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Gordon Davis Collection of Ethiopian Manuscripts and Coptic Bibles

Collection Summary

Title:	Gordon Davis Collection of Ethiopian Manuscripts and Coptic Bibles
Call Number:	MS 88-13
Size:	1.0 linear feet
Acquisition:	Donated by Gordon Davis
Processed By:	LTM, 9-1987; JEF, 2-4-1998; MN, 5-24-2010
Note:	None
Restrictions:	None

Literary Rights

Literary rights were granted to Wichita State University. When permission is granted to examine the manuscripts, it is not an authorization to publish them. Manuscripts cannot be used for publication without regard for common law literary rights, copyright laws and the laws of libel. It is the responsibility of the researcher and his/her publisher to obtain permission to publish. Scholars and students who eventually plan to have their work published are urged to make inquiry regarding overall restrictions on publication before initial research.

Restrictions

None

Content Note

The Gordon Davis Collection of Ethiopian Manuscripts and Coptic Bibles contains various handwritten Bibles and religious works on parchment in codex form in the Geez language from the Axum and Adua provinces of Ethiopia. Although the date of these works are unknown, some of them are rare and quite old.

Detailed Description: Box and Folder Listing

Box 1	Work 1	Bible and case in the Geez language of the Coptic Church from Axum, Ethiopia. It is covered with two wood pieces, front and back, and is written in red and black ink. It comes with a leather case which is hand sewn and a leather strap is attached.
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Box 1	Work 2	Four sheets of parchment from Adua, Ethiopia. It is used to make Bibles, books, etc.
Box 1	Work 3	Bottle of ink from Adua, Ethiopia which is made from local minerals and is used for writing.
Box 1	Work 4	Song book and leather pouch from Adua, Ethiopia from the Coptic Church. It is used by priests to aid in leading songs.
Box 1	Work 5	Scroll for birth from Adua, Ethiopia which is hung above a bed when women are pregnant to ward off the evil eye. It is handwritten with drawings of eyes, writings, and the devil. The top end is worn. There are eyes at the beginning of the scroll, and in the middle of the scroll there are many eyes and faces, and at the end of the scroll the devil is killing a man with a knife.
Box 1	Work 6	Scroll for birth from Adua, Ethiopia which is used over a bed of a pregnant woman to ward off evil spirits. There is a cross at the beginning, an angel in the middle, and eyes at various places.
Box 1	Work 7	Bible from Adua, Ethiopia of the Coptic Church handwritten with black and red ink in the Geez language. It is leather topped over wood.
Box 1	Work 8	Bible from Axum, Ethiopia of the Coptic Church handwritten with red and black ink in the Geez language. It begins with the Psalms. It is topped with tooled leather with a cross design over wood.
Box 1	Work 9	Bible from Axum, Ethiopia of the Coptic Church handwritten with black and red ink in the Geez language. It is covered with wood front pieces.
Box 1	Work 10	Amharic Revised Bible, 1966, from Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. It is published by the British Foreign Bible Society and is the Amharic version of the Protestant Old and New Testaments.
Box 1	FF 1	Manuscript notes in English explaining what is in work 8 and work 10 from David Suter to Gordon Davis
Box 1	FF 2	Photocopied descriptions of some of the materials in the collection.

For information, please contact us at:

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