

Youhanna Nessim Youssef

## Prayers attributed to Severus of Antioch

These prayers are included in the manuscript of the Bibliothèque nationale de France, Code Copte 4, which includes the psalms and biblical canticles.

Here is the description of Delaporte:

»Ms de 210 feuillets; 28x 21 cm; parchemin, sans date.

Ce manuscrit est paginé au recto en chiffres occidentaux; au verso, en letters coptes (nombres pairs; le dernier feuillet est coté (YΞB) [62]; les cahiers, de 16 pages, sont cotés par première et dernière avec, au milieu, un ornement rouge accompagné de mots abrégés; chaque page comporte 25 lignes de 16-20 letters. ... Acquis par Vansleb, dont le cachet sur cire est empreint aux feuillets 1 et 209. Regius, 3333.«<sup>1</sup>

We are not not sure whether Vansleb bought it from Cyprus or Cairo. From the handwriting it seems that this manuscript belongs to the scriptorium of Saint Macarius and the palaeography shows that it was copied in the twelfth century.

Another manuscript also from Saint Macarius and now preserved in the collection of the State-University Library of Hamburg<sup>2</sup> has the same structure, i. e. Psalter and Absolution. The date of this manuscript is the twelfth- thirteenth century. It contains our text with some variations.

In his *Clavis Patrum Graecorum*, M. Geerard<sup>3</sup> following T. Orlandi,<sup>4</sup> did not include these prayers among the works of Severus of Antioch.

One of the texts of these prayers is to the absolution of the Compline (the prayer of sleep in the Coptic Horologion).<sup>5</sup>

### Text

ΟΥΠΡΟΣΕΓΧ ΝΤΕ ΠΗΠΠΡΗΑΡΞ ΕΘΟΥΓΑΒ ΣΕΥ  
ΗΡΩC ΕΘΡΕ ΠΙΜΟΝΑΞ ΑΧΩC ΝΑΝΔΡΩΖΙ ΜΠΑΤΕ-  
ΦΕΝΚΟΤ  
<sup>6</sup>ΠΤΩC ΙΗC ΠΤΧC ΠΑΝΟΥΤ<sup>7</sup> ΜΟΙ  
ΝΗΙ<sup>8</sup> ΗΕΝ ΠΑΧΙΝ ΕΝΚΟΤ

A prayer of the holy Patriarch Severus which the monk says in the evenings before sleeping  
Lord, Jesus Christ, my God,  
give me, when I sleep,

1 Delaporte, 1912, p. 5-6 N. 7.

2 Störk, 1995, p. 114-118.

3 Geerard, 1979, p. 340-341.

4 Orlandi, 1970, p. 123.

5 Burmester, Cairo 1973, p. 103-104 (text), p. 208-209 (translation). Our text is compared with the edited text of Burmester.

6 Adds φΝΗΒ.

7 Read ΠΕΝΝΟΥΤ

ΝΟΥΓΑΝΑΠΑΓΥCIC ΝΤΕ ΤΙ  
σώμα<sup>9</sup> ογοζ αρεζ<sup>10</sup> εροι<sup>11</sup> ε  
βολ γα πιχάκι ετοι νχρεμτc<sup>12</sup>  
ντε φνοβι μαρογλο

χογ<sup>13</sup> νχε νχορμη<sup>14</sup> ντε  
νιπαθοс  
ογοζ ωψεм<sup>15</sup> мтхрѡм<sup>16</sup> ντε  
πιсѡма κѡр҃п н†жин  
тѡуgn<sup>17</sup> εпψωи<sup>18</sup> νтe т  
саpз гммаiфнoвн мaroy  
нкot нxе нипaθoс нeм

nimεγи ncapkinon ogoz<sup>19</sup>  
моi<sup>20</sup> nh<sup>21</sup> noynoyc ephc  
nem oumeyi eftouvh  
oyt<sup>22</sup> nem oupolhтиa ec  
mez naresh nem oufphw  
natabn<sup>23</sup> nem oumanen  
kot nte oymton<sup>24</sup>  
матоуност<sup>25</sup> εпψωи<sup>26</sup> eniշym  
noс<sup>27</sup> nte piexwр<sup>28</sup> ариз

the rest of the  
body and keep me  
from the darkness, which is  
the obscurity of sin.

