

MEROITIC NEWSLETTER

5

BULLETIN D'INFORMATIONS MEROÏTIQUES

Handwritten Meroitic script in a cursive style, organized into approximately 15 horizontal lines. The script is contained within a hand-drawn rectangular border that has a slightly irregular, torn-paper-like top edge. The characters are composed of various strokes, including straight lines, curves, and dots, arranged in a systematic fashion typical of the Meroitic alphabet.

With Contributions by:

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Number 5

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par A. HEYLER, J. LECLANT, E. MARETTI, de VIRVILLE et G.P. ZAPPI

Les lignes de notre transcription analytique sont couplées : la ligne impaire donne la translittération proprement dite, la ligne paire une analyse sommaire.

*La marge

Elle est constituée par les 16 premières colonnes.

- | | | |
|------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Colonnes 1 à 4 | - sur les deux lignes | - numéro du REM |
| Colonne 5 | - sur les deux lignes | - lettre indiquant, éventuellement, les différentes parties du texte |
| Colonnes 6 à 8 | - sur les deux lignes | - numéro du stiche. Quand le numéro est répété sur deux ou plusieurs couples de lignes, le stiche continue sur la ligne suivante ou le passage a fait l'objet de plusieurs analyses. |
| Colonne 9 | - ligne impaire
ligne paire | - H : texte ou fragment de texte en hiéroglyphique méroïtique
- C : texte en colonne |
| Colonne 10 | - ligne impaire
ligne paire | - C : texte inscrit dans un cartouche
D : texte d'autel dextrogyre
- D : texte se lisant de gauche à droite |
| Colonne 11 | - ligne impaire
ligne paire | - chiffre 1
- chiffre 2 |
| Colonne 12 | - ligne impaire | - chiffre indiquant si possible la partie du texte, généralement funéraire, auquel appartient le stiche (1 = invocation ; 2 = nomination ; 3 = description ; 4 = bénédiction) |
| Colonne 13 | - ligne impaire | - lettre indiquant le cas échéant le contenu sémantique du texte
A = présentation d'un personnage
B ou C = présentation d'un ascendant maternel ou paternel
D = présentation d'autres parents du premier degré
E = présentation de personnalités masculines parentes (<u>vetmde</u>)
F = autre stiche de structure nettement régressive
G = titres et qualifications diverses
H = passage dont le sens et la structure sont encore indéterminés |
| Colonne 15 | - ligne impaire | - éventuellement numéro d'interprétation du stiche |
| Colonne 16 | - sur les deux lignes | - C : le stiche se poursuit sur la paire de lignes suivante |
| Colonnes 12 à 15 | - ligne paire | - numéro d'exemple, de type ou de groupe selon Fr. Hintze, <u>Struktur</u> , 1963. Le chiffre des unités du numéro d'exemple se trouve en colonne 14. Le numéro du type ou du groupe s'aligne en revanche sur la colonne 15, à droite. Le numéro d'exemple de Fr. Hintze est reproduit chaque fois que sa structure a été retenue, même si notre lecture diffère de celle adoptée par cet auteur. |

*Le corps du texte

Dans les colonnes 17 à 80, nous trouvons le texte proprement dit avec sa transcription en ligne impaire et son analyse en ligne paire.

- Le texte

Nous translitérons signe pour signe. A chaque signe alphabétique, consonnantique ou syllabique du texte original correspond, dans la transcription, un symbole unique. Ainsi

notre transcription est graphique et indépendante de toute interprétation phonétique du texte. Le clavier des machines automatiques est réduit : ceci nous a obligés à contrarier les habitudes des méroïtisans et nous les prions de nous en excuser.

- u est rendu par G , h par X , š par Z , les syllabiques ñ par J , te par V , tê par U.

l' est le signe de valeur inconnue que l'on trouve en RLM 1044.

C et E désignent des symboles de mesures.

- Un nombre gravé sur la pierre par une suite de barres verticales ou des points est rendu ici par une séquence de 1 ou de zéros.
Les nombres inspirés au contraire du démotique égyptien ont la forme 3, 30, 300, etc...
- Les deux ou trois points superposés des séparateurs de fin de "mots" sont rendus par des virgules.
Un signe visible, mais non reconnaissable est marqué par un point.
Un doute sur le signe qui suit est rendu par une étoile, qui équivaut au point sous la lettre, employé des papyrologues.
(G/W) signifie "j'hésite entre G et W", (G = W) : "le scribe écrit G à la place de W".
() indique une lacune de longueur non précisée. Des points ou des lettres insérées peuvent préciser la longueur ou le contenu restitué de cette lacune.
((G)) signifie "je restitue un G non écrit sur la pierre".
(()) équivaut aux chevrons.
K'G' remarque que la lettre K qui figure dans le texte est issue de G, plus ancien ou plus habituel.
V'TE' ou V'SLE' indique qu'il est nécessaire aux fins de l'analyse de dissocier ce syllabique en deux ou trois éléments selon le cas.

