902.

ARCHIVE 10: eleven documents in the possession (1974) of *al-ḥājj* Abū Zayd °Alī of al-Fāshir.

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* Tibn Sa^cd al-Nūr³⁰ of the sale of a slave woman [description given] at a public auction.

21 Ramaḍān 1332/13 August 1914.

DF77.10/2 LETTER

Confirmation issued by Ibrāhīm Maḥmūd Bakhīt for Muḥammad °Uthmān for the sale of a slave woman [description given].

25 Rabī^c II 1328/6 May 1910.

DF78.10.3 LETTER

Concerning al-Fāshir market.

Undated: Condominium.

DF79.10/4 LETTER

Sultan °Alī Dīnār,

al-Bidayn Ṣālīḥ, 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 °Alī Dīnār,

Bakhīt Tāj al-Dīn and Shaykh al-Ghalī Tāj al-Dīn,³¹

³⁰ *Maqdūm* of the South; also held the titles, *soming dogala* [guardian of the children of the court school] and *malik al-naḥās* [master of the royal drums]; see O'Fahey (1980), 91 and Hill (1967), 359.

³¹ The latter was *nāzīr* of the Habbāniyya; see Hill (1967), 134-35.

ordering them to withdraw their troops from Kalaka and send them home.

13 Rabī^c 1334/19 January 1916.

DF81.10/6 LETTER

Sultan °Alī Dīnār,

Muḥamad °Uhmān Abū [Takkiyya],

giving recipient permission to undertake a trading journey and listing his animals.

2 Rabī^c I 1319/19 July 1901.

DF82.10/7 LETTER

Sultan °Alī Dīnār,

Sulaymān b. *al-ḥājj* Šāliḥ al-Majbarī,

acknowledging letter and presents: Majābra³² merchants will be well received: presents following.

Muḥarram 1323/April-May 1905.

DF83.10/8 LETTER

Sultan °Alī Dīnār,

Bakhīt [Tāj al-Dīn? See DF80.10/5],

the sultan has sent Muḥammad Kebkebe³³ with two companies (*bulūk*) of *jihādiyya* troops.

18 Šafar 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 Sanūsiyya *ṭarīqa*, 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 °Alī Dīnār,

°Abd al-Raḥmān Ḥammūda,

granting pardon to the recipient's people at Kafūt (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-°Abbāsī,³⁴

Muḥammad Abū Takkiyya,

safe-conduct for recipient, "merchant and servant" of Sultan °Alī Dīnār.

12 Muḥarram 1320/21 April 1902.

Text and transl. in Kapteijns and Spaulding (1988), 161-63.

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.

Text and transl. in Kapteijns and Spaulding (1988), 154-57.

ARCHIVE 11: six documents in the possession (1974) of Aḥmad Sulaymān °Abd al-Waḥhāb of Milīṭ (Mellit), Northern Darfur District. 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”,
Sudanic Africa. A Journal of Historical Sources, 3, 1992, 57-93.

DF87.11/1 SIJILL

Hearing before [*qādī*] *al-ḥājj* Muḥammad Ḥārith of a dispute between
bāsī Kiriyyū and Bukr b. Muḥammad Tūr over land.

1261/1845-46.

DF88.11/2 CHARTER

Sultan Muḥammad al-Faḍl,

°Abd al-Qāsim b. Muḥammad Tūr b. Ḥāfiẓ [b. Sultan Aḥmad Bukr],
confirming an estate [*ḥākūra*] at Biliyyū (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 Biliyyū.

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 [*jāh*].

1220/1805-6.

DF91.11/5 CHARTER

Sultan °Alī Dīnār,

°Alī w. °Umar, °Umar Bukr and others,

confirming the rights, estate [Biliyū], and privileges granted in the previous three charters.

5 Sha°bān 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 °Abd al-Raḥmān,

Muḥammad Tūr b. Ḥāfiẓ b. *al-sultān* Aḥmad Bukr,

confirming rights over the estate of Biliyū 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 Ādam Rijāl °Alī of Khirībān, al-Fāshir District.

Ādam Rijāl b. °Alī b. Muḥammadayn b. Madanī, a Tunjurāwī from Tamra Kere, just north of Jafeina. One of his ancestors, *al-faqīh* °Abd

Allāh Maṭlūq, a Tunjurāwī from Jabal Ḥurayz, was a *wazīr* to Sultan Muḥammad Tayrāb.

Ādam Rijāl and Muḥammad Ādam brought a 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 *maqḍūm* Aḥmad Bukr and *shartay* Muḥammad Ḥummārū of a dispute over land concerning al-Ḍaw Abū'l-Taymān w. Tīt [or Tayti].

15 Dhu'l-qa^cda 1316/27 March 1899.

DF95.12/3 LETTER

Ibrāhīm °Abd al-Dāfi^c,

°Alī Muḥammadayn,

demanding taxes of 5 dollars.

1318/1900-1.

DF96.12/4 LETTER

faqīh al-ḥājj Wādī,

basi Abū Ḥasan,

recipient as commissioner (*muwajjah*)³⁶ formerly demarcated the estate of Badawī b. °Abd 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

amīn Ḥasan b. *al-maqdūm* Muḥammad Sa°d al-Nūr,
faqīh Muḥammadayn,

°Abd 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.ī,

recipient, who is the head of a slave settlement (*°abidiyya*) 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* Ḥasan Siqirī³⁸ 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.

1261/1845-46. Transl. in O’Fahey & Abu Salim (1983), 65-68.

DF100.12/8 SIJILL

Hearing before *qādī al-ḥājj* °Izz 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 Shalabī b. *al-sultān* °Umar b.l.m.ī, *takanāwī* Yaḥyā 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 Ḥasan Segere, *maqdūm* of the North (*dār al-rīḥ*) 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.

Transl. in O’Fahey & Abu Salim (1983), 56-58.

DF104.12/12 SIJILL

Hearing before *qāḍī al-ḥājj* °Izz al-Dīn of a dispute between Badawī and *walad al-sulṭān* °Aqrab: 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* °Abd Allāh b. *al-malik* Ibrāhīm b. Ramād³⁹ of a dispute between °Alī and Madanī b. °Abd 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.

Transl. in O’Fahey & Abu Salim (1983)58-61.

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-sultān* Muḥammad Hūd: 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. °Abd Allāh Maṭlūq al-Tunjurāwī,
confirming privileged status (*jāh*).

1221/1806-7.

The second in a sequence of charters, *viz*, DF108.12/16; DF107.12/15 & DF109.12/17.

Transl. in O’Fahey & Abu Salim (1983), 48.

DF108.12/16

Sultan °Abd al-Raḥmān,
Badawī b. °Abd Allāh Maṭlūq,
confirming privileged status (*jāh*), originally granted to his father by
Sultan Muḥammad Tayrāb.

Undated (seal-date 1214/1799-1800)

The first in a sequence of charters, *viz*, DF108.12/16; DF107.12/15 & DF109.12/17.

Transl. in O’Fahey & Abu Salim (1983), 47.

DF109.12/17 CHARTER

Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn,

Madanī b. °Abd Allāh Maṭlūq al-Tunjurāwī,
confirming privileged status (*jāh*), originally granted by Sultan
Muḥammad Tayrāb.

24 Ramaḍān 1257/8 November 1841.

The third in a sequence of charters, *viz.*, DF108.12/16; DF107.12/15 &
DF109.12/17.

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. Madanī b. °Abd Allāh Maṭlūq,
granting recipient an estate (*ḥākūra*) at Kamala Kīrī⁴⁰ (Khirībān).

25 Dhu’l-qa’da 1258/28 December 1842.

Transl. in O’Fahey & Abu Salim (1983), 50-51.

DF112.12/20 CHARTER

Sultan °Alī 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, °Abd
al-Raḥmān al-Rashīd, Muḥammad al-Faḍl and Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn.

2 Ṣafar 1318/12 June 1899.

Transl. in O’Fahey & Abu Salim (1983), 52-53.

DF113.12/21 LETTER

Sultan Muḥammad al-Faḍl,

al-ḥājj Wādī,

ordering the recipient to demarcate the land between Badawī and *walad*
al-sulṭān °Aqrab.

Undated.

Cf. DF96.12/4 & DF104.12/12.

Transl. in O’Fahey & Abu Salim (1983), 63.

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.

