

## A Samaritan Hebrew Version of the Chronicle “Book of Joshua”

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This is the Samaritan Hebrew Version of the Book of Joshua with stories of Balam, the war with Median and the land occupation by Joshua and the later stories till the fourth Century C.E. This Hebrew Samaritan translation from the 13th century *The Book of Joshua B. Nun* in Arabic, edited in Egypt. Composed by the Samaritan sages of late 19th century, especially for foreign scholars and seekers of the history of the Bible and the Samaritans. There are many copies of it. The copyist would most likely write a work in less than 24 hours to sell it quickly to make money and save their family from hunger. This book was copied by the priest Abisha b. Phinas in the year 1326 Hijra [Muslim Calendar] 1909 C.E. Priest Abisha [Najji] b. Phinas [Chadr] (b.1883-d.1961) in 1943 became the High Priest till his death in 1961. He sold copies while he was in London in the company of Priest Yitzhaq b. 'Amram [High Priest 1917-1932]. They had met Moses Gaster, A.E. Cowley and John Montgomery regularly to sale ancient Mss. and modern copies that they made by themselves and by members of the community [Ab-Sikkuwwa b. Sa'ed Hadinfi, Priest Tabia b. Phinahs, Tahor b. Jacob Hadinfi, Priest 'Amram b. Yitzhaq. Priest Ab-Hisda b. Jacob, Priest Abraham b. Phinahs and Shalabi b. Jacob Hadinfi. The distinguished teacher David Yelin was witness to this struggle of copying and translating ancient prayer, history, faith books and other books to make living. (Photo left: Abisha b. Phinas carrying a Scroll in 1934 at age 51)

On the inside page on a blank page at the front of the book is the inside original signature of most likely the purchaser dedicated it to his family or friend, presumed, in 1912, three years after his visit to Nablus. The names are difficult to make out. Appears to have a date of Oct. 22, 1912 and it appears to be Philadelphia, USA. Verification of the dedication is questionable at this time. But it appears to read: “To my friend n collector one Iss A. Montgomery as a-----Morris Lesbury” I have tried to locate this names with no success.

The book was purchased from a New York book vender in April, 2013. The book is 5 5/8” wide by 7 7/16” tall by about 7/16” thick cover to cover. The cover is red with a faded red or brown binding. It appears that the book has evidence of the folding, typically used on Samaritan books, now missing. The pages are thin, browning on the edges. The hand written ink is dark purple in color. Attached below are photos, of the 158 pages from the book.

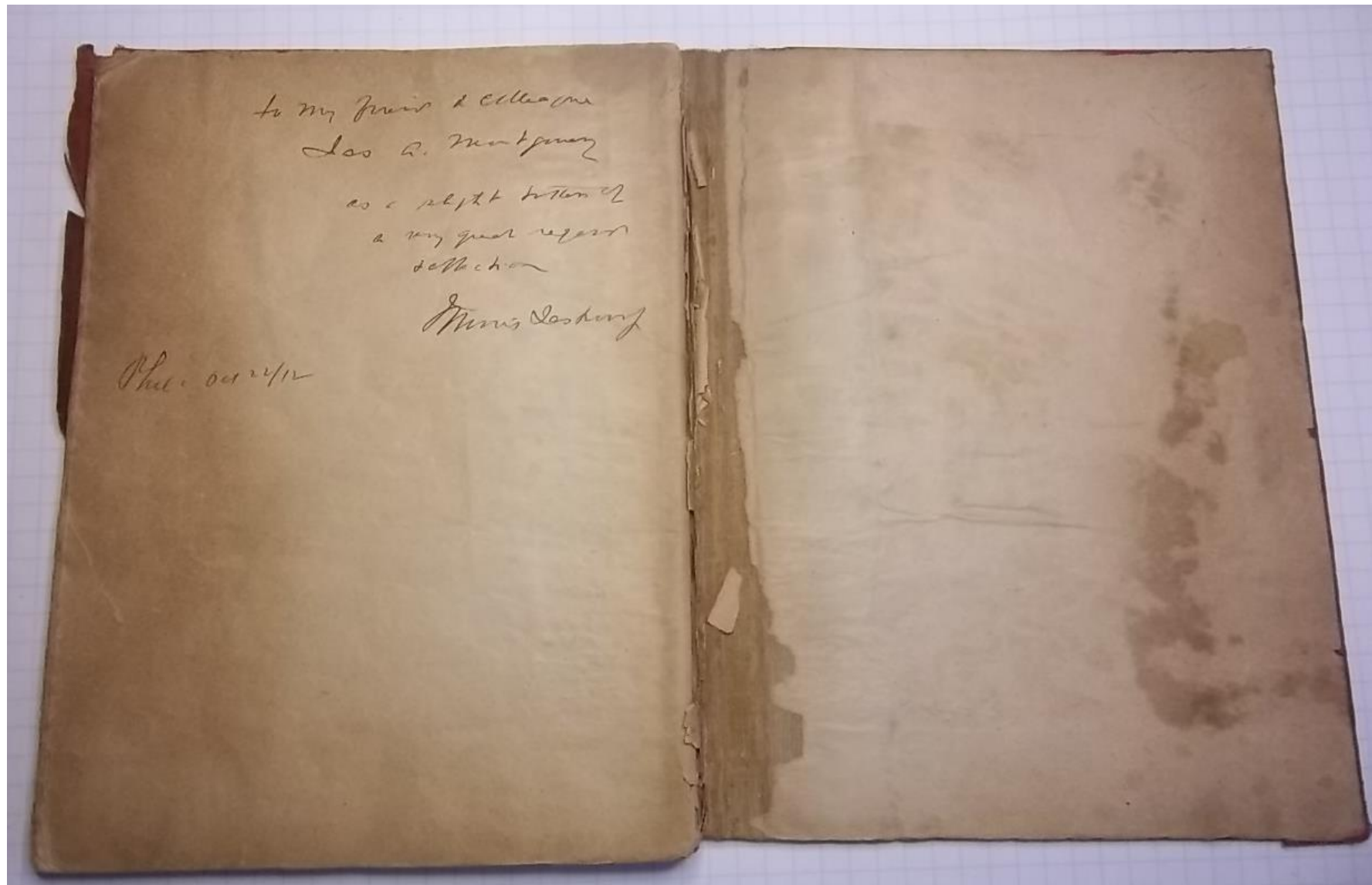
Samaritan scholar and author Benyamim Tsedaka contributed to this brief description. Mr. Tsedaka is Head of the Israelite Samaritan Information Centre. He edited/translated *The Israelite Samaritan Version of the Torah: First English Translation Compared with the Masoretic Version*, 2013, Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company.

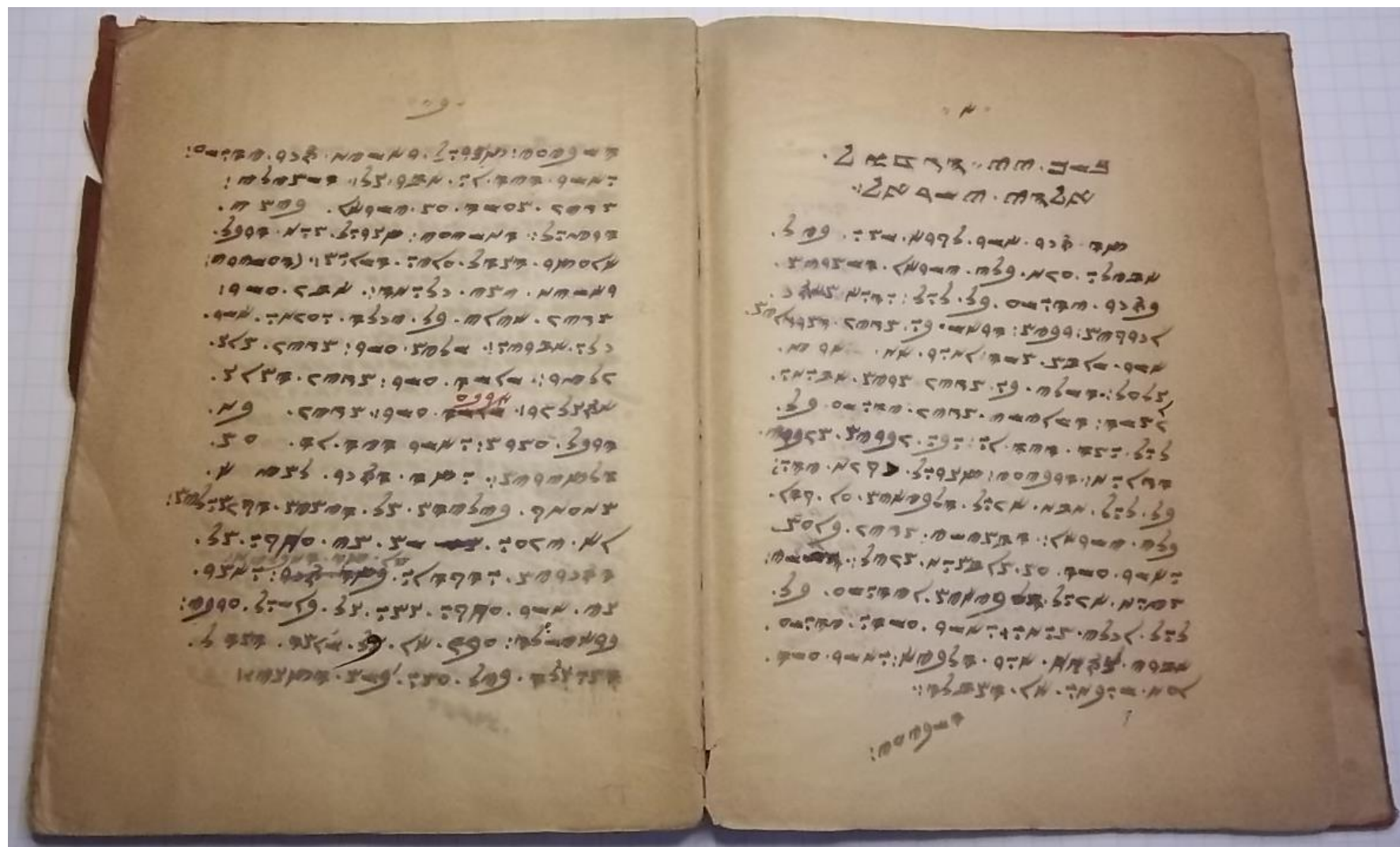
[theSamaritanUpdate.com](http://theSamaritanUpdate.com): The following was made as a non-profit benefit!

Should you discover a fault, please notify the editor of this work, Larry Rynearson at [shomron@yahoo.com](mailto:shomron@yahoo.com).

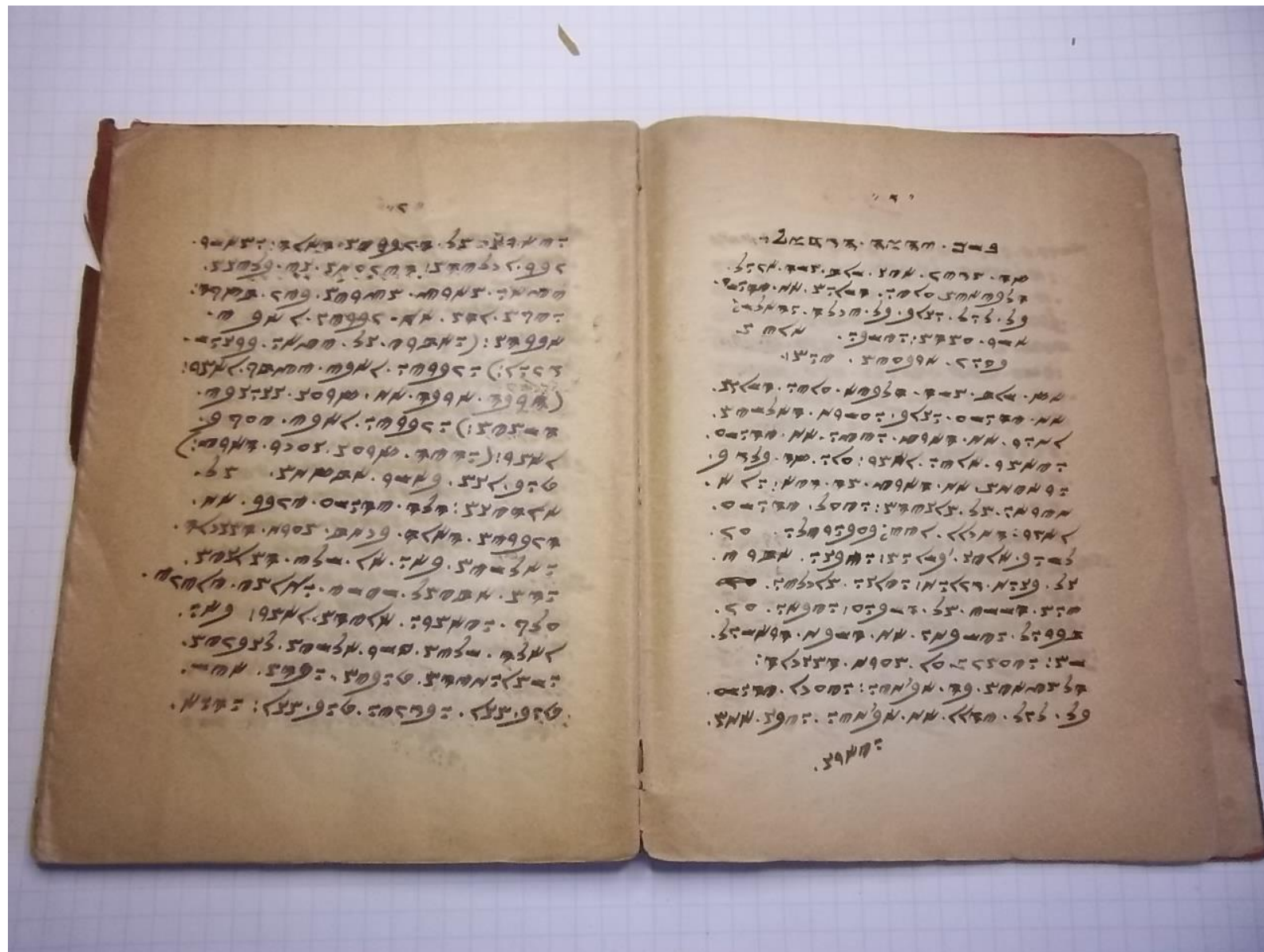
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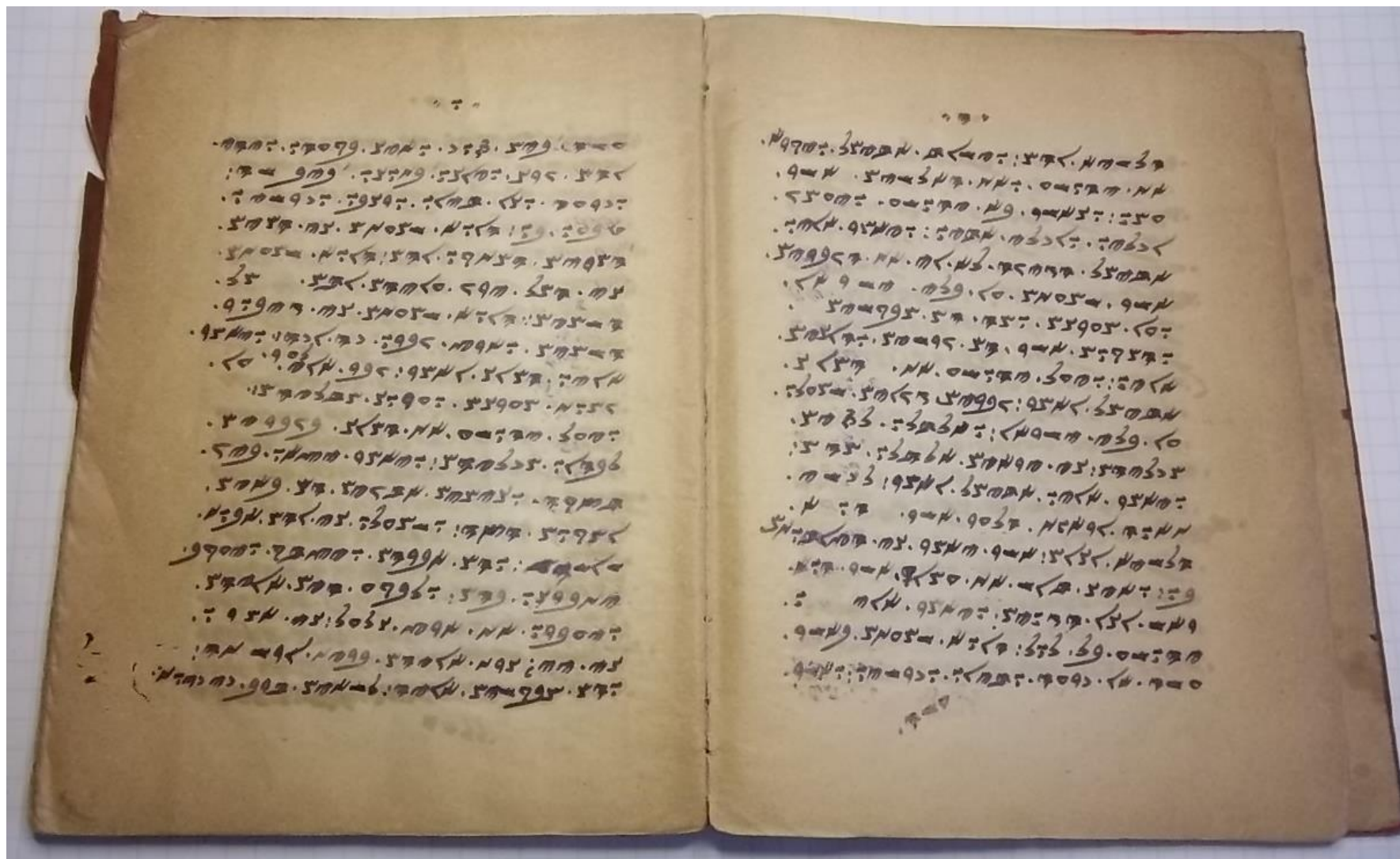


