

The Stela of Tagemirmut¹

(Museum of Fine Arts 51.2149, Budapest)



¹ See K.A. Kóthay and É. Liptay, Eds., *Egyptian Artefacts of the Museum of Fine Arts, Budapest*, 2010, and I. Nagy, *Guide to the Egyptian Collection, Museum of Fine Arts, Budapest*, 1999. The author is grateful for Dr. Éva Liptay, head curator of the Egyptian Collection of the Museum of Fine Arts, Budapest, for providing a high resolution image of the stela.



ḥdjt ntr 3

(Horus the) Behdetite, the great god.

Underneath the deceased woman (the owner of the stela) is depicted on the right worshipping Re-Harakhti, Atum, Khepri, Isis and Nephthis who are standing in the Solar Bark. They can easily be identified by their headdresses and hieroglyphic inscriptions above their heads.



ḥtp-dī-(n)swt rꜥ-ḥrw-3ḥti, ntr 3, nb pt ntrw, (i)tm(w), nb t3wi iwnw, ḥpri ḥpr ds.f

A royal offering of Re-Harakhti, great god, lord of the sky and the gods, Atum, the lord of the Two Lands and Heliopolis, and Khepri who evolved himself²

Note: An 18th Dynasty tomb inscription³ of western Thebes reads as:



dd-mdw in rꜥ ḥrw-3ḥti (i)tmw nb t3wi iwnw, ntr 3 nb pt. Beyond the

obvious similarities, an interesting feature of the stela is the use of as a determinative for “god.”⁴



di.sn prt-ḥrw t ḥnkt k3w 3pdw irp irtt sntr šsr mnḥt ḥt nb(t) nfr(t) ʿnh(t) ntr im

they give an invocation offering of bread and beer, oxen and fowl, wine and milk, linen and clothing, and every good thing on which a god lives,



n k3 n ḥwt-ḥrw⁵-t3-gm-ir-mwt⁶ m3ꜥ ḥrw ms(n) dd-ist-(iw.)s-ʿnh⁷

for the ka of Hathor-Tagemirmut, justified, born of Djed-Ist-iusankh.

² According to the Heliopolitan creation myth, Khepri is the newly risen or dawning aspect of Re, whereas Atum (being the oldest of the gods) is the setting aspect of Re. The rising sun is represented by *ḥrw-3ḥti*, lit. “Horus of the Horizon,” and syncretism with Re gives the combined god Re-Harakhti.

³ Tomb of Roy; cf. R. H. Wilkinson, *The complete gods and goddesses of ancient Egypt*, Thames & Hudson, 2003.

⁴ See Gardiner, *Sign List R8*, p. 502.

⁵ Instead of Osiris N as the deceased is a woman.

⁶ See Ranke, 371, 24.

⁷ Lit. “Isis said, she will live;” a typical subject + imperfective construction in names: *dd X iw.f/s ʿnh*, with X a deity; see Ranke, 409, 17.