**Journal of Association of Arab Universities
for Tourism and Hospitality (JAAUTH)**journal homepage: <http://jaauth.journals.ekb.eg/>**Goddess "Mry.t" on Wooden Coffins**

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ARTICLE INFO Abstract**Keywords:**Meret; Rejoicing;
Book of Gates;
Sacred texts.**(JAAUTH)**
Vol.26, No.2,
(2024),
pp.324 -332.

The goddess Mry.t appeared on a group of coffins. This study will prove the effective role of the goddess Mry.t in protecting the deceased with the help of a depiction of the goddess Mry.t on a group of coffins bearing the name and depiction of that goddess. These coffins date back to the beginning of the 25th Dynasty, extending to the Late Period. The goddess Mry.t appears on the lids of coffins and often depicted in a standing position with her hands raised alongside many different deities.

Introduction**Name of Mry.t****1- At the Old Kingdom:**

Mry.t means real "singers", more precisely a "singing group", since there is probably a collective.¹ The process of divinization, which in the Old Kingdom is almost exclusively evident in mediator figures and is usually sparked at the funeral service,² can therefore also be followed quite precisely for a personification.

The oldest written mention of the word  to date can be found on the fragment of a diorite shell from the step pyramid, which, comes from the transition period from the 3rd to the 4th Dyn.³

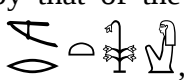
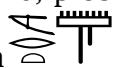
¹ W. Guglielmi, Die Göttin Mr.t, Entstehung und Verehrung einer Personifikation, Brill, 1991. S.9, the collective mr.t "servants, subjects, workers", note 45

² M. Alliot, Un nouveau exemple de vizir divinisé dans l'Égypte ancienne, in: *BIFJ* 37, 1937, 93 ff
Fischer, biA and the Deified Vizier mHw, in: *JARCE* 4, 1965, 49 ff.

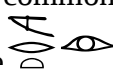
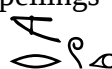
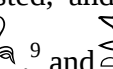
Eberhard Otto., *ZÄS* 76, 1942. pp. 30 ff.

³ Firth Cecil Mallaby - Quibell James Edward, *The step pyramid*. Vol. I: Text, Le Caire, 1935. pp. 122; II, Tf. 90,7.

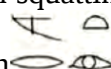
2- At the Middle kingdom:

The spelling of the Old kingdom is retained, the determinative of the arm is sometimes omitted  and replaced by that of the seated woman, sometimes with special hair decorations , ,⁴ or replaced by egg ,⁵ A notable variant in the Admonitions, which are available in a manuscript from the 19th dynasty, is the determinative of the eye  and, probably erroneously or associatively because of the "weaving", that of the piece of cloth .⁶

3- At the New kingdom up to the late period:

All previously common spellings are still attested, and there are several examples of determining by eye ,⁷ ,⁸ ,⁹ and .¹⁰

4- At the Gre-Roman period:

The name is also rendered logographically, sometimes with standing figures of Mry.t, often with corresponding Upper or Lower Egyptian headdresses ,¹¹ sometimes in a sitting position ,¹² and occasionally with squatting ones without headdresses ,¹³ and the Determination by eye is still proven ,¹⁴ Then we notice that The new

⁴ A. Erman, Hymnen an das Diadem der Pharaonen, *APAW* 1911, H.I. 44 (13,4); CG 20257.

⁵ Drioton Etienne, *Revue d'Egyptologie* 1, E. Leroux (*RdE*), Paris, 1933. First edition. Tf. 9 opposite p. 224.

⁶ Gardiner, Alan Henderson, *The admonitions of an Egyptian sage from a hieratic papyrus in Leiden (Pap. Leiden 344 recto)*, New York University, Institute of Fine Arts Library, 1909. 59 f. (7, 14), 48 (4, 13).

⁷ H. Kees, "Nachlese zum Opfertanz des ägyptischen K6nigs, III," *ZAS* 52, 62., 1914.

⁸ H. O. Lange, *Der Magische Papyrus Harris*, *Det Kgl. Danske Videnskabernes Selskab, Hist.-filol. Meddelelser* XIV, 2, Kopenhagen 1927. 42 (V, 2 f.).

⁹ F. Rossi de Turin, et publiés par W., *Pleyte de Leide Text, Papyrus de Turin facsimiles*, French, 1876. Tf. 125.

¹⁰ Leitz, C., & Budde, D., *Lexikon der ägyptischen Götter und Götterbezeichnungen*, Band III, Dudley, MA: Peeters, 2002. p.332

Tb 37, 38b, cf. also Tb 42.

