



“The Second(ary) Life of Manuscripts”  
Hamburg University  
Centre for the Study of Manuscript Cultures  
11-13 July 2013

## *Travelling Books: Change of Owner and Library in Ethiopian Manuscript Culture*

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Hamburg University

**I. Different type of ownership evidence in Ethiopian manuscripts**

**II. Issue of ownership and successive changes of owner**

**III. The case of the library of Mäqdäla Mädhane ʿAläm**

# MMA-008: Missal (18<sup>th</sup> century)

I.



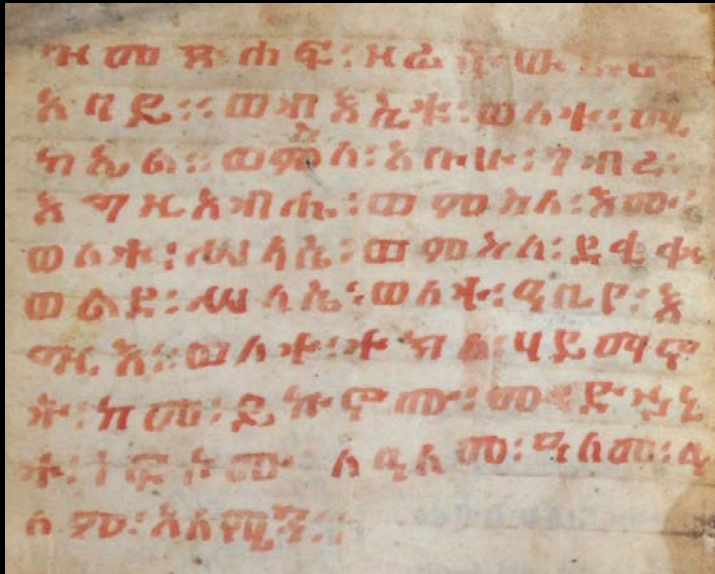
Fols. 121v-122r

ዝመጡ ከፍ፣ ዘአቡኑ፣ ወልደ  
ጳጳስ ምድን።

“This book is of our father Wäldä Sämʿon.”

# GKM-022: Missal (17<sup>th</sup> century)

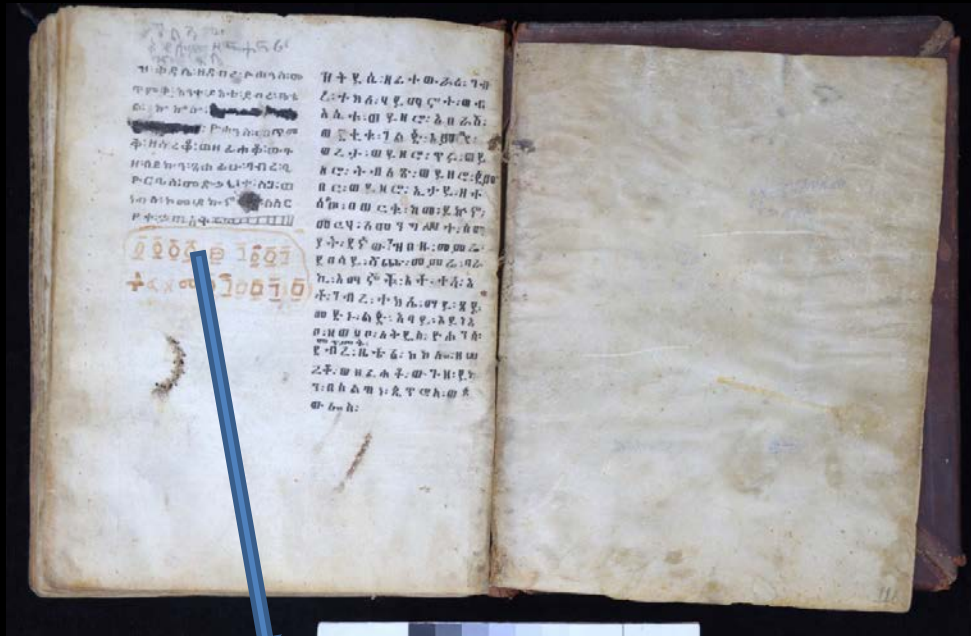
I.



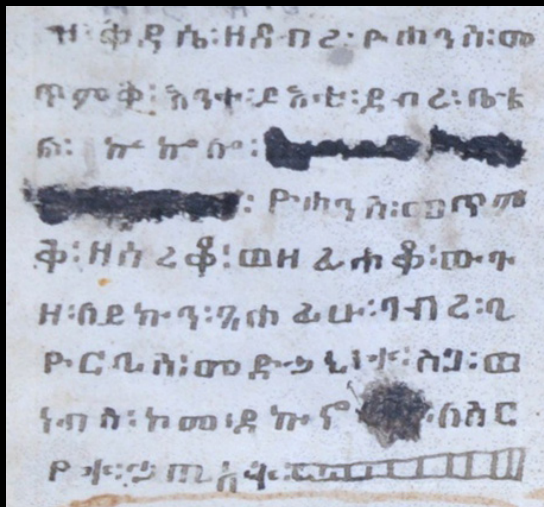
Fols. 60v-61r

“This book is of *fitawrari* **ʾAbbay**, and his wife is **Wälättä Mikaʾel**, with his father **Gäbrä ʾĒgziʾabəher** and with his mother **Wälättä Śəllase**, and with his children **Wäldä Śəllase**, **Wälättä ʿAbiyä ʾĒgziʾ**, **Wälättä Täklä Haymanot**, so that it might be for them the salvation of their souls, for ever and ever. Amen.”

