

The Stela of Sobekhotep from Hatnub¹

The hieratic inscription is arranged in two initial horizontal lines along the upper part, followed by six vertical lines on the right and two vertical lines on the left of the main standing figure.



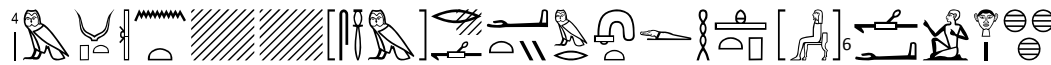
rnpt-ḥsbt 22 (n)swt bit(i) HPR-K3-R3 z3-r^c ZN-WSRT ḥnh(.w) mi r^c dt r nhḥ²

Year 22 of the King of Upper and Lower Egypt *HPR-K3-R3*, son of Re *ZN-WSRT* (Senwosret I) alive like Re forever and ever.



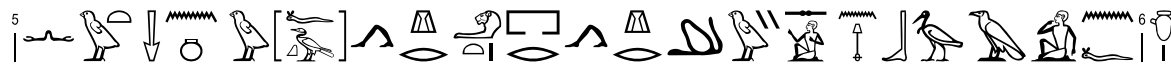
imi-z3 [sbkw]-ḥtp⁵ <dd> ii.n.i ḥ3... ḥ3(t) n (n)swt-bit(i) HPR-K3-R3 z3-r^c ZN-WSRT ḥnh(.w) dt

Attendant [Sobek]-hotep, <saying>: I have come here...precious stones/metals for the King of Upper and Lower Egypt *HPR-K3-R3*, son of Re *ZN-WSRT* alive forever,



m wpwt nt ...smr-w^cti (i)m(i)-r ḥtmt sbk-ḥtp w3 ḥr ḥw

as an assignment of ... sole friend/courtier (of the king), overseer of the seal (chief treasurer), unique and exceptional,



n(i) tw snnw.f ḥk ḥr-ḥ3t pr ḥr-phwi z(i) n wb3 n.f ib

who has no equal (lit. no one his second), who enters first and leaves last, an open-hearted man (lit. a man of open (one) the heart for him).



ir grt ...nb zh3w/sš nb iky nb ḥrp nb šdt(i).f⁷wd pn ddt(i).f

¹ The principal reference to these notes is G. Posener's article JEA, 54 (1968), pp. 67-70.

² Both nouns *dt* and *nhḥ* mean "forever," the first emphasizing the fixed unchanging nature of the eternity and the second emphasizing cyclical repetition; see Allen, Essay 9.

³ Original writing emended.

⁴ Conjectural; see also The Acephalous Stela JdE28569 in this web site.

⁵ [Peas. B1, 186; B2, 116].

⁶ Conjectural.

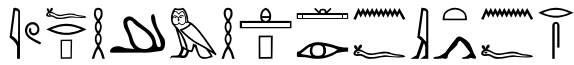
⁷ This and the next verb forms are prospective active participles.

As for any ..., any scribe, any miner, any controller who will read this stela (and) who will say



h3 m⁸ t h3 m h(n)kt h3 m k3 m r h3 m ht nbt nfrw⁹ r^c nb n twt pn

‘1000 loaves of bread (lit. 1000 in bread), 1000 jugs of beer, 1000 oxen, 1000 geese, 1000 of every good thing every day for this image,’



iw.fr ph m htp ir.n.f¹⁰ iit.n.f¹¹ r.s

he is to return home safely (in peace), after he had done what he came for (lit. concerning it).



ir grt hdt(i.f)¹² twt pn nn ph.f¹³ pr.f nn hpt.f hrdw



nn m3.f kmt¹⁴

As for one who will damages this image, he will not return to his house, he will not embrace his children, he will not see happy ending. (lit. success)

⁸ See Allen (9.4).

⁹ Instead of *nfrt*, see E. Edel, *Altägyptische Grammatik*, Vol. II, §985, Anm.

¹⁰ Circumstantial *sdm.n.f*/perfect in an adverb clause to express prior circumstance.

¹¹ Perfect relative form.

¹² Prospective active participle with generic suffix pronoun missing; see Allen (23.8).

¹³ Negated prospective/subjunctive *sdm.f* expressing future.

¹⁴ The noun “completion, success” not “Egypt” as the town determinative is missing.