Scenes of Goddess Amaunet in the temple of Medinet Habu
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Abstract
The temple of Medinet Habu had no identical meaning for the word Habu, it may had been derived from the name of Amenhotep II the son of Habu, who was minister, medical scientist, built the palace of Amenhotep III, and he had been adored in Greco-roman period. The temple of medinet-Habu is situated on the western bank of the river Nile in Luxor, and it is considered not only one of the most important temples in Luxor, but also all over Egypt, it consists of several small shrines and halls, it had representations for all the most important gods and goddesses in Ancient Egypt, and also it was a central place for adoring the Ogdoad of Hermopolis, particularly goddess Amaunet , as a main member in the Ogdoad and also a counterpart for the great god Amun, and she had several priests in the temple.

Research aims to: Study the scenes and the most important Representations of goddess Amaunet in the temple of Medinet Habu. Illuminate the major role she played in the temple and her relation with the other deities.

Key words: (Amaunet- Habu- Ogdoad)

Introduction:
Medinet Habu (1), the modern name of the southernmost area of the Theban necropolis (2). Its name may has been taken from the name of the temple of Amenophis the son of Hapu (3). In the beginning of the 21st Dynasty. It was known as iAt – TAmt (4), later DAnmt (5). It is a temple complex consisting of the main temple of Ramses III and several smaller structures from different periods (6). The main temple of Ramses III is well preserved decorated and designed (7), providing an impressive example for the temples in the new kingdom (8). It was a sacred place where the Ogdoad of Thermopolis had been buried (9). Particularly goddess Amaunet was one of the main female members in the Ogdoad (10). She was Amun’s primeval consort (12), her name is meaning “ the female hidden one” (13) the pair represented “hiddleness” (14). Amaunet was self created (15). She was depicted as a woman wearing the red crown of lower Egypt. (16) Sometimes she was identified with goddess Neith (17) as a compound goddess (18). There were many priests serving the cult of goddess Amaunet (19). She was rarely mentioned in ancient Egyptian texts (20). She was often represented as a woman, wearing a long tight robe (21). Amaunet also referred to the northern wind (22), her shadow among the primeval gods was a symbol for protection (23). Amaunet moved with Amun to the temple of Karnak since the reign of king Senwesert I in the Middle Kingdom (24), played however a less prolific role than Amun’s other wife Mut (25).

Scenes of goddess Amaunet in the temple of Medinet Habu:

Doc.1: A scarab bears the name (fig.1) (3)
-Description: goddess Amaunet was deeply gravely behind the background of a scarab which is surrounded by the infinite serpent of the universe.
-Type of design: simple name.
-Location: southeast corner of the precinct in the area of the second fellahin village (4).
-Comment: it appears older than the stratum because its design is known from the eighteens dynasty foundation deposits of Hatshepsut at Deir El bahari (5).

Doc. 2: The temple of the eighteenth dynasty, back of the gateway in the Ptolemaic pylons.
The scene is represented on the left half of the gateway, the king Ptolemy X Soter II making offerings before two pairs (four elements of the ogdoad of Hermopolis) are sitting on their thrones in human forms. Female members are represented wearing long wig on their head, holding wAs (6)scepter in the right hand and anx (7) symbol in the left one. Male members with false beards hold wAs (8)scepter in the right hand and anx symbols in the left one. fig.2 (a,b,c) (9).

Doc. 3: The temple of the eighteenth dynasty, the Ptolemaic pylons, third register (10).
- King Ptolemy X Soter presents bread and water offerings to god Amun and his counterpart goddess Amaunet.

Text of goddess Amaunet reads:

Doc.4: The temple proper, second court, portico, north end, upper register above doorway.
-The scene represents king Ramses III offering lettuce with both hands to goddess Amaunet in a human body wearing the red crown of Lower Egypt and a long tight robe making ritual of greeting nini (12) with her arms to king Ramses the third, a lotus (13) flower was placed in front of her, and the following god imn- Ra KA mwt.f (14), wearing the red crown with two long green feathers (15) on it, raising the flagellum nxx (16) in the right hand. (fig.3) (17).

Text above god Amun reads:

- Dd mdw in imn- Ra KA mwt.f.
- Words said by god Amun- Re- 16 Kamutef.
Text behind god Amun reads:

\[
\text{Dni n n .k } // // \text{ Qni r rsy tAwy ntx mAtt}
\]

-Given victory to you/// strong man of the southern and the northern lands.

