

The stela of *Nedjemankh*
(CG22084/ GEM* 15550) from Dendera

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بإصدار أغسطس لعام ٢٠١٩ م
شعبة الدراسات التاريخية والأثرية

Abstract

The cemetery to the south-west of the Dendara temple comprises burials from the Old Kingdom through to the Roman Period. In one of these burials dating to the Greco-Roman Period, a stela was discovered belonging to *Nedjemankh*, son of *Pa-di-Harsomtus* and *Inniut*. Stelae from Dendara dating to the Greco-Roman are rare in comparison to the earlier periods. This stela is round topped and decorated with a winged sun disc. The stela's owner is depicted worshipping the gods Re-Hor-Akhty, Ptah –Sokar – Osiris, Atum and Osiris. This paper aims to analyze the textual context, especially the titles of *Nedjemankh*'s father, *Pa-di-Harsomtus*, which are connected with the priesthoods of Harsomtus and Hathor. The study will shed light on the typology of the stela, the worship of Harsomtus at Dendera, and finally the priestly titles.

تضم الجبانة الواقعة إلى الجنوب الغربي من معبد دندرة مقابر من الدولة القديمة حتى العصر الروماني. في واحدة من هذه المدافن التي يرجع تاريخها إلى العصر اليوناني الروماني ، تم اكتشاف لوحة تنتمي إلى نجم عنخ ، ابن بادي حورسماتاوى وإينيوت. تعتبر لوحات دندرة التي يرجع تاريخها إلى العصر اليوناني الروماني نادرة بالمقارنة مع الفترات السابقة. اللوحة مستديرة الشكل ومزينة بقرص شمس مجنح. صور صاحب اللوحة متعبداً للآلهة رع حور آختي ، بتاح سوكر أوزير ، أتوم وأوزوريس. تهدف هذه الورقة إلى تحليل السياق النصي ، لا سيما ألقاب أبيه بادي حورسماتاوى التي ترتبط بكهنوت حورسماتاوى وحتحور. سنتلقي الدراسة الضوء على تصنيف اللوحة ، وعبادة حورسماتاوى في دندرة ، وأخيراً الألقاب الكهنوتية.

Key Words

Osiris, Ptah-Soker-Osiris , *Nedjemankh*, *Pa-di-Harsomtus*, *Inniut*,
messenger, priest, scibe, Hathor, Horus, Sa-Ta, sky, earth, Dendera.

الكلمات الدالة

أوزيريس-بتاح سوكر أوزيريس-نجم عنخ-بادى حورسماتاوى-اين نيوت-رسول-كاهن-كاتب-
حتحور-حورس-سا-تا-السماء-الأرض-دندرة

The stela CG 22084 (figs 2,3,4 and 5)

Registration Number: GEM 15550 , SR 100/5; JE 32154
and CCG22084

Main Persons: *Nedjemankh*, the owner of the stela, his father
Pa-di-Harsomtus and his mother *Inniut*.

Origin: Tomb of *Idu IV* , in a reused shaft in the south west
cemetery of Dendera temple (figs 1).

Date: Ptolemaic period

Material: painted white limestone

Measurements: wide 24 cm and height 32cm.

The Owner of the Stela and his family

It belongs to a man named *Nedjemankh* (PN I:215, No.11), son
of *Pa-di-Harsomtus* (PN I:125, No.15 , Daressy 1918:183-
185) who was a priest of the main gods of Dendera and his
mother was *Inniut* (PN I:35, No.5).

I. General Description

It is a round -topped stela and decorated with a winged sun disc. It is made of white limestone, while the remains of red color could be seen on some parts of the stela specially the upper part, It is in a bad condition now and needs emergency restoration and cleaning.

Bibliography

For the Hieroglyphic texts without translations or comments :
(cf. **Kamal 1905:77**) for the plate of the stela (cf. **Kamal 1904: pl. XXVI**)

Petrie 1900: 31,54 and 66, pl. XXV

PM IV:114

II. scenes

a-upper part

At the top of the stela a winged sun disc with two uraei between them is the title of Behdity, on both side of the is a headed-falcon lion , below them is the shape of the sky separates the scenes and flanked on each side with the sign

b-lower part

Under the shape of the sky which is surmounted the lower part stands the owner of the stela whose depicted twice. *Nedjemankh* represented standing in an adoration attitude wearing a long garment worshipping on the left side the god Re-Horakhty and Ptah while worshipping on the right side Atum and Osiris.

under this scene there are seven lines of Hieroglyphic texts.

