Ahmose son of Abana, Autobiography of

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

Bibliography

Nederhof - English
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
Naval commander Ahmose, son of Abana, justified, says:

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

I have been rewarded with gold seven times before the entire land, and with male and female slaves as well. I have been endowed with very many fields.

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

without ever perishing in this land." He says:

"I grew up in the town of Nekheb.

My father was a soldier of the king of Upper and Lower Egypt Seqenenre, justified,
and was called Baba, son of Rainet.

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

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

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

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

Then I followed the sovereign (l.p.h.) on foot
Ne m-ḥt swtwt=f ḥr wrryt=l=f
Ne after him riding on this chariot.

Ne jw ḥms.tw ḥr dmj n Ḥwt-wrt
Ne When the town of Avaris was besieged,

Ne wn.hr=j ḥr qnt ḥr rdwj=j m-bḥ ḥm=f
Ne I showed valour on foot in His Majesty's presence.

Ne qḥc.n=j dhn.kl w Ḥc-m-Mn-nfr
Ne Then I was assigned to 'Rising in Memphis',

Ne wn.jn.tw ḥr qḥj ḥr mw m Pḫ-Ddkw n Ḥwt-wrt
Ne and there was fighting on the water in Padjedku of Avaris.

Ne qḥc.n ḥḥf.n=j
Ne Then I made a capture

Ne smj.tw n ḥḥm-nsw
Ne When it was reported to the royal herald, I was given gold of valour.

Ne qḥc.n ḥḥm w ḥḥm ʿḥš m st tn
Ne Then there was more fighting in this place,
again I made a capture there and carried off a hand,

and again I was given gold of valour.

Then there was fighting in Egypt south of this town,

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

for he was captured on the side of the town,

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

I was rewarded with gold once more.

Read ḫr, according to Breasted (1906).
Then Avaris was captured, and I brought booty from there:

one man and three women, altogether four people.

And His Majesty gave them to me for slaves.

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

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

I was given gold of valour,

and I was given the captives for slaves.

After His Majesty had slain the bedouin tribes of Asia,
Se
17
Ne
1 wn.jn=f ḥr ḫntyt r Ḥnt-ḥn-nfr
Ne
1 he sailed southward to Khent-hen-nefer

Se
17
Ne r sksk jwntjw-Stj
Ne to destroy the Nubian nomads,

Se
17
Ne wn.jn ḫm=f ḥr jrt ḥṯt ȝt jm=sn
Ne and His Majesty carried out a large massacre among them.

Se
18
Ne ȝḥc.n jn.n=j ḫq t jm
Ne Then I brought booty from there:

Se
18
Ne ȝnh 2 ḏrt 3 wn.jn.tw ḥr jw c=j m nbw ḥr snnw=ṣj
Ne two living men and three hands. I was rewarded with gold once more,

Se
19
Ne mk ṛdj.tw n=j ḫmt 2 nḥt m ḫd jm ḫm=f
Ne and two female slaves were given to me. His Majesty sailed northward,

Se
19
Ne ḫb=f ˒w(.w) m qnt nḥt jȝ.t n=f rsjw mḥṭjw
Ne rejoicing in strength and victory, having captured southerners and northerners.
Then Aata came to the south, and his fate brought on his doom.

When the gods of Upper Egypt grasped him. He was found by His Majesty at Tent-ta-o, and His Majesty brought him away as captive.

And all his people as booty.

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

I was given five people and five arourae of land in my town, and the same was done for the whole crew.
Then that enemy called Tetian came,

who had drawn together rebels. His Majesty slew him

and his troop was annihilated.

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

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

as he sailed southward to Kush

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

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

26

m Dy Hr gs mj ntjw n hpr

the fleeing were felled as though they had never been.

Ne

jst wj m tp n mš=n jw ḫ⼊.n=j r wn-mšc

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

Ne

mš.n ḫm=f qnt=j

and His Majesty saw my valour.

Ne

jn=j ḫrt 2 mš n ḫm=f

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

Ne

wn.jn.tw ḫ ḫy rmš=f mnmnt=f

Then his people and his cattle were pursued.