I. KY-064: Missal (19<sup>th</sup> century)



Fols. 115v-116r



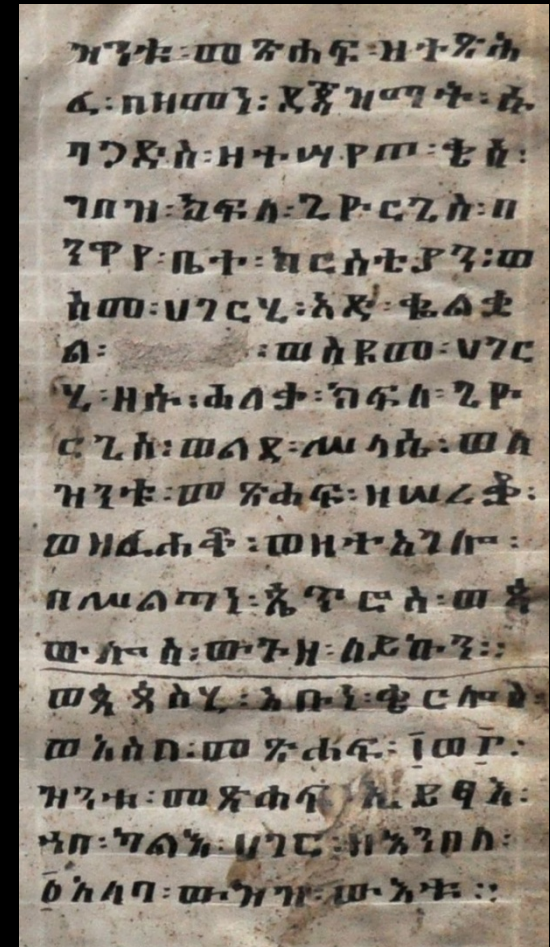
“This Missal is of (the church of) John the Baptist, which is Däbrä Betel K<sup>w</sup>äk<sup>w</sup>älo <...> John the Baptist. He who steals it or erases (its text) shall be excommunicated...”

# AQG-009: Book of the Funeral Ritual (beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> century)

I.



Fols. 129v-130r



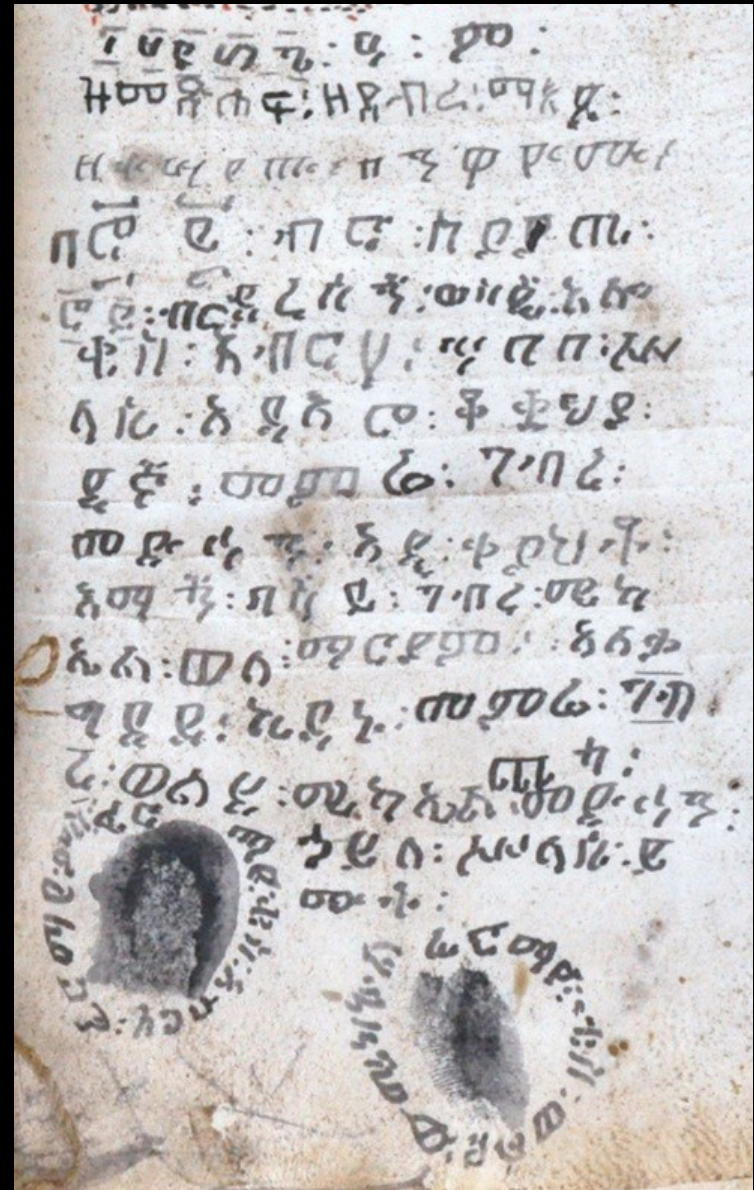
“This book, which was written at the time of dägğazmač Subagadəs, which qesä gäbäz Kəflä Giyorgis bought with the money of the church; and the name of the village is ʾAdd Q<sup>w</sup>älq<sup>w</sup>al...”

# MY-010: Book of the Funeral Ritual (end of 19<sup>th</sup> century)

I.



Fols. 126v-127r



# QSM-002: Book of the Rite of the Holy Week (2<sup>nd</sup> half of the 16<sup>th</sup> century)

I.



Fols. 36v-37r

ለኃጣኦን፡ ወለኣባስ፡ ወኃጣኦን፡ ወኃጣኦን፡  
ሐጌሂ፡ ክፍለ፡ ኢየሱስ፡ ወዳሐጌ

“commissioner Kəflä ʾIyäsus”



I.

