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Historical Overview and Philological Analysis of the Abridged Chronicle of Emperor Ləbnä Dəngəl (1508-1540): for Historical and Philological Advancement

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Abstract:

*Emperor Ləbnä Dəngəl (1508-1540) was the son of Na'od (1494 - 1508) by Na'od Mogäsa Aḥmad Grañ defeated him in several battles since 1529 AD. In 1539 Ləbnä Dəngəl had fled to the monastery of Däbra Damo, where he died on September 1540. This article presents the physical feature of the abridged chronicles of Emperor Ləbnä Dəngəl they were published and edited by M. Rene Basset (*Etudes Sur l' Histoire d' Ethiopie*, 1882) and J.Perruchon (*Le regne de Ləbnä Dəngəl*, 1894) including Tarikä Nägäst (MST), which was written by hand on Branna. It is found under the catalogue No.691-IES-MS, EMMML-PRNO1527, in IES library. Thus, the article was constructed based on the documentation to present a short summary of, the life of Ləbnä Dəngəl and the invasion of Aḥmad Grañ. In addition, some linguistic differences between the texts and some polygenetic errors are also presented, with philological analysis.*

Keywords: *Ləbnä Dəngəl, philological analysis, abridged chronicles*

1. Introduction

The production of chronicles as historical genres of Ethiopian royal families goes back to the fourteenth century (Sergew, 1972:3). Until the rise of Emperor Tewodros II, the historical and ecclesiastical annals of the state were written in Gə'əz language. Their significance in the study of the overall socio-economic history and literary culture of the country was so significant (Wright, 1964:12).

A hand full of western scholars such as Conti Rossini (1894), M. Kropp (1988), Jules Perruchon, (1894) and Basset (1882) have made attempts in editing and, translating the Abridged chronicle¹ of Emperor Ləbnä Dəngəl². However, for this study, I have selected among significant texts: Rene Basset *Etudes sur l' Histoire d' Ethiopie* (RBE) (it contains chronicle-adapted histories ranging from the legendary king Mənilək I to Bacaffa), J.Perruchon: *Le regne de Ləbnä Dəngəl* (JPL) (it consists of the stories from Zagwe to Iyasu I) and I also used the Ms Tarikä Nägäst (MST) (it consists of the stories from Queen Saba to Tewodros II) to make historical description and philological analysis. The abridged chronicles of Ethiopian emperors, which

¹ Abridged Chronicle or rather Chronicles, which start from the period of the wars against the Muslims in the 16th century and deal continuously with the history of Ethiopia up to King Bakaffa's death (1730). The work on it was continued up to the 20th century. The text, such as lists of kings, was also added to earlier parts of the Chronicle in order to fill the time-span between the legendary beginning of Ethiopia as a kingdom and the epoch when this composition had begun to be written down.

² Conti Rossini published in Gə'əz and Italian, but M. Kropp, Perruchon, and Basset published in Gə'əz and French.

was published by R. Basset was made without philological analyses where, he translated it from Gə'əz to French, with banal and conjunctive errors (Desse Kelbe, 2007 E.C: 8). J. Perruchon, also edited the same work on Ləbnä Dəngəl's abridged chronicle with some French note. There was no much philological works of these texts. They are important, particularly for philological advancement. So, the paper is limited on historical overview and philological analysis only three particular Gə'əz Abridged chronicles of Emperor Ləbnä Dəngəl.

The general objective of this study is to present the physical features of the texts and some linguistic differences among the three texts along with Historical overview.

Abbreviations

RBE: Rene Basset : Etudes sur l'Histoire d'Ethiopie	IES : Institute of Ethiopian studies
JPL: Jules Perruchon, ('Le regne de Ləbnä Dəngəl)	Ms: manuscript
MST: manuscript of Tarikä Nəgäst	A.M: Amet mihert (year of mercy)
EOTC: Ethiopian orthodox Tewahido Church	ff : folios
Mss : manuscripts	

Table 1

2. Description of the Texts

2.1. Rene Basset: Etudes sur l'Histoire d'Ethiopie (RBE)

- Page numbers: 5 pages (from pp 18-23).
- Written materials: paper, by modern printing system.
- Cover: made from hard cover.
- Date of publication: 1882.
- Number of columns: one column.
- Language: in Gə'əz with French translation.

