Another form of poetry, known as zajal, thrived particularly during the Abbasid period and was composed thereafter as well. Among the various types of zajal, stanzas of 16 lines were among the most common. The poetry found in the Genizah implies that the melodies for these were usually known to the Jewish community.

A possible background for composing the poems for the soul (Nafs) was the work of Rabbi Abraham son of Maimonides, who lived in Egypt in the 12th century. His teachings, in the spirit of Sufi mysticism, are apparent in his work "A Comprehensive Guide for the Servants of God". Characteristics of Sufi mysticism are also evident in the doctrine of ru'us (reverence) in the Jewish Community. Based on traditional Jewish thought, the purpose of ru'us is to bring the soul to the presence of God through the performance of mitzvot (commandments) and the study of Torah. This is reflected in the theme of the Nafs poems, which deals with the mystical union of the soul with God through asceticism and self-denial.

A closer look at the poetry found in the Genizah implies that the melody for these was usually known to the Jewish community. It was handed down from generation to generation through the performance of the prayers and songs, with the melodies being passed down orally. This practice continued even after the Sephardic Jewish community was expelled from Spain in 1492, and continued in the community of Alexandria until the 19th century. This demonstrates the inter-cultural symbiotic relationships the Jewish community in Egypt had with the Arab community, and how they shared common beliefs and practices.

In conclusion, the poetry found in the Genizah reflects the importance of the songs and Sufi literature in the Jewish community of Egypt. The Sufi stream had a significant impact on Rabbi Abraham son of Maimonides and his group of followers, as well as on the Jewish community as a whole. The poetry found in the Genizah provides evidence of this impact, and demonstrates the inter-cultural symbiotic relationships between the Jewish and Arab communities in Egypt.