

#### 94. Ethiopic Scroll (M. Ethiopic 3)

Contents: Parchment scroll, 148.2 (approx.) x 14.1 cm. Date: 19th century A.D. The text, magic in content, is in the Ge'ez language, but with many Amharic features.<sup>45</sup> It is written in black ink with some words in red and a few in orange. The magic text is full of *nomina barbara* and contains some prayers against the evil eye, and for people suffering from the effect of the evil eye; one of the prayers addresses the demon concerned, ordering its departure. The text of the scroll begins: 'In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, one God.' The table contains syllables whose meaning and purpose is not clear.

Illustration: The illustration at the top shows the three figures of the Trinity merged into one, with their hands holding books (plate 33). A second illustration, lower down the scroll, shows the face of God or Christ in a cross-shape in the centre surrounded by angels' heads. Both illustrations have decorative bands: floral for the upper, geometric for the lower.

Conservation: Since 1994 the scroll has been repaired, encased in a melinex sleeve and boxed.

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