### Ahmose son of Abana, Autobiography of

#### Sethe

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The hieroglyphic of "The Autobiography of Ahmose son of Abana", following the transcription of Sethe (1927), number 1 (pp. 1-11).

#### **Bibliography**

• K. Sethe. Urkunden der 18. Dynastie, Volume I. Hinrichs, Leipzig, 1927.

### **Nederhof - English**

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Transliteration and translation for "The Autobiography of Ahmose son of Abana", following the transcription of Sethe (1927), number 1 (pp. 1-11).

For published translations, see Breasted (1906), pp. 3-9, §§ 1-16 & pp. 17-18, §§ 38-39 & pp. 33-35, §§ 78-82; Lichtheim (1976), pp. 12-15; Sethe (1914), number 1 (pp. 1-6).

#### **Bibliography**

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- M. Lichtheim. *Ancient Egyptian Literature -- Volume II: The New Kingdom*. University of California Press, 1976.
- K. Sethe. *Urkunden der 18. Dynastie -- übersetzt, Volume I.* Hinrichs, Leipzig, 1914.
- K. Sethe. Urkunden der 18. Dynastie, Volume I. Hinrichs, Leipzig, 1927.

Se | Proposition | Proposition

Ne dd=j n=tn rmt nbt dj=j rh=tn hswt hprt n=j

Ne "I speak to you, all people. I will let you know the favours that were granted to me.

Ne jw<sup>c</sup>.kw m nbw sp 7

hft-hr-n t r-dr=f

Ne I have been rewarded with gold seven times

before the entire land.

Ne hmw hmwt r-mjtt-jry

s3h.kw m3hwt c33w wrt

Ne and with male and female slaves as well. I have been endowed with very many fields.

Ne jw rn n qn m jrt.n=f

Ne The name of a brave man is in what he has done,

Se ..... I DE COM

Ne nn htm

m t3 pn dt dd=f r-ntt

Ne without ever perishing in this land." He says:

Ne jr.n=j hprw=j m dmj n Nhb

Ne "I grew up in the town of Nekheb.

Ne jw jt=j m w<sup>c</sup>w n nsw-bjtj

Sqnj.n-R<sup>c</sup> m<sup>3</sup>c-hrw

Ne My father was a soldier of the king of Upper and Lower Egypt Seqenenre, justified,



Ne Bibi

s R-jnt rn=f

Ne and was called Baba, son of Rainet.



Ne chc.n=j hr jrt wcw r db3=f

m p3 dpt n P3-sm3

Ne Then I became a soldier in his place, on the ship 'The Wild Bull',

### 

Ne m hw nb twj Nb-phtj-R<sup>c</sup> m<sup>c</sup>-hrw

Ne in the time of the lord of the Two Lands Nebpehtire, justified.

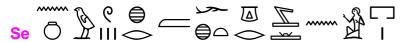


Ne jw=j m šrj n jrt=j hmt

jw sdr=j m smt šnw

Ne I I was a young man, before I had married, and I slept in a hammock of net 1.

<sup>1</sup> Uncertain.



Ne ḫr-m-ḫt grg.n=j pr

Ne After I had established a household,



Ne chc.n=j jt.kw

l r p3 dpt Mhtj

ḥr qnn=j

Ne I was taken

I to the ship 'The Northern', because I was brave.

## 

Ne wn.hr=j hr šms jty c.w.s. hr-rdwj=j

Ne Then I followed the sovereign (I.p.h.!) on foot



Ne m-ht swtwt=f hr

wrryt = f

Ne after him riding on this chariot.

Ne jw hms.tw hr dmj n Hwt-w<sup>c</sup>rt

Ne When the town of Avaris was besieged,

Ne wn.hr=j hr qnt hr rdwj=j m-b3h hm=f

Ne I showed valour on foot in His Majesty's presence.

Ne chc.u=j dhn.kw r Hc-m-Mu-nfr

Ne Then I was assigned to 'Rising in Memphis',

Ne wn.jn.tw ḥr ch3 ḥr mw m P3-Ddkw n Ḥwt-wcrt

Ne and there was fighting on the water in Padjedku of Avaris.

