

# Ineni, biography

## Sethe

Created on 2014-12-07 by Mark-Jan Nederhof.

Transcription of the biography of Ineni, following Sethe (1927), number 20 (pp. 53-62).

## Bibliography

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

## Nederhof - English

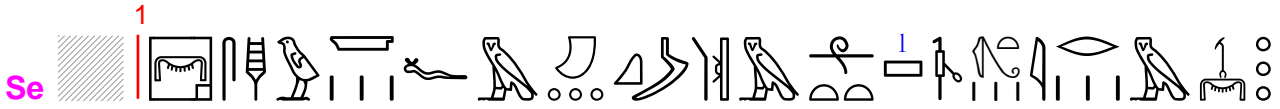
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Transliteration and translation of the biography of Ineni, following the transcription of Sethe (1927), number 20 (pp. 53-62).

For published translations, see Breasted (1906), p. 20, §§ 45-46; pp. 40-44, §§ 99-108; pp. 47-48, §§ 115-118; pp. 142-143, §§ 340-343; Sethe (1914), number 20 (pp. 28-33).

## Bibliography

- J.H. Breasted. *Ancient Records of Egypt -- Volume II*. The University of Chicago Press, 1906.
- K. Sethe. *Urkunden der 18. Dynastie -- übersetzt, Volume I*. Hinrichs, Leipzig, 1914.
- K. Sethe. *Urkunden der 18. Dynastie, Volume I*. Hinrichs, Leipzig, 1927.



**Ne** [...] | Ḥwt-nbw s<sup>h</sup>c<sup>w</sup> ʿw=f m ḥmtj qm<sup>3</sup> m sḫt w<sup>c</sup>

**Ne** [...] | Hatnub. Its doors were erected of copper, made from a single copper plate,

<sup>1</sup> Depicts copper plate.

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**Ne** tjt<sup>w</sup> jrj<sup>w</sup> m d<sup>c</sup>m jw m<sup>3</sup>.n=j jr ḥm=f [...] [...] | ḥsmn stt

**Ne** its signs of electrum. I saw my majesty making [...] [...] | bronze, Asian copper,

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**Ne** mnj<sup>w</sup>t qrh<sup>w</sup>t wsh<sup>w</sup> jw=j m ḥrp ḥm<sup>w</sup>t nbt

**Ne** merits, vessels, collars. I was leader of all craftsmen,

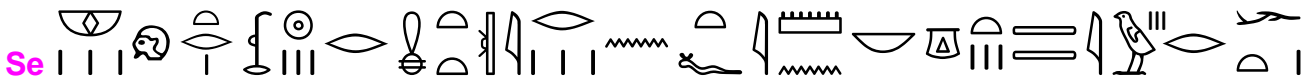
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**Ne** j<sup>3</sup>wt nbt ḥr st-ḥr=j wd [...] [hrww wnw ḥr] jm

**Ne** every office was under my command. [...] ordered [...] [...] there,

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**Ne** ḥbw tp-trw r-mjtt-jrj<sup>w</sup> n jt=f Jmn nb Nswt-t<sup>3</sup>wj

**Ne** calendar festivals as well, for his father Amun, lord of the Thrones of the Two Lands.

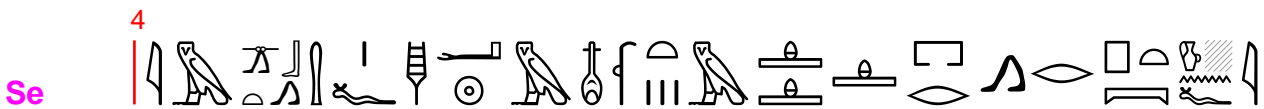
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**Ne** jw=w r-ht=j sjp.tw n=j jnk ḥsb r [...]

**Ne** They were under my supervision, entrusted to me. It was I who assigned [...]

---



**Ne** [...] | jm s<sup>b</sup>t ḥm=f c<sup>h</sup>c<sup>w</sup> m nfr rnpwt m ḥtpw pr r pt

**Ne** [...] | there. His Majesty passed a lifetime with good years in peace, went to heaven,

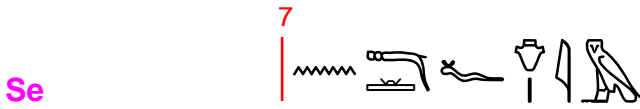
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Se 

Ne swd.tw n=j jht nbt hr [nsw-bjtj

Ne All things were entrusted to me under [the king of Upper and Lower Egypt,

Se 

Ne ntr pn nfr] | n mh=f jb jm=j

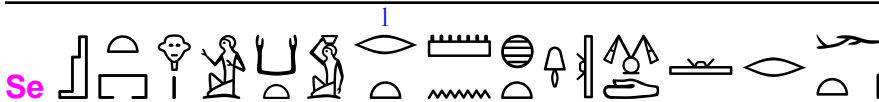
Ne this good god,] | because he trusted me.

