

¹On that day did the king Ahasuerus give the house of Haman the Jews' enemy unto Esther the queen. And Mordecai came before the king; for Esther had told what he was unto her.²And the king took off his ring, which he had taken from Haman, and gave it unto Mordecai. And Esther set Mordecai over the house of Haman.³And Esther spake yet again before the king, and fell down at his feet, and besought him with tears to put away the mischief of Haman the Agagite, and his device that he had devised against the Jews.⁴Then the king held out the golden sceptre toward Esther. So Esther arose, and stood before the king,⁵And said, If it please the king, and if I have found favour in his sight, and the thing seem right before the king, and I be pleasing in his eyes, let it be written to reverse the letters devised by Haman the son of Hammedatha the Agagite, which he wrote to destroy the Jews which are in all the king's provinces:⁶For how can I endure to see the evil that shall come unto my people? or how can I endure to see the destruction of my kindred?⁷Then the king Ahasuerus said unto Esther the queen and to Mordecai the Jew, Behold, I have given Esther the house of Haman, and him they have hanged upon the gallows, because he laid his hand upon the Jews.⁸Write ye also for the Jews, as it liketh you, in the king's name, and seal it with the king's ring: for the writing which is written in the king's name, and sealed with the king's ring, may no man reverse.⁹Then were the king's scribes called at that time in the third month, that is , the month Sivan, on the three and twentieth day thereof; and it

¹فِي ذَلِكَ الْيَوْمِ أَعْطَى الْمَلِكُ أَحَسْوِيرُوشَ لَأَسْتِيرَ الْمَلِكَةِ بَيْتَ هَامَانَ عَدُوِّ الْيَهُودِ. وَأَتَى مُرْدَحَائِي إِلَى أَمَامِ الْمَلِكِ لِأَنَّ أَسْتِيرَ أَحْبَرَتْهُ بِقَرَاتِهِ.²وَتَرَغَ الْمَلِكُ خَاتِمَهُ الَّذِي أَحَذَهُ مِنْ هَامَانَ وَأَعْطَاهُ لِمُرْدَحَائِي. وَأَقَامَتْ أَسْتِيرُ مُرْدَحَائِي عَلَى بَيْتِ هَامَانَ.³ثُمَّ عَادَتْ أَسْتِيرُ وَتَكَلَّمَتْ أَمَامَ الْمَلِكِ وَسَقَطَتْ عِنْدَ رِجْلَيْهِ وَبَكَتْ وَتَضَرَّعَتْ إِلَيْهِ أَنْ يُرِيلَ سَرَّ هَامَانَ الْأَجَايِبِيِّ وَتُذِيرَهُ الَّذِي دَبَّرَهُ عَلَى الْيَهُودِ.⁴فَقَمَدَ الْمَلِكُ لَأَسْتِيرَ قَضِيبَ الذَّهَبِ، فَقَامَتْ أَسْتِيرُ وَوَقَفَتْ أَمَامَ الْمَلِكِ وَقَالَتْ، إِذَا حَسُنَ عِنْدَ الْمَلِكِ، وَإِنْ كُنْتُ قَدْ وَجَدْتُ نِعْمَةً أَمَامَهُ وَاسْتَقَامَ الْأَمْرُ أَمَامَ الْمَلِكِ وَحَسُنْتُ أَنَا لَدَيْهِ، فَلْيَكْتَبْ لِتَرْدِّ كِتَابَاتِ تَذِيرِ هَامَانَ بْنِ هَمْدَاثَا الْأَجَايِبِيِّ الَّتِي كَتَبَهَا لِإِبَادَةِ الْيَهُودِ الَّذِينَ فِي كُلِّ بِلَادِ الْمَلِكِ.⁵لَأَتْنِي كَيْفَ أَسْتَطِيعُ أَنْ أَرَى هَلَاكَ جَنْسِي..⁶فَقَالَ الْمَلِكُ أَحَسْوِيرُوشَ لَأَسْتِيرَ الْمَلِكَةِ وَمُرْدَحَائِي الْيَهُودِيِّ، هُوَذَا قَدْ أَعْطَيْتُ بَيْتَ هَامَانَ لَأَسْتِيرَ، أَمَّا هُوَ فَقَدْ صَلَّوهُ عَلَى الْحَسَنَةِ مِنْ أَجْلِ أَنَّهُ مَدَّ يَدَهُ إِلَى الْيَهُودِ.⁷فَاكْتُبْنَا أَنْتُمَا إِلَى الْيَهُودِ مَا يَحْسُنُ فِي أَعْيُنِكُمَا بِاسْمِ الْمَلِكِ، وَاخْتُمَاهُ بِخَاتِمِ الْمَلِكِ، لِأَنَّ الْكِتَابَةَ الَّتِي تُكْتَبُ بِاسْمِ الْمَلِكِ وَتُخْتَمُ بِخَاتِمِهِ لَا تُرَدُّ.⁸فَدَعَيْ كِتَابَ الْمَلِكِ فِي ذَلِكَ الْوَقْتِ فِي الشَّهْرِ الثَّالِثِ أَيِّ شَهْرِ سِيوَانَ فِي الثَّالِثِ وَالْعِشْرِينَ مِنْهُ، وَكُتِبَ حَسَبَ كُلِّ مَا أَمَرَ بِهِ مُرْدَحَائِي إِلَى الْيَهُودِ وَإِلَى الْمَرَاتِيَةِ وَالْوَلَاةِ وَرُؤَسَاءِ الْبُلْدَانِ الَّتِي مِنَ الْهِنْدِ إِلَى كُوشَ، مِئَةً وَسِتِّعَ وَعِشْرِينَ كُورَةً، إِلَى كُلِّ كُورَةٍ يَكْتَابُهَا وَكُلِّ شَعْبٍ يَلْسَانِهِ، وَإِلَى الْيَهُودِ يَكْتَابُهُمْ وَلِلسَانِهِمْ.⁹فَكُتِبَ بِاسْمِ الْمَلِكِ أَحَسْوِيرُوشَ وَخَتَمَ بِخَاتِمِ الْمَلِكِ، وَأُرْسِلَ رَسَائِلُ يَأْتِيهِ تَرِيدُ الْخَيْلِ رُكَّابِ الْجِيَادِ وَالْبَعَالِ بَنِي الْجِيَادِ الْأَصِيلَةِ¹⁰الَّتِي بِهَا أَعْطَى الْمَلِكُ الْيَهُودَ فِي مَدِينَةِ قَمْدِيَةِ أَنْ يَجْتَمِعُوا وَيَقْفُوا لِأَجْلِ أَنْفُسِهِمْ، وَيُهْلِكُوا وَيَقْتُلُوا وَيُبِيدُوا قُوَّةَ كُلِّ شَعْبٍ وَكُورَةٍ تُصَادُّهُمْ حَتَّى الْأَطْفَالَ وَالنِّسَاءَ، وَأَنْ يَسْلُبُوا عَنِيَمَتَهُمْ¹¹فِي يَوْمٍ وَاحِدٍ فِي كُلِّ كُورِ الْمَلِكِ أَحَسْوِيرُوشَ، فِي الثَّالِثِ عَشَرَ مِنَ الشَّهْرِ الثَّانِي عَشَرَ أَيِّ شَهْرِ آدَارَ.¹²صُورَةُ الْكِتَابَةِ الْمُعْطَاةِ سُنَّةً فِي كُلِّ الْبُلْدَانِ أَشْهَرَتْ عَلَى جَمِيعِ الشُّعُوبِ أَنْ يَكُونَ الْيَهُودُ مُسْتَعِدِّينَ لِهَذَا الْيَوْمِ لِيَتَّقِمُوا مِنْ أَعْدَائِهِمْ.¹³فَجَرَحَ الشُّعَاةُ رُكَّابَ الْجِيَادِ وَالْبَعَالِ وَأَمَرَ الْمَلِكُ يَحْتُمُهُمْ وَبَعَثَهُمْ، وَأَعْطَى الْأَمْرَ فِي شُوشَنَ الْقَصْرِ.¹⁴وَجَرَحَ