ARCHIVE 13: ten documents in the possession (1974) of Muḥammad al-Ḥājj Ādam of al-Fāshir. I have published most of the important documents from this archive in a two-part article, "The Archives of Shoba", *Sudanic Africa. Journal of Historical Sources (SAJHS)*, 1, 1990, 71-83 (part one) and 2, 1991, 79-112 (part two). A few smaller items remain unpublished.

DF116.13/1 LETTER

Maqdūm, āb shaykh dālī ° Abd al-Qafā,

Shaykh Ṣālih,

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).

Text, transl. & facsimile in *SAJHS*, ii, 1991, 105-7.

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-jibā'ī*).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

faqīh °Umar 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 °Abd 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 *qāḍī* Bilāl, acting for the *shaykh al-Islām* Muḥammad Iṣḥāq,⁴² of a dispute between *malik* Tūtir (Tawtir) and Saʿīd b. *al-ḥājj* Ādam over the ownership of a runaway unnamed slave woman.

Undated

Text and transl. in O’Fahey (1991), 93-101.

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), 10710.

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 Ūmā 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 Jawāmi°a clan of Jadīd al-Sayl. He explained that the Jawāmi°a of Jadīd al-Sayl are divided into five sections, *viz.* :—

- (1) Awlād Jāmi°c
- (2) Awlād Mūruj
- (3) Awlad Sulaymān
- (4) Ja°āfirī (*sic*)
- (5) Ghanamiyya.⁴⁵

”He further explained that °Izz al-Dīn, the *qāḍī al-quḍāt* of al-Tūnisī, was from the Awlād Jāmi°c: a brief pedigree

?

|

Jalāl al-Dīn	Muslim
°Izz al-Dīn	

”*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 Jawāmi°a, see MacMichael (1922), i, 225-26.

Khalīfa

|

Hadī

Came from Kordofan and settled at Jadīd al-Sayl.

|

Ismāʿīl

|

Najm al-Dīn

|

ʿAlī⁴⁶

|

Maḥmūd

|

Abū Bakr

DF126.14/1 CHARTER

Sultan ʿAbd al-Raḥmān,

the Awlād *faqīh* Muḥammad ʿIzz al-Dīn,

confirming an endowment (*waqf*) at Qiraywūd al-Zaraf (Jadīd al-Sayl District) first granted to *faqīh* 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).

Transl. in O’Fahey & Abu Salim (1983), 39-40.

DF127.14/2 LETTER

⁴⁶ The subject of most of the documents in ARCHIVE 7.

Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn,

faqīh Sa°d al-Dīn,

ordering the recipient and the *fuqarā'* under him to make a thousand recitations of the Qur°ān 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. Sa°d al-Dīn,

confirming an endowment (*waqf*) in support of the mosque at Jadīd al-Sayl:⁴⁷ 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 °Izz al-Dīn,

recipient has asked for and has been granted the estate (*ḥākūra*) called "Bayd", formerly owned by *ḥabbūba īya* 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 °Abd al-Raḥmān were still standing in the 1970s. The term, *waqf*, appears only rarely.

Sultan °Alī Dīnār,

faqīh Jiddaw b. Bukhārī,

confirming an estate granted by Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn to the recipient's grandfather.

4 Sha°bān 1316/18 December 1898.

Transl. in O'Fahey & Abu Salim (1983),44-45.

DF131/14/6 PEDIGREE

The pedigree of °*umda* Layyin Taqī al-Dīn of Jadīd al-Sayl: modern copy of original dated 1314/1896-97.

ARCHIVE 15 = ARCHIVE 29

ARCHIVE 16: two documents in the possession (1974) of Ismā°īl Ādam of al-Ṭawīla, al-Fāshir District.

Df138.16/1 CHARTER

Sultan °Alī Dīnār,

Abbakr Khamīs,

confirming an estate in the *shartāya* of Khāṭir Ibrāhīm (al-Ṭawīla District).

14 Dhu'l-qa°da 1316/4 April 1899.

DF139.16/2 CHARTER

Sultan °Alī Dīnār,

Abbakr Khamīs,

confirming an estate at Umm Shidayra (al-Ṭawīla District) formerly belonging to the recipient's grandfather.

18 Dhu'l-qa^cda 1317/20 March 1900.

ARCHIVE 17: one document in the possession (1974) of *ʿumda* Ādam Ḥusayn of Milīṭ (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 Milīṭ (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.⁴⁸ The owner's pedigree was as follows,

Muḥammad Abū Khurayz

|

ʿAbdullāhi

|

Ibrāhīm

|

Sulaymān

|

⁴⁸ In an undated genealogical history of the movements of the branches of the Awlād Jābir, there is reference to one branch moving to Milīṭ; see al-Shāṭir Buṣaylī ʿAbd al-Jalīl, *Maʿālim taʾrīkh Sūdān wādī'l-Nīl*, Cairo 1955, 252. On the wider history of the Awlād Jābir, see P.M. Holt, *Studies in the History of the Near East*, London 1973, 88-103.

Muḥammad

DF141.18/1 CHARTER

Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn,

faqīh Ibrāhīm,

confirming the privileged status (*jāh*) of the descendants of °Abd 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,⁴⁹

the Awlād Jābir; *faqīh* °Abd al-Ḥamīd, *faqīh* 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.

Text. & transl. in O'Fahey, "Two Early Dār Fūr Charters", *Sudan Texts Bulletin*, Coleraine, 1, 1979, 13-6.

DF143.18/3 CHARTER

Al-āb al-takanāwī Muḥammad Sulaymān Ādam Umm Dayn,

faqīh 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 °Abd 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 °Alī Dīnār,

the shaykhs of the Zayyādiyya,

confirming that *faqīh* Abū Umm Dūrayn, of the Maḥāmīd people, is "master of the mosque" and possesses ancient charters of privileged status.

1316/1898-99.

DF145.18/5 CHARTER

Sultan °Abd al-Raḥmān,

faqīh Fāris b. °Abd 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* Yaḥyā of a dispute between Shaykh °Affūn and Sālim Kabnaqar: plaintiff sues for the payment of local taxes.

Undated.

DF147.18/7 CHARTER

Maqdūm Ādam Iriqā,⁵⁰

faqīh Ibrāhīm,

confirming the privileged status of the descendants of °Abd al-Ḥamīd al-Jābirī.

1277/1860-61.

DF148.18/8 CHARTER

Takanāwī malik Aḥmad Zill al-Sayf,

faqīh °Abd al-Faraj,

confirming privileged status.

10 Muḥarram 1264/18 December 1847.

The second in a sequence of charts, *viz.* DF180.18/40; *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 °Abd al-Ḥamīd al-Jābirī.

1222/1807-8.

The fourth in a sequence of charters, *viz.* DF142.18/2; DF173.18/33; DF145.18/5; *DF149.18/9* & DF141.18/1.

DF150.18/10 LETTER

Sultan °Abd al-Raḥmān,

⁵⁰ The Fur title, *Iringa*.

takanāwī Aḥmad al-Badawī,

recipient is to investigate a dispute over some land between two groups of *fuqarāʾ*.

Undated.

DF151.18/11 LETTER

al-āb al-takanāwī 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 Khurays,

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-sultān al-khalīfa al-ḥājj Ishāq,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 Aḥmad, his brother *faqīh* °Ubayḍ and *faqīh* Bakhīt, 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.⁵³

DF157.18/19 SIJILL

⁵² Son of Sultan Muḥammad Tayrāb, who was appointed as his father's chosen successor (*khalīfa*) when the latter invaded Kordofan. When Tayrāb died in Kordofan in 1785-86, the army there chose °Abd al-Raḥmān al-Rashīd b. Aḥmad Bukr as the next sultan. There ensued a three-year long civil between Ishāq, supported by his Zaghawa maternal kin, and °Abd al-Raḥmān. Ishāq 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.

⁵³ Probably to be dated to the time of al-Zubayr's invasion, 1873-74..

Hearing before *qāḍī* Muḥammad al-Ḥārith b. *al-ḥājj* °Izz al-Dīn of a dispute between Muṣṭafā b. *al-faqīh* Ṭāha b. *āb al-takanāwī* and *faqīh* Bakhīt over ownership rights (*shirka* or *sharika*) in land at al-Tamra.

