

BODMER PAPYRI. Ancient manuscripts named after Martin Bodmer (1899-1971), Swiss humanist and collector of rare books, who founded his “library of world literature.” the Bibliotheca Bodmeriana, in Cologny near Geneva. Just prior to his death, Bodmer established the Foundation Martin Bodmer, in order to ensure that his library would remain intact and open to the public.

1. The Bodmer Papyri

In its widest application the term includes not only ancient Greek and Coptic mss in the possession of the Bibliotheca Bodmeriana but also documents of shared provenience at other locations. More commonly, as here, Bodmer papyri refers to mss acquired by Martin Bodmer and in the process of being published in the series Papyrus Bodmer, launched in 1954. Not all of the Bodmer papyri are actual papyri, however (XVI, XIX, and XXII are parchment), nor do all derive from the discovery in 1952 (XVII).

2. The Discovery

Though Panopolis (Achim) was once thought to have been the place of discovery, it is now believed to have been somewhat farther S in the Panopolite nome, namely at Pabau (near Dishna), the ancient headquarters of the Pachomian order of monks. The bulk of the find was bought by Bodmer, but a variety of items came into the possession of Sir Chester Beatty (see CHESTER BEATTY PAPYRI), the Universities of Mississippi and Cologne, and the Fundacio “Sant Lluc Evangelista” in Barcelona. Bodmer's share numbered in excess of the sixteen codices and three rolls which have thus far been published (excluding P. Bodmer XVII). Pap. VIII (1-2 Peter), belonging to a codex of heterogeneous materials, was presented to Pope Paul VI during his visit to Geneva in 1969. Consequently it is now housed in the Vatican Library.

3. The Library at Pabau

The evident composition of the ancient monastic library has received some attention. Of interest is the inclusion of three kinds of texts: Classical Greek, Greek biblical and Christian, and Coptic biblical and Christian. Though it has been disputed that all of the Classical texts are from Pabau, one codex makes a mixture of texts indisputable: XLV (Susanna) + XLVI (Daniel) + XXVII (Thucydides) + moral maxims. That the library can be seen as a monument to the gradual triumph of Coptic over Greek in the Christianity of Upper Egypt is perhaps not confirmed by the fact that it is the majority of OT (not NT) texts that is in Coptic. The bulk of NT mss is in Greek. Not least among the library's points of interest is the virtual absence of biblical (OT) historical books. The lone exception is P. Bodmer XXI, a Coptic papyrus codex of Joshua, minus chaps. 12-21, which never formed part of the ms.

4. The Manuscripts

Dates for the entire ancient library range from the 2d century A.D. (P. Bodmer XXVIII) to the 4th/5th century (VI, XIX, XXII, XXIX-XXXVIII), with the majority of texts falling in the 4th century. P. Bodmer XVII (7th century) does not derive from Pabau. For Coptic studies in particular, the Dishna find must rank as one of the most [766 col. 2] outstanding discoveries to date. The mss are all of early date and represent Coptic in a considerable variety of forms.

a. Biblical and Related Texts. 1. Greek. All of the published mss are on papyrus and in codex form.

- P. Bodmer II = P66: containing John 1:1-21:9 (= fragment at Chester Beatty: John 19:25-28; 30-32). Date II/III century.
- P. Bodmer V: Nativity of Mary, also called in the ms Apocalypse of James. Date IV. Same codex as X. XI, VII, XIII, Nil, XX, IN, VIII.
- P. Bodmer VII = P72: Jude 1-25. Date IV See P. Bod. V above.
- P. Bodmer VIII = P72: 1-2 Peter. Date IV See P. Bod. V above.
- P. Bodmer IX = 2113: Psalms 33-34. Date IV. See P. Bod. V above.
- P. Bodmer X: Corinthian Correspondence (contains response of the Corinthians to Paul's second letter, and Paul's third letter). Date IV See P. Bod. V above.
- P. Bodmer XI: Ode of Solomon 11. Date IV. See P. Bod. V above.
- P. Bodmer XIV = P75: Luke 3:18-18:18; 22:4-24:53. Date III. Same codex as XV
- P. Bodmer XV = P75: John 1:1-15:8. Date III. See P. Bod. XIV above.
- P. Bodmer XVII = P74: Acts 1:2-28:31; Jas 1:1-5:20; I Pet 1:1-3:5; 2 Pet 2:21-3:16; I John 1:1-5:17; 2 John 1-13; 3 John 6, 12; Jude 3-25. Date VII.
- P. Bodmer XXIV = 2110: Pss 17:46-117:44. Date III/IV.
- P. Bodmer XLV: Sus (Theodotonic text). Date IV Same codex as XLVI. XXVII, XLVII.
- P. Bodmer XLVI: Dan 1:1-20 (Theodotonic text). Date IV See Bod. XLV above.
- P. Bodmer? = P73: Matt 25:43; 26:2-3 [ined.]. Date VII. Fragment found in P. Bod. XVII and probably in same hand.

