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God Heryshef

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Abstract

This paper deals with one of the celestial gods in ancient Egyptian religion, god Heryshef, who was the main deity at Ahnsia Al madina. He was god for fertility, and he was a creator god. He was worshipped during the Greco roman period in the form of god Hasrsaphes and they identified him with Hercles (Wilkinson, 2003: 193). It is mentioned at Palermo stone that he was worshipped from the 1st dynasty, but the oldest temple dedicated to this god, dating to Middle Kingdom, and it was enlarged by Ramses II. Heryshef associated with Wsir and Re. and he was known as the b₃ of these deities (George, 2005:68). He appeared in the form of a ram with horizontal horns or in a human form with ram head. He is characterized by many qualities and titles. The paper aims at studying this god showing how he was important in the ancient Egyptian religion by studying his titles, qualities, forms, and his relations to other deities.

Introduction

The ram was considered one of the sacred animals in ancient Egyptian religion. It was worshipped in many places. The rams were popular in ancient Egypt. The ancient Egyptians worshipped the rams as they admired with their virility which sympolized the fertility and the power .They were associated with many Egyptian deities who were worshipped in different names like khnum, Amon, Hery shef, and Banebdjedet of Mendes. The rams which appeared in ancient Egypt were of two species ovis platyura aegyptiaca which have forward bending horns and thick fleece which came from western Asia. The god who was represented in this species was god Amun. And longipes palaeoaegyptiaca lived in the Nile valley. They have Long horizontallay spiraling horns. the gods who were represented in this species were khnum, Hery shef, and Banebdjedet of Mendes (Arnold, 1995:56).

The cult center of Heryshef was at Ihnasia (hwt nn nsw) which means the residence of the royal child (MONTET, 1961:186). It was known in Arabic as Ihnasia, Ihnase, Ihnase El Madina, and umm El Keman . and in the Greco roman period it is known as Hierakeleopolis (city of Herkles). It was the capital of 20th name of upper Egypt. It was the political capital during 9th and 10th dynasties (Naville, 1894:1).

Ihnasia occupied a great position in the ancient Egyptian relgion as god Re appeared for the 1st time there when the sky and the earth were created, and he separated them there.

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It occupied a great religious position as god osiris was crowned there and he was followed by his son Horus . in the legend of destruction of mankind goddess Sekhmet got out from Ihnasia and started her journey to avenge from the mankind whom moked Re. This place also to where god Seth went wafter his defeat by Horus (Budge, 1904:58-59).

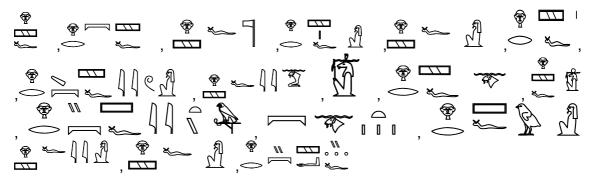
The Name

His name appeared in many forms through the different periods *Moktar*, 1983: 139-145; LEITZ, 2002:183; 68: 2002.

During Old kingdom his name was engraved in the following forms:

During Middle kingdom his name was engraved in the following forms:

During New kingdom his name was engraved in the following forms:



During Late period his name was engraved in the following forms:

During Greco – Roman period his name was engraved in the following forms:

It is noticed from the previous forms in which the name of Heryshef were written that they ended with one of the following determinatives:



It is noticed also that different forms appeared during the New kingdom more than the other periods

The name of Heryshef appeared at Palermo stone as a complete ram referring to this god (Weill, 1936: Fig. b)



Fig.1. Representation of name of Heryshef at Palermo stone

After R. Weill," bélier du Fayoum et 21 e nome de la Haute Egypte", *BIFAO* 36, 1936, Fig. b

In other monuments the name of the god was written in many variants to refer that his name means "who is upon his lake", hr ss.f, while in other cases the name was written in variants aim to change the meaning to the one with magnificent face" hr ssf, and once the name was written in the book of the dead as hry ssf (the one who is upon his sand) identifying him with god Wsir who was killed by Set and buried under sands (Naville, 1894:7)

Heryshef at the texts Texts from monuments dating to Old Kingdom

Left jamb of false door from tomb of Hesi

smr w^cti hri hbt im3hw hr hri š.f hr wsir nb ddw

sole companion, lector priest, justified in the presence of Heryshef, and wsir, lord of Busiris (El Khouly and Kanawaty, 1988:21).