Let the *attacks* of  
the *passions* shrink back.  
And quench the fire of  
the *body*. Bring to naught  
the uprising of the *flesh*,  
which is a sin-lover,  
let the *passions* and

the *fleshly* thoughts rest.  
And grant me a watchful *mind*,  
clear thinking,  
a *conduct* full of  
*virtue*, stainless  
sleeping-mat  
and a couch of rest.  
Raise me up to the  
night *hymns*.

8 Read ΝΑΝ

9 Read ΝΟΥГАНАПАГҮСИС һен пенжиненкот ογαнапапагүсис мпенсома

10 Read екеарез

11 Read ερон

12 Read χемс

13 Read мaroyзpoyp

14 Read НИЖИНКИМ

15 Read мaрeфωψeм

16 Read нxе πiχрѡm

17 Read ННИЖИНТВОУНОУ

18 om.

19 om.

20 Add. Δε

21 Read ΝΑН

22 Read εqoeвиноут

23 Read нaтeωлeв

24 Read εftouvhnoут ogoz

25 Read. εкетоуностен

26 om.

27 Read εпiշymнос

28 Add. nem զaнатooyi

**ΜΟΤ ΝΗ<sup>29</sup> ΝΤΕΚΔΟΛΟΓΙΑ<sup>(sic)<sup>30</sup></sup> Μ  
ΠΙΕΧΩΡΩ ΤΗΡΨ ΕΠΧΙΝΤΑ  
ΖΩΣ<sup>31</sup> ΕΠΕΚΡΑΝ ΕΘΟΥΓΑΒ ΟΥ  
ΟΩ ΕΘΜΕΩ ΝΩΟΥ ΝΕΜ ΜΕΤ  
ΣΑΙΕ ΝΙΒΕΝ ΝΕΜ ΠΕΚΙΩΤ  
ΝΑΓΑΘΟΣ ΝΕΜ ΠΙΠΝΑ ΕΘΟΥ  
ΑΒ<sup>32</sup> ῥ ωλ ΕΝΕΩ ΑΜΗΝ<sup>33</sup>**

Grant me the *doxology* of the whole night in order that I praise your Holy Name,  
full of glory and all beauty with Your Good Father and the Holy *Spirit* forever. Amen.

### Commentary

#### 1- The attribution:

This text occurs in the Byzantine<sup>34</sup> rite attributed to Antiochus Pandektos the monk,<sup>35</sup> from the monastery of Saint Sabas who lived at the beginning of the seventh century. Some of his works survived in Arabic in the book *Kitāb al-Hāwī*.<sup>36</sup> He compiled the letters of Clement of Rome, which survived in Syriac, Greek and only fragments in Sahidic Coptic.<sup>37</sup>

Antiochus Pandektos played the role of compiler. Living after the Persian destruction of the Holy City in 614, being a monk of the monastery of Saint Sabas, he picked up the pieces and restored the monastic life. Following the first wave of Iconoclasm (726-775 AD) the monasteries of Constantinople had adopted this Palestinian monastic office.<sup>38</sup>

The Palestinian Syriac Horologion, dated 1187/1888 AD, which was copied by a chalcedonian Syrian includes this prayer also in Syriac without any attribution.<sup>39</sup>

Severus of Antioch was an eyewitness of the Cathedral vigil, having spent several years in Palestine in the desert of Scythopolis and then in Maiouma near Gaza. In his homilies and especially the homily 77 he made several allusions to this rite.<sup>40</sup>

29 Read ΝΑΝ

30 Read ΝΤΔΟΖΟΛΟΓΙΑ

31 Read ΘΡΕΝΖΩΣ

32 Add. ΝΡΓΤΑΝΗΟ ΤΝΟΥ

33 om.

34 Anonymous, 1900, p. 221-222. Translation in French cf. E. Mercenier 1947, p. 51. In English, Metropolitan Philip, (ed.) 1994, p. 65.