- L'analyse du texte

En ligne paire, on numérote les lignes, les colonnes ou les cartouches du texte original. Les lettres indiquent les débuts de mots ou de séquences transcrites. Les = se placent sous la première lettre suivant un terme en proclise apparente, le - sous la première lettre d'un terme en enclise. Sauf dans les textes de structure très connue, ces segmentations, nécessaires, sont arbitraires. Nous les avons cependant rendues aussi cohérentes que possible.

Non contentes d'indiquer les débuts de mots ou de séquences traitées comme tels, les lettres souscrites indiquent également leur sens et parfois leur valeur grammaticale :

A = adjectif en position d'épithète, e.g. LX, "grand"

C = nom de chose, e.g. AU, "eau"

D = nom de divinité, e.g. AMNI, "Amon"

E = nom d'être humain, e.g. ABR, "homme"

F (franç) = nombre

G = terme grammatical, apparemment non enclitique

I = nom abstrait, e.g. VWISTI, "proscynème"

L = nom de lieu, e.g. ATIYE, "Sedeinga"

M = signe de mesure (sous un C en ligne impaire)

N = nom ne pouvant être défini ni par A, ni par C, ni par D, ni par E, ni par G, ni par I, etc...

P = nom propre de personne

R = nom de personnage royal, roi ou reine ou prince

T = titre qui est parfois un adjectif employé comme tel

V = verbe, c'est-à-dire terme, en principe, à enclises et proclises, et de fin de proposition

W = terme de nature, A, E, N, situé en fin de stiche régressif et précédé de ses compléments

X = terme n'entrant dans aucune des catégories précédentes.

Ce système de transcriptions et d'analyse des textes méroïtiques a été élaboré à partir d'entretiens qui ont eu lieu à Darmstadt, Liège, Milan, Nancy, Paris et Strasbourg avec des maîtres et des collègues que nous sommes ici dans l'impossibilité de remercier individuellement, dans le présent article, mais auxquels va toute notre reconnaissance.

ESSAI de TRANSCRIPTION ANALYTIQUE des TEXTES MEROITQUES ISOLÉS par A. HEYLER

Dans les derniers numéros du Meroitic Newsletter, nous avons présenté avec le professeur Jean Leclant la description et la bibliographie des inscriptions isolées (REM 1001 à REM 1110). Ces documents restent encore peu utilisables par les spécialistes. Les transcriptions existantes ont été effectuées selon les principes les plus divers et les publications sont des plus dispersées. Aucun index général n'en a été diffusé. Il s'agit là pourtant d'un ensemble textuel de première importance. Il suffit d'évoquer certains des documents qui en font partie : les fameuses stèles "historiques" des rois Akinidad et Tanyidamani. Cet article est le premier d'une série destinée à présenter précisément les transcriptions suivies de ces textes et leurs index.

Nous avons choisi les voies de l'informatique pour réaliser cette entreprise. Elle se déroule en deux étapes complémentaires et quasi simultanées : préparation de l'enregistrement utilisable par les calculateurs et à partir de celui-ci, réalisation automatique de l'index à l'aide d'un programme. Enregistrement et index sont donc deux phases étroitement liées. De la forme de la transcription utilisée pour l'enregistrement dépendra l'aspect de l'index. Par une sorte de choc en retour, la lecture des textes et leur interprétation seront modifiées grâce aux regroupements effectués par l'index. C'est dire que la transcription que nous présentons aujourd'hui ne saurait être que provisoire. Nous invitons les utilisateurs à participer à l'amélioration de l'enregistrement déjà effectué en nous adressant leurs observations.

Les quelques pages de transcription que nous donnons aujourd'hui ne sont qu'un début. Dans une toute prochaine édition du Meroitic Newsletter seront translittérés la suite des textes isolés.

Les transcriptions ont été effectuées en puisant dans la documentation du Groupe d'Etudes Méroïtiques de la Ve section de l'Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes à Paris. Nous avons méticuleusement utilisé toutes les publications et les commentaires de textes antérieurs qui s'y trouvent.

