Abydos stela of Tuthmosis I

Sethe


Transcription of the Abydos stela of Tuthmosis I, following the transcription of Sethe (1927), number 39 (pp. 94-103), but with layout following Mariette (1880), plate 31.

Bibliography


Nederhof - English


Transliteration and translation of the Abydos stela of Tuthmosis I, following the transcription of Sethe (1927), number 39 (pp. 94-103).

The transliteration throughout follows Hannig (1995).

For published translations, see Breasted (1906), pp. 37-40, §§ 90-98; Sethe (1914), number 39 (pp. 48-52).

Bibliography

[...] hrwj

How pleasant is this in the hearts of the people,

nn m jbw rmt śnwj nn m ḫrw nṯrw

how beautiful is this in the sight of the gods,

jr=k mnw n Wsjr

that you are building monuments for Osiris,

sḏsr=k ḫntjw jmntyj

that you sanctify the foremost of those in the west, the great god of the primordial time,

sḥnt.n Jtm st=f

whose position Atum advanced, whom he made great before his [children],

bkw n=f nsyw-bjtjw

whom the kings of Upper and Lower Egypt have served, since this land was founded.
You were born to him, he created you by the righteousness of his heart,

You do what he did in the land, to perpetuate the shrines of the gods,

Geb has opened to you what is in it, Tatenen has given you his possession,

Every kind of precious stone is contained in your house. You have no unfulfilled wish,
Ne  His Majesty commanded the treasurer to direct works, letting [...] go [...] all skilled [...] of his personnel, and the best of his staff, who know the instructions,

Ne  who are experienced in what they know,

Ne  and who do not neglect what they were commanded,

Ne  to [build] a monument for his father [Osiris], to create his statue for eternity,

Ne  which was embellished and kept very secret, not seen, not beheld, its form unknown,

Ne  for which was created a beautiful palanquin of silver, gold, lapis lazuli, black copper,

1 Actual sign has different shape.
Ne 8:nbt śpst  ħrp.n=f wdhw $[\text{St}]$
Ne  and every kind of precious stone. I provided him with offering tables,

Ne shmw sššyt mnjt[1]w  ā sft=j jm
Ne  sceptres, sistra, menits, censers, and bowls. My great offerings were there,
1 Actual sign has different shape.
2 Actual sign has different shape.

Ne n tṣj.n=sn  n jīr.n 3bw jm
Ne  which didn't cease, as (I) did not end them.

Ne jw grt mḏḥ.l.n=j n[=f nšm]t śpst  m 5š m3c n fp-hṯjw
Ne  I built for [him] a splendid [Neshmet-barque] of real cedar from Lebanon,

Ne hḥt=s pḥ=s m d Gst m nj=Wm=s nwy  r jīt nt=f jm=s
Ne  its bow and its stern of electrum. It adorned the water, to make its voyage therein,

Ne m ḥbb=f n w Pqr  jw grt $[\text{St}]$ jm  m nj=f
Ne  at his feast in the district of Peqer. My Majesty ordered the creation of the Great Ennead

Ne jmt 3bdw  ḏd w̄ jm m nj=f
Ne  that is in Abydos, calling each of them by his name: Khnum, lord of Her-wer, in Abydos,
HnMW nb Qbhw hrj-jb r 3bdw Dhwtj šhm ntrIw hntj Hsr
Khnum, lord of Kebehu, in Abydos, Thoth, might of the gods, foremost of Hesret,

Hr hntj Hm Ḥr-nd-ḥr-jt=f Wpj-wḥwt Šm-fw
Horus foremost of Letopolis, Harendotis, Upwawet of Upper Egypt,

Read  

Wpj-wḥwt Mḥw sḏt ṣḏsrw ḏt=sn
Upwawet of Lower Egypt. Their forms were made secret and sacred,

jḥt jṛj m ḍm ṣmnḫw r jmt=sn ḫṭ
the standards thereof were of electrum, made better than they were before,

dṣr st ḥḥprt m ḥḥ p st r ṣḥrw ḏwṭ
more sacred than what is in heaven, more secret than the fashion of the underworld,

[wḥš] st ḥḥ ḫnr ḫn n ḫnt=j Wṣjr
more [honoured] than those in the primordial waters.

