## The anthropology of song: some hows, whens, wheres, whys and whos

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**Abstract**: People move around all the time, and have for millions of years. It's a tough habit to break. All four fields of anthropology – physical, linguistics, cultural and archaeology – propose interrelated hypotheses, a few process models, and the beginnings of at least one theory – diffusion – to make our "journeys" substantively clearer.

Migration is not strange but natural for the creative mind.<sup>1</sup>

#### Introduction

Physical anthropologists overwhelmingly agree. Beginning 4.4 million years ago [henceforth mya], we were walkers, and perhaps talkers then as well.<sup>2</sup> We cannot help ourselves. It's in our genes. Trekking and observing, commenting and naming, singing and joking, inventing, retooling and sharing, creating and connecting. With each other.

As *Homo erectus* we hiked to and from Africa, over and over again,<sup>3</sup> across the Old World's varying climate zones,<sup>4</sup> taking our tool kits with us, inventing more on the way.<sup>5</sup> Along with all sorts of animals, seeds, plants, microbes, spores – for millions of years – we spread out, in all directions. We walked – perhaps hundreds of miles in one short lifetime-- mixing genes and sharing knowhow whenever we could.<sup>6</sup> It's who we are.

Beginning c. 2.4 mya we colonised Riwat in north Pakistan, Donggutou in northern China, Erq-El-Aḥmart, near Bethlehem, Israel, and the Pabbi Hills of northern Pakistan. Atapuerca, northern Spain, and Dmanisi Georgia, in Europe's Caucus Mountains, welcomed us. About 1 mya we sailed to Indonesia – in Southeast Asia – and walked along a beach in East Anglia, in the UK.<sup>7</sup> Mixing genes, and sharing tools, speaking, teaching, trading – and no doubt singing – along the way.

### Hominin creativities: speech, language play and movement – who we are

The nomadic Kalahari Desert !Kung of Nyae Nyae, Namibia, roam and play, forage, craft, process, and invent. All the while speaking and singing. They compose poem-songs – expressing their feelings, recounting incidents past and present, concocting and sharing jokes, poetising repartée. They are in continuous conversations with each other – all of the hours – all of the day. Even when they are beyond one another's hearing. *Zajal*. As defined in Lane's *Dictionary* of 1863.8

zajala زجل loud sound, trilling, quavering, modulating. A specie of verse. Unmeasured song, ballad.

!Kung men yell all the time. !Kung women are slightly more restrained. Women and girls compose and sing – solo and in choral polyphonies – most of the poem-songs. They compose in great varieties – subject and formats – often accompanied with hand-clappings – occasionally incorporating bits and pieces of the much fewer men's compositions. As they are not literate, their compositions are memorised.

A heavy deluge filling a huge water pan, becomes a venue for splashing and bathing. And one more venue – one more stimulus – for composing, singing, and yes – dancing in the water – and laughing, joking, and playing games. <sup>11</sup> They don't like to be out of touch with each other. Neither do we.

#### Hominin transformations: agriculture, trade, writing and schmoozing

Beginning 45 thousand years ago [henceforth kya], the seeds of changes to our hundreds of thousands of years of hominin foraging – literally – began taking root. We had been consuming, trading and manipulating their genomes – the so-called founder seeds – for over 100 ky. <sup>12</sup> Until they began to consume us between 12 kya and 8 kya.

Combining the flexibility and diversity of foraging with increasing domestication, helped to increase population numbers. The "newbies" produced more and more diverse products. They drove the expansion of the extant exchange networks – and at the same time multiplied the number of their contact nodes – across the Old World. More and more people needed to be fed, clothed, housed. Therefore, more and more of us needed to "sit down", to farm, raise animals and craft. By 8 kya the grains, pulses and flax package, the dog, pig, goat, sheep and cattle collection – and the concomitant need for new kinds of tools and artefacts – began "nailing" us to sedentism.<sup>13</sup>

An anthropological aside. The primate core is a mother and her children. The evidence is overwhelming. She is biologically programmed to protect and provide for her offspring. To do so she must solve, resolve and invent. The survival of our specie depends primarily on her.<sup>14</sup>

Increasing populations over the past 12 thousand years pressurised too many of us to depend almost entirely on women's inventions: permanent shelters and coverings; domesticating animals, grains, pulses, flax and the fig; brewing beer and fermenting wine; the loom; pottery; and no doubt – from c. 9 kya to 5 kya <sup>15</sup> – the etched clay seals, the *bullae*, identifying owners and products. <sup>16</sup> Our genetic proclivities for trade exploded in all directions. As did the number of travelers.