Ce travail de transcription sera suivi de son indexation automatique. Le programme est actuellement rédigé par M. de Virville, du Musée des Arts et Traditions Populaires à Paris.

Oeuvre de longue haleine sera la transcription, puis l'indexation de l'ensemble des textes de REM. Telles sont les parties du Corpus et du Thésaurus méroïtiques que nous envisageons de réaliser par les voies de l'informatique. L'enregistrement se prêtera d'ailleurs à d'autres traitements. On peut, par exemple, envisager un programme assurant une segmentation automatique et expérimentale des textes en leurs mots et de ces mots en leurs éléments.

En aucun cas la présente transcription analytique et les index qui seront établis ne prétendent être une publication réelle de textes. Seuls des commentaires philologiques et historiques établis par des voies plus classiques et en cours de préparation complèteront en fait le Répertoire d'Epigraphie Méroïtique en sa forme réelle. En attendant, cette première étape apportera, nous l'espérons, quelque aide aux spécialistes.

PAGE 1

Editor's Note: Because of shortage of space only
a few sample texts can be published.

// JOB

LOG DRIVE	CART SPEC	CART AVAIL	PHY DRIVE
0000	0001	0001	0000

V2 M06 ACTUAL 8K CONFIG 8K

// FOR

*LIST ALL

1001	1	1	((.....)) *ATKELW ((..... ..)) NS,, YINNID((V,,))
1001	1	2	1 X X - X 2X X V = - 3
1001	2	1	.PVMLO,, YDEKEL,, NS((,,)) YINNIDV,,
1001	2	2	A = N - X 4V = -
1001	3	1	1 *XT,, YYKEL,, ((N))S,, YINNIDV,,
1001	3	2	X N - 5 X V = -
1001	3	1	2 *MT,, YYKEL,, ((N))S,, YINNIDV,,
1001	3	2	D N - 5 X V = -
1001	4	1	ARIV (((J)))L,, NS,, YINNIDV,,
1001	4	2	D 6 - X V = -
1001	5	1	M*K,, *L *UMOSWI,, YINNIDV,,
1001	5	2	D X7 -- V = -
1001	6	1	*M *. VREQ*OSWI,, YINNI *DV,,
1001	6	2	D8 X -- V = 9 -
1001	7	1	MK,, *MRVWI,, YIN NI*DV,,
1001	7	2	D X - V = 10 -
1001	8	1	MK,, KRDT*I*S*. WI,, N*S,, YINNIDV,,
1001	8	2	D X - 11- X V = -
1001	9	1	.. MK(I/L/T),, YINNIDV*,,
1001	9	2	D 12= - - V = -
1001	10	1	SB*. ABGLI,, JV*,, *WI*. TNKI TKKV,,
1001	10	2	X 13X - X X X 14V -
1001	11	1	EJV,, JVL,, ETKK V,,
1001	11	2	X X - V = 15-
1001	12	1	TDGE,, TDGEL,, ETKK V,,
1001	12	2	X= N= - V = 16-
1001	13	1	(D/J)V MLODEV,, LGV
1001	13	2	X X A - V--17
1001	14	1	SB QESWI,, EVWI E*U,, YIDWKV,,
1001	14	2	X G - X - 18V - V = -
1001	15	1	A*W((..)) DI*,, GEBO,, MEZOLE ((... ..))
1001	15	2	X 19 X X X 20
1001	16	1	...*N...,, IRBON... .., *I(())
1001	16	2	X X 21X X

1003	1	1	AMNIRENS,, QORELI,, KDWELI,, YITNIDBGEL,, QORE((J))YI,,
1003	1	2	LR T - T - W = - - - T
1003	2	1	AKI NIDD,, PARUYI,, PEZUYI,,
1003	2	2	R 2 T - T -
1003	3	1	PQR,, QORISL,, QOR,, GRPGELW,, QEZ,, A RMEYOSLI,,
1003	3	2	T T -- T - L X3 - -
1003	4	1	CQOR,, GRPGEL,, AGRO*S*L,, ATBE,, TMOT,, GRPG(E/L),, ARMIL,, QEZI
1003	4	2	CT T - X - - X X - - N - 4L
1003	4	1	U/U'SLO'G),,
1003	4	2	- -- -

