## CONTENTS

Foreword	15
A. Introduction	
Preface	19
Rabbenu Tam and the Resolution Treatise	19
Characteristics of the Resolution Treatise	22
The Annotated Scientific Edition	23
The Introduction	24
The Pa'al: Rabbenu Tam's Innovation Regarding the Theory of Roots	28
The Introductory Poem to the Resolution Treatise	29
Usage and Familiarity with the Scientific Edition and Introduction	30
Chapter One: Academic Research and the Making of the	
Resolution Treatise	31
Identifying the Author of the Resolution Treatise	31
Survey of Academic Research Regarding the Menahem-Dunash	
Polemic and the Resolution Treatise	34
Manuscripts	35
Primary Sources in Print Related to the Menahem-Dunash	
Polemic and Rabbenu Tam's Resolutions	38
Advantage of the Scientific Edition of the Resolution Treatise Over	
the Filipowski Edition	40
Number of Topics Discussed by Dunash and Rabbenu Tam and	
their Order in the Manuscripts and Printed Editions	42
The Connection Between the Structure of the Works of	
Rabbenu Tam and Dunash	47
Chapter Two: Exegetical Rules	49
Semantics	49
Syntax	55
Parallelism	62
Identical Stories	65

Topical Context	67
The Plain Meaning of Scripture	69
Chapter Three: Methods of Exegesis of Individual Words	71
Root-based Interpretation	71
Context-based Interpretation	74
Interpretation by Means of Transposing Letters	79
Interpretation by Means of Exchanging Consonants	82
Linguistic-based Interpretation	83
Interpretation by Means of Compounding Words	88
Interpretations based on Roots with Opposite Meanings	89
Interpretation based on Literary Structure	90
Interpretation based on Similar Situations	91
Chapter Four: Unique Exegetical Characteristics	94
Exposure of Personalities and Historical Events	94
Unusual Original Exegesis	98
Logic-based Exegesis	104
Multiple Meanings of a Biblical Word	109
Setting the Straightforward Meaning Aside	111
Reality-based Exegesis	113
Etymology	116
Chapter Five: Other Languages: Mishnaic Hebrew, Various	
Forms of Aramaic, Arabic	120
Mishnaic Hebrew	120
The Aramaic of Biblical Translations: Onkelos, Yonatan,	
The Translation Attributed to Yonatan, Translation of the Ketuvim	126
Biblical Aramaic	130
The Arabic Language	132
Chapter Six: Rabbenu Tam's Sources	136
Hazal	136
Aramaic Translations	141
The Masters of Niqqud and Ta'amim	144
The Masoretes	147
Works of Other Authors	151

Chapter Seven: The Purpose of the Resolution Treatise,	
Characteristics of the Discussion and the Culture of the Debate	160
The Purpose of the Resolution Treatise	160
The Characteristics of the Discussion	169
A Resolution Favoring Dunash's Approach with a Reservation	170
Proposal for a Compromise Between the Approaches of Menahem	
and Dunash	173
Evasion of a Non-Exegetical Discussion where Menahem is in	
an Inferior Position	175
Justification of Dunash by means of an Exceptionally Short Statement	177
Proven Refutation of Dunash's Interpretations	178
Deviation from the Orientation: Critiquing Menahem	179
The Culture of the Debate	185
Rabbenu Tam's Attitude Toward Menahem	186
Rabbenu Tam's Attitude Toward Dunash	188
Rabbenu Tam's Attitude Toward His Image	193
Chapter Eight: Influence of the Resolution Treatise's Purpose	
on the Exegetical Discussion	198
Refutable Exegetical Claims	198
Non-inclusive Rules	206
Puzzling Interpretations	210
Flexible Exegesis Compatible with Goals	212
Chapter Nine: Matters of Jewish Thought	214
The Characteristics of God	214
Pure Faith in God	215
Man's Essence and Spirit	216
Free Will	217
Jewish Tradition	218
The Anti-Christian Polemic	219
Chapter Ten: Manners of Expression, Writing Method and	
Lexicography	222
Manners of Expression: Language and Style	222
Words, Phrases, Sentences	222