35 Moreschini, 1962, vol. 2 col. 67. Bardy, Paris 1937, tome 1, col. 701-702.

36 Samir Khalil, 1991 429a-430a.

37 T. Orlandi, 1991, p. 561-562.

38 Taft, 1986, p 276.

39 Black, 1954, fol. 107b p. 94. (translation), p. 311-312 (text)

40 J. Tabet, 1968, 6-12.

The works of Severus of Antioch occur in the Byzantine and non-chalcedonian churches such as the rite of Baptism,<sup>41</sup> the troparion of O Monogenes.

## 2- The Content

The text is a prayer addressed to Jesus,<sup>42</sup> causing a great debate in the fifth and sixth centuries.<sup>43</sup> In the treaty intitled the »Virtues of saint Macarius« we find also this meditation. Severus of Antioch addressed some of his hymns to Jesus such as the monostrophic hymn ὁ μονογενής.<sup>44</sup>

The text ends with a meditation of the Holy Name of Jesus, which is a recurrent theme in the Coptic daily psalms.<sup>45</sup>

The Psali of Sunday **ΔΙΚΩΤ ΝΩΚ** »I search for you«, the refrain is:

**ΠΑΒΟΙΣ ΙΗΣ ΑΡΙΒΟΗΘΕΙΝ ΕΡΟΙ**<sup>46</sup> **ΠΑΒΣ ΙΗΣ ΠΧΣ ΑΡΙΒΟΗΘΕΙΝ ΕΡΟΙ**<sup>47</sup>

»My Lord Jesus help me«. »My Lord Jesus Christ help me«

**ΛΟΙΠΟΝ ΑΝΔΑΝΘΕΩΟΥΤ ΕΤΠΡΟΣΕΥΧΗ ΜΑΡΕΝCMΟΥ ΕΠΙΡΑΝ  
ΝΤΕ ΠΑΒΣ ΗΙC  
ΧΕ ΤΗACMΟΥ ΕΡΟΚ Ω ΠΑΒΣ ΙΗΣ ΝΑΞΜΕΝ ΙΕΝ ΠΕΚΡΑΝ ΧΕ  
ΑΝΕΡΓΕΛΠΙC ΕΡΟΚ**

»And whenever we gather for prayer, let us bless the Name of my Lord Jesus.

We bless you, o My Lord Jesus save us through Your name for we have hope in You.«

The Psali of Monday mentioned Jesus' name several times:

**BON NIBEN ΕΘΝΑΧΟC ΧΕ ΠΑΒΣ ΙΗΣ ΟΥΟΝ ΟΥCHQI ΝΤΟΤΨ  
ΕCPωΗΤ ΜΠΙΧΑΧΙ  
ΟΥΑΡΩΜΑΤΑ ΕΝΑΨΕΝCOΥΕΝΨ ΠΕ ΠΕΚΡΑΝ ΕΘΟΥΖΑΒ Ω ΠΑΒΣ  
ΙΗC**

»All who say: ›My Lord Jesus‹ will have a sword<sup>48</sup> in his hand to beat the enemy«<sup>49</sup>

»Precious perfume is your Holy Name My Lord Jesus Christ«<sup>50</sup>

The Psali of Tuesday also shows the advantages of the meditation of Jesus name's.

41 Youhanna Nessim Youssef, 2004, p. 141-150.

42 Guillaumont: 1979, p168-183. Some améliorations in Kasser, 1996, p. 407-410.

43 Grillmeier, 1987, p. 230-235.

44 Youhanna Nessim Youssef, 2004, p. 141-150.

45 Lanne, 1977, p. 163-203. Reprinted in *Tradition et Communion des Eglises - Bibliotheca Ephemeridum Theologicarum Lovaniensium CXXIX*, Leuven 1997, p. 307-338.

46 Our references refer to the edition of C. Labib, Cairo 1908, p. 98-99.

47 F. Daumas et A. Guillaumont, , 1969, p. 100 N°6.

48 Probably an allusion to Heb. 4:12 which uses ὁ λόγος τοῦ θεοῦ. This title is an attribute of Jesus.

49 Labib, 1908, p. 153.

50 Labib, 1908, p. 157.

αλλα πεκραν εθη ω παδσ ιης ετωσοπ νωογ ννασητ 旱  
νογσοχσεχ ΤΗΡΟΥ  
πεκραν εθη ω παδσ ιης εθνοσεμ μμωογ 旱 ογθλιψι  
ΤΗΡΟΥ.