From foraging to roaming, beggars, laborers and wandering performers – jongleurs, storytellers, poem-singers, acrobats, magicians, fortune tellers, healers, crafters, artists – are now indigenes of the ancient global market's multiplicities of trade routes. <sup>17, 18</sup> They are welcome everywhere. Each can trade news plus personal talents, sell items, and share genomes, for food, shelter and "stuff". Itinerant musicians brought their repertoires, on foot and by ship. "Good tunes and good rhythms travel well." <sup>19</sup> So, too, does capitalism and the free market. <sup>20</sup> They are as old as we.

Expanding and intensifying trade led to the invention of cuneiform and hieroglyphics c. 5 kya. About 4 kya the more efficient writing systems – the fewer symbols syllabaries and alphabets – were invented simultaneously in Egypt, Canaan/Israel, Indus, Iran, Mesopotamia and Europe.<sup>21</sup> Although mostly limited to the privileged .01% of men, the invention of writing allows us to record all sorts of verbal creativities, like mathematician Enheduanna's poem-songs, her hymns to Inanna 4.300 va in Sumer. <sup>22</sup>

# **Hegemonic hierarchies**

Anthropologists of all stripes are intimately familiar with tyrannies: kingdoms and empires, nearly always topped by one man, nearly always a psychopath,<sup>23</sup> who deifies himself <sup>24</sup> – aided, abetted and enabled – by men.<sup>25</sup> Their fundamentals: own all resources, including people and their creativities. Beginning c. 5,500 ya – and thanks to the invention of writing – laws to protect property and ownership of same became necessary. At about the same time more and more people were being designated as chattel, women in particular.<sup>26</sup>

For thousands of years, the Old World's ancient global market routes flowed 24/7/366. People, goods and those wonderful ephemerals – different cultures' languages, ideas, beliefs, stories and poem-songs – flowed in all directions.<sup>27</sup> Individuals and groups enjoyed going on pilgrimages, and attending life cycle and solstice events far from home. For some, travelling the roads was so attractive, they opted to add self to the ancient global market's "communities" of wanderers. And invaders. They joined on-the-move multiethnic, multilingual worlds.

Multiethnic and multilingual when the Muslims invaded Spain, they encountered an equally diverse, multicultural, multilingual c. 6 million population. Their rulers – the earlier invading Visigoths – numbered c. 300,000.<sup>28</sup> Conquered and conqueror – both well-nourished with diversities – enjoyed an unequivocally beneficial result: intensive, long-distance communication via the ever-expanding ancient global market.

In the Cordoban courts, literate men – and women poem-singers, free and slave, the literate *giyān* in particular – crafted their poem-songs in circles of privileged creativity. <sup>29</sup> They composed verses, sometimes in competition – in Classical Arabic – in the structurally complex *muwashshaḥ*. <sup>30</sup> When permitted, the identical-form *zajal*, sung in local dialects by whomever, about everything – including the kitchen sink – slipped into the rarified courts and thrived there as well. During the 11th and 12th centuries, both *muwashshaḥ* and *zajal* sped across the Arabic-speaking world, welcomed with pleasure in Yemen. <sup>31</sup>

#### Hominin creativities: poem-songs

#### I. Scenario

Late 18th century. Composed by an illiterate Judeo-Arabic-speaking woman in Yarīm — Ibb governerate, Yemen — it was then a still-significant node of the aromatics trade of the ancient global market. Living along this major international and regional road, she — and her neighbors — hear all sorts of poetic forms from the travelers stopping for a day or two, and from those passing through. Her name is Thireyyah מָל הראיה — chandelier.

She listens. But she cannot be bothered to remember the elegant and colloquial Arabics, even though – when similar to the Qur  $\bar{a}n$ 's  $usl\bar{\iota}$  – they are comprehensible. Nor can she imitate the shared format of the muwhashshah and zajal. As a Yemenite Jewish woman she is familiar with both. She has heard them all her life. Part of – and in the Shábazi  $D\bar{\imath}w\bar{a}n$ , they are for men only – composition and performance – on Shabboth, the Sabbath, as well as holy days, rites of passage, in selected prayers, and when men and boys practise specific poem-songs for public performances.