14 Dhu'l-qa°da 1256/7 January 1841.

DF158.18/18 CHARTER

Al-āb al-takanāwī maqdūm Muḥammad al-Arbāb,
the sons of *faqīh* °Abd 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 *qāḍī* Muḥammad b. *al-qāḍī* Khalīl, from the entourage (*ṭaraf*) of the *iy(a) bāsī al-mayrām* Zamzam,⁵⁴ acting for the *qāḍī* Muḥammad Abu'l-Qāsim, of a dispute between Shaykh Rājil and *faqīh* Bakhīt over land.

1260/1844-45.

160.18/20 CHARTER

Sultan Muḥammad Harūt,⁵⁵

Al-Ḥāfiẓ °Abd al-°Azīz and his brothers,
granting them an estate at al-Tamrū.

⁵⁴ Sister of Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn; on whom, see O'Fahey (1980), 33-35 *et passim*.

⁵⁵ Sultan Muḥammad Dawra: the charter bears the seal of Sultan Aḥmad Bukr: see DF142.18/2. Gustav Nachtiga, *Sahara and Sudan*, transl. A.G.B. & H.J. Fisher, 4 vols., London 1971-87, iv, 282 gives "Harut" as an alternative name to "Dawra".

Undated.

The first in a sequence of charters, *viz.* DF160.18/20; DF166.18/26 & DF155.18/15.

Text and transl. in O'Fahey, "Two early Dār Fūr charters", *Sudan Texts Bulletin*, Coleraine, 1, 13-17.

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 Muḥamad f.l.w.ā and *malik* d.k.mī [Dokumī],

the dispute between *faqīh* Bakhīt and *sharīf* °Abd 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*

°Abd al-°Azīz.

Undated.

DF165.18/25 LETTER

Qāḍī Ādam Ḥadīd, acting for his father *shaykh al-Islām*, *qāḍī*

Muḥammad Ishāq,

al-sharīf °Abd al-Manān,

concerning the marriage of the recipient's niece.

Undated.

DF166.18/26 CHARTER

Sultan Muḥammad Tayrāb,

faqīh Aḥmad and his brother, *faqīh* °Abd 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, *qāḍī al-ḥājj* °Izz al-Dīn,

faqīh Bakhīt,

in answer to the recipient's letter: he is to come with his complaint.

Undated.

DF168.18/28 LETTER

Qāḍī Muḥammad al-Ḥārith,

faqīh Bakhīt w. °Abd al-Rasūl,

with reference to a complaint by Shaykh Khālid, the recipient is stay away from him.

Undated.

DF169.18/29 LETTER

Shaykh al-quḍāt, *qāḍī* Muḥammad al-Ḥārith,

Awlād t.q.l. and h.w.i,

faqīh Bakhīt 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 *qāḍī* Ḥasan, acting for his brother *qāḍī* Muḥammad Ishāq, of a dispute between *faqīh* Ibrāhīm and Abūn, 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,

Ambadā al-Raḍḍī, *wakīl markaz al-Fāshir wa-°umūm al-ghurūb*,

the petitioner's people have been unjustly treated.

1314/1896-97. Mahdiyya.

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^cda 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* °Abd 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 °Abd Allāh b. *al-amīn al-malik* Ibrāhīm Ramād,

the sons of *faqīh* °Abdall (*sic*),

confirming their privileged status and land at Tamra.

30 (?) Shawwāl 1258/c. 6 October 1842.

DF175.18/35 SIJILL

Hearing before *qāḍī* Muḥammad Ishāq of a dispute between *malik* Abū Bakr and °Abd Allāh and Ādam: plaintiff sues for the return of his slave-girl, Sa°da.

1290/1873-74.

DF176.18/36 LETTER

Al-āb al-takanāwī Ādam Tinbukī,

Baraq and Ḥassūb,

faqīh °Abd 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 °Abd al-Sīd,

al-āb al-takanāwī, *faqīh* Muḥammad Ṣābūn 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 °Abd Allāh,

faqīh Ḍayyif,

warning recipient to keep away from the *faqīhs* Naṣr and Sirāj,

Undated.

DF179.18/39 CHARTER

Al-amīn °Abd al-Bārī,

faqīh Sulaymān,

confirming privileged status of the sons of Abū Khurayṣ and their sons.

Dhu'l-ḥijja 1231/December 1815-January 1816.

Compare DF152.18/12.

DF180.18/40 CHARTER

Takanāwī Ādam b. *al-takanāwī* Tinbukī,

the sons of *faqīh* Muḥammad Abū Khurayṣ al-Jābirī,

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-Ḥājj, deputy (*nā'ib*) of *malik* Musallam,⁵⁶

faqīh Fāris b. *al-faqīh* Muḥammad Abū Khurayṣ,

confirming the privileged status of the descendants of *faqīh* °Abd al-

Ḥamīd al-Jābirī,

Undated.

DF182.18/42 LETTER

Qādī °*umūm Dār Fūr* Idrīs °Abd Allāh,

Ādam Tamīm Bishāra,⁵⁷

faqīh Muḥammad Ishāq and others have sultanic charters: they are not to be disturbed.

⁵⁶ On whom, otherwise Musallam, see O'Fahey (1980), 82-83 & 98-99.

⁵⁷ *Shartay* or *malik* of the Bertī; see Hill (1967), 26; sixteenth ruler of the Bertī, see Holy (1974), 118.

25 Rabī^c 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*^c Abd 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.q.ū [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.,

°ind shāsh sayyidinā ... rāḥitaka,⁵⁸

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*⁵⁹ Yaḥyā.

Undated.

DF188.18/48 LETTER

Shaykh al-Islām, qādī al-ḥājj °Izz al-Dīn,

wakīl Aḥmad d.q.ū [Duggu],⁶⁰

informing recipient that Muḥammad sh.q.r. is coming to investigate the dispute between *sharīf* °Abd al-Manān and *faqīh* Bakhīt.

Undated.

DF189.18/49 LETTER

°Abd Allāh,

Aḥmad w. Abū Khayr,

recipient is to bring his complaint to °Abd Allāh.

1327/1910-11.

DF190.18/50 SIJILL

⁵⁸ An official of the sultan, since *sayyidinā* invariably refers to the sultan, while *rāḥa* is usually used only of the *āb shaykh dalī*.

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*⁶¹ *faqīh* Baraka, acting for *sittunā* Umm al-Nāṣir *īya bāsī al-mayram* Zamzam⁶² of a dispute between Shaykh Rājil and Abū Zayd over land.
21 Ramaḍān 1289/22 November 1872.

DF191.18/51 SIJILL

Hearing before *faqīh* Ḥurays of a dispute between wife and husband, Ḥalīma 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 *maqḍūm* Khalīl of a dispute between *faqīh* Bakhīt and *sharīf*^c Abd al-Manān over land.

Undated.

DF193.18/53 RECORD

Record, made before witnesses, of the land of the sons of *faqīh*^c Abd Allāh (b.) *al-faqīh* Muḥammad Bakhīt by Muḥammad Sh.q.r.ā for *qāḍī al-ḥājj*^c Izz al-Dīn.

Undated.

See DF188.18/48.

⁶¹ The Fur title, *orrendulung*, major-domo of the palace; ruled parts of Dār Birged.; see O’Fahey (1980) *passim*.

⁶² 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* Ya^cqūb 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-mu³minīn Nūrayn Ja^cfar al-Nūr,⁶³

”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 *īyā bāsī al-mayram* Zamzam Umm al-Naşr, 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 *shā³ib* Ādam over land.

1264/1847-48.

DF198.18/58 PEDIGREE

Pedigree of the Awlād Jābir.

Undated: 8ff.

⁶³ A son of Sultan Muḥammad al-Faḍl, who fathered Maqbūla, who married the Mahdi and was the mother of ^cAbd al-Raḥmān al-Mahdī.

ARCHIVE 19: four documents in the possession (1974) of *ʿumda* Anṣārī Aḥmad of Jugo Jugo, al-Fāshir District. The texts and trans. of the first three documents of this archive are given in O’Fahey & Ahmed Ibrahim Abu Shouk, ”The Musabba^ʿāt of Jugo Jugo: three documents”, *Sudan Africa. A Journal of Historical Sources*, 10, 1999, 49-64.⁶⁴

DF199.19/1 CHARTER

Sultan Muḥammad al-Faḍl,
Shaykh Ḥammād b. Ḥabīb Allāh,
confirming privileged status and land.