Texts from monuments dating to 1st intermediate period:

Story of eloquent peasant

Prt m sb3 hwt ntr nt hri-š.f"Gets out from the gate of the temple of Hery shef

And in the 4th complaint he says"

hs tw hri š.f ii.n.k m pr.f "May god Heryshef, whom you gets out from his temple, bless you" (Parkinson, 2012: 46-47.)

Texts from monuments dating to Middle Kingdom

CT V, 257, spell 420

m33.i ntr nb ntrw hr š3.f nb nn- nsw k3 '3wt nfr šwt k3 nk hr nfrwt nb dsrw w3d nmwt b3 mnh imy Nn- nsw, šwt spd m wpt .f 3tf r' "May I see the god, lord of deities, Hery shef, lord of Ahnasia, majestic with his jewellery, with beautiful plumes, the bull who copulate the young cows, lord of blood, with fresh slaughter – houses, the strong soul who is in Ihnasia, who wears plumes of Sopdt and Atef crown of Re" (FAULKNER, 1977: 68)

Texts from monuments dating to New Kingdom:

Cairo CG 563, granite statue of mayor of Ahnasia, Hotep, 18th dynasty (Borchardt, 1925:113)

 $htp \ di \ nsw < n > hry \ s.f \ nsw \ tawy \ hka \ idbwy \ ntrw \ imyw \ Nn- \ nsw$ "An Offiering which the king gives to Heryshef, king of two lands, ruler of two banks and the gods who are in Ihnasia"

nd hr < n >. k nb hswt ts wpwt shm rnpi imy ddt nht hnn nwh 'bwy nfr hbst mi hnm kd wtt wnn nsw pt iwn sbsw di hsty imsh sm"Homage to you, lord of fronts, with fixed horns, the power becomes vigorous at Mendes, strong of Phallus, curved his two horns, with beautiful beard, like Khoum who built and procreated the being, king of the sky, pillar of stars, sharp of fronts, venerated of striding"

Fragment from tomb of seti I, 19th dynasty

The inscription over head of Heryshef hr sfy nsw tswy (nb) nn - nsw "Heryshef king of two lands, lord of Ihnasia" (Petrie, 1924: PL. LXX).

Text inscribed at the gate leading to chamber of the high priest Hery, reign of Ramses ix

htp di nsw < n > hr šfy nsw t³wy nb 'bwy ts wpwt hk³ t³wy nb nn-nsw nb pt k³ nsw nb h'w r' ms sw mr imn h' m w³st "An offering which the king gives to Heryshef, king of two lands, lord of two horns, with fixed horns, ruler of two lands, lord of Ihnasia, lord of the sky, lord of crowns, Ramses, beloved of Amon, who shines in Thebes like Re every day (Moktar, 1983: 166).

Texts from monuments dating to late period

JE94743, base of granite block, 22nd dynasty (Jansen-Winkeln, 2006: 303)

wrt hnrt n hri š.f t3 nt imn m3 hrw "The great of the harem of Heryshef, Tanet Amon¹, the justified "Behind her daughter imi (t) b3 h n hri š.f niswt t3 wy t3 šrit pth "in the presence of Heryshef, king of two lands, Tashery Ptah"

JE 94748, lintel of door, 22nd dynasty (Jansen-Winkeln, 2006: 303)

hm ntr tpy n hri š.f niswt tswy wsrkn ms hrw "High priest of Heryshef, king of two lands, Qserkon, the justified"

Stela at fragment of Ihnasia, 22nd dynasty (Daressy, 1921: 140)

King b3 di B3stt is representing making offering in front of Heryshef who is represented wearing the Atef crown and the scene is accompanied with this text

dd mdw in hr š.f nsw tswy hr shty" words spoken by heryshef, king of two lands". hr skhty

Statue of Somtetefnakht, 30th dynasty (Daressy, 1921: 141)

hry š.f nsw t³wy wsir "king of two lands, wsir" and another part of the text says hry š.f ntr '3 hnty imny" Heryshef the great god the foremost of the west.