Bellion, M., *Égypte ancienne. Catalogue des manuscrits hiéroglyphiques et des Dessins, sur papyrus, cuir ou tissu, publiés ou signalés*, Paris 1987.

Munro, I., *Studies on the Book of the Dead papyri of the 18th Dynasty. Criteria for their dating*, *Studies in Egyptology*, London / New York 1988.

Camino Ricardo Augusto, *Literary fragments in the hieratic script*, Oxford, 1956. Tf. 19.

¹¹ F. Daumas, *Les Mammisis des temples égyptiens*, Paris, 1958. p.24.

¹² E. Chassinat/F. Daumas, *Le Temple de Dendara*, 8 Bde., vol.1, Kairo 1934-1978. p. 108

E. Chassinat/F. Daumas, *Le Temple de Dendara*, 8 Bde., Band.2, Kairo 1934-1978. p.193

E. Chassinat/F. Daumas, *Le Temple de Dendara*, 8 Bde., Band 4, Kairo 1934-1978. 17. 259

¹³ P. Clere, *La Porte d'Evergete a Karnak*, 2• Partie, *MIFAO* 84, 1961. Tf. 32.

¹⁴ P. Barguet, *Le Papyrus N 3176 (S) du Musée du Louvre*, *BdE* 37, 1962. 9 f.

Jean-Claude Goyon, *Le cérémonial de glorification d'Osiris du papyrus du Louvre I. 3079 (colonnes 110 à 112) [avec 5 planches].*, *BIFAO065_art_07*, 1967. p. 89-156.

<https://www.ifao.egnet.net/bifao/65/7/>. Wednesday, April 17. 03:35 AM.

development comes from the throat ¹⁵, the spellings in which Mry.t and (ꜥ)piece of meat means the “throat” in (ꜥ ) of a goddess are not specifically listed,¹⁶ can be found also The spelling ¹⁷, also another various variants, as the double reed leaves ¹⁸, with meaningless –w (ꜥ) in ¹⁹, and without a feminine ending as ²⁰. In papyrus records Mry.t is also determined with the standing man with his arm raised ²¹. It appears as a phonogram in Mry.ti “sky eyes” ²² Mry.t “(moon) eye”   “who fills the anx-eye with life, the Mry.t-eye with alabaster...etc, fills the Mry.t-eye with what it loves”.²³

The Depiction of the goddess Mry.t:

(Doc.1)

Name: Berlin Sarcophagus no.11978: (fig.1)

Date: 25th dynasty

Gender: Male

Site: Der El-Bahri, Thebes

Current place: Berlin Museum

Description: At the right side outside, it is a rather poorly made box in the shape of a mummy, painted inside and out and covered with that characteristic, now yellow varnish. The great antiquity of the depictions on the coffin deserves special emphasis. Anyone who is familiar with the previously known Hb-sd images one will notice how much closer the coffin images are to the Abusir reliefs than the older depictions of Soleb or Bubastis.²⁴ the king

¹⁵ J. de Morgan, U. Bouriant, G. Legrain, J. Jequier, A. Barsanti, Catalogue des monuments et inscriptions de l’Egypte antique, Bd. I, Korn Ombos, Wien. 1894-1909. Nr. 116

¹⁶ see **Wb II**, 107.7-9, see p. 111 ff.

¹⁷ Dominique Valbelle, Komir. I. - The Discovery of Komir Temple. Preliminary Report. II. - Deux hymnes aux divinités de Komir : Anoukis et Nephthys [avec 2 déliants et 4 planches]. **BIFAO083_art_11**, 1983. 165 f., Fig. 10, Z. 23. 28 (Korner).

<https://www.ifao.egnet.net/bifao/83/11/>. Wednesday, April 17. 04:09 AM.

E. Chassinat/F. Daumas, Le Temple de Dendara, 8 Bde., vol.1, Kairo, 1934-1978. p. 120, No. 30.

¹⁸ Daumas François, Les mammisis de Dendara. Planches du mammisi romain, **IFAO**, Le Caire, First edition, 1959. p. 121, No. 118; 176, No. 32.

¹⁹ E. Chassinat/F. Daumas, Le Temple de Dendara, 8 Bde., vol.4, Kairo, 1934-1978. 37. 260

²⁰ Herman Junker, Der grosse Pylon des Tempels der Isis in Philä (**Österreich. Akad. d. Wiss., Phil.-hist. Kl. Denkschriften. Sonderband**) Journal Article, vol.I, , wien, 1958. p.12,39.

