Punt expedition of Queen Hatshepsut

Nederhof - English

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Transliteration and translation for "The Punt expedition of Queen Hatshepsut", following the transcription of De Buck (1948), pp. 48-53.


The transliteration throughout follows Hannig (1995).

For a published transition of the first section, see Werbrouck (1949), pp. 76-79. For the remaining sections see Breasted (1906), pp. 102-122, §§ 246-295, and in particular for the respective sections: § 253, § 255, §§ 256-257, § 260, § 261, § 265, § 266.

Bibliography

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Gold Horus: Divine of appearance; The king of Upper and Lower Egypt: Maatkare;

Horus: Powerful of spirits; Two Ladies: Prosperous of years;

Gold Horus: Divine of appearance; The king of Upper and Lower Egypt: Maatkare;

sacred image of Amun, she whom he wanted to be on his throne.

He entrusted to her the heritage of the Two Lands, the kingship of Upper and Lower Egypt.

He gave to her what the sun revolves around and what Geb and Nut surround.

She has no enemies among the southerners,

she has no antagonists among the northerners.

Heaven and all foreign lands created by the god are completely subservient to her.

They come to her with fearful heart, their chiefs bowing their heads,

with tributes on their backs. They present her with their children,

so that they may be given the breath of life,

because of the greatness of the might of her father Amun,
rdj tawi nbw hr tbtj=s
who placed every land under her feet,

nsw ds=f nsw-bjtj Mjt-k3-Rc
the king himself, the king of Upper and Lower Egypt Maatkare.

49:5
| spr ḫm n stp-s3 c.w.s. r rwd n nb nṯrw

49:5
| The majesty of the palace (l.p.h.l!) beseeched the stairs of the lord of the gods

49:6
| sḏm wd m st-lwrt nḏwt-r3 nt nṯr ds=f

49:6
| and instructions were heard from the Great Throne, an oracle from the god himself:

49:7
| d3r wꜣwt r Pwnt

49:7
| Explore the routes to Punt, I open the roads to the Myrrh-terraces,

49:8
| sšm mšc ḫr mw ḫr t3

49:8
| and lead an expedition on water and on land to bring exotic goods from the God's Land

49:8
| r jnt bj3w m T3-nṯr

49:8
| n nṯr pn qm3 nfrw=s
to this god who created her beauty.

49:9
| jr.jn.tw mj wdtn l nbt ḫm n nṯr pn šps

49:9
| Then one acted according to everything that the majesty of this noble god had commanded,

49:9
| mj st-jb nt ḫmt=s r=s

49:9
| as was the desire of Her Majesty about it,

49:10
| jr=s djt-cnh Ṝdt ws3

49:10
| so that she might achieve given-life, stability, dominion, like Re forever.

49:10
| mj Rc Ṝt

49:10
| Words by Amun, lord of the Thrones of the Two Lands:

49:10
| jw n(=j) sp 2 m ḫtp sīt bnrt jmt jb=j

*Be very welcome to me in peace, sweet daughter who is in my heart,
nsw-bjtj M³t-k³-R³

49:11

| jrt n(=j) mnw nfrw
the king of Upper and Lower Egypt Maatkare, who creates beautiful monuments for me,

sw³bt st nt psdt ³t

who purifies the place of the great Ennead,

mḥt r³-pr=j m sh³ mrτ=s

who fills my temple with remembrance of her love.

49:12

| ūwt nsw jtt tāwj Ḫt-špswt ḫmnt-Jmn ³t ³bt

49:12

| You are the king who took possession of the Two Lands, Hatshepsut, great of sacrifice,

w³bt ³šbw shṭp=³ jb=j r tr nb

pure of I food offering. You satisfy my heart at every moment.

dj. n(=j) n=³ nh w³s nb ḥr=j ddt nb ḥr=j

I have given you all life and dominion from me, all stability from me,

49:13

| snb nb ḥr=j ūwt-jb nb ḥr=j

49:14

| all health from me, and all joy from me.

dj. n(=j) n=³ tōw nbw ḫšswt nbt ³w jb=³ jm=sn

I have given you all flat lands and all mountainous lands so that you may enjoy them.

49:15

| sr. n(=j) n=³ st w³ mš(=j) st ḫntj-r nn cšš m rnpwt

49:15

| I have ordained it to you long ago. I have been foreseeing it for these many years.

49:16

| ḫmnt. n(=j) jrt n ³ḥt

49:16

| I have planned doing the useful deed.

dj. n(=j) n=³ Pwnt mj-Qd=s r-mn-m tōw ntrw

I have given you Punt in its entirety including the lands of the gods,

50:1

| T³-ntr tmm ḫnd=f ḫtjw-šntjw ḫm.n rmṭ

50:1

| the God's Land that has not been entered, and the Myrrh-terraces unknown to Egyptians.
It was learned of by hearsay, from the stories of the ancestors. Exotic goods were brought, and these were brought from there to your fathers, the kings of Lower Egypt, from one to the other since the era of the ancestors, to the kings who were before, in return for many payments. No one will reach them except your explorers, for I will let your expedition enter it after I will have guided them by water and by land, disclosing to them the unexplored roads after I will have entered the Myrrh-terraces. It is a sacred region of the God's Land. It is my place of enjoyment. I created it for myself to gladden my heart with Mut, Hathor, Wereret, mistress of Punt, mistress of heaven Weret-Hekau, mistress of all the gods.

May they take as much myrrh as they wish, and load ships to the satisfaction of their hearts with fresh myrrh trees.
and all good products of this foreign land. The Puntites unknown to Egyptians,

the 'bearded people' of the God's Land, I placated them for your sake,

that they will give you praise as a god

because of the greatness of your might throughout the foreign land.

They know that I am their lord,

and have acknowledged that I am the rightful image of Amun-Re.

Daughter who subjugated the lords, the king of Upper and Lower Egypt Maatkare,

I begot her for me, I am your father. I set fear of you in the Nine Bows,

and they came in peace to Karnak while they brought many precious goods,

and every good thing from the God's Land, for which you, Your Majesty, had sent them:

large quantities of resin of myrrh and trees that always carry fresh myrrh,

to be unpacked in the festivity hall for inspection by the lord of the gods,
and then Your Majesty yourself will plant them in the tree-garden around my temple, to gladden my heart among them. My name is foremost among the gods and your name is foremost among all living, forever.

Heaven and earth are flooded by incense and fragrance from the palace. May you present them to me, pure and immaculate, to express the 'ointment of divine limbs', may you bring myrrh, I apply ointment, and adorn my chest with a collar. I give you the Njnj-greeting, for this heart of mine is in joy because of seeing you. My very many wonders are for you, for your beautiful face, I which is lovely, the beauty of which I love to see. My heart lives for your sake.' I Sailing on the sea, setting off on a good journey to the God's Land, arriving safely in the land of Punt by the expedition of the lord of the Two Lands,
in accordance with the utterance of the lord of the gods Amun,

lord of the Thrones of the Two Lands, foremost of Karnak,

to fetch for him precious goods from every foreign land.

together with the expedition who was accompanying him before the princes of Punt.

Bringing of every good thing from the palace (l.p.h.!) to Hathor, mistress of Punt,

for the life, prosperity and health of Her Majesty.

Approach of the princes of Punt, bowing their heads, to receive this expedition of the king.

They give praise to the lord of the gods, Amun-Re, the primeval one of the Two Lands,

he who enters the foreign lands. And they say they beseech peace.

"Why have you come here to this foreign land, unknown to Egyptians?"

Did you descend on the road of heaven? Have you travelled on water or on land?
How happy is the God's Land, which you have entered like Re! As for the king of Egypt, is there no road to His Majesty that we may live on the breath that he gives?

Pitching camp of the envoy of the king and his expedition on the Myrrh-terraces of Punt near the sea, to receive the princes of this foreign land. They are offered bread, beer, wine, meat, fruit and everything from Egypt as commanded in the palace (l.p.h.!).

Reception of the tribute of a prince of Punt by the envoy of the king. Loading of ships to a very large extent with precious goods from the land of Punt, all kinds of good herbs of the God's Land, and large quantities of resin of myrrh, of fresh myrrh trees, of ebony and pure ivory, of green gold from Amu, of tjšps-wood and hsyt-wood, of resin, incense and galena,
of baboons, vervet monkeys and greyhounds, of hides of Upper-Egyptian panthers,

and of labourers and their children. Never was anything like that brought to any king

who lived since the primeval time of the land. Travelling and returning safely,

landing in Karnak in joy by the expedition of the lord of the Two Lands,

followed by the princes of this foreign land.

They brought things the like of which had not been brought to other kings of Lower Egypt,

exotic goods from the land of Punt,

because of the greatness of the might of this noble god Amun-Re,

lord of the Thrones of the Two Lands.