# DDM-007: Vita of St. Kiros (end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century)



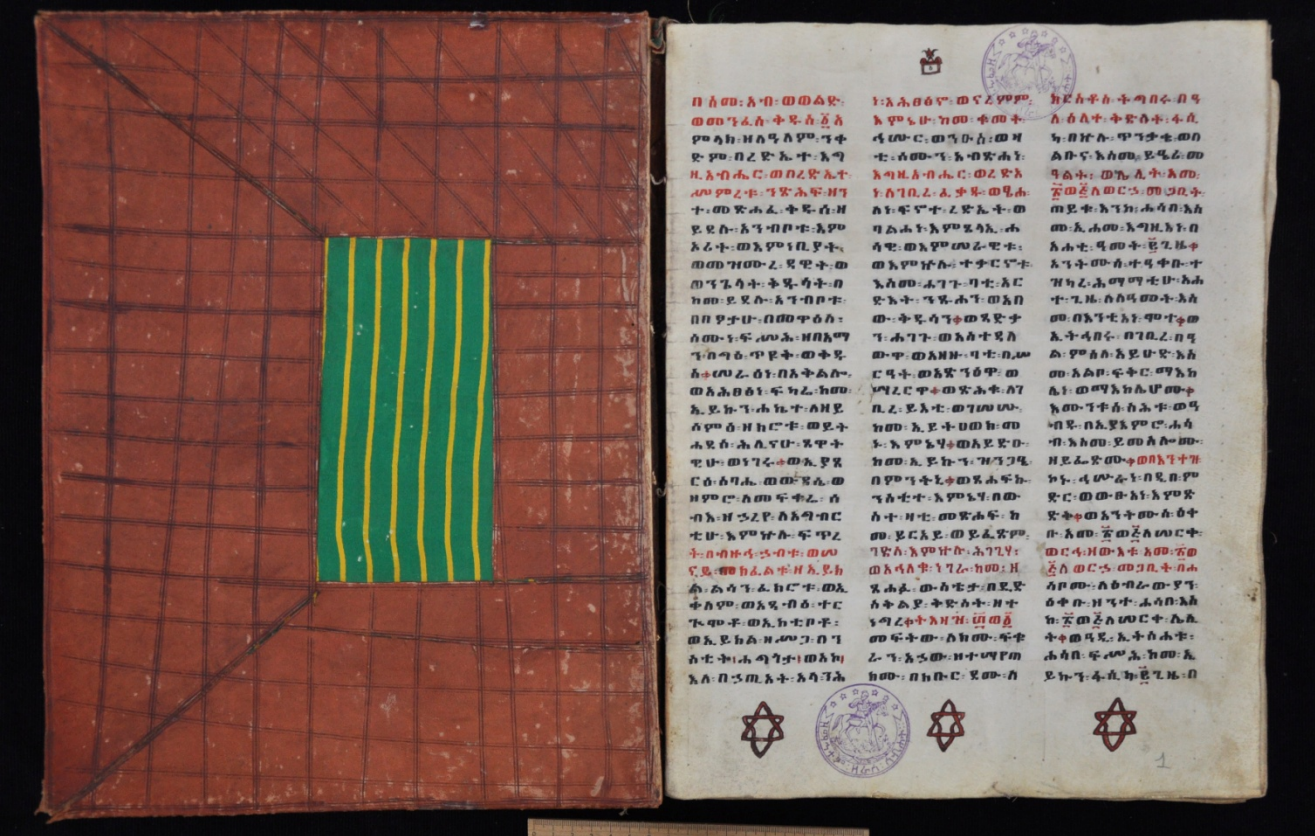
Fols. 30v-31r

ዳዓሉ፡ ምህሩክ፡ ህዳሱ፡ ሕግ  
 መሰታ፡ መደ፡ ገዳ፡ ሕዳሱ፡ ሕግ  
 ልሰ፡ ደብረ፡ ሕግ፡ ሕግ

ጭሰህ፡ ጥቅር፡ ጥቅር፡ ጭሰ  
 ተ፡ መደ፡ ገዳ፡ ሕዳሱ፡ ሕግ

# NSM-002: Book of the Rite of the Holy Week (beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century)

I.



Fol. 1r

# MAKM-075: Four Gospels (19<sup>th</sup> century)

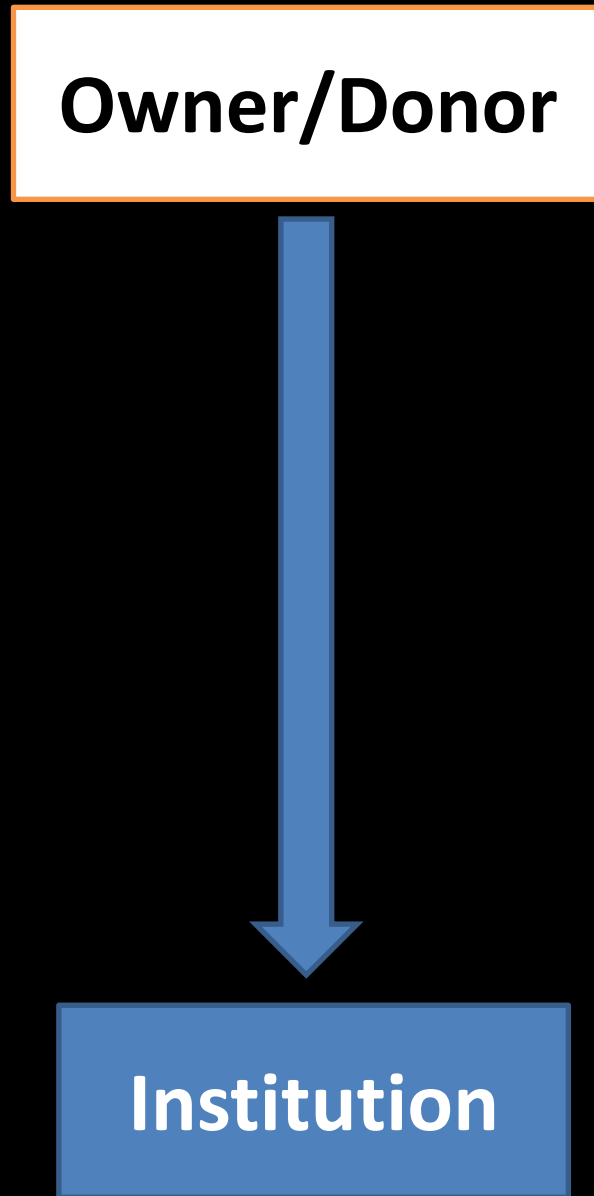
I.



Fols. 158v-159r



II.



II. AMQ-001: Four Gospels (beginning of the 19th century)

Handwritten text in two columns on two pages, likely a manuscript of the Four Gospels. The script is dense and appears to be in a historical or non-Latin script, possibly Georgian or Armenian. The text is arranged in two columns per page, with some larger initials or headings. The paper shows signs of age, including some staining and wear at the edges.

GMS-002: Four Gospels (15<sup>th</sup> century)

II.