Undated.

An independently made transcription is given in Ādam al-Zayn Muḥammad, *Al-turāth al-sha^ʿbī li-qabīlat al-Musabba^ʿāt*, Institute of African and Asian Studies, University of Khartoum, 1970, p. 26.

DF200.19/2 SIJILL

Hearing before *qādī* Muḥammad al-Ḥārith b. *al-ḥājj* ʿIzz al-Dīn of a dispute between Ḍiyā^ʿ al-Dīn and Ishāq b. Ḥabīb Allāh over land.

Shawwāl 1253/December 1837-January 1838.

DF201.19/3 CHARTER

Malik Ḥamad Duqū b. ʿAmāra,⁶⁵

⁶⁴ On the wider history of the Musabba^ʿāt, see O’Fahey and Jay Spaulding, ”Hāshim and the Musabba^ʿāt”, *Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies*, xxxv/2, 1971, 316-333, and O’Fahey, ”Kordofan in the eighteenth century”, *Sudan Notes and Records*, liv, 1973, 32-42.

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 Aḥmaday 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 °Abd 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.

ARCHIVE 22: eight documents photographed in al-Fāshir (1974):
ownership unknown.

DF205.22/1 CHARTER

Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn,
the *khābīr* Muḥammad Kannūna,
confirming recipient's estate in the district of Lubaykh (Kobbei).

20 Jumāda I 1256/20 July 1840.

Transl. in O'Fahey & Abu Salim (1983), 108-9.

DF206.22/2 SIJILL

Hearing before the *wazīr* Ādam Bōsh⁶⁹ of a dispute between the *khābīr*
Muḥammad Kannūna and °Abd Allāh w. Dānī over the boundaries of the
former's estate.

18 Rabī° II 1262/15 April 1846.

Transl. in O'Fahey & Abu Salim (1983), 109-12.

DF207.22/3 CHARTER

Sultan Muḥamad al-Ḥusayn,
the sons of the *khābīr* 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 *khābīr* °Alī Ibrāhīm,⁷⁰

confirming the grant by the same sultan [see DF209.22/5] of the village of n.q.r.ī (Ungorei) as an estate.

1284/1867-68.

Transl. in O’Fahey & Abu Salim (1983), 118.

DF209.22/5 CHARTER

Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn al-Mahdī,

”our servant” (*khaddāminā*), the *khābīr* °Alī Ibrāhīm,

granting him the village of n.q.r.ī (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 *amīn* °Abd Allāh 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-Mahdī,

the *mayram* Fāṭima Umm Dirays,

granting the recipient an estate in the district of al-Dōr.

13 Shawwāl 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 (*waṣiyya*)
of the *sharīf* al-Ma°zūzī b. °Abd Allāh al-Shinjīṭī⁷¹ concerning his
property and the marriage of his daughters, and naming °Alī *bayk*
[Ibrāhīm] as executor.
1 Sha°bān 1296/21 July 1879.

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

DF213.23/1 CHARTER
Sultan °Alī Dīnār,
the *fuqarā*², the sons of shaykh al-ṣ ...,
confirming their estate at Shaqara.
17 Ṣafar 1319/5 June 1901.

DF214.23/2 CHARTER
Sultan °Alī Dīnār,
Maḥmūd w. °Alī,
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 —
Ja°aliyyīn Ganibānī from al-Matamma. Pedigree thus,

⁷¹ Or al-Shinqīṭī, from Shinqīṭ in Eastern Mauritania,

Abū Bakr Ṭalab

|

Muḥammad

|

Aḥmad

|

°Abd Allāh

|

Sulayk

|

Muḥammad

|

Ādam

|

Ibrāhīm [owner]

DF215.24/1 CHARTER

Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn,

”the *falqanāwīs*⁷² of our brother, the respected Abū Bakr Ṭalab”,

granting recipients privileged status (*jāh*).

25 Rabī° II 1257/16 June 1841.

ARCHIVE 25: two documents in the possession (1974) of Ibrāhīm Muḥammad al-Nūr of al-Fāshir.

DF216.25/1 SIJILL

⁷² Royal messengers or heralds; see O’Fahey (1980), 150.

Hearing before the council (*majlis*) of the *maqḍūm* Sharīf Ādam of a dispute between Ḥawwa bt. °Aṭīyya Allāh al-Fallāṭiyya and Aḥmad Bukr al-Fallātī 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.

25 Dhu'l-qa°da 1387/24 February 1968: modern.

ARCHIVE 26: one document in the possession (1976) of °Alī Ṣiddīq of al-Fāshir.

DF218.26/1 CHARTER

ṣultan °Alī Dīnar,

Shaykh Ādam Muḍḍawī,

confirming an estate granted to the recipient by the *takanāwi* Abū Bakr.

24 Jumāda II 1316/9 November 1898.

ARCHIVE 27: one document in the possession (1976) of °Abd al-Shāfi°ī Sinīn al-Fāshir.

DF219.27/1 KING-LIST

List of the rulers of Darfur: transcribed from an original allegedly written by *faqīh* Sinīn⁷³ of Kabkābiyya.

Undated.

⁷³ See Hill (1967), 331-32.

ARCHIVE 28; thirty-two documents in the possession (1976) of °Abd al-Raḥmān Zakariyyā° [Sultan] °Alī Dīnār of al-Fāshir. Some of the documents also appear in **ARCHIVE 6**.

DF220.28/1 LETTER

Sultan °Alī Dīnār,
al-Dōma Muḥammad, °*umda* of Dār Simiyāt,
as part of a general demand for money, recipient is to pay 60 *riyāls* for
Simiyāt District.

2 Dhu'l-qa°da 1320/31 January 1903.

DF221.28/2 LETTER

Sultan °Alī Dīnār.
al-Dōma Muḥammad, °*umda* 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 °Alī Dīnār]

..... ,

concerning the giving of support to a mosque?

25 Rabī° II 1325/7 June 1907.

Incomplete.

DF223.28/4 LETTER

Sultan °Alī Dīnār,
 al-Dōma Muḥammad, °*umda* of Dār Simiyāt,
 [too damaged to read]
 Ramaḍān 1316/January-February 1899.

DF224.28/5 LETTER

Sultan °Alī Dīnār,
 al-Dōma Muḥammad,
 ordering recipient to come [to al-Fāshir] by 20 Dhu'l-qa°da with all the
 soldiers, horses and weapons of his district to celebrate the feast of [? °*īd*
 ... *al-mubāarak*),
 2 Dhu'l-qa°da 1329/25 October 1911.

DF225.28/6 LETTER

Sultan °Alī 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 °Alī Dīnār,
 al-Dōma Muḥammad, °*umda* of al-Simiyāt,
 demand for 100 *riyāls*.
 Date missing.

DF227.28/8 LETTER

Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,
al-Dōma Muḥammad, ʿ*umda* of Dār Simiyāt,
demand for 300 *ardabbs* [of grain].
1321/1903-4.

DF228.28/9 LETTER

Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,
al-Dōma Muḥammad, ʿ*umda* of Dār Simiyāt,
demand for 50 *tōbs* to be paid to ʿArabī Dafʿ Allāh’s⁷⁴ men.
5 Rabīʿ I 1320/12 June 1902.

DF229.28/10 LETTER

Sultan ʿAlī Dīnār,
al-Dōma Muḥammad, ʿ*umda* 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 ʿAlī Dīnār,
al-Dōma Muḥammad, ʿ*umda* of Dār Simiyāt,
demand for 100 *tōb dammūr*.⁷⁵
22 Rabīʿ I 1318/20 July 1900.

⁷⁴ A Mahdist commander, who joined ʿAlī Dīnār in 1902; see Hill (1967), 58.

⁷⁵ Pieces of locally-spun cloth.

DF231.28/12 LETTER

Sultan °Alī Dīnār,

al-Dōma Muḥammad,

as part of a general demand to all districts, recipient is to pay 60 *riyāl* to the bearer, Hārūn Ismā°īl.

End of Ramaḍān 1319/mid-January 1902.

DF232.28/13 LETTER

Sultan °Alī 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, °*umda* of Dār al-Simiyāt.

5 Ramaḍān 1316/17 January 1899.

DF233.28/14 LETTER

Suultan °Alī Dīnār,

al-Dōma Muḥammad,

the sultan has sent a letter to the *fuqarā*⁷⁶ 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 °Alī 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^c 1317/28 August 1899.