2. Coptic. Of the published mss all but P. Bodmer VI, XVI, NIX, XXII are on papyrus. All are, however, in codex form. Unless otherwise indicated the dialect is Sahidic.

- P. Bodmer III: John 1:1-21:25; Gen 1:1-4:2. Date IV Bohairic.
- P. Bodmer VI: Prov 1:1-21:4. Date IV/V Paleo-Thehan ("Dialect P").
- P. Bodmer XVI: Exod 1:1-15:21. Date IV.
- P. Bodmer XVIII: Deut 1:1-10:7. Date IV.
- P. Bodmer XIX: Matt 14:28-28:20; Rom 1:1-2:3. Date IV/V
- P. Bodmer XXI: Josh 6:16-25; 7:6-11:23; 22:1-2; 22:19-23:7; 23:15-24:2 (=P. Chester Beatty 2019). Date IV.
- P. Bodmer XXII: jet 40:3-52:34: Lamentations, Epistle of Jeremiah, Bar 1:1-5:5 Mississippi Coptic Codex II). Date IV/V.
- P. Bodmer XXIII: Isaiah 47:1-66:24. Date IV.
- P. Bodmer XL: Song of Songs [ined.].
- P. Bodmer XLI: Acta Pauli. Date IV Sub-Achmimic.
- [767 col. 1]
- P. Bodmer XLII: 2 Corinthians [ined.]. P. Bodmer XLIII: An Apocryphon [ined.].
- P. Bodmer XLIV: Daniel [ined.]. Bohairic.

b. Christian miscellanea. 1. Greek.

- P. Bodmer XII: a liturgical fragment (Melito?). Date IV. See P Bod. V above.

- P. Bodmer XIII: Melito of Sardis, Peri Pascha. Date IV. See P. Bod. V above.
 P. Bodmer XX: Apology of Phileas (= fragment at Chester Beatty: 135, 13-16 and 136, 14-17). Date IV See P. Bod. V above.
 P. Bodmer XXIX-XXXVIII: Codex Visionum. Date IV/ V [XXX-XXXVIII ined.].
 P. Bodmer XLVII: Moral Maxims. Date IV See P. Bod. XXVII above.

2. Coptic.

- P. Bodmer XXXIX: Pachomius' Letter 1 1^b [ined.].

c. Classical texts.

- P. Bodmer I: *Iliad* 5 and 6. Date III/IV. 2 papyrus rolls.
 P. Bodmer IV: Menander, *Dyskolos*. Date III. Same codex as XXV and XXVI.
 P. Bodmer XXV: Menander, *Samia* (= P. Barc. 45; Date III. See P. Bod. IV above.
 P. Bodmer XXVI: Menander, *Aspis* (= P Robinson inv. 38+P. Köln 3 [inv. 904]). Date III. See P. Bod. IV above.
 P. Bodmer XXVII: Thucydides Bk 6. Date IV See P. Bod. XLV above.
 P. Bodmer XXVIII: Satyr play. Date II. Papyrus roll.
 P. Bodmer XLVIII: *Iliad* [ined.].
 P. Bodmer XLIX: *Odyssey* [ined.].

The number of Bodmer papyri has to date reached L (= business documents of Panopolis on recto of P. Bodmer I).

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