Fols. 63v-64r

Institution 1

Church of Zägbu Maryam

Church of Si'et Maryam



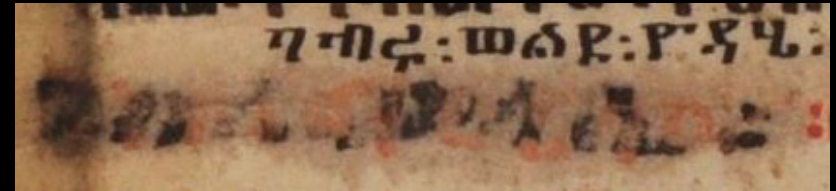


# FBM-017: Homiliary for the feasts of St. Michael (end of the 17<sup>th</sup> century)

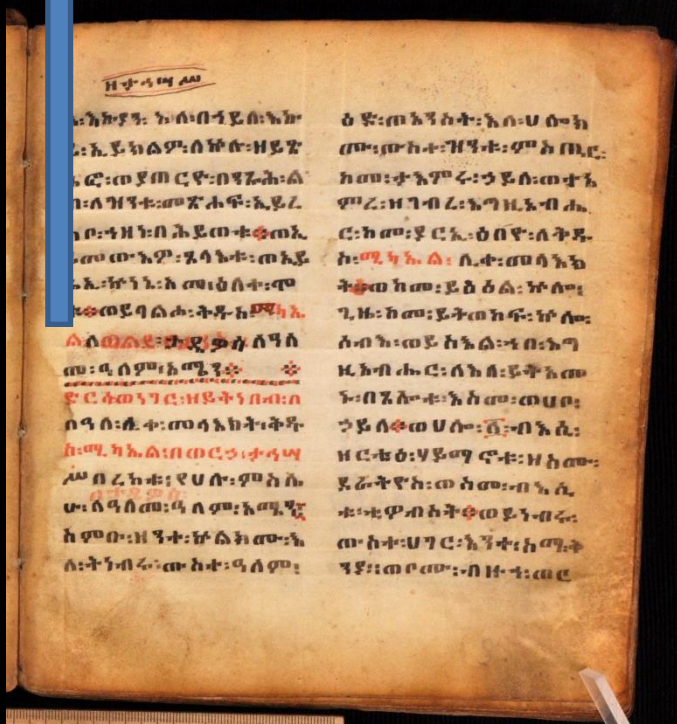
II.



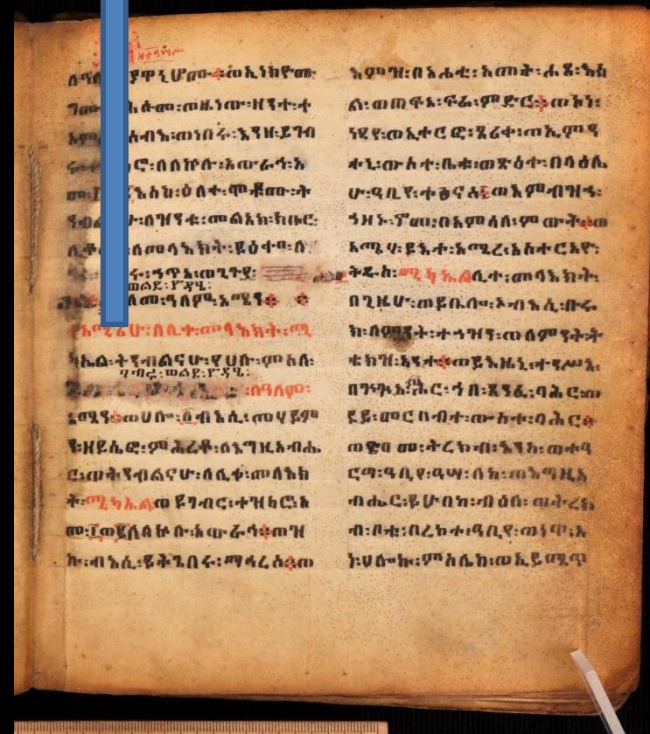
Wäldä Yohannes - Wäldä Tadewos



Wäldä Tadewos - Wäldä Yodahe



Fol. 9r



Fol. 63ra



Fols. 143v-144r

Kidanä Maryam

Gundä Gunde

Mäkod'ä Kidanä Məhrät

II.

## Mədrä Ruba Səllase church: Manuscript collection



**4 churches mentioned in donation notes:**

**Mədrä Ruba Səllase: 22 Mss.**

**Libanos of Mästəḥ: 7 Mss.**

**ʾAbaʾəko Maryam: 4 Mss.**

**Däbrä Mikaʾel ʾEnba Ḥarisay: 3 Mss.**

II.

Owner/Donor

Owner/Donor

Owner/Donor



Libanos of Mäştəḥ

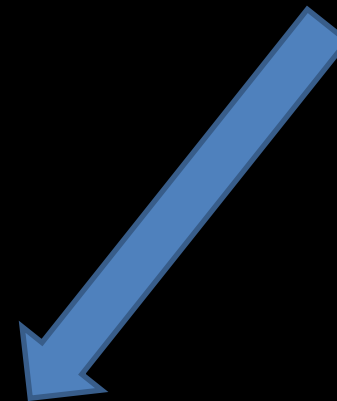
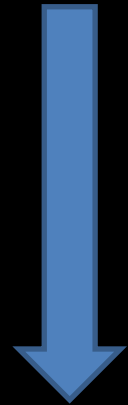
ʔAbaʔəko Maryam

