PART ONE

SIRACH IN SYRIAC
CHAPTER ONE

THE TEXT

1.1 MANUSCRIPTS

The textual basis for the present study is the text of the Syriac version of Swach (= Syr) that will appear in Volume IV,1 of The Old Testament in Syriac according to the Peshitta Version. According to the general policy of the Leiden edition, biblical manuscripts up to and including the twelfth century are included. In the case of Syr this concerns the following manuscripts.

7a1 = MS Milan, Ambrosian Library, B. 21. Inf.
7h3 = MS London, British Library, Add. 12,142
7pk2 = MS Cambridge, University Library, T.-S. 12,743
8a1 = MS Paris, Bibliotheque Nationale, Syr. 341
9c1 = MS Paris, Bibliotheque Nationale, Syr. 372
10c1 = MS New Haven, Beinecke Rare Book Library, B 47b
10c2 = MS Rome, Vatican Library, Borgiana siriaci 93
10k7 = MS Damascus, National Museum of Syria, Dept. of Byzantine Art, 2115/6
11c1 = MS London, British Library, Add. 14,440
12a1 = MS Cambridge University Library 0o 1.1,2
12h2 = MS Rome, Vatican Library, Vat. sir. 6
12k2 = MS London, British Library, Add. 14,730

Not included in the critical apparatus are the masoretic manuscripts containing parts of Syr (9m1, 10m1.2.3, 11m1.2.4.5.6.7, 12m1) or biblical manuscripts from the period after the twelfth century (13a1, 13c1, 13m1, 14c1, 15/14a1, 15a3, 15c1 and others). A description of the manuscripts listed above will be given in the introduction to the edition.

According to the dates of origin indicated by the sigla, the list above contains three manuscripts from the seventh century, one from the eighth century, one from the ninth, and seven from the tenth to