Exegetical Terminology	225
Unusual Usage of a Common Term	226
Style	228
Manners of Expression: Literary Adornments	230
Poem Introducing a Discussion	230
Rhyming Integrated into a Discussion	232
Rhyming Concluding a Discussion	232
Inlay of Biblical Language	232
Inlay of Mishnaic Language	234
Writing Method	235
Discussion Structure	235
Usage of Commentaries Appearing in Previous Discussions	236
Secondary Roundabout Discussion	237
Theoretical Examples	239
Lexicography	240
Conditions for Lexicographic Merging	241
Conditions for Lexicographic Separation	244
Chapter Eleven: The <i>Pa'al</i> : Rabbenu Tam's Innovation	
vithin the Theory of Roots	247
History of Research Concerning Rabbenu Tam's Root Method	
Rabbenu Tam Accepts Menahem's Method for Determining Roots	247
<i>Pa'al</i> of the Transitional Stage	
	248
Theory of <i>Pa'al</i> in Rabbenu Tam's Words	248 249
Theory of <i>Pa'al</i> in Rabbenu Tam's Words Various Comments Concerning the <i>Pa'al</i> in Rabbenu Tam's Words	248 249 252
Theory of <i>Pa'al</i> in Rabbenu Tam's Words Various Comments Concerning the <i>Pa'al</i> in Rabbenu Tam's Words Comments on Eldar's Article	<ul> <li>247</li> <li>248</li> <li>249</li> <li>252</li> <li>253</li> <li>254</li> </ul>
Various Comments Concerning the Pa'al in Rabbenu Tam's Words	248 249 252 253 254
Various Comments Concerning the <i>Pa'al</i> in Rabbenu Tam's Words Comments on Eldar's Article	248 249 252 253 254 257
Various Comments Concerning the <i>Pa'al</i> in Rabbenu Tam's Words Comments on Eldar's Article Summary Chapter Twelve: Matters of Grammar	<ul> <li>248</li> <li>249</li> <li>252</li> <li>253</li> <li>254</li> <li>257</li> <li>258</li> </ul>
Various Comments Concerning the <i>Pa'al</i> in Rabbenu Tam's Words Comments on Eldar's Article Summary Chapter Twelve: Matters of Grammar Linguistic Terms	<ul> <li>248</li> <li>249</li> <li>252</li> <li>253</li> <li>254</li> <li>257</li> <li>258</li> <li>258</li> </ul>
Various Comments Concerning the <i>Pa'al</i> in Rabbenu Tam's Words Comments on Eldar's Article Summary Chapter Twelve: Matters of Grammar Linguistic Terms Phonological Topics	<ul> <li>248</li> <li>249</li> <li>252</li> <li>253</li> <li>254</li> <li>257</li> <li>258</li> <li>264</li> </ul>
Various Comments Concerning the <i>Pa'al</i> in Rabbenu Tam's Words Comments on Eldar's Article Summary Chapter Twelve: Matters of Grammar Linguistic Terms Phonological Topics Accentuation	248 249 252 253 254 257 <b>258</b> 258 264 264
Various Comments Concerning the <i>Pa'al</i> in Rabbenu Tam's Words Comments on Eldar's Article Summary Chapter Twelve: Matters of Grammar Linguistic Terms Phonological Topics	<ul> <li>248</li> <li>249</li> <li>252</li> <li>253</li> <li>254</li> <li>257</li> <li>258</li> <li>258</li> </ul>

Various Punctuation Rules	268
Morphological Topics	271
Verb Forms	271
Various Matters Regarding Roots	276
Binyan Kal and the "Heavy" Constructions	281
Various Comments Regarding Verb Constructions	282
Nouns	283
Comparison of Patterns	286
Topics Relating to Syntax	287
Conclusion	292

## **B.** Annotated Critical Edition

With *Nusaḥ* Variations, References, Quotes from Mahberet Menahem and Dunash's Critiques

Introduction to the Edition	295
Table of Contents for the Edition and for the Filipowski Edition	296
Introductory Poem	301
Sections 1-160	314
Concluding Poem	693
Bibliography	698
Indexes to the Rabbenu Tam Edition and its Commentaries	719