DF235.28/16 LETTER

Sultan ^cAlī Dīnār,

Al-Dōma Muḥammad, *‘umda* of al-Simiyāt,

[very faint: apparently a complaint that people have not been paying their taxes promptly enough].

7 Rabī^c I 1318/5 July 1900.

DF236.28/17 LETTER

Sultan ^cAlī Dīnār,

al-Dōma Muḥammad al-Simiyātī,

demand for camels to carry grain.

2 Sha^cbān 1318/25 November 1900.

DF237.28/18 LETTER

Sultan ^cAlī Dīnār,

al-Dōma Muḥammad, *shartaya* Simiyāt,

demand for camels.

28 Dhu’l-qa^cda 1331/29 October 1913.

DF238.28/19 LETTER

Sultan ^cAlī Dīnār,

al-Dōma Muḥammad, *‘umda* of al-Simiyāt,

the bearer of the letter, al-Sa[°]id [°]Āmir, 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 [°]Alī Dīnār,

al-Dōma Muḥammad,

the sultan has written to Muḥammad al-r.ī.n., [°]Umar *al-jabāī*⁷⁷ 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.

ARCHIVE 29: six documents in the possession (1976) of Muḥammad and Ibrāhīm [°]Abd Allāh [°]Abd al-Rasūl of al-Ṭawīla, al-Fāshir District: previously listed, but not catalogued as **ARCHIVE 15**. A number of these documents are presented in my "The archives of Shōba. Part One", *Sudanic Africa. A Journal of Historical Sources*, 1, 1990, 71-83.

⁷⁷ Tax collector.

DF252.29/1 CHARTER

Sultan Muḥammad Faḍl,

faqīh °Abd 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 *abū'l-jabbayyīn*⁷⁸ Aḥmad Nūr al-Dīn,

faqīh Ṣiddīq b. °Abd Allāh,

confirming an estate.

Undated.

Text and transl. in O'Fahey (1990), 80-83.

DF254.29/3 LETTER

Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn,

faqīh °Abd 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 *qādī al-ḥājj* °Izz al-Dīn of a dispute between the Awlād Awd and °Abd 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

ARCHIVE 30: one document in the possession (1976) of *al-ḥājj* Muṣṭafā °Abd Allāh Jum°a of al-Ṭīna, near al-Ṭawīla, al-Fāshir District.

DF258.30/1 LETTER

Sultan °Alī Dīnār,

Khāṭir Ibrāhīm and the *shartays* of Ṭawīla (district),
announcing the coming of the *maqdūm* Aḥmad Bayḍa.

1325/1907-8.

ARCHIVE 31: five documents in the possession (1976) of °*umda* Ishāq Muḥammad Ṣābūn of Dōbō, southwest of al-Ṭawīla, al-Fāshir District. 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 Jum°[a] and °Abd al-Raḥmān Daldan (Fur, Daldang) over some animals.

Undated.

260.31/2 LETTER

Sultan °Alī Dīnār,

Ṣābūn,

a group of thirteen persons named in the letter are to be sent to the sultan without delay.

2 Rabī° I 1318/9 July 1900.

DF261.31/3 LETTER

Sultan °Alī Dīnār,

Khalīl Aḥmad and the *muqaddam* of the *fuqarā'* of Dōbō,

ordering them to come to al-Fāshir: ” ... if there is tardiness by one of the *fuqarā'* , 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.

ARCHIVE 32: two documents in the possession (1976) of Muḥammad Ādam °Abd al-Jalīl [*shartay* of Dār Inga] of Fata Barnu, near Kutum, Northern Darfur District.

DF264.32/1 PEDIGREE

Of the *shartays* of Dār Inga: written by *shartay* Ādam °Abd al-Jalīl.

10 Jumāda II 1355/28 August 1936.

2 ff.

DF265 HISTORY

Of the tribes and rulers of Darfur: written by *shartay* Ādam ° Abd 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 ° Alī Dīnār,

the *maqḍūm malik* Muḥammad Sharīf Ādam,
appointing him *maqḍūm* of the Kutum region.

Jumāda II 1317/August-September 1899.

DF267.33/2 LETTER

Sultan ° Alī Dīnār,

appointing him *maqḍūm* of Dār al-Rīḥ [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 °Alī Dīnār,
 the *maqḍūm* Muḥammad Sharīf 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 °Alī Dīnār,
 the notables and chiefs generally,
 announcing the appointment of Muḥammad Sharīf Ādam as *maqḍūm* of
 Dār al-Rīḥ.

22 Jumāda II 1317/28 September 1899.

Written on the same day as DF267.33/2.

DF271.33/6 CHARTER

Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn,
shartay Aḥmad b. °Alī,
 confirming an estate.

Undated.

Apparently, but not certainly, a forgery: at bottom "Seen G.Sarsfield Hall,
 6/2/21".⁷⁹

DF272.33/7 CHARTER

Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn,

⁷⁹ Served in Darfur, 1917-21. See *Sudan Political Service 1899-1956*, Oxford 1956, 21.

shartay °Alī b. Muḥamad,
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 *wird* 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 Ṣafar 1271/31 October 1854.

DF275.34/2 CHARTER

Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn,
faqīh Muḥammad Tūtū b. °Umar,
confirming privileged status (*jāh*), originally granted by Sultan °Abd al-Raḥmān.
1257/1841-42.

⁸⁰ Sub-district chief subordinate to a *shartay*.

ARCHIVE 35: one document in the possession (1976) of *malik* Muḥammad °Abd al-Raḥmān Ḥasan al-Nabī of Kutum, Northern Darfur District.

DF276.35/1 CHARTER

Sultan °Alī Dīnār,

Badawī Zayn al-°Abidīn,

confirming an estate at Kafūt (Kofod), originally granted by Sultan Muḥammad al-Faḍl in 1233/1817-8.

1328/1910-11.

ARCHIVE 36 one document located (1976) in file NDD/66 B 4/3/5, Kutum *majlis*, Northern Darfur District.

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 Mālik⁸¹ 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 Ṣāliḥ Marjān of Nyala, Nyala District: photographed by Dr. Muḥammad Aḥmad Bidayn.⁸²

DF281.38/1 CHARTER

*Al-āb dimā*⁸³ Tayrāb b. *dimā* °Abd al-Raḥmān,
faqīh Yūnis b. *al-faqīh* Dahmān,

confirming privileged (*jāh*) originally granted by *dimā* °Abd al-Raḥmān.

Undated.

DF282.38/2 CHARTER

The *amīn* Zā°id Harīrkū,

faqīh Yūnis b. *al-faqīh* Dahmān,

⁸¹ On whom, see R.S. O'Fahey, "The Awlād °Alī: a Fulani holy family in Dar Fur", in *Gedenkschrift Gustav Nachtigal, 1874-1974, Veröffentlichungen aus dem Übersee-Museum Bremen*, C/1, 1977, 147-66.

⁸² Who subsequently published a valuable account of the Fulani of Darfur, namely *al-Fallāta al-Fulāniyyīn fi'l-Sūdān*, Cairo: the Sudanese Study Centre, n.d. [1995].

⁸³ Title of the hereditary ruler of the Zalingei District; in Fur, *aba diimang*. The present *dimangawi*, Faḍīl Sissei Atim, is the eighteenth of his line.

confirming privileged status.

Undated.

DF283.38/3 CHARTER

The *maqdūm* Aḥmad,⁸⁴

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 °Alī Sharīf Aḥmad al-Fallātī,

confirming privileged status and referring to a charter issued by Sultan

Muḥammad Abū'l-Khayrāt⁸⁵ b. *al-sulṭan* Ibrāhīm.

DF285.38/5 LETTER

Sultan Muḥammad Abū'l-Khayrāt,

the shaykhs of the nomads of Dār al-Ṣa°id [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 Aḥmad Shaṭṭa b. °Abd al-°Azīz; see O'Fahey (1980), 91 *et passim*.

⁸⁵ "Shadow sultan", active 1888-90.

Date illegible.

DF287.38/7 CHARTER

Sultan °Alī Dīnār,

faqīh °Alī al-Sharīf 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 °Abd al-Raḥmān,

faqīh Ṣāliḥ [b. °Alī],

confirming privileged status originally granted to the recipient’s father.