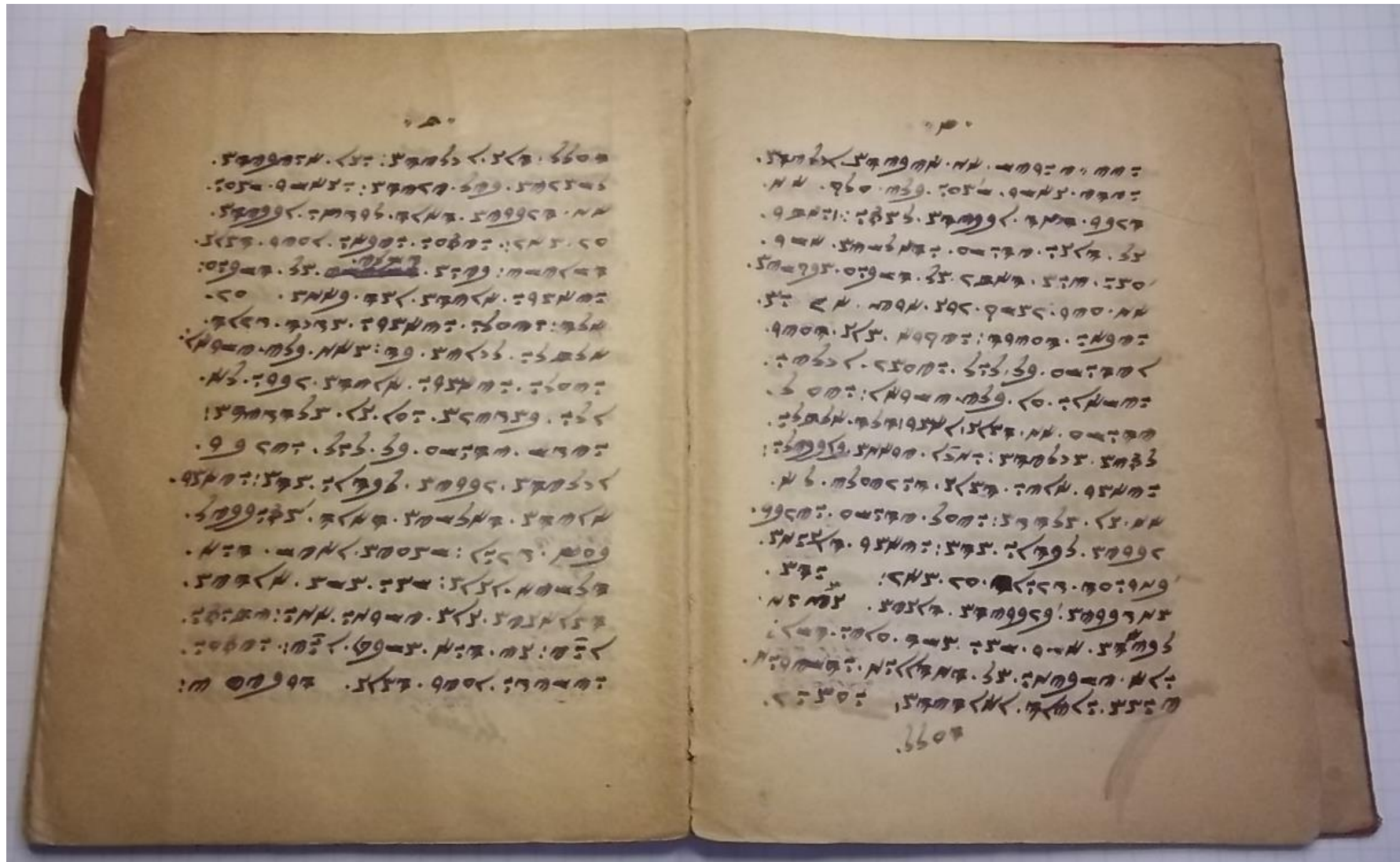




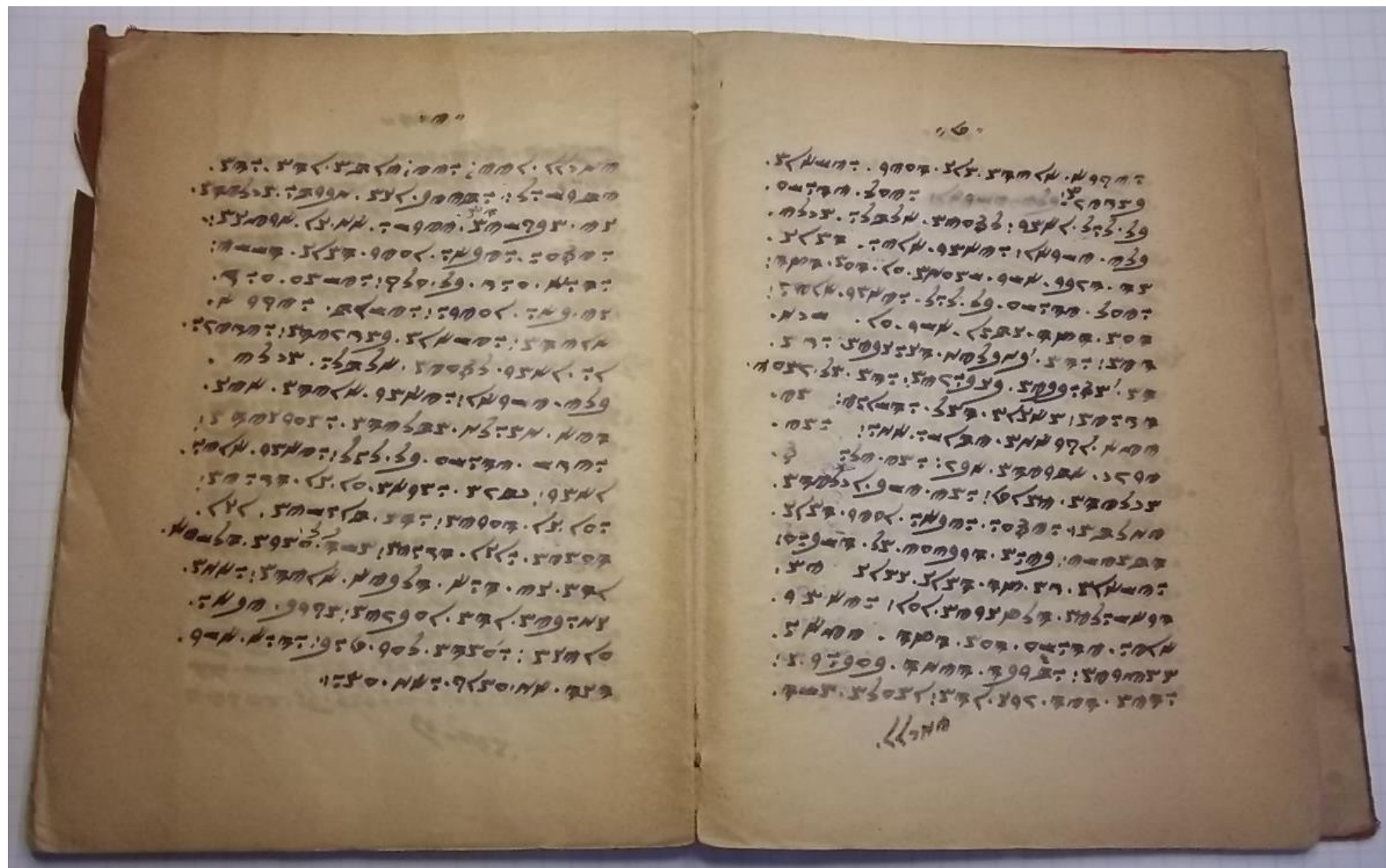




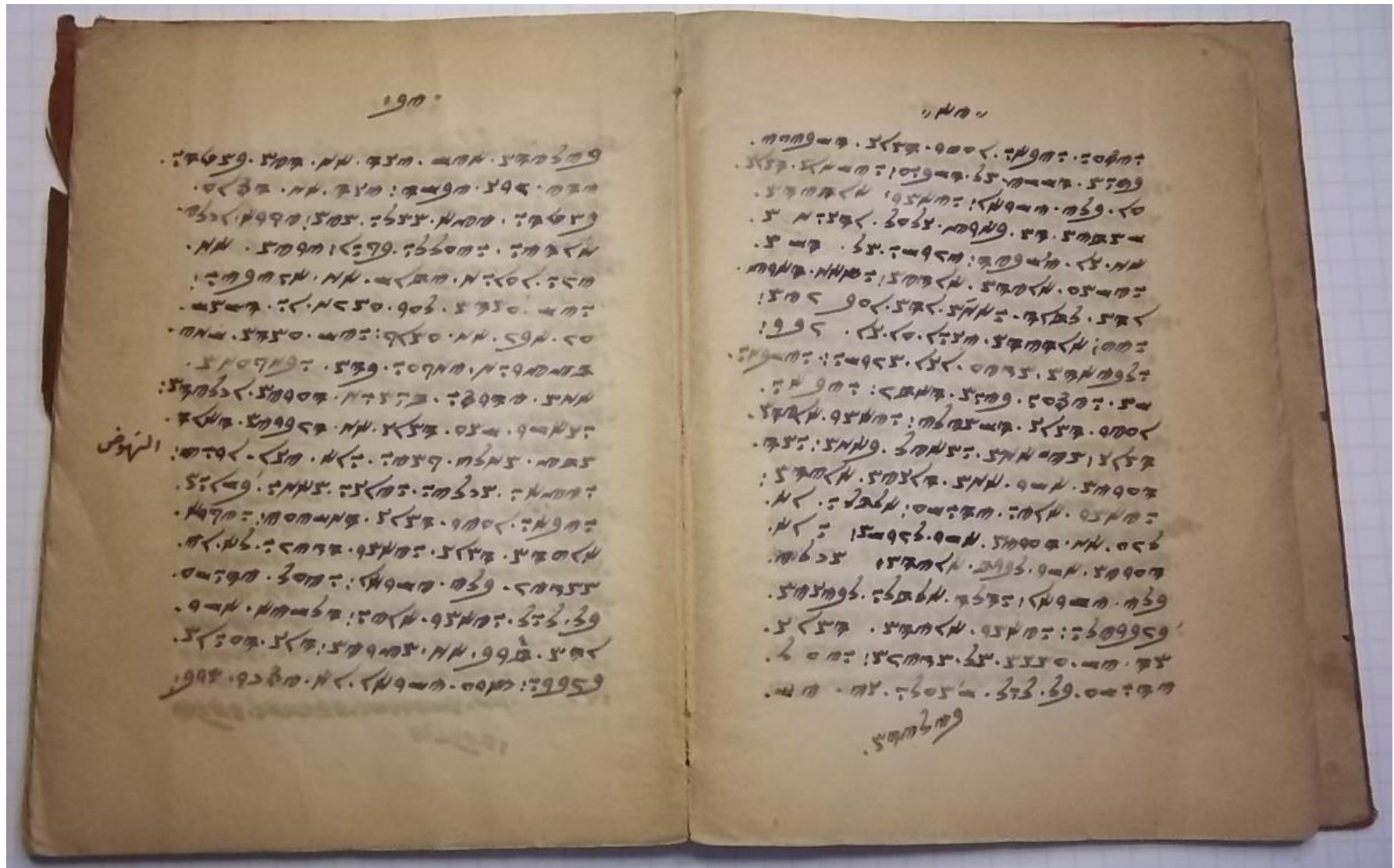


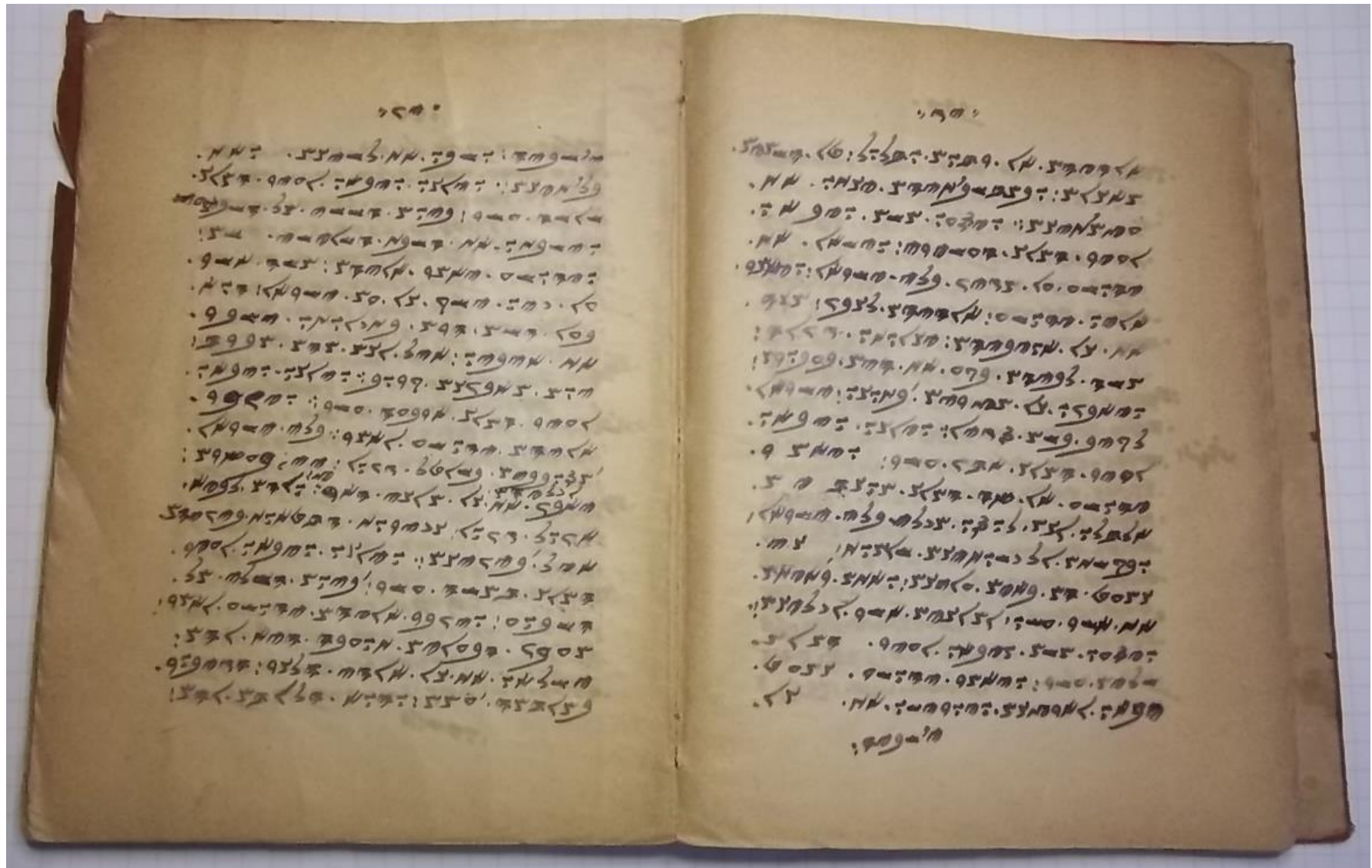




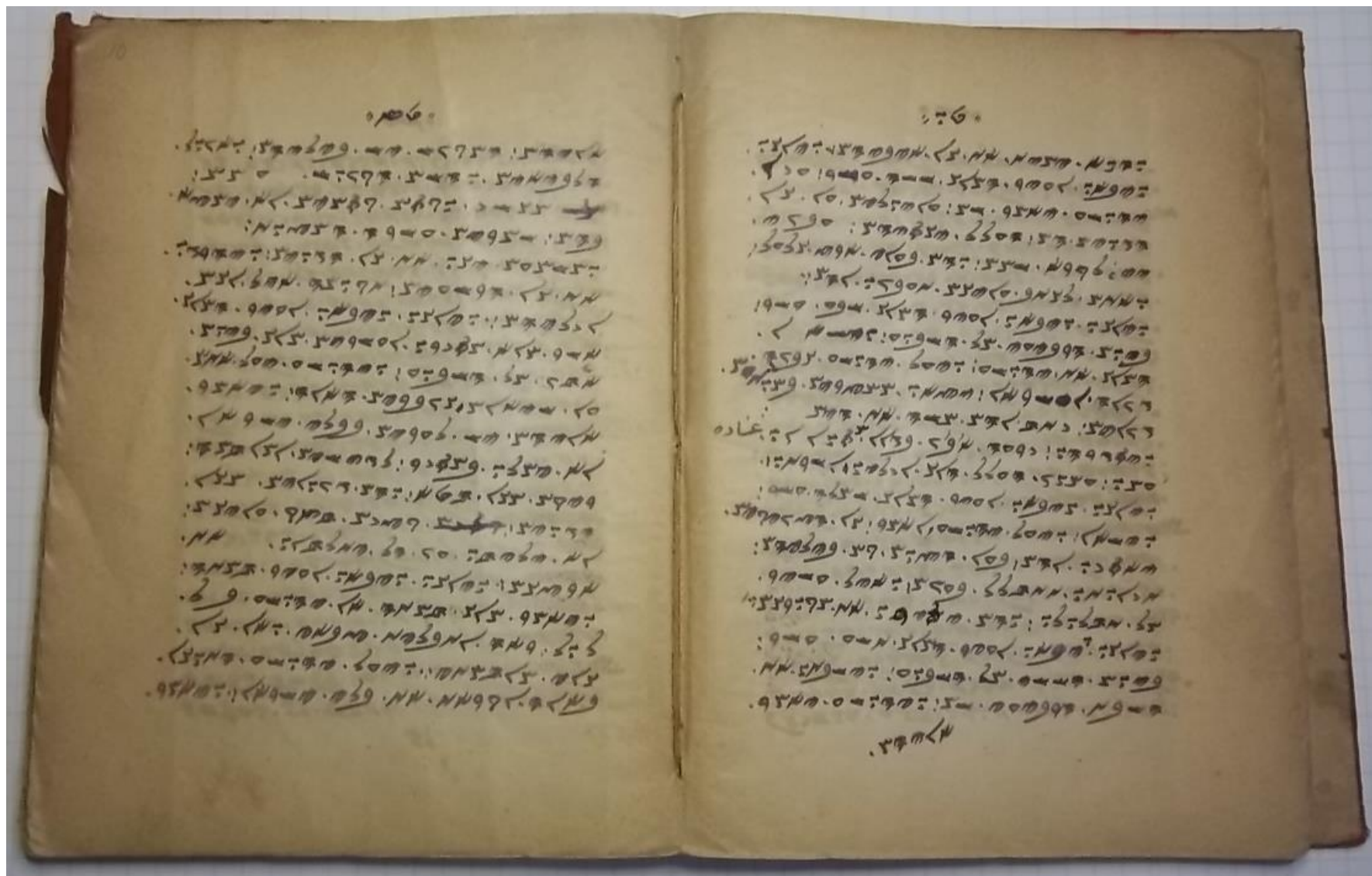




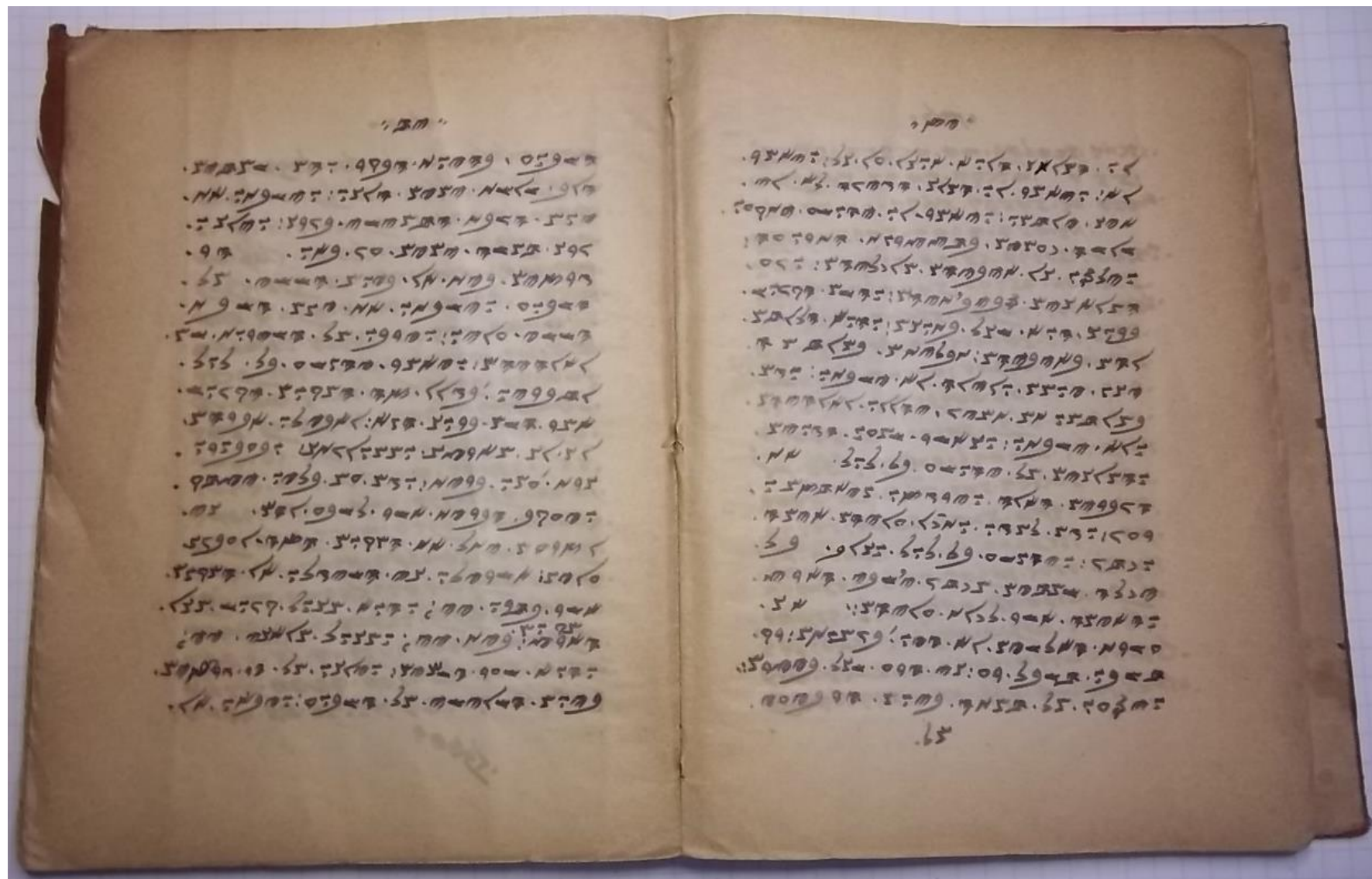


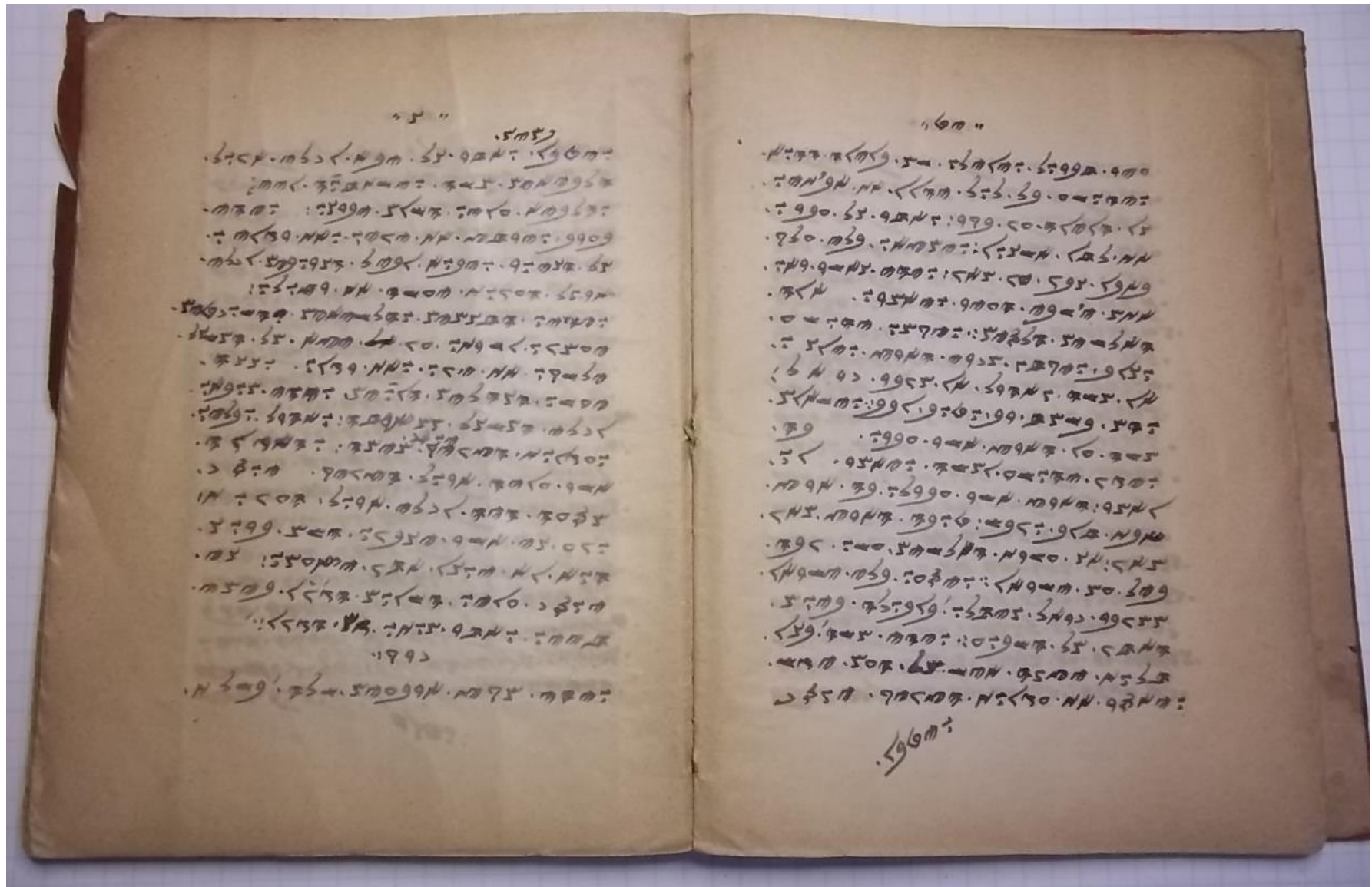




