

Bw
As Non-integral
and
Integral Lexeme

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Abstract:

When the periphrastic system of Late Egyptian became more dominant, the negative particle $\text{𓁃}/\text{𓁃}^e$ *bw* was combined with auxiliary verbs, such as 𓁃 *iri*-in the combination $\text{𓁃}^e\text{𓁃}$ *bw-ir-* and 𓁃^e *pw*-¹ in the combination $\text{𓁃}^e\text{𓁃}^e\text{𓁃}/\text{𓁃}^e\text{𓁃}^e\text{𓁃}^e$ *bwpw(y)-*. Therefore, *bw* was no longer an extra element. This article will try to prove if *bw* from the beginning was an integral or non-integral element.



Bw As Integral Element:


In his work on Late Egyptian, Erman supposed that the negative particle *bw* can be bound with the verb *iri(ir)* "to do" and the verb *pw* "to do" to produce the compound negative particles *bw-ir* and *bwpwy*.² In

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¹ *P3* in Middle Egyptian: Wb. I 494(18); Faulkner 1991, 87; Černý-Groll 1993, 227; Hannig 2006, 287; and *pw* in Late Egyptian: Černý-Groll 1993, 227; Lesko 2002, 147.

² Erman 1933, for *bw-ir* 389-391, 393, §§767-768, 770-771, 773-774; for *bwpwy* 394-396, §§776-781.

agreement with Erman, Černý and Groll showed that the element *bw* in the forms  *bw ir.f sdm* and  *bwpwy.f sdm* is not an extra element in front of an affirmative verb form. According to them, *bw* with the verb which follows it, is a conjugation base filling the first position in the sentence.³

It is the absence of the affirmative counterparts of the forms *bw ir.f sdm* and *bwpwy.f sdm* that led Černý and Groll to argue this.⁴ Bakir called *bw-ir* and  *bw-irt* units or integral elements acts to modify the meaning and function in these two forms.⁵ Loprieno suggested that, although *bw* is still to be distinguished as a negative morpheme, it is not used separately but in certain combinations of verb forms.⁶

It can be said that *bw* in Late Egyptian can be used only with two verbs, *iri* and *pwy*. It appears in: the negative aorist form *bw ir.f sdm*⁷, the negative terminative

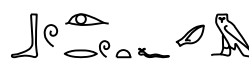
³ Černý-Groll 1993, 205.


⁴ Černý-Groll 1993, 204-205.

⁵ Bakir 1983, 56-59, §§178-179, 183, 185.

⁶ Loprieno 1995, 92.

⁷ Erman 1933, 390-391, 393, §§767-768, 770, 774; Hintze 1952, 251-252; Groll 1970, 37a, 48-50, 53-60, 62-78; Davis 1973, 71, 76-78, 87-88; Korostovtsev 1973, 406; Frandsen 1974, 31-38, 214-216, §§21-24, 105; Bakir 1983, §§178-179, 181, 183-184; Winand 1992, 239, §383; Černý-Groll 1993, 170-171, 204-205, 315-321; Loprieno 1995, 92, 94, 222, 225; Junge 2005, 100, 154; El-

 *bw irt.f sdm*,⁸ with the verb *iri*, and the negative perfect *bwpwy.f sdm*,⁹ with the verb *pw*. The appearance of *bw* with these two verbs only makes it more likely to form a combination with these two verbs.

Predominantly, the Late Egyptian verbal system is a tripartite one, consisting of: a conjugation base (auxiliary verb), subject and infinitive,¹⁰ in the form:  *ir(r).f sdm* "he does the hearing/ he hears". This conjugation base or auxiliary verb can be affirmative or negative when connected with a negative particle, e.g. *bw-ir* or *bw-irt*. In this framework, the forms *bwpwy.f sdm* and *bw irt.f sdm* can be explained.

Hamrawi 2006, 81-83, 90, 92-93; Kruchten 2008, 196-198; Neveu 2015, 71, 221, 223.

⁸ Groll 1970, 37a, 79-81; Davis 1973, 90, 92-96; Korostovtsev 1973, 406; Frandsen 1974, 39-41, 216-217, §§25-28, 106; Bakir 1983, 56-57, 59-60, §§178, 185; Winand 1992, 291-292, §462; Černy-Groll 1993, 170-171, 204, 206, 321-324; Loprieno 1995, 93-94, 221, 225; Junge 2005, 100-101; El-Hamrawi 2006, 81-83; Kruchten 2008, 204-206; Neveu 2015, 74-75.


⁹ Erman 1933, 394-396, §§776-781; Hintze 1952, 252-253; Groll 1970, 1-12, 37a, 51-53, 75, 81-84; Davis 1973, 23, 25-27, 32-33; Korostovtsev 1973, 403-404; Frandsen 1974, 9-14, 200-203, §§7-11, 102; Bakir 1983, 45, 47, §§145-146, 148-149; Winand 1992, 202-206, 238 §§335-337, 381; Černy-Groll 1993, 170-171, 204, 227-240; Loprieno 1995, 93-94, 221, 225; Junge 2005, 153-155, 195; El-Hamrawi 2006, 81-83, 85-87; Kruchten 2008, 199-201; Neveu 2015, 52-53, 55, 127, 220.