III. Inscriptions : Hieroglyphic text



L.1. Htp di nswt Ra @r A#ty nTr aA nb pt
 sAb-Swt pry m Axt PtH %kr Asir Hry-ib
 StAt

An Offering which the king gives and Re-Harakhty the great god lord of sky the multi-coloured feathers whose coming out from the Horizon and Ptah Soker Osiris who is at Shetyt (mysterious chapel) (Cauville 1997:565; LGG VII: 148)

L.2 di=f prt-xrw^(a) t Hnqt kAw Apdw snTr
 mrHt rnpwt Hnk wt^(b) nbt xt nbt nfirt wabt

Who causes offering-invocations of bread, beer, oxen, fowls, incense, sacred oil, fresh plants, all offerings (Wilson1997: 657, Wb.III:118,9-15) and every good and clean things.

L.3 di=s[n^(c)] m pt qmA @r m tAwy in Hapy^(d)
m tpHwt ^(e)=f

*which they give from the sky and which Horus creates on
earth and the inundation brings from its
caverns*(Gardiner1973:600; FCD :304)

L.4 anx nTr im=s(n^(f)) n kA (n) Wsir NDm anx
sA sHtp^(g) Hmt ^(h)=s Hm

*on which the god lives to the ka of the Osirian
Nedjemankh,son of the Satisfier her majesty*(Cauville
1991:78; Petrie 1900 : 54; Brugsch, 1879 1361) *and the
majesty of*

L.5 @r m ks (w) sHtp ib #A⁽ⁱ⁾ Hm nTr tpy Hm
nTr sn-nw sS Ht-nTr @t-Hr nbt xntS^(j)

Horus by bowing down(Wilson1997: :1090; Wb V:139,7-
18), *the Satisfier of the heart of Kha*(Wb III:221,12) ,*the
first/high priest*(Helck 1982: col.1089), *the second unit –
priest, the scribe of the temple of Hathor the lady of
joy*(Wilson1997: 743; Edfu I:110,2)

L.6 sS sA-tA?^(k) Hm-nTr nTrw pA hby aA^(l) –
xpS sA 4 Hm-nTr @r sS TA

the scribe of SA-tA(Wilson1997: :785; Wb III:410,16-17)
,the priest of gods, the messenger(Cauville 1997:335) *of the
mighty arm(=Horus)*(Wilson1997: :723; Edfu I:277,6) *the
4th unit priest* (Wilson1997:786; Edfu III:9,10), *the priest of
Horus, the scribe of the child*(Wilson1997: 1156) *of*

L.7 @t-Hr nbt Iwnt sA 4 pA-di-@r %mA-tAwy
ir (n) nbt pr Iniw t mAat xrw

*Hathor(= Harsomtus), the mistress of Dendera, the 4th unit
priest Pa-di-Harsomtus, born of the mistress of the house
Inwt, the justified*

IV.date

Comparing this stela with the stelae Chicago No. 5033 (**Munro 1973:141**) and according to the typology theme , style iconography and texts of the stela,it dates back to the Ptolemaic period 3rd to 2nd century B.C. (**Munro1973: 135-141**),the akhmimic and thebaide traditions can be seen in the stela in the hetep-di-neswt offering formula and texts (**CG 22016, Kamal 1905, 17 ;Kamal 1904, pl.VI**):

di=s[n] m pt qmA @r m tAwy in Hapy m tpHwt
=f

The formula di/wdi pt qmA tA and its variations is mentioned at Edfu texts (**Edfu I:336,9; III 3,13; IV 29,2**)

The reference to the caverns as source of the water of the Nile flood attested in the Nile hymn (**Maspero1912. : 32 ,no.3**) and in many places at Edfu temple (**Edfu I115,7; 194,13; 485,6;259,14; II: 8,18,16,9,67,9,257,1; III:11,9;IV 34,13; V:25,10; Wilson1997: 1162**)

V. Provenance

It was found in the west-south cemetery behind the temple of Dendera (fig.1),inside a pit in the tomb of Idu IV which was

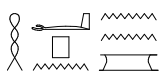
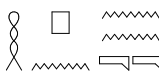
reused during the ptomaic and roman period,along with two other stelae found in the shaft, the first one belongs to the lady Mutirdis,she was the songstress of Hathor and dates back to the twenty fifth Dynasty and now at Boston Museum. The second stela belongs to a man called Horsaeiset who was 'satiesfier of her majesty" a title for the high priest of Hathor at Dendera as in the Edfu list(**Petrie 1900: 31,54,66,pl.XXV**).