Ne

ḫc.n jn=n=j sqr-Sah ḫs n ḫm=f

I brought a captive and presented him to His Majesty.

Ne

jn=j ḫm=f m hrw 2 ḫ Kmt m ḫnmt-ḫrw

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

Ne

ḫc.n.tw ḫ jw-Sah m nbw ḫc.n jn.n=j ḫmt 2 m ḫq

and I was rewarded with gold. Then I brought away two female slaves as booty,
Ne ḭrw nn n ms.n=f
Ne in addition to those I had presented
   l to His Majesty.

Ne wn.jn.tw ḥr ḗḏjt=n r ḡwṛtj n ḥq³
Ne Then I was appointed to be warrior-of-the-ruler.

Ne wn.jn=f ḥnt nsw-bjtj ẖpr-kꜣ-Rꜣ mꜣ-ḥrw
Ne Then I conveyed the king of Upper and Lower Egypt Aakheperkare, justified,

Ne jw=f m ḥnty t Ḥnt-ḥn-nfr
Ne as he sailed southward to Khent-hen-nefer,

Ne lr sswn ḥꜣ jḥ t ḥꜣ swt
   l to crush rebellion throughout the lands,

Ne ḥr ds n ḥꜣ s
Ne and to drive off intrusion from the desert region.

Ne wn.jn=f ḥr qnt m-bḥ=f m pꜣ mw bjn
Ne I showed valour in his presence at the cataract,
During the towing of the fleet through the eddy, I was appointed to be naval commander. Then His Majesty (I, p.h.!) and His Majesty became as enraged as a panther. His Majesty shot and his first arrow stuck in the chest of that enemy. Then these [...] despondent on account of his uraeus. It was done there in an act of massacre, and their people were brought away as captives. His Majesty sailed northward,
Ne ḫꜣswt nbt m ḫmmt=f
Ne all foreign lands in his grasp.

Ne jwntj-Stj pf ḫs m ṣḥd
Ne That wretched Nubian nomad hung with his head downward

Ne m ḫt bjk n ḫm=f
djw r tī l m Jpt-swt
Ne from the prow of the falcon-ship of His Majesty. One landed l at Karnak.

Ne m-ḫt nn wdʒ r ṣtfw
Ne Thereafter one proceeded to Retjenu,

Ne r ḫt jb=f ḫt ḫꜣswt
spr ḫm=f r Nhṛn
Ne to vent his fury throughout the lands. When His Majesty reached Naharina,

Ne 1 ḫmt ḫm=f c.w.s. ḫrw pf ṣtf=f skw
Ne 1 His Majesty (l.p.h.!) found that enemy marshalling troops,

Ne wn.jn ḫm=f ḫr jrt ḫt ḫt jm=sn
Ne and His Majesty carried out a large massacre among them.

Ne nn ṣtfw m sqrw-_DEFAULTジャンnThe ḫm=f m ṣḥt=ὴ
Ne Countless were the captives that His Majesty brought away from his victories.
Now, I was in the van of our army, and His Majesty saw my valour.

I brought away a chariot, its horse, and him who was on it as captive, and presented them to His Majesty. I was rewarded with gold once more.

I have grown old and reached old age.

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

Again I was given by the king of Upper and Lower Egypt [...], altogether 60 arourae in Hadjaa, altogether [...].
List of names of the male and female slaves from the booty given to me:

- Male slave Pamedjai;
- Male slave Pajabdju;
- Male slave Senebnebef;
- Male slave [...];
- Male slave Qenpakheqa;
- Male slave Djehutisenebu;
- Male slave Sobekmes;
- Male slave Kharai;
- Male slave Paam;
- Female slave Taa;
- Female slave Sedjemesni;
- Female slave Baket;
- Female slave Ka [...]isi;
- Female slave Taametju;
- Female slave Wabentasachmet;
Ne Wcb.n-tā-Shmt ḫmt Js-tā-rā-jw-mj  ḫmt
Ne  | female slave Istarajumi;  | female slave Itnefer;

Ne  ḫmt Hdt-Kwš  ḫmt Jmn-hr-ssnb
Ne  | female slave Hadetkush;  | female slave Amunherseseneb.