Däbrä Mikaʔel ʔEnba  
Ḥarisay

Accident

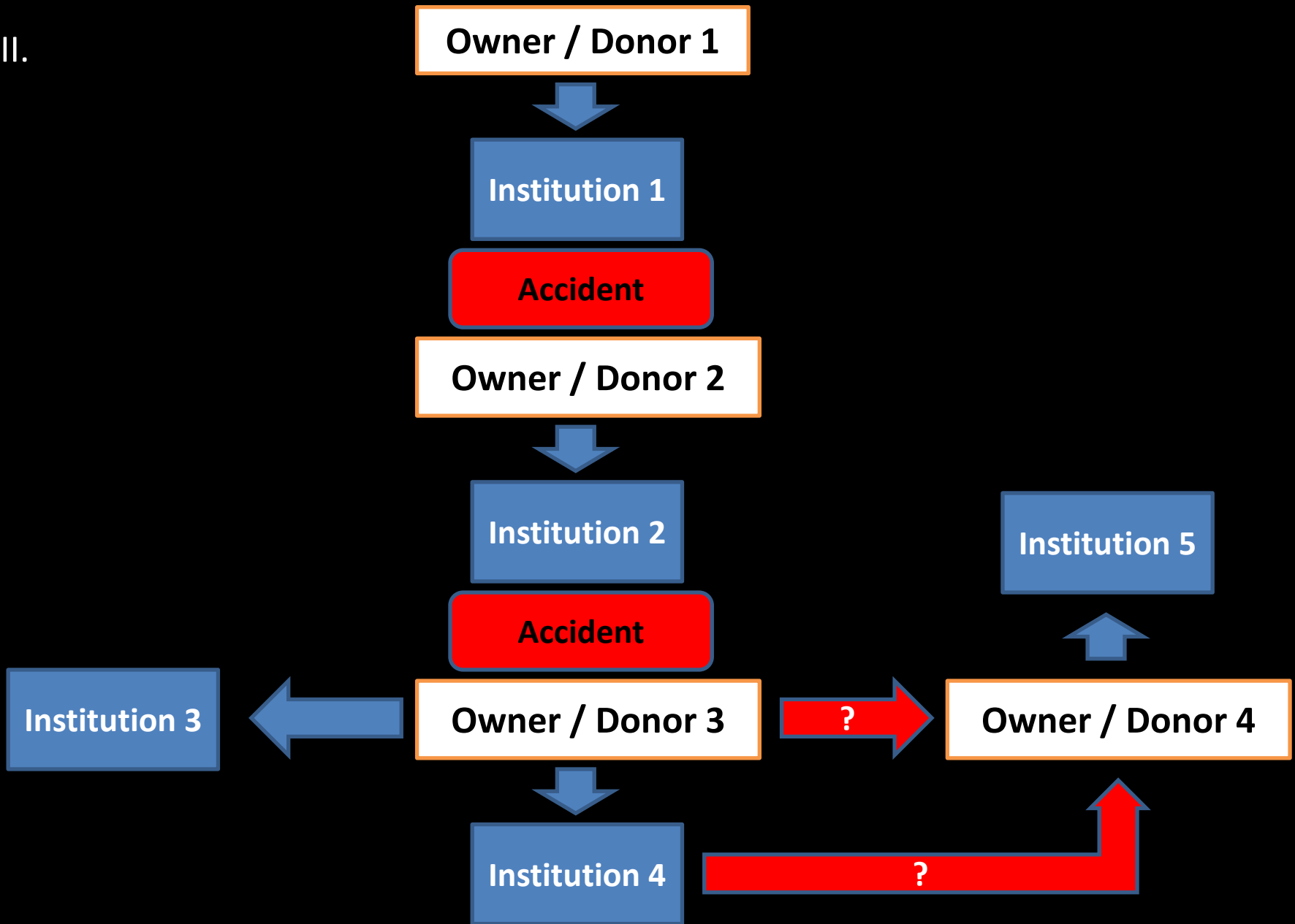
Accident

Accident

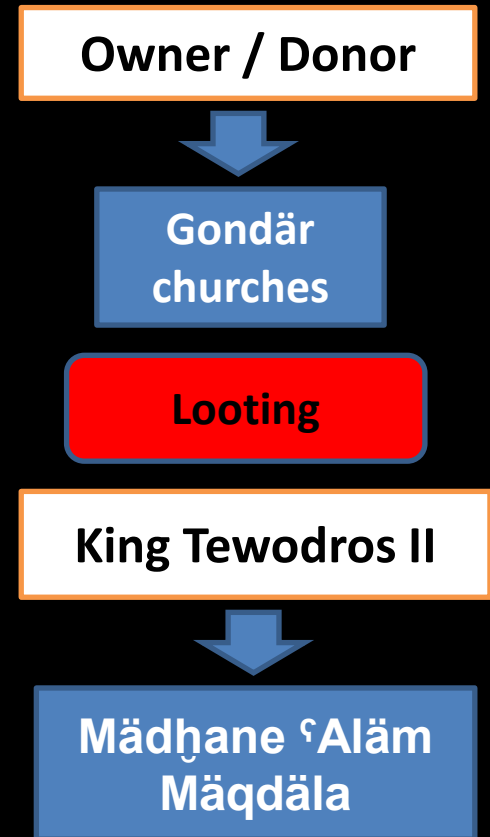
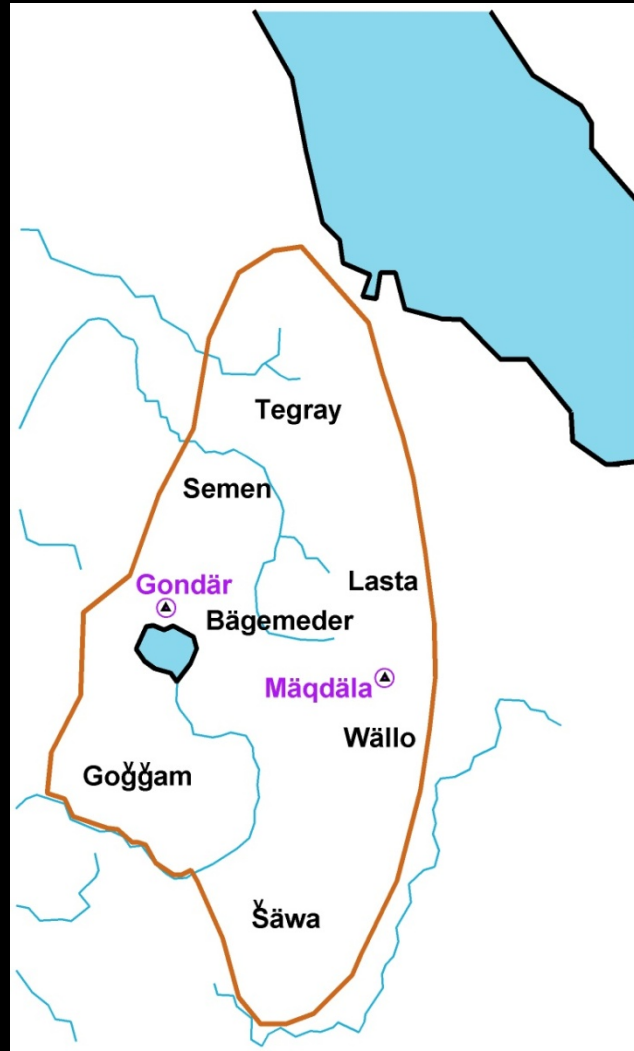


Mədrä Ruba Səllase

II.