2.1.1. Content Analysis

- ff.5-6: describes the invasion of Aḥmad Grañ and the apparent destruction of the orthodox churches.
- ff.6-7: concerns the exile of Ləbnä Dəngəl to Təgray and the death of his commanders.
- ff.7-9: explains the death of Ləbnä Dəngəl and his son Fiqiṭor, the raids of Adal army on mount Gəšan (later Gəšan Däbrä Kärbe).

2.2. Jules Perruchon, Notes pour l'Histoire d'Ethiopie : Le regne de Ləbnä Dəngəl

- Page numbers: 5 pages (from pp 275-279).
- Written materials: paper, by modern printing system.
- Cover: made from hard cover.
- Date of publication: 1894.
- Number of columns: one column.
- Language: Gə'əz with French translation.

2.2.1. The Content of the Text

- ff.13-16: narrates the war of king Ləbnä Dəngəl and Aḥmad Grañ and as well as destruction of the churches and Ləbnä Dəngəl's exile to Təgray.
- ff.16-18: explains the advent of Aḥmad Grañ to Goḡḡam and Bägəmədr, the death of Christian army leaders, and the death of Fəqiṭor the son of Ləbnä Dəngəl.
- ff.18-20: narrates the fall of Amba Gəšan to Grañ's army and Ləbnä Dəngəl's death.

2.3. Tarikä Nəgäst (MST)

The ms is found under the catalogue No.691-IES-MS, EMMML-PRNO1527, in the IES library.

- Number of folios: 5 folios 23-27.
- Writing materials: Parchment.
- Cover: Made from wood.
- Date of writing: 19th century.

- Columns number: Two columns, each recto and verso.
- Size: 4 cm x10cm. Language: Gə'əz.

2.3.1. The Content of the Text

- ff.23va-24vb: describes the invasion of Aḥmad Grañ, the distraction of the churches, and the exile of Ləbnä Dəngəl to Təgray.
- ff.24vb-25vb: narrates the death of Ləbnä Dəngəl's commanders, slain of church men, and the coming of Aḥmad Grañ to Goḡḡam.
- ff.25vb-26vb: identifies the death of Fəqīṭor (elder son of Ləbnä Dəngəl), the capturing of Minas by Aḥmad Grañ (young son of Ləbnä Dəngəl) and the journey of Ləbnä Dəngəl to Ameba Šəre (in Təgray).
- ff.26vb-27vb: the fall of Amba Gəšān to Aḥmad Grañ, the death of kings' sons and the death of king Ləbnä Dəngəl.

2.4. Physical Features of the Texts

RBE and JPL abridged chronicles of Emperor Ləbnä Dəngəl were written by paper in modern printing system. MST is made of parchment and it is written with traditional pen, in two colures i.e. red and black the red ink is used as usual, mainly for the name of God and saints. The binding is made of wood. The text has two columns and five ff., and has good handwriting with a medium font size. All texts are very similar in content. JPL has some linguistic errors than MST and RBE. Linguistic and philological problems (Polygenetic error, etc...) are found in RBE and MST more than in JPL's in particular. The texts don't mention who copied it.

3. Historical Over View of Emperor Ləbnä Dəngəl

Ləbnä Dəngəl (1508-1540) was Nəgusä Nəgäst 'King of Kings' of Ethiopia, a royal descendant member of the Solomonic bloodline. He was ለገደ. ለናዖድ ለቤተ ለሰመራዊ ለገደ ለገደ : son of [emperor] Naod and [Queen Naod Mogesa]. His throne name was Wenag Seged3 'to whom the Lion bow' (JPL.f.13vo). Also, he has known as Dawit III. King Na'od died in 1508, and his younger son Ləbnä Dəngəl came to reign at the age of 12, guided by Queen Eleni4 and his mother Na'od Mogäsa afterwards until 1516 (Coti Rosini, 1894: 6). She (Eleni) had made contact with Muslim sultanates, while she started relation with Portuguese for a possible military support.