Like most Yemenite Jewish women she must carry out her daily "grind". 33 Literally. She is a housewife. Everything they eat, she prepares daily, from raw materials. In common with most Jewish women in Yemen she is expert as well in several trades. She grinds grains and spices, cooks, cleans, mends, spins wool, flax, cotton, hairs. She twines ropes, weaves cloth and baskets, and embroiders. All of her craftings are for home use and for sale.

And she is a potter, their most reliable moneymaking craft.<sup>34</sup> The subject of her very popular poem-song is inept. His job – the men's job – is to mix the clay well enough for the women and girls to fashion their pots easily. All too often they have to remix every batch to achieve the right consistencies for each product-type, before coiling them into saleables. He is also responsible for prepping the kiln. All too often the women and girls have to prep it. He prefers to spend his days napping, chewing  $q\bar{a}t$  and puffing his  $sh\bar{t}sh\bar{a}$ , a waterpipe.

Like most Yemenite Jewish women she can take her place at a funeral as a professional mourner.<sup>35</sup> But she has a special set of skills for which she is well-known in the surrounding district. She is a *maghanniyah*, a poem-singer of repute.

In common with her professional sisters and brothers, a *maghanniyah*'s memorised repertoire includes hundreds of verses, dozens of melodies – from which she selects and performs – in combinations appropriate to specific contexts.<sup>36</sup> Because Zaidi laws prohibit string and wind instruments, she is limited to a *ṭarbūqah*, a hand drum. An alternative is a *ṣaḥn*, a slightly curved copper plate she taps with a copper beer-opener-size mallet. She is expected as well to occasionally join others in a dance as she sings and plays. Poemsinger is a woman's trade, going back thousands of years.<sup>37</sup> The ancient control mechanism – ridicule – is very well weaponised via poem-singing.

The following zajal-ish poem-song, has its format necessarily modified. Only the men can compose in the AA bb(b), cc(c), dd(d) etc pattern. The first 2 lines qualify as a matla, the introductory couplet. The four that follow – the ghusn – all end in the same rhyme – AA bb bb bb. Perhaps hiding its intention to be a zajal?

In any case, the poem-song below illustrates the flexibility of persona selection, poetic configuration, and just plain old fashioned creativity that poem-singers utilise when they wish to make a point. This poem, in Judeo-Arabic, is composed by myself, following the poem-songs of the Jewish women that I heard performed since childhood.

rahmani min hadha felaha marati tihibat bas nafs ha Pity me. She's pitiless! Peasant! My wife. She loves only herself. balash shughlaha dharabni ha bas ma haqha la tidili ha. Never mind her labors. She beats me! Her properties, She refuses me! gal laha: mush ana zowajha ramaytni al leyl min beytaha I told her: you are now divorced. 38 That night she threw me out of her house! minnu ha marah bi rahmanha ana rajal lazm li marah Who is this woman! No compassion! I am a man! I must have a woman! lazim hi qaddam li hadha al-hibāb tarīgī ha sayyid ha She must submit to me. Obey me. This is love. My way of loving her.

### **Analysis: Six points**

The poem-singer takes on the persona of a clueless man who is upset and somewhat bewildered that his wife refuses to take care of him. She ridicules his self-absorption, his self-pity, his laziness, and his deep-seated unconcern for her. She is reflecting an unhappy marital relationship. She is ridiculing him, a very ancient technique aimed at correcting unacceptable behaviours.<sup>39</sup>

- 1. The internal and final rhymes /a/ and /ha/ are deliberate. In Judeo Yemeni independent and final short syllables /a/ and /ha/ when accented in a low emphatic voice communicate contempt. /ha / her is also a 3rd person feminine ending. /ha/'s semantic field also implies "possession" per "She is mine" a variation of /haqī/ in the Sadāwī [Ibb governorate] vernacular of 100+ years ago. /ha/ applies to boys and men as well.
- 2. Moreover, the long syllable  $/h\bar{a}/-in$  conjuction with long syllable  $/y\bar{a}/-constitutes$  a sub-dialect of Judeo Yemeni, to which suprasegmental variations communicate meanings. <sup>40</sup> The  $/y\bar{a}$  h $\bar{a}/combination$  when skilfully articulated and applied becomes an excellent disciplinary mechanism for controlling childrens' bad behaviours without resorting to physical punishments. <sup>41</sup>
- 3. Along with 7- and 11-syllable verses, the 9-syllable verse/rhythm is common in Judeo Yemeni poem-songs, particularly those that coordinate with the *dá'asah*, a women's line dance, very similar to that of the carole and the rondeau in metre and steps. These and the virelai and ballade are names both for dance formats and for poem-songs. 42 *Maghanniyath* are descendants of the ancient craft of poem-singing. In egalitarian systems for thousands of years women dominated the craft. 43
- 4. Yemenite Jewish poem-singers women and men compose poem-songs to fit their creative needs. They are much admired as exemplars of that much desired gift:  $f\bar{u}m\ kab\bar{\iota}r$  "well-spoken". Fum  $kab\bar{\iota}r$  فم کبیر translates to Hebrew as  $peh\ gad\bar{o}l$  and in

