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A cultural – Philological Study

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SUMMARY OF THESIS

Dendera temple is considered one of the most important Egyptian Temples, which go back to the Greek-Roman era, due to its good condition and the plenty of scenes and valuable texts, which fill its outer and inner walls, and which clear up a lot of religious cults and principles of that era, in addition to the crypts, which are regarded some of the most famous and the most important crypts annexed to the temples, owing to their developed arranging system and the wonderful inscriptions and texts full of highly important information. It's also notable that names of some crypt's halls are identical with those of halls surrounding the sanctuary, the thing that indicates that there is a correlation between the roles of those different halls with each other.

The subject of this dissertation is accordingly chosen to be a study of the scenes and texts of Ḥt-wr bt, Ḥt-ỉḥḫ [K] hall and two halls in southern crypt (1) Ḥt-wr bt [D] and Ḥt-ỉḥḫ [E] in Dendera temple.

Ḥt-wr bt [K] hall - subject of study - is one of the halls surrounding sanctuary of Dendera temple and it located at the western side of it. Their texts were published by É. Chassinat in: Le temple de Dendera, Vol. III, Le Caire, 1935, pp. 99-129, pls. CCIII-CCXVII.

Ḥt-wr bt [D] hall subject of study – is located beside Ḥt-ỉḥḫ [E] hall, separated by a corridor (D-E), at the
southern crypt (1) in Dendera temple. Their texts were
CCCXLIII-CCCCL.

This research is divided into an introduction and
three main chapters. The introduction includes following
points:

**FIRST:** An introduction about Dendera temple, location of
\( Ht-wf \) - \( Ht-Ihj \) hall [K] inside the temple and a
general representation of which.

**SECOND:** An introduction about the hall, its appellation
and the deities associated to it.

**FIRST PART** is divided into four chapters for studying
of all scenes and texts of \( Ht-wf \) [K] by translating of hall
texts with commenting of which most important vocabulary
and expressions, accompanied, when possible, with
supplements of some missing texts through which
comparison with other similar ones, in addition to a
comprehensive description of the scenes on all hall walls.

**SECOND PART** is divided into three chapters for
studying all scenes and texts of \( Ht-wf \) hall (D), the
corridor (D-E) and \( Ht-Ihj \) hall (E) at southern crypt (No. 1),
at Dendera temple, by a complete translation of all texts
on the walls, accompanied with commenting their most
important vocabulary and expressions.
THIRD PART is dedicated for presenting and explaining the features of Ḥt-wē′bt – Ḥt-īḥr hall [K] and the both halls [D] and [E] at southern crypt (No. 1) at Dendera temple. This part is divided into two chapters. First One deals with main features of the special rituals of Ṣw-ṃṛpt feast, namely “New Year, with the aim of illustrating the role of hall [K] and both halls [D] and [E] at southern crypt (No. 1) at Dendera temple. Second point to be dealt with in this chapter is getting informed with the main features of the feast of second day of month Thot, in order to illustrate the role of Ḥyf hall [E] at southern crypt (No. 1) and Ḥyf hall [E] at western crypt (No. 1) and the correlation which associates them with Ḥt-wē′bt – Ḥt-īḥr [K] at Dendera temple.

Second Chapter contains a list of deities statues which are represented at the three halls [K] / [D] / [E] at Dendera temple, with the aim of illustrating the correlation between these halls.

The results of this study can be generally summarized in following points:

FIRST: Hall [K] is located within the halls surrounding the sanctuary of Dendera temple. It’s the first hall at western side of the corridor surrounding the sanctuary of the temple. It has two names: Ḥt-wē′bt, namely "Hall of purification", and Ḥt-īḥr, namely "Hall of Ḥyf", "Hall of Ḥyf". These two names come within a long list of names which designate the town, the temple and the Mamisi of Dendera. Both names are
mentioned mostly associated either with goddess Hathor or with god ḫḥj.

**Second**: There isn’t any other hall at Dendera temple which has the two appellations: ḫḤt-wfr bt, ḫḤt-ḥḫj together, but hall [D] at southern crypt (1) is called ḫḤt-wfr bt and it’s the only hall among the crypts halls of Dendera temple which has this appellation. The neighboring hall [E] at the same crypt is called ḫḤt-ḥḫj. But there is another hall among the halls of western crypt (No. 1) which has same designation and even the same symbol [E].

**Third**: Hall [K] is dedicated, like other halls of Dendera temple, for performing the rituals for goddess Hathor and dedicated also for god ḫḥj divine son and musician who accompanies his mother during her feasts and rituals of her cult to purify her and to cheer her with the music of sistrum and menit. For this reason, the text of outer side of right beam to the south of hall entrance is dedicated to goddess Hathor, while the text of left beam to the north is dedicated to god ḫḥj. The walls of the hall are decorated with shapes of statues of the protective ancestors gods of Dendera who surround the main gods and accompany them during their feasts.

The king has put up this building - like other parts of the temple - to gain the favor of goddess and in order to have her reward for what he has done, and this occurs by
glorifying him before living people and by establishing his throne for ever.

**Fourth:** The study of scenes and texts of hall [K] and both halls of southern crypt No. 1. [D and E] has shown the correlation of them to the feast of New Year (*Wp rnpt*).

**Fifth:** Presentation of ceremonies of second day of month Thot has illustrated the role of ḫḥḫ hall [E] at southern crypt (1), and ḫḥḫ hall [E] at western crypt (1), in addition to hall [K] in Dendera temple.

The study shows that hall [K] was associated to purifying goddess *Hathor*, as an indication of a new birth of her at the feast of new year on the first day of the month Thot, and this hall was associated at the same time with a new birth, namely crowning of god ḫḥḫ on the second day of the same month, when "The sky face" has been purified to receive the sun god by his shining up and his birth on the morning. This explains in its turn the correlation between the names of both halls from one hand, and purifying of god ḫḥḫ on the other hand.

Finally, as south-east part of Dendera temple (represented in scenes of ḫḫḫ-m3-t3wḫ hall [G] and hall [C] at southern crypt (1)) was associated to resurrecting of ḫḫḫ-m3-t3wḫ, who raises from the dead in his know figure as a falcon, we find that south-west part of the temple (represented in ḫḥḫ-wḫbt, ḫḥḫ-ḫḫḫ hall [K] and hall [E] at southern crypt (1) and hall [E]) at western crypt (1) is associated to reanimation of birth and eternal royal authority of god ḫḥḫ.