»But your Holy Name, o My Lord Jesus, is for them a strength in all their pains.«

»Your holy Name, o My Lord Jesus, rescues them from all oppressions.«<sup>51</sup>

The psali of Wednesday speaks about the fulfilment of the Law by charity, which is the Name of Jesus.

**Ταγαπη εταφαχι εθβητη νχε ηιαποστολος εθη ετε φαι  
πε πιραν νογχαι ητε πενδσ ιης πχσ.**

**εωωπ ανωαημενρε πιραν νογχαι ητε πενδσ ιης πχσ  
ητενερ πιναι ηεμ ηενερηογ ωανχωκ ηηινομοс τηρη εβολ.**

»The charity which the holy Apostle speaks about, is the name of salvation<sup>52</sup> of our Lord Jesus Christ.«

»If we love the Name of salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ and we have mercy upon each one of us.<sup>53</sup> We will fulfil the whole Law.«<sup>54</sup>

The psali of Thursday is praising the Name of Jesus Christ. It highlight the salutary effect of each step in the life of Christ (Nativity, Baptism, fasting, Resurrection and Assumption ...)

**ητενсмоу επираν νογчай ηтε πендс ιиc πхc 旱 ογништ  
мметаөмоуңк εнωω εвoл εнжω ммоc  
хе πадс ιиc πимиси εвoлiен фiωт 旱 ажшоуη ηниeωн тироу  
наi наn κатα πекништ nnai**

»Let us incessantly bless the Name of salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ proclaiming and saying:

»My Lord Jesus Christ, who is born of the Father before all ages have mercy upon us according to Your great mercy.«<sup>55</sup>

The Psali of Friday highlights the power of Jesus name

**αληөωс гар аit мпаоғои εоүништ нкефалеон εтe φai  
πe πираn νοгчай ηтe πендc ιиc πхc.**

51 Labib, 1908, p. 176-177.

52 F. Daumas et A. Guillaumont, 1969, p. 100 N° 3.

53 Perhaps allusion to I John 3:23. We may ask what it means by »each one of us” it could refer to a monastic congregation?

54 Labib, 1908, p. 191-192.

55 Labib, 1908, p. 209-210.

**α πενδ̄ς ιη̄ς π̄χς τ̄ νογμη̄νι ννεψεβιακ̄ νη̄τεργο̄τ̄ βα-  
τεψη̄ εερογφω̄τ̄ εεвол̄ նատշ̄ մթշ̄ նոյփ̄**

»For truly I approached, a great chapter which is the name of Salvation, of Our Lord Jesus Christ.«

»Our Lord Jesus Christ gave a sign to His servants who do fear Him, to escape<sup>56</sup> from the face of bow.«<sup>57</sup>

The refrain of the stanzae of the psali of Saturday is a meditation to Jesus Christ.

**παδ̄ς ιη̄ς π̄χς παсѡр̄ նարաθօс.**

»My Lord Jesus-Christ, my good Saviour.«<sup>58</sup>

We may conclude that the attribution to Severus of Antioch seems to be authentic. It exploits the favourite themes in the psali. As we have previously demonstrated the compiler of the Coptic theotokia<sup>59</sup> got inspired by the Marian homilies of Severus of Antioch. It would be also plausible that the prayer of Severus had the same effect upon the compiler of the psalis.

In previous articles, U. Zanetti and myself<sup>60</sup> have demonstrated that there was reciprocal influence between the Coptic and Byzantine churches in the vesper prayers.<sup>61</sup>

Severus of Antioch lived for a while in Palestine, hence it was fairly easy for Antiochus Andektos to compile this beautiful prayer and introduce it to the Byzantine rite in Greek and in Syriac.