VI.Notes there are many mistakes in the text such as:

a-  instead of 

b-  instead of 

c-  instead of 

d-  instead of  the two signs used her as

determinatives  also refer to the qrrty , the source caverns of the Nile flood(**Junker, 1913: 37,Abb.8;Edfu II:246,16-17, IV:3,5, IV:99,5, 12**)

e-  instead of 

f-  instead of 

g-  instead of 

h  instead of 

i-  instead of 

j-  instead of  or 

k-  instead of 

l-  instead of 

VII Comments

-The stela was made for *Nedjem ankh* who focused on the numerous titles of his father *Pa-di-Harsomtus* to show his importance at Dendera temple.

-The main gods of Dendera depicted on the stela were Atum, Osiris, Raharakhty, Ptah, Horus of Behdete, Ptah-Sokar-Osiris, Hathor and Harsomtus.

-The title ss connect pa-di-Harsomtus with the archives of the temple of Hathor and Harsomtus along with his function as a priest.

The titles of pa-di-Harsomtus on the stela were: the satisfier of her majesty, the satisfier of the majesty of Horus, the satisfier of the heart of Kha, the first/high priest, the second unit priest, the scribe of the temple of Hathor, the scrib of Sa-Ta(the earth's son=

Harsomtus),The priest of the gods, the messenger of the mighty arm(= Horus),the fourth unit priest, the priest of Horus and the scribe of the child of Hathor

-The worship of Harsomtus (cf.Bonnet 1952:728-729, Derchain-Urtel1984 cols.1080-1081; Cauville, 1987: 9-10; Dendera 2015) is well known at Dendera,he was represented in three forms(Elkordy 1982:171-186

1- The solar form (fig.6) as a falcon with the two high feathers and solar disc in between or human form with the same crown,in his solar form he was described as: psD m nbw **(Dendera II:170)**, Ra %mAtAwy **(Dendera II:170,8 &171,15)** Ra Ds=f **(Dendera II:164,29)**, Itn imy nfrt wADty=f **(Dendera II:183,8)**and bd tAwy idbw n mAwt=f **(Dendera II:183,8)**.

2- The priemeval form (fig.7)confirmed by the texts in his chapel dealing with his role in creation like: xpr m HAt **(Dendera II:164,12)**, xpr m sp tpy **(Dendera II:164,26)**, xpr n #pri **(Dendera II:164,27)** sxm Sps bs mmww it nTrw xpr Ds=f **(Dendera II:166,1)** and xpr Dr-a **(Dendera II:182,5)**

His priemval form represented as a snak (%A-tA, aHa-nfr, Sar and wADD), in the eastern crypt it was depicted the priemval gods as snaks among them was Harsomtus represented as sA-tA,the accompany text refers to him as"Harsomtus, the living ba of Atum who emerged from the eye of Re".

The priests choose Khadi to be the mysterious tell that the priemeval gods should visit,so every year in the pachens month Harsomtus has to cross the Nile to visit the souls of the priemeval gods at Khadi which it could be located at the modern village El Gazairia on the east bank of the Nile facing Dendera.(**Elkordy1982 :184-186; Alliot 1954:720-721; Daumas 1969:103; Fischer 1968: 189-194; Fakhry,1947:25 ff.**)

3-The Creator god according to the texts at his chapel which considered him *ir nHH qmA Dt* (**Dendera II,164,3**), *anx Hrw nbw Hr nfrw=f* (**Dendera II:166,2**) and *ir tA qmA wnn(w)t iAw rnp=f Dt*(**Dendera II:166,4**)

Harsomtus used to participate in the New Year festival by his three form as the priests appeared on the wall of thewestern staircase carrying three chapels belonging to Harsomtus(**Dendera VII:188,4,189,1 and 189,7-8; Coppens 2016:29 ff.; Cauville 1991:71**).


The god Harsomtus was mentioned three times on the stela as : %A-&A his priemeval form, Kha his solar form and child of Hathor his human form.

-%A-&A as a son of Hathor was mentioned in the snaks names at Dendera *rn aHaw sA @t-Hr %A-&A*(**Dendera VI:154,4-5**).his name was written in different forms such as:





his name was mentioned in the ch.87 of the book of the dead(Allen 1974:163), he was also known at Pyramid texts (Faulkner1969: { 689,12 a) and coffin texts (Faulkner1977:167{575,197{609.)

-# A  the god is known at Berlin dictionary as a god, the name of this god appeared at the chapel of Harsomtus, the shape of the white lotus flower could be read as kha,Harsomtus as a child god similar to Nefertum represented many times emerging from a lotus flower as a child or as a snak.

One of the texts refers to the priemeval gods as sAw sAw
Itmw #A xnt #Adi " the sons and daughters of Atum and Kha at Khadi"(Cauville1997: 410).