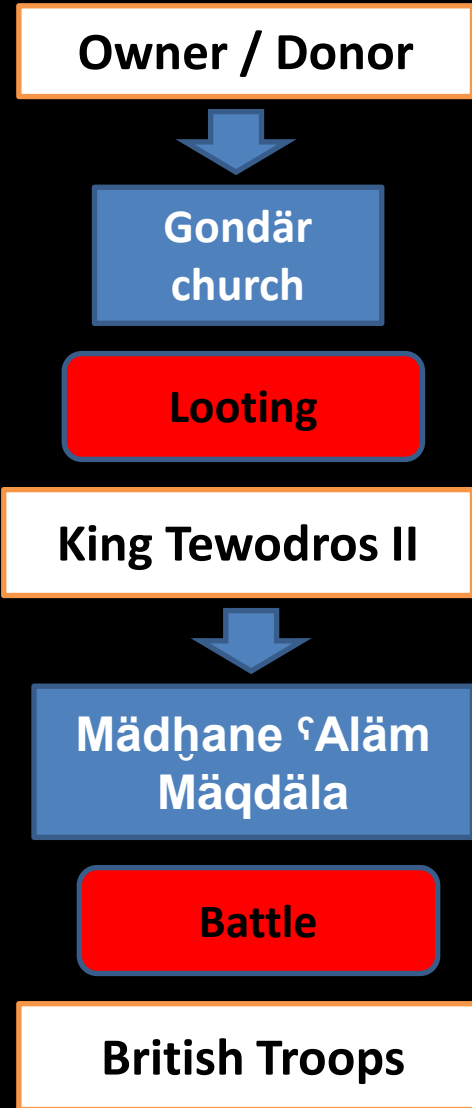
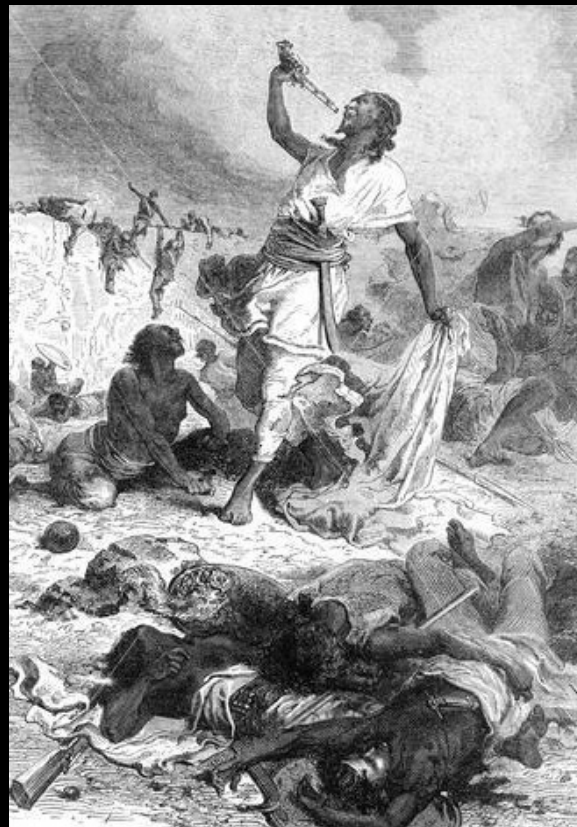
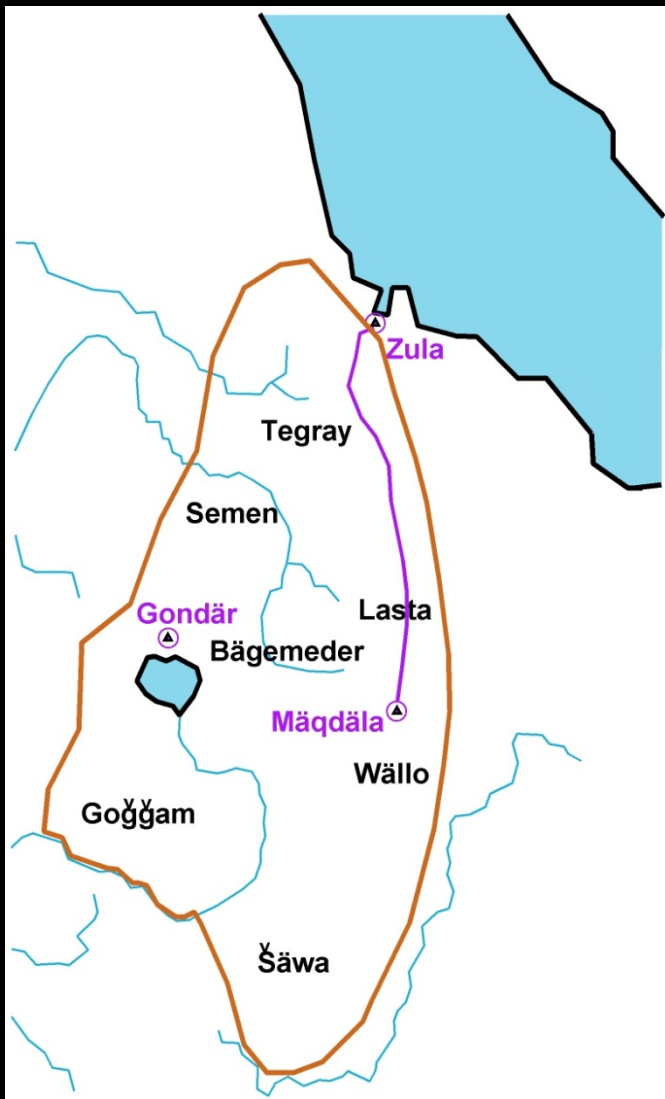
### III. King of Kings Tewodros II (r. 1855-1868): emergence of Mäqdäla manuscript collection



