

# Hymn to the sun

## Nederhof - English

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Transliteration and translation for "Hymn to the sun", following De Buck (1948), pp. 113-115. This is the version of Suti and Hor (Brit. Mus. 826). Other versions are discussed by Assmann (1971).

The transliteration throughout follows Hannig (1995).

For published translations, see Assmann (1975), number 89 (pp. 209-212, with comments on pp. 555-557); Davies (1994), number 732 (pp. 71-74); Helck (1961), number 732 (pp. 328-331); Lichtheim (1976), pp. 86-89; Wilson (1955).

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<sup>1</sup>  
| dw³ Jmn                      ḥff<sup>1</sup> wbn=f m Ḥr-ḥtj    jn jmj-r³ k³t n Jmn Swtj

<sup>1</sup>  
| Adoration of Amun, when he rises as Harakhti, by the overseer of the works of Amun, Suti,  
<sup>1</sup> Emended to ḥft (Davies, 1994).

---

jmj-r³ k³t n Jmn Ḥr                                      ḏḏ=sn    jnd-ḥr=k R<sup>c</sup>  
and the overseer of the works of Amun, Hor. They say: `Hail to you, Re,

---

nfr n r<sup>c</sup> nb                      wbn                      <sup>2</sup>  
| dw³w                      n jr=f ³bw  
beauty of every day, who rises <sup>2</sup>  
| in the morning without failing,

---

Ḥprj wrḏ m k³t                                      stw=k m ḥr                                      n rh.tw=s  
Khepri, who tires himself with labour! Your rays are on the face, but it isn't known.

---

ḏ<sup>c</sup>m nn sw mj jm³w=k                                      <sup>3</sup>  
| pth tw                      nb=k ḥ<sup>c</sup>w=k  
Electrum doesn't match your splendour. <sup>3</sup>  
| Self-made, you created your body,

---

mss jwtj ms.tw=f                      w<sup>c</sup> ḥr ḥw=f                                      sbb nḥḥ                                      ḥrj w³wt  
creator who wasn't created, the only one of his kind, who passes eternity, chief of the roads,

---

m ḥḥw ḥr sk=f                                      <sup>4</sup>  
| mj jm³w=k mj jm³w ḥrt  
with millions under his guidance. <sup>4</sup>  
| Your splendour is like the splendour of heaven,

---

ḥn jwn=k r jnm=s                                      ḏ³=k pt                                      ḥr-nb ḥr m³=k  
your color is brighter than its hues. When you cross the sky, everyone sees you.

---

šm=k                      jmn.tj m ḥr<sup>l</sup>=sn                                      ḏj=k tw dw³w ḥrt-hrw  
When you set, you are hidden from their sight. Daily you present yourself in the morning.

---

rwd sqd=k ḥr ḥm=k                                      hrw ktw                      ḥpt=k w³t  
Your sailing is steadfast under Your Majesty. In a brief day, you race a course

---

jtrw m ḥḥw ḥfnw                                      <sup>6</sup>  
| ³t hrw nb ḥr=k  
of millions and hundreds of thousands of miles. <sup>6</sup>  
| To you, each day is a moment,

---

sb=s ḥtp=k                                      km.n=k wnwwt grḥ mjtt  
which has passed when you go down. Likewise you have completed the hours of the night.

---

---

gsgs.n=k sw      n ḥpr ʔbw m kʔt=k      jrt nb | <sup>7</sup> mʔ=sn jm=k

You have regulated it without pause in your labour. Through you, every eye sees,

---

nn km=sn ḥft ḥtp ḥm=k

and they accomplish nothing when Your Majesty goes down.

---

snhp=k r wbn dwʔw

ḥddwt=k wbʔ=s jrtw <sup>c</sup>wt

When you awake early to rise in the morning, your light opens the eyes of the flock.

---

<sup>8</sup>  
| ḥtp=k m mʔnw

ḥr qd=sn mj shr mwt

<sup>8</sup>  
| When you go down in the western mountain, then they sleep as in the state of death.

---

jnd-ḥr=k Jtn n hrw

qmʔ tm

jr <sup>c</sup>nh=sn

<sup>9</sup>  
bjk | <sup>c</sup>

Hail to you, celestial disk of the day, creator of all who makes them live, great falcon,

---

sʔb šwt

ḥpr r stʔ sw dʔ=f

ḥpr dʔ=f

jwjtj ms.tw=f

brightly plumed, beetle who raised himself, who created himself, who wasn't created,

---

Ḥr sms ḥr-jb njwt

<sup>10</sup>  
jrr n=f jhhly n ḥ<sup>cc</sup> n ḥtp=f mjtt

eldest Horus within lower heaven, acclaimed for his rising and setting,

---

nb n qmʔ sʔw

Ḥnmw Jmn ḥnmmt

creator of what the earth produces, Khnum and Amun of mankind,

---

jṯ tʔwj

m <sup>c</sup> r nds

mwt ʔḥt

who took possession of the Two Lands from great to small, beneficent mother

---

<sup>11</sup>  
| nṯrw rmt

ḥmw wʔḥ-jb <sup>c</sup> wrd

<sup>11</sup>  
| of gods and people, patient craftsman, who tires himself greatly

---

m jry=s<sup>1</sup> nn ṯnw=sn

ḥw qnj

ḥw <sup>c</sup>wt=f

jb=sn

with making them countless, brave shepherd who drives his flock, their refuge

<sup>1</sup> Read jry=sn or jry st.

---

jry <sup>12</sup>  
| <sup>c</sup>nh=sn    wnj

gs

pḥrt<sup>1</sup>

Ḥprj ṯnj mswt=f

<sup>12</sup>  
that keeps | them alive, who hastens, who races, who runs, Khepri, distinguished of birth,

<sup>1</sup> Emend to pḥrr.

---

---

stš nfr=f m ḥt n Njwṯ

šḥd t̄wj m jtn=f

who developed his beauty in the body of Niut, who illumines the Two Lands with his disk,

---

p̄wtj t̄wj

jr sw ḏs=f

the primeval one of the Two Lands, who created himself,

---

13

| m̄ jry=f nb w<sup>c</sup>

jn r̄<sup>c</sup> t̄w r<sup>c</sup> nb

13

| who sees all that he made, he alone, who reaches the ends of the earth every day,

---

m dg ḥndw ḥr=s

wbn m pt ḥpr.w m R<sup>c</sup>

seen by those who tread on it, who rises in the sky formed as Re!

---

jr=f trw m ʒbdw

hh mr=f

14

| qbb mr=f

He makes the seasons with the months, heat as he wishes | and cold as he wishes.

---

ḏj=f bdš ḥ<sup>c</sup>w

jnq=f sn

t̄ nb m ḥtt n wbn=f r<sup>c</sup> nb

He makes bodies weak and gathers them. Every land rejoices at his rising every day

---

r dw̄=f

jmj-r̄ k̄t Swtj

jmj-r̄ k̄t

15

| Ḥr ḏd=f

to adore him.' The overseer of works, Suti, and the overseer of works, | Hor, say:

---

jnk ḥrp m jp̄t=k

jmj-r̄ k̄t m ḥm=k mtj

'I was administrator in your harem, overseer of works in your very shrine,

---

jr n=k s̄=k mr=k

nb t̄wj Nb-m̄<sup>c</sup>t-R<sup>c</sup>

ḏj <sup>c</sup>nh

made for you by your beloved son, the lord of the Two Land, Nebmaatre, given life.

---

rdj.n wj nb=j r ḥrp mnw=k

16

| rh(.w) rs=j tp=j

My lord made me administrator of your monuments | knowing my vigilance.

---

jr.n=j ḥrp qnj m mnw=k

jr m̄<sup>c</sup>t n jb=k

I was a dutiful administrator of your monuments, who acted justly as you wished,

---

jw=j rh.kw ḥtp=k ḥr m̄<sup>c</sup>t

s̄=k jr sj tp t̄

for I knew that you are content with justice. You advance one who does it on earth.

---

17

jw | jr.n(=j) sj s̄.n=k wj ḏj=k ḥswt=j tp t̄ m Jpt-swt

I did it and you advanced me, you rewarded me on earth in Karnak,

---

---

jw=j m šmswt=k      hft h<sup>c</sup>=k      jnk m<sup>3</sup>c      bṭw=f jsf  
while I was in your following when you appeared. I am a just person who shuns evil,

---

<sup>18</sup>  
| nn hrj hr mdwt nbt n ḏḏ jwms      wpw hr sn=j mj-ḡd=j

<sup>18</sup>  
| dissatisfied with any words of saying falsehood. But my brother, my likeness,

---

hrrj=j hr shrw=f      pr.n=f m ht hn<sup>c</sup>=j      m hrw pn  
with his conduct I'm satisfied. He came from the womb with me on the same day.'

---

<sup>19</sup>  
| jmj-r<sup>3</sup> k<sup>3</sup>t n Jmn      m Jpt rst Swtj Ḥr

<sup>19</sup>  
| The overseer of the works of Amun in Luxor, Suti, and Hor:

---

wn=j m hrp hr jmnt      jw=f hr j<sup>3</sup>btj  
'I was administrator of the west side, and he of the east side.

---

jw=n hr hrp mnw wrw      <sup>20</sup>  
| m Jpt-swt hr hnt n W<sup>3</sup>st      njwt Jmn

We administered great monuments <sup>20</sup> | in Karnak, at the front of Thebes, city of Amun.

---

ḏj=k n=j j<sup>3</sup>wj m njwt=k      jr=j hr nfrw=k      sm<sup>3</sup>-ṭ hr jmntt  
May you grant me old age in your city, my eye beholding your beauty, a burial at the west,

---

st ḥtp-jb      <sup>21</sup>  
jw|<sup>3</sup> hnm=j m ḥsyw      šm m ḥtp  
a resting place, while I join the praised ones who went in peace.

---

ḏj=k n=j ḥw ndm      hft mn      ḥy sšdw  
May you give me a sweet breeze at landing, and wearing of fillets

---

hrw n ḥb w<sup>3</sup>g  
on the day of the wag-feast.'

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