²¹ Haikal F., *Two Hieratic Funerary Papyri of Nesmin*, (Papyrus BM 10209, Papyrus BM. 10208, Papyrus Louvre I 3079), 78 (Var. pBM 10208, 3,16) 2 volumes, Bruxelles, 1970-2.

Faulkner R., *An ancient Egyptian book of hours*. Pap. Brit. Mus. 10569, Oxford, 1958. III 15. 16; X + 22; X 21; XVIII 25.

²² **Wb II**, 107.13 documents.

²³ Heinrich Brugsch, *Thesaurus inscriptionum Aegyptiacarum : Altägyptische Inschriften* (Volume I), Oxford, 1883. p.41.

²⁴ Georg Möller, Das Hb-sd des Osiris nach Sarg Darstellungen des neuen Reiches, **ZÄS 39**, 1901. p.71-74. Taf.V

hurries with his crested ibis and oar to Osiris, who welcomes him and Mry.t with the words: (Welcome in peace!); also on the Lower side, which shows him running in the Hebsed race, the god speaks the welcome that was once characteristic of Mry.t in a modified form to the king and to Mry.t herself.

(Doc.2)

Name: Sarcophagus of "Ankh ef en khonsou I" (Cairo CG 41001²⁵): (fig.2)

Date: Late Period

Gender: Female

Site: Thebes

Current place: Cairo (Egypt), Egyptian Museum

Measurements: Length 2 m. 42 Cent., it's large. 1 m. 051 mill. And it's total height 1 m. 03 cent.

Description: The goddess Mry.t depicted on the right side of the lid of rectangular sarcophagus in the name of Ankh ef en khonsou I, she was surmounted by three stalks, offers

with both hands a large anx sign  in blue color; She has green flesh, long locks of hair unraveling down her back, a red strappy dress; behind her stands a large snake with green and

blue beard. Re and Mry.t are standing on nb sign  in blue color.²⁶

(Doc.3)

Name: Sarcophagus of "Tabat" (Cairo CG. 41009²⁷): (fig.3)

Date: Late period

Gender: Female

Site: Thebes

Current place: Cairo (Egypt), Egyptian Museum

Measurements: Length 2 m. 201 mills. , it's large. 0 m. 91 cent. And its total height 0 m. 96 cent.

Description On the outside of the lid in the right side, the goddess Mry.t depicted in standing position on a blue base, a goddess Mry.t in green flesh with raised arms; she wears a rob with

red braces, her elbow fall a red and blue strip; above her head  blue, and red flowers.²⁸

²⁵ Alexandre M., *Catalogue général des antiquités égyptiennes du Musée du Caire* ; no. 41001-41041, Sarcophages De L'Epoque Bubastite A L'Epoque Saite, Tome 1, Le Caire, 1913. p.1-83.

²⁶ Alexandre M., *Catalogue général des antiquités égyptiennes du Musée du Caire* ; no. 41001-41041, Sarcophages De L'Epoque Bubastite A L'Epoque Saite, Tome 1, Le Caire, 1913. p.2. pl.III. Guglielmi, W., *Die Göttin Mr.t. Entstehung und Verehrung einer Personifikation*. (Probleme der Ägyptologie, 7), LEIDEN • NEW YORK • KÖBENHA VN • KÖLN, 1991.

²⁷ Alexandre M., *Catalogue général des antiquités égyptiennes du Musée du Caire* ; no. 41001-41041, Sarcophages De L'Epoque Bubastite A L'Epoque Saite, Tome 1, Le Caire, 1913. p.117-135.

²⁸ Alexandre M., *Catalogue général des antiquités égyptiennes du Musée du Caire* ; no. 41001-41041, Sarcophages De L'Epoque Bubastite A L'Epoque Saite, Tome 1, Le Caire, 1913. p.118. pl.16. Guglielmi, W., *Die Göttin Mr.t. Entstehung und Verehrung einer Personifikation*. (Probleme der Ägyptologie, 7), LEIDEN • NEW YORK • KÖBENHA VN • KÖLN, 1991.