PAGE 3

1003	5	1	CABRSL,, YEKEDI,, KDISL,, ARSLI,, (T/L)KK,, YEMOQE,, QEBESWI,, YE
1003	5	2	CE -- X E -- X -- X X X G - 5X
1003	5	1	RKI,,
1003	5	2	
1003	6	1	CARMEYSLGE,, ADGIV,, QEPER,, ABR 30 2,, KDI 100 30 5,, QOLEB,, YE
1003	6	2	CX - - X - - X E F F E F F G - X
1003	6	1	D GI,,
1003	6	2	6
1003	7	1	ARBGVKE,, PQRLI,, YEDO,, QEZLI,, (I/I)MLOKE,,
1003	7	2	X - - T - X L - A V = -
1003	8	1	C(L/T)RODEB,, ADE(P/K)B,, MSD(E/.)(L/T)(J/D) JRO,, EDEVQ,, (L/T)R
1003	8	2	C X X - - X - - X 7 X X

1018A 3 1 TNQO .
1018A 3 2 5X F

1018A 4 1 PLE 11
1018A 4 2 6X F

1018B 1 1 QOLIKEJ 10 9 00((*0))000
1018B 1 2 1G - - F F F

1019 1 11 WOZ*O,, ZOREYI,, MKLXLI
1019 1 2 1D - D - D -

1019 2 12A QO (D/J) BERIZIQOWI,,
1019 2 2 G P P 2 -

1019 3 13B VWE(L/T)I,, TDGE LOWI,,
1019 3 2313 P W= 3-

1019 4 13C 1 PERIV MNPVLI,, V'TE'RI KELOWI,,
1019 4 2218 T P W= 4 -

1019 4 13C 2 PERIV ZNPVLI,, V'TE'RI KELOWI,,
1019 4 2 41 T P W= 4 -

1019 4 13C 3 PERIV Z NPVLI,, V'TE'RI KELOWI,,
1019 4 2 52 T N L -- W= 4 -

1019 4 13C 4 PERIV,, NPVLI,, V'TE'RI KELOWI,,
1019 4 2 511 T L -- W= 4 -

1019 4 13C 5 PERIV MNPVLI,, V'TE'RI KELOWI,,
1019 4 2218 T L -- W= 4 -

1019 5 13E PXOLETRI,, BRMEV L,, YETMDELOWI,,
1019 5 2 41 T P 5 W -

1019 6 13D PXOLETRI NP V,, QOREJYE KDI VLOWI,,
1019 6 2310 T L 6- P W 7 -

1019 7 13D TTJ LXKE PWOYE ZVLO,,
1019 7 2 41 T A - 8P W -

1019 8 13D P LZN,, AREREV MREPERO PES ULIS,,
1019 8 2 T9 L -10T T 11 -

1019 9 14A AU (((M)))XE,, YIX,, (MS M/MSM)XE SMLOWI,,
1019 9 2 C A V = T P P 12W -

1019 10 14B AT MXE YIGR,,
1019 10 2 C 13V =

1019 11 13G MLOLOWI,,
1019 11 2 2 A -

1019 12 13G MLOZKELOWI
1019 12 2 3 N -

1020 1 11 WGOZ,, ZOREYI,,
 1020 1 2 1D - D -

 1020 2 13G *MDEK,, MNP VU'SLO'WI,,
 1020 2 2 82 T D 2 --

 1020 3 13G ARBTKE,, PES ULIU'SLO'WI...,
 1020 3 2 90 T T 3 - --

 1020 4 12A AWEDE(Q/MO)ROR QOWI,,
 1020 4 2 P 4-

 1020 5 13E ZZOR,, AUNI,, YE TMDELOWI,,
 1020 5 2238 T P W 5 -

 1020 6 13E ANT,, MNPS,, ZDESL,, YETMDELOWI,,
 1020 6 2266 T D - 6P W -

 1020 7 13E ZZOR,, ATKEWITR,, YE TMDELOWI,,
 1020 7 2238 7T P W 8 -

 1020 8 13E ZSMRILE B,, YETMDELOWI,,
 1020 8 2185 T - 9 W -

 1020 9 13C ULETL,, V'TE' RIKELOWI,,
 1020 9 2314 P 10 W= -

 1020 10 13B S*TMKS,, V'TE'DGELI,, V'TE'DGELOWI,,
 1020 10 2313 P 11 W= - W= -

 1020 11 13G T ROT'SL'W,, MLOLOWI,,
 1020 11 2 45 D12 - W -

 1020 12 13G ZLW,, M LOLOWI,,
 1020 12 2 44 N- W13 -

 1020 13 14B AT MXE,, PZIG R,,
 1020 13 2 C A V =14

 1020 14 14A AU MXE,, PZOX,,
 1020 14 2 C A V =

 1020 15 14G AVTG MLOL,, PZITGKEV,,
 1020 15 2 C 15A - V = -

STATISTICAL STUDY OF AFRICAN PLACE-NAMES

by Karola Zibelius

A paper concerned principally with material gathered from hieroglyphic and hieratic texts,¹ to be included in a journal devoted to Meroitic studies, ought to offer in the very outset due justification. Accordingly, this writer hopes to meet this obligation by the suggestion that, composed as it is of foreign names found in Egyptian victory lists and other documents relating to areas in the South that came under the influence of the Meroites and their predecessors, this study undertakes the analysis of African place-names that might show structural kinship to Meroitic ones.