Text above goddess Amaunet reads: \(^{(19)}\)

\[
\text{Dd mdw in imnt Hr ib ipt swt } // // \text{ di n n .k sdw aSA}
\]

Words said by goddess Amaunet who resides in the temple of Karnak ///, given to her many festivals.

Text behind goddess Amaunet reads:

\[
\text{aw imnt n nyny n Hr. K nfr sA. mry gb tAwy wsr mAat Ra mry imn}
\]

Arms of goddess Amaunet are greeting you the beautiful son, beloved of god geb, master of the two lands the pharaoh Ramses the third son of god Re.

**Doc. 5: The temple Proper, second court, column43, north.**

Scene represents pharaoh Ramses the third, standing in front of A lotus flower offering ointment with his two hands to goddess Amaunet who stands wearing the red crown of Lower Egypt on her head, a long tight robe holding \(\text{wAD}\) scepter in the right hand and \(\text{anx}\) symbol in the left one. fig.4 (a \(^{(20)}\), b \(^{(21)}\), c).

Text above goddess Amaunet reads:

\[
\text{Imnt Hr ib ipt swt}
\]

Words said by goddess Amaunet ,who resides in karnak temple.

Text behind goddess Amaunet reads:

\[
\text{Dd mdw in } // / \text{ imnt Hr ib ipt swt}
\]

Given to you, lord of the united land.

**Doc. 6: The temple proper, Treasury, Northeast Room, south wall**

Goddess Amaunet , as a human body, wears the red crown of lower Egypt on her head, long tight robe without sleeves, a well designed collar, holds \(\text{anx}\) the symbol of life in the right hand and \(\text{wAD}\) scepter in the left one, many plants and lotus flowers are represented on a table in front of her, she is following god Amun –Re – ka- mwt-f , who wears the red crown with its two long green plumes, raising \(\text{nnx}\) with the right hand and wears a collar around his neck and a lotus flower is represented in front of him the scene is represented in a well decorated shrine .(fig.5) \(^{(22)}\)

Text above goddess Amaunet reads: \(^{(23)}\)

\[
\text{Imnt Hr ib ipt swt}
\]

Amaunet ,who resides in the temple of karnak.

Text behind goddess Amaunet reads:

\[
\text{Dn n k nb tA dmD Xr Tbw.k}
\]

Given to you all the united lands under your sandals.

Text behind god Amun reads:

\[
\text{Imn Ra QA mwt.f}
\]

Amon RE- the bull of his mother.

**Doc. 7: the temple proper, treasury, southeast Room (11), south wall**

Goddess Amaunet stands behind god Amun in the shrine, wears the red crown of lower Egypt on her head, well designed necklace on the chest and a long tight robe without sleeves, she is adoring god with her right hand and touching his shoulder by the left one. god Amun sits on the throne, holds the symbol of life \(\text{anH}\) in the right hand and \(\text{wAs}\) scepter symbolizing power in the left one and smells a lotus flower. (fig. 6) \(^{(24)}\)

Text above goddess Amaunet reads:

\[
\text{Dd mdw in imnt Hr ibt ipt swt}
\]

Words said by goddess Amaunet in the centre of the temple of Karnak.

Text behind goddess Amaunet reads:

\[
\text{Dn n k tAwy nbw xAst dmD Xr Tbw.k}
\]

-Given to you all the lands and the desert together under your sandals.

Text behind god Amun reads:
Dd mdw in imn Ra (nb) nswt nTrw(t)
Words said by god Amun Re (lord) of gods.

Di n n k Qnt nb nxt nb
Given to you all valours and all victories.

Di n n k vt(Hb) sdw n Ra
Given to you all the (Sed) festivals to god Re.

**Doc. 8: The temple proper, second court, south colonnade, shaft of column 38**
Scene represents goddess Amaunet as a female standing and wearing the red crown of lower Egypt and a long tight robe, holding wAD scepter in the right hand and the symbol of life nxx in the left one, she is following god Amun-Re- Knt-wt-f who stands wearing the red crown with its two long plumes on the head and raises nxx symbol with the left one. (fig. 7)

*Text above goddess Amaunet reads:* (26)

Dd mdw in imnt Hr ib ipt swt
Words said by goddess Aumaunet in the centre of the temple of karnak.