English as well – as "big mouth". In both languages the translations are contemptuous pejoratives, not at all reflective of its semantic field.<sup>44</sup>

Judeo Yemeni fūm kabīr's semantic field encompasses "swallow the world", and "the most deadly weapon", as echoed in the 'I-wish it-were-so' English children's rhyme

Sticks and stone may break my bones, but names will never harm me.

On the contrary. "Names" – the well-spoken "word" – can, at the very least, scar. At its worst: torture and destroy. 45

5. Mixing prose and verse, incorporating impromptu dialogue, responding to and commenting on ongoing conversations, are elements-of-the-moment a skilled *maghanniyah* incorporates into her performances. In this respect – and in the moment – she carries on the ancient practices of her craft. Yemenite Jewish poem-singers are prepared to embrace melding prose, verse, melody, drumming and dance. And creating off-the-cuff ripostes and repartée at the same time. Very much like the literate *qiyān* of Andalus. 46

It is quite common for guests to join in, and even tweak a performance. On one occasion an attending woman added verses – perhaps made-up on the spot – perhaps egging her into a challenge duel.

yā thiréyyah, ma sowwīlish hu?Hey, Thireyyah, what did he do to you?[Thireyyah responds:] gal līHe told memashtīsh antī wi 'īyālish huI don't want you or your children.[Woman asks:]Did he beat you and your children?[Thireyyah responds:] gal līHe told meakhū hu mātū almonī hūHis brother died, made me a widowmin ghayr 'īyāl zowwajūni hūNo children. They sold me to him.

Kin and neighbors, everyone knows everyone's histories, going back generations. Neither the poem-song nor the ensuing repartée refer to Thireyyah. The poem-song speaks of her elder sister Badra יאַר בדרה "full moon".

Again, the poem-song is mine. This section refers to incidents that I collected and have combined, reflecting anecdotes and stylistic couplets with which I am familiar. For the record, I am a *maghanniyah*.

At fourteen Badra was married to eighteen-year-old Sleiman, her mother's sister's youngest son. They live a few kilometers up the mountain from Yarīm, in as-Saddah. His father's family are weavers, a craft for which Sleiman shows no competency. Badra's and Thireyyah's family are potters. Having visited Yarīm often with his mother since he was a baby, growing, he showed a liking for the potters' craft – helping his uncles and cousins – at the same time absorbing their skills and their work songs.

Badra and Sleiman were a good team. And their cousin relationship quickly turned to love. She birthed two girls within three years. A cholera epidemic flashed up and down the mountain. Sleiman and the two girls died. A widow, barely eighteen years old, Badra was stuck in the "Ruth" quandary: actuating the Levir, zīqqat ha yibbūm נַשִּׁי זִיקֹת הִיבום

When a woman's husband dies and they have no living son, she is required to be acquired by her husband's nearest male relative. His job is to inseminate her so that the resulting child/ren – preferably a boy/boys – can read the Aramaic *Qadhdhīsh*, the Prayer for the

Dead, for his soul's sake – at appropriate times during the year. It is her duty to produce a son in her dead husband's name.

Even had her daughters lived, Badra would have been forced to marry the family's "lump". Salem is unmarried, one of those useless men – no doubt a genetic psychopath – who refused to work at any craft. He sees his only responsibility – as a Jewish man – to obey his religious dictates. At the very least, pray twice a day, attend all holy day services, and add his presence to the mandatory *minyan* – the 10 men quorum – in the local synagogue.