In 1516, Amir Mahfuz invaded the Christian provinces. Ləbnä Dəngəl ambushed the invader, in 1517; and killed Mahfuz5. Consequently, a Portuguese expeditionary force arrived in Ethiopia, under Dome Rodigo Delima, with father Francesco. Alvarez as Chaplin reached Mšəwa and then on to Ləbnä Dəngəl's court at Tägülät in Šäwa on Oct., 1520; where he stayed until 28 April 1526. The purpose of the Portuguese mission was to eradicate the Muslim force6 from Red sea and Persian peninsula/Indian Ocean by making military alliance with the Ethiopian Empire (Abir 1902:72).

Emperor Ləbnä Dəngəl had four sons (Fiqəṭor, Gälawdewos, Minas and Ya'əqob) and four daughters (Amätä Giyorigis, Säbänä Giyorigis and Wälätä Kədusan, Wälätä Hawarəyat) from his wife Säblä Wängel (Kleiner 2006:656).

The reign of Ləbnä Dəngəl coincided with one of the most eventful and difficult periods in the medieval history of Ethiopia. In the 32nd year of the Emperor's reign the kingdom of Adal invaded most parts of the Christian kingdom of Ethiopia under its leader Imam Aḥmad Ibn- Ibrahim al-Ghazi- nick named (Grañ), 'the left handed'. Many Christians were massacred and reduced slaves. Many notable Churches and monasteries burned and their treasures destroyed (RBE,ff.6-8).

Ləbnä Dəngəl and his family were suffered and fled from place to place. He lost battles to Aḥmad grañ in several battles since 1529 AD. In 1539 he fled to the monastery of Däbra Damo, where he died on 5 September, 1540 at the age of 32 (MST, f.27vb). His son Gelawedewos succeeded him.

3 The title Wanag Segad (to whom the lion bow), which is a combination of Ge'ez and Harari terms.

4 Eleni (1431-1522) favored with the title *Etege* (literal meaning in Ge'ez, "sister of the country") over the two other wives of Zera Yaqob, she was still a power during the reign of her stepson, Be'eda Maryam (1468-1478) and maneuvered the choice of his son, Lebna Dengel, as emperor in 1508. A Muslim princess from Hadeya, she converted to Christianity, commissioned two religious texts and rebuilt many churches.

6 The Muslim force here denotes an international reference the then power elites, the ottoman Turks. Possible military alliance with Ethiopia was to be established based on the legendary Christian king of Ethiopia known to them as Prester John. Hence, the intention of the mission of Portugal was party carnal of their foreign policy. Merid W/Aregay and Girma Beshah, *The Question of the union of the Churches in Luso- Ethiopian Relation (1500-1632)*. pp.23-32.

3.1. The wars of Ahmad ibn Ibrahim al-Gazi

The conflict had appeared between Christian kings and Muslim sultanates, mainly from 13th to 16th c. between 1270 and 1529, Muslim sultanates were conquered and subdued by certain Christian kingdom's emperors like Amdä Şəyon (1314-1344), and Zara Yaeqob (1434-1468)7. In 1508, Emperor Na'od (1494 -1508)8 died and his younger son Ləbnä Dəngəl took the throne. The Muslims conquered the Christians and had the upper hand in the affairs of kingdom for 15 years under their leader Ahmad Grañ. The abridged chronicle of Ləbnä Dəngəl claim that “ወእስከዝ ጊዜ ኢተክፍለት ሀገር 9 ወኢገብአ ፀር ዘይመልካ ባሕቱ እሉ ነገ ሥነት ይመደድሙ ለብዙኃን ነገ ሥነት በከመ ሞዖሙሐይ ዐምደ ጽዮን ለ፲ ነገ ሥነት.....ባሕቱ ገብአተ ሀገር ነ 10 በእደ ፀር ተወጥነ በዘመነ ንጉሥ ልብነ ድንግል 11 ወልዱ ለሐይ ናዖድ: : up to this time, the country had never been dismembered by any enemy. On the Contrary the kings had conquered many kings. Amdä Şəyon 12 defeated ten kingsthe invasion of our country by enemies begun under king Ləbnä Dəngəl, the son of king Naod (RBE,fol.5)”.