My Majesty did this for my father Osiris,
Ne n-cit-n mrr=j sw r ntrw nbw n-mrwt mn rn=j
Ne because I loved him more than all the other gods, so that my name will endure,

Ne rwd mnw=j m pr jt=j Wjsr hntj jmntjw
Ne and my monuments last in the house of my father Osiris, foremost of those in the west,

Ne nb sbdw nhh hn c dt
Ne lord of Abydos, forever and ever.

Ne [sdmw jrf] tn jtw-ntr nw r3-pr pn w c-bw hrtjw-hbt
Ne [Hear,] divine fathers of this temple, priests, lector priests,

Se jmjw-st-c wnwt hwt-ntr mj-qd=s hnkw n mr
Se acolytes, and the entire priesthood of the temple. Make offering to the pyramid,

1 Read .

Se drpw n cby smnhw mnw hm=j
Se sacrifice to the offering-stone, preserve the monuments of My Majesty,

Se dmw rn=j shbw nhbt=j
Se mention my name, remember my titulary,
Ne  jmlw ḥkw n twt=ḥ ṣwššw ḥmtj hm=ḥ
give praise to my image, honour the statue of My Majesty,

Ne  jmw rn=ḥ m ṣ n ḥmw=ṭn ṣḥḥ=ḥ hr msw=ṭn
put my name in the mouth of your servants, the memory of me among your children,

Ne  ḥr-ntt jnk nsw mnḥ n jr.tw n=f ṭq qn
I am an excellent king for whom one acts, singularly brave

Ne  n ṣḥḥ.tw ṭn=f ṭ ḏḥwṭj jrt.n=ḥ m ṭ ṭn r ḥḥ.tj ṭn
whose name one remembers, according to what I did in this land, as you know.

Ne  nn m jwms ḥft-ḥr=ṭn nn ṣb ḥjm
It is not in untruth before you, there is no exaggeration.

Ne  jr.n=ḥ mnw n ṭrw sdsr.ḥ=ḥ ḥmw=sn n-m-ḥt
I built monuments for the gods, I sanctified their chapels for the future,

Ne  smnh.ḥ=ḥ ṭrw-pr=sn srwḥ.ḥ=ḥ wnt ṭṣ
I restored their temples, I perpetuated what had fallen into ruin,
Ne sn.n=j jrlyt dr-biḥ dj=j rḥ wcbw jrt=sn
Ne I surpassed what had been done before, I let priests know their duty,

Ne sšm.n=j ḥm r ḥmt.n=f
Ne I led the ignorant to what he didn't know,

Ne dj=j ḥw-hr jrt.n kjwj nsylw ḥprw ḥr-hḥt
Ne I gave more than what other kings did who had been before.

Ne ntrw ḥr ršwt m ḥw=j rāw-pr=sn m ḥb
Ne The gods are joyful near me, their temples are celebrating.

Ne jr.n=j tḥsw tḥ-mrj r šnnt jtn
Ne I established the borders of Egypt to what the sun revolves around.

Ne dj=j wn ḫnt wnw ḥr hryt dr=j ḏwt ḥr=s
Ne I make strong who were in fear, I repel the evil from them.

Ne dj=j wn Kmt m ḥrt-tp tḥ nb m mrt=s
Ne I let Egypt be chief, every land being its subject,
as does one singularly beloved of Amun, son of Re, of his body, his beloved

Tuthmosis, shining like Re, beloved of Osiris foremost of those in the west,

great god, lord of Abydos, ruler of eternity, given life, stability, dominion and health,

who appeared as king of Upper and Lower Egypt, on the Horus-throne of the living,

his heart being glad with his spirit, like Re forever.