



Deeds of Sultans and Princes

The National Archives of Egypt has an extensive collection of deeds of sales, *Waqf* (inalienable endowment), purchase, donation, and other legal transactions conducted by Egypt's former rulers and princes since the Fatimid era till the beginning of the twentieth century. This collection includes the oldest document in the National Archives of Egypt, which is a deed that dates back to 554 H. The deeds in this collection vary in terms of size, calligraphy and type of paper. Most of these deeds are kept in scrolls. Given their rarity and cardinal importance, these deeds were subsumed by the UNESCO under the human heritage that should be preserved.

This collection is considered a pivotal historical source. It includes valuable information on many princes and Sultans, as well as various legal, archeological, economic, and social information. The collection is considered also a valuable source for the study of Arabic language development, Arabic calligraphy, seals and signatures.