

V. RESULTS OF EXAMINATION: PATTERNS OF HANDWRITING SIMILARITIES

1. The examination of the Qatar Diwan Amiri collection revealed a number of significant features inappropriately linking various suspect documents in the collection that are purportedly from different sources, indicating that they come from a common source. For example, a number of suspect documents can literally be matched to each other because the paper used in their production was torn from the same sheet. In some cases the same sheet of paper provided stationery for different individuals and/or for correspondence dated years apart. Other suspect documents are linked by seal and stamp impressions (e.g., the signature stamp for “C. Dalrymple Belgrave” appearing on no less than 26 of the documents in the collection), including those where similar impressions are attributed to very different individuals. The use of paper taken from old documents and books runs through the collection, but the significance of this finding is greatly enhanced by the fact that several suspect documents were actually prepared with material from a single such source.

2. Further indications that all of the suspect documents come from a common source are provided by the patterns of handwriting similarities found in the collection of documents.

3. The first impression made by the documents from the Qatar Diwan Amiri Archives collection is that of multiple writers, writing from different locations and in different time periods. This impression, however, is merely an artifact of the different styles and methods of disguise used in these documents, including:

- the use of writing instruments with nibs of different widths and using different amounts of ink on the pen;
- the use of different types of paper on various dimensions, colours and textures;
- the use of a different format for documents purportedly originating from different sources;
- varying the shape, size and form of characters and words between documents; and
- compressing the overall size of the document in some instances while expanding it in others.

4. In the course of the examination of the handwriting and inter-comparison of the handwriting in the suspect documents, the same or similar patterns of disguise were found in a number of documents purportedly originating from different sources. These include similar patterns of abnormal stroke hyper-extension coupled with abnormal stroke contraction, the same character formation anomalies and inconsistent character formation patterns, and the same patterns of inconsistent transitions between developed and undeveloped writing styles.

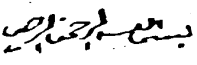

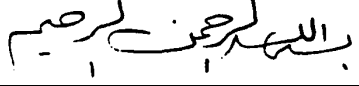

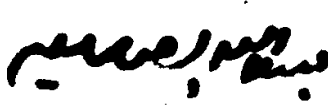



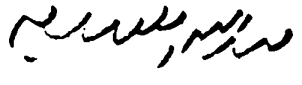
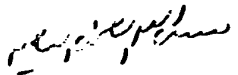

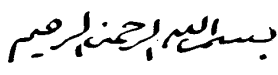
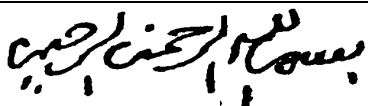
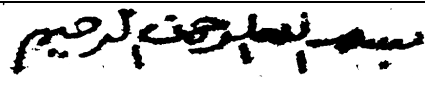
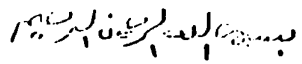

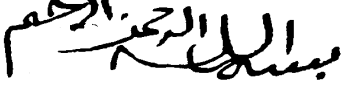

5. Significant similarities between suspect documents were also found in the residual natural handwriting traits (i.e., the habitual and customary writing patterns of a writer that show through the

attempted disguise). These residual traits were found to match the natural handwriting characteristics found in those documents with the least disguise.

6. The similar patterns observed in the handwriting across the population of suspect documents point to all of the documents submitted for examination coming from a common source. Generally, disguised handwriting rarely demonstrates much originality and has very typical characteristics. Hence, the mere discovery of distinct patterns of disguise across documents purportedly from different sources was not, by itself, a sufficient basis for us to conclude that all of the documents come from a single source. This conclusion emerged from coupling that finding with the finding that the natural writing characteristics across the population of documents also follow a distinct pattern. Accordingly, by analysing and comparing the similarities between the characters disguised in the same way in different documents and by analysing and comparing the similarities between the remaining individual writing traits that were not disguised, we found a sufficient amount of significant individual characteristics in each of the suspect documents to support the determination that they come from a single source – perhaps even one writer.

7. Some of the bases for this conclusion are illustrated in the tables provided in Appendix 3, examples of which follow. The images in each cell are of the same and/or similar words taken from documents purportedly from different sources and/or different dates. Characters or part of characters from highlighted words that intersect the word selected have been removed to the extent possible. Not all images are one-to-one.


