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**A STATUE BASIS IN BEKHEN-STONE (GREYHAWKE)
CHEIKH LABIB ANX 104**

The « Annexe » of the « Cheikh Labib » magazine was a side chamber of this larger storeroom containing objects recovered by the Egyptian Authorities in houses and from antiquities dealers. Partly emptied in 1998, its content joined that of the « Cheikh Labib » magazine. Among these pieces, a statue basis made of Bekhen-stone (greyhawke) has been registered under the number ANX 104¹ (pl. I and II).

Kind of statue

The upper surface of the piece preserves traces of the feet, the left one slightly forward. This detail and the titles present in the texts allow us to identify the document as the remains of a feminine striding statue.

Texts

The four lateral faces of the basis bear a single line of text (all signs facing right) :

— 1°) Front : *unreadable traces*

— 2°) Right side :



[2] [...] k3t-t3 lnl.n H'py, ht m T3-šm', đf3w m T3-mhy, kṛst

— 3°) Rear side :



[3] nfrt m-ht mnl't n k3 (n) lh(y)t (nt) Tmn-R'

— 4°) Left side :



[4] [...] nb(t) sššty, špst nt hn[t- (?) ...]

— 5°) Of the vertical inscription of the back pillar, only one of the last signs (≡) remains at the bottom, maybe part of the owner's name or of that of one of her relatives.

Translation

« [1] ... [2] ... [may she be granted with ...] productions * of the land that Hâpy brings, and goods from the Upper Egypt, products from the Lower Egypt, and with a beautiful

¹ The dimensions of the document are as follows, High : 6 cm ; width : 13 cm ; length : 24 cm.

³⁾ burial-place after the funeral ; for the *ka* (of) the musician of Amun-Râ, [⁴⁾ (and of (?)) Hathor (?)] the mistress of the two sistra ^b, the noble lady ... ^c (?) [...] ».

a — , *k3t-t3* : see *Wb.* V, 100, 1-2, for *k3t*, « Produkte des Feldes , Erzeugnisse eines Landes ».

b — For *nb(t) sššty*, epitheta of Hathor, D. Meeks, *Alex* 2, 78.3856. A trace corresponding to the tail of  or to  is preserved. As no name **Ns-nbt-sššty* is recorded in Ranke, *PN*, we opted for a name of deity, not of a person.

c — Hathor désignée as (*špst*) : D. Meeks, *Alex* 2, 78.4095, quoting J. Assmann, « Eine Traumoffenbarung der Göttin Hathor », *RdE* 30, 1978, p. 26 where is found the following formula : *špst n-sdm-n.s* « eine Dame, auf die man hören muß », maybe a partial parallel to what was present on our statue. See also, for this designation of Hathor in Edfu, P. Wilson, *Ptolemaic Lexicon*, *OLA* 78, 1997, p. 1003, quoting E I, 57,8 ; I, 70,8 ; II, 8,11.

Is the last word connected with *Hnt-33bt*, the name of the XIVth nome of Lower Egypt (Tanite) where a form of Hathor-Isis was worshipped (H. Gauthier, *DG* IV, 178-79) ? It is probably audacious to propose it, as such a mention on a statue presumably originating from Karnak would be surprising.

A lacuna at the end of this line has deprived us from the possibility to have the exact identity of the lady and the remains of the titles, « musician of Amun-Râ, and of (?) [Hathor] ... », have not been sufficient to identify her, even though it seems likely, through her first title, that she was a Theban lady.

Datation

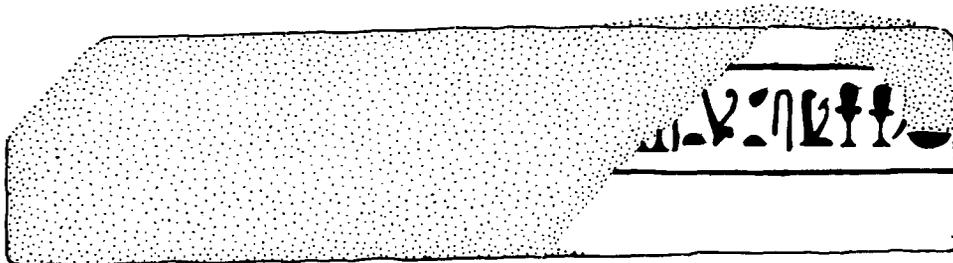
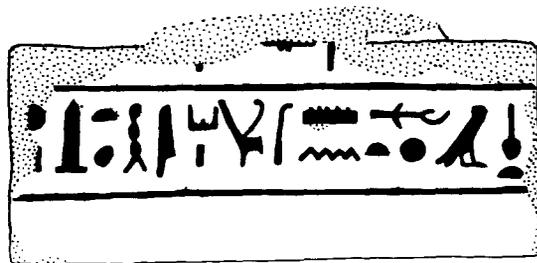
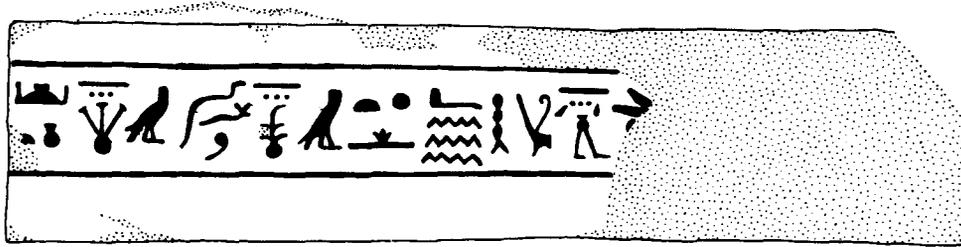
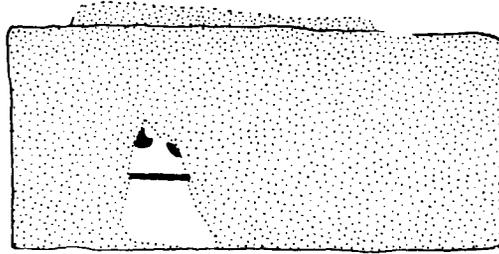
The style of the signs and some specific writing, as, for example, that of the word *k3t* with the bee-sign , suggest a Late Period, or, most probably, a ptolemaic sculpture.

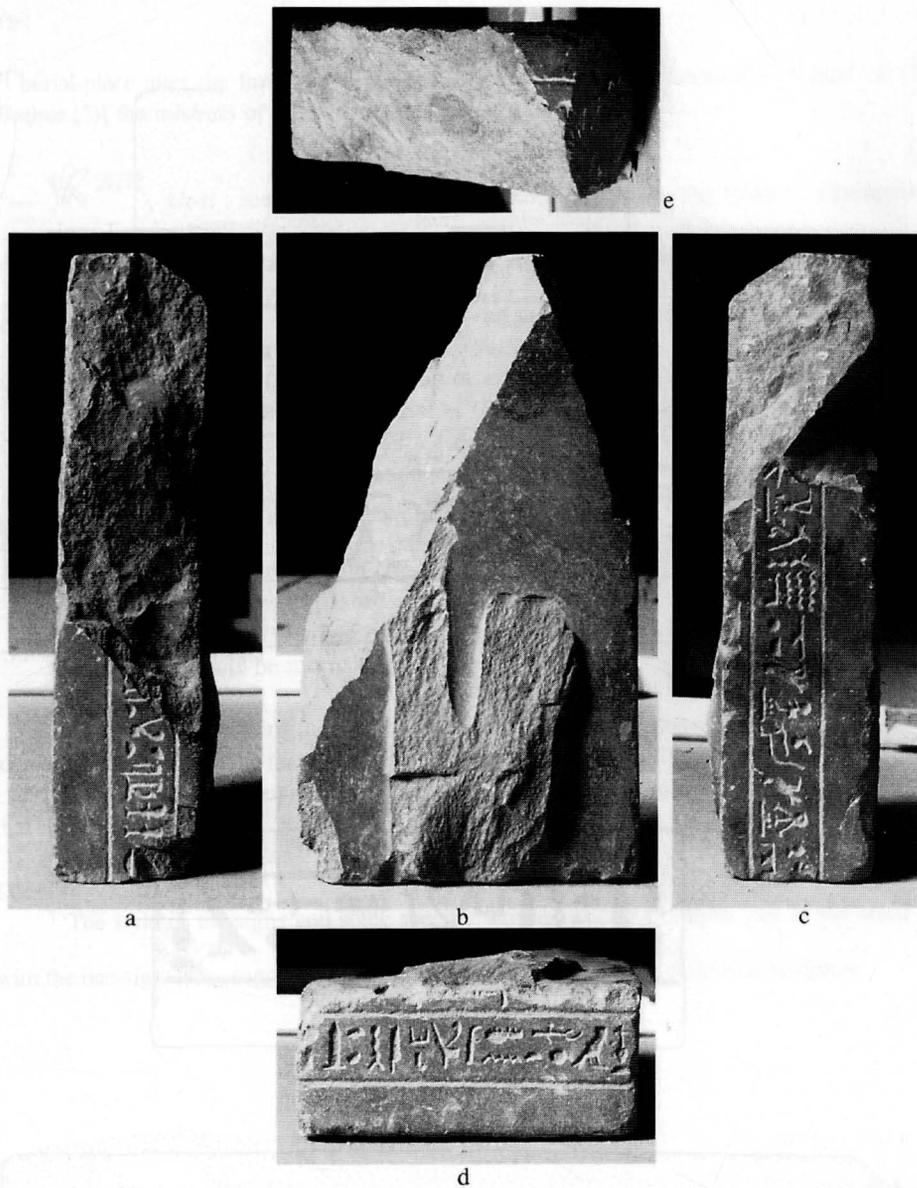
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Pl. 1. Statue basis Cheikh Labib ANX 104.

- a) Left side
- b) Upper surface
- c