### The second prayer

Fol 206v

οупросеүхн нтے ππатриархнс	A prayer of the patriarch
εкжω μмос ңաշըրդ մմнн	You will say it everyday in the morning
ֆнհв πծ ф† ππантокր	Lord, Master, God, the <i>almighty</i>
тѡр фиωт մթենծ օу	the Father of our Lord
օզ պենոյ† օуօշ պեն	Our God and
сѡтիր իη̄ς π̄χς ՚՚շօ օу	Our <i>Saviour</i> Jesus <i>Christ</i> I ask and entreat your great <i>goodness</i> , Philan-
օզ ՚՚տաբշ նтекниւ† մ	

56 Escaping from persecutions is an ancient theme in the Church. St Athanasius wrote his apology for his escaping *SC* 56 cf. Nicolson, 1989, p. 48-65.

57 Labib, 1908, p. 235-236.

58 Labib, 1908, p. 250.

59 Youhanna Nessim Youssef, 2003, p. 93-108.

60 Youhanna Nessim Youssef, 2000, p. 394-400.

61 Zanetti, 1990, p. 323-369. Id., 1989, p. 237-254.

ΜΕΤΑΓΑΘΟΣ ΠΙΜΑΙΡΩΜΙ  
ΣΩΤΕΜ ΕΡΟΙ ΕΙΤΩΒΩ ΜΜΩΚ  
ΑΝΟΚ ΙΑΠΕΚΒΩΚ ΜΑΡΕΣΙ

ΕΗΟΥΝ ΜΠΕΜΘΟ ΝΤΕΚΝΙΨ  
Τ ΜΜΕΤΑΓΑΘΟΣ ΝΧΕ ΤΑ  
ΠΡΟΣΕΥΧΗ ΝΕΜ ΠΑΤΩΒΩ  
ΧΕ ΝΕΟΚ ΜΜΑΓΑΤΚ ΠΕΤΑΙ  
ΕΡΖΕΛΠΙΣ ΕΡΟΚ  
ΠΦΣ ΠΑΝΟΥΤ ΟΥΩΡΠ ΕΙΡΗΙ  
ΕΧΩΙ ΜΠΙΖΜΟΤ ΝΤΕ ΠΕΚ  
ΠΠΝΑ ΕΘΟΥΓΑΒ ΣΕ ΤΤΩΒΩ  
ΝΤΕΚΜΕΤΑΓΑΘΟΣ ΠΑΝΗΒ  
ΑΡΙΧΑΡΙΖΕΣΕΕ ΝΗΙ ΝΟΥΜΕΤ  
ΡΕΦΩΟΥΝΣΗΤ ΝΕΜ ΟΥ  
ΘΕΒΙΟ ΝΣΗΤ ΝΕΜ ΟΥΖΥΠ°  
ΜΟΝΗ ΕΘΡΙΨΑΙ ΗΕΝ ΟΥ  
ΦΕΤΤΖΜΟΤ ΗΑ ΖΩΒ ΝΙΒΕΝ  
ΕΘΝΑΙ ΕΩΡΗΙ ΕΧΩΙ  
ΜΑΡΙΕΡΠΕΜΠΤΨΑ ΗΕΝ ΠΑΙΕ  
ΖΟΟΥ ΝΕΜ ΝΙΕΖΟΟΥ ΤΗΡΩΥ  
ΝΤΕ ΠΑΩΝΗ ΕΘΡΙΨΑΙ ΗΑ  
ΠΕΚ<sup>ε</sup> ΕΘΟΥΓΑΒ ΝΕΜΝΙΜ  
ΚΑΥΖ ΝΟΥΧΔΑΙ ΝΤΕ ΠΕΚΜΕΝ  
ΡΙΤ ΝΩΗΡΙ

ΜΑΤΣΙΟ ΝΤΑΨΥΧΗ ΗΕΝ Τ  
ΖΛΗΧΙ ΝΤΕ ΤΕΚΜΕΘΝΟΥΤ  
ΕΘΣΜΑΡΨΟΥΤ ΘωΟΥΤ

ΕΗΟΥΝ ΖΑΡΟΚ ΠΑΝΗΒ ΝΝΑ  
ΛΟΓΙΜΟΣ ΜΑΤΣΙΟ ΝΤΑΨΥ

ΧΗ ΗΕΝ ΤΖΛΗΧΙ ΝΤΕ ΠΕΚΠΝΑ  
ΕΘΟΥΓΑΒ ΜΑΡΕΦΨΩΨΠΙ ΝΗ

thropic one.

