

## Remarks on the Text of Seti II at the Solar Court of Luxor Temple

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### Abstract

Many texts of the king Seti II at Luxor temple had been published before.<sup>1</sup> Until recently, only Kitchen presents a hand copy,<sup>2</sup> then very little parts of our concerned text had been published in scattered and very incomplete forms without transliteration, translation or comment. It is hoped, therefore, that the present research will be a step forward to make the text available in its complete form with transliteration, translation, and comment, within a historical context. **The research aims to:** study the text of the king Seti II at the solar court of Luxor temple; to analyze the intended text; to comment on the intended text and put it in its historical context.

### Doc.1: Text band of Seti II at the court of Amenhotep III:

Site: Thebes, Luxor temple, court of Amenhotep III.<sup>3</sup>

Location: in situ.

Bibliography : PM II, 317-334 ; KRI, IV, 269- 271.

Inscription:<sup>4</sup>

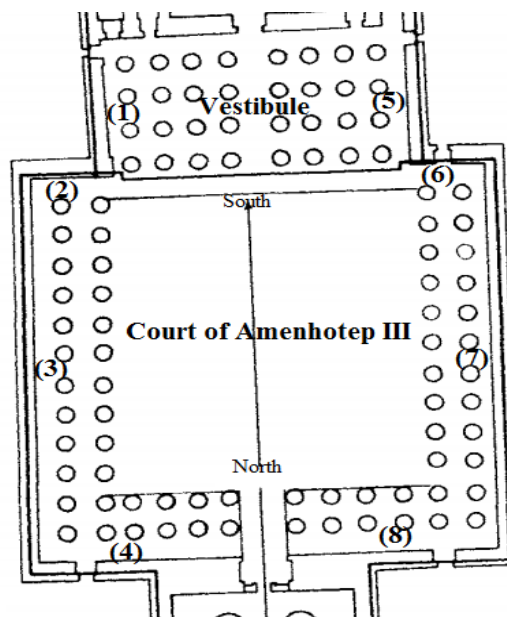


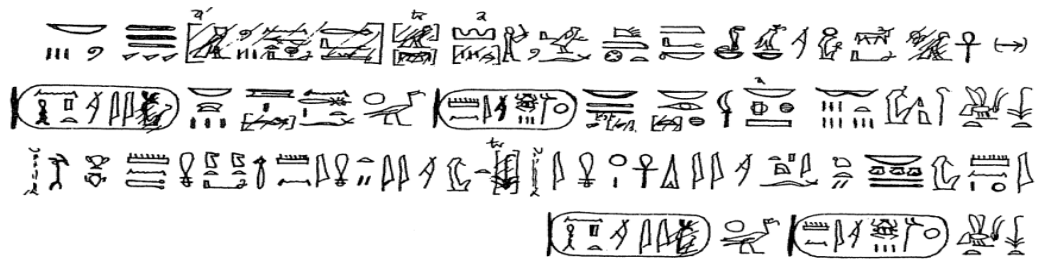
Fig. (1) A key plan of the text band of Seti II at the court of Amenhotep III, Luxor temple. After: H. NELSON, *The Registry of the photographic Archives of the Epigraphic Survey, OIC* 27, pl. 22.

<sup>1</sup> EPIGRAPHIC SURVEY, *Reliefs and Inscriptions at Luxor temple II, OIP 116, pp.45-46, pls. 178,194.*

<sup>2</sup> KRI, IV, 269- 271.

<sup>3</sup> Carved on older texts, see, KRI, IV, 269.