Badra births two more girls, then two boys. Her last nearly killed her. Now in her forties, Badra is a grandmother, an elder, and one of the women who – Muslims and Jews – go to for help when they have a problem. An expert potter, Badra is also a healer, and interprets dreams. An adequate poem-singer, she spells her sister whenever Thireyyah is hired to perform at a *ḥinnah* – the women-only performance ritual – preceding the "wedding", the ceremony of acquisition.

The women and girls coil and create. The women and girls coil and shape all kinds and sizes of pots, platters, different size coffee cups with and without snug lids, candelabras – including *hanūkkiyōth*, the 9-branched Hanukkoh menorah – and the ubiquitous round bellied wide-lip, narrow-opening, unglazed porous water pots. They are hung from hooks, hung outside 2nd-storey shaded windows. Evaporation cools the water inside.

The men's and boys' responsibilities are: to identify the divers clays for different kinds of pots; mix each batch with water and other additives; mix and stomp the clay until it is the right consistency. Men and boys build and maintain the kilns. The boys – and occasionally, if any are free to do so, the girls – join in collecting and prepping wood and animal dung for the firings. Men teach the boys how to build an efficient kiln, where to place the divers potteries for each type's most efficient baking, and how to be sensitised to the varying temperatures. These skills reduce considerably the number of potteries damaged during a firing.

In 19th century Yemen, every family member crafted. Each needed to be, at the very least competent, in several. In the  $bl\bar{a}d$  where 99% of Yemenis – Muslims and Jews lived – the necessaries of life were not always at hand or easily found. If you needed a rope, cord, threads, dyes, hairs, fibres and wool for weavings and baskets – for in-house use especially – you crafted it on the spot. Women and girls were especially adept. Visiting other women – even a short distance away – means carrying snacks and drinks for the visit. Some of the baskets and sacks hold the edibles and other materials they collect along the way. Like our forager ancestors.

6. Most poem-singers – women and men – adapt formats to suit what they want to say. If a format does not fit, you modify it. That it derives from a different language is irrelevant. The *muwashshaḥ* itself has "countless variations in structure", and rhyming schemes. <sup>48</sup> The Yemenite poem-singer Shalom ash-Shabazi's  $D\bar{t}w\bar{a}n$  is rife with poem-songs that vary considerably from the expected templates.<sup>49</sup>

Prose and poetic forms interplay in the same poem-song. The Old Testament "Song of the Sea" <sup>50</sup> and Deborah's "Victory Song" <sup>51</sup> exemplify that most common of poem-songs: a prose poem. Figurative language having so many rhythmic structures – which in many languages are linked to one or more melodies – outweigh rhyme and metre.

In volume 1 of Maḥbūb's collection of ash-Shabazi's  $D\bar{\imath}w\bar{a}n$ , the Aḥereth in the Shīroth section – three 5-line verses plus an insert – is an exemplar. Sometimes the verses enjoy internal and final rhymes that follow this schema [cf. aaaaa, babbb (a) babbb]. More often than not, syllables are lengthened and shortened to suit. Occasionally, prose sentences appear, as prose-poetic inserts – like the one between verse 2 and 3 (a) – referring to a trip to al-Gades. <sup>52</sup>

The voice is a woman's, most likely written by a man? The  $D\bar{t}w\bar{a}n$  is supposed to be written by and for men only. Shalom ash-Shabazi's daughter "شمعة" "candle"

flame" – one of the few literate Yemenite Jewish women we know of – composed poemsongs as well. 53

wā zūr alī al-Gadesalmonī'a al a'līI, by myself, am going up to al-GadesI, a widow, alone, abandoned[al- Gades is Cadiz, in Andalusia]

#### **Diffusion**

All four fields of anthropology provide overwhelming proofs of diffusion. The "sniffs" of data above from physical anthropology tantalise. In common with all animates – and inanimates, like dust – we spread ourselves everywhere. An example. The Athabascan language family. For thousands of years – was and remains spoken – in three discontinuous geographic regions, thousands of miles apart. They are spoken now along the Pacific Coast, the southwestern United States, northwestern Canada, and the Alaskan interior. <sup>54</sup>

A language 'play' – throwing-back-objects / transformations folktales – pop up everywhere in Eurasia, from the Atlantic to the Pacific. They have spread across northwestern America, from the east coast to California, and are still narrated in Greenland and Nova Scotia. <sup>55</sup>

The European folk tale of the couple that escaped a pursuing monster by throwing backwards a number of objects which were transformed into obstacles... A comb thrown down becomes an impenetrable thicket, a whetstone an insurmountable mountain, a small amount of oil becomes an extensive lake, all of which detain the pursuer. <sup>56</sup>