Incomplete.

DF289.39/2 CHARTER

Sultan Muḥammad al-Faḍl,

faqīh Ṣāliḥ °Alīlī [or °Ulaylī],

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,

faqīh Muḥammad b. *al-faqīh* Ḥabīb,
confirming the privileged status granted by Sultan °Abd al-Raḥmān to
recipient's grandfather.

Incomplete: seal-date 1256/1840-41.

DF291.39.4 CHARTER

The *īyā bāsī al-mayram* Zamzam Umm al-Naṣr,
faqīh Abū Bakr b. *al-faqīh* Muḥammad of the Awlād Jundī,
confirming the privileged status granted by Sultans Muḥammad Tayrāb
and °Abd al-Raḥmān to the recipient's grandfather, *faqīh* °Alī.

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,
shartay Ādam Dōbō b. Aḥmad Abō,
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 *takanāwī* 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 [*rū*]⁸⁶ Beiri [Bire] first promulgated

⁸⁶ *Rū* = *ro*, Fur, "river, farm, estate".

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

ARCHIVE 41: three documents collected by the late Dr. Muhammad Ibrāhīm Abū Salīm in Dār Ma°āliyya, Nyala District, in the early 1960s. The documents are deposited in the Central [National] Records Office and published in Abū Salīm (1975), 119-22.⁸⁷

DF293.41/1 CHARTER

Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn,
faqīh Khalīl, *faqīh* Muḥammad Kurra and others,
confirming an estate at Jabal Mūsū.

10 Rajab 1296/3 June 1879.

Abū Salīm (1975), 119-20.

Since Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn died in 1873, the year must be incorrect.

DF294.41/2 CHARTER

Sultan Muḥammad al-Faḍl.

the Awlād Ambaddā,

granting privileged status: the Awlād Ambadda are the "followers of our brother, *faqīh* Muḥammad Ja°far al-Şādiq": warning *bāsī* °Abd Allāh and *al-malik* °Abd Allāh *sūmin duqāl*⁸⁸ not to interfere.

Undated.

Abū Salīm (1975), 121.

⁸⁷ On the circumstances of their collection, see Muḥammad Ibrāhīm Abū Salīm, *Sūdāniyya*, Khartoum 1979, 73.

⁸⁸ Fur, *soming dogala*, master of the children [*dogala*] of the palace school.

DF295.41/3 CHARTER

Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn,

Muḥammad Tamīn al-Dār b. *al-shaykh* Ambādā and the Awlād Abū Qā'ūd,

confirming their privileged status.

5 Sha'bān 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

DF296.42/1 CHARTER

Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn,

faqīh Aḥmad al-Zākī,

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.

DF297.43/1 LETTER

(IND 293) Sultan 'Alī 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, *muqaddam* of the *fuqarā'* of Dāra,
 ordering the recipient to come with the *fuqarā'* of his district to al-Fāshir
 by 15 Sha^cbān [to celebrate Ramaḍān].
 29 Rajab 1325/7 September 1907.

DF298.43/2 LETTER
 (IND 295) Sultan °Alī Dīnār,
 Maḥmūd Ādam, *muqaddam* of the *fuqarā'* of Dāra,
 ordering the recipient and his *fuqarā'* to spend Ramaḍān with the sultan:
 they are to assemble by 15 Sha^cbān.
 1324/1906-7.

DF299.43/3 LETTER
 (IND 296) Sultan °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 °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 Manawāshi.

DF301.43/5 LETTER

Jum[°]a Bakhīt, *maqḏūm ʿumūm al-ṣaʿīd*,

Maḥmūd Ādam,

ordering his officials to assist the recipient to restore mosques.

Dhū'l-ḥijja 1316/April-May 1899.

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

DF302.44/1 LETTER

Sultan ʿAlī 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 ʿAlī 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 maʿa'l-sharātī,

Of the boundaries of Dār Beiri, with a letter approving them from Sultan °Alī Dīnār.

17 Jumāda II 1319/1 October 1901.

Under the confirmation from Sultan °Alī Dīnār 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 Ḍaw b. *al-malik* Aḥmad Abū Ṭalab,

granting an estate.

1278/1861-62.

ARCHIVE 45: fifteen documents photographed by Professor J & Madame M.-J. Tubiana (1965) at Dōr (Dār Suwaynī), 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 intéressants l'histoire du Dār-Fūr", *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 *qirqīd*⁹² Ibrāhīm Khalīl Ramaḍān of a dispute between *bāsī* Nūr al-Dīn and *malik* Muḥammad Rīl over land.

1243/1827-28.

⁹¹ Sarsfield-Hall served in Northern Darfur in 1916.

⁹² On this title, see O'Fahey (1980), 152-53.

Text in Abū Salīm (1975), 89-91; transl. in O’Fahey & Abu Salim (1983), 88-90.

DF307.45/2 SIJILL

Hearing before the *wazīr* Yūsuf b. Fiṭr of a dispute between *al-ḥājj* °Umar and *bāsī* Nūr al-Dīn, representing his uncle, *malik* Maydōb, over land.

Undated.

Text in Abū Salīm (1975), 92-93; transl. in O’Fahey & Abu Salim (1983), 94-95.

DF308.45/3 SIJILL

Hearing before °Ubayd Allāh Muḥammad al-Sanūsī Abū’l-Ḥasan, acting for Sultan Muḥammad al-Faḍl, of a dispute between Abū Bakr b. *al-ḥājj* °Umar and *bāsī* Nūr al-Dīn over land.

Sha°bān 1245/February-March 1830.

Text in Abū Salīm (1975), 94-95; transl. in O’Fahey & Abu Salim (1983), 98-99.

DF309.45/4 SIJILL

Hearing before °Ubayd Allāh Muḥammad al-Sanūsī Abū’l-Ḥasan, acting for Sultan Muḥammad al-Faḍl, of a dispute between °Alī Tōm and *bāsī* Nūr al-Dīn Yaḥyā over land.

1243/1827-28.

Text in Abū Salīm (1975), 96-97; transl. in O’Fahey & Abu Salim (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 °Abd al-Raḥmān al-Rashīd,

malik Nūr al-Dīn b. Yaḥyā°,

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

Undated.

Text in Abū Salīm (1975), 99-100; transl. in O’Fahey & Abu Salim (1983), 80-81.

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.

Text in Abū Salīm (1975), 104; transl. in O’Fahey & Abu Salim (1983), 91.

DF314.45/9 CHARTER

Sultan Muḥammad al-Faḍl,

bāsī Nūr al-Dīn,

granting him the estate of Qumqūm [c. 40 klm. NNE of Dōr].

1238/1822-23.

Text in Abū Salīm (1975), 195-6; transl. in O’Fahey & Abu Salim (1983), 85-86.

DF315.45/10 CHARTER

Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn,

Sultan Ādam,

granting recipient authority over his people, the Marārīt.⁹³

Undated.

Text in Abū Salīm (1975), 107-8.

DF316.45/11 CHARTER

Sultan °Abd al-Raḥmān al-Rashīd,

Nūr al-Dīn,

granting the recipient his maternal kin.

1216/1801-2.

⁹³ On whom, see H.A. MacMichael, *A History of the Arabs in the Sudan*, 2 vols. (London, 1922; repr. London 1967), i, 83.

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

DF317.45/12 CHARTER

Sultan °Abd al-Raḥmān,

amīn Muḥammad b. *al-amīn* °Alī,

granting the recipient fifty-one Arab nomads [whose names are listed] whom he has brought from *dār al-ṣabāh* [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,

bāsi Nūr al-Dīn,

confirming the estate of Qumqūm.

12 Ramaḍān ...

Text in Abū Salīm (1975), 113-4; transl. in O’Fahey & Abu Salim (1983), 87-88.

DF319.45/14 CHARTER

Sultan Muḥammad al-Faḍl,

wazīr amīn faqīh Ḥamid, *ibn al-sulṭan*,

granting recipient forty-seven Arab nomads who had previously been granted to the *amīn* Muḥammad b. *al-amīn* °Alī [see DF317.45/12].

1221/1806-7.

Text in Abū Salīm (1975), 115-6; transl. in O’Fahey & Abu Salim (1985), 78-79.

DF320.45/15 CHARTER

Sultan Muḥammad al-Faḍl,

Nūr al-Dīn b. *al-malik* Yaḥyā^o,

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.