Ahmad ibn Ibrahim al-Gə'azi (1506-1546)13 was better known with his nick name Ahmad Grañ. He was born in 1506 in Hubat, a place located between the present day Harär and Ogaden. He was Somali origin14; and was the soldier of Gärad Abun (Kleiner 2003:155). When Gärad Abun was killed in 1525 by sultan Abubaker, Ahmad Grañ took his place and killed AbuBaker (Şihabad- Din 2003:9-10). In 1527 he became Imam and soon refused to pay the tribute to Emperor Ləbnä Dəngəl (Pankhurst 1970:70). Hereafter Ləbnä Dəngəl sent his war lord to Harär to fight Grañ, who was finally defeated. Then በ፲ ወ፱ ዓመት መንግሥቱ ሐረ ደገ ልሐን መለአከ ኃይሉ ምደረ አዳል ወመገረከ ነዋዮሙወዳ ወወ አንስቲያሆሙ: ወእንዘ ይትመጥ ደገ ኖ ግራኝ ወመገብ ዲዋሁ ወምህርካሁ: : “In the 19th year of the his reign Dägalhan 15 his commander in chief [Ləbnä Dəngəl's] went to the land of Adal ; and he (Dägalhan) looted their treasurer and captivated their women. When he returns back Grañ followed behind and bring back the looted and captive of him” (MST, f.23 vb-ra).

On March 7, 1529, Ləbnä Dəngəl fought Ahmad Grañ, at Şəmbəra Kure, a place between the present day Däbrä Zäyt and Dukäm towns. At the beginning of the battle, Ləbnä Dəngəl's army seemed victorious as it broke the Adal and Somali warriors. Finally, however, they were defeated (MST, ff.23 vb-ra and Merid 1975:161). In the mean time Grañ invaded Fätägar, Däwaro and Ifat which were by then the tributaries of the Christian kingdom.

In 1533 the monastery of Däbrä Libanos was burned and other many churches of Däwaro, Fätägar and Şäwa were destroyed (C. Rosini 1894:13). Ahmad Grañ continued his campaign of destruction of churches. He came to Bet Amhara (today wollo) pillaging every church he found. The abridged chronicle of Ləbnä Dəngəl stats that: ወአመ፯ ለኅዳር አወዳዮመ፱ ለመካነ ሥላሴ ወለደብረ ነገሥት ወለአትሮኖስ ማርያም: : And on 7 Hedar he[Grañ]burned Mäkanä Selassie, Atronos Maryam, and Däbrä Nägodgwad (RBE,ff.5), including Gänätä Giyorgis Däbrä Egziabeher. Grañ also destroyed many churches, and occupied Deber Brehan Şäwa, Bägəmədr, and part of Təgray.

7 Throne name Qwäştänqinos, was one of Ethiopia's powerful Emperor. He strengthened the monarchy & centralized the administration of the country by bringing remote regions under imperial control. He is also credited for his intellectual legacy in authoring such books as መጽሐፈ ሙሉድ Mäşhafä Milad መጽሐፈ ብርሀን Mäşhafä Birhan, ሞግረ ትስብት ፐማር Təsbiet, ከህደተ ሰይጣን Khidätä Säñan, መጽሐፈ ባህርይ Mäşhafä Bahirəy, ተአቅቦ ምስጢር Tä'aqbotä Məştir, & አግዚአብሐር ነግሠ ጃጅ'abəher Nägsä.