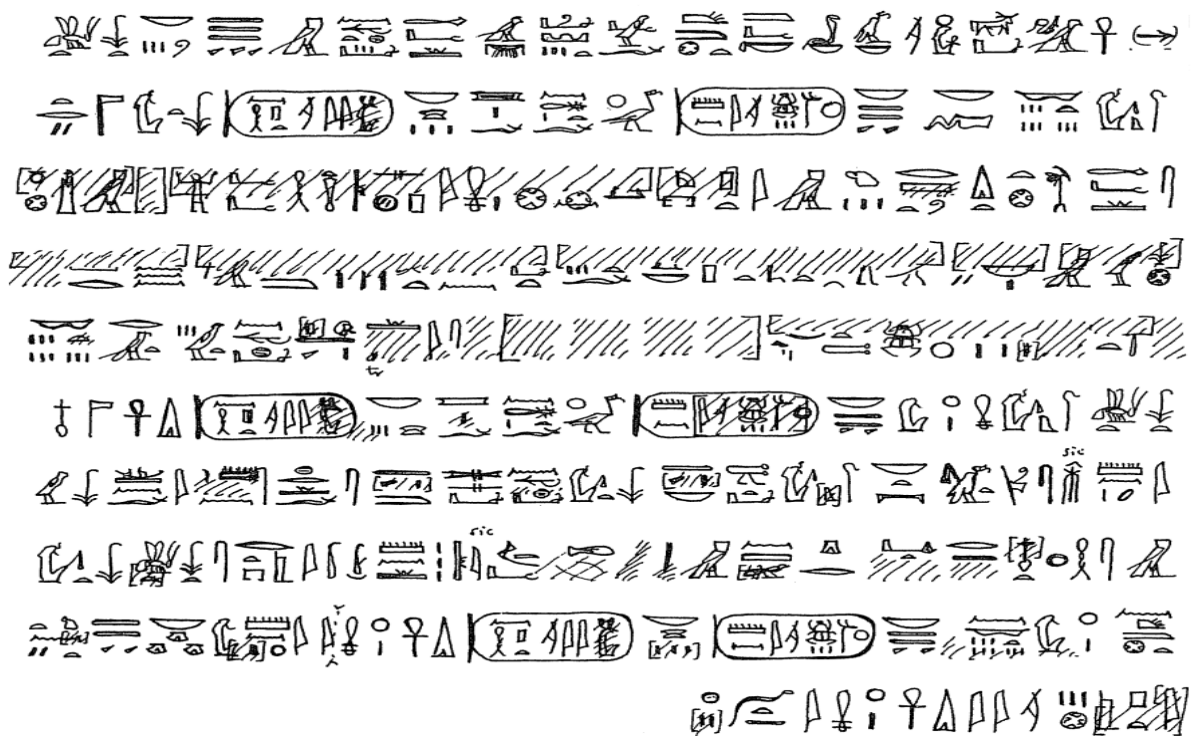
<sup>4</sup> KRI, IV, 269-271.



The text band along the Eastern wall of the Vestibule (interior):<sup>5</sup>

- *ʿnh hr k3 nht mr(i) R<sup>c</sup>. Nbty mk kmt wʿf h3swt [hr nbw ʿ3 nhtw m]<sup>6</sup> t3w nbw nswt bity hk3 pdt-psdt nb hps<sup>7</sup> nb ir-ht nb t3wy (wsr hprw R<sup>c</sup> mri Imn) s3 R<sup>c</sup> n ht.f mr.f nb hʿw (sthy mr n pth) mri Imn-R<sup>c</sup> nb nswt t3wy hnty ipt.f di ʿnh mi R<sup>c</sup> nswt mryty mi Imn ʿ3-bhty mi Mntw hry-ib w3st nswt bity (wsr hprw R<sup>c</sup> mri Imn) s3 R<sup>c</sup> (sthy mri n pth).*
- Live Horus, the victorious, beloved of Re, of the two ladies, he protects Egypt, subdues foreign lands, Golden Horus, great of victories in all lands, the king of the Upper and Lower Egypt, ruler of the nine bows, lord of might, lord of ritual, lord of the two lands (Userkherpure Meramun), beloved bodily son of Re, lord of glorious appearances (Seti-Merneptah) beloved of Amun-Re, lord of the thrones of the two lands, foremost in his Opet, given life like Re, beloved king like Amun, great of might like Montu residing in Thebes. The king of the Upper and Lower Egypt (Userkherpure Meramun) son of Re, (Seti-Merneptah).

(1) The text band along the Southern wall of the court (Eastern side) :(fragmentary to reproduce).<sup>8</sup>



<sup>5</sup> PM II, 318 (102); KRI, IV, 269.

<sup>6</sup> Here the text of Seti II has fallen away, showing part of Merenptah's titles (*nbty hʿ mi R<sup>c</sup> m hnw*).

<sup>7</sup> Copy over traces of (*s3 R<sup>c</sup>*) name of an earlier text.

<sup>8</sup> PM II; KRI, IV, 269.