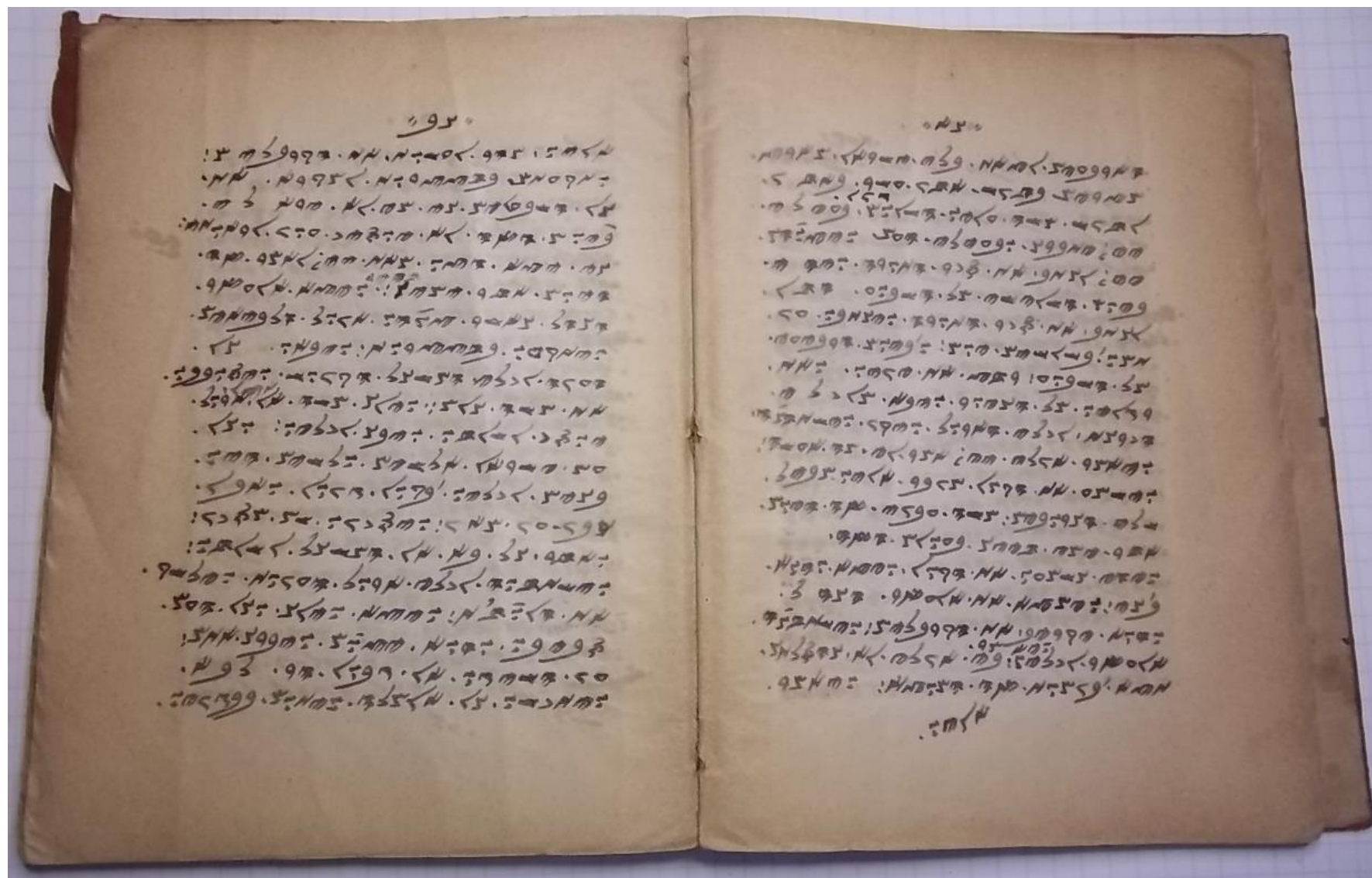




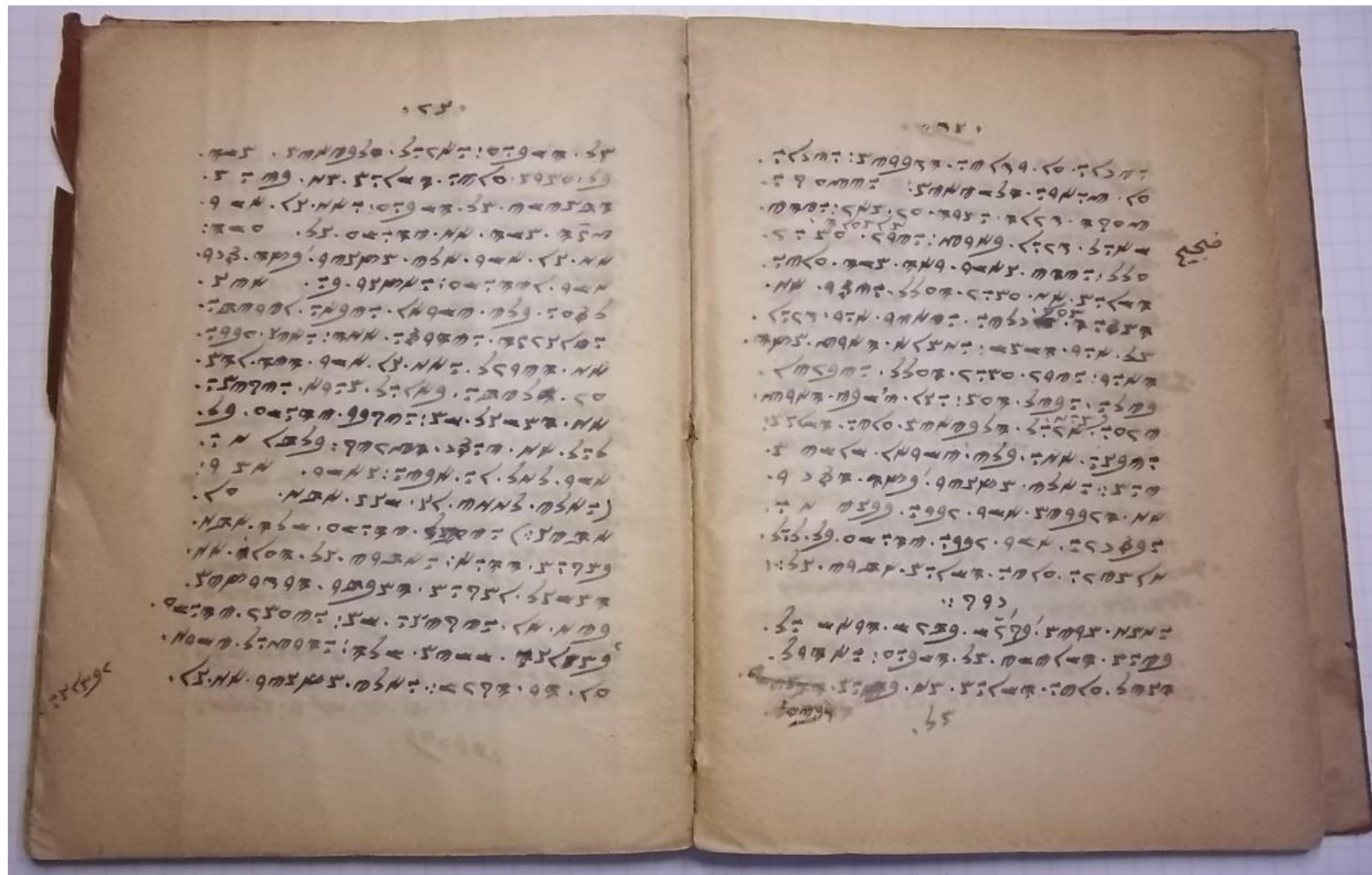


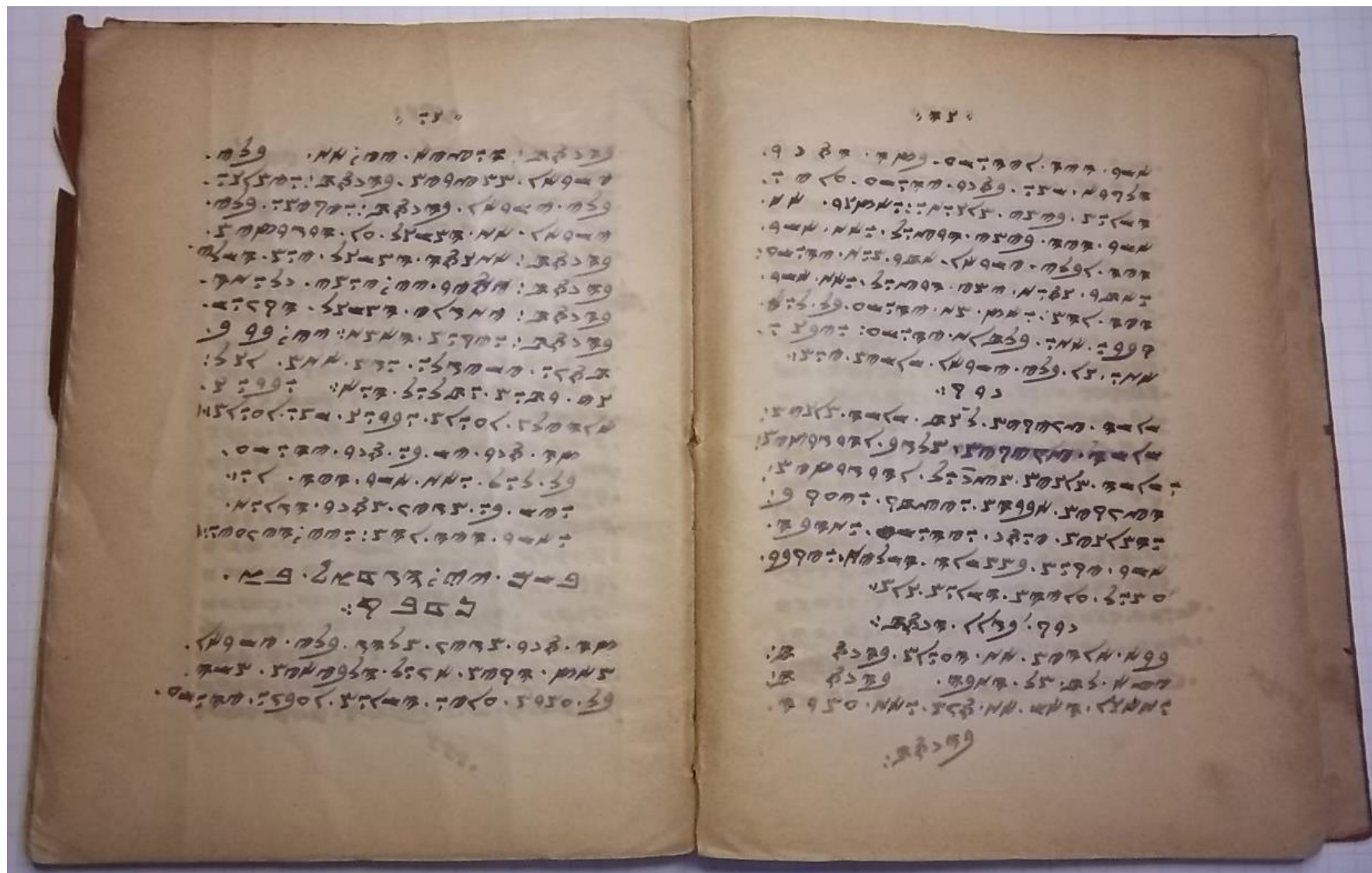




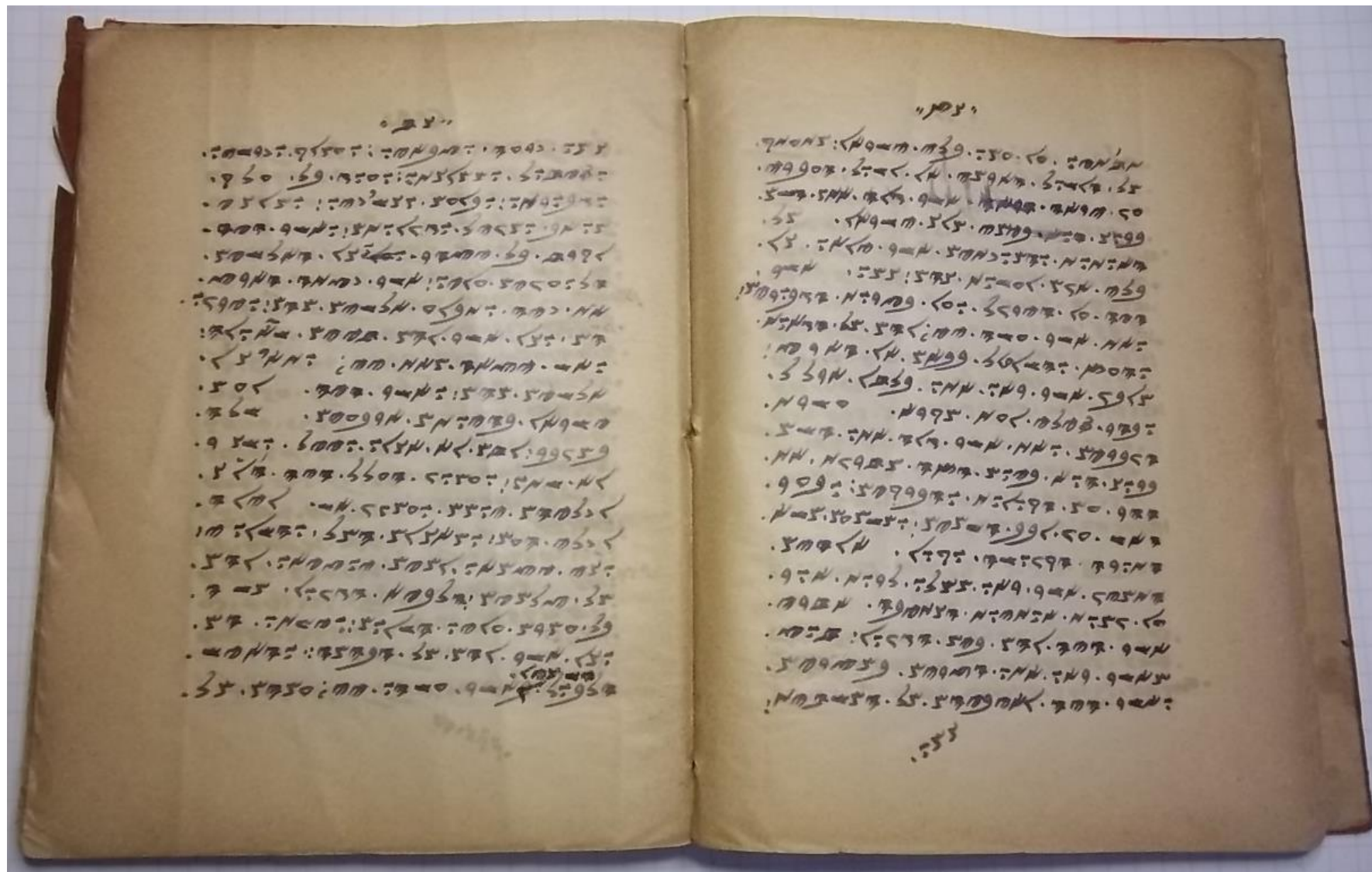




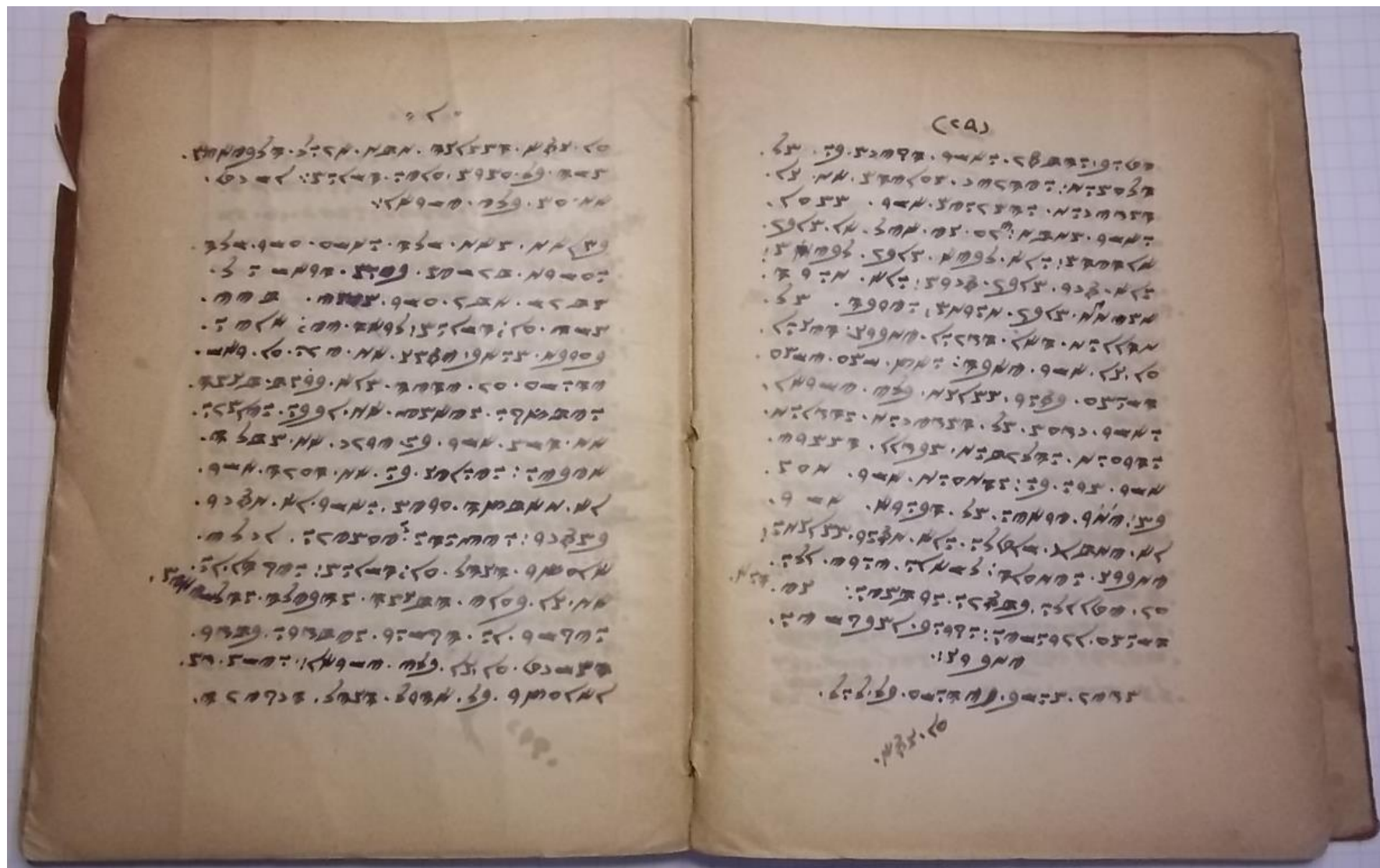


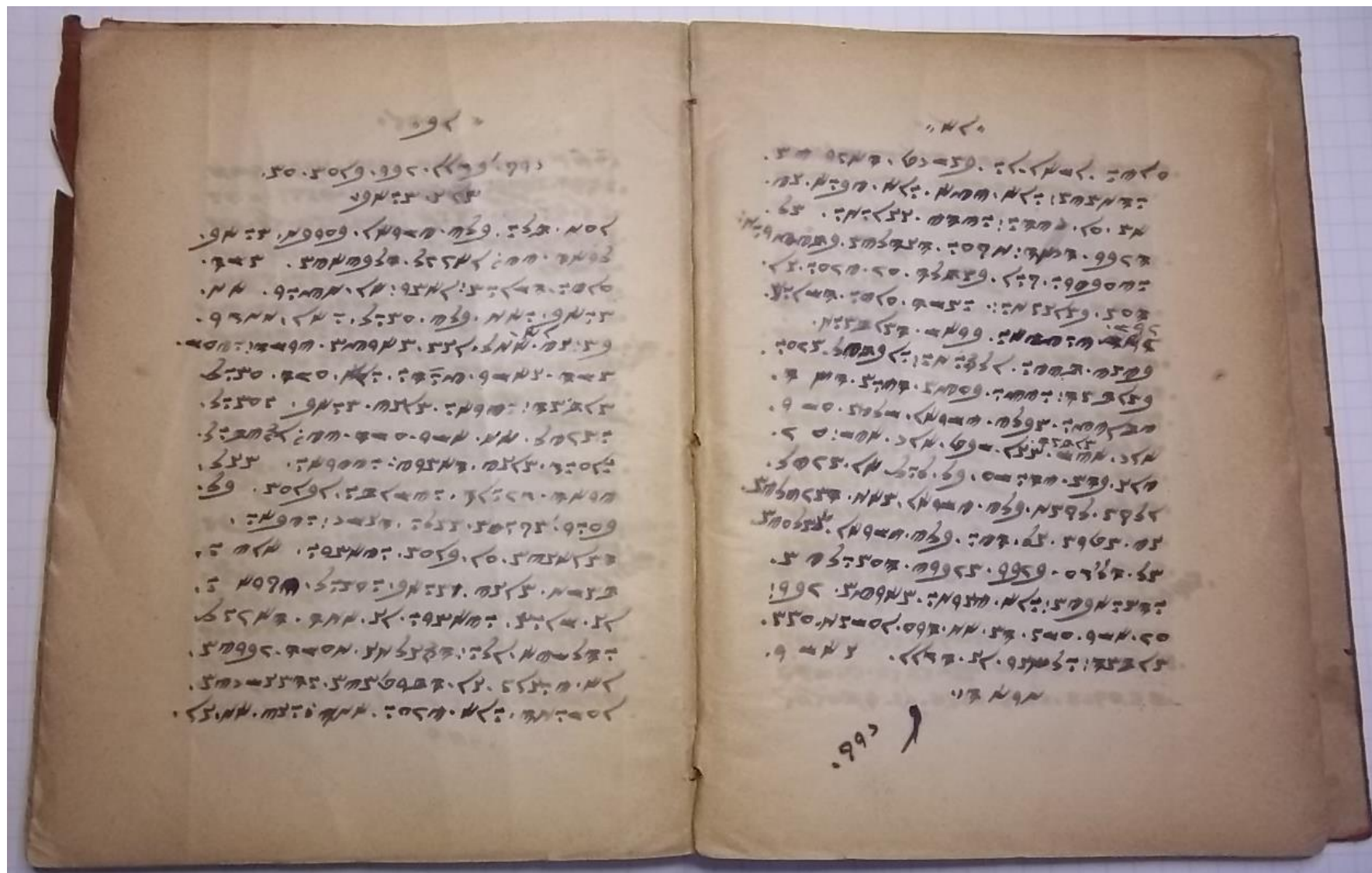