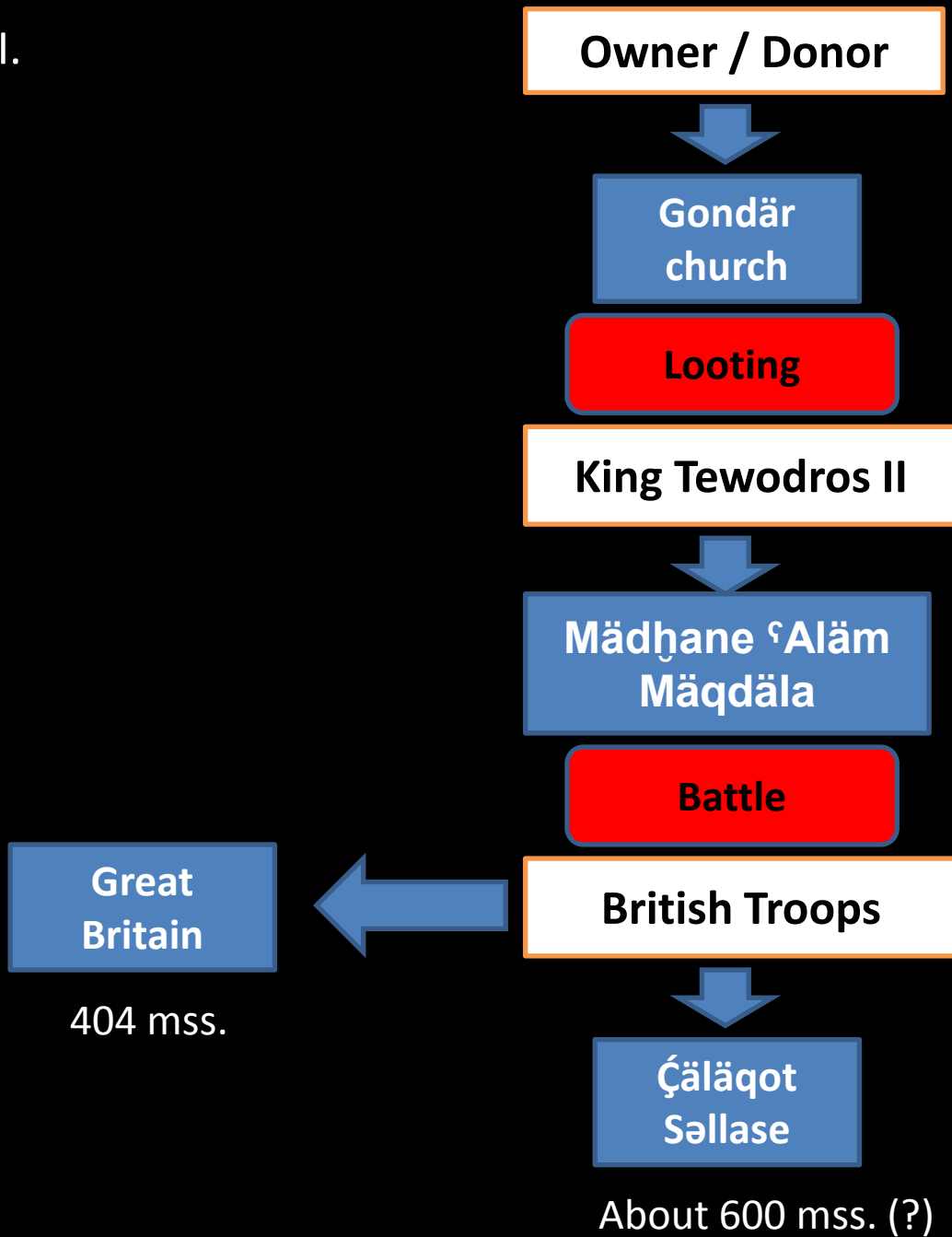
Church of the Mäqdäla fortress : Mädhane ʿAläm (Savior of the World)

III.

# British Expedition to Ethiopia: 1867-1868



III.



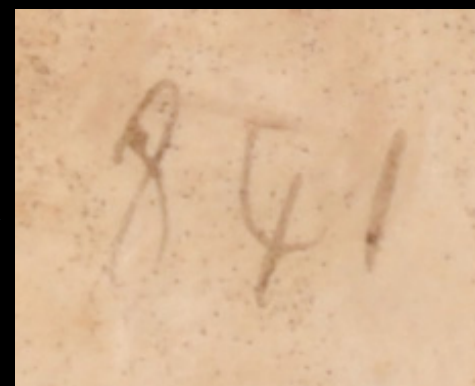
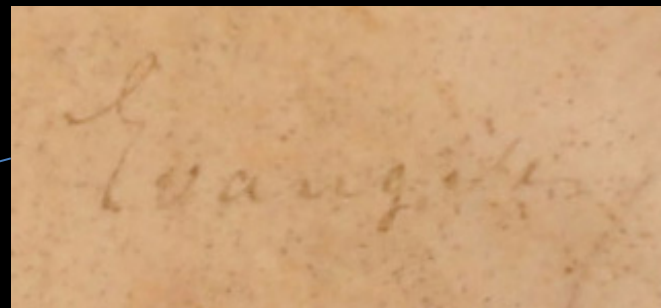


III.

# Evidence of Munzinger's work: TNY-002: Four Gospels (18<sup>th</sup> century)

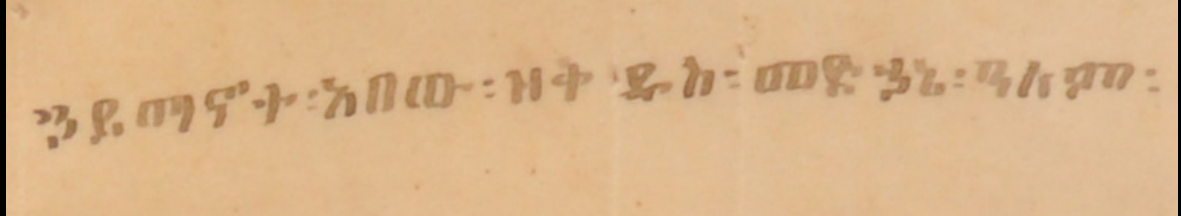


Fol. 1r



III.

# Ownership note in the first folio of the text: TNY-006: Faith of the Fathers (17<sup>th</sup> century)

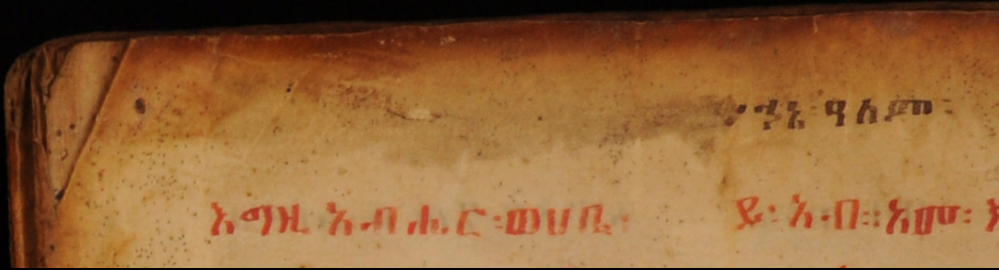


“(This) Haymanotä abäw is of the holy (church of) the Savior of the World”