listen to me, when I entreat you  
me, your servant. Let

my *prayer* and my entreat  
enter to your great  
*Goodness*  
For only in You, I put  
my *hope*  
Lord, my God send  
me the grace of your  
Holy *Spirit*. Yes, I entreat  
Your *goodness*, my Master  
grant me  
patience  
humility, and *endurance*  
in order that I  
bear with thanks everything  
which will happen to me.  
Let me worthy, in this day  
and all the days of my life  
to carry your  
Holy cross<sup>62</sup> and your passions  
of the salvation of your beloved  
Son.

Make my *soul* satiated with the  
sweetness of your blessed  
Divinity. Assemble to you,

My Master,  
my *feelings*. Make my *soul* satiated  
with the sweetness of your Holy  
*Spirit*. Let your will and your desire

ΦΗ ΝΗΗΤ ΝΖΕ ΠΕΚΟΥωω  
 ΝΕΜ ΦΗΕΤΕΩΝΑΚ ΝΗΟΥ  
 ΝΙΒΕΝ ΣΙΝΑ ΝΤΑΨΑΨΝΙ ΕΟΥ  
 ΝΑΙ ΕΒΟΛΩΤΟΤΚ ΥΕΝ ΠΕΚ  
 ΜΑΝΤΖΑΠ ΕΤΟΙ ΝΖΟΤ ΟΥΟΣ  
 ΕΘΜΕΩ ΝΗΟΥ  
 ΖΕ ΝΕΟΚ ΠΕ ΕΤΕΡΕ ΠΙΨΟΥ ΕΡ  
 ΠΡΕΤΠ ΝΑΚ ΝΕΜ ΠΕΚΜΟΝΟ  
 ΓΕΝΗΣ ΝΨΗΡΙ ΙΗΣ ΠΧΣ ΠΝΕ  
 ΒΣ ΝΕΜ ΠΙΠΝΑ ΕΘΟΥΓΑΒ ΝΡΕ  
 ΤΑΝΗΟ ΤΝΟΥ ΝΕΜ ΝΗΟΥ

dwell in me,  
 all the time in order that  
 I may obtain mercy  
 from you in  
 Your fearful and full of glory  
 Place of judgment  
 For you are *worthy* and  
 the glory with your only-begotten Son  
 Jesus *Christ*  
 Our Lord and the Holy *Spirit*  
 the life-giver from now and ever

### Commentary

The title of Patriarch means in the Coptic tradition, Severus of Antioch.<sup>63</sup>

This prayer contrary to the previous one is addressed to God the Father.

The beginning of the prayer resembles to intercession for the departed, the sick, the peace, the fathers and the Assemblies.<sup>64</sup>

The Morning Prayer	The beginning of the intercessions
<b>ΦΝΗΒ ΠΒΣ Φ† ΠΠΑΝΤΚΡΑΤΩΡ</b> <b>ΦΙΩΤ ΜΠΕΝΒΣ</b> <b>ΟΥΟΣ ΠΕΝΝΟΥΓ† ΟΥΟΣ</b> <b>ΠΕΝСΩΤΗΡ ΙΗΣ ΠΧΣ Τ†ΖΟ</b> <b>ΟΥΟΣ ΤΤΩΒΖ ΝΤΕΚΝΙΨ†</b> <b>ΜΜΕΤΑΓΑΘΟΣ ΠΙΜΑΙΡΩΜΙ</b>	<b>ΠΑΛΙΝ ΟΝ ΜΑΡΕΝ†ΖΟ ΕΦ† ΠΙ-</b> <b>ΠΠΑΝΤΟΚΡΑΤΩΡ ΦΙΩΤ ΜΠΕΝΒΣ</b> <b>ΟΥΟΣ ΠΕΝΝΟΥΓ† ΟΥΟΣ</b> <b>ΠΕΝСΩΡ ΙΗΣ ΠΧΣ ΤΕΝ†ΖΟ</b> <b>ΟΥΟΣ ΤΕΝΤΩΒΖ ΝΤΕΚΜΕΤ</b> <b>ΔΓΑΘΟΣ ΠΙΜΑΙΡΩΜΙ</b>