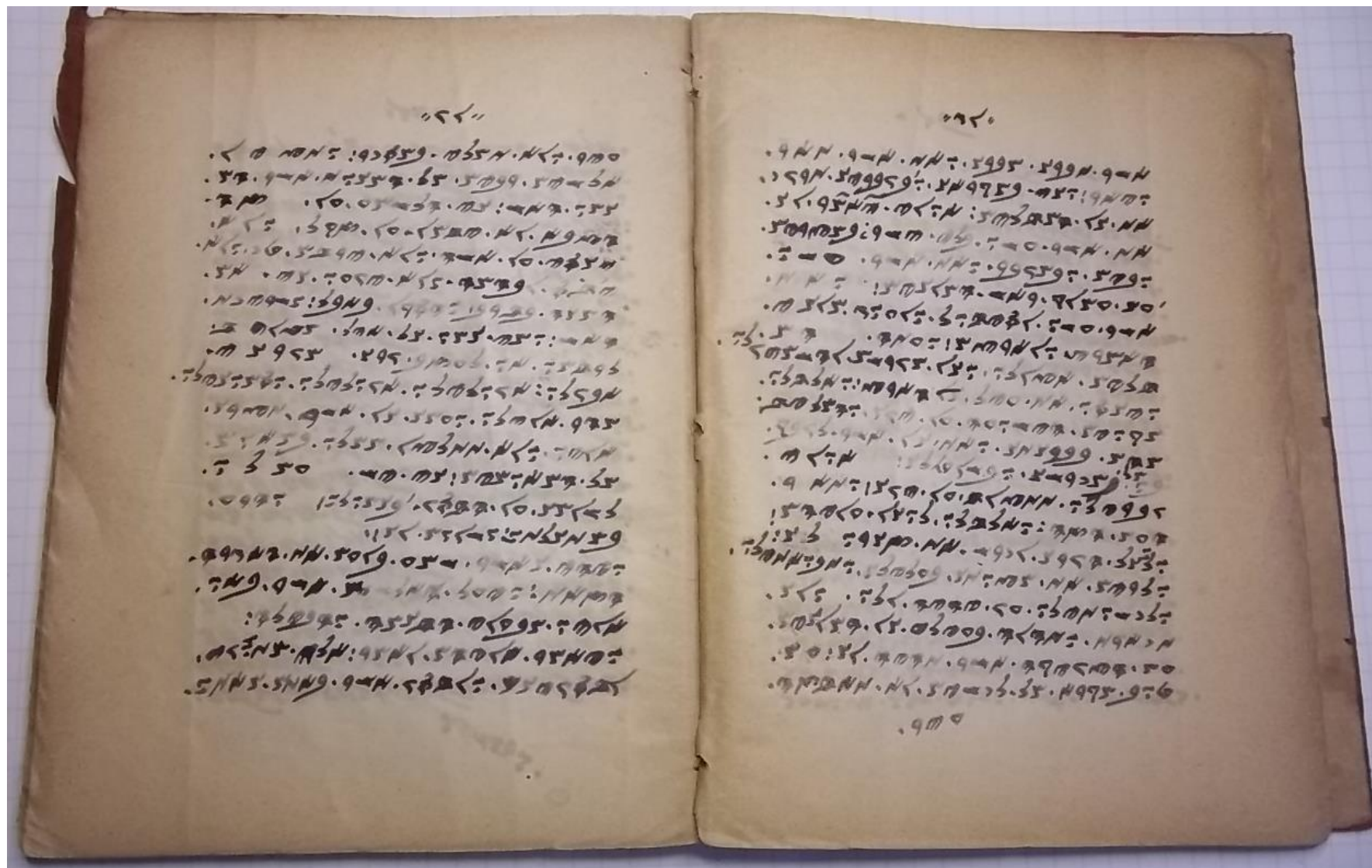


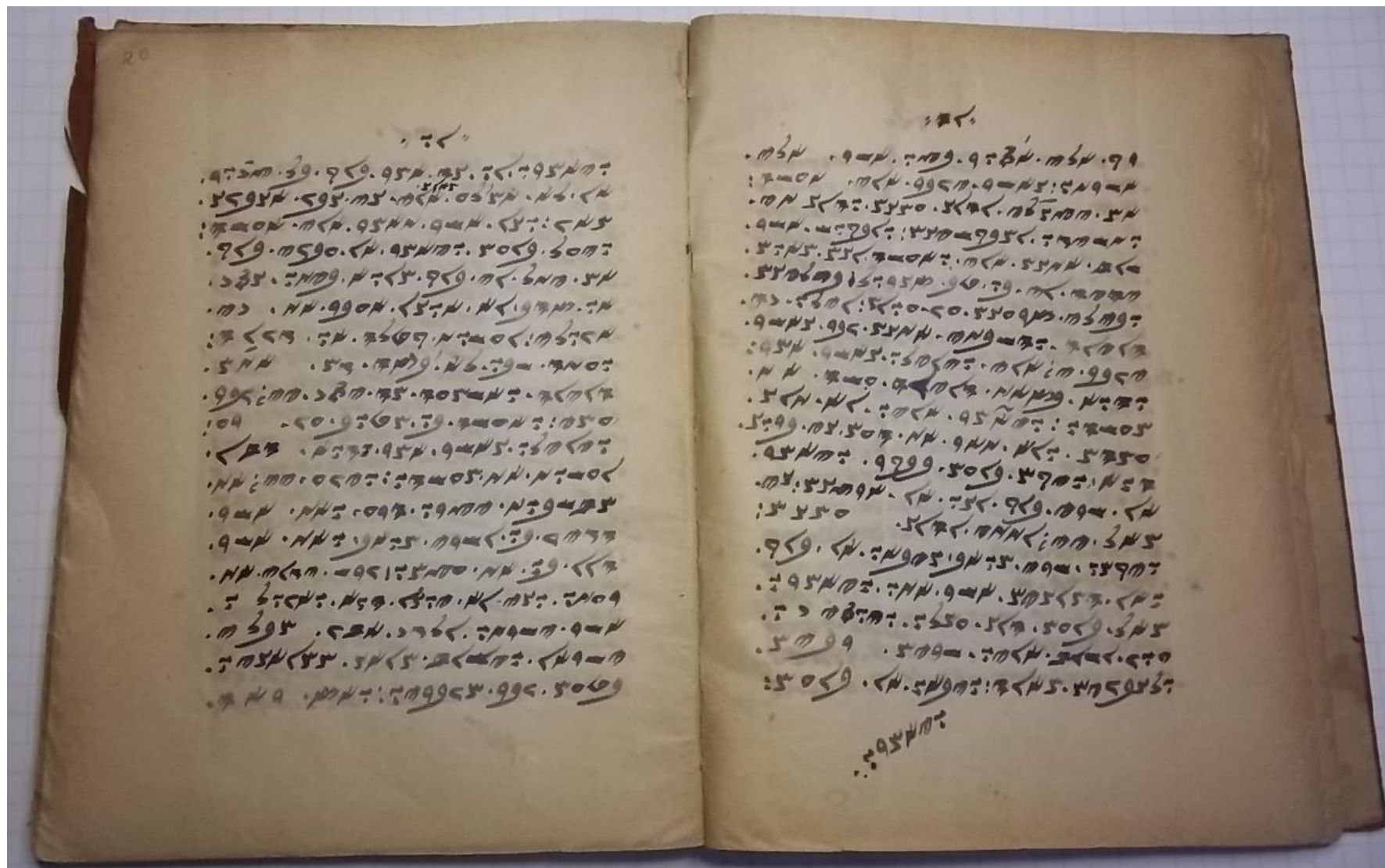




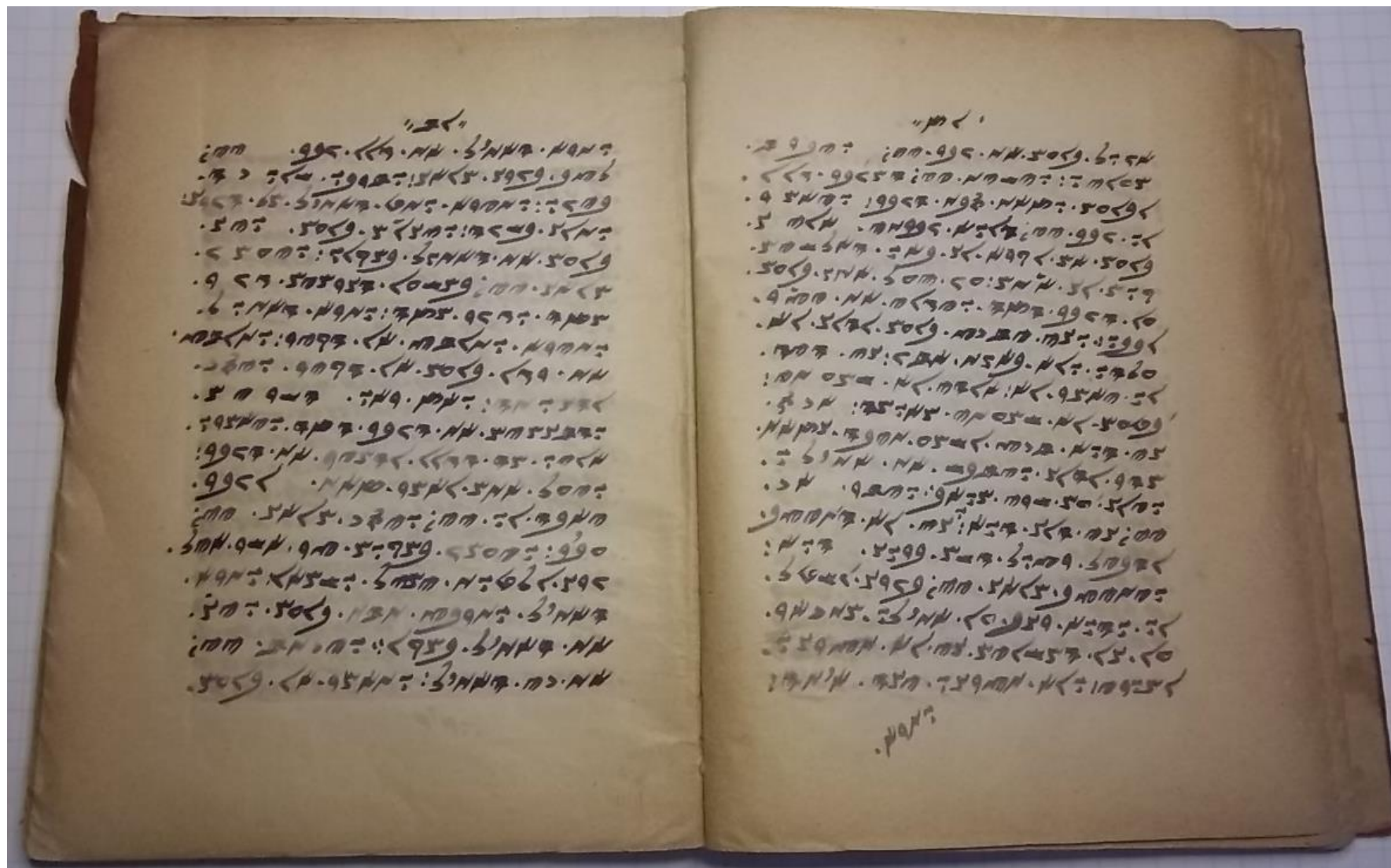


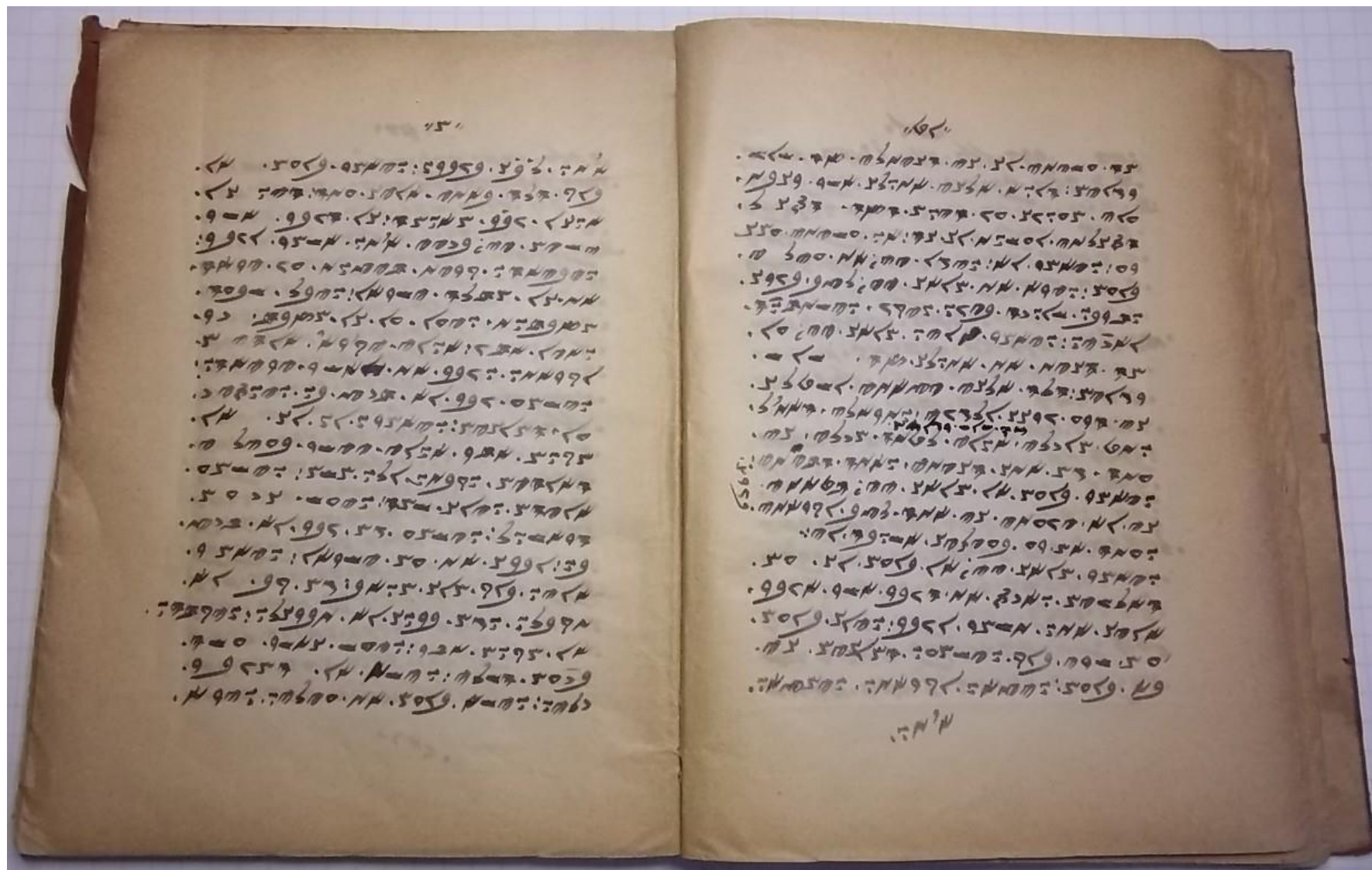




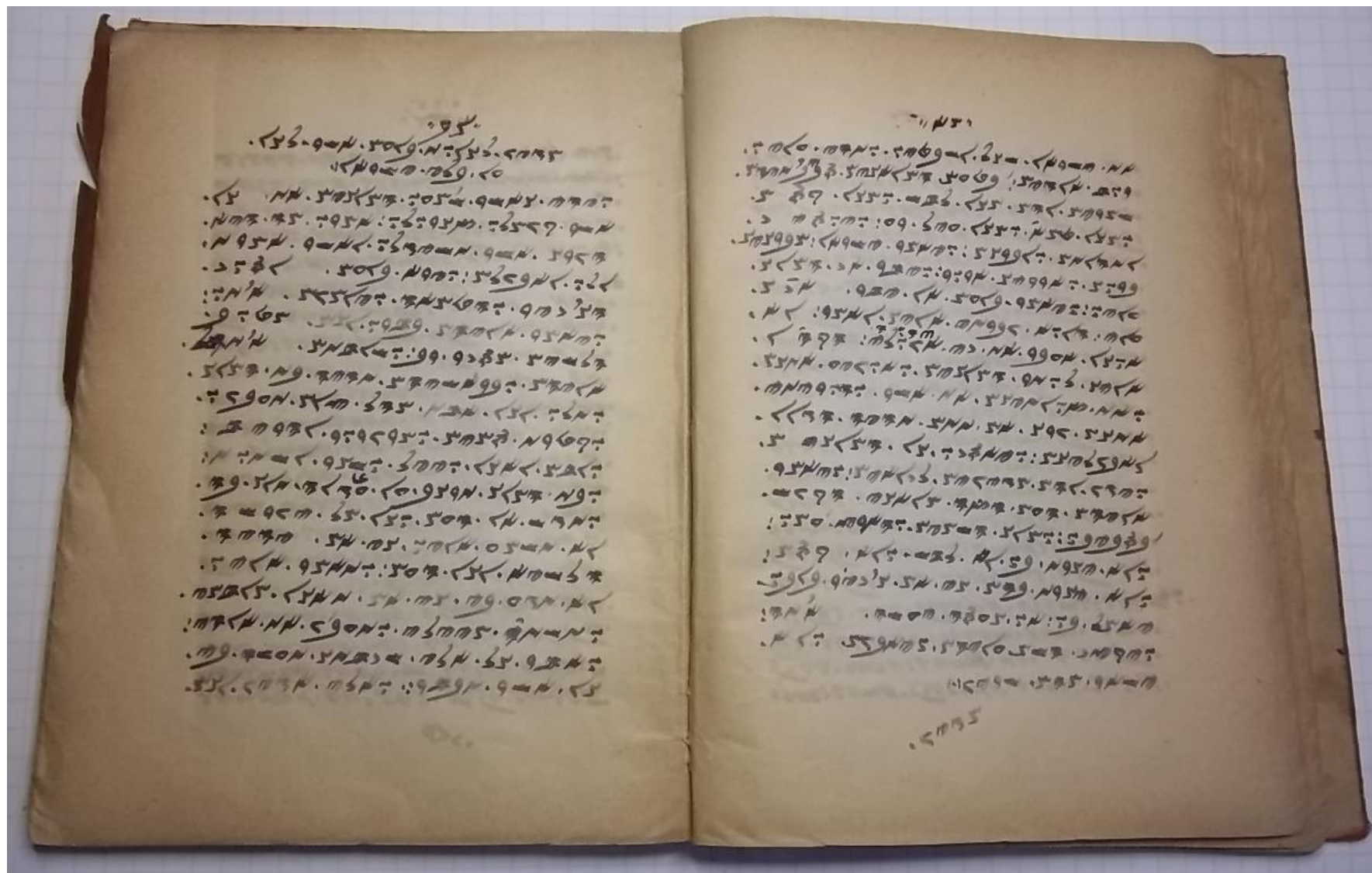


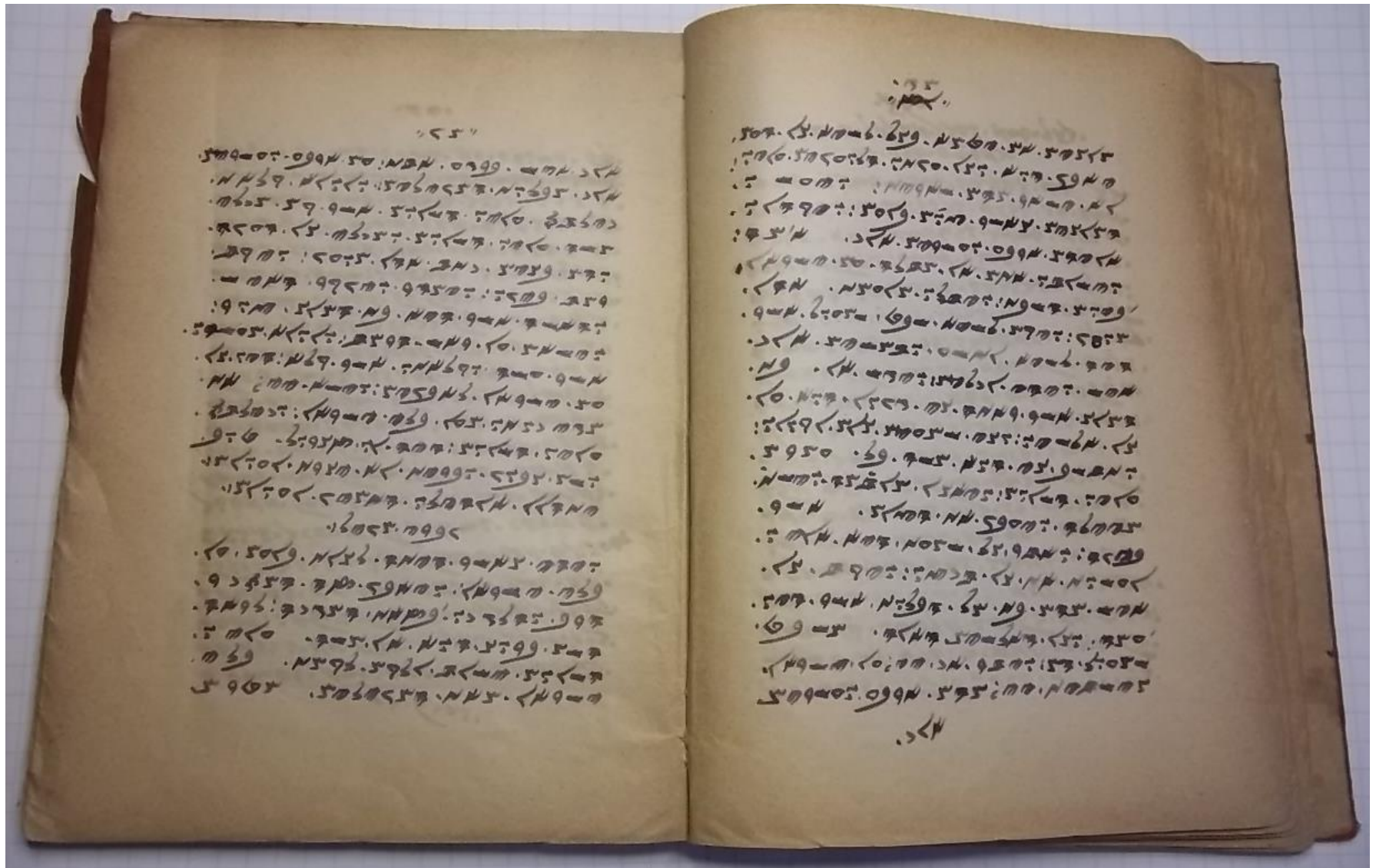




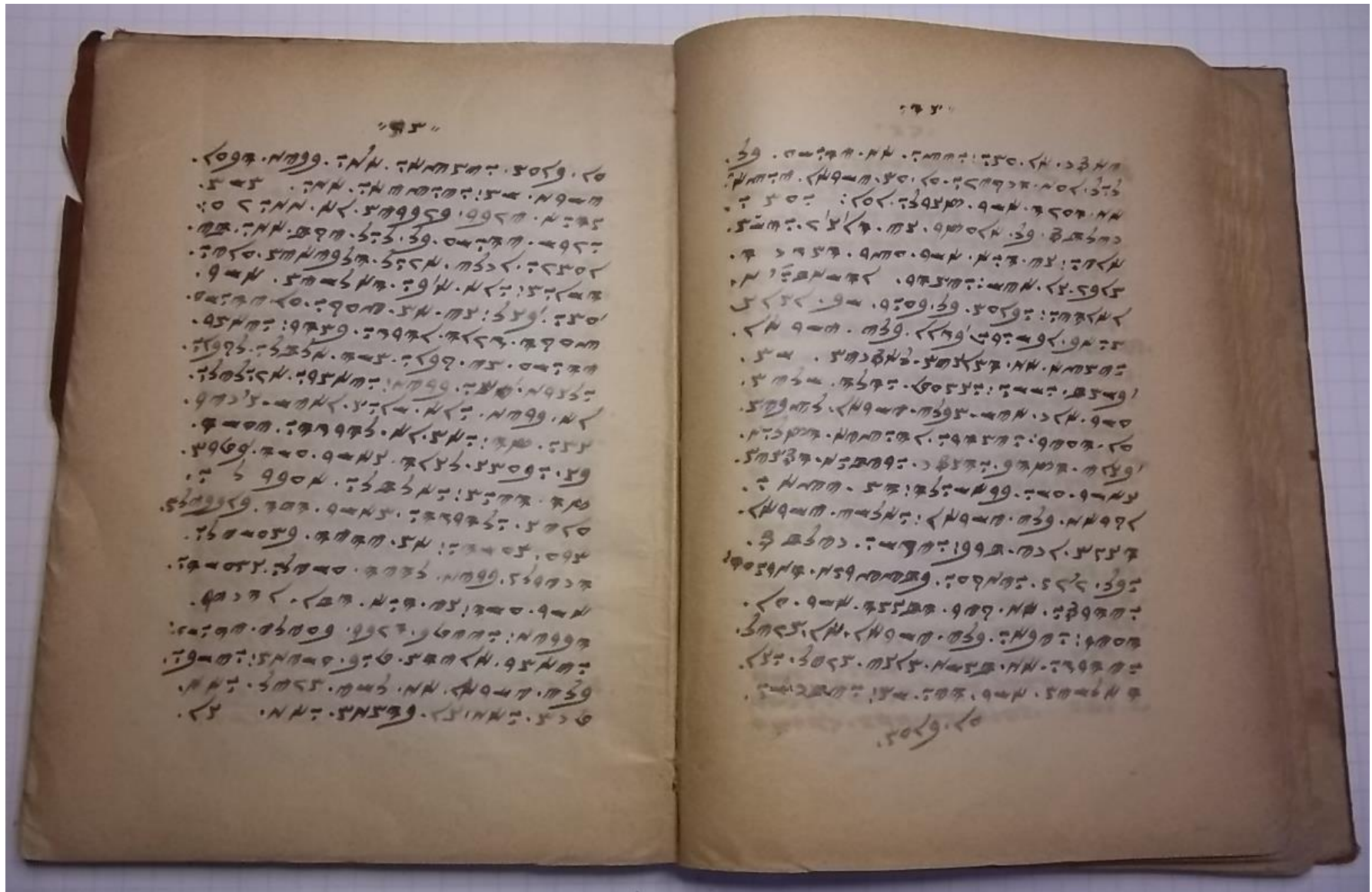