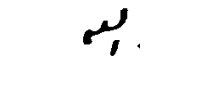



Table 1- Phrase 'Bismillah al-rahman al-rahim'

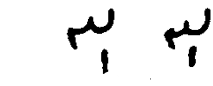

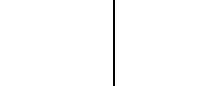

Mohammed bin Thani and others		Mahmood Bey	
			
II.17 - 2 1854 A.D.	II.18 - 1 1858 A.D.	III.16 - 1 1871 A.D.	
Sheikh Saeed al-Mutawwa al-bin-Hajer		Muhanna bin Hazeem al-Dosari	
			
III.36 - 1 1887 A.D.	III.40 - 1 1891 A.D.	III.48 - 1 1907 A.D.	
Mohammed bin Khalifa al-Khalifa	Yousuf bin Ahmed		
			
III.50 - 1 1908 A.D.	III.78 - 1 1930 A.D.	III.79 - 1 1930 A.D.	
Yousuf al-Shirawi	Rashid bin Mohammed bin Jabr	Charles Belgrave	
			
III.117 - 1 1937e A.D.	III.119 - 1 1937 A.D.	III.127b - 1 1937e A.D.	
Saleh Basha	Salim bin Nasser al-Muzaire		
			
III.21 - 1 1872 A.D.	III.82 - 5 1932e A.D.		
Sheikh Hamad bin Isa bin Ali al-Khalifah	Sharq bin Ahmed		
			
III.100 - 1 1935 A.D.	III.215 - 1 1939 A.D.		
Abdul-Aziz bin Abdul Rahman al-Faisal	Sheikh Saeed bin Maktoom		
			
III.216 - 1	III.242 - 1		

The same or similar characters have the same or similar shape and form, in the same words in documents purportedly originating from different sources. See, for example:




- the shape of the character *baa* in its initial attached form and formation of a small tooth resulting from the manner in which it is connected to the character *siin* in its medial attached form in the word *bism*
- the formation of the terminal attached *miim* and the way in which it is attached to the preceding *siin* by a short bridge in the word *bism*
- the tail of the terminal attached *miim*, which has the appearance of curving back toward the right in the word *bism*
- the position of the *alif* beneath the *laam* in the phrase *al-Rahman*
- the way in which the *alif* has been written as an abnormally short stroke in the phrase *al-Rahman*
- the wave-like way in which the character *laam* in its initial attached form is connected to the character *raa* in the phrase *al-Rahman*
- the way in which the character *miim* is attached to the character *nuun* with a small bridge in the phrase *al-Rahman*
- the manner in which the character *yaa* is attached to the *miim* with a small bridge in the phrase *al-Rahim*

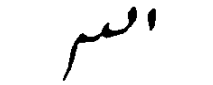

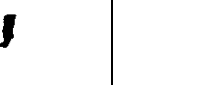
Table 2 - Word 'Allah'
Character 'alif' below the word

Mohammed bin Thani and others		Mohammed Quli Abdu	Bash Jawish	
				
II.17 - 3, 20 1854 A.D.	II.18 - 23 1858 A.D.	IV.9 - 2 1867 A.D.	IV.10 - 2 1870 A.D.	III.14a - 3 1870 A.D.

Shakhboot bin Sultan	Charles Belgrave	Sheikh Hamad bin Abdullah al-Thani	Abdul Rahman al-Qusaibi
			
III.218 - 9, 18 1937 A.D.	III.194 - 5 1939 A.D.	III.217 - 14 1939 A.D.	III.242 - 9 1954 A.D.

Character 'alif' adjacent to character 'laam'

Sheikh Zayed bin Khalifah	Sheikh Isa bin Ali al-Khalifa	Sheikh Shakhboot bin Sultan
		
III.13 - 19 1870 A.D.	III.49 - 5 1907 A.D.	III.95 - 14 1934 A.D.

Rashid bin Mohammed bin Jabr	Abdul-Aziz bin Abdul Rahman al-Faisal	Charles Belgrave
		
III.119 - 8 1937 A.D.	III.216 - 20 1939 A.D.	III.217 - 3, 12, 16 1939 A.D.

The same or similar characters have the same or similar shape and form, in the same words in documents purportedly originating from different source. See, for example:

- the position of the character *alif* in relation to the character *laam*
- the formation of the character *haa* in its terminal attached form

Table 4 - Word 'al-Qatar'

Sheikh Sultan bin Ali Al-Muraikhi Al-Zubari Al-Qatari	Ottoman map		
III.1 - 3 1612 A.D.	III.7 - 1 1867 A.D.	III.8 - 3 1867 A.D.	III.10 - 8 1867 A.D.

Mohammed Quli Abdu			
IV.9 - 2, 6, 8 1867A.D.	III.15 - 3 1871 A.D.	III.26 - 16 1873 A.D.	III.37 - 5 1890 A.D.

Bash Jawish		Mahmood Bey	Saleh Basha	Barakah bin Era'ar	
IV.10 - 4 1870 A.D.	III.14a - 5 1870 A.D.	III.16 - 7 1871 A.D.	III.20 - 6 1872 A.D.	III.25 - 3, 5 III.25 A.D.	

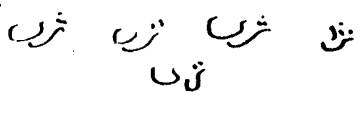
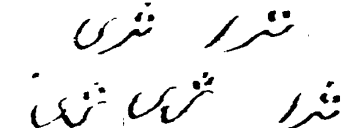
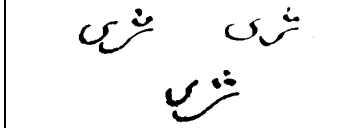
Sheikh Zayed bin Khali fah			Sheikh Tahnoon bin Zayed
III.13 - 9 1870 A.D.	III.31 - 9, 13 1874 A.D.	III.34 - 2 1877 A.D.	III.54 - 12 1909 A.D.