Since the place-names treated in this study have for the most part not yet been localized and the language(s) of them identified, the names obviously cannot be restricted to that area directly to the south of Egypt's borders. The most to be conjectured about their origin is that they refer to areas south and west of Egypt. Chronologically, they embrace a period from Chaschem to Ergamenes. Toponyms of the Ptolemaic period have been excluded inasmuch as material from that era should be considered in connection with Demotic and Meroitic toponyms. On the other hand, names from documents of the Ethiopian kings written in hieroglyphs in the Egyptian language have been included; they gain their value from the fact that they are first-hand historical data.

Inasmuch as the names investigated appear in consonantal, partial syllabic and syllabic writing, no one name could be classified with certainty as belonging to any one of the three writing systems, except in those rare instances where a particular name appears in more than one of the systems. Consequently, as a starting point in a statistically based inquiry such as this, it was necessary to establish a unified transcription system. In this system all strong consonants have been evaluated. In cases where

a weak consonant follows a strong one, the weak consonant has not been evaluated, on the basis of it having been considered to form a syllabic group with the strong consonant. On the other hand, wherever two weak consonants follow a strong one, except in those cases in which the three consonants form a known syllabic group, the second weak consonant has been evaluated. If, moreover, two weak consonants form a biliteral sign or appear juxtaposed at the beginning of a name, the first of the two has been evaluated by analogy to certain syllabic groups in syllabic writing. Finally, it should be noted that the consonantal value of ʒ in the Old and Middle Kingdoms has been considered valid for this study.

Analysis

Uncovered among the available source documents were 384 different African Toponyms comprising a total of 1,402 consonants² - 3.7 consonants per word. Frequency Distribution of Individual Consonants: Individual consonants appear in the 384 names in the following frequency distribution:

Consonant	Frequency	Relative Frequency
ʒ	63	4.49 %
j	116	8.27 %
y	28	2.00 %
c	24	1.71 %
w	58	4.14 %
b	85	6.06 %
p	25	1.78 %
f	2	0.14 %
m	102	7.28 %
n	97	6.92 %
r	141	10.06 %
h	42	3.00 %
ḥ	36	2.57 %
ḥ	21	1.50 %
h	3	0.21 %
s	114	8.13 %

Consonant	Frequency	Relative Frequency
q	26	1.85 %
k	87	6.21 %
g	23	1.64 %
t	188	13.41 %
<u>t</u>	43	3.07 %
d	19	1.36 %
<u>d</u>	21	1.50 %

Terminal Consonants: Of the 384 names, 70.57 % terminate in the eight consonants y (), b, m, n, r, s, t, t. These appear individually in the following frequency distribution:

Consonant	Frequency	Relative Frequency
y	12	3.12 %
b	24	6.25 %
m	20	5.20 %
n	32	8.33 %
r	27	7.03 %
s	35	9.11 %
k	31	8.07 %
t	75	19.53 %
<u>t</u>	15	3.90 %

Terminal consonants m, n, r, k, t, and possibly h, should perhaps be viewed as variable suffixes, i. e., as consonants which can be attached to the end of a name or may be omitted.³ Proof of the variable or optional nature of these consonants is clear in the following group of names which appear both with and without the consonants:

Suffix m: ^cm-(m), m^c-(m), h-(m)

n: jnkn-(n), bh-(n), trs-(n)?

r: 3-(r)?, mg-(r), tmk-(r)

h: mtkr-(h)

k: jrkr-(k), bk-(k), my-(k), srny-(k),
trr-(k)

t: j33-(t), jphrp-(t), ^cndm-(t), w3w3-(t),
 wtn-(t), pwn-(t), mrt-(t), mh-(t), mtr-(t),
 np-(t), h^c-(t), hmrt-(t), šs-(t), krt-(t),
 krtp-(t), twrkt-(t)