8 His throne name Anbasä Basär 'lion for the enemies' was a son of aşe Bäada Mariam (1468-1478) and queen Romana, who succeed his brother Āskändr (1478-1494) and the latter's son of Amdä şəyon II to the throne in 1494.

9 MST-ኢተክፍለ መንግሥት JPL- Omitted

10 JPL-ሀገር MST-ሀገር ነ

11 RBE-በመንግሥት ወናግ ሰገድ ዘወአቱ ልብነ ድንግል: JPL- በዘመነ ንጉሥ ልብነ ድንግል

12 Amdä şəyon (1314–1344; whose throne name was Gäbrä Mäsqäl “slave of the cross”), was a member of the Solomonic dynasty. He was one of the most outstanding Ethiopian kings of any age and a singular figure dominating the Horn of Africa in the fourteenth century." His conquests of Muslim borderlands greatly expanded Ethiopian territory and power in the region, maintained for centuries after his death. Besides, he successfully campaigned against the Muslim kingdoms of Damot, Hadiya and Ifat. Tadesse Tamrat. Church and State, pp.132- 137. See also G.W.B Huntingford. The Glorious Victories of Amda Seyon, King of Ethiopia. Oxford: University Press, 1965.

13 He was the leader (from 1529-1543) of the Muslim conquest of southern central and part of northern Ethiopia in the first half of the 16th c. He destroyed Christian heritages. He was killed in the battle of Wäyna Däga, west of Lake Tana on February 1543 AD. Christoph Much, Ahmad Ibn Ibrahim al-Gazi”Encyclopdia Aethiopica. Vol.I. p.155-156.

14 The origin of Grañ is subject to historical debates. Certain documents refer to as of Haräre origin. Others consider him as an Arab conquer, who establish an Arabic enterprise in his kingdom of Adal. At any rate, he is considered as the conquering hero of the kingdom of Adal characteristic of 16th c.

15 Dägalhan, Ethiopian the aristocrat married King Ləbnä Dəngəl's sister Amatä Wəşən, and he was the with the title of Ras. In 1527 he invaded the Adal, but was defeated. Prouty and Rosenfeld, Historical Dictionary of Ethiopia .p. 60.

16 MST-ዓ ወአዮሙ JPL-አ ወዓዮሙ

The Muslims had made themselves masters of Ethiopian kingdom and they conquered everywhere as well as destroyed and looted Churches and monasteries 17 which were furnished with gold, silver, and precious minerals¹⁸.

Ləbnä Dəngəḷ's eldest son Fiqətor was killed at Zara in Wag by one of the military elites of Aḥmad Grañ on April 7, 1537; Minas¹⁹, was captured on May 19, 1539, and was later sent to Yemen. The Emperor fell back behind to Tegray. Amba Geshe²⁰ fell to another assault in January, 1540, the royal prisoners interred there were slaughtered by Wäzır Mujahid²¹ and the royal treasury looted (MST, ff.26vb-27vb).

Emperor Ləbnä Dəngəḷ asked the king of the Portuguese to get military assistance. In the mean time, he died in 1540 A.D; and was succeeded by his son Gälawdewos, before the arrival of Portuguese army. The Portuguese armies (400 soldiers) came under Don Christopher Da Gama, son of the famous explorer, Vasco Da Gama. With support of the Portuguese army, Gälawdewos defeated and killed Aḥmad Grañ at the battle of Wäyna Däga in 1543.

4. Philological Analysis

There are philological and linguistic differences among the texts including orthographical, phonological, and morphological differences. It means there are common innovations. Some are *Polygenetic Errors*.