Se 

Ne jn.kw r h3tj-<sup>c</sup> jmj-r3 šnwtj


Ne I was appointed as count and overseer of the storehouses.

<sup>1</sup> Depicts a double storehaus.

Se 

Ne 3hwt htp-ntr hr st-hr=j

Ne The fields of the god's offerings were under my command.

<sup>1</sup> Read  .

Se 

Ne k3t nbt mnht dmd r-hr=j

Ne All excellent works together were under my authority.

Se 

Ne jw m3.n=j mnw wrw jr.n=f [m Jpt-swt

Ne I saw the great works that he built [in Karnak,

Se 

Ne s<sup>h</sup>c jwnyt špst m w3dw

s<sup>h</sup>c] | bhnwt wryt hr gswj

Ne erecting the magnificent hall of papyrus columns, erecting] | great pylons next to it,

<sup>1</sup> Depicts pylon.



**Se**

**Ne** m jnr ḥḏ nfr n ʿnw sḥʿ snyt špswt r rwtj ḥwt-nṯr

**Ne** from beautiful white limestone, erecting the magnificent flagstaffs in front of the temple,



**Se**

**Ne** m ʿš mʾ n tp n ḥtjw tpw=sn m ḏʿm jw mʾ.n[=j sḥʿ] [...]

**Ne** from fresh cedar from Lebanon, its tips from electrum. I saw erection of [...]



**Se**

**Ne** | bʾk(.w) m ḏʿm jw mʾ.n=j sḥʿ sbʾ ʾ

**Ne** | plated with electrum. I saw erection of the great gate



**Se**

**Ne** Shm-ḏw-Jmn ʾ=f wr m ḥmtj Stt

**Ne** Sechem-faw-Amun, its large door from Asian copper,



**Se**

**Ne** šwt-nṯr ḥr=f ms m nbw jw mʾ.n=j sḥʿ thnwj [wrwj

**Ne** the sacred figure thereon made from gold. I saw erection of the two [great] obelisks



**Se**

**Ne** r rwtj ḥwt-nṯr m jnr n mʾt]

**Ne** [in front of the temple from granite.]



**Se**

**Ne** jw mʾ.n=j | mḏḥ dpt špst

**Ne** I saw | construction of a magnificent ship,



**Se**

**Ne** nt mḥ 120 m ʾw=s mḥ 40 m wsh=s r ḥnt nn n thnw

**Ne** 120 cubits long and 40 cubits wide, to ship these obelisks.

---

Se 

Ne jw=w m htp cḏ wdʃ sḥ.n tʃ r Jpt-swṯ

Ne They came in peace, safe and sound, and arrived in Karnak.

---

Se 

Ne [jw mʃ.n=j šɔd š

Ne [I saw the digging of a lake,

---

Se 

Ne jr.n n=f hm=f hr jmntt]

Ne which His Majesty made for himself on the west side]

11  
| nt njwt  
11  
| of the

---

Se 

Ne wd mʃ<sup>c</sup>w=f m ht nb bnrw

Ne city. Its banks were planted with all kinds of sweet trees.

---

Se 

Ne jw mʃ.n=j šɔd hrt nt hm=f m w<sup>cc</sup>w n mʃ n sdm

Ne I saw the digging of the rock tomb of His Majesty in private, unseen, unheard.

---

Se 

Ne jw ḏ<sup>c</sup>r.n=j ʃht hrw [...] m kʃt

Ne I investigated what could be useful for this. [...] in excellent work.

---

Se 

Ne tp=j rs(.w) hr ḥhj ʃh.tj=sj jw shpr.n=j ʃhwt qʃh

Ne My mind was vigilant seeking what would be useful. I created clay fields,

---

Se 

Ne r šsr jsw=sn nw hrt-nṯr kʃt pw n jr.tw sj ḏr-bʃh

Ne to cover their tombs in the necropolis. These were works that hadn't been done before.

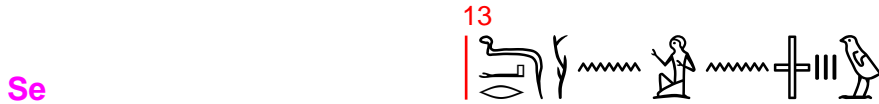
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**Ne** š3 n=j jrt jm hpr(.w) wrt

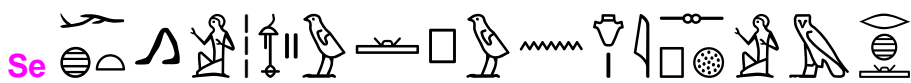
**Ne** What was ordered to me to be done there happened thoroughly.

