

No. 197

**DEUTERONOMY, IN HEBREW, WITH TARGUM AND JUDEO-ARABIC TRANSLATION, MANUSCRIPT ON VELLUM [YEMEN, 14TH CENTURY]**

20,000—30,000 USD

**DESCRIPTION**

61 leaves (12 1/4 x 9 in.; 310 x 227 mm) including original flyleaf at beginning, a second flyleaf cancelled, lacking a whole gathering after p. 38, 8 leaves after p. 40 and several leaves at end, else complete (the title 'Fragments' in *Ohel Dawid* is unnecessarily modest), collation: i<sup>9</sup> [of 10, a flyleaf cancelled at beginning], ii<sup>10</sup>, iii<sup>2</sup> [of 10, lacking ii-ix], iv-vii<sup>10</sup>, double column, 25 lines, ruled in blind, written in a Yemenite square hand, with nikud, inscriptions on endleaves at beginning, generally very thumbed and worn with grayed edges and some holes and defects and stains, bound in brown cloth

**PROVENANCE**

- (1) Abraham ben Isaac, with early (presumably medieval) ownership inscription on p. 3
- (2) David Solomon Sassoon (1880 - 1942), his MS.803

**LITERATURE AND REFERENCES**

D.S. Sassoon, *Ohel Dawid, Descriptive Catalogue of the Hebrew and Samaritan Manuscripts in the Sassoon Library, London, 1932, II, p. 611*

**CATALOGUE NOTE**

This is, in effect, a Bible in three languages. It is Deuteronomy, with the Targum or Aramaic translation, alternating verse by verse with a translation into Arabic but written in Hebrew script for the use of the Arabic-speaking Jews. The translation is based on that of Sa'adya Gaon (882 - 942), with minor differences. The manuscript opens here on p. 4 at Deuteronomy 1:1 and breaks off on p. 122 at Deuteronomy 32:31.