4.1. Polygenetic Errors

4.1.1. Similarity in Sound

No	JPL	RBE	MST	Correct form	
1	f.15: ማቅ ቀበ እግዚእ	f.6: ማቅ ቀ[በ] እግዚእ	f.24 ra: ማእነ ቀ እግዚእ	JPL and BAE	Personal name ‘Ma’əqbe Egzi’
2	f.17: እቡይ ወነ ዊጎ Evil and long	f.7: ዐቢይ ወነ ዊጎ	f.26va: ዐቢይ ወነ ዊጎ	MST and RBE	Great and long
3	f.18 ስዝር	f.7: ከዝር	f.26ra: ስንዝር	MST and JPL	Hand measurement
	f.14: እለ እዳግ	f.5: እሰ እዳግ	f.23ra: ራስ እዳግ	MST	Curtly title with personal name ‘ras Edug’

Table 2

4.1.2. Syntactic Differences

1. RBE.f.10v: and MST: አመጺ ለማዳዘያ ወዕለተ ረቡዕ ሰማህ ሕምዳት : :
Gloss. On 7th of March, Wednesday a Week of Passion.
JPL .f.28vb: አመጺ ለማዳዘያ እንተ ይእቲ ሰማህ ሕምዳት ወዕለተ ረቡዕ : :
Gloss. On 7th of March, that is a Week of Passion, Wednesday.
2. JPL.f.11v : ብዙኃን ምስ ሌሆመእ ምሥራዊተ ንጉሥ : :
Gloss. Many were with them from troop of king

17 Churches and monasteries were ruthlessly plundered and sacked and their treasures damaged and many sacred gold and silver objects given to Islamic warriors. Several MSS of Ethiopian Christian literature, paintings, books, and mural on church walls were destroyed. B.A.Ogot, General History of Africa. vol. V. p.713

18 In the campaigns, Ahmad's followers destroyed churches, monasteries, and converted Christians at the point of spear. They carried off youths both men and women; and sold them as slaves. Then several believers abandoned Christian religion and joined to Islamic religion. The remnants of the Christian population were one out of ten. William Conzelman, Chroique de Gälawdewos (Claudius) Rol d' Ethiopic, Texte Ethiopica. P.5-6.

19 He was the third son of Ləbnä Dəngəḷ and Säblä Wängel apart from Gälawdewos. Minas was captured and sent to Yemen as slave. Later, he succeeded his brother Gälawdewos in 1559. According to J.Bruce minas was taken to prison on one of the high mountain in Adal during the wars of Aḥmad Grañ. Bruce, James, Travels to Discover the Source of the Nile, in the Years 1768, 1769, 1770, 1771, 1772, and 1773 (3rd ed).Vol. III.pp.221.

20 It is the high mountain upon which children of the royal family were detained to prevent them from conspiring for the throne. There were 2,300 princes and princesses on the Amba Gəšän. Richard Pankhurst. The Ethiopian Royal Chronicles P62-63. Amba Gəšän had served as a royal prison before its emergence as the holiest place in the country under ግሸን ደብረ ክርቤ Gəšen Däbrä kärbe descendants of the throne, who could potentially put presser on the reigning king were put on the flat topped mountain. They were brought to the throne when power to vacuum appear at, for example, the death of the king .this tradition is said to behave been adopted from the political culture of the biblical kingdom of Israel. Awegichew Amare, Medieval royal prison, a contemporary holy edifice: Ameba Gəšän, unpublshed paper sumited to French center for Ethiopian studies,2007.P.1-34.

21 He was the ruler of Harär, and it was he who in 1540 had cut the throats of all the princes of royal blood who were imprisoned in the fortress on mount Gəšen in Ambasäl . Wallis Budge A History of Ethiopia: Nubia and Abyssinia .Vol. II .P. 344

