

## The System of Abbreviation used for the Dead Sea Scrolls<sup>1</sup>

There are five elements that form the basis of identification of the Dead Sea scrolls. They are

1. The material on which the text is written
2. The name or identifier of the site where the text was discovered
3. The title of the work
4. Which copy of that work at the given site
5. The language in which the text is written

MATERIAL	SITE	TITLE OF WORK	COPY OF WORK	LANGUAGE
nothing (skin)	1, 2, 3, etc. (cave)	Gen, Exod, Lev, etc.	Superscript letters following the title or the language	nothing or hebr (Hebrew)
p (papyrus)	Q (Qumran)	paleoLev (Leviticus in paleo-Hebrew script)		p (palaeo- Hebrew)
cu (copper)	Mas (Masada)	LXXNum (Numbers in the Septuagint version)		ar, aram (Aramaic)
o, os, ostr (ostrakon)	Mur (Murabba'at)	Samr (Samaritan version)		arab (Arabic)
lign (wood)	Hev (Hever)	phyl (Phylactery)		cpa (Christian Palestinian Aramaic)
perg (parchment)	Se (Se'elim)	pIsa (pesher <sup>2</sup> of Isaiah)		gr (Greek)
	Mird (Khirbet Mird)			lat (Latin)
	C (Cairo Genizah)			nab (Nabatean)

Using this chart, the text 4QpIsa<sup>c</sup> indicates that this item is from the fourth (4) Qumran (Q) cave, it consists of a text of the pesher of the book of Isaiah (pIsa) and that it is the third (<sup>c</sup>) such item of the text of Isaiah.

Another scheme that is used is a strictly numeric identification of the manuscripts according to the cave in which they were found. In that scheme the items identified are the cave and the item that has been given a number in sequence, an accession system (4Q1, 4Q215, etc.).

When these materials are quoted, the reference will be to the document, the column, and then the line. For example, the reference 1QS 2:21-25 refers to the *Manual of Discipline* (1QS), second column, lines 21-25.

<sup>1</sup> The bulk of this material is from Joseph A. Fitzmeyer, *The Dead Sea Scrolls: Major Publications and Tools for Study* (Atlanta: Scholars Press, 1990), 3-6.

<sup>2</sup> A pesher is an interpretation.

## Other abbreviations

admon admonition	lign wood (= lignum)	Q Qumran
ap apocryphon	Lit Liturgy, Liturgical	Quot Quotidien (daily)
apoc apocalypse	LXX Septuagint (so-called)	Rit Ritual
ar or aram Aramaic	M Millhamah ( <i>War Scroll</i> )	Rock Rockefeller Museum (formerly PAM)
arab Arabic	Mar Marriage (or Mariage)	S Serek Hay-yahad ( <i>Manual of Discipline</i> )
BA Babatha Archive	Mas MaSada	Sa Appendix A to IQS (IQ28a): Rule of the Congregation
BarC Bar Cochba	Melcl Melchizedek	Sb Appendix B to IQS (IQ28b): Collection of Benedictions
Beat Beatitude(s)	Mess Messianic (Text)	Samar Samaritan
Ben Benediction(s)	mez Mezuzah	Se (Nahal) Se'elim (Wadi Seiyal)
Ber Berakot olim	Mird Khirbet Mird	Sec Second
C Cairo (Genizah)	Mis Mismar (Nahal Mishmar = Wadi Mahras)	SirSabb Serek hirot 'olat ha`Sabbit (Order of the Songs of the Sabbath Holocaust)
Cal Calendar(ic)	MT Masoretic Text	SI 39-40 Strugnell Texts 39-40 (Angelic Liturgy)
col column	Mur Murabba'at (Wadi)	syr Syriac
cpa Christian Palestinian Aramaic	nab Nabatean	T Testament
Cryptic Cryptic Astrological Text	o, os ostrakon	Testim Testimonia
cu copper (= cuprum)	olim formerly	tg targum
D Damascus Document	Ord Ordinances	Vis Vision(s)
DibHam Dibre Hamrne'6rdt (= Paroles des Luminaires)	p peshet (commentary); but sometimes it has been used for pap	Wilwa Wiles of the Wicked Woman
dipl. trp. diplomatic transcription PBless	paleo text is written in Paleo- Hebrew	XII Twelve Minor Prophets
DM Dires de Moise (Sayings of Moses) En Enoch	palimp palimpsest	SirSabb Serek hirot 'olat ha`\$abbit (Order of the Songs of the Sabbath Holocaust)
Enastr Enoch astronomical texts	PAM Palestine Archaeological Museum (= Rock.)	SI 39-40 Strugnell Texts 39-40 (Angelic Liturgy)
Ep Epistle, Letter	pap papyrus	syr Syriac
EschMidr Eschatological Midrash(im)	par paraphrase	T Testament
Flor Florilegium	Pbless Patriarchal Blessings	Testim Testimonia
frg(s). fragment(s)	Pent Pentateuch	tg targum
gr Greek	perg parchment (= pergamenum)	Vis Vision(s)
H Hodayot ( <i>Thanksgiving Psalms</i> )	phyl phylactery	Wilwa Wiles of the Wicked Woman
hebr Hebrew	Pr Prayer(s)	XII Twelve Minor Prophet
Hev Hever (=Wadi Khabra)	PrNab Prayer of Nabonidus	
Hym Hymn(ic)	Proph Prophecy	
JN or JerNouv Jerusalem Nouvelle (= New Jerusalem)	Ps(s) Psalm(s), Psalter	
Jub Jubilees Book of	PsAp Apocryphal Psalms	
lat Latin	ps- Pseudo	
	Pur Purification	