was written according to all that Mordecai commanded unto the Jews, and to the lieutenants, and the deputies and rulers of the provinces which are from India unto Ethiopia, an hundred twenty and seven provinces, unto every province according to the writing thereof, and unto every people after their language, and to the Jews according to their writing, and according to their language.¹⁰ And he wrote in the king Ahasuerus' name, and sealed it with the king's ring, and sent letters by posts on horseback, and riders on mules, camels, and young dromedaries:¹¹ Wherein the king granted the Jews which were in every city to gather themselves together, and to stand for their life, to destroy, to slay, and to cause to perish, all the power of the people and province that would assault them, both little ones and women, and to take the spoil of them for a prey,¹² Upon one day in all the provinces of king Ahasuerus, namely , upon the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, which is the month Adar.¹³ The copy of the writing for a commandment to be given in every province was published unto all people, and that the Jews should be ready against that day to avenge themselves on their enemies.¹⁴ So the posts that rode upon mules and camels went out, being hastened and pressed on by the king's commandment. And the decree was given at Shushan the palace.¹⁵ And Mordecai went out from the presence of the king in royal apparel of blue and white, and with a great crown of gold, and with a garment of fine linen and purple: and the city of Shushan rejoiced and was glad.¹⁶ The Jews

مُرَدَّحَايَ مِنْ أَمَامِ الْمَلِكِ يَلْبَاسِ مَلِكِيَّ أَسْهَانُجُونِيَّ
وَأَبْيَصَ وَتَاجَ عَظِيمٍ مِنْ دَهَبٍ وَخَلَّةٍ مِنْ بَرٍّ وَأَرْجَوَانٍ.
وَكَانَتْ مَدِينَةُ شُوشَنَ مُتَهَلَّلَةً وَقَرِخَةً.¹⁶ وَكَانَ لِلْيَهُودِ نُورٌ
وَقَرِخٌ وَبَهْجَةٌ وَكِرَامَةٌ.¹⁷ وَفِي كُلِّ بِلَادٍ وَمَدِينَةٍ كُلِّ مَكَانٍ
وَصَلَ إِلَيْهِ كَلَامُ الْمَلِكِ وَأَمْرُهُ كَانَ قَرِخٌ وَبَهْجَةٌ عِنْدَ
الْيَهُودِ وَوَلَائِمٌ وَبَوْمٌ طَيِّبٌ. وَكَثِيرُونَ مِنَ شُعُوبِ الْأَرْضِ
تَهَوَّدُوا لِأَنَّ رُغْبَ الْيَهُودِ وَقَعَ عَلَيْهِمْ.

had light, and gladness, and joy, and honour.¹⁷ And in every province, and in every city, whithersoever the king's commandment and his decree came, the Jews had joy and gladness, a feast and a good day. And many of the people of the land became Jews; for the fear of the Jews fell upon them.