(2) The text band along the Eastern wall of the court (interior):<sup>9</sup>

- *ᶚnh hr k3 nht mr(i) Rᶜ. Nbty mk kmt wᶜf h3swt [hr nbw ʕ3 nhtw m] t3w nbw nswt bity hk3 pdt-psdt nb hpš nb t3wy (wsr hprw Rᶜ mri Imn)s3 Rᶜ n ht.f mr.f nb hᶜw(sthy mr n pth)nswt ntry sʕ3 w3st dit ršwt m ipt [...] mi [Rᶜ] sp-tpy hᶜᶜ m iwnw šmᶜw m [rᶜ] nb [...] tp-t3 nhtw wrt pdt-psdt nswt bity hk3 mi Rᶜ nb t3wy(wsr hprw Rᶜ mri Imn) s3 Rᶜ n ht.f mr.f nb hᶜw (sthy mr n pth) di ᶚnh ntr nfr s3 Imn msw n mwt nbt pt hk3 nht t3 nb nswt nht ts t3 m šhr.f m(i)ni.f sw m nfr-sbh [...] m3ᶜ mn ti st.s nswt bity nswt n kmt Rᶜ n pdt-psdt nb t3wy (wsr hprw Rᶜ mri Imn) nb hᶜw(sthy mr n pth) di ᶚnh mi Rᶜ mri Imn-Rᶜ nb nswt t3wy hnty ipt-swt di ᶚnh mi Rᶜ dt sp-sn*
- Live Horus, the victorious, beloved of Re, of the two ladies, he protects Egypt, subdues foreign lands, Golden Horus, great of victories in all lands, the king of the Upper and Lower Egypt, ruler of the nine bows, lord of might, lord of the two lands (Userkherpure Meramun), beloved bodily son of Re, lord of glorious appearances (Seti-Merneptah) divine king who makes Thebes great, who makes rejoicing in the Opet, rejoicing as first occasion in Thebes every day [...] upon all land (and) the great nine bows. The king of the Upper and Lower Egypt, ruler like Re, lord of the two lands (Userkherpure Meramun), beloved bodily son of Re, lord of glorious appearances (Seti-Merneptah) given life. The perfect god, son of Amun (whom) Mut mistress of heaven bore, strong ruler of all land, victorious king who administers the land with his governance, steers it with good deeds[...] presentation to endure his seat (throne) (as) the king of the Upper and Lower Egypt, ruler of Egypt, Re of the nine bows, lord of the two lands(Userkherpure Meramun), lord of glorious appearances (Seti-Merneptah) given life like Re, beloved of Amun-Re lord of the thrones of the two lands, foremost in karnak, given life like Re forever, twice.



(3) The text band along the Northern wall of the court (interior) (Eastern half):<sup>10</sup>

- [*ᶚnh hr k3 nht mr(i) Rᶜ]. Nbty mk kmt wᶜf h3swt Nswt bity hk3 mi Rᶜ nb t3wy (wsr hprw Rᶜ mri Imn) s3 Rᶜ n ht.f mr.f nb hᶜw (sthy mr n pth) hr nbw ʕ3 nhtw m t3w nbw nswt bity nb t3wy (wsr hprw Rᶜ mri Imn) s3 Rᶜ nb hᶜw (sthy mr n pth) nswt nht ir 3hwt m pr it.f Imn di sw hr st.f nswt bity (wsr hprw Rᶜ mri Imn) s3 Rᶜ (sthy mri n pth) di ᶚnh*
- Live Horus, the victorious, beloved of Re, of the two ladies, he protects Egypt, subdues foreign lands, the king of the Upper and Lower Egypt, the ruler like Re, lord of the two lands (Userkherpure Meramun), beloved bodily son of Re, lord of glorious appearances (Seti-Merneptah) Golden Horus, great of victories in all lands, the king of the Upper and Lower Egypt, lord of the two lands (Userkherpure Meramun), son of Re, lord of glorious appearances (Seti-Merneptah) victorious king who does what is beneficial to the domain of

<sup>9</sup> PM II, 317 (94,95,96); KRI, IV, 270.

<sup>10</sup> PM II, 317(93); KRI, IV, 270.

his father Amun who set him on his seat (as) the king of the Upper and Lower Egypt (Userkherpure Meramun), son of Re, (Seti-Merneptah) given life.



- (4) -(6) The text band along the Western wall of Vestibule, S.W side of the court (interior):<sup>11</sup>
- *ḥr hr k3 nḥt mr(i) R<sup>c</sup>. Nbty mk kmt w<sup>f</sup> h3swt nswt bity (wsr ḥprw R<sup>c</sup> mri Imn) s3 R<sup>c</sup> (sthy mri n pth) hr nbw 3 nḥtw m t3w nbw nswt bity tit Imn nb t3wy (wsr ḥprw R<sup>c</sup> mri Imn) s3 R<sup>c</sup> (sthy mri n pth) [mri] Imn-R<sup>c</sup> [...]w3d n nswt bity (wsr ḥprw R<sup>c</sup> mri Imn) s3 R<sup>c</sup> (sthy mri n pth)*
  - Live Horus, the victorious, beloved of Re, of the two ladies, he protects Egypt, subdues foreign lands, the king of the Upper and Lower Egypt (Userkherpure Meramun), son of Re (Seti-Merneptah) Golden Horus, great of victories in all lands, the king of the Upper and Lower Egypt, image of Amun, lord of the two lands (Userkherpure Meramun), son of Re, lord of glorious appearances (Seti-Merneptah) [beloved of] Amun-Re, vigorous king of the Upper and Lower Egypt (Userkherpure Meramun), son of Re (Seti-Merneptah)



- (7) The text band on the Southern wall of the court continued along the Western wall (interior):<sup>12</sup>
- *ḥr hr k3 nḥt mr(i) R<sup>c</sup>. Nbty mk kmt w<sup>f</sup> h3swt hr nbw 3 nḥtw m t3w nbw*
  - Live Horus, the victorious, beloved of Re, of the two ladies, he protects Egypt, subdues foreign lands, Golden Horus, great of victories in all lands.

(8) The text band along the Northern wall of the court, Western half (interior) (all loss):<sup>13</sup>

**Comment:**

- The text band of Seti II at the court of Amenhotep III copied over an earlier text;<sup>14</sup> despite the building of the court belongs to Amenhotep III, it was decorated and reused by Ramesside kings.<sup>15</sup> Most likely they originally belonged to Merneptah where the text of Seti II has fallen away in some place, showing part of Merneptah's titles (*nbty ḥ<sup>c</sup> mi R<sup>c</sup> m ḥnw* ).
- Texts of the king Seti II may refer to try to imitate the works of his great predecessor Ramsess II and Merneptah; the text in the court is originally belonged to Merneptah and there is a text band of Ramses II along the walls of the open court,<sup>16</sup> but the text of Ramses II with a precise date while the text of Seti II in the court of Amenhotep is void of a specific date which makes it merely a propaganda text of the king.

<sup>11</sup> PM II, 334(208,209); KRI, IV, 271.

<sup>12</sup> PM II, 101(c), 207; KRI, IV, 271.

<sup>13</sup> PM II, 317(99); KRI, IV, 271.

<sup>14</sup> KRI, IV, 269.

<sup>15</sup> PM II, 312.

<sup>16</sup> M. ABD EL-RAZIK, « The Dedicatory and Building Texts of Ramesses II in Luxor Temple: I: The Texts», *JEA* 60, 1974, pp. 142-160; idem, « The Dedicatory and Building Texts of Ramesses II in Luxor Temple: II: Interpretation», *JEA* 61, 1975, pp. 125-136.

## تعليق على نقش الملك سيتي الثاني بفناء الشمس لمعبد الأقصر

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### المخلص

العديد من نقوش الملك سيتي الثاني في معبد الأقصر قد تم نشرها من قبل، كما قدم "كيتشن" نسخة خطية للنص موضوع البحث والذي تمت ترجمة أجزاء صغيرة منه في عدة أبحاث. يستهدف البحث الحالي نشر نص الملك سيتي الثاني في فناء الملك أمنحتب الثالث بمعبد الأقصر كاملاً مصحوباً بالنطق الصوتي والترجمة اللغوية والتعليق على النص لوضعه في سياقه التاريخي.

### معلومات المقالة

#### الكلمات المفتاحية

الملك سيتي؛ فناء  
الشمس؛ الأقصر.

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