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
How pleasant is this in the hearts of the people,

how beautiful is this in the sight of the gods,

that you are building monuments for Osiris,

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

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

according to whose will he founded the land,

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,

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

and [restore] their temples. To you belongs gold, to you belongs silver,

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

all foreign lands serve you, all lands are under your direction,

every kind of precious stone [is contained] in your house. You have no unfulfilled wish,

ordain and it happens, command and it will be done,

what will happen is what your spirit desires.
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, and who do not neglect what they were commanded, to [build] a monument for his father [Osiris], to create his statue for eternity, which was embellished and kept very secret, not seen, not beheld, its form unknown, for which was created a beautiful palanquin of silver, gold, lapis lazuli, black copper, Actual sign has different shape.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Line</th>
<th>Translation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>and every kind of precious stone. I provided him with offering tables,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>sceptres, sistra, menits, censers, and bowls. My great offerings were there,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>which didn’t cease, as (I) did not end them.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>I built for [him] a splendid [Neshmet-barque] of real cedar from Lebanon,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>its bow and its stern of electrum. It adorned the water, to make its voyage therein,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>at his feast in the district of Peqer. My Majesty ordered the creation of the Great Ennead</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>that is in Abydos, calling each of them by his name: Khnum, lord of Her-wer, in Abydos,</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Ne Hnmw nb Qbhw ḫr-jb r ḫbdw Dhwtj šhm nṯrw ḫntj Hsrt
Ne Khnum, lord of Kebehu, in Abydos, Thoth, might of the gods, foremost of Hesret,

Ne ḫr ḫntj ḫm  ḫr-nd-ḫr-jt=f Wpj-wḥwt Smw
Ne Horus foremost of Letopolis, Harendotis, Upwawet of Upper Egypt,

¹ Read ".

Ne Wpj-wḥwt Mḥw sštw sḏsrw ḫt=sn
Ne Upwawet of Lower Egypt. Their forms were made secret and sacred,

Ne jḥw t jṛj m ḫmr ṣḥmrw ḫmt=sn ḫt
Ne the standards thereof were of electrum, made better than they were before,

Ne ḫsr ṣt ḫprt m ṣḥ ṣr ṣḥrw ḫwšt
Ne more sacred than what is in heaven, more secret than the fashion of the underworld,

Ne [wḥš] ṣt ḫmrjw nwn
Ne more [honoured] than those in the primordial waters.

Ne ḫr.n ḫmr=j nn n jṯ=j Wṣjr
Ne My Majesty did this for my father Osiris,
Ne n-C3t-n mrr=j sw r ntw nw 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 Wsjr  hntj  jmmtjw
Ne and my monuments last in the house of my father Osiris, foremost I of those in the west,

Ne nb bdw  nhh hnC dt
Ne lord of Abydos, forever and ever.

Ne [sdmw jrf] tn jtw-ntr nw r3-pr pn wCbw hrjw-hbt
Ne [Hear,] divine fathers of this temple, priests, lector priests,

Ne jmjw-stC wnw  hwt-ntr mj-qd=s hnk w nm
Ne acolytes, and the entire priesthood of the temple. Make offering to the pyramid,

1 Read .

Ne drpw n Cb3  smnhw mnw nw hm=j
Ne sacrifice to the offering-stone, preserve the monuments of My Majesty,

Ne dmw rn=j  shw nhbt=j
Ne mention my name, remember my titulary.
Ne jm\l w hknw n twt=j swššw hntj hm=j
Ne give praise to my image, honour the statue of My Majesty,

Ne jm\w rn=j m r c n hmw=tn shš=j hr msw=tn
Ne put my name in the mouth of your servants, the memory of me among your children,

Ne hr-ntt jnk nsw mn\h n jr.tw n=f w c qn
Ne as I am an excellent king for whom one acts, singularly brave

Ne n shš.tw rn=f r ðwť jrt.n=j m t\p pn r rh.tj tn
Ne whose name one remembers, according to what I did in this land, as you know.

Ne nn m jwms hft-hr=tn nn c b c jm
Ne It is not in untruth before you, there is no exaggeration.

Ne jr.n=j mnw n n\tw s\dsr.n=j hmw=sn n-m-ḥt
Ne I built monuments for the gods, I sanctified their chapels for the future,

1 Read .

Ne smnh.n=j r\w-pr=sn s\rw.n=j wnt wšs
Ne I restored their temples, I perpetuated what had fallen into ruin,
I surpassed what had been done before, I let priests know their duty,

I led the ignorant to what he didn't know,

I gave more than what other kings did who had been before.

The gods are joyful near me, their temples are celebrating.

I established the borders of Egypt to what the sun revolves around.

I make strong who were in fear, I repel the evil from them.

I let Egypt be chief, every land being its subject,
Ne as does one singularly beloved of Amun, son of Re, of his body, his beloved

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

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

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

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