The priests phyles at Dendera were : tpy the first or high priest, sn-nw the second unite or phyle priest, hby the messenger and sA 4 the fourth phyle or unite priest(cf. Cauville 1991:87, Helck 1982:cols.1089-1090; Quaegebeur1982:cols 1098-1100; Doxey:2001:73)

-The typology of the stela could be compare with the group Thebes II and IV (Munro1973: 229-245), Edfu II(Munro1973: 249-251-141),Abydos III (Munro1973: 300-305-141) and Akhmim II (Munro1973: 316-325).they are

rounded topped and has winged solar disc date back to the third up to the second century BC

- The scribe did many mistakes in writing or copying the words probably he was copying from unclear hieratic copy or due to his less experience in writing such funeral texts.

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ABBREVIATIONS AND BIBLIOGRAPHY

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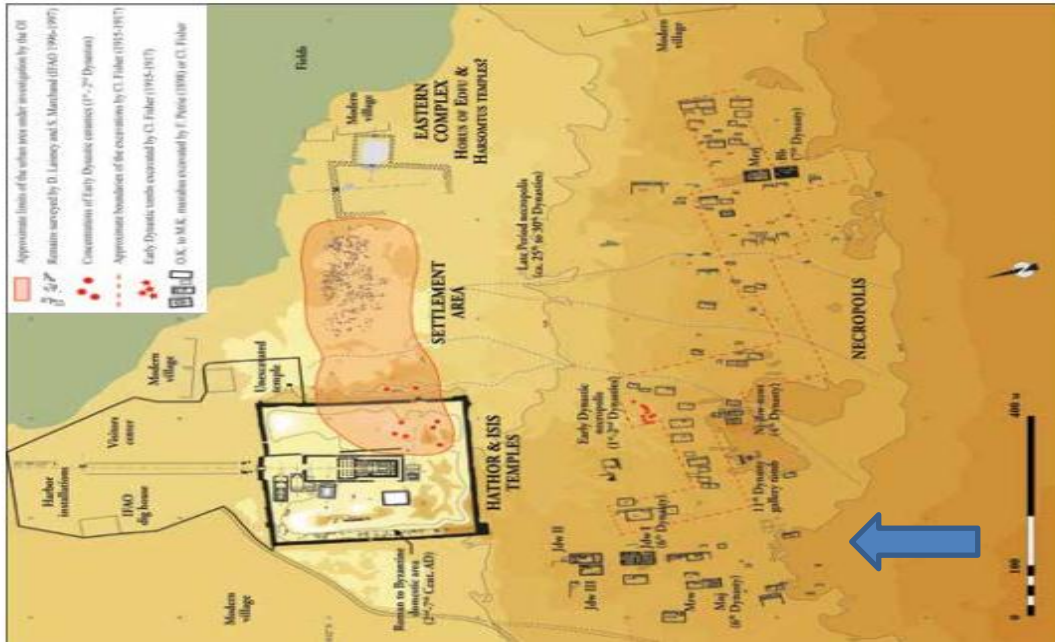


Fig.1: The plan of Dendera Temple area after: Marourad,G, (<http://www.ifao.egnet.net/archeologie/Dendera>), Dendera 2015-2016 Annual Report.