ARCHIVE 46: two documents formerly in the possession of Dr. Dardīrī Ibrāhīm and now deposited in the National Records Office, Khartoum [miscellaneous]. See further, Muḥammad al-Nūr Ḍayf Allāh, *Kitāb al-Ṭabaqāt*, ed. Yūsuf Faḍl Ḥasan, Khartoum 1971, 293, n. 13. For a discussion of the documents, Qāsim, *Mawsū‘a*, i, 277.

DF321.46/1 CHARTER

[details to come].

DF322.46/2 CHARTER

Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn,

the Barriyāb *fuqarā*^o,⁹⁴

confirming their privileged status which had been granted to the recipients by Sultan ‘Abd al-Raḥmān. The recipients had shown the latter

⁹⁴ On the Barriyāb holy family, see R.S. O’Fahey *et alii*, *The Arabic Writings of Eastern Sudanic Africa to c. 1900*, Leiden 1995, i, 18-9.

a charter from Shaykh °Ajīb of the °Abdallāb.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 °Alī Dīnār,

Badawī Zayn al-°Abidīn,

confirming an estate at Kafūt [Kofod]: see DF276.35/1.

1328/1910-11.

DF324.47/2 LETTER

Fakī Ṣāliḥ °Alī,

mufattish markaz al-Fāshir,

concerning a dispute between Ishāq Abū and *al-ḥājj* Badawī Zayn al-°Abidīn over some land at Kafūt (Kofod).

22 March 1920.

DF325.47/3 LETTER

... ..

Shaykh °Umar and his associates,

⁹⁵ °Ajīb 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-°Abidīn 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 *mufattish* al-Fāshir.

... 1927.

DF327 DECLARATION

Concerning boundaries of some land at Kafūt,

addressed to *mufattish* al-Fāshir.

28 September 1937.

ARCHIVE 48: one document deposited in the history Museum, University of Zaria, Northern Nigeria: transcription made available by Dr. °Umar 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*

Manuscripts, third draft, revised & completed by D. Grimwood-Jones, mimeograph, Durham 1973.

DF329.49/1 LETTER

Sultan Ishāq Abū Rīsh 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.

Text and transl. in Kapteijns & Spaulding (1988), 433-37.

DF330.49/2 LETTER

Sultan °Alī Dīnār,

Governor-General of the Sudan,

announcing the surrender of °Arabī Daf° Allāh 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 °Alī Dīnār,

[not seen].

⁹⁶ Sultan of Dār Sila, 1900-1916.

⁹⁷ For an account of his travels, see John E. Lavers, "The Adventures of a Kano pilgrim 1892-1893", *Kano Studies* i/4, 1968, 69-81.

29 May 1916.

Location: SA, Durham, Box 101/28/3 AR: *Handlist*, 182.

DF332.49/4 LETTER

Sultan °Alī Dīnār,

the *sirdār*,

[not seen],

Jabal Marra: 26 Rajab 1334/29 May 1916.

Location: SA. Durham, Box 101/28/1 AR: *Handlist*, 68.

DF333.49/5 LETTER

Sultan °Alī Dīnār,

qumandān quwwat al-ḥudūd al-gharbaiyya [Col. P.J.V. Kelly],

offering to come to al-Fāshir to surrender.

2 Sha°bān 1334/4 June 1916.

Location: SA, Durham, Box 101/28/2 AR: *Handlist*, 69.

DF334.49/6 LETTER

Kelly, Col. P.J.V.,

Sultan °Alī Dīnār,

arrangements for his surrender,⁹⁸

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.),

⁹⁸ Sultan °Alī Dīnār was killed in ambush on 6 November 1916.

"Histoire d'Ahmed Aga le Zantiote. Un projet de conquête de Darfour",
Revue de l'histoire des colonies françaises, xiv, 1926, 181-234.

DF335.50/1 LETTER

Sultan °Abd 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 *khābīr* Yūsuf al-Jallābī.

Undated [late 1798].

French transl. in *Pièces Diverses et Correspondance Relatives aux
Operations de l'Armée d'Orient en Égypte*, Paris, Messidor an IX/June
1801, 187.

DF336.50/2 LETTER

Sultan °Abd 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, Zā'id and "Fekka".

Undated [early January 1799].

French transl., Auriant, 201-2.

DF337.50/3 LETTER

Général en Chef Bonaparte,

Sultan °Abd 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.

Pièces Diverses, 216.

DF338.50/4 LETTER

Sultan °Abd al-Raḥmān,

”au général français à Siout [Donzelot],”

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

C. September 1800.

French transl. Ministère de la Defense, Etat-Major de l’Armée de Terre; Service Historique, Vincennes, B⁶ 54, 13.10. 1800: Auriant, 229-30.

DF339.50/5 LETTER

Général de Brigade Donzelot,

au Général en Chef [°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.

DF341.50/7

Sultan °Abd al-Raḥmān,

ḥaḍrat sulṭān fransīs [Menou],

requesting safe passage for a caravan and introducing his envoys, *al-ḥājj*

Bilāl, *faqīh* Aḥmad and Zā'id.

Undated [1800].

Original & transl. Vincennes, B⁶ 60.1800: Aurant, 230-31.

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

D342.51/1 CHARTER

Sultan °Abd al-Raḥmān,

°Umar al-Tūnisī,

granting the recipient an estate Abū'l-Judūl, comprising three villages, Jūltū, al-Dabba and Umm Ba°ūḍa.

Undated.

Text in Muḥammad b. °Umar al-Tūnisī, *Tashḥidh al-adhān bi-sīrat bilād al-°arab wa'l-sūdan*, eds. Khalīl Maḥmūd °Asākir & Muṣṭafā Muḥammad Mus°ad, Cairo 1965, 68-69. Transls. in L Kropácek, "Title-deeds in the fief system of the Sultanate of Darfur", *Acta Universitatis Carolinae, Philologica*, Prague, IV, 1971, 33-50, and H.S. Umar, *Al-Tunisi Travels in Darfur, Translation, Collation and Annotation of*

⁹⁹ On whom, see Hill (1967), 277 & 405 and O'Fahey, "Al-Tūnisī's travels in Darfur", *Bulletin of the Centre of Arabic Documentation, University of Ibadan*, v, 1 & 2, 1969, 66-74.

Tashhīdh al-adhān bi-sīrat bilād al-‘arab wa’l-sūdān, MA thesis, Bayero University, 1976, 104-5.

DF343.51/2 LETTER¹⁰⁰

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 Na‘ūm Shuqayr, *Ta’rīkh al-Sūdān al-qadīm wa’l-ḥadīth wa-jughrāfiyatuhu*, Cairo n.d. [1903], ii, 139-41 & 148.

DF344.52/1 CHARTER

Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn,

”our son-in-law” *al-ḥājj* Aḥmad b. ‘Īsā,

granting him the estate ”Ni‘ama” [or ”Ni‘ma”] and its fifty slaves.

1263/1846-47.

Transl. in O’Fahey & Abu Salim (1983), 101-2.

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 Fūr”, *Journal of African History*, xiv/1, 1973, 29-43.

confirming her husband's gift to her of the estate "Ni°ama" [or "Ni°ma"].

7 Sha°bān 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* Aḥmad b. °Īsā 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 Kropáček, "Title-deeds", 33-50.

DF347.52/4 LETTER

Sultan Ibrāhīm,

Maḥmūd, 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-Faḍl,

Muḥammad °Alī Pasha, ruler of Egypt,
refuting the latter's claim to Darfur and asserting his state's
independence: written by Muḥammad b. °Ammārī al-Azharī, tutor to the
sultan's children.

1245/1829-30.

Text in Shuqayr, *Ta'rikh*, ii, 132-33: another version of the letter is given
in Muḥammad °Abd al-Raḥīm, *al-Durr al-manthūr fī-ta'rikh bilād al-
°arab wa'l-fūr*, ff. 115, a manuscript history of Darfur located among the
author's papers in the National Records Office, Khartoum. Muḥammad
°Abd 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,
faqīh Muḥammad al-Sāyyih 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 °Abd al-Jalīl, *Ma°ālim ta'rikh Sūdān
wādī'l-Nīl*, Cairo 1955, 261.

Text and transl. in O'Fahey & J.L. Spaulding, "A Sultanic Present",
Sudan Texts Bulletin, Coleraine, III, 1981, 38-43.