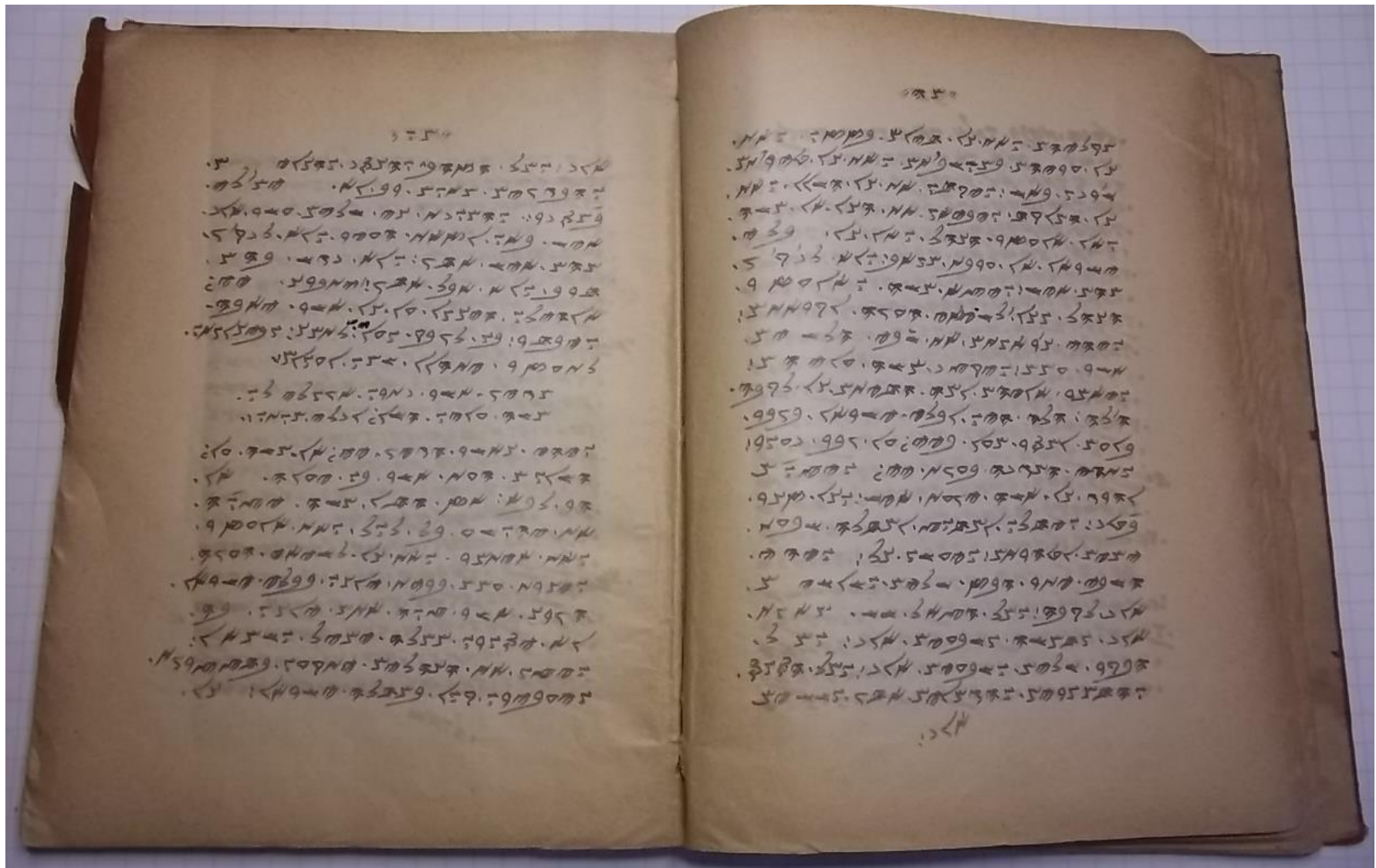




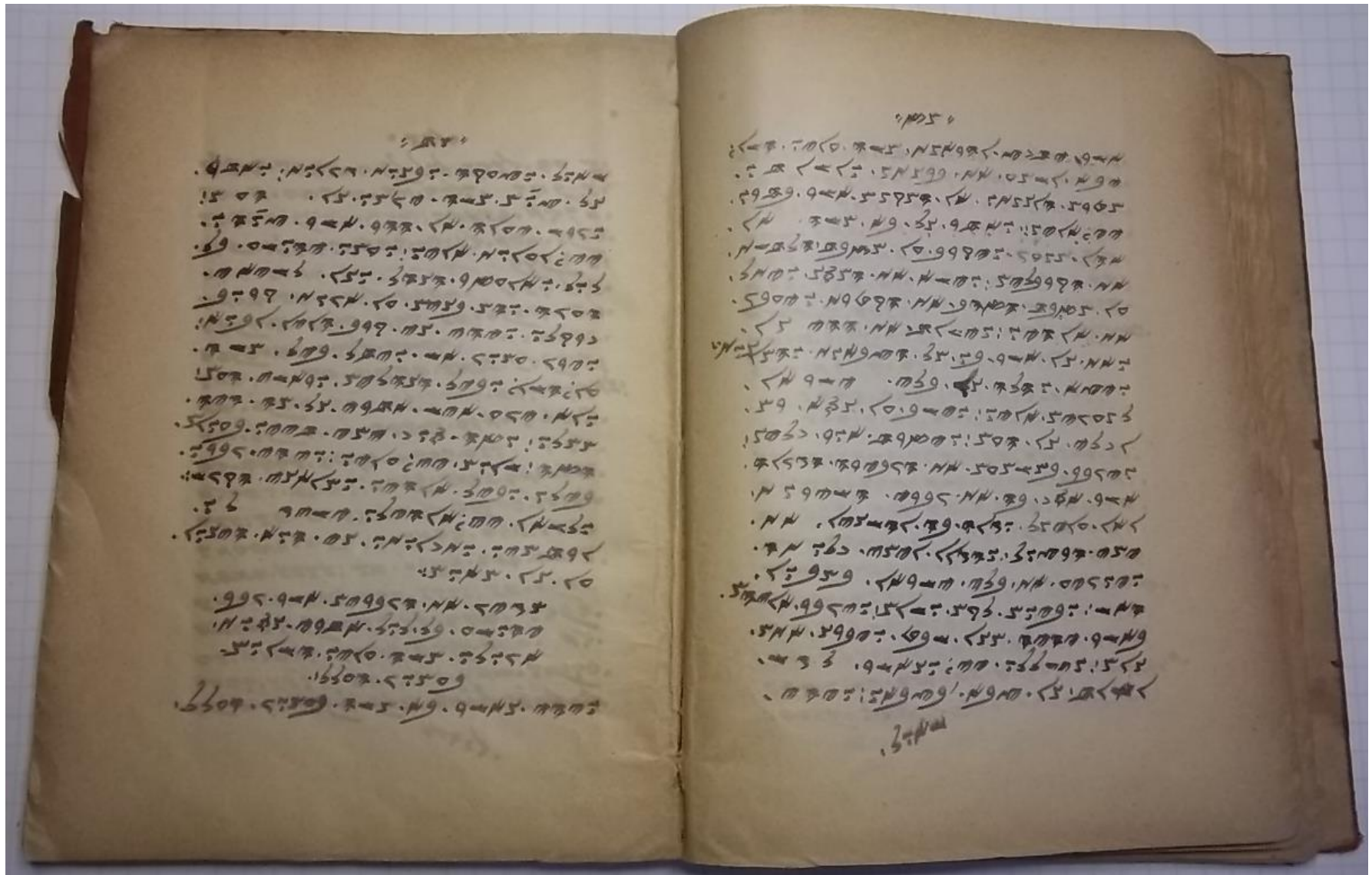


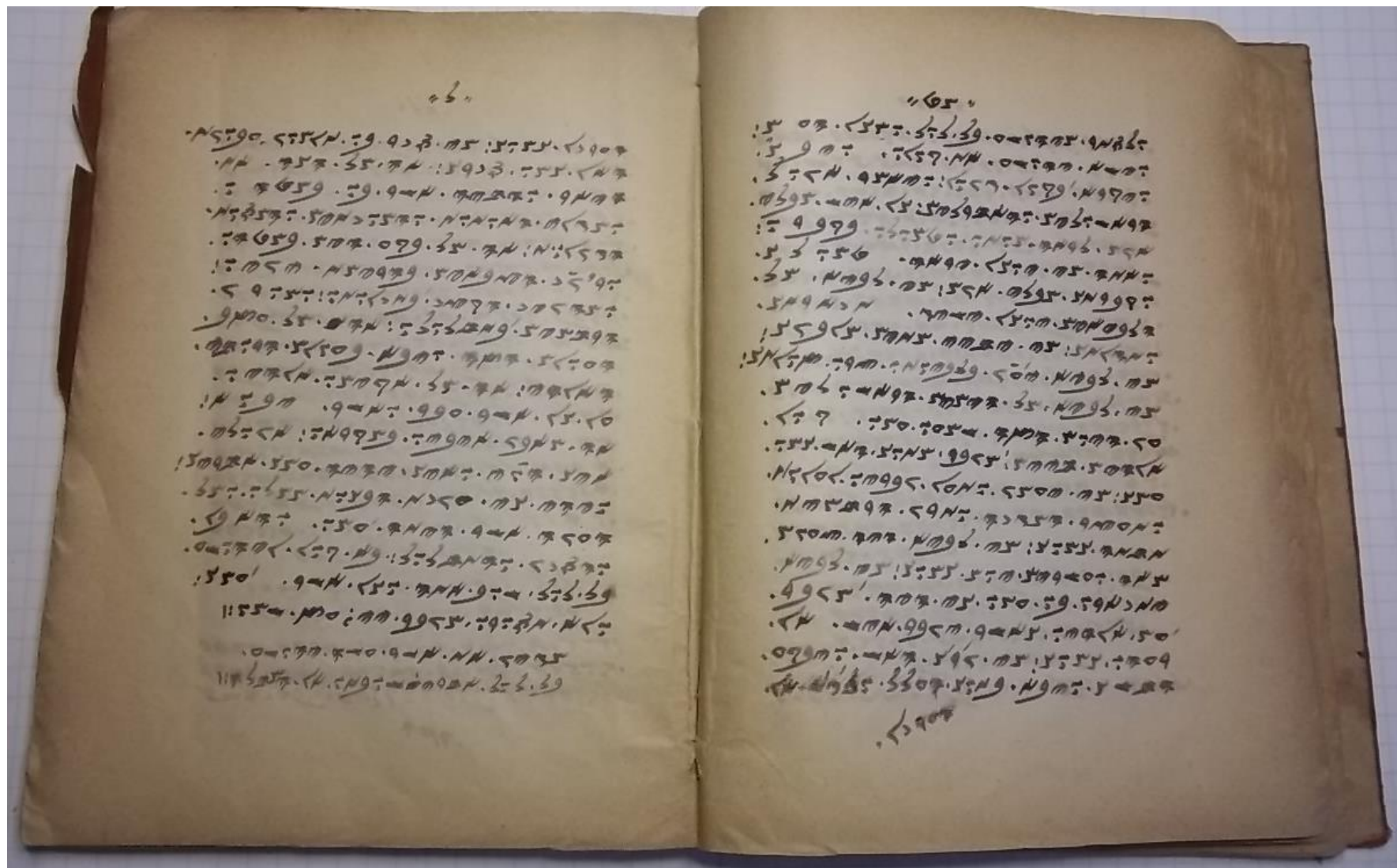




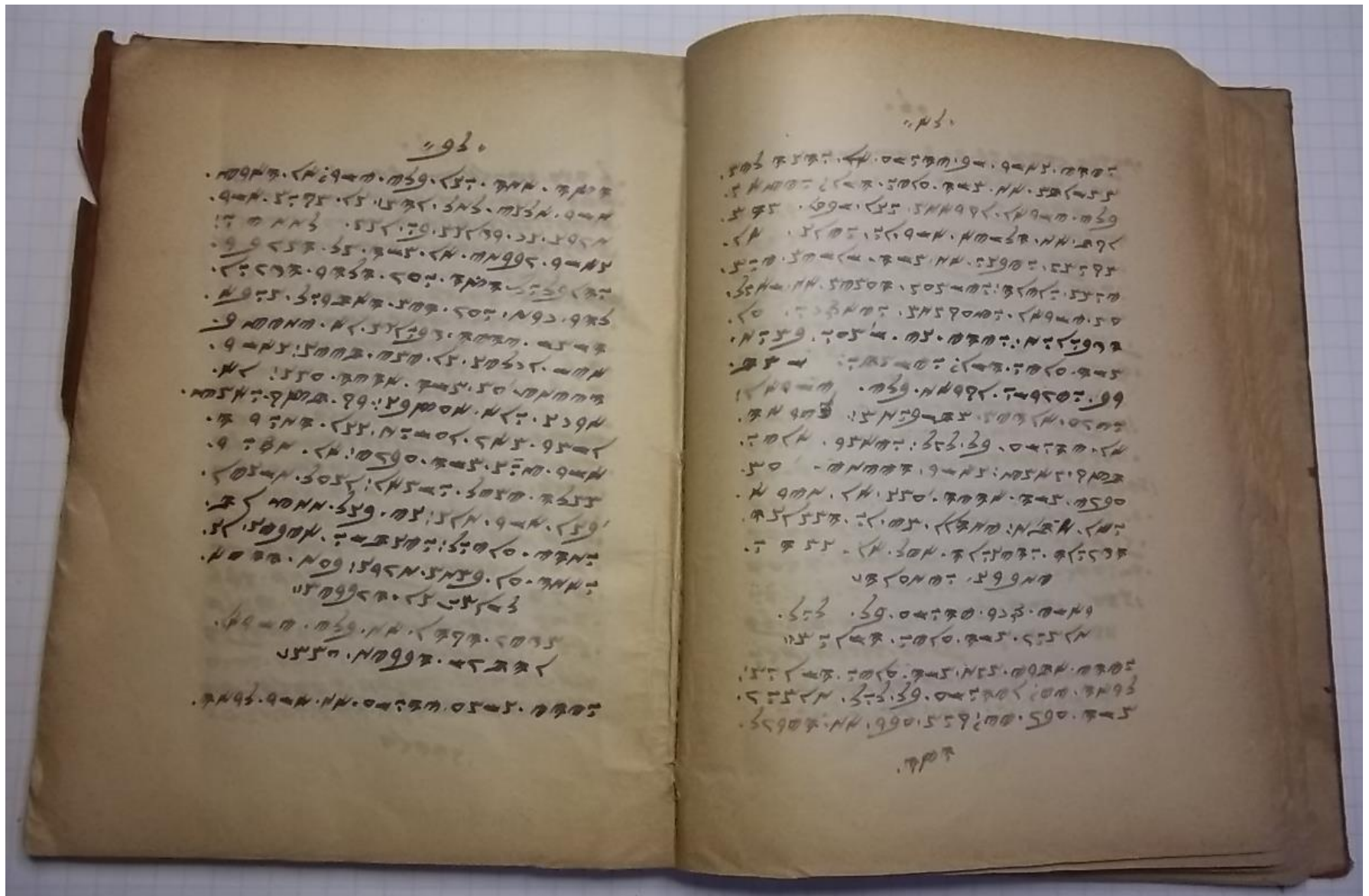


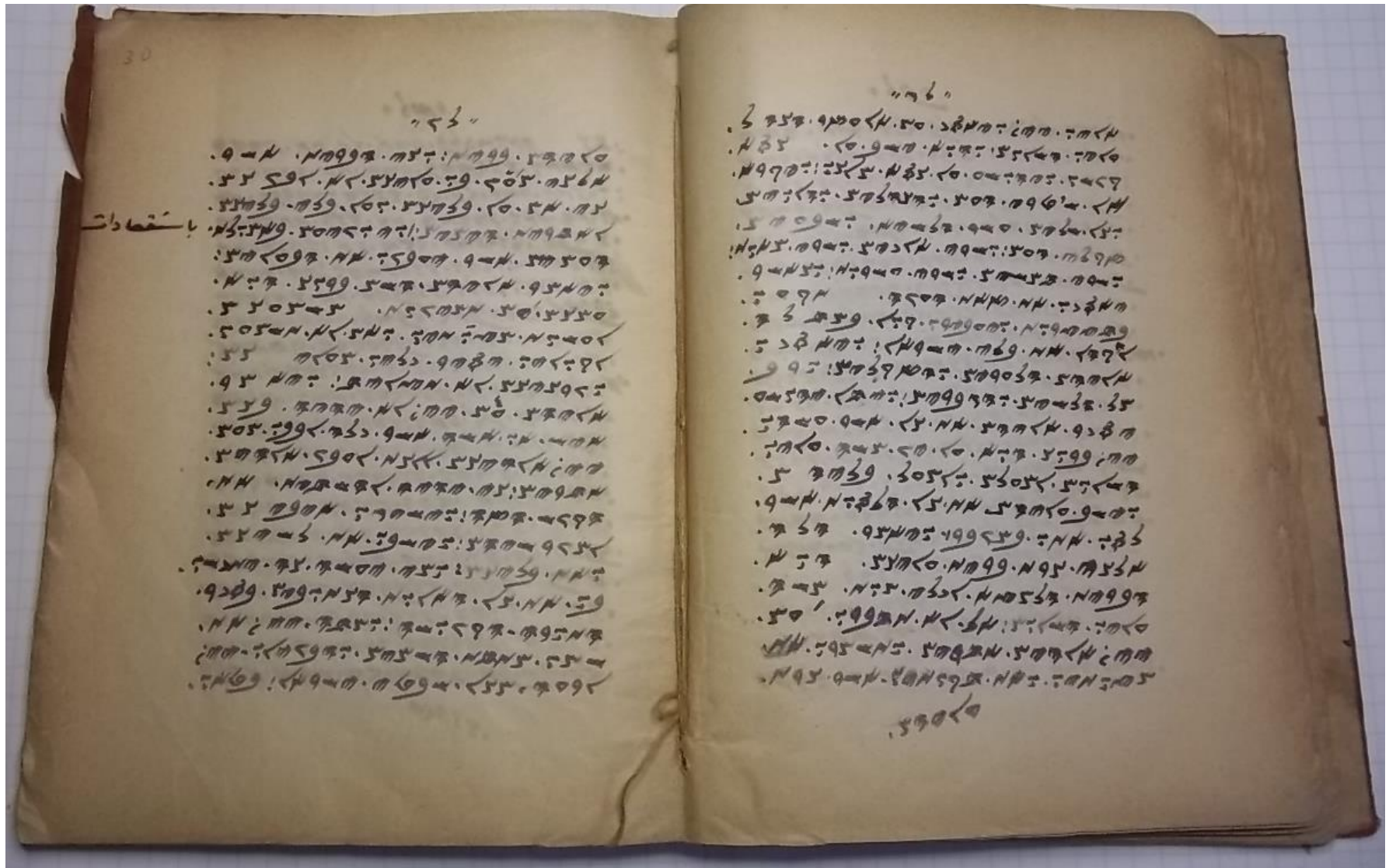




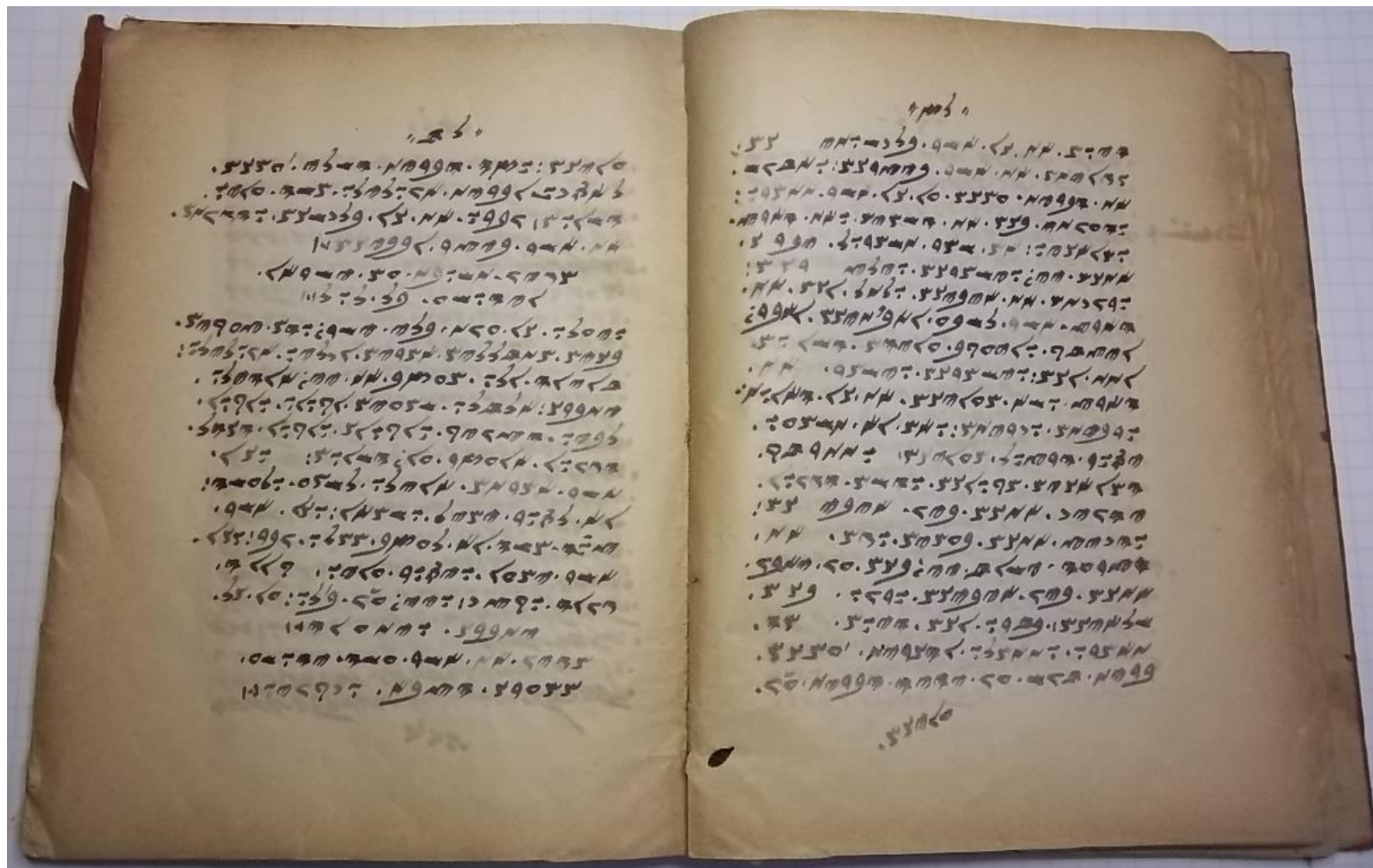


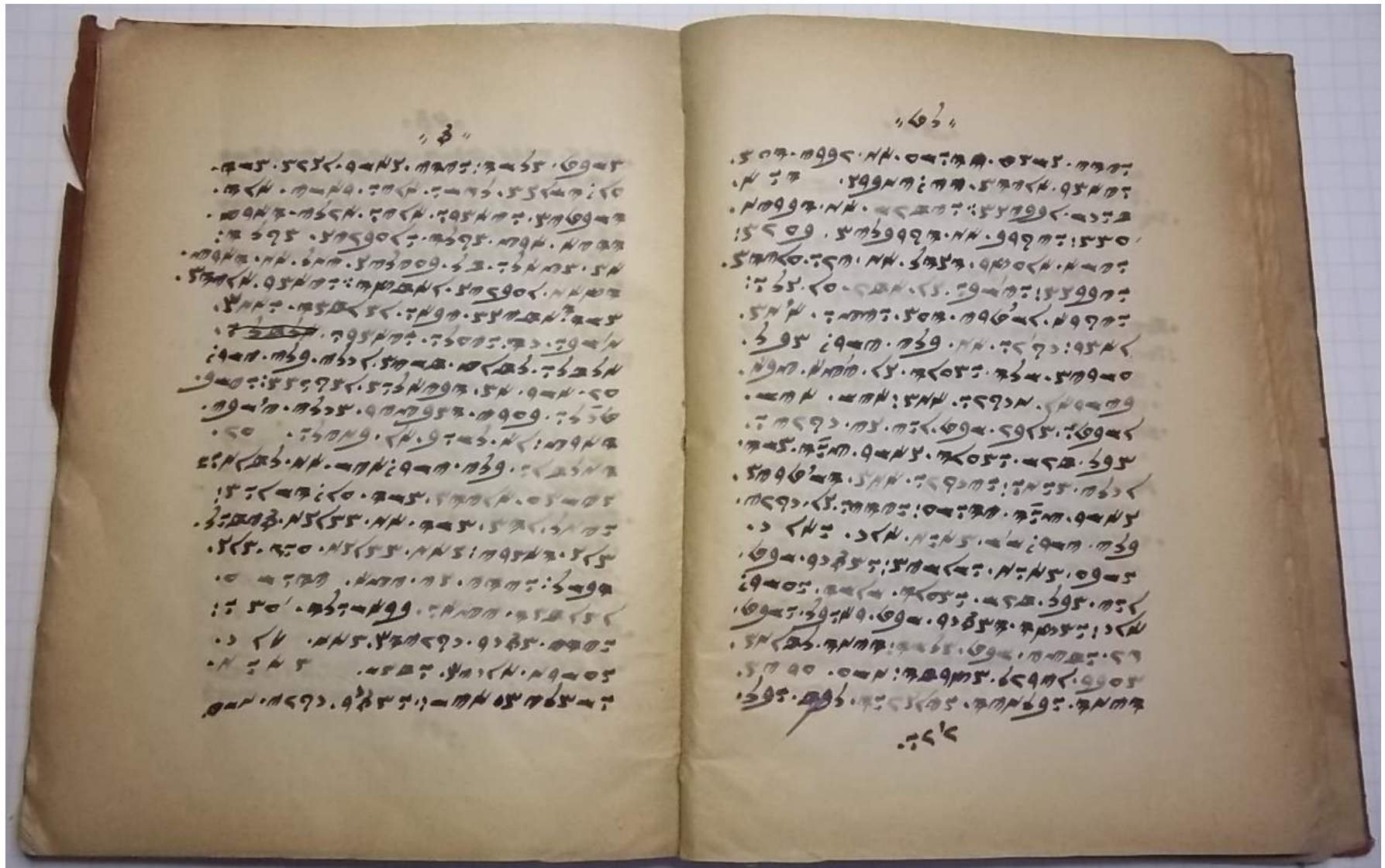




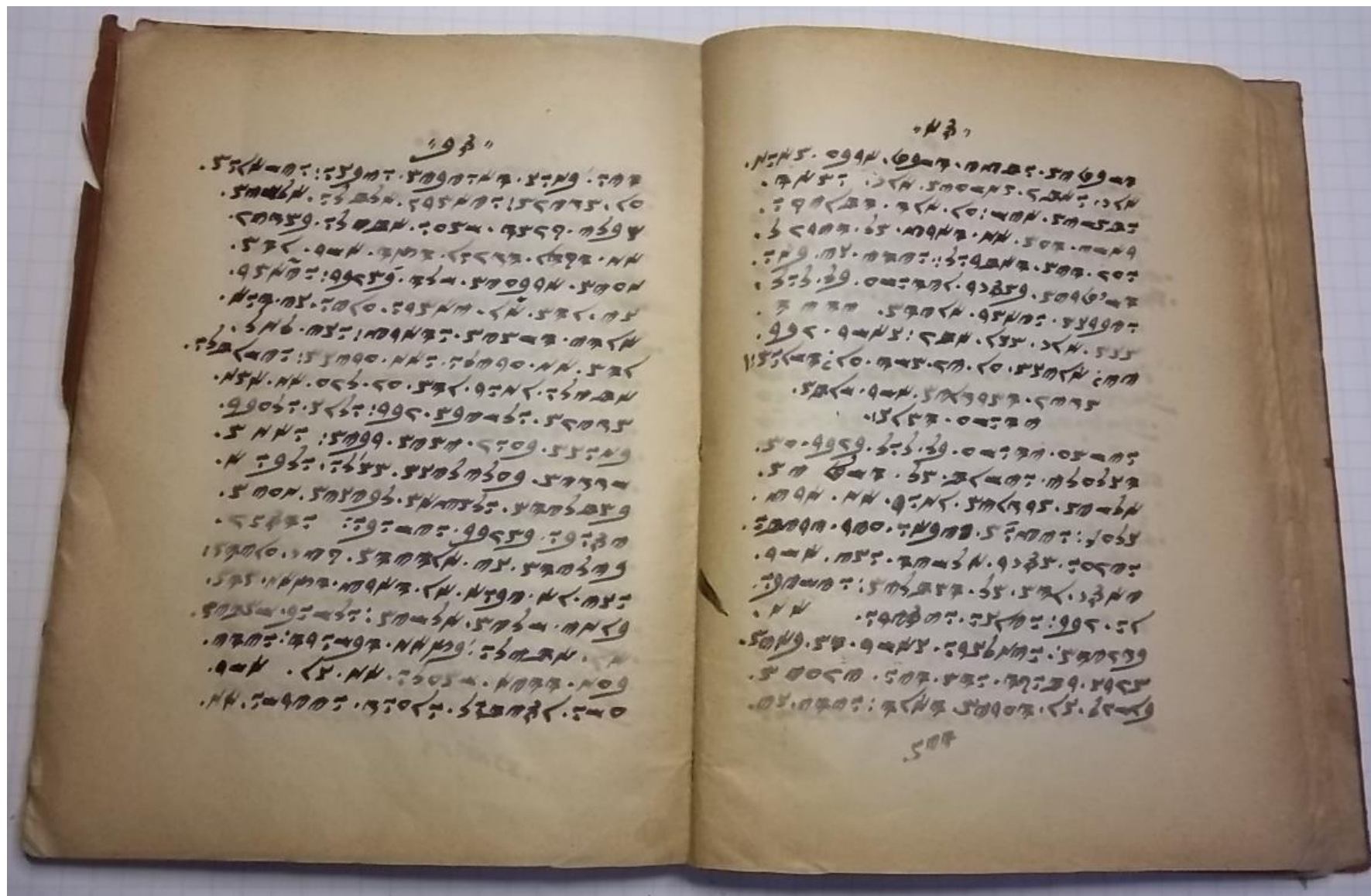


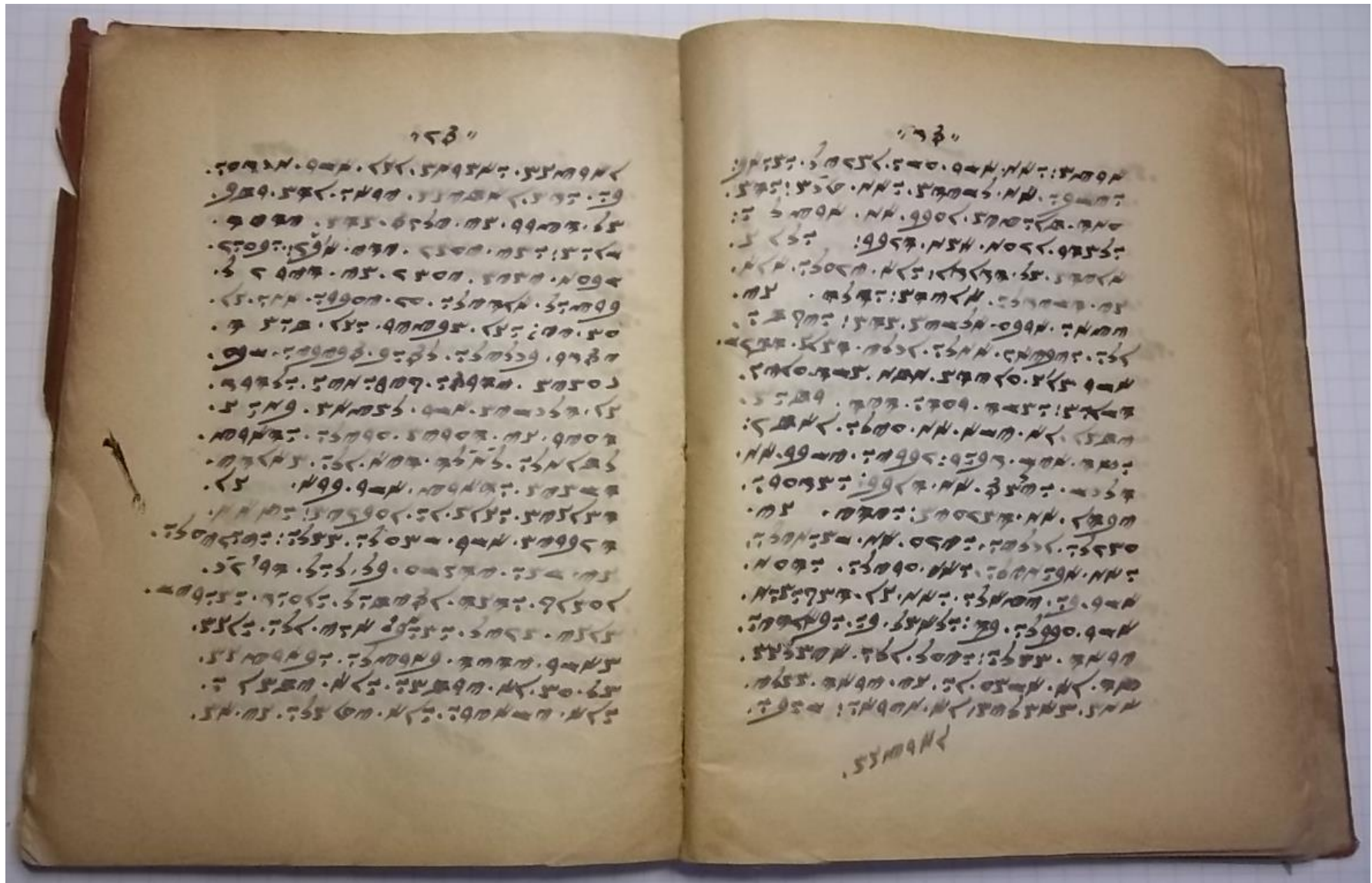




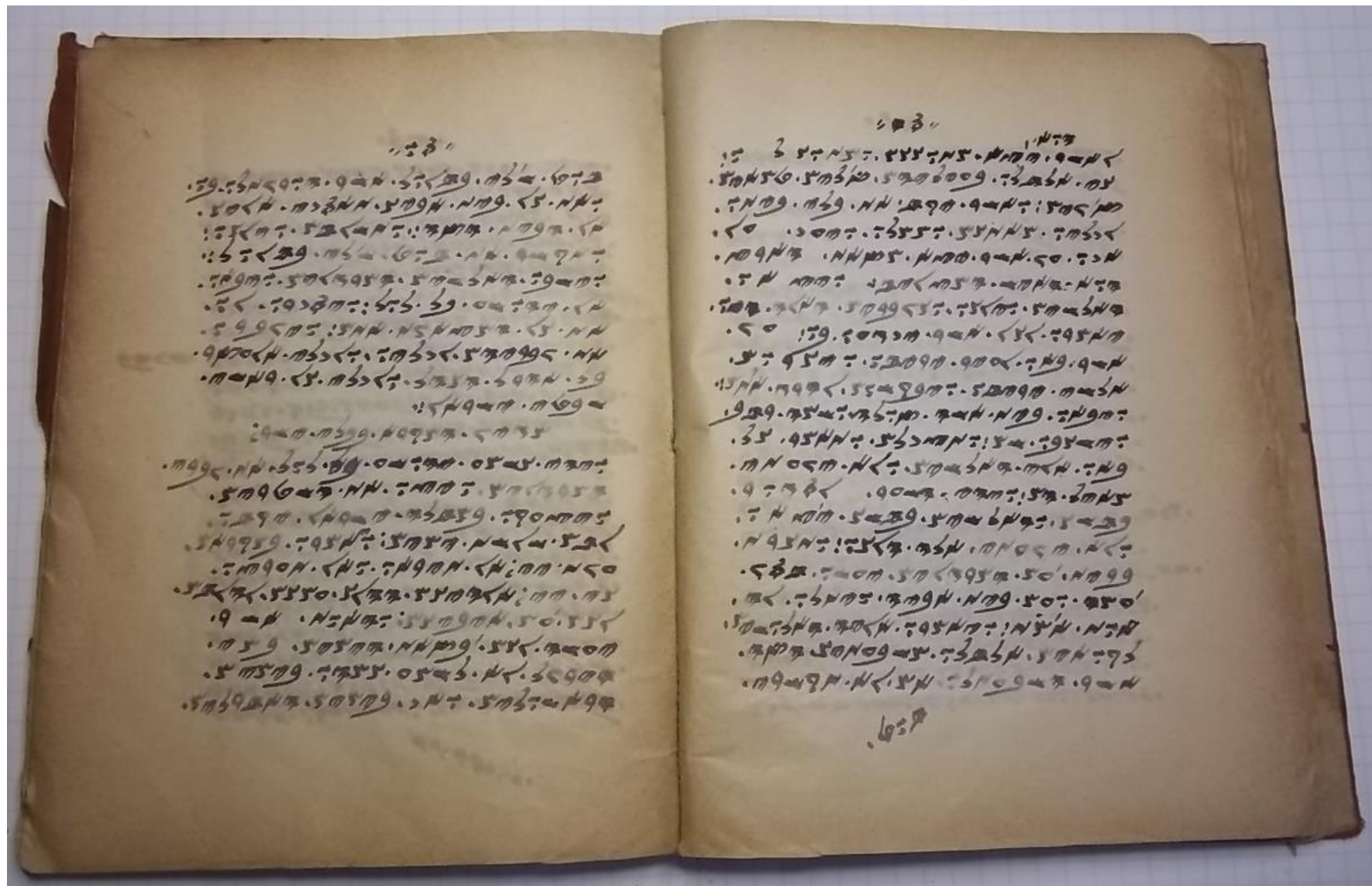


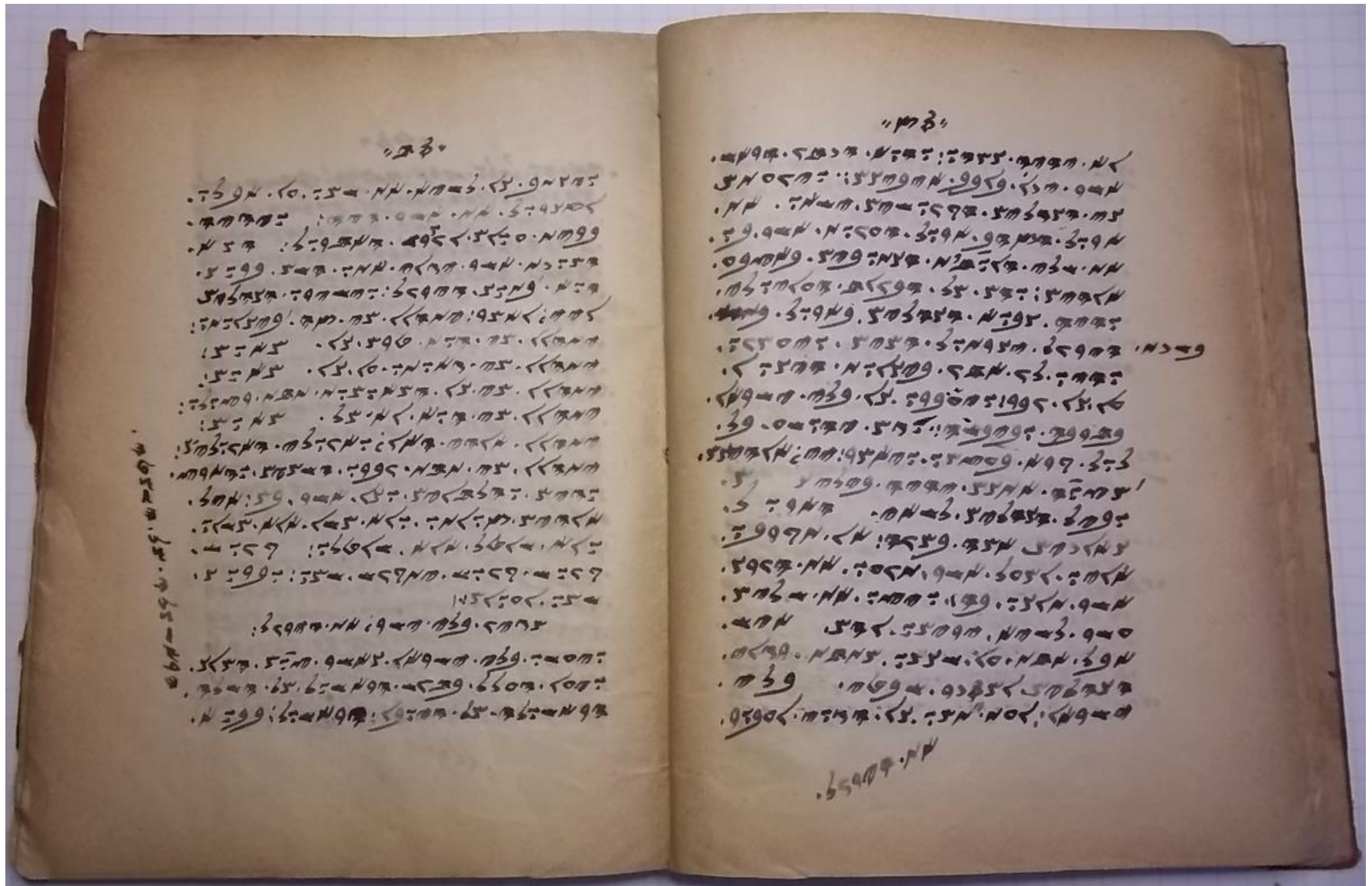




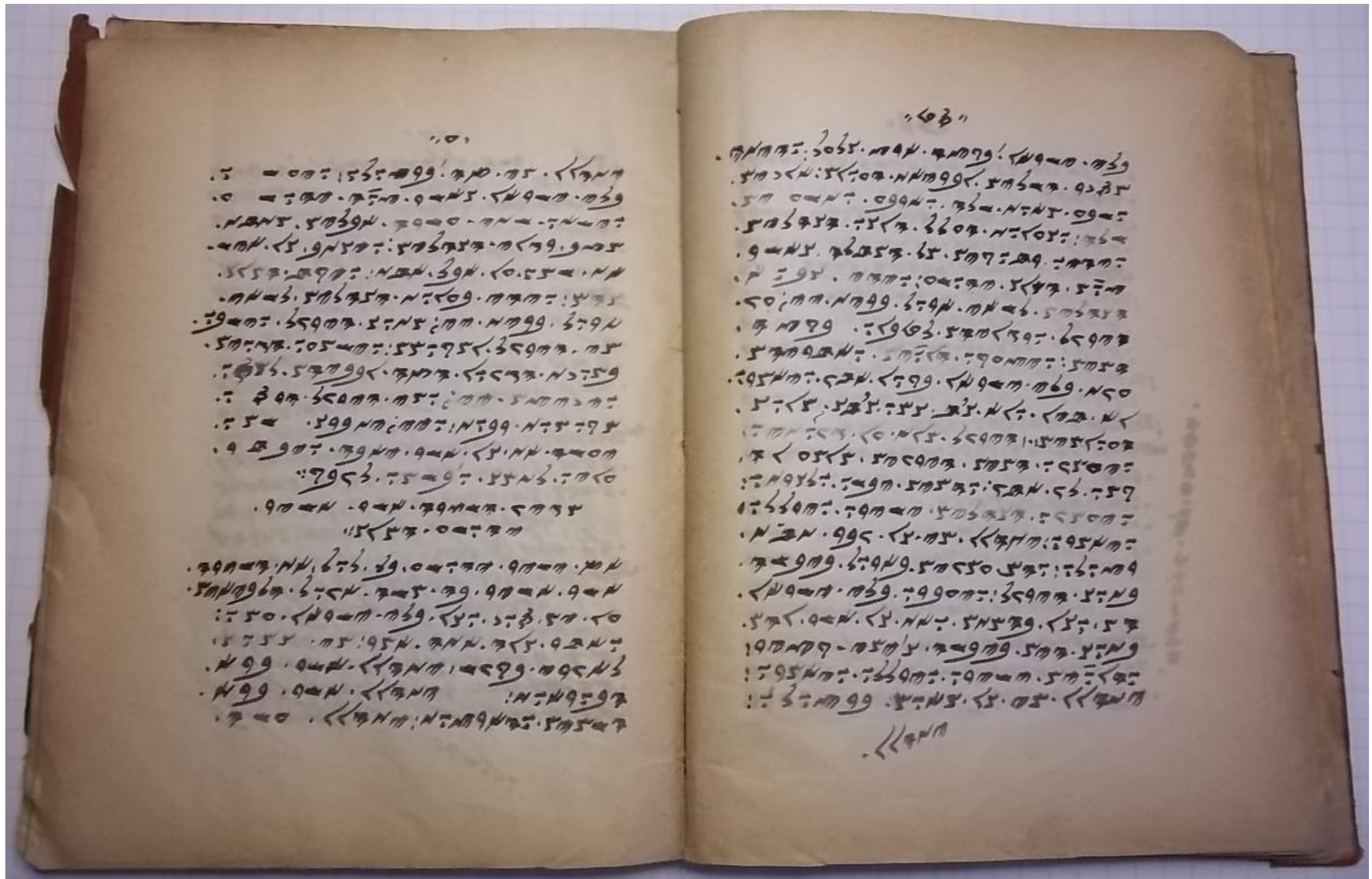


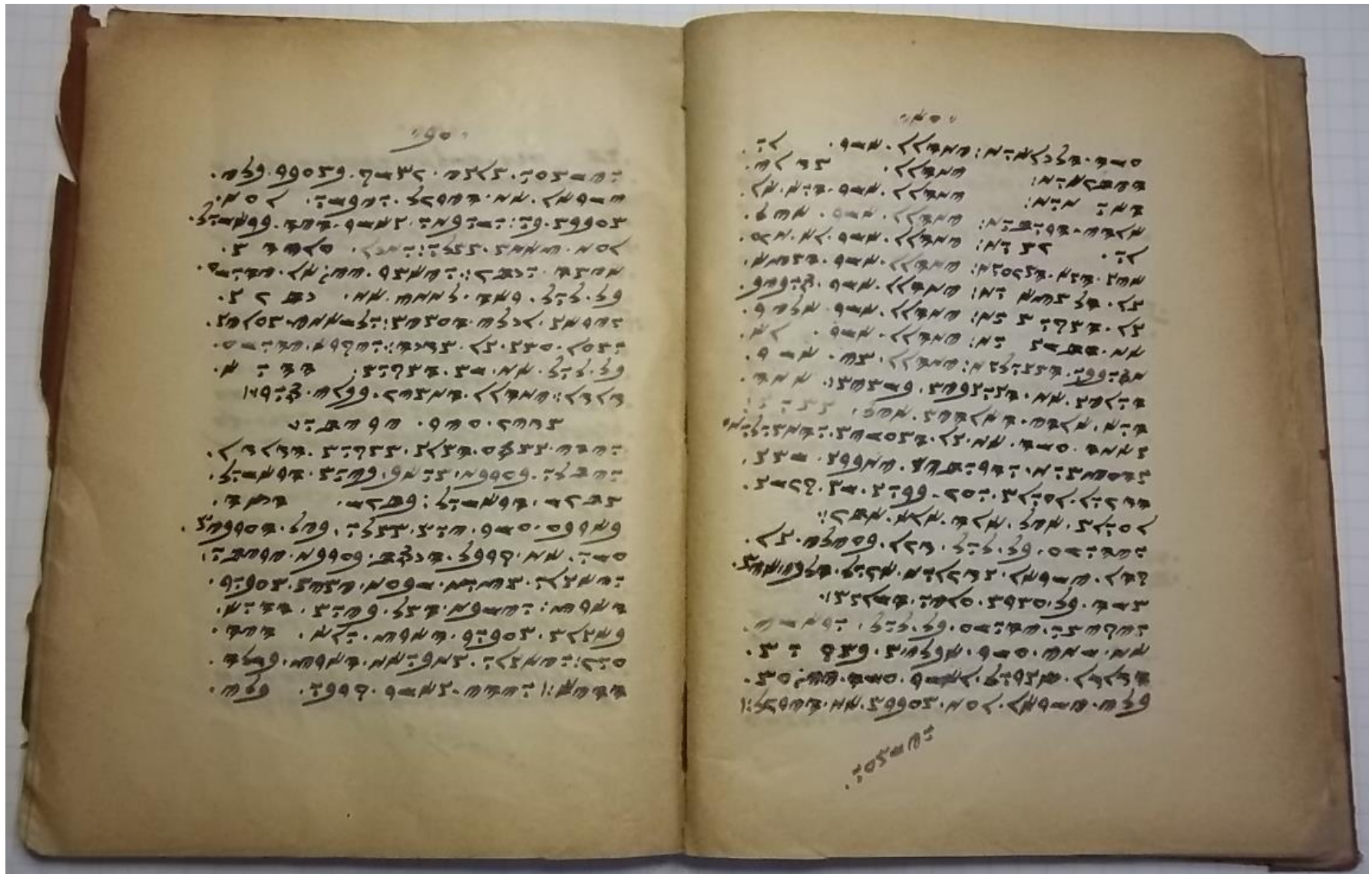




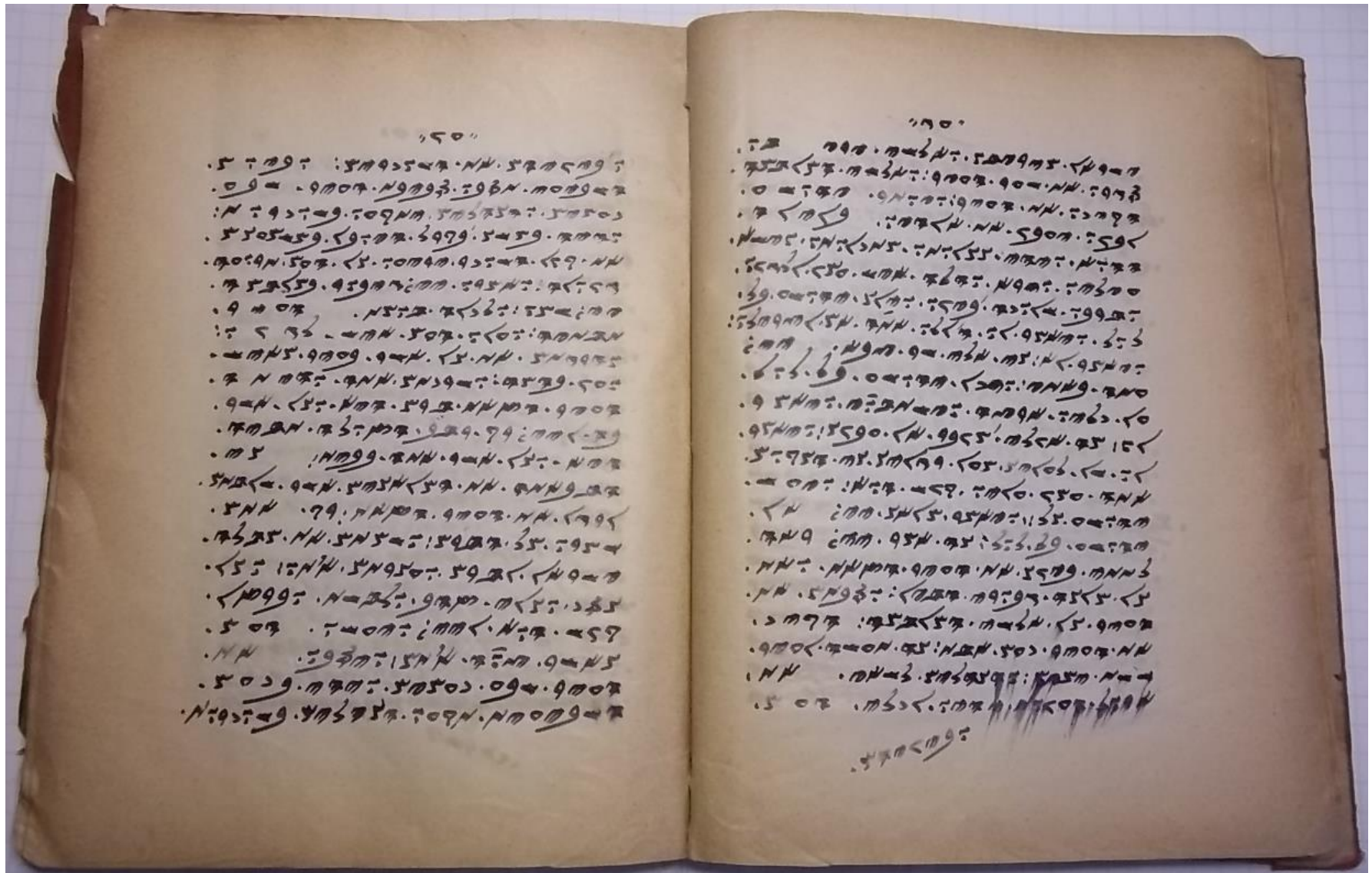


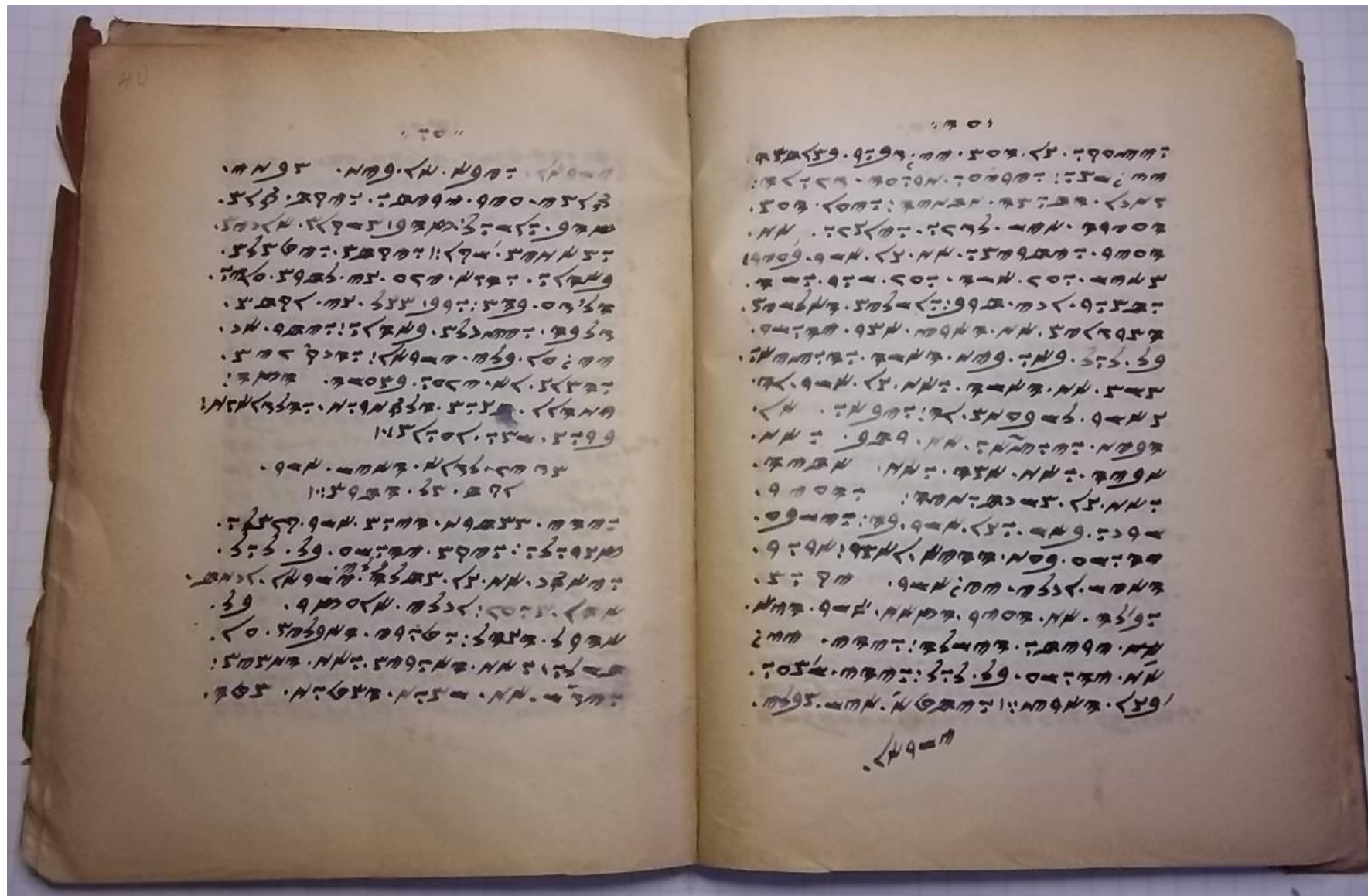




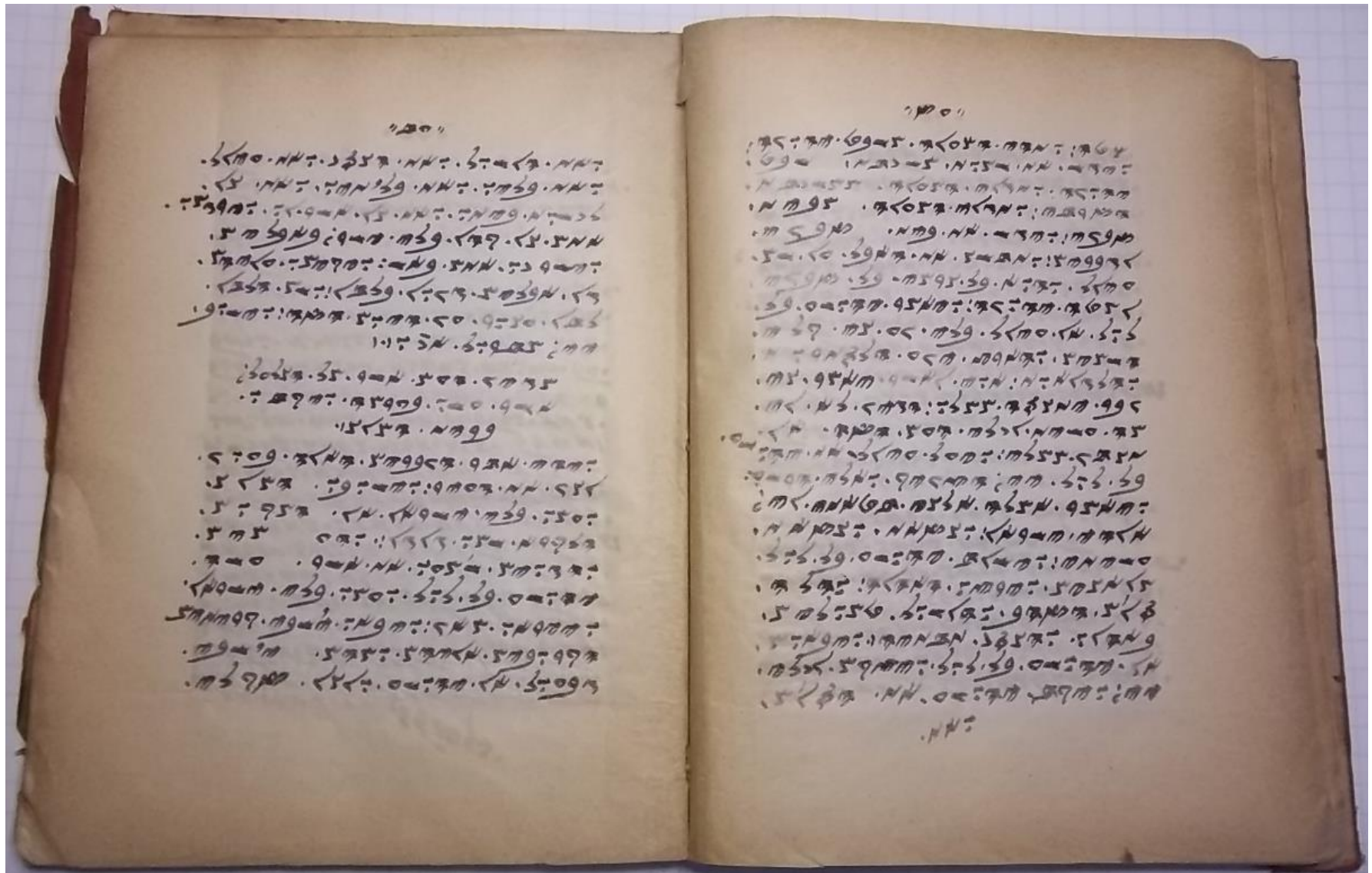


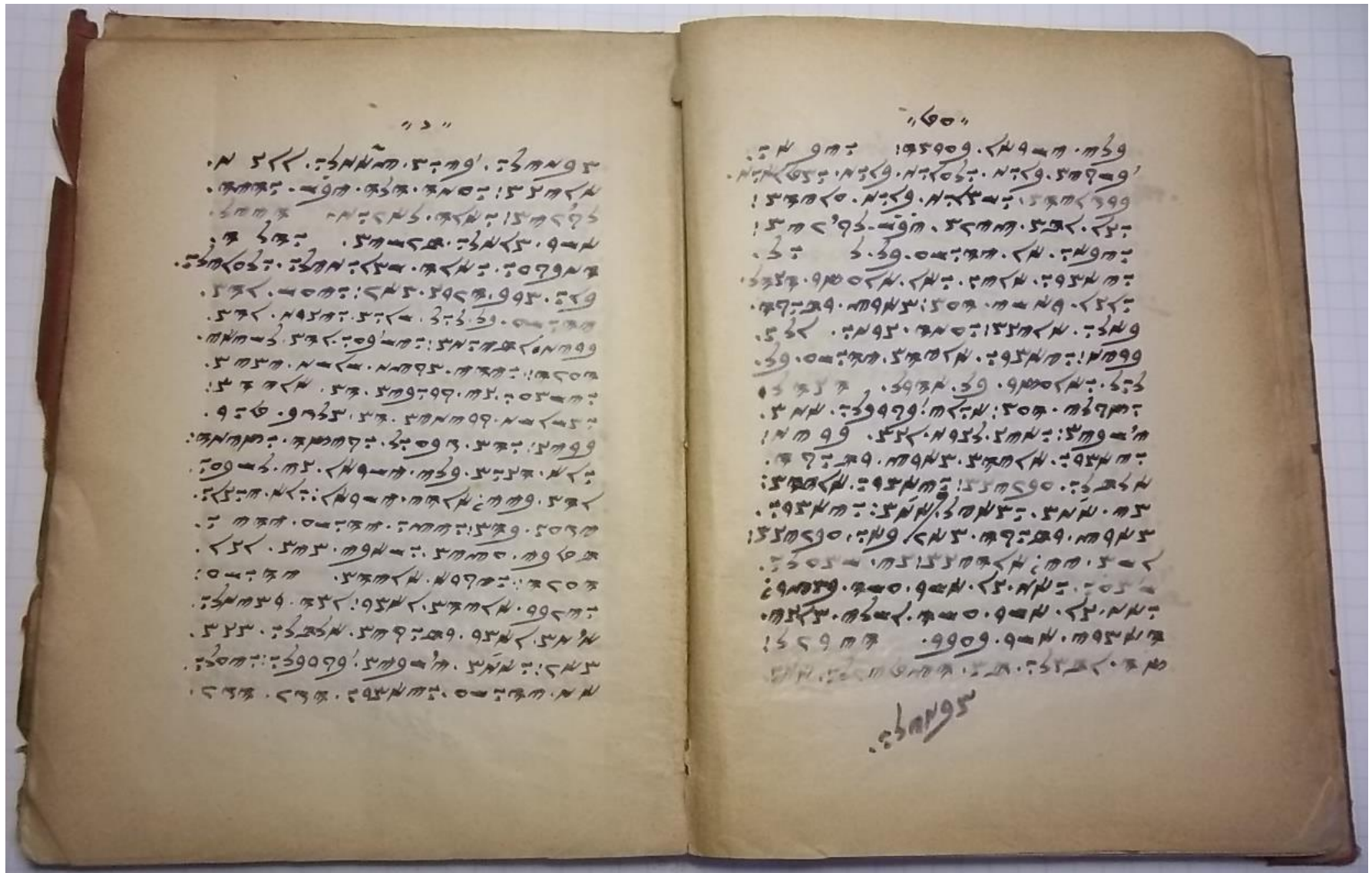




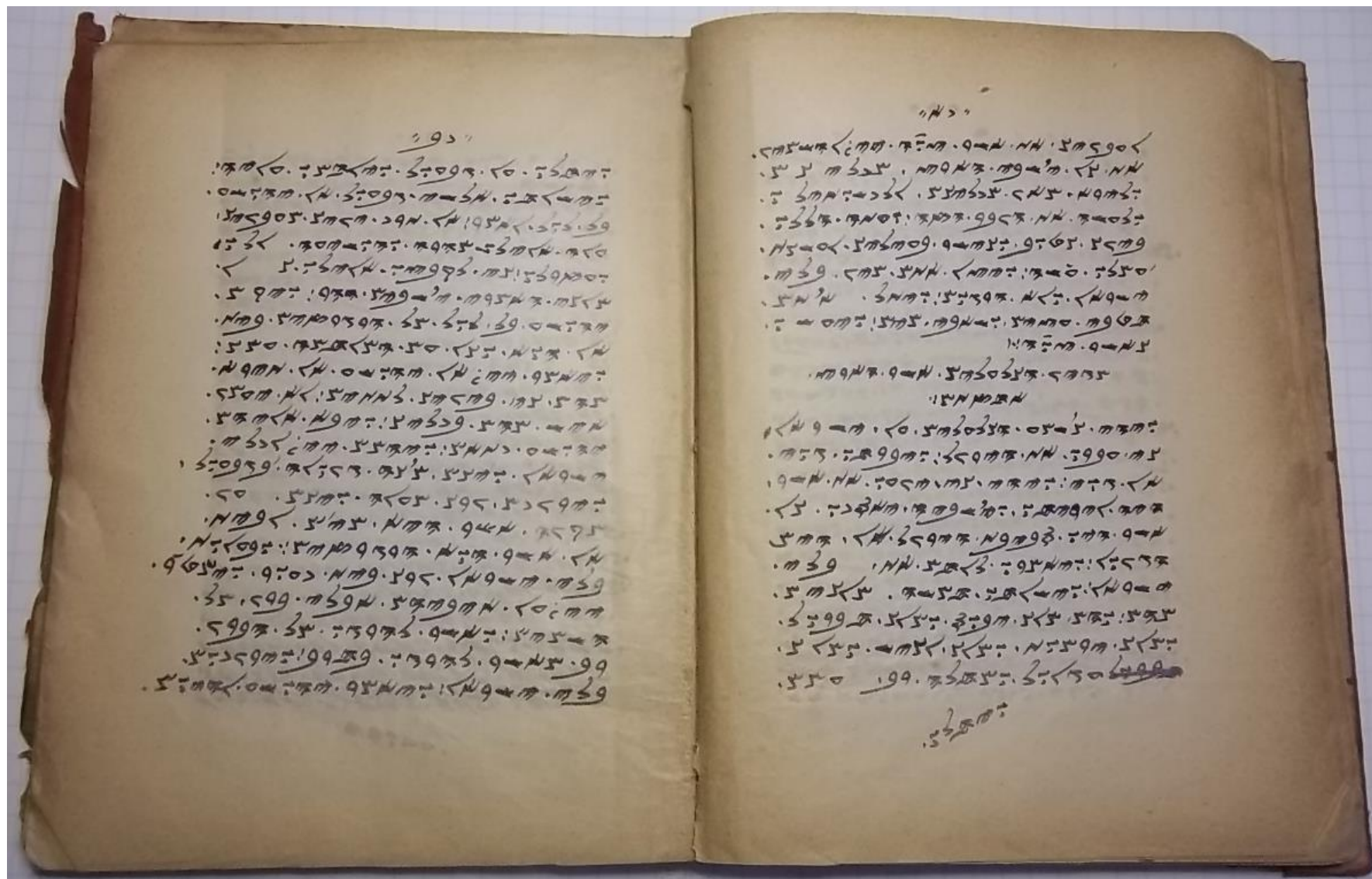


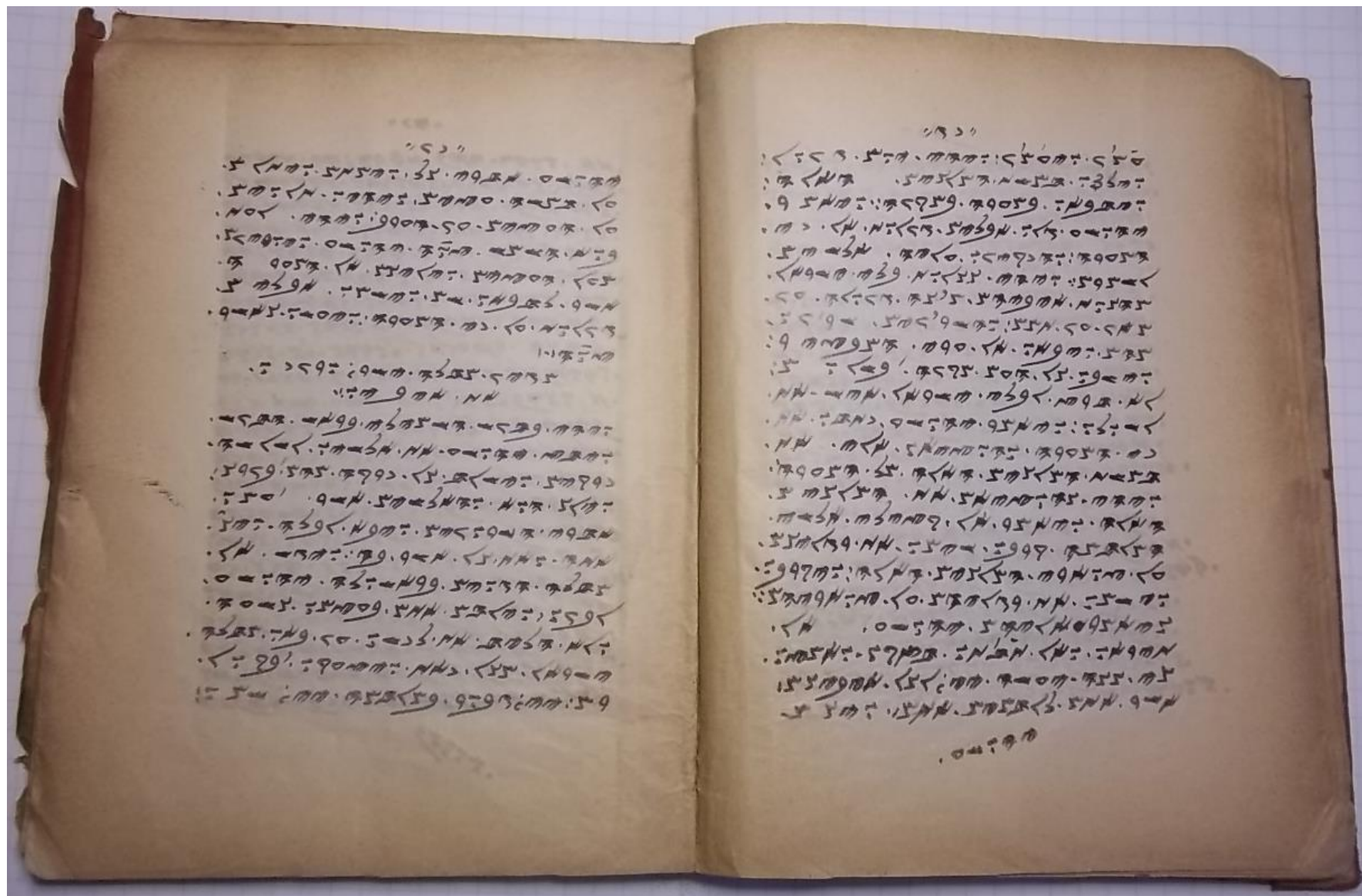




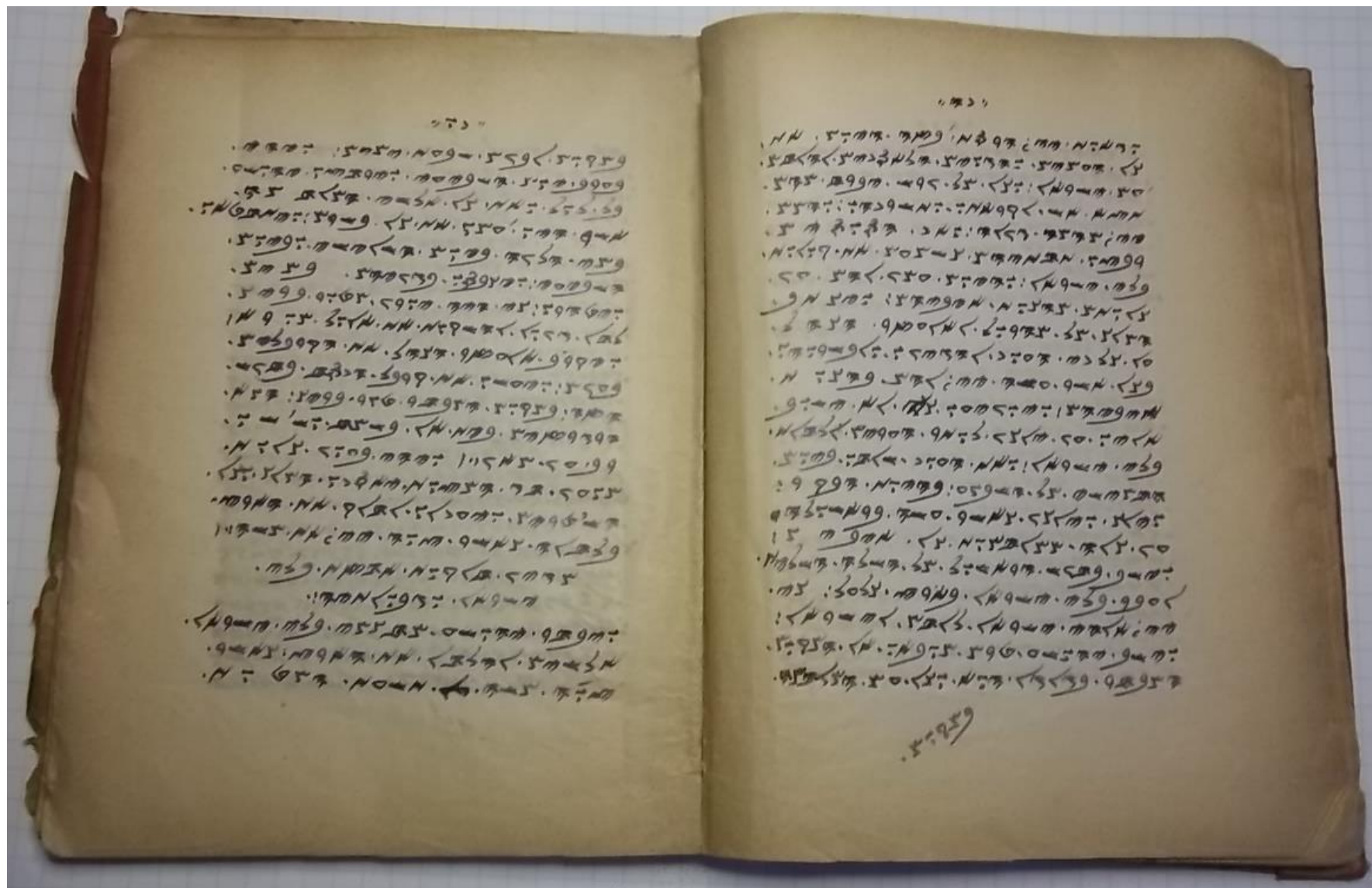


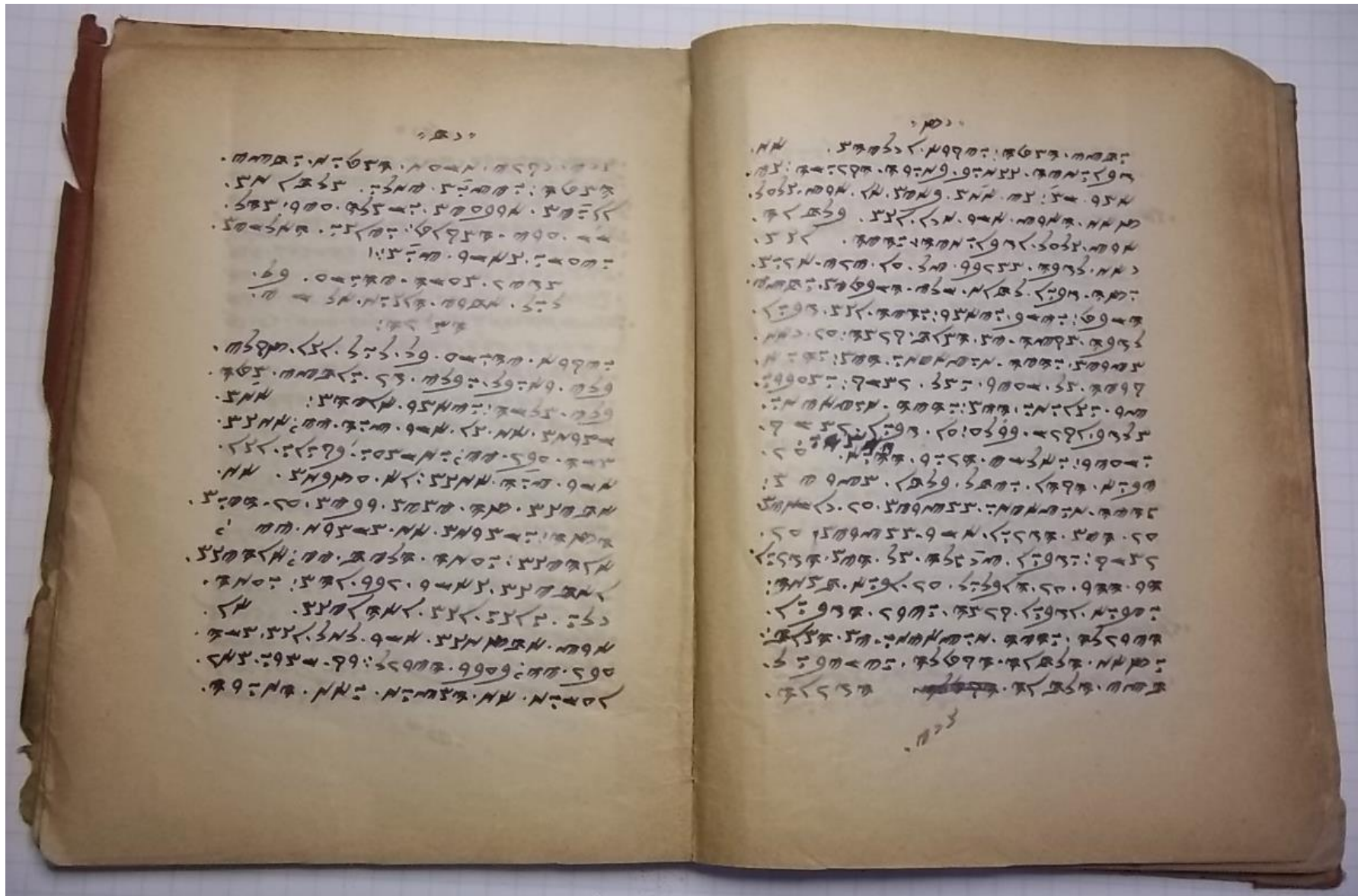




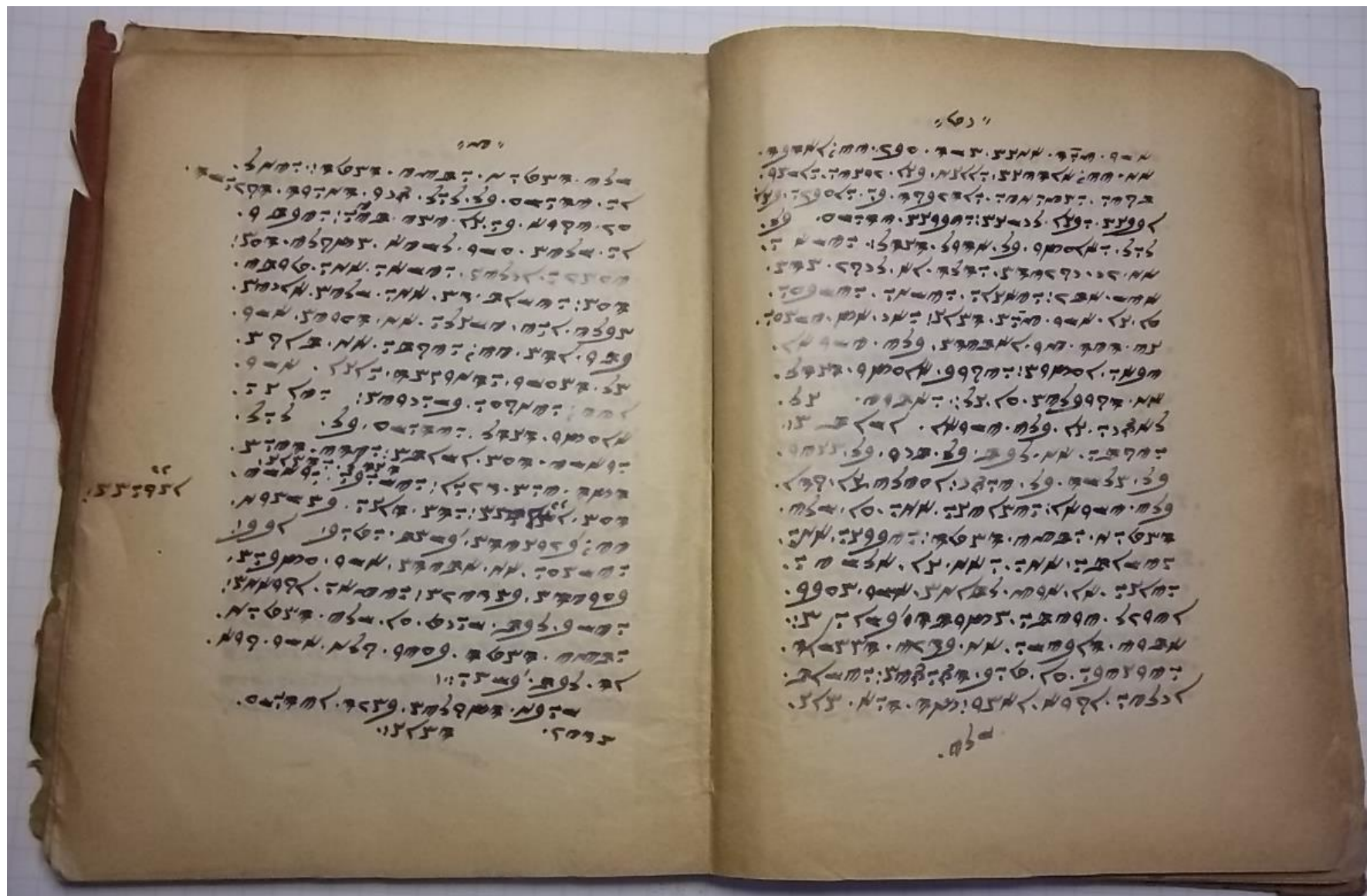


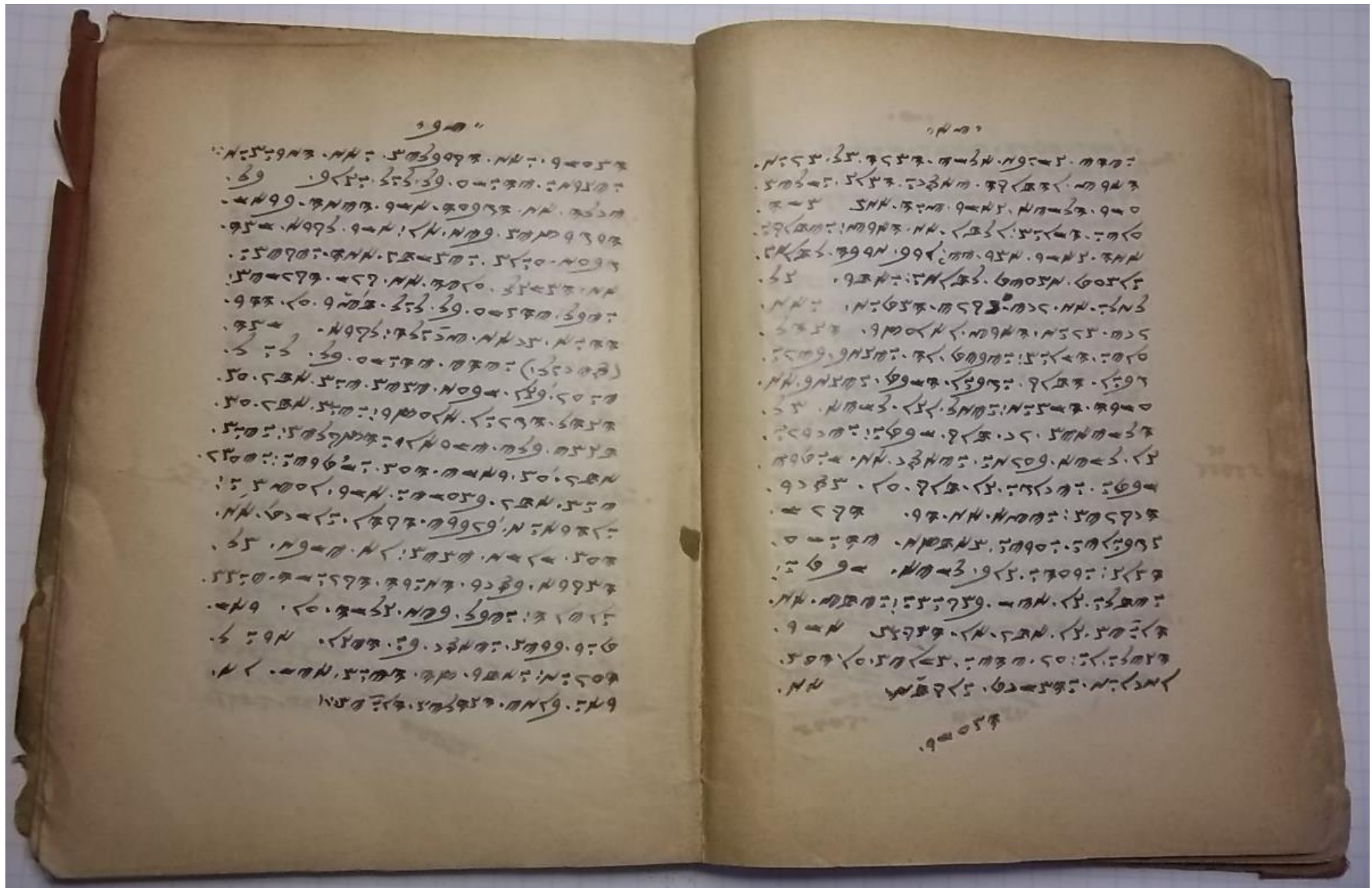




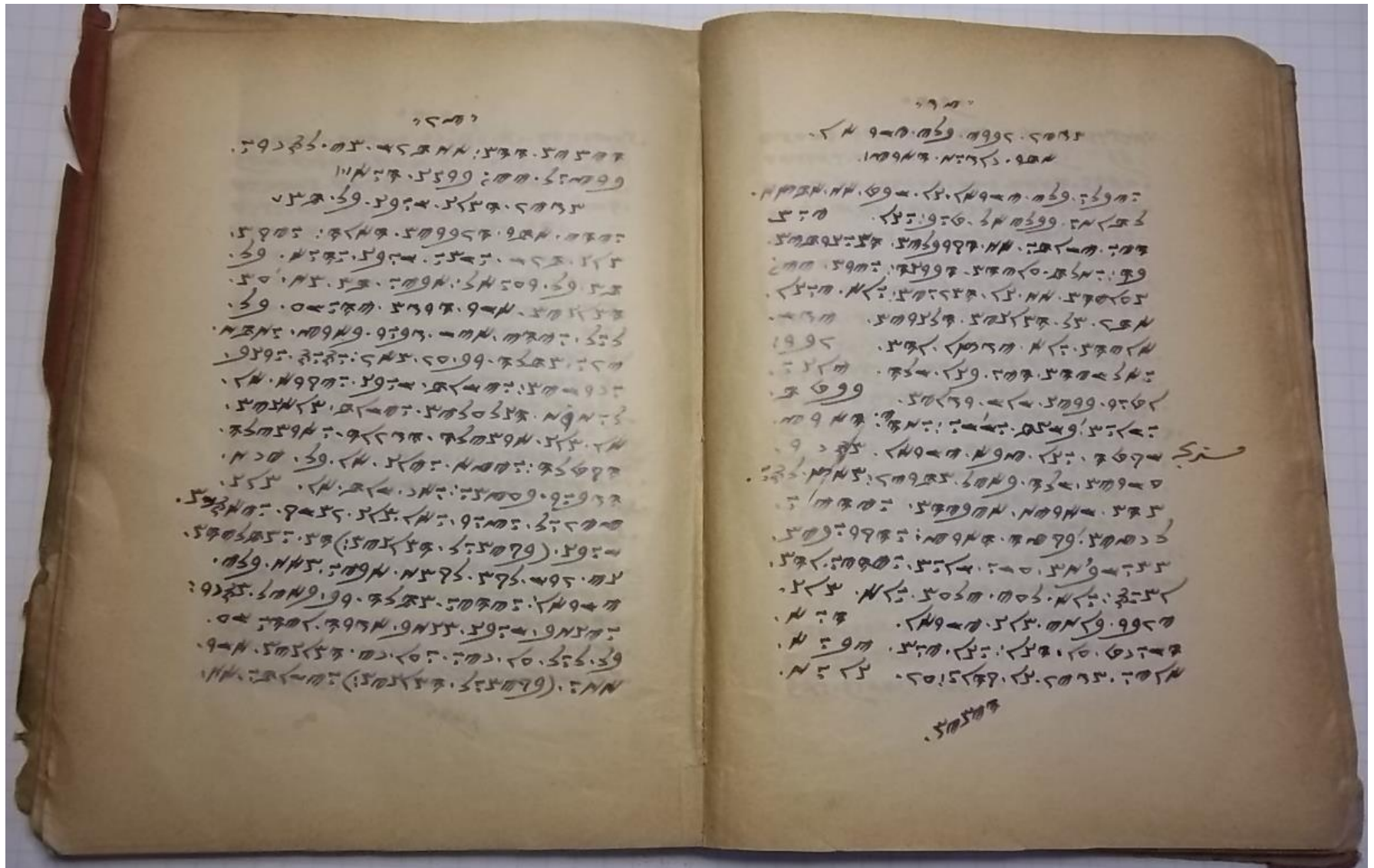


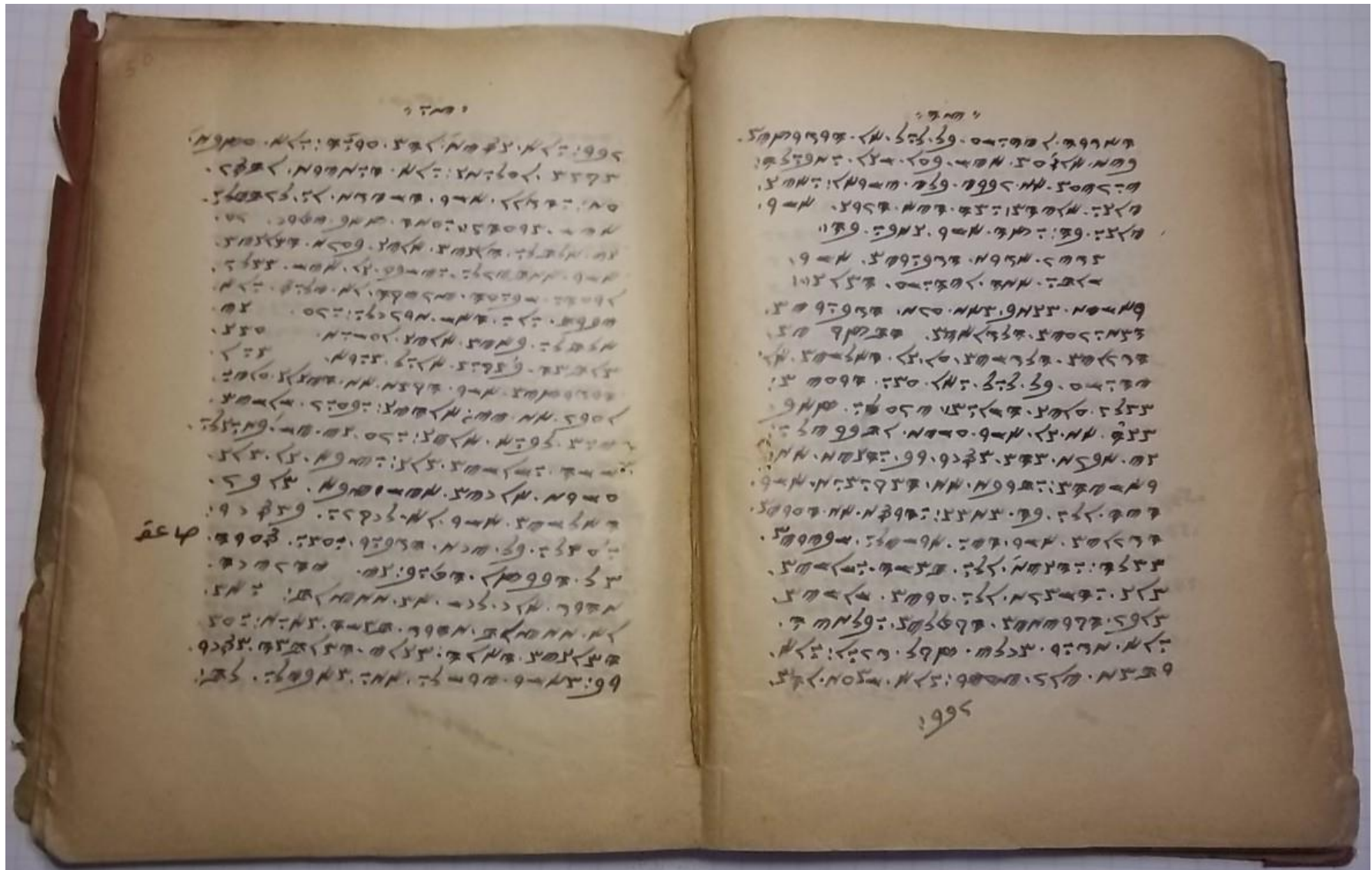




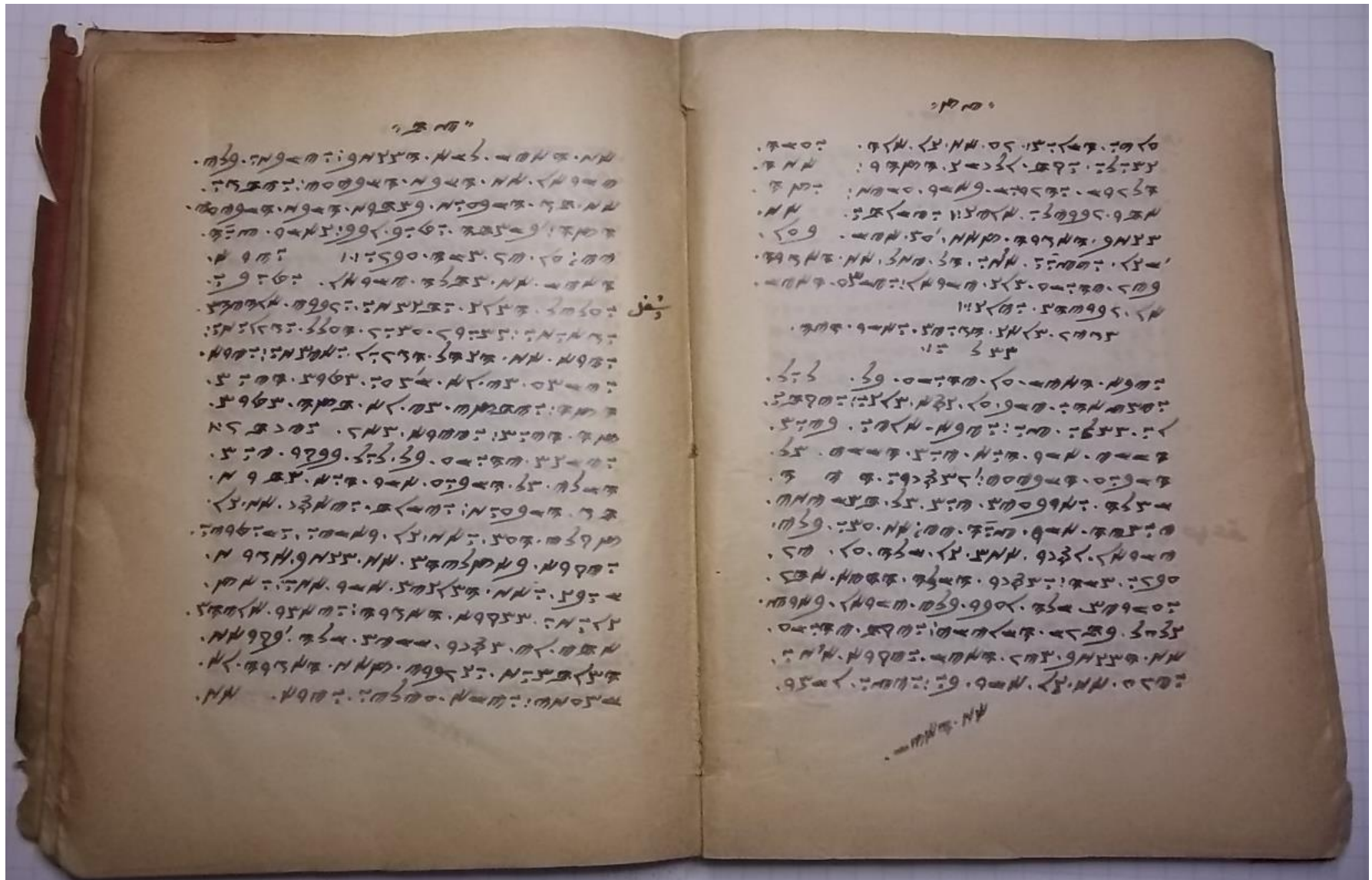












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