<sup>1</sup> Depicts oval walls.



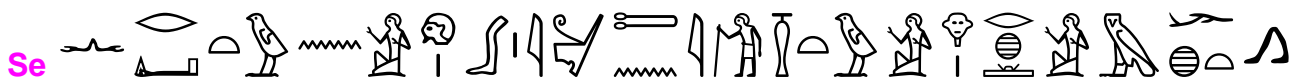
**Ne** jdn n=s jnbw [...] d<sup>c</sup>r.n=j n jmjw-ht

**Ne** For this, walls were built [...] I took thought for posterity,



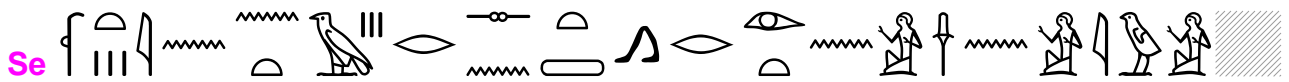
**Ne** hmwj pw n jb=j sp=j m rh

**Ne** which was labour close to my heart. My character was wise,



**Ne** n rdj.tw n=j tp-rd jn tnj hs.tw=j hr rh=j

**Ne** no instruction was given to me by an elder. I will be praised on account of my wisdom



**Ne** m-ht rnpwt jn ntjw r snt r jrt.n=j hrp.n=j jw=j [...]

**Ne** for years afterwards by those who will emulate what I have done. I directed as I [...]



**Ne** | jw=j m r3-hrj n k3t nbt jw hswt=j mn.tj m ch

**Ne** | I was highest administrator of all works. Praise for me endured in the palace,



**Ne** mrwt=j hr šnyt s3h.n wj hm=f m mrt

**Ne** the love for me with the courtiers. His Majesty endowed me with labourers,



**Ne** cqw=j hr šnwt nt pr-nsu m hrt-hrw nt r<sup>c</sup> nb

**Ne** my provisions were from the storehouse of the palace every day.

Se

Ne ḥtp nsw m ḥnh pr r ḥrt

Ne The king departed from this life and went to heaven,

Se

Ne km=f rnpwt=f m ndm-jb bjk jmj šš [...]

Ne having completed his years in happiness. The falcon in the nest [...]

Ne [ḥ<sup>c</sup>.w ḥr st-Hr

Ne [had appeared on the Horus-throne,]

Se <sup>15</sup>

Ne <sup>15</sup> | nsw-bjtj ḥ-hpr-n-R<sup>c</sup>

Ne <sup>15</sup> | the king of Upper and Lower Egypt Aakheperenre,

Se

Ne nsy=f Kmt ḥq<sup>3</sup> dšrt

Ne so that he would govern the Black Land and rule the Red Land,

Se

Ne jt.n=f jdbwj m m<sup>3c</sup>-ḥrw

Ne having taken possession of the Two Banks in triumph.

Se

Ne jw=j m mh-jb n nsw m st=f nbt

Ne I was a confidant of the king in each of his offices.

Se

Ne ḥ<sup>3</sup> jrt.n=f n=j r jmjw-ḥ<sup>c</sup>t ph.n=j j<sup>3</sup>wt jm<sup>3</sup>hyw

Ne He did more for me than others before. I reached the old age of the honoured elders,

Ne jw=j m ḥswt ḥm=f m ḥrt-hrw snm.tw=j ḥr ḥ<sup>3</sup>wt nt nsw

Ne I was in the favour of His Majesty every day, I was served from the table of the king,



<sup>16</sup>  
**Se**

<sup>16</sup>  
**Ne** | m t n <sup>c</sup>bw-r3 nsw                      ḥnqt mjtt jwf ḏḏ3 rnpwt

<sup>16</sup>  
**Ne** | with bread from the royal breakfast, also beer, rich meat, vegetables,