Turin 22053 black granite, base of altar, at the 2nd register, 26th dynasty

ḥrì š.f nìswt tɜwy m Nn nsw "Heryshef, king of two lands in Ihnasia" (Habachi, 1977:66)

CG 70013, Naos of Nectanebo II for goddess Bastet, 30th dynasty

ḥr š.f nswt tɜwy ḥr ib bɜstౖt "Heryshef king of two lands, residing Bubastis" (Rosenow, 2004: 265)

Texts from monuments dating to Greco - Roman period

Heryshef was mentioned in many places in temples of Dendera and Edfu like the following texts:

Dendera, southern wall of chamber B

hry š3.f nb nn- nsw ntr '3 šsp.f h.f m Nart "Heryshef, lord of Ihnasia, great god, he seizes his crown in Naret" (CHASSINAT, 1987: 197)

Edfu, exterior face of enclosure wall

ḥry š3.f nsw t3wy ntr '3 ḥry ib Bhdt "Heryshef, king of two lands, the great god, who is worshipped in Edfu" (CHASSINAT, 1932: 109)

Titles

From the previous studied texts, it is concluded that god Heryshef carried many titles like:

ntr '3 (great god), ntr nb ntrw (the god, lord of gods), nb nn- nsw (lord of Ahnasia), kA aAwt (majestic of jewels), nb 'bwy (lord of two horns), nfr šwt (of the beautiful plumes), k3 nk hr nfrwt (the bull who copulate the young cows), nb dsrw (lord of blood), Swt spd (who wears plumes of Sopdt), m wpt f stf ra (with Atef crown of Re), hk3 idbwy ntrw imyw Nn- nsw (ruler of two banks and gods who are in Ihnasia), nb h3wt (lord of fronts), ts wpwt (with fixed horns), shm rnpi imy ddt (the power becomes vigorous at Mendes), nht hnn (strong of Phallus), nwh 'bwy (curved his two horns), nfr hbst mi hnm kd wtt wnn (the one with beautiful beard, like Khnum who built and procreated the being), hr š.f nswt t3wy hr ib b3stt "Heryshef king of two lands, residing Bubastis", nsw pt (king of the sky), nb pt(lord of the sky), iwn sb3w (pillar of stars), di h3ty (sharp of fronts), nb h w (lord of crowns), šsp.f h f m N rt (he seizes his crown in Naret), hry ib Bhdt (who is worshipped in Edfu).

From the previous titles it is concluded that he worshipped at the following centers:

Edfu: *hry ib Bhdt* (who is worshipped at Edfu) **Ihnasia**: *Nb nn- nsw* (the lord of Ihnasia)

Mendes: *shm rnpi imy ddt* (the power becomes vigorous at Mendes)

Naret: *šsp.f h^c.f m* Nart (he seizes his crown in Naret)

Bubastis: hr š.f nswt tswy hr ib bsstt (Heryshef king of two lands, residing Bubastis)

Iconography and scenes of Heryshef



Fig.2. Heryshef is represented in a human form with a ram head with two horizontal horns holding *wss* and *nh*

After L.Borchardt, Die Pyramiden: Ihre Entstehung und Entwicklung. Als Erläuterung zum Modell des Grabdenkmals des Königs Sahu-re bei Abusir, Berlin, 1911, pl. 28



Fig.3. scene appeared Heryshef standing at the back of god *imn*, he appears in the human form with ram head surmounted with atef crown and two short horizontal horns and he holds the *w3s* and ^cnħ sign, a stela of Pahen neter, JE 47001 After W. Fl. PETRIE, SEDMENT II, (London, 1924), PL. LXVIII



Fig.4. Scene represents king Ramses ii offering incense in front of god Heryshef in a human form with a ram head, wearing the atef crown with the two horizontal horns of the ram and wide collar and knee short kilt, holding in one hand the *wss* scepter and in the other hand the *'nh*, Manchester museum, Inv.No 1780

After Y. Yasouka, Some Remarks on the Palm Columns from the Pronaos of Herakleopolis Magna, *JEA* 97, 2011, fig. 12



Fig.5. Fragment from relief representing Heryshef with ram head surmounted with atef crown with two serpents with sun disc upon their heads over his horizontal horns, tomb of Seti I.