DF350.53/3 LETTER

Sultan Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn,

¹⁰¹ On whom, see Anders Björkelo, *Prelude to the Mahdiyya. Peasants and traders in the Shendi
region, 1821-1885*, Cambridge 1989, 124-25.

Joseph Natterer [Austro-Hungarian vice-consul in Khartoum],¹⁰²
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-Ḥusayn,
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
Central Africa*, 2 vols., London 1869, transl. pp. 41-42.

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.

Facsimile as appendix 1, vol. III of Gustav Nachtigal, *Sahara und Sudan* I & II, Berlin 1879, III Leipzig 1889: reprinted Graz 1968. The facsimile is also reproduced in the English transl., *Sahara and Sudan*, transl. A.G.B. & H.J. Fisher, 4 vols., London 1971-87, iv , 394-95 [facsimile and transl.]¹⁰⁶

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-ḥājj* Ḥamza Imām, *sirr tujjār Dār Fūr*,¹⁰⁷ and his brother, Maḥmūd.

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 ʿAbdīn Archives.

DF354.53/7 LETTER

Sultan Muḥammad Hārūn al-Rashīd,¹⁰⁸

shartay Ṭāhir,

ordering him to join the sultan.

16 Shawwāl 1296/30 October 1879.

Facsimile in L. Messedaglia, *Uomini d’Africa. Messedaglia Bey e gli altri collaboratori italiani de Gordon Pasha*, Bologna 1935, opp. p. 202.

ARCHIVE 54: seven documents of Kordofan provenence.

¹⁰⁶ Where *al-khawāja*, 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. °Abd al-Ḥamīd al-Shuwayḥī,

confirming privileged status originally granted by Sultan °Abd al-Raḥmān al-Rashīd.

19 Dhū'l-ḥijja 1220/30 March 1806.

Transcription in Ḥusayn Sīd Aḥmad al-Muftī, *Tatawwur niẓām al-qaḍā'* *fi'l-Sūdān*, i (all published), Khartoum 1959, 52-53.

DF356.54/2 SIJILL

Hearing in al-Ubayyīḍ before *qāḍī* Muḥammad Jalālayn b. *al-qāḍī* Mūsā of a dispute between Junayd w. Sallāma al-Najmāwī al-Shuwayḥī and Bilāl al-Mālikāwī al-Bidayrī.

11 Ṣafar 1224/28 March 1809.

Text in Ḥusayn, *Tatawwur*, 69-70.

The texts and transl. of the two documents above published in O'Fahey, "Dār Fūr in Kordofan. The Sultans and the Awlād Najm," *Sudan Texts Bulltin*, Coleraine, VII, 1986, 43-63.

DF357.54/3 CHARTER

Malik Musallim [Musallam] al-Amīn,

Various Shanābla fuqarā',

granting recipients an estate.

Undated (seal-date 1200/1785-86).

English transl. only in DRO *Dakhliya* 112/6/28, "Shenabla": located by J.L. Spaulding, who subsequently published it as, "Dār Fūr on the Nile: a Charter of the *maqḍūm* Musallim", *Sudan Texts Bulletin*, Coleraine, IV, 1982, 14-9.

DF358.54/4 CHARTER

Al-sulṭān al-maqḍūm 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 °Abd al-Qādir Muḥammad °Abd al-Qādir Dawra, *Ta'rikh mamlakat Taqalī al-Islāmiyya*, Khartoum 1996, 106-7.¹⁰⁹

DF359.45/5 LETTER

Sultan °Alī Dīnār,

Sayyid Muḥammad al-Makkī,¹¹⁰

announcing the coming of his *maḥmal*¹¹¹ with his son, Ṣāliḥ, and asking for assistance.

Rabī° 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 *maqḍūm* 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 *ṭarīqa*; on whom, see O'Fahey, *Arabic Writings*, 237-39. Al-Makkī and the sultan undoubtedly met in Omdurman when both were in the service of the Khalifa °Abdullāhi.

¹¹¹ See *EI* (2).

From a small collection of Ismā'īliyya documents deposited in the National Records Office, Khartoum.

DF360.54/6 LETTER

Sultan °Alī Dīnār,
Sayyid Muḥammad al-Makkī,
announcing the coming of his son °Abd al-Ṣamad,
end of Rabī° II 1322/June 1905.
Ismā'īliyya collection, NRO.

DF361.54/7 LETTER

Sultan °Alī 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.
Ismā'īliyya collection, NRO.

ARCHIVE 55: two genealogies. See also Archive 60.

DF362.55/1 PEDIGREE

Of the Awlād Mabnī, a Misrīyya clan in Jabal Mūn, Dār Masālīt.

Undated: 1 ff.

Original in O'Fahey's possession: transl. in Hasan Imam Hasan & R.S. O'Fahey, "Notes on the Mileri of Jabal Mun" *Sudan Notes and Records*, li, 1970, 152-61.

DF363.55/2 KING-LIST

Of the Fartūt, 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 Asyūt from among the papers of the al-Jawharī family.

DF364.56/1 SIJILL

Hearing before *qāḍī* 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 °Alī Dīnār,

shartay Hārūn °Abd Allāh,

appointing recipient *shartay* of Jabal al-Ḥilla.

29 Rabī° 1332/25 25 February 1914.

National Records Office, Khartoum, Miscellaneous 1/41/864.

DF366.57/2 LETTER

Sultan Muḥammad Abū'l-Khayrāt,

shartay Muḥammad b. °Izz al-Dīn Sulaymān,

appointing recipient *shartay* of Dār Wannā.

National Records Office, Khartoum, Mahdiyya (class two; presently [1981] under re-organization).

Text and transl. in Lidwien Kapteijns, "An administrative decree from Dār Fūr", *Sudan Texts Bulletin*, Coleraine, I, 1979, 32-36.

ARCHIVE 58: three documents photographed by Ibrāhīm Yiḥyā °Abd al-Raḥmān and Lidwien Kapteijns in Dār Masālīt. The texts and transl. of the documents are given in Lidwien Kapteijns & Ibrāhīm Yiḥyā °Abd al-Raḥmān, "Three administrative documents from the sultans of Dār Masālīt", *Sudan Texts Bulletin*, Coleraine, II, 1980, 62-72.

DF367.58/1 LETTER

°*Āmil al-Mahdī* Ismā°īl Abd al-Nabī,

faqīh Makkī and his people,

they are to make a recitation of the Qur°ān each Friday.

21 Jumāda II 1303/27 March 1886.

DF368.58/2 LETTER

Ismā°īl b. °Abd al-Nabī,

various *fuqarā°*,

they are not to oppose *faqīh* Makki in collecting the *fīṭra*.

1303/1885-86.

DF369.58/3 LETTER

Faqīh Makkī,

Sultan Abbakr b. Ismā°īl °Abd 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 °Alī Dīnār.¹¹²

DF370.59/1 AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL FRAGMENT

Sultan °Alī Dīnār.

9 Ramaḍān 1330/23 August 1912.

Xerox copy, Library, National Records Office, Khartoum. 17fff.

DF371.59/2 AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL FRAGMENT

Sultan °Alī Dīnār.

1340/1921-22

11 ff.: with minor lexical differences.

Arkell Papers, first batch, 3/13, ff.1-11, library, School of Oriental and African Studies, London.

An abbreviated translation of one of these versions is given in Anon., "A fragment from Ali Dinar", *Sudan Notes and Records*, xxxiv, 1953, 114-6.

DF372.59/3 DIWAN

Sultan °Alī Dīnār,

Al-Dīwān al-madīh fī-madḥ al-nabī al-milīh.

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 °Alī Dīnār]

°Alī 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 [*ḥurma*]: 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 °Alī 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 (*°alā 'l-madhhab
 al-qadīm*)": "you are to receive him with obedience in accordance with
 our order".

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

DF376.60/3 [Bire 3] LETTER

Sultan °Alī Dīnār,
 "our son" [*waladinā*] Abū and Muḥammad Jiddaw Ādam,

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

DF378.60/5 [Bire 5] LETTER

Sultan °Alī 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 °Alī Dīnār,
 Jiddaw Ādam, *°umda* ? [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. Nu^cmān, *malik* Dār Tōma, has complained about his border with Dār Suwaynī: the border is demarcated and described.

Date illegible.

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