Mixing prose and poetry <sup>57</sup> is practically a universal. Like Hebrew *muwashshaḥat*, introduced to Jews in medieval Andalus, and welcomed into Shalom ash-Shabazi's  $D\bar{\imath}w\bar{a}n$ . The Tanakh, Old Testament, shares mixes of prose and poetry – some prose poetry, some poetry prose – with the Gaelic traditions.<sup>58</sup> So, too, does Murasaki Shikibu's *Tale of Genji* and Sei Shonagon's diary, her *Pillow Book*. <sup>59</sup>

As diverse as we look, we are virtually identical genomically. Jean-Jacques Hublin <sup>60</sup> suggests that parallel evolution – the results of similar selection pressures – shines a spotlight on the overwhelmingly genetic similarities characterising we hominins. We are truly one specie.

# **Postscript**

Systems theory consists of a single sentence.

When one bit of a system goes wonkey, so do all the other bits.

Diffusion theory can also be summed up in a trio-sentence. We walk, talk, invent, share everything. Including genes. It's genetic.

Both, however, can easily become process models in A Theory of Social Organisation. Forthcoming.

## Acknowledgements

Many, many thanks to the wonderfuls at CUNY's Graduate Center ILL department. Brenda Gomez, Kathleen Brennan, Sylvia Cho, Jessica McGivney, Mert, Jessica Fisher, Beth Posner, Herbie Pollard and Diana Teeter. Reference folks. Thank you, too! Katherine Pradt and Kate Angell, and research assistant Paula A.A. Ramos. And a big thank-you hug to Beth Baron, Director, Middle East and Middle East American Center. And a special thanks to Ed Emery for his editing.

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### NOTES

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- 2. Tillier et al 2003.
- 3. Antón 2003: 126; Anton 2012; Antón and Swisher 2004: 290-1.
- 4. Antón, Potts and Aiello 2014: 46, 47; Velichko 1999: 5.
- 5. Lewis and Harmand 2016.
- 6. Antón, Potts and Aiello 2014; Boas 1937; Carbonell et al 2008; Gao 2013: S358; Stringer 2016: 1; Tillich 1937.
- 7. Antón 2003: 130-132; Antón, Potts and Aiello 2014: 54; Ashton et al 2014; Bar-Yosef and Wang 2012: 322-323; Basu, Sarkar-Roy and Majumder 2016; Bednarik 2003: 45, 47;