- MST.f.30vb: and RBE ብዙኃን ሠራዊተ ን ጉሥምስ ሊሆሙ፡፡
Gloss. Many of the king troops were with them.
- 3. MST.f.30vb: ወይኔይሰኒ እደቅ ወስተ[እደ] እግዚአብሔር፡፡
Gloss. And for me, I shall fall in the hand of God.
RBE.f.30vb: ወይኔይሰኒ ወዳቅ ወስተ እደ ለእግዚአብሔር፡፡
Gloss. And for me, I shall to fall in God’s hand.
JPL.f.30vb: ባሕቱ ይኔይሰኒ እደቅ ወስተ እደ እግዚአብሔር፡፡
Gloss. But, for me I shall fall in the hand of God.
- 4. RBE.f.8 and MST.f.27vb: ወሰከበ ምስለ አባዊሁ ወዓመተ መሥግስቱ ሷወጀ
Gloss. And he slept with his ancestor in the year of 32nd of his reign.
JPL.f.2: ወሰከበ ወስተ ዓለመ አባዊሁ በሷወጀ ዓመተ መሥግስቱ
Gloss. And he slept with his world of ancestor in the year of 32nd of his reign.
- 5. JPL-f.17: ወበዝ ወርኅ ተንሥኦ እምም እምድምብያ ወወረደ ሲሬ፡፡
Gloss. And on this month imam rose from Dämbya and went dawn Sire.
MST-f.25rb and RBE-f.7: ወበዝ ወርኅ እም አመተንሥኦ እምድምብያ ወረደ እመር ወስተ ሲሬ፡፡
Gloss. And on this month when he rose from Dämbya Umär went dawn to Sire

4.2. Omissions

- 1. RBE-f.5 and MS-f.23rb: ወሰደዶ እስከ ሸምብራ ኩሬ መዲናሁ ለንጉሥ፡፡ And he exiled him up to Šəmbra Kure which is the king’s capital.
JPL-f.14: ወሰደዶ እስከ ሸምብራ ኩሬ ___፡፡ And he exiled him up to Šəmbra Kure ___.
The Phrase መዲናሁ ለንጉሥ ‘the king’s capital’ is omitted in JPL.
- 2. JPL-f.14: ወቀተለ ካልአነ ብዙኃን ወሐረ ብሔር፡፡ and he killed many of others and went to their country
RBE-f.5 and MST-f.23ra: ___ ካልአነ ብዙኃን ___፡፡ many of others.
The words/ቀተለ ‘killed’ and ወሐረ ብሔር ‘went to their country’ are omitted in RBE and MST.
- 3. JPL-f.14: በከመ ___ ሰብአ ወእቱ ብሔር፡፡ As ___ the persons of that country.
RBE-f.5 and MST-f23rb: በከመ ነገሩነ ሰብአ ወእቱ ብሔር፡፡ As they told us the persons of that country
The word ነገሩነ ‘told us’ is omitted in MST.
- 4. RBE-f.5 and JPL-f.14: ወእ ወአዮመግራኝ በእሳት ለመካነ ሥላሴ፡፡ And ‘Grañ burned with fire Mäkanä Selassie .
MST-f.rb: ወእ ወአዮመ ___ ለመካነ ሥላሴ፡፡ He burned ___ Mäkanä Selassie.
The word/name ግራኝ በእሳት ‘Grañ with fire’ is omitted in MST.
- 5. JPL-f.15: ወተጻብዑ አመጸውጀ ለይካቲት፡፡ and they made war on22nd of February.
RBE-f.6 and MST-f.24vb: ___ አመጸውጀ ለይካቲት፡፡ on22nd of February.
The verb ወተጻብዑ/ ‘and they made war’ is omitted in RBE and MST.
- 6. JPL-f.15: አመ ___ ሷአመተ መንግስቱ፤ on ___ in 30th of his reign
RBE-f.6: አመጸ ለግንቦት በሷ ዓመተ መንግስቱ፡፡ on5th of May in the 30th of his reign .
MST-25va: አመጸ ለግንቦት ___፡፡ on5th of May ___
The phrase ጸ ለግንቦት ‘5th May’ is omitted in JPL and በሷ ዓመተ መንግስቱ፡፡ ‘in the 30th of his Reign’ is omitted in MST.
- 7. RBE-f.5 and JPL-f.14: ወተከለ ኢየሱስ ወብዙኃን መኳንንት ወመላካ ለሸዋ፤ and Täklä Iyesus and many nobles who the governor for Šäwa.
MST-f.23rb: ወተከለ ___ ወብዙኃን መኳንንት ወመላካ ለምድረ ሴዋ፤ and Täklä ___ and many nobles who the governor for Sewa.
The word/name ኢየሱስ ‘Iyesus’(Jesus) is omitted in MST.
- 8. JPL-f.19 :በእ ጽሚኑ ኅቤሁ፡፡ He interred slowly to him.
RBE-f.7 and MST-f.26ra: በእ ___ ኅቤሁ፡፡ he interred to him.
The word ጽሚኑ ‘slowly’ is missed in MST.
- 9. RBE-f.7 and MST-f26va: ካዕበ ሰደዶ ኢዮራም በአለ ሀገር ምስለ ጄ መላሳይ፡፡ Again Iyoram the land lord exiled him with one Mäläsäy.
JPL-f.18: ሰደዶ ኢዮራም ዳግመ ___ ምስለ ጄ መላሳይ፡፡ Iyoram Again _ exiled him with one Mäläsäy.
The word በአለ ሀገር ‘Land lord’ is missed in MST.