After W. Fl. Petrie, Sedment II, 1924, PL. LXX



Fig.6. scene represents Heryshef as a man with ram head and two horns surmounted white crown, Stela JE 42795, 19th dynasty

After M.G.E. Moktar, Ihnâsy aEl Medina, fig. 31



Fig.7. Heryshef on a scribe's palette, he appears in the human form with ram head wearing atef crown, holding 'nh and wss scepter, 18th dynasty W. Fli. petrie, kahun, Gurob and Hawara, London, 1890, pl. xxiv,5



Fig.8. Heryshef is represented here as a complete ram on a statue of Shepensopedet, JE 42228, 22nd dynasty,

After M.G.E. Moktar, Ihnâsy aEl Medina, pl. xxiii



Fig.9. Heryshef appears among other deities in a mummiform, Edfu temple After M. Rochemonteix, *Le Temple d' Edfu* I, *MMAF* 10, (le caire, 1982), pl.xxiii

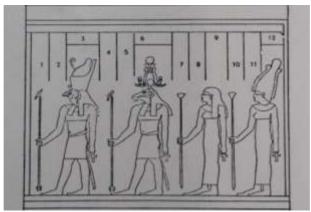


Fig.10. Heryshef is represented here in the companion of Horus of Behedet, Hathor and Nekhbet. He wears the atef crown with two serpents over his horizontal horns, holding the *wss* scepter and the *nh* sign, Dendera temple

After É.G. CHASSINAT, Le temple de Dendara VI (Le Caire, 1965), pl. DXVII

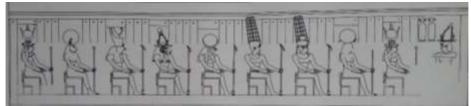


Fig.11. God Heryshef is represented in n a group of nine sitting deities. He wears the Atef crown with the two crowned serpents, Dendera temple After É.G. CHASSINAT, *Le temple de Dendara* vii (Le Caire, 1972), pl. DCLXII



Fig.12. Heryshef appears sitting together with goddess Hathor, he appears as a Ram headed god with atef crown with the two serpents on his horizontal horns, holding *wss* and *nh*, Dendera Temple

After É.G. CHASSINAT, Le temple de Dendera IX (Le Caire, 1987), pl. DCCCCLXVII

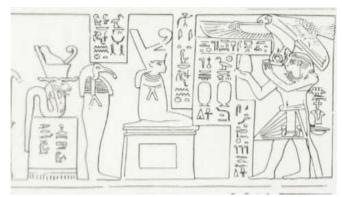


Fig.13. scene represents god Heryshef in a rare form in a shape of ram headed serpent wearing double crown on pedestal

After N.De G. Davies, The Temple of Hibis in El Khargeh oasis, New York, 1953, pl. III



Fig.14. God Heryshef appears on an ivory magical wand between Bes and Thot. His head only was depicted. He appears with his usual appearance with the Atef crown with the two horizontal horns

After G. Pinch, Magic in Ancient Egypt, London, 1994, fig. 19



Fig.15. scene represents Heryshef at the second row to the right side with his name *hr*. *š.f* as a ram headed god wearing the atef crown, magical stela MB 36250, Greco roman period After G. Pinch, Magic in Ancient Egypt, fig. 7

From the previous scenes it is noticed that the usual representation for Heryshef was a human headed ram in a standing attitude wearing the atef crown with two horizontal horns and in some cases, it is supported with two serpents upon the horns, crowned with the sun disc. He appeared in other scenes as a complete ram, or in a human form wearing the white crown or with only the horns without any crowns, he was also represented in the mummified form, and lastly he appeared in a rare form with the body of serpent together with the ram head crowned with double crown. He appeared in all scenes in standing attitude except the scenes of Dendera temple were in a sitting attitude.