(Doc.4)**Name:** Sarcophagus of "Nese Senou" (Cairo CG.41018²⁹): (fig.4)**Date:** Late period**Gender:** Female**Site:** Thebes**Current place:** Cairo (Egypt), Egyptian Museum**Measurements:** Length 2 m. 12 Cent., it's large. 0 m. 80 Cent. And it's total height 0 m. 83 Cent.**Description:** On the outside of the lid the goddess Mry.t depicted in standing position, her arms outstretched with green flesh, and blue wig with unrolled locks ; She wears a red dress with straps, necklace and yellow periscelides.³⁰**Conclusion**

The goddess Mry.t is depicted in standing position on the solar bark.

The goddess Mry.t did not appear alone, but many gods appeared alongside her, such as the gods Horus, Re, Harpocrates, and other gods.

Mry.t depicted in a green body at (CG. no. 41001, CG. no. 41008, and CG. no. 41018); she also wearing a dress with red braces at (CG. no. 41001, CG. no. 41008, and CG. no. 41018); the hair is with long lock on here back at (CG. no. 41001, and Berlin Sarcophagus no.11978); her head is surmounted by three stalks at (CG. no. 41001); above her head (blue, red flowers)  at (CG. no. 41008, and CG. no. 41018, and Berlin Sarcophagus no.11978); blue wig with rolled lock, surmounted by red , yellow necklace and anklet are depicted at (CG. no. 41018); from her elbow fall a red and blue strip at (CG. no. 41008); Double Mry.t are depicted at the right and left side from Osiris at Berlin Sarcophagus no.11978).

She is at Standing position at (CG. no. 41018); standing upon blue nb at (CG. no. 41001, CG. no. 41008) and Berlin Sarcophagus no.11978 (lift Mry.t)) with Re at (CG. no. 41001);

Offering a blue grand ankh by here two hands at (CG. no. 41001); she up raised arms at (CG. no. 41008, and Berlin Sarcophagus no.11978); her arms are outstretched at (CG. no. 41018).

Goddess Mry.t assumes a significant cultural and ceremonial role as the embodiment of music, symbolizing joy, and actively participating in royal events. Her prominence extends to the funerary context, particularly evident in the iconography adorning sarcophagi from the Late Period.

In funerary scenes, Mry.t features prominently on the solar bark, accompanied by an array of diverse deities as they tow the celestial vessel. Within the context of these depictions, she consistently stands with arms elevated in the presence of the deceased. Atop her head, symbolic lotus or papyrus flowers lend an additional layer of spiritual significance, while her

²⁹ Alexandre M., *Catalogue général des antiquités égyptiennes du Musée du Caire* ; no. 41001-41041, Sarcophages De L'Epoque Bubastite A L'Epoque Saite, Tome 2, Le Caire, 1913. p.187-194.

³⁰ Alexandre M., *Catalogue général des antiquités égyptiennes du Musée du Caire* ; no. 41001-41041, Sarcophages De L'Epoque Bubastite A L'Epoque Saite, Tome 2, Le Caire, 1913. p.188. pl.19

attire, a tightly fitted robe adorned with braces, underscores the meticulous attention to detail characteristic of funerary iconography from this temporal epoch. This recurring portrayal underscores Mry.t's enduring importance in conveying not only musical and joyous attributes but also her integral role in the solemnity of funerary rites during the Late Period.

Figures



fig.1

Double Merit at the right and left side from Osiris at coffin No. 11978

After: Georg Möller, *Das Hb-sd des Osiris nach Sarg Darstellungen des neuen Reiches*, ZÄS 39, 1901. p.71-74. Taf.V