¹⁰ Loprieno 1995, 91; El-Hamrawi 2006, 83; Allen 2013, 144.

According to Černý and Groll, the form *bwpwy.f sdm* is a tripartite form, consisting of: *bwpw* the first element or the conjugation base, *f* the subject or the actor expression as the second element and *sdm* the infinitive and the third element.¹¹ The same explanation will be given to the other forms *bw irt.f sdm*¹² and *bw ir.f sdm*.

In Coptic, it is clearer that *bw* was not be longer an extra element. *bw-ir* survived in Coptic as ME ,¹³ and the form *bw ir.f sdm* in the form MEQCWTM .¹⁴ In addition MPQCTM is the successor of the Late Egyptian form *bwpwy.f sdm*¹⁵ and MPTE is the Coptic lexeme of the Late Egyptian *bwpw*.¹⁶

***Bw* As Non-integral Element:**

Bw did occur as a new form of the old or the classical negative particle nw .¹⁷ In Transitional Egyptian, *bw* appears in the forms  *bw sdm.f*

¹¹ Černý-Groll 1993, 229.

¹² Černý-Groll 1993, 321.






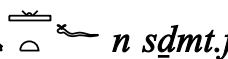


¹³ Steindorff 1930, 149-150, § 317; Bakir 1983, 58, §183; Černý-Groll 1993, 204.

¹⁴ Frandsen 1974, 31, §21; Černý-Groll 1993, 204-205, 315; Loprieno 1995, 92; Junge 2005, 100; Kruchten 2008, 198; Neveu 2015, 71.

¹⁵ Weill 1940, 86; Groll 1970, 1-2; Frandsen 1974, 9, § 7; Černý-Groll 1993, 204; Loprieno 1995, 93; Junge 2005, 155; Kruchten 2008, 201; Neveu 2015, 52.

¹⁶ Steindorff 1930, 148, § 313; Weill 1940, 81, 85.

¹⁷ Kruchten 1999, 19; Junge 2005, 97; Kruchten 2008, 207.

 *bw sdm.n.f*,  *bw sdmt.f*
 and  *bw p3y.f sdm* in place of its
 classical predecessor *n* which formerly was used with
 the same forms  *n sdm.f*,  *n*
sdm.n.f,  *n sdmt.f* and  *n p3.f sdm*.¹⁸ Also in the form  *bw rh.f*, *bw* is
 used in place of *n*.¹⁹ The replacement of the particle *n*
 with the new one *bw* did not change any function or
 meaning of these forms.

All these classical and transitional forms follow the
 synthetic verbal form of Middle Egyptian. Basically, this
 system consisted of : verb + subject + object.²⁰
 Generally in this system, the negative particle is an extra
 element added to an affirmative verb form to make a
 negative counterpart.²¹ It could not be an integral
 lexeme since this period did not present any negative
 particles which were compounded with the verb.


¹⁸ Loprieno 1995, 225; El-Hamrawi 2006, 81-93; Neveu 2015, 52, 70, 74.

¹⁹ Kruchten 1999, 32.

²⁰ Allen 2013, 141.

²¹ Sometimes the negative forms differ from their affirmative counterparts. For example *n sdm.f* is the negative counterpart of the affirmative form (*iw*) *sdm.n.f* and not *n sdm.n.f* which refers to the negative present. This is referred to as "Gunns Rule".

Conclusion:

In its first attestations, *bw* was used beside its predecessor *n*. The first corpus of texts in which *n* was replaced entirely with its successor *bw* are the boundary stelae of Akhenaten²² and the tomb of Tutu.²³ These texts have only the new negative particles *bw* and  *bn*.

Like its ancestor *n*, *bw* was used firstly with all verbs as an extra element added to the verb form. In its usage as a negative particle with all verbs, it is difficult to accept that it was an integral lexeme with the verb, but it was more likely to have been an extra element in the verb form.

As for its first attestations with the auxiliary verb *iri*, *bw* is also an extra element. It appears in the Late Egyptian periphrastic negative aorist form *bw ir(r).f sdm* as an extra element. Disagreeing with what Černý and Groll argued,²⁴ this form came into being to be as the negative counterpart of the other Late Egyptian periphrastic aorist form *ir(r).f sdm*. Although the last form was very rare before the Amarna period,²⁵ it

²² Davies 1908, Pls. 25-33; Murnane-Van Siclen 1993, 19-34, 84-98;

²³ Davies 1908a, Pls. 12-21.

²⁴ See Supra, p. 1 and Černý-Groll 1993, 205.

²⁵ There is one occurrence before the Amarna period in a letter from the time of Thutmose III. Glanville 1928, Pl. 35 Pap. B.M 10102 Vs. 7.

became more frequent in Amarna texts. The other form, i.e. *bw ir.f sdm*, is one of the innovations of Amarna period.

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sdm and *bw ir=f sdm* of Late Egyptian.
BSAC 45,81- 94.

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