**Se**

**Ne** dqr šbn                      bjt š<sup>c</sup>wt jrp b3q

**Ne** different kinds of fruit, honey, cakes, wine and ben oil.

**Se**

**Ne** jw nḏ.tw ḥrt=j m snb <sup>c</sup>nh                      m ḏḏ ḥm=f ḏs=f n mrt=j

**Ne** I was greeted with 'health and life!' and His Majesty himself said it, for love for me.

**Se**

**Ne** pr r ḥrt                      ḥnm.n=f m nṯrw

**Ne** He went to heaven and united with the gods.

**Se**

**Ne** s3=f <sup>c</sup>h<sup>c</sup>(.w) m st=f m nsw t3wj

**Ne** His son took his place as king of the Two Lands

**Se**

**Ne** ḥq3.n=f ḥr nst nt wt3 sw                      | snt=f ḥmt-nṯr Ḥ3t-špswt

**Ne** and he ruled on the throne of his begetter. | His sister, the god's wife Hatshepsut,

**Se**

**Ne** ḥr jrt mḥrw t3                      t3wj ḥr shr=s                      b3k.tw n=s

**Ne** governed the land; the Two Lands were under her direction. She is served,

**Se**

**Ne** Kmt m w3ḥ-tp                      prt nṯr 3ḥt prt ḥnt=f

**Ne** while Egypt is humble, beneficent seed of the god, which came from him,

**Se** 

**Ne** h3tt nt Šm<sup>c</sup>w                      mnjt rsw

**Ne** prow rope of Upper Egypt, mooring post of the southerners,

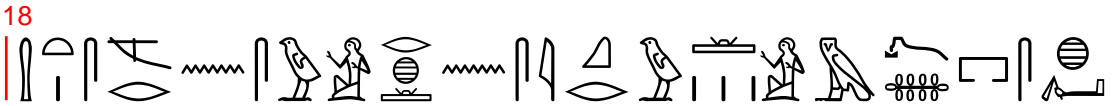
**Se** 

**Ne** phyt pw mnht nt T3-mhw                      nbt wd-mdw

**Ne** she is the excellent stern rope of Lower Egypt, a mistress of command,

**Ne** mnḥ shr=s                      hrrt jdbwj ḥft mdw=s

**Ne** with excellent plans, who satisfies the Two Banks when she speaks.

**Se** <sup>18</sup> 

**Ne** ḥs.n wj | ḥmt=s                      mr.n=s wj      rh.n=s jqrw=j m stp-s<sup>3</sup>

**Ne** Her Majesty praised me, she loved me, she recognised my excellence in the palace.

**Se** 

**Ne** shwd.n=s wj m ḥt                      s<sup>3</sup>.n=s wj                      mh.n=s jm<sup>3</sup>=j m ḥd nbw

**Ne** She enriched me with property, she advanced me, she filled my hut with silver and gold,

**Se** 

**Ne** m sšrw nb nfr n pr-nsw                      n dd=j                      ḥ<sup>3</sup> n=j r jht nbt

**Ne** and all good things of the palace, without me saying 'O, I wish I had ...!' about anything.

**Se** 

**Ne** dd=j n=tn rmt                      sdmw jr=tn bw-nfr

**Ne** I say to you, people: 'Hear! Do good things.'

**Se** <sup>19</sup> 

**Ne** jr n=j                      | jr=tn mjtt

**Ne** What was done for me | will likewise be done for you,

---

Se

Ne sbt=j ḥ<sup>c</sup>w m ḥtp                                  n ḥpr bt<sup>b</sup>=j

Ne the passing of my lifetime was in peace, there was no crime of mine,

---

Se

Ne rnpwt=j m ndm-jb                                  nn šnty=j

Ne my years were in happiness, there was no enmity towards me,

---

Se

Ne nn srḥ=j    nn kt=j

Ne there was no accusation against me, I was not feeble,

---

Se

Ne nn ḏb<sup>c</sup>w=j    jnk ḥrp ḥrpw

Ne there was no reproach against me, I was a leader of leaders,

---

Se

Ne n ḥpr sk=j    mnḥ jb n nb=f šw m b<sup>3</sup>g

Ne there was no complaint against me, loyal to his lord, free of carelessness.

---

Ne jnk sdm ḏdt.n ḥrj-tp=f

Ne I was one who listened to what his superior had said.

---

Se <sup>20</sup>

Ne n bq-ljb=j r wrw jmjw ḥ<sup>h</sup>

Ne I was not full of resentments towards the great ones in the palace.

---

Se

Ne jw jr.n=j mrrt ntr njwtj    šw=j m ḏt r<sup>3</sup> ḥr jḥt ntr

Ne I did what my city god loved. I was free of pilfering from the property of the god.

---

Se

Ne jr skk rnpwt m ḥsy                                  wnn b<sup>3</sup>=f ḥnh(.w) r-<sup>c</sup> nb-r-ḏr

Ne As for one who passes years being praised, his soul will live beside the Lord of All,

---



**Se**

**Ne** rn=f nfr m r3 ʿnhw

**Ne** his good name will be in the mouths of the living,

<sup>1</sup> Depicts a double storehouse.

---



**Se**

**Ne** sh3t=f 3h=f n dt

jm3hy h3tj-<sup>c</sup>

**Ne** his memory and his blessedness are for eternity.' Revered, count,

---

**Ne** jmj-r3 šnwtj n Jmn

sš Jnnj m3<sup>c</sup>-hrw

**Ne** overseer of the storehouses of Amun, the scribe Ineni, justified.

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