Di n n k xAst nb m xf a.k
Given to you all your grasps (captures in the war) in the desert.

Di n n k Awst nb DfAw nb
Given to you all teeth (and) all provisions.

Di n n k Awt ib.k
Given to you all the joyfulness of heart.

*Text behind goddess Amaunet reads:* (27)

Di n n k HHw m Hb- sd m rnpw Dt m nb Awt ib.k
Given to you millions of years of Sed festivals and all the joyfulness of heart forever.

Di n n k wAs Dd anx nb snb nb Awt ib.k
Given to you all the power, stability, life, health and all joyfulness of the heart to you.

*Text above god Amun reads:* (28)

Dd mdw in imn Ra QA mwt.f
Words said by god Amun- Re the bull of his mother.

Di n n k nxt nb
Given to you all the victories.

Di n n k Qnt
Given to you all the powerful.

*Text behind god Amun reads:* (29)

di n n k .Ati.k r xAst nb Dt.
Given to you all your attacks to the desert lord of eternity.

**Doc. 9: the temple proper, second court, west colonnade, shaft of column46.**
Scene represents goddess Amaunet wears the red crown of lower Egypt, wears the long tight robe, holds the scepter of by the left hand and adoring the king Ramses the third by the right hand, the king Ramses the third wears the crown of xprS and presents offerings to various gods. (fig. 8)
Scenes of Goddess Amaunet in the temple of Medinet Habu
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Text above goddess Amaunet reads:
Dd mdw in imnt Hr ibt ipt swt
Words said by goddess Amaunet in the centre of the temple of karnak.
di.n n.k nb xAswt
Given to you all the deserts.
di.n.n.k tÄwy m Htpw
given to you the offerings of the two lands.

Doc. 10: The temple proper, first pylon, north tower, top, interior, passage at foot of upper staircase, east wall
The Scene represents goddess Amaunet wearing the red crown of lower Egypt and a long tight robe, holding a stick in the left hand and anx the symbol of life in the right one, plants and Lotus flower are placed in front of her, she is following god Amun-Re – Ka- mwt-f who raises nxx sign with the right hand and wears the red crown with its two long plumes on the head. (fig. 9) (30)

Text above goddess Amaunet reads:
Dd mdw in imnt Hr ibt ipt swt/// nbt pt nbw nTrw
Words said by goddess Amaunet who resides in the temple of karnak, master of the sky, master of all gods.

di.n.n.k nsyt.n.Ra
given to you the royalty of god Re.

Text above god Amun reads:
Dd mdw in inn Ra QA mwt.f Hri.t st wr
Words said by god Amun -Re- the bull of his mother concerning a great throne.

D3/ n.n.k Qni nb nxt k
given to you supremacy (and) all your victories.

Doc. 11: the temple proper, room40, east wall
The Scene represents goddess Amaunet, as a female human one, she stands in a shrine, wears the red crown of lower Egypt a long tight well designed robe with belt, a collar around the neck, bracelets in the left hand; she is adoring god Amun with her right hand and touching him with the left one. God Amun is represented standing in the shrine as a lion headed human body with a sun disk and a serpent in front of it; he wears a long wide robe with long wide sleeves. He holds HQA scepter in the right hand and nxx scepter in the left one and places them on his chest. (fig. 10) (31)

Text behind goddess Amaunet reads:
i//m//n////ipt swt
imn(t) ipt- swt (karnak temple)

Text behind god Amun reads:
Imn/// aA Sfyt
Amon the great dignity.

Doc. 12: The temple proper, room45, East wall
The Scene represents pharaoh Ramses the third in front of a lotus flower purifying the statue of king Re- Har-Akhthe which is placed sitting on the throne in a ram headed- human body form, holding sistrums on the chest and wearing a long tight robe with long wide sleeves in the presence of goddess Amaunet who wears long tight robe and the red crown of lower Egypt on the head with bangles around the leg; she is adoring god Amun with the right hand and placing her left one under his right arm. (fig. 11) (32)

Text behind god Amun reads:
Imn Ra Hr- Axtv nTr aA nb pt
Amon Re- her- akhtey the great god lord of the sky.