His qualitity

It is concluded from the titles and the studied texts that this god is characterized with the following qualities:

Celestial god:He was an universal god as he worshipped in Ihnasia where the sky and the earth were created, and god Re separated them there. In addition to the titles of Heryshef which refer that he was a celestial god like *nsw pt* (king of the sky), *iwn sb³w* (pillar of stars), *nb pt* (lord of the sky),

God of fertility: Heryshef was like the other ram headed gods who were famous with their fertility as the main aspect of the ram was trhe fertility. In addition to the titles of Heryshef which refer to his fertility like *nḥt ḥnn* (strong of Phallus) and *k³ nk ḥr nfrwt* (the bull who copulate the young cows)

God of Creation: He associated with the creator deities like khnum and he carried titles referring to his ability for creation like *nfr hbst mi hnm kd wtt wnn* (the one with beautiful beard, like Khnum who built and procreated the being)

God of Therapeutic and Preventive Capacity: He appeared during the Greco roman periods at the magical stella and magical wands among other dieties to make a protection against the dangerous animals who attack any one.

His relation to other deities:

From the studied texts and scenes. It is concluded that he was associated and identified with many deities like the following deities

Wsir: He was known as the b3 of god wsir. He inherited the throne of Re at Ihnasia (the center of the worship of Heryshef. , and he appeared in the form of this god with his ram head, so Heryshef was identified with god wsir and it is obvious from the text recorded at the statue of Somtetefnakht applying Heryshef as : $nsw\ t3wy\ wsir$ " king of two lands , wsir " and another part of the text s $ys\ hry\ s.f\ ntr\ 3$ $hnty\ imny$ " Heryshef the great god, the foremost of the west, which was the famous title of god wsir.

Banebdjedet: ram of Mendes he was one of the famous deities who appeared in the form of ram. He appeared in many scenes together with Heryshef. He was

identified with Banebdjedet and it is clear from his title "nb hawt ts wpwt shm rnpi imy ddt'' lord of fronts, with fixed horns, the power becomes vigorous at Mendes.

Re:He associated with Re as he appeared in many scenes wearing the atef crown of God Re and it is obvious from CT V, 257, spell 420 m33.i ntr nb ntrw hr š3.f nb nn-nsw k3 f3wt nfr šwt k3 nk hr nfrwt nb dsrw w3d nnwt b3 mnh imy Nn-nsw, šwt spd m wpt .f 3tf rf. "May I see the god, lord of deities, Hery shef, lord of Ahnasia, majestic with his jewellery, with beautiful plumes, the bull who copulate the young cows, lord of blood, with fresh slaughter – houses, the strong soul who is in Ihnasia, who wears plumes of Sopdt and Atef crown of Re". He was known also as the b3 of god Re

Horakhety: Heryshef was also identified with god Horakhety and it is clear from the following text: <u>dd mdw in ḥr š.f nsw t3wy ḥr 3ḥty</u> "words spoken by Heryshef, king of two lands Hr Akhty

Khnum: He was one of the famous ram headed gods .He was a creator god who was the main god of the 1st name of Upper Egypt. He was identified with Khnum and he was considered as a creator god like him and it is obvious from his title *nfr \(\theta\)bst mi \(\theta\)nm \(\theta\)d wtt wnn (the one with beautiful beard, like Khnum who built and procreated the being)*

Sopdt: he was assimilated with Sopdt as he carries the title of Swt spd (who wears plumes of Sopdt)

Conclusion and results

From this study it is concluded that:

• The name of Heryshef appeared in many forms through the different periods, and It is noticed that different forms appeared during the New kingdom more than the other periods, and in several forms, it ended with one of the following determinatives