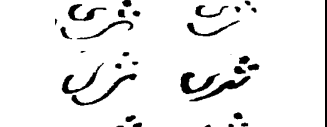

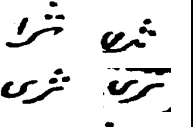

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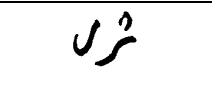
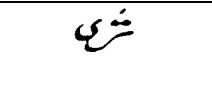
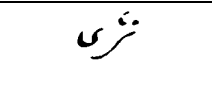
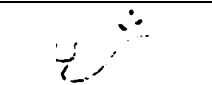
- the placement of the independent form of the character *alif* under the character *laam* in its initial attached form
- the way in which the *alif* has been written as an abnormally short stroke
- the way in which the two dots of the character *qaaf* have been written as a short dash as well as their placement in relation to the loop of the medial attached *qaaf*
- the connection of the medial *qaaf* to the medial attached *Taa*
- the length of the vertical stroke of the character *Taa* and its position relative to the body of that character

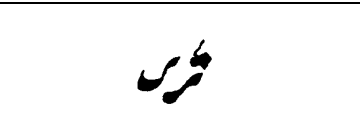
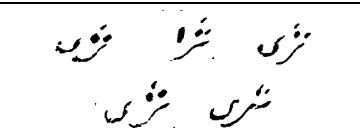
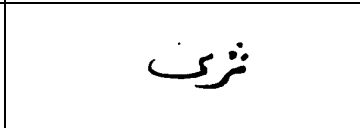
- the wave-like connection of the character *Taa* into the body of the *raa*, although the two characters typically should be connected with a straight stroke
- the word usually used is *Qatar* and not *al-Qatar* as it is here

Table 5- Word 'thara'

Shiekh Zayed bin Khalifah		
		
III.18 - 6, 7 1871 A.D.	III.31 - 7, 9, 10, 14, 15 1874 A.D.	III.34 - 10, 12 1877 A.D.

Hamed bin Nayem bin Sultan al-Muraikhi al-Zubari al-Qatari	Sheikh Tahnoon bin Zayed	Sheikh Shakhboot bin Sultan		
				
III.2 - 3 1638 A.D.	III.54 - 7, 9, 19, 21, 24, 26 1909 A.D.	III.76 - 15 1930 A.D.	III.95 - 7, 8, 9, 11 1934 A.D.	III.141 - 8 1937 A.D.






Yousuf bin Ahmed		Rashid bin Mohammed bin Jabr		Yousuf al-Shirawi
				
III.78 - 7 1930 A.D.	III.79 - 10 1930 A.D.	III.105 - 5 1936 A.D.	III.119 - 5 1937 A.D.	III.117 - 11 1937e A.D.




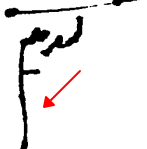

Charles Belgrave		Hugh Weightman
		
III.122 - 4 1937e A.D.	III.116 - 5, 6, 7, 8, 10 1937 A.D.	III.155 - 5 1938 A.D.

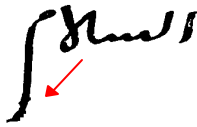

The same or similar characters have the same or similar shape and form, in the same words in documents purportedly originating from different sources. See, for example:




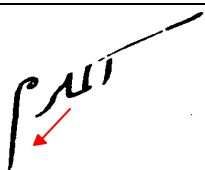
- the formation of the character *thaa* in its initial attached form as a short, almost convex stroke
- the separated dots of the character *thaa*
- the wave-like connection of the character *thaa* to the character *raa*
- the placement of the character *yaa* in its independent terminal form above the terminal attached *raa*
- the shape of the character *yaa* in its independent terminal form

Table 13 - Abnormal extension of character 'miim' (terminal form)

Hamad bin Abdulla Al-Thani				
				
III.217 - 7, 8, 9, 16, 16 1939 A.D.				

Hamad bin Abdulla Al-Thani				
				
III.218 - 4, 9, 10, 11 1940 A.D.				

Barakah bin Eraar	Ottoman map
	
III.25 - 2 1873 A.D.	III.46 - I, II 1898 A.D.

Saeed Majtoom	Judge Abdullah al-Mihza	Judge Salmeen bin Rabia	Ali bin Khadim Al-Hamily
			
III.224 - 16 1940 A.D.	III.186 - 1 1939 A.D.	III.202 - 1 1939 A.D.	III.223 - 4, 23 1940 A.D.

The same or similar characters have the same or similar shape and form, in documents purportedly originating from different sources. See for example:

- the unusual extension of the character *miim* in both its independent and terminal attached form