- Carbonell et al 2008: 197; Dennell 2004; Falk 2011: 79, 82; Gurche 2013; Hublin 2014: 1339; Zihlman and Lowenstein 1996: 696.
- 8. Lane 1863, v.1: 1223.
- 9. Marshall 1976: 289-92, 320.
- 10. Marshall 1976: 326.
- 11. Marshall 1976: 331.
- 12. Harmon 2009.
- 13. Abbo, Lev-Yadun and Gopher 2010: 317, Colledge, Conolly and Shennan 2004; Diamond 1987: 64; Harmon 2009.
- 14. Antón 2003: 130-132; Antón; Potts and Aiello 2014: 54; Bachofen 1861; Montagu 1968; Venkateswaran 2011.
- 15. Abbo, Lev-Yadun and Gopher 2010: 317; Colledge, Conolly and Shennan 2004; Gilligan 2010; Guerra-Doce 2015; Joffe 1998; Kislev, Hartmann and Bar-Yosef 2006; Kuzman 2013; Levy and Gilead 2013; Posey 1994; Wright 1991.
- 16. Schmandt-Besserat 1986.
- 17. Altaweel and Squitieri 2018; Boas 1937; Caramello 2018; Knipper et al 2017; Kristiansen and Suchowska-Ducke 2015; Saenz 2017; Sasson 1968; Tillich 1937; Wacks 2015; Zaccagnini 1983. TRV
- 18. Altaweel and Squitieri 2018; Caspers, 1965, 1992; Crawford 2005; Curtin 1984; Emery 2004; Friel 2017; Kristiansen and Suchowska-Ducke 2015; Larsen 1977; Payne 1968; Petrie 2013; Samhaber 1964; Steiglitz 1984.
- 19. Emery 2004.
- 20. Samhaber 1964: 15; Wright 2003.
- 21. Bernal 1987; Colless 1992; Dahl 2009: 23; Darnell et al 2005; Geotzmann 2016: 24; Imhausen 2016; Parpola 1986; Schmandt-Besserat 1986; Van der Toorn 2007; Woods 2010.
- 22. Glaz 2020.
- 23. Hare 2003; Ullricha, Farrington and Coida 2008.
- 24. Brisch 2008; Charpin 2013; Glad 2002.
- 25. Anderson 2009; Babylonian Talmud Seder Nashīm; Connell 2002; Cooper 2010 77: 'Women of former times each married [?] two men, but women of today have been made to give up that crime!'; Diakonoff 1986; Dossey 2008; Faure 2003; Gaius 1880; Gardner 1990; Grubbs 2002; Johnson 2002; Kong Fuzi-Confucius 1976; Maimonides 2011; Mann and Cheng 2001; Mansfield 2005; *The New Testament; The Old Testament; The Qur an; The Twelve Tables 169 BC*; VerSteeg 2000; Westbrook 2003; Wright 2014.
- 26. Anderson 2009; Babylonian Talmud *Seder Nashīm*; Bennet 2002; Cooper 2010: 77; Cox and Leacock 1979: 415; Dahbany-Miraglia 1999; Dossey 2008; Gardner 1990; Grubbs 2002; Johnson 2002; Kilpatrick 1991; Sanday 1981; Tetlow 2005; van Gelder 2015; Wright 2014.
- 27. Caramello 2018; Caspers 1965, 1992; Crawford 2005; Gerding and Östborn 2017; Kristiansen and Suchowska-Ducke 2015: 36; Larsen 1977; Payne 1968; Petrie, ed. 2013; Sainz 2017; Steiglitz 1984.
- 28. Reynolds 2013: 187.
- 29. Fox 2019; Kilpatrick 1991; Larkin 2006; Nielson 2012, Reynolds 2013: 184-185, 2017: 101, cf. al-Washsha's *Kitāb al-Muwashshaḥa*, etc.
- 30. Cohen 2002; Einbinder 1995; Fleischer1991; Menocal 1987; Monroe 1979; Reynolds 2018; Rosen-Moked 1985.
- 31. Maḥbūb 1954, v.1; Monroe 1996; Reynolds 2018: 35.
- 32. Maḥbūb 1954, v.1;

- 33. Molleson 1994.
- 34. Posey 1994; Wright 1991.
- 35. cf. Bar-Ilan 2020.
- 36. Cohen 2002: 68-69; Heskes 1992; Kilpatrick 1991; cf. Stillman and Stillman 1978.
- 37. Edwards 2001; Goitein 1957, 1960; Nielson 2012: 235, 241.
- 37. *qet pīṭṭūrīn* 'writ of manumission' Babylonian Talmud. *Gīṭṭīn*. See Dahbany-Miraglia 1998, 2003.
- 38. Bouchard 2018; Dahbany-Miraglia 1998, 2003; Held 2017.
- 39. Dahbany-Miraglia 2003.
- 40. Dahbany-Miraglia 1998.
- 41. Anonymous 2001; Bouchard 2018; Earp 1991; Everist 1996; Mullally 1986; Pound 1919; Reaney 1952; Rimmer 1990.
- 42. Bouchard 2018; Goitein 1957.
- 43. Dahbany-Miraglia 1998.
- 44. Bouchard 2018; Dahbany-Miraglia 1998, 2003; Held 2017.
- 45. cf. Reynolds 2017: 103.
- 46. Yibūm. Babylonian Talmud, Seder Nashīm. Hilkhōth Yibuūm veḤalitsah. 5, pp. 9-10; *Deuteronomy* 25: 5-10; *Ruth* 4.
- 47. Goitein 1957, 1960; Monroe 2007: 328; Nielson 2012: 235, 241.
- 49. Mahbūb1954.
- 50. Old Testament Exodus 15: 1-18.
- 51. Old Testament Judges 5: 1-31.
- 52. Maḥbūb v.1 1954: 239-240.
- 53. Personal communication, Shlomo Dov Goitein 1977.
- 54. Boas 1937: 287.
- 55. Boas 1937: 288.
- 56. Boas 1937: 288.
- 57. Monroe 2007: 332.
- 58. cf. Lehmann 1981: 111-112.
- 59. Murasaki 2002; Shonagon 2007.
- 60. Hublin 2014: 1339

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