It should be further noted that several terminal consonants may appear on the same name "root". Consonants of this kind probably, too, serve suffixal purposes inasmuch as each different consonant seems to change the meaning of the "root". Consonants of this type along with the names in which they appear are as follows: jb-w - jb-k; jr-k - jr-t; jrkr-k - jrkr-t; jrt-kr - jrt-t - jrt-t; jsm-k - jsm-t; wt-k - wt-t; bh-n - bh-r (?) - bh-t; my-w - my-k; m^c-m - m^c-t; mrk-r - mrk-k (?); np-y - np-t (?); kr-y - knr-k - kr-t; tr-y - tr-w - tr-k - tr-t.

Structural Components: Several word forms which appear as individual toponyms also combine with other different names to form compounds of two otherwise independent toponyms. The combined forms thus would appear to suggest meanings different from those associated with the two independent forms of which each is composed. The compound names appearing among the toponyms investigated are as following: jm3-3w, jm3-wtnt, jm3-(n^cs)?, jrt-kr, jtr-mjw, jhn-tk, (ss)?-kwr, tr-rqt?, tr-(ss)?, tr-grss, tk-(ss)?.

Consonantal Series: Several names could be established whose first two elements are formed by reduplication of a consonantal series. Consonantal reduplication of this kind appears as indicated in the following words: w3-w3-t, br-br-t, bt-bt, rh-rh-s, sr-sr-t, sk-sk-dt, j-kr-kr, tr-tr.

The other consonantal series revealed in the study suggest by the fact of their frequent occurrence in so many different toponyms that these consonantal series must have served as basic structural elements in the language(s) from which they were derived. The elements along with the words

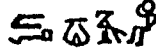
3(w): 3, 3r, 3šq, j3, jbs3, jm33w, jnm3, jh3, jsp3, ^ch3,
 np3, nš3, k33w, dš3.
 jb : jb, jbw, jbbt, jls3, jbsy, jbsk, jbk, jbtb.
 jn : jn, jnbt, jnm3, jnrwt, jnknn, jntbt, jntm, jnttps,
 thjnt.
 jr : jr, jrb, jrbkrb, jrm, jrs, jrsyk, jrsht, jršsb,
 jršk, jrk, jrkkr, jrt, jrtnyt, jrtkr, jrtt, jrtt.
 jh : jh, jh3, jhj, jhb, jht, jhtb.
 js : jsbt, jsp3, jan, jatsc, jsdrst, jstn.
 jš : jš, jšmk, jšmt, jšn, jšst.
 jk : jk, jkn, jkns, jkrkr, jkt.
 jt : jtnp, jtr, jtrmjw, jtg, jtt, jttyt.
 w(3): jbw, w3w3t, brwt, myw, tw, trw.
 wr : wrky, wrt, wrt, jwr, mwrs, jnrwt, (saskr).
 wt : wtj, wtnt, bwt, jhwtt, brwt, jm3wtnt.
 br : brwt, brbrt, brhj, mbr, rbr, sbr, jpbrrt, hmbrr.
 bh : bh3, b3h^css, bhsst, bhk, wbh.
 bt : bt, btbt, mbt, jnbt.
 mn : mn^crb, mnsj, mnt, (smnrk), dmnj, 3ymn, trmnt, dtmn,
 grmnst.
 mr : mrhtj, mrhn, mrkr, mrkk, mrtt, bmrst, tmr, tmrp.
 mh : mhndqnt, mhšrht, mhs, n^csmh, mhr.
 ms : msht, msss, mst, ms, msdm, 3ms, tmsnt.
 mk : mk, mkj, rmk, tkr, jšmk.
 mg⁶ : mgr, mgr3, rmg.
 np : np3, npt, jtnp, rtnpn.
 ns : mnsj, knst, tns, tnt, jkns, sšns, ktns, ttns,
 grmnst.
 nt : jntbt, jntm, jnttps, mnt, ^cqnt, wtnt, pwnt, nhnt,
 thjnt, trmnt, jm3wtnt, mhndqnt.
 rb : rb, rbr, jrb, jrbkrb, brbrt, grb, trbnk, mn^crb.
 rm : rmk, rmg, jrm, trmnt, jtrmjw.
 rh : rhrhs, brhj, mrhtj, trht.
 rs : jrs, jrsyk, jrsht, srst, grss, trs, trsn, shrst,
 trrs, tttrs, jsdrst, mwrs, trgrss.