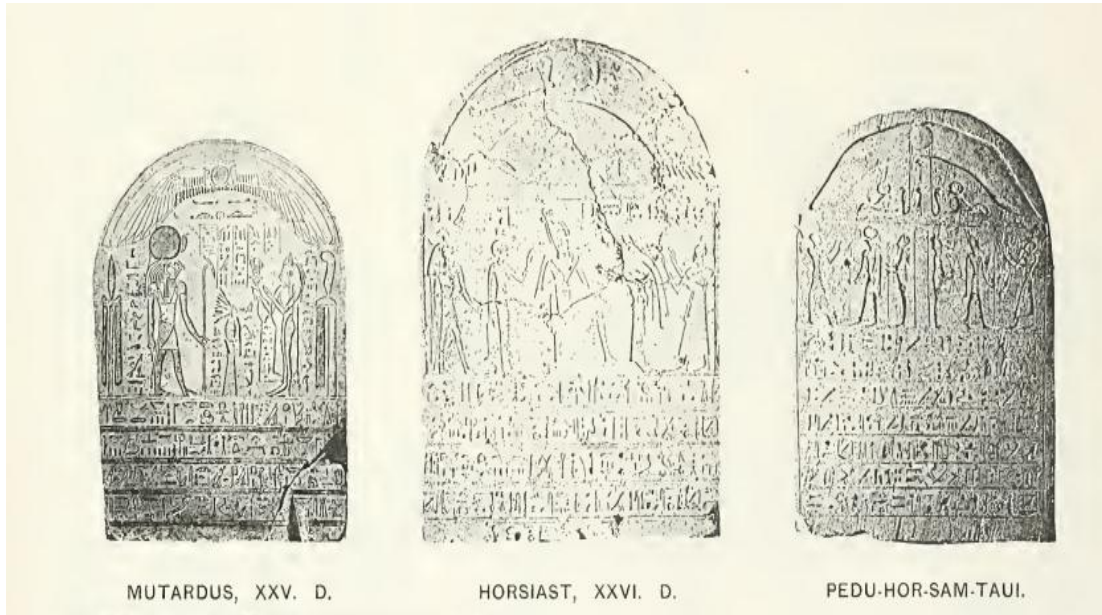


Fig.2: The late period Stelae, After: **Petrie 1898, 31,54 and 66, pl.XXV**



Fig.3 The Stela of Nedjem-Ankh after: **Kamal 1904, pl.XXVI)**



22034

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10015

GEM No. 1 5 5 5 0

Fig.4 The Stela of *Nedjem-Ankh*, courtesy GEM@

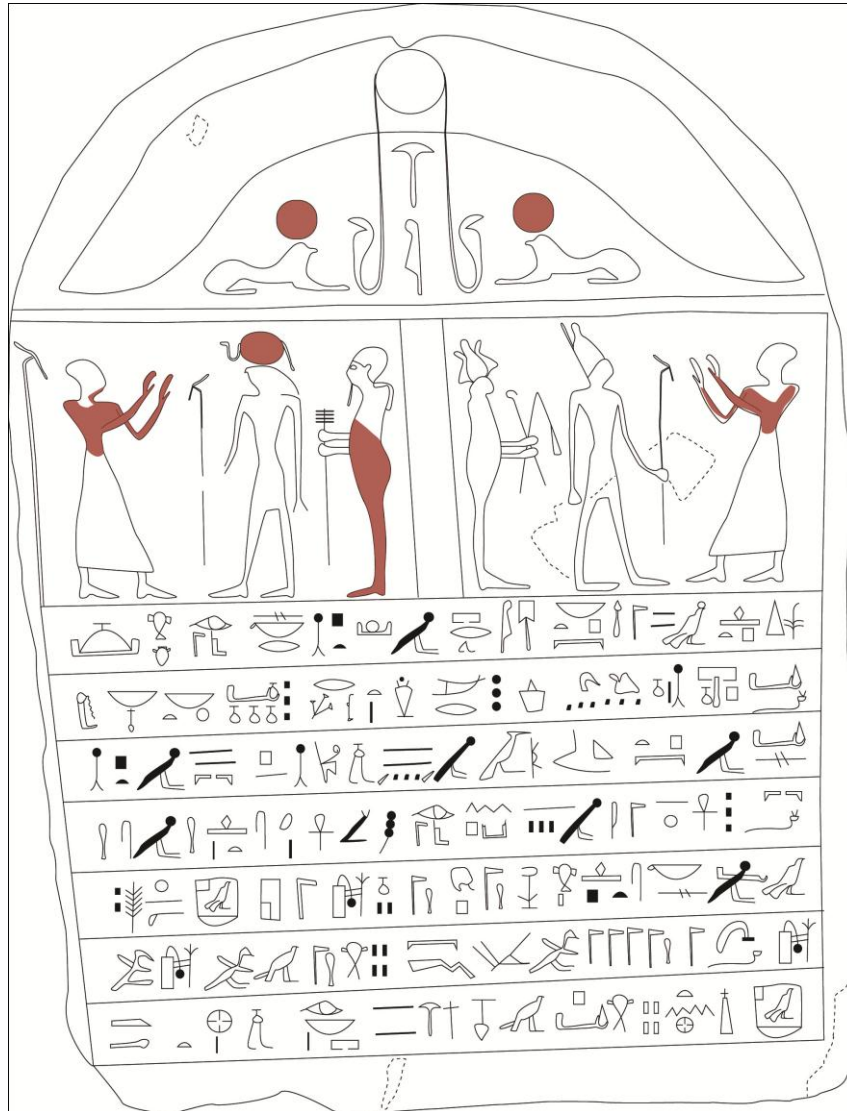


Fig5. The Stela of *Nedjem-Ankh*, Line drawing by Mona Abadi@



Fig.6 The Solar form of Harsomtus, Dendera Temple, photo by the author



Fig.7 The priemeval form of Harsomtus, Dendera Temple, photo
by the author