Ne Then I made a capture

and carried off a hand.

Ne smj.tw n whm-nsw

wn.jn.tw ḥr rdjt n=j nbw n qnt

Ne When it was reported to the royal herald, I was given gold of valour.

Ne chc.n whmw h m st tn

Ne Then there was more fighting in this place,

Ne wn.jn.tw hr rdjt n=j nbw n qnt m whm-c

Ne and again I was given gold of valour.

Ne wn.jn.tw hr ch3 m t3 Kmt rst n dmj pn

Ne Then there was fighting in Egypt south of this town,

Ne | cḥc.n jn.n=j sqr-cnḫ s

h3.n = j r p3 mw

Ne I and I brought away a man as captive. I went down into the water,

Se Se sign in twef m mh hr t3 w3t p3

Ne for he was captured on the side of

the town,

Ne d3.n=j  $\underline{h}$ r=f  $\underline{h}$ r mw

smjw n whm-nsw

Ne and crossed the water carrying him. When it was reported to the royal herald,

Ne  ${}^{c}h^{c}.n.tw mk^{1} jw^{c}=j m nbw hr snnw=sj$ 

Ne I was rewarded with gold once more.

<sup>1</sup> Read hr, according to Breasted (1906).



Ne wn.jn.tw | ḥr ḥ³q Ḥwt-w<sup>c</sup>rt wn.jn=j ḥr jnt ḥ³qt jm

Ne Then Avaris was captured, and I brought booty from there:

Ne s 1 st-hmt 3 dmd r tp

Ne one man and three women, altogether four people.

Ne 4 wn.jn hm=f hr rdjt st n=j r hmw

Ne And His Majesty gave them to me for slaves.

Ne wnl.jn.tw hr hmst hr Šrhn m rnpwt 3 wn.jn hm=f

Ne Then Sharahen was besieged for three years, and His Majesty captured it.

Ne hr h3q=s chc.n in.n=i h3qt im

st-hmt 2 drt

Ne Then I brought booty from there: two women and a hand.

Ne wnl.jn.tw hr rdjt n=j nbw n qnt

Ne I was given gold of valour,

Ne mk rdj.tw n=j h3qt r hmw

Ne and I was given the captives for slaves.

Ne hr-m-ht sm3.n hm=f mntjw-Stt

Ne After His Majesty had slain the bedouin tribes of Asia,

Ne | wn.jn=f hr hntyt r Hnt-hn-nfr

17

Ne I he sailed southward to Khent-hen-nefer



Ne r sksk jwntjw-Stj

Ne to destroy the Nubian nomads,



Ne wn.jn hm=f hr jrt ht 9t jm=sn

Ne and His Majesty carried out a large massacre among them.

18

Ne | chc.n jn.n=j h3qt jm

18

Ne | Then | brought booty from there:

Ne s <sup>c</sup>nh 2 drt 3

wn.jn.tw hr jw<sup>c</sup>=j m nbw hr snnw=sj

Ne two living men and three hands. I was rewarded with gold once more,

Ne mk rdj.tw n=j hmt 2

n°|t m hd in hm=f

Ne and two female slaves were given to me. His Majesty sailed northward,

Ne jb=f3w(.w) m qnt nht  $j\underline{t}$ .n=f rsjw mhtjw

Ne rejoicing in strength and victory, having captured southerners and northerners.

Ne chc.n 33t3 jw(.w) n rsj

stkn š³w=f mwt=f

20

Ne Then Aata came to the south.

I and his fate brought on his doom

Ne ntrw Šm<sup>c</sup>w hr3m=f

gm.tw=f jn hm=f m Tnt-t3-c

Ne when the gods of Upper Egypt grasped him. He was found by His Majesty at Tent-ta-o,

Ne wn.jn hm=f hr jnt=f

m sqr-<sup>c</sup>nh

Ne and His Majesty brought him away

l as captive

Ne rmt=f nb m js-h3q

Ne and all his people as booty.