• Heryshef carried many titles like <code>ntr</code> 's (great god), <code>ntr</code> <code>nb</code> <code>ntrw</code> (the god, lord of gods), <code>nb</code> <code>nn-</code> <code>nsw</code> (lord of Ahnasia), <code>ks</code> 'swt (majestic of jewels), <code>nb</code> 'bwy (lord of two horns), <code>nfr</code> šwt (of the beautiful plumes), <code>ks</code> <code>nk</code> <code>hr</code> <code>nfrwt</code> (the bull who copulate the young cows), <code>nb</code> <code>dsrw</code> (lord of blood), Swt spd (who wears plumes of Sopdt), <code>m</code> <code>wpt</code> <code>.f</code> <code>stf</code> <code>r</code> (with Atef crown of Re), <code>hks</code> <code>idbwy</code> <code>ntrw</code> <code>imyw</code> <code>Nn-</code> <code>nsw</code> (ruler of two banks and gods who are in Ihnasia), <code>nb</code> <code>hswt</code> (lord of fronts), <code>Ts</code> <code>wpwt</code> (with fixed horns), <code>shm</code> <code>rnpi</code> <code>imy</code> <code>ddt</code> (the power becomes vigorous at Mendes), <code>nht</code> <code>hnn</code> (strong of Phallus), <code>nwh</code> 'bwy (curved his two horns), <code>nfr</code> <code>hbst</code> <code>mi</code> <code>hnm</code> <code>kd</code> <code>wtt</code> <code>wnn</code> (the one with beautiful beard, like Khnum who built and procreated the being), <code>hr</code> <code>š.f</code> <code>nswt</code> <code>tswy</code> <code>hr</code> <code>ib</code> <code>bsstt</code> "Heryshef, king of two lands , residing Bubastis", <code>nsw</code> <code>pt</code> (king of the sky), <code>nb</code> <code>pt</code> (lord of crowns) <code>,</code> <code>ssp.f</code> <code>h</code> ·f <code>m</code> <code>N</code> ·rt</code> (he seizes his crown in Naret), <code>hry</code> <code>ib</code> <code>Bhdt</code> (who is worshipped in Edfu).

- Heryshef worshipped at many centers like Ihnasia ,Edfu, Mendes ,Naret , and Bubastis
- The usual representation for Heryshef was a human headed ram in a standing attitude wearing the atef crown with two horizontal horns and in some cases, it is supported with two serpents upon the horns, crowned with the sun disc. He appeared in other scenes as a complete ram, or in a human form wearing the white crown or with only the horns without any crowns, he was also represented in the mummified form, and he appeared in a rare form with the body of a serpent together with the ram head crowned with double crown.
- Heryshef is characterised with many qualities as he was known with his strength, his great ability, and his fertility, he was an universal god as he worshipped in Ihnasia where the sky and the earth were created, and god Re separated them there. he was a god of Therapeutic and Preventive Capacity.
- Heryshef was associated and identified with many deities like Wsir, Banebdjedet, Re, Horakhety, Khnum, and Sopdt

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المعبود حري شاف

منى عز على قسم الإرشاد السياحى، كلية سياحة وفنادق المنصورة.

الملخص

مختلف العصور.

معلومات المقالة

يتناول هذا البحث واحدا من الآلهة السماوية في الديانة المصرية القديمة وهو المعبود حرى شاف، المعبود الرئيسي لمنطقة إهناسيا المدينة، وهو إله للخصوبة وإله خالق، وعبده اليونانيون في صورة الإله إرسافيس، كما تم توحيده مع هرقل، ذكر في حجر باليرمو أنه عبد منذ الأسرة الأولى، ولكن أقدم معبد كرس لعبادته يرجع للدولة الوسطى وتم توسعته في عهد رمسيس الثاني، وقد ارتبط حرى شاف بكل من الإله أزوريس والإله رع، وكان يوصف بروح أو بكلا من أزوريس ورع، وكان يظهر في شكل الكبش أو شكل آدمى برأس كبش. ويتميز المعبود حربشاف بتعدد ألقابه وصفاته. لذلك يهدف هذا البحث لدراسة ألقاب وصفات، وأشكال هذا المعبود وعلاقته بالمعبودات الأخرى ودوره في الديانة المصرية القديمة وذلك من خلال النصوص والمناظر التي ظهر فيها عبر

الكلمات المقتاحيه الإله؛ حرى شاف؛ اهناسيا.

(JAAUTH) المجلد 18، العدد 2 (2020) ص 27-40.

¹ Tanet Amon was daughter of Semendes, see Jansen-Winkeln, "Die Libyer in Herakleopolis magna ",303