Lord, Master, God, the *almighty*,  
 the Father of our Lord Our God and  
 our *Saviour* Jesus *Christ* I ask and en-  
 treat your great *goodness*, Philanthro-  
 pic One.<sup>65</sup>

Again let us ask God the *almighty*,  
 the Father of our Lord, our God and  
 our *Saviour* Jesus *Christ*, we ask and  
 entreat your *goodness*, O philanthropic  
 One.<sup>66</sup>

In this prayer the author entreat God to grant patience, humility, and *endurance*. This list of virtues resemble to the hymn of the 12 virtues.<sup>66</sup>

63 Youhanna Nessim Youssef, 2002, p. 187-195.

64 J. Fenwick, 1989, p. 355-362.

65 Abd al-Masih Salib, Cairo 1902, p. 49-50, 57-58, 276, 280, 286. For this edition cf. Zanetti, 1987, p. 407-418.

66 Youhanna Nessim Youssef, 2003b, p. 106-121.

Prayer of Severus	Psali of Friday
<b>ΜΑΡΙΕΡΠΕΜΠΩΑ ήΕΝ ΠΑΙΕΖΟΟΥ</b> <b>ΝΕΜ ΝΙΕΖΟΟΥ ΤΗΡΩΥ ΝΤΕ</b> <b>ΠΑΩΝΗ ΕΘΡΙΔΑΙ ήΑ ΠΕΚ <sup>ε</sup>ς</b> <b>ΕΘΟΥΔΑΒ ΝΕΜ ΝΙΜΚΑΓΖ ΝΟΥΧΔΑΙ</b> <b>ΝΤΕ ΠΕΚΜΕΝΡΙΤ ΝΩΗΡΙ</b>	<b>ΩΟΥΝΙΑΤΨ ΜΠΙΡΩΜΙ ΕΘΝΑΧΩ</b> <b>ΝCΩΨ ΜΠΑΙΒΙΟΣ ΝΕΜ ΝΕΨΡ-</b> <b>ΩΟΥΨ ΕΘΜΕΩ ΝΗΙCI ΝΑΙ</b> <b>ΕΤΗΩΤΕΒ ΝΤΨΥΧΗ</b> <b>Ο ΥΟΣ ΝΤΕΨΦΑΙ ΜΠΕΨΤΑΨΡΟΣ</b> <b>ΝΕΖΟΟΥ ήΑΤΖΗ ΝΕΖΟΟΥ</b> <b>ΝΤΕΨΤΩΜΙ ΜΠΕΨΝΟΥΣ ΝΕΜ</b> <b>ΠΕΨΖΗΤ ΕΠΙΡΑΝ ΝΟΥΧΔΑΙ</b> <b>ΝΤΕ ΠΕΝΩΣ ΗΙC ΠΤΧΣ</b>
Let me worthy, in this day and all the days of my life to carry your Holy <i>cross</i> and your passions of the salvation of your beloved Son.	Blessed is the man who forsakes this life and its vain pleasures that are full of suffering that kill the soul. And he who carries his cross day after day and keeps his mind and heart on the name of Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ

This prayer did not survive in the actual editions of the Coptic or Greek horologia.

It is important to mention that Severus of Antioch had composed several hymns to be recited in the evening some of them have some affinities with these prayers.<sup>67</sup>

### Conclusion

These prayers were found in a monastic manuscript. They are full of expressions, which occur in the other liturgical texts especially the Psalms and the anaphorae. The first one is shared between Copts and Greeks while the other one is not in use in both churches.

These prayers are full of many Severian themes and expressions. Hence the attribution to Severus of Antioch is more probable especially for the first prayer.

67 Brooks, 1911, p. 755-760 [343-348] and especially N. 322 p. 758 [346].

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