4.3. Phonological Change

No	Error words	Texts	Correct form	Gloss
1	ማእከለ	RBE-f.6	ማእከለ	In between
2	ወመላካ	JPL-f.14	ወመላካ	And its governor
3	አባዊሁ	RBE-f.8	አባዊሁ	His fathers
4	ወመላካ	RBE-F.5	ወመላካ	And its governor
5	ዘኮነ	RBE-f.7	ዘኮነ	Became of
6	ብዕራ	JPL-f.19	ብዕራይ	Ox

Table 3

4.3.1. Proper Nouns

No	Texts			Correct form and the current day	Gloss
	RBE	JPL	MST		
1	f.7: እመር	f.17: እመር	f.25rb: ዐመር	MST-ዐመር	Personal name 'Umär'
2	f.6: አቃቤ ሳዓት	f.16: አቃቤ ሰአት	Omitted	JPL-አቃቤ ሰአት	Ecclesiastical title 'Aqabe Sä'at'
3	f.7: አስማን	f.17: አስማን	f.25rb: ዐስማን	MST-ዐስማን	Personal name 'Usman'

Table 4

4.3.2. Place Names

No	Texts			The current day and Correct form	Gloss
	RBE	JPL	MST		
1	f.5: ሻዋ	f.17: ሻዋ	f.23rb: ሻዋ	JPL and MST	Place name 'Šäwa'
	f.5: ለሻዋ	F.14: ለሻዋ	f.23rb: ሴዋ	JPL	Place name 'Šäwa'
2	f.7: ሰሬ	f.18: ሰሬ	f.26vb: ሺሬ	ሺሬ/ MST ሺሬ	Place name 'Šäre'
3	f.7: ግሼ አመጣ	f.17: ግሼን አመጣ	f.27ra: ግሼ አመጣ	ግሼን አመጣ	Place name 'Gəšan Amba'
4	f.6: ለስሜን	f.16: ለስሜን	f.24rb: ለስሜን	RBE	Place name 'Semen'
5	f.7: መሰር	f.19: ምስር	f.27va: ምስር	JPL and MST	Place name 'Məsr'/ Egypt

Table 5

4.3.3. Phonological Difference

No	RBE	JPL	MST	Gloss
1	f.6: ጎሳም	f.16: ጎሳም Gožžam'	f.24rb: ጎሻም 'Goğğam'	Place name
2	f.7: ምጽዋዕ 'Mšəwəə'	f.19: ምጽዋዕ 'Mšəwəə'	f.27va: ምጽዋ 'Mšəwa'	Place name
	f.6: በንኮል Bänkol	f.15: በልኮል Bälkol	f.24rb: በንኮል Bänkol	Place name
3	f.6: አዝማት Azəmat	f.16: አዝማች Azmač	f.24rb: አዝማ 'Azaž	Curtly title
	f.6: ወመላሳይ and Mäläsay	f.15: ወመላሳይ and Mäläsay	f.24vb: ወመላሻይ and Mäläšay	military rank title

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