

The Elephantine Papyri in English: Three Millennia of Cross-Cultural Continuity and Change

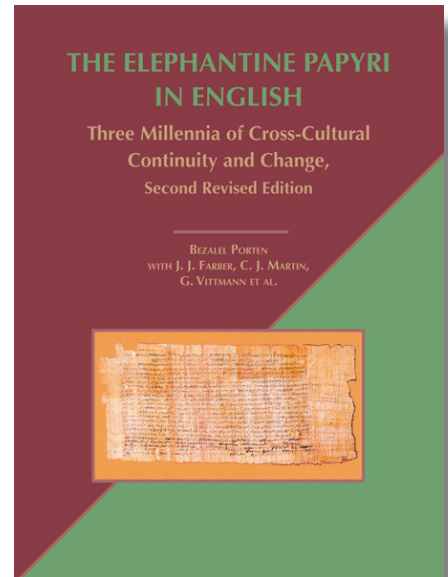
Bezalel Porten

This important volume contains 175 documents from the Egyptian border fortresses of Elephantine and Syene (Aswan), which yielded hundreds of papyri in hieratic, Demotic, Aramaic, Greek, Latin, Arabic, and Coptic, spanning a period of 3,000 years. The documents include letters and legal contracts from family and other archives, and are thus an invaluable source of knowledge for scholars of varied disciplines, such as epistolography, law, society, religion, language, and onomastics. The volume includes seven sections, each containing carefully translated and extensively annotated documents of one language group. Excellent cross-referencing allows the user to trace forerunners and successors. Each section is preceded by an introduction; the Aramaic, Demotic, and Greek sections are concluded with a prosopography. The book closes with a select topical index.

Bezalel Porten received his PhD from Columbia University in 1964 and since 1999 has been Professor Emeritus in the Department of Jewish History of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. He is the author and co-author of numerous studies on the Elephantine papyri and, with Ada Yardeni, author of *Textbook of Aramaic Documents from Ancient Egypt* (4 volumes).

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