Ne  $^{c}h^{c}$ .n jn.n=j mg $^{3}$  2 m mh m p $^{3}$  dpt n  $^{3}$ t $^{3}$ 

Ne Then I brought two warriors as captives from the ship of Aata.

Se A CA LIR

Ne wn.jn.tw | hr rdjt n=j tp 5 hr dnjw 3ht sgt 5 m

Ne I was given five people and five arourae of land in my town,

Ne njwt=j jrw n t3 hnyt r3w=s m-mjtt

Ne and the same was done for the whole crew.

Ne Then that enemy called Tetian came,

Ne shwj.n=f n=f h3kw-ib wn.jn hm=f hr sm3=f

Ne who had drawn together rebels. His Majesty slew him

Ne jst=f m tmt hpr

Ne and his troop was annihilated.

Ne  $^{c}h^{c}.n$  rdj $_{n=1}$  tp 3 3ht stt 5 m njwt=j

Ne Then I was given three people and five arourae of land in my town.

Ne wn.jn=j hr hnt nsw-bjtj Dsr-k3-R<sup>c</sup> m3<sup>c</sup>-hrw

Ne Then I conveyed the king of Upper and Lower Egypt Djeserkare, justified,

Ne jw=f m hntyt r K3š

Ne as he sailed southward to Kush

Ne r swsh

Itšw Kmt

wn.jn hm=f hr sqr jwntj-Stj pf

Ne to widen

I the borders of Egypt. Then His Majesty smote that Nubian nomad

Ne m hrj-jb mš<sup>c</sup>=f jnw m gw3gw3 nn nhw=sn

Ne in the midst of his army, taken in a stranglehold, none missing,

Ne wthw

m dy hr gs mj ntjw n hpr

2

Ne the fleeing I were felled as though they had never been.

Ne jst wj m tp n mš<sup>c</sup>=n

Ne Now, I was in the van of our army, where I fought properly,

Ne m3.n hm=f qnt=j

Ne and His Majesty saw my valour.

Se 
$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^{27}} \sqrt{10} \int_{\mathbb{R}^{27}} \sqrt{10} \int$$

Ne jn=j drt 2

Ne I carried off two hands, and presented them to His Majesty.

Ne wn.jn.tw hr hhy rmt=f mnmnt=f

Ne Then his people and his cattle were pursued.

Ne chc.n jn.n=j sqr-cnh ms n hm=f

Ne I brought a captive and presented him to His Majesty.

Ne jn=j hm=f m hrw 2 r Kmt

Ne I brought His Majesty to Egypt from Upper Well in two days,

Ne  ${}^{c}h^{c}.n.tw \ hr \ jw^{c}=j \ m \ nbw \ {}^{c}h^{c}.n \ jn.n=j \ hmt \ 2 \ m \ h^{3}q$ 

Ne and I was rewarded with gold. Then I brought away two female slaves as booty,

Ne in addition to those I had presented

to His Majesty.

Ne wn.jn.tw hr rdjt=j r ch3wtj n hq3

Ne Then I was appointed to be warrior-of-the-ruler.

Ne wn.jn=j hr hnt nsw-bjtj 3-hpr-k3-R m3-hrw

Ne Then I conveyed the king of Upper and Lower Egypt Aakheperkare, justified,

Ne jw=f m hntyt r Hnt-hn-nfr

Ne as he sailed southward to Khent-hen-nefer,

Ne | r sswn h³cj ht h³swt

30

Ne I to crush rebellion throughout the lands,

Ne r dr bs n c h3st

Ne and to drive off intrusion from the desert region.

Ne wn.jn=j hr qnt m-b3h=f m p3 mw bjn

Ne I showed valour in his presence at the cataract,

Ne m p3 s3s3

p³ chcw hr t³ pncyt

3

Ne during the towing

I of the fleet through the eddy.

Ne wn.jn.tw hr rdjt=j r hrj-hnyt

Ne Then I was appointed to be naval commander.

Ne wn.jn  $hm=f^c$ .w.s.  $|\int_{-\infty}^{32} |h^c r.jn hm = f^c r = s mj 3by$ 

Ne Then His Majesty (I.p.h.!) [...] I and His Majesty became as enraged as a panther.

