

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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¹
| dw³ Jmn hff¹ wbn=f m Ḥr-³htj jn jmj-r³ k³t n Jmn Swtj

¹
| Adoration of Amun, when he rises as Harakhti, by the overseer of the works of Amun, Suti,

¹ Emended to hft (Davies, 1994).

jmj-r³ k³t n Jmn Ḥr dd=sn jnd-hr=k R^c

and the overseer of the works of Amun, Hor. They say: 'Hail to you, Re,

nfr n r^c nb wbn ²| dw³w n jr=f³bw

²
beauty of every day, who rises ¹| in the morning without failing,

Hprj wrd m k³t stw=k m hr n rh.tw=s

Khepri, who tires himself with labour! Your rays are on the face, but it isn't known.

d^cm nn sw mj jm³w=k ³| pth tw nb=k h^cw=k

³
Electrum doesn't match your splendour. ¹| Self-made, you created your body,

mss jwtj ms.tw=f w^c hr hw=f sbb nh³h hrj w³wt

creator who wasn't created, the only one of his kind, who passes eternity, chief of the roads,

m hhw hr sk=f ⁴| mj jm³w=k mj jm³w hrt

⁴
with millions under his guidance. ¹| Your splendour is like the splendour of heaven,

thn jwn=k r jnm=s d³=k pt hr-nb hr m³=k

your color is brighter than its hues. When you cross the sky, everyone sees you.

sm=k jmn.tj m hr¹=sn dj=k tw dw³w hrt-hrw

When you set, you are hidden from their sight. Daily you present yourself in the morning.

rwd sqd=k hr hm=k hrw ktw hpt=k w³t

Your sailing is steadfast under Your Majesty. In a brief day, you race a course

jtrw m hhw hf¹nw ⁶| ⁶bt hrw nb hr=k

of millions and hundreds of thousands of miles. ¹| To you, each day is a moment,

sb=s htp=k km.n=k wnw³t grh mjtt

which has passed when you go down. Likewise you have completed the hours of the night.

gsgs.n=k sw n hpr 3bw m k3t=k jrt nb | m3=sn jm=k

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

nn km=sn hft htp hm=k

and they accomplish nothing when Your Majesty goes down.

snhp=k r wbn dw3w hddwt=k wb3=s jrtw cwt

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

8 | htp=k m m3nw

hr qd=sn mj shr mwt

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

jnd-hr=k Jtn n hrw qm3 tm jr cnh=sn bjk | c3

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

s3b šwt hprr sts sw ds=f hpr ds=f jwtj ms.tw=f

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

Hr sms hr-jb njwt jrr n=f jhhly n hcc n htp=f mjtt

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

nb n qm3 s3tw Hnmw Jmn hnmmmt

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

jt t3wj m c3 r nds mwt3ht

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

11 | ntrw rmt hmw w3h-jb c3 wrd

11 | of gods and people, patient craftsman, who tires himself greatly

m jry=s¹ nn tnw=sn hw qnj hw cwt=f jb=sn

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

¹ Read jry=sn or jry st.

jry | cnh=sn wnj gs phrt¹ Hprj tnj mswt=f

¹² that keeps | them alive, who hastens, who races, who runs, Khepri, distinguished of birth,

¹ Emend to phrr.

jw=j m šmswt=k hft h^c=k jnk m³c b_tw=f jsf

while I was in your following when you appeared. I am a just person who shuns evil,

18

| nn hrj hr mdwt nbt n dd jwms wpw hr sn=j mj-qd=j

18

| dissatisfied with any words of saying falsehood. But my brother, my likeness,

hrrj=j hr shrw=f pr.n=f m ht hn^c=j m hrw pn

with his conduct I'm satisfied. He came from the womb with me on the same day.'

19

| jmj-r³ k³t n Jmn m Jpt rst Swtj Hr

19

| The overseer of the works of Amun in Luxor, Suti, and Hor:

wn=j m hrp hr jmnt jw=f hr j³btj

'I was administrator of the west side, and he of the east side.

20

jw=n hr hrp mnw wrw | m Jpt-swt hr hnt n W³st njwt Jmn

20

We administered great monuments | in Karnak, at the front of Thebes, city of Amun.

dj=k n=j j³wj m njwt=k jr=j hr nfrw=k sm³-t³ hr jmntt

May you grant me old age in your city, my eye beholding your beauty, a burial at the west,

21

st htp-jb jw|j hnm=j m hsyw šm m htp

a resting place, while I join the praised ones who went in peace.

dj=k n=j t³w ndm hft mn t³y s³dw

May you give me a sweet breeze at landing, and wearing of fillets

hrw n hb w³g

on the day of the wag-feast.'