Doc. 13: the temple proper, roof terraces, south wall, East end, (fig. 12) (33)
The Scene represents goddess Amaunet as a human female form wearing the red crown of Lower Egypt with her face destroyed, holding wAD scepter in the right hand; she is following god Khonsu in an human falcon-headed form with a disk and crescent moon on the head; the rest of his body is destroyed and he holds wAs scepter in his right hand.

Text above goddess Amaunet reads:

Dd mdw in imnt Hry(t)- ib ipt swt di.n.n.k sd nbw mi Ra
di.n.n.k m////// wAs
given to you in wAs(t) Thebes.

Text above god Khonsu reads:

Dd md(w) in xnsw m///WAst ////////// nfrt/// p Hr nb Awt ibt di.n.n.k //////////// tAway
Words said by god Khonsu in///thebes ///// the beautiful/// the falcon Horus lord of the joyfulness of the heart, given to you //////////the two lands.

Doc. 14: the temple proper, exterior south wall, west of second pylon, frieze above the temple calendar
Godess Amaunet stands in a human female body wearing the red crown of Lower Egypt and a long tight robe; she is adoring god Amun –Re who sits on the throne, his form is destroyed, and he wears the crown of two long plumes on his head. (Fig. 13)

Text above goddess Amaunet reads:

Dd md(w) in imnt Hryt ib ipt swt nbt pt Hnt tAway
Words spoken by goddess Amaunet who resides in the temple of karnak, lady of the sky mistress (of) the two lands.

Text behind goddess Amaunet reads:

////////// n nb Kni nxt
//////// to all attacks and victories.

Text behind god Amun reads:

D(d) ///// in imm Ra ns(wt) nTrwrt nb pt anx wAst nTr aA di n.n nb Aw(t)
Words spoken by Amun-Re,givn to you /////, (Usemare-Setepenamon),given to you a great reign like Re (every) day.

Doc. 15: the eastern high gate, north porter’s lodge, west face
The Scene represents goddess Amaunet as a human female one standing and wearing the red crown of lower Egypt on the head and a long tight robe; she is adoring god Amun Re- Harakhity with the right hand; od is represented in a human body, his face is destroyed, he holds the sun disk and a serpent in front of it above his head, small part of the symbol of power wAs scepter in his left hand is apparent, following goddess, is the king Ramses the third who wears xprS crown on the head and holds HkA and nxx scepters, he placed them on his chest. (Fig. 14)

Text above goddess Amaunet reads:

Dd mdw in imm ///(t) Hr ibipt swt di.n.n.k nb anx wAs mi Ra x(a) nb
Words spoken by goddess Amaunet, who resides in karnak, given to you all the life and dominion, like god Re every day.

Text above god Amun reads:

Dd md(w) in imm Ra- Hr- Axyt ////////// di n.n.n.k ////////// wsz-mAat Ra stp n imm nn x5f di.k Dt Axyt
Words spoken by Amun-Re,givn to you/// /////, (Usermare-Setepenamon),given to you a great reign like Re (every) day.

Doc. 16: Temple of Thutmose the third, northern face (Fig. 15)
King Ramses the third offering sistra to goddess Amaunet, in human female form wearing the red crown of Lower Egypt and a long tight robe.
Conclusion:
Based on the above documents, many elements could be realized from the texts and scenes concerning goddess Amaunet in the temple of Medinet Habu.
- The titles of goddess Amaunet.
- The relation of Amaunet with other gods.
- The different forms of goddess Amaunet.
- The rare scenes of Amaunet.