rk : rkt, jrk, jrkrk, wrky, mrkr, mrkk, nrkyhb, srk, grkn,
 jkrkr, trrk, smark, twrkt, trk.
 rt : rtk, jrt, jrtnyt, krtpt, krtt, grrt, trt, trtr, drt,
 mtrt, bbrt, srst, jnrwrt, mbsrhrt.
 rt : rtⁿpn, rtk, jrⁿkr, jrⁿtt, jrⁿtt, wrt, wrt, mrtt, hmrtt.
 hb : jhb, shb, sthb, thbb, nrkyhb.
 ht : jht, jhtb, jhbt, mrttj, bk3bt.
 sn : snk, ant, jan, tran, tmsnt.
 sr : srnyk, srst, srk, mgr3, trsr.
 ss : sskwr, grss, trss, tkss, jstss, b3h^css, trgrss.
 sk : skrgt, skskdt, skst.
 st : sthb, jstss, mst, mst, bpt, bht, skst, knst, tpstm,
 tnst, shrst, jsdrst, grnst.
 kn : kn, snst, knkf, jkn, jkns, jknkn, grkn.
 kr⁷ : kry, krtpt, krtt, jkrkr, skrgt, tkr, jrkrk, mrkr,
 mtkr, tmkr, jrⁿkr, jrbkrb,
 gr : gr, grb, grnst, grss, grkn, grrt, bgrq, mgr, dgr,
 trgrss.
 tb : tb, tb, tbjnt, jntbt, jhtb.
 tm : tmr, tmrp, tmkr, tmtr, dtm, jntm, nhtm, shtm, sdⁿtm,
 tpstm, wjdtm.
 tn : tnb, tnsw, jtnp, wntt, ttn, jrtnyt, bktn, jm3wtnt.
 tr : tr, tr3, try, trjw, tw, trbk, trmt, trss, trrqt,
 trrk, trs, trsn, trss, trk, trgb, trgrss, trt, trtr,
 trdt, jtr, jtrmjw, mtrj, mtrt, ktrdt.
 tt : jtt, jttyt, jnttps, krtt, twrkt, tqtt, jhwtt, mhndqnntt.
 tn : tnqb, tnst, jtny, rtⁿpn, ktⁿs, ttⁿs, j^ctn, jstⁿ, khtⁿ.
 tk : tk, tkss, wtk, rtk, jrⁿkr, jhntk.
 tt : ttn, jrⁿtt, mrtt, hmrtt.
 jm3 : jm3, jm33w, jm3wtnt, jm3n^cs.
 jnt : jntbt, jntm, jnttps, tbjnt.
 jrs : jrs, jrsyk, jrsht.
 jrt : jrⁿkr, jrⁿtt, jrⁿtt.
 jst : jstss, jsdrst, jstⁿ.
 mrk : mrkr, mrkk.
 n^cs : jm3n^cs, n^csmh.

rst : shrst, jedrst.
trt : trt, trtr, mtrt.
tns : tnst, ktns, ttns.
dtm : dtmn, šdtm, wjdtm.

Notes

- 1 This paper is an appendix of a doctoral dissertation "Afrikanische Orts- und Völkernamen in hieroglyphischen und hieratischen Texten," University of Tübingen, as yet unpublished. The necessary limitation of this inquiry makes it impossible to include elaborate references. For these reasons also the names have not been included in their hieroglyphic writings. The reader interested in critical and other secondary commentaries of source material is referred to the dissertation scheduled for publication in the near future or to Gauthier, Dictionnaire des noms géographiques contenus dans les textes hiéroglyphiques, 7 vols., Cairo 1925-1931.
- 2 This figure includes five lost consonants.
- 3 Prefixes of this kind seem to appear in the name (m)h and possibly in the names ktrdt - trdt and trrqt - rqt - twrkt, if these are identical.
- 4 Consonantal series are consonants grouped sequentially. In a name abcde two-consonantal series are ab, bc, cd, de, and three-consonantal series abc, bcd, and cde.
- 5 These established elements are frequently not conclusive because one name often contains two consonantal series of equal frequency that overlap each other. For example, the name jrkrk could contain the elements jr plus kr plus suffix k. But it also could contain reduplicated elements j plus rk plus rk. The latter case in this instance is ruled out because in this name the terminal -k reveals itself to be a variable suffix. But the means to establish the more probable solution is not always possible.

⁶ Posener, *Princes et pays d'Asie et de Nubie*, Brussels 1940, p. 62 (P29), in naming the element *mg* refers to the  of the New Kingdom, which designates a Nubian warrior. See *Wörterbuch II*, p. 164.