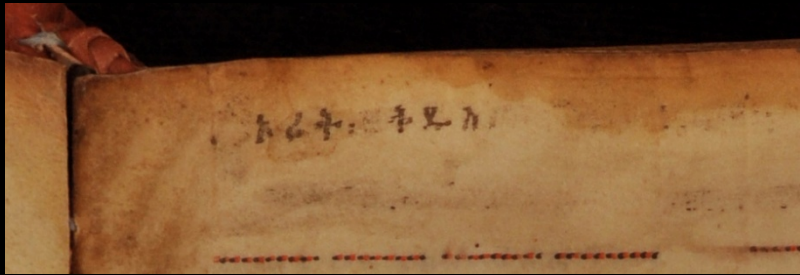


Fols. 1v-2r

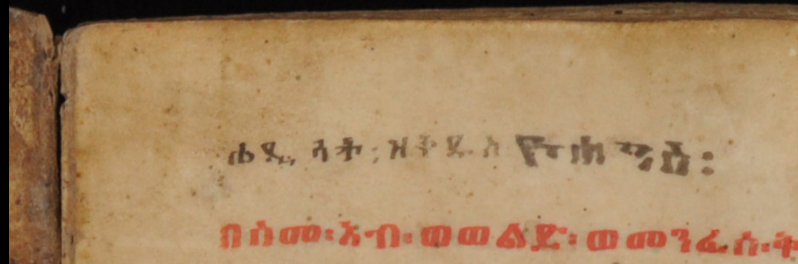
III. Destruction of the ownership notes



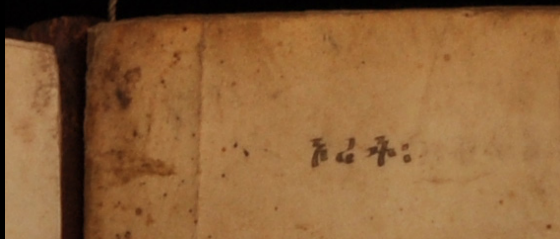
AGKM-011: fol. 1r



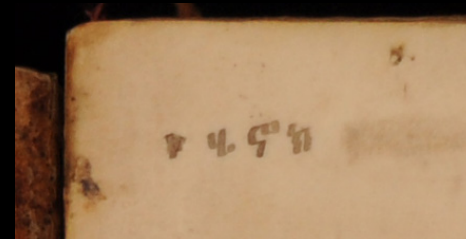
AGKM-003: fol. 3r



KY-061: fol. 4r



QDGM-003: fol. 5r



TNY-008: 3r

III.

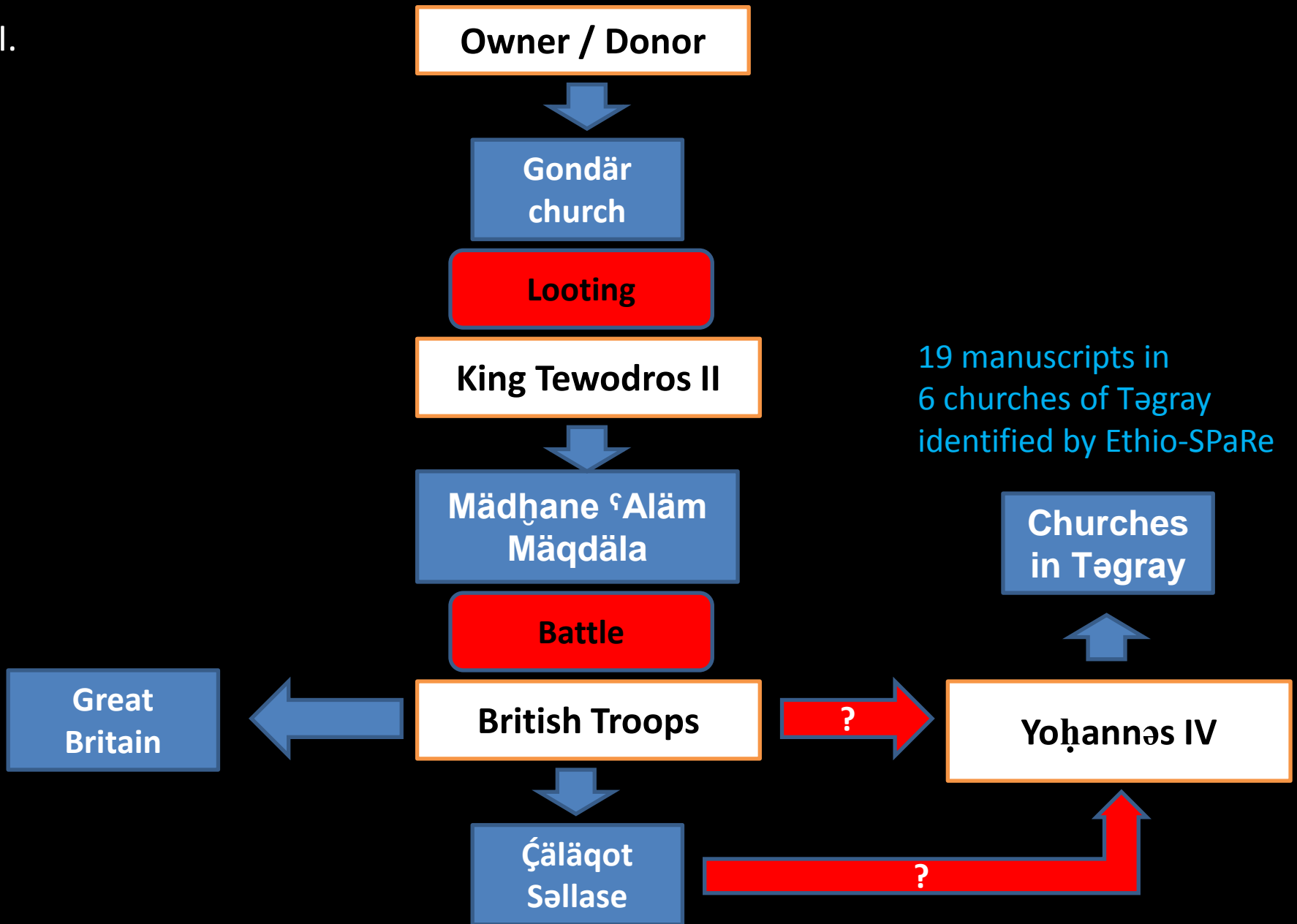
## King of Kings Yoḥannəs IV (r. 1872-1889)



**Ruler of Təgray**

**Successor of Tewodros II**

III.





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***Thank you for your attention!***

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