Goddess Amaunet took many titles which express her as an essential goddess in the temple of Medinet Habu; these titles accompanied her name on the wall scenes of the temple. The following table represents her titles accompanied with the figures.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Titles</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
<th>Figure no.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hr ib ipt swt</td>
<td>Residing in the temple of karnak</td>
<td>5,6,7,8,18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hr ibt ipt swt</td>
<td>Residing in karnak temple</td>
<td>9,10,12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hr ibt ipt swt nbt pt nbw</td>
<td>Residing in the temple of karnak, lady of the sky, master of all the gods</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ipt swt</td>
<td>The temple of karnak</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hryt ib ipt swt</td>
<td>Residing in karnak temple</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hryt ib ipt swt nbt pt tAwy</td>
<td>Residing in karnak temple, lady of the sky, master of the two lands</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Table No.2: The relation of Amaunet with the other gods: |
The accompanied scenes of goddess Amaunet reflect her relation with other deities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The deities</th>
<th>Figure no.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amaunet with the ogdoad of thermopolis</td>
<td>2,3,4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amaunet with Amun – Ra – QA– mwt.f</td>
<td>5,9,13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amaunet with Amun Ra</td>
<td>10,17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amaunet with Amun àA Sfty</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amaunet with Amun Ra Axy</td>
<td>15,18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amaunet with khonsu</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Table No.3: The different forms of goddess Amaunet: |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>scene</th>
<th>Figure no.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wears a long wig as a female member of the ogdoad</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holds wAD scepter and anx symbol</td>
<td>2,6,7,8,9,11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holds only wAD scepter</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holds scepter</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wears the red crown</td>
<td>5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18,19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Table No.4: The rare scenes of goddess Amaunet: |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>scene</th>
<th>Figure no.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Goddess Amaunet making is ritual of nini greeting king Ramses the third</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Figures:

**Fig. 1** - A scarab bears the name [symbol].
Southeast corner of the precinct in the area of the second fellahin village.

**Fig. 2**, (a)

**Fig. 2**, (b)
- Back of the gateway in the Ptolemaic pylon

**Fig. 2**(c)-back of the gateway in the Ptolemaic pylon.
Fig. 3 - The temple proper, second court, portico, north end, upper register above doorway.

Fig. 4, (a) - The temple Proper, second court, column 43, north.

Fig. 4, (b) - The temple Proper, second court, column 43, north.
- by the researcher

Fig. 4, (c) - The temple Proper, second court, column 43, north.

Fig. 5 - The temple proper, Treasury, Northeast Room (10), south wall
Fig. 6- The temple proper, treasury, southeast Room (11), south wall.

Fig. 7- The temple proper, second court, south colonnade, shaft of column 38.

Fig. 8- The temple proper, second court, west colonnade, shaft of column 46.

Fig. 9- The temple proper, first pylon, north tower, top, interior, passage at foot of upper staircase, east wall.
Fig. 10 - The temple proper, room 40, east wall.

Fig. 11 - The temple proper, room 45, East wall.

Fig. 12 - The temple proper, roof terraces, south wall, East end.
- The Epigraphic Survey, *ibid*, pl. 558.

Fig. 13 - The temple proper, exterior south wall, west of second pylon, frieze above the temple calendar.
Fig. 14 - The eastern high gate, north porter’s lodge, west face.
- The epigraphic survey, OIP94, Medinet Habu, Vol. 8, Chicago, 1970, Pl. 597

Fig. 15 - Temple of Thutmose the third, northern face.
- Jéquier, G., L’Architecture ET la Décoration Dans l’ancienne égypte, I, Paris, 1920, Pl. 44/3

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(14) Sethe, k., Amun und die ucht Urgotter von Hermopolis, Berlin., 1929.P.
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مناظر المعبدة أمونت في معبد مدينة هابو

ربة أحمد المهدي - خالد شوقي البسيوني - مفيدة الوشاحى

معبد مدينة هابو الذي أخذ اسمه من اسم المهندس المعماري الشهير، متحه أبو حبوب، يقع على الضفة الغربية لنهر النيل بمحافظة الأقصر، وهو يعتبر ليس فقط واحدا من أهم المعابد في الأقصر وحدها ولكن في مختلف أنحاء مصر، فهو يكون من عدة مناطق صغيرة وصالات، ويدعى على مناظر وتقدمات لمعظم آلهة وألهات مصر القديمة، وقد كان مقرا رئيسياً لعبادة الثانون الخاص بمدينة الأءمونت، تدعى المعبودة أمونت كبعض أساسي من آلهة الثانون وروضة للمعبودة أمونت، امتكنت العديد من الكهنوت بالمعبد.

هذا البحث: - دراسة أهم المنااظرات والتقدمات الخاصة بالمعبودة أمونت في معبد مدينة هابو;
- إلقاء الضوء على الدور البارز الذي لعبته الألهة بالمعبد وعلاقتها بالآلهة الأخرى.

الكلمات الدالة: أمونت - هابو - الثانون.