⁷ *Kr* is probably connected with *kwr*, the title of the Kushitic king. Cf. Sauneron/Yoyotte, *BIFAO* 50, 1952, pp. 184-6.

EXCAVATIONS AT MEROE

The University of Khartoum has just completed its fifth season of excavation at Meroe. During this time the main attention has been devoted to elucidation of the stratigraphic sequence in the northern of the two large mounds lying to the east of the royal city and the temple of Amun. Some digging by Garstang in 1912 had indicated that these mounds contained the main domestic part of the town of which the royal component had been largely cleared in the years 1910 to 1914.

Since the excavations were intended to reveal details of ordinary domestic life, to show the stratigraphy, provide a pottery sequence, and also to supply, if possible, closer dating for Meroitic material, the larger of the two mounds was made the objective of these first seasons. In the years 1966-67 and 1967-68 an eight metre wide trench was dug from east to west through the southern part of this mound and revealed, as had been expected, that it was composed of the ruins of simple mud-brick houses together with a very considerable amount of domestic rubbish. Additionally it was hoped that evidence, both chronological and technical, might be found concerning the iron working for which Meroe has so long been famous. Although no smelting furnaces were found in this area, fragments were discovered as well as considerable traces of iron smelting, including one complete mound of slag beneath the present surface and therefore considerably antedating the mounds known from surface investigation.

A surprise was that at the very bottom of this trench and lying on the original surface was a cache of pots of much earlier type than any previously known from the site and comparable to some found in late Napatan royal tombs, though new types and shapes were also found. A carbon 14 date for the level in which the pottery was found gave 514 ± 80 B.C. Since on archaeological grounds a date of c. 550 B.C. would be acceptable, this date is very satisfactory. We can therefore date the first occupation in this part of the site to the middle

In two subsequent seasons excavation was carried out at the highest part of the mound to establish another sample and to test the validity of the sequence obtained in the first trench. In this case a wider area was cleared of the upper levels and part of the plan of the town was obtained. This indicated that at a very late date (5th century A.D.?) there were large buildings of mud-brick in this part of the town and that it was an area of importance.

In this area, bottom was reached at a depth of ten metres and seven different building levels were identified, all of them containing buildings of greater size than those further south in the same mound. Two building levels were found associated with 'Napatan' pottery and therefore were of the same or slightly earlier date than the traces of occupation found in previous years. The earlier building can perhaps be dated to about 600 B.C. Beneath this earliest building a series of postholes was found dug into a level of clean sand, perhaps representing a small sand dune. These postholes formed a pattern which makes it clear that they represent the holes for the upright poles of a small hut very similar to those used by the semi-nomad inhabitants of the area today.

In addition to the main trench two smaller excavations were cut in this area, two metres by two metres in area and to the full depth of ten metres, and the whole of the contents from these two trenches sieved so as to provide a true sample of both pottery and other materials. Since the main excavation produced upwards of a million pot sherds it is manifestly impossible to make a detailed study of the total. Examination of the twenty or so thousand sherds from the carefully selected and excavated sample areas should provide adequate material for a detailed seriation analysis of the pottery.

Detailed study of the pottery must wait on future work but it has already been possible to make some preliminary studies and to arrange the pottery of about a thousand years of occupation into chronological order. Exact dates are still impossible but it can be safely assumed, in view of the character of the earliest pottery, that Meroe was first occupied in the early seventh century B.C. What is more difficult to establish is the date of the abandonment, or final decay, of the town. The usually accepted date of about A.D. 350 seems to be too early and though this may, if we are to accept the Aezanes inscription at its face value, be the approximate date of the end of Meroe as an organised state, it seems highly probable that the town was occupied for a considerable period afterwards. One of the difficulties is that many of the later buildings have been badly damaged by those seeking for building materials and much of the upper soil has been eroded by wind and rain. The finding of an Axumite coin below the second building level, though not conclusive, suggests that the upper level postdates the coin which is of mid-fourth century A.D. date.

A careful investigation was made of the area around one of the heaps of iron slag in the search for evidence of iron smelting techniques and the first smelting furnace to be known at this site was found. It is of late (first - second century A.D.?) date and was built in the ruins of an earlier house. A large number of tuyeres were found together with much iron slag. All these are now being studied by Dr. Tylecote of the Department of Metallurgy of the University of Newcastle upon Tyne.

P. L. Shinnie

6. III. 1970.

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