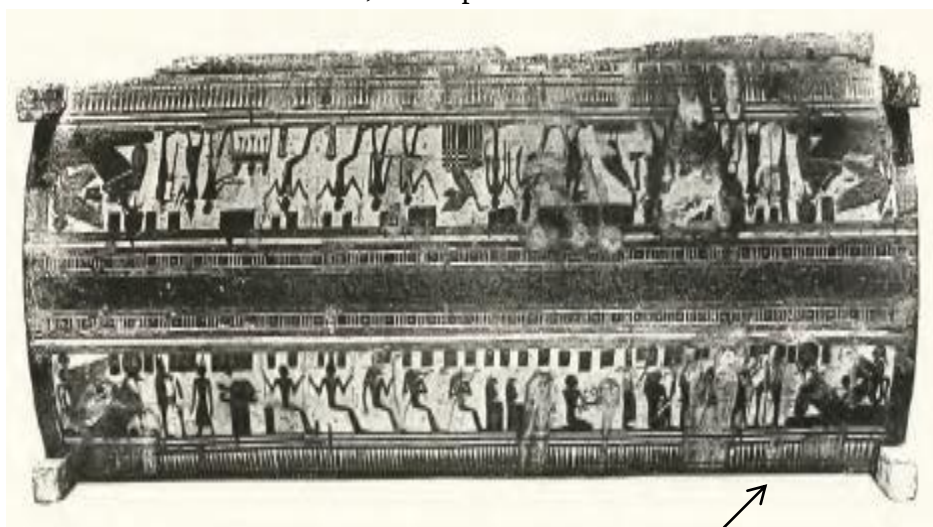


fig.2

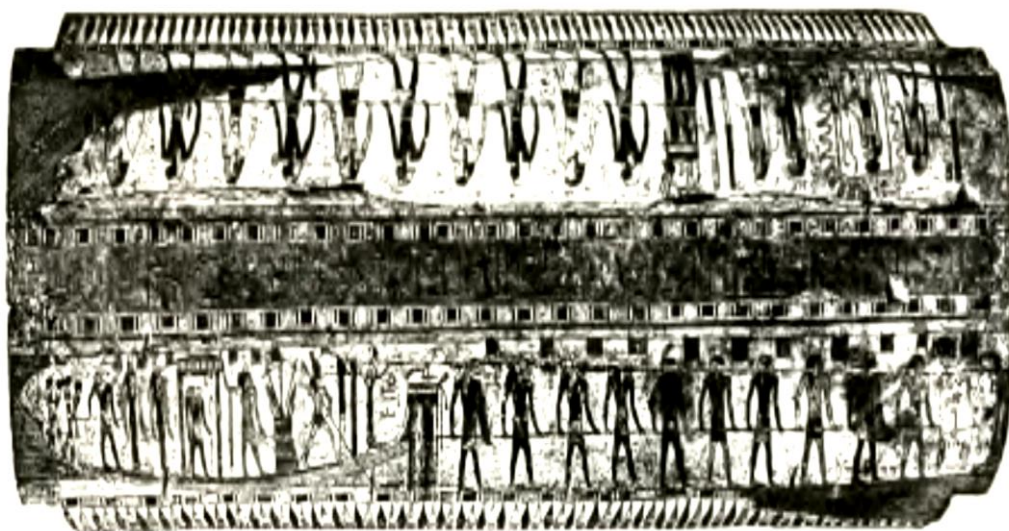
Goddess Merit depicted on the right side of the lid of rectangular sarcophagus, Sarcophagus of "Ankh ef en khonsou I", "(Cairo CG 41001).

After: Alexandre M., *Catalogue général des antiquités égyptiennes du Musée du Caire* ; no. 41001-41041, *Sarcophages De L'Epoque Bubastite A L'Epoque Saite*, Tome 1, Le Caire, 1913. p.2. pl.III.

**fig.3**

The outside of the lid, the goddess Merit depicted in standing position Sarcophagus of "Tabat" (Cairo CG. 41009).

After: Alexandre M., *Catalogue général des antiquités égyptiennes du Musée du Caire* ; no. 41001-41041, *Sarcophages De L'Epoque Bubastite A L'Epoque Saite*, Tome 1, Le Caire, 1913. p.118. pl.16.

**fig.8**

The outside of the lid the goddess Merit depicted in standing position, Sarcophagus of "NeseSenou", (Cairo CG.41018)

After: Alexandre M., *Catalogue général des antiquités égyptiennes du Musée du Caire* ; no. 41001-41041, *Sarcophages De L'Epoque Bubastite A L'Epoque Saite*, Tome 2, Le Caire, 1913. p.188. pl.19

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الإلهة ميريت على التوابيت

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الملخص

ظهرت الإلهة ميريت على مجموعة من التوابيت. وستثبت هذه الدراسة الدور الفعال للإلهة ميريت في حماية المتوفى من خلال تصوير الإلهة ميريت على مجموعة من التوابيت تحمل اسم وصورة تلك الإلهة. وتعود هذه التوابيت إلى بداية الأسرة الخامسة والعشرين، وتمتد إلى العصر المتأخر. تظهر الإلهة ميريت على أغطية التوابيت وغالباً ما يتم تصويرها في وضعية الوقوف ويدها مرفوعتان إلى جانب العديد من الآلهة المختلفة.

معلومات المقالة

الكلمات المفتاحية

ميريت؛ الفرع؛
كتاب البوابات؛
النصوص المقدسة.

(JAAUTH)

المجلد ٢٦، العدد ٢،
(٢٠٢٤)،
ص ٣٢٤-٣٣٢.