

Restoration stela of Tutankhamun

Nederhof - English

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Transliteration and translation for the stela of Tutankhamun concerning the restoration of the temple at Karnak, following the transcription of Helck (1984a), number 772 (pp. 2025-2032).

The transliteration throughout follows Hannig (1995).

For published translations, see Bennett (1939); Davies (1995), number 772 (pp. 30-33); van Dijk (2003), pp. 226-237; Helck (1984b), number 772 (pp. 365-368).

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^a
| nsw-bjtj nb t3wj [...] ¹ [...] ² dj ʕnh dt

^a
| The king of Upper and Lower Egypt, lord of the Two Lands [...] [...], given life forever.

¹ Usurped with Dsr-hprw-R^c stp.n-R^c.

² Usurped with Hr-m-hb mrj.n-Jmn.

^b
| Jmn-R^c nb Nswt-t3wj nb pt nsw ntrw

^b
| Amun-Re, lord of the Thrones of the Two Lands, lord of heaven, king of the gods.

^c | Mwt nb Jšrw hnwt ntrw nbw ^d | dj=f ʕnh ʕnh dd w3s nb

^c | Mut, mistress of Asheru, lady of all the gods. ^d | He gives life, all life, stability and dominion.

^e
| rdjt rnpwt jr=f dj ʕnh

^e
| Giving plants, so that he may be given life.

^f
| s3 ʕnh dd w3s snb h3=f nb mj r^c dt

^f
| All protection, life, stability, dominion and health with him, like Re forever.

¹
| [rnpt-sp 1] 3bd 4 3ht sw 19 hr hm n

¹
| [Year 1], fourth month of the Season of Inundation, day 19, under the Majesty of

Hr K3-nht twt-mswwt

Horus: Mighty bull, perfect of births;

nbtj Nfr-[hpw sgrh-]t3wj

Two Ladies: Beautiful of [laws, who pacifies] the Two Lands;

Hr-nbw Wts-h^cw shtp-ntrw

Gold Horus: Who wears the crown, who placates the gods;

nsw-bjtj [...] ¹ s3-R^c [...] ² dj ʕnh mj R^c dt [nhh]

The king of Upper and Lower Egypt: [...]; Son of Re: [...], given life like Re forever [and ever],

¹ Usurped with Dsr-hprw-R^c stp.n-R^c.

² Usurped with Hr-m-hb mrj.n-Jmn.

²
| [Jmn-R^c] nb Nswt-t³wj hntj Jpt-sw^t

²
| beloved of [Amun-Re], lord of the Thrones of the Two Lands, foremost of Karnak,

Jtm nb t³wj Jwnw R^c-Hr-ḥtj
of Atum, lord of the Two Lands and Heliopolis, of Re-Harakhte,

Pth rsj jnb=f nb [c^hnh-t³wj] Dḥwtj nb mdw-ntr mry
of Ptah, south of his wall, lord of [Ankh-tawi], and of Thoth, lord of the sacred word,

h^cw [hr st] Hr [nt c^hnh]w mj jt R^c r^c nb
the one who appears [on] the Horus-[throne] [of the living], like (his) father Re every day.

³
| [ntr] nfr s³ Jmn mswtjw n K³-mwt=f prt ḥt swḥ[t] dsrt
³
| Good [god], son of Amun, offspring of Kamutef, glorious seed, sacred egg,

w^ttjw Jmn ds=f j[t t³wj]
begotten by Amun himself, [father of the Two Lands],

qd qd sw ms ms sw
who moulds his moulder, who creates his creator,

⁴
dmḍ b³w | Jwnw r mswt=f
for whose creation the souls of Heliopolis assembled,

r jrt nsw nḥḥ Hr w³ḥ n dt
to act as king of eternity, a Horus who endures forever,

ḥq³ nfr jrr ḥt n jt ntrw nbw
a good ruler, who does what is beneficial to (his) father and all gods.

⁵
srwd.n=f ntj w³s(.w) m mnw ḥn^tj nḥḥ
He has restored what was in ruins, as monuments of eternal age.

dr.n=f jsft ht t³wj
He has dispelled injustice throughout the Two Lands

m³t mn.tj [m st=s] dj=f wn grg m bwt
and justice was established [in its place]. He lets falsehood be an abomination,

t̃ mj sp=f tpj jst rf ḥ^c.n ḥm=f m nsw
and the land as in its primordial time. Now, when His Majesty arose as king,

⁶
| [j]w r̃w-pr nw ntrw ntryt šš^c m ʒbw [nfryt]-r ḥwt jdh[w]
⁶
| the temples of the gods and goddesses, from Elephantine [to] the lagoons of the Delta,

[...] [w̃].w r stp ⁷
| ḥ[m]w=sn w̃.w r mrḥ
[...] had [fallen] into ruin. ⁷
| Their shrines had fallen into decay

ḥpr(.w) m j̃w rd m [...]
and had become ruins overgrown with [...]plants.

jwnnw=sn mj ntj n ḥpr ḥwt=sn m w̃t rd
Their sanctuaries were as if they had never existed, their temples were foot paths.

⁸
wnn | t̃ m snj-mnt ntrw mkḥ̃=sn t̃ pn
The land was in distress, the gods were turning away from this land.

jr ḥ̃b[.tw mš^c] r D̃ḥj r swsh̃ t̃šw Kmt
If [an army was] sent to Palestine to widen the borders of Egypt,

n ḥpr.n rwdt=sn ⁹
| nb jr snmḥ.tw n ntr r nd̃ jht m-^c=f
no success of theirs came about ⁹
| at all. If one prayed to a god to ask a thing of him,

nn jj.n=f [rsj] jr sš̃j.tw n ntrt nb m mjtt n jj.n=s rsj
he wouldn't come [at all]. Similarly, if one prayed to any goddess, she wouldn't come at all.

jb=sn fn(.w) ḥr dtl¹⁰=sn ḥd=sn jryt
Their hearts were weak in their bodies. They destroyed what had been built.

ḥr-m-ḥt hrww sw̃(.w) ḥr nn ḥ^cyt [ḥm=f] ḥr st jt
After (some) days had passed after this, [His Majesty] appeared on the throne of (his) father

ḥq̃.n=f jdbw Ḥr kmt dšrt ḥr st-ḥr=f
and he ruled the banks of Horus. The black land and the red land were under his dominion,

t̃ nb m ksw ¹¹
| n b̃w=f
and every land was bowing ¹¹
| to his might.

jstw ḥm=f m ḥ=f jmj pr ʕ-hpr-k3-Rc

Now, His Majesty was in his palace, which is in the House of Aakheperkare,

mj Rc m-hnw pt wn.jn ḥm=f ḥr jrt shrw nw t3 pn

like Re in heaven, and His Majesty was executing the plans of this land

mḥrw nw jdbwj

wnn.ḥr ḥm=f ḥr w3w3 | sh ḥnc jb=f

and the governing of the Two Banks. Then His Majesty took | counsel with his heart,

ḥr dcr sp nb mnḥ

ḥr ḥḥj ʕht n jt Jmn

seeking every excellent deed, searching what was beneficial to (his) father Amun,

ḥr mst tjt=f špst m dcm m3c

dj.n=f ḥ3w ḥr jryt dr

fashioning his noble image of real electrum. He surpassed what had been done before.

ms.n=f | jt Jmn ḥr nb3 13

He fashioned | (his) father Amun on thirteen carrying poles,

tjt=f dsrt m dcm ḥsbḏ [mfk3]t

his sacred image being of electrum, lapis lazuli, [turquoise],

ʕt nbt špst

and every kind of precious stone,

jw grt wn ḥm n ntr pn šps ḥr-ḥ3t ḥr nb3 11

whereas formerly the majesty of this noble god had been on eleven carrying poles.

ms.n=f Pth rsj jnb=f nb cnh-t3wj

He fashioned Ptah, south of his wall, lord of Ankh-tawi,

tjt=f špst m dcm [ḥr nb3] 11

his noble image being of electrum, on eleven carrying poles,

tjt=f dsr m dcm ḥsbḏ mfk3t

ʕt nb špst

his sacred image being of electrum, lapis lazuli, turquoise, and every kind of precious stone,

jw grt wn ḥm n ntr | pn šps {t} ḥr-ḥ3t ḥr nb3 [7]

whereas formerly the majesty of this noble god had been on [seven] carrying poles.

wn.jn ḥm=f ḥr jrt mnw n nṛw [ḥr ms]t [c]ḥmw=sn m d^cm m^{3c}
And His Majesty built monuments for the gods, [fashioning] their statues of real electrum,

n tpj ḥ³swt ḥr qd jwnnw=sn m-m³wt¹⁶
from the best of the foreign lands, building their sanctuaries anew

m mnw ḥntj nḥḥ smnh(.w) ḥr ḥrt d^t
as monuments of eternal age, endowed with property forever,

ḥr w³ḥ n=sn ḥtp-nṛ m jmnyt nt r^c nb ḥr sḏḏ p³wt=sn tp t³
setting aside offerings for them as daily sacrifices, providing their sacrificial bread on earth.

dj.n=f ḥ³w ḥr | wnt m-b³ḥ¹⁷
He surpassed | what had been before,¹⁷

sn.[n=f jr]yt d^r rk jmjw-ḥ³t
he outdid what had been done since the time of the ancestors,

bs.n=f w^cbw ḥmw-nṛ msw srw nw njwt=sn
he initiated priests and prophets, children of officials from their towns,

m s³ s rḥ rḥ rn=f
sons of noted men whose names were well-known.

¹⁸ | [s^cš³.n=f [wdḥ]w=sn m nbw ḥd ḥsmn ḥmtj nn d^rw m [jḥt nbt]

¹⁸ | He multiplied their [alters] with gold, silver, bronze and copper, without limit of [anything].

mḥ.n=f šn^cw=sn m ḥmw ḥmwt m jnw n ḥ³qt ḥm=f
He filled their workhouses with male and female slaves, brought as booty of His Majesty.

¹⁹ | [s^c b³k]t nb n r³w-pr q³b(.w) ḥmt(.w) jfd.w

¹⁹ | All [tributes] to the temples were [increased], doubled, trebled and quadrupled,

m ḥd nbw ḥsbḏ mfk³t ḥ³t nbt špst
with silver, gold, lapis lazuli, turquoise and every kind of precious stone,

ḥbs-nsw ḥdt p³qt b³q qmyt ḥ^cd | [...] snṛ jhmt ḥ^cntjw²⁰

royal linen, white cloth, fine linen, moringa oil, resin, fat, | [...] incense, balm, myrrh,²⁰

nn dr m jht nbt nfrt mdḥ.n ḥm=f^c.w.s. wjḳw=sn
without limit of any good thing. His Majesty (l.p.h.!) has hewn their barques

n-tp jtrw m ²¹čš m³ n tp-ḥtjw m stp n Ngḳw
on the river, from fresh cedar from Lebanon, the pick of Negau,

bḳk.w m nbw n tpj ḥḳswt šḥd=sn jtrw
plated with gold from the best of the foreign lands, so that they may illumine the river.

jw sw^cb.n ḥm=f^c.w.s. ḥmw ḥmwt
His Majesty (l.p.h.!) has consecrated male and female slaves,

šm^cwt ḥbywt ²² | wn m ndtjw m pr-nsw
and female singers and dancers | who had been maidservants¹ in the palace,
¹ Uncertain.

jp.tw bḳkw=sn r ^cḥ
and their wages were charged to the palace

r [pr-ḥd] n nb tḳwj
and to [the treasury] of the lord of the Two Lands.

ḏj=j wn=sn ḥw.w mk.w n jtw nṯrw nbw
'I let them be guarded and protected for my forefathers, all the gods,

²³ | m mry šḥtp=sn m jrt mrrt k³=sn ḥw=sn Tḳ-mr[j]
²³ | in order to placate them, doing what their spirits like, so that they may protect Egypt.'

nṯrw nṯryt jmjw tḳ pn jb=sn m ršwt
The gods and goddesses who are in this land, their hearts are in joy,

nbw šḥmw ²⁴ | m ḥ^cwt jdbw m hy-hnw
the lords of sanctuaries | are jubilating, the banks are cheering and exulting,

ṯḥḥwt ḥt tḳ r-[dr=f] [shr] nfr ḥpr(.w)
jubilation is throughout the [entire] land, since a good [state] has come into being.

psdt jmjw ḥwt-^cḳt ^cwj=sn m jḳw
The ennead in the Great Temple, their arms are raised in adoration,

ḏrwt=sn mh(.w) m ḥbw-sd [nw] | nhḥ dt ²⁵

their hands are full of Sed-festivals [of] | all eternity. ²⁵

ḥnh w3s nb ḥr=sn r fnd n nsw nḥt

All life and dominion with them are at the nostrils of the strong king,

Ḥr whm mswt s3 mr [n jt Jmn-R^c nsw] ntrw

Horus who repeats birth, beloved son [of (his) father Amun-Re, king] of the gods,

ms.n=f sw r mst=f nsw-bjtj [...] ¹ mr n Jmn

who created him for his own creation, king of Upper and Lower Egypt [...], beloved of Amun,

¹ Usurped with Ḏsr-ḥprw-R^c stp.n-R^c.

s3=f smsw=[f] | m3^c mry=f nd ḥr jt ms sw ²⁶

[his] true eldest son, his beloved, who protects the father who begot him,

nsy=f nswy[t nw] jt Wsjr s3-R^c [...] ¹

who exercises the kingship [of] (his) father Osiris, son of Re [...],

¹ Usurped with Ḥr-m-ḥb mrj.n-Jmn.

s3 ḥh n ms sw mnwy ḥ3 bjyt [...]

son who is beneficial to him who created him, rich in monuments, abundant in wonders, [...]

²⁷ | jr mnw m qm3 jb=f n jt Jmn

twt msw

²⁷ | who builds monuments on his own initiative for (his) father Amun, perfect of births,

jtj [grg] Km[t] hrw pn jw.tw m ḥh nfr

sovereign who [restored] Egypt. On this day, one is in the good palace,

jmj pr ḥ3-ḥpr-k3-R^c m3^c-ḥrw jstw [ḥm=f ḥ.w.s.] | rnp.w ²⁸

which is in the House of Aakheperkare, justified, while [His Majesty (l.p.h.!)] | is young, ²⁸

jtj wnj ḥr dt=f qd.n sw Ḥnmw [...]

seizing the one who speeds upon his body, whom Khnum has moulded, [...]

tm3^c pw ḥ3 pḥtj mtnw r nḥt

He is mighty of arm, great of strength, more distinguished than the victorious,

wr pḥtj mj s3 Nwt [...] ²⁹
| tm3-c mj Hr

great of strength like the son of Nut, [...] | mighty of arm like Horus,

nn ḥpr.n n=f snnw m qnw nw t3 nb dmd

no equal to him exists among the brave of all lands together,

rh mj R^c

[ḥmww jb mj] Pth sj33 mj Dḥwtj

he who is knowledgeable like Re, [ingenious like] Ptah, perceptive like Thoth,

š3 ḥpw mnḥ wd [...] ³⁰
| jqr pr-n-r3

who ordains laws, effective of command, [...] | excellent of judgement,

nsw-bjtj nb t3wj

the king of Upper and Lower Egypt, lord of the Two Lands,

nb jrt-jḥt nb ḥpš [...] ¹ sḥtp [...] [s3-R^c] n ḥt=f mr=f

lord of rituals, lord of strength [...] who placates [...] [son of Re], of his body, his beloved,

¹ Usurped with Dsr-ḥprw-R^c stp.n-R^c.

nb n ḥ3st nbt nb ḥ^cw [...] ¹

lord of every foreign land, lord of crowns [...]

¹ Usurped with Hr-m-ḥb mrj.n-Jmn.

dj cⁿḥ dd w3s mj R^c [ḏt ḥr nḥḥ]

given life, stability and dominion, like Re [forever and ever].