Ne wdt hm=f šsr=f tpj mn(.w) m šnbt nt hr pf

Ne His Majesty shot and his first arrow stuck in the chest of that enemy.

Ne wn.jn nn [...]

[...] bdš.w n nsrt=f

Ne Then these [...]

[...] despondent on account of his uraeus.

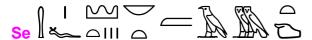
Ne jrw jm m3t hbyt

Ne It was done there in an act of massacre,

Ne jnw hrw=sn m sqrw-cnh

| n<sup>c</sup>t m hd jn hm=f

Ne and their people were brought away as captives. I His Majesty sailed northward,



Ne h3swt nbt m3mmt=f

Ne all foreign lands in his grasp.

Ne jwntj-Stj pf hs m shd

Ne That wretched Nubian nomad hung with his head downward

Ne m hot bjk n hm=f

Ne from the prow of the falcon-ship of His Majesty. One landed I at Karnak.

$$\mathbb{S}_{\mathsf{e}} \otimes = \mathbb{I}_{\mathsf{e}} \mathbb{I}_{\mathsf{e}}$$

Ne m-ht nn wd3 r Rtnw

Ne Thereafter one proceeded to Retjenu,

Ne  $r j^c t j b = f h t h swt$ 

Ne to vent his fury throughout the lands. When His Majesty reached Naharina,

Ne  $\int_{0}^{\infty} gmt \, hm = f^{c}.w.s. \, hrw \, pf \, ts = f \, skw$ 

Ne I His Majesty (I.p.h.!) found that enemy marshalling troops,

Ne wn.jn hm=f hr jrt h3t St jm=sn

Ne and His Majesty carried out a large massacre among them.

Ne nn | tnwt m sqrw-cnh jnn hm=f m nhtw=f

Ne Countless were the captives that His Majesty brought away from his victories.

Ne jst wj m tp n mš<sup>c</sup>=n

m3.n hm=f qnn=j

Ne Now, I was in the van of our army, and His Majesty saw my valour.

39 . . . . .

Ne | jn=j wryt ssm=s

nti hr=s m sqr-cnh

39

Ne I I brought away a chariot, its horse, and him who was on it as captive,

Ne ms n hm=f

wn.jn.tw ḥr jw<sup>c</sup>=j m nbw ḥr snnw=sj

Ne and presented them to His Majesty. I was rewarded with gold once more.

40

Ne | tnj.kw ph.n=j j3wj

40

Ne II have grown old and reached old age.

# 

Ne hswt=i mi tpt=s [...] mr [...]

htp=j m hrt jrt.n=j ds=j

Ne The favours towards me are as before [...] beloved [...] I rest in the tomb that I myself

Ne built.

Se Se

Ne [...] sgt 60 m Ḥsd³c dmd sgt [...]

Ne Egypt [...] I 60 arourae in Hadjaa, altogether [...] arourae.

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Ne | jmj-rn=f n n3 n hmw hmwt n h3qt rdj n=j
Ne I List of names of the male and female slaves from the booty given to me:
  48
   hm P3y-3bdw
                                           hm Snb-nb=f
Ne | hm P3-md3y
Ne I male slave Pamedjai;
                       I male slave Pajabdju;
                                           I male slave Senebnebef;
  51
            l hm Dhwtj-snbw
               hm Qn-p3-hq3
Ne | hm [...]
Ne I male slave [...]; I male slave Qenpakhega; I male slave Djehutisenebu;
  hm Sbk-ms
                                    hm P3-53m
                   ∣hm H3-r3y
                                                 l hmt
Ne I male slave Sobekmes; I male slave Kharai;
                                    I male slave Paam; I female slave Taa;
  T33 | hmt Sdm[=s]-n=j
                        hmt Bkt
                                      hmt
     I female slave Sedjemesni; I female slave Baket; I female slave Ka[...]isi;
Ne
             Se
                                   hmt
Ne K3-[...]=j-sj | hmt T3-S-m-tw
            I female slave Taametju;
                                   I female slave Wabentasachmet;
Ne
```