

## The Book of Qohelet: a Digital Eclectic Edition of the Hebrew Text

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The history of the textual criticism of the Hebrew Bible is basically a history of the diplomatic model in which, regarding the versional evidence, very little importance is given to the so called daughter translations, like the Armenian. Not very different is the case of the Greek Old Testament: the great discoveries of the Judean Desert have confined them to a lower status, and so reduced the need of a full collation and study. In both cases, only the Zohrapian's edition figures, for lack of anything better, as representative of the whole Armenian tradition. This paper is an attempt to discuss the results of my Master thesis, a forthcoming digital edition of the book of Qohelet, carried out through the TEI digital encoding (an XML based language) and two softwares developed at the University of Pisa, *Euporia* and *Edition Visualization Technology* (EVT2). The critical Hebrew text will be compared with different ancient versions such as the Greek, Latine, Syriac, Ethiopic, Coptic and Armenian (according to the printed editions of Oskan, Bagratuni and Zohrapian) that can be visualized either in a critical apparatus (concerning the variant readings) or in a synoptic way (in full transcription). The project of a multiple-version edition is indeed a *desideratum* for both scholars who support the diplomatic method and those who support the eclectic method: as stated by E. Tov, a combined diplomatic and eclectic edition will educate the users towards an equal approach to the textual witnesses, combining the best of both systems. In the case of the Armenian translation, particular attention will be paid not only to its role in establishing the text of the Old Greek and so, indirectly, of the Hebrew original, but also to the possible influence of Syriac sources and, ultimately, to the textual and linguistic differences between the aforementioned printed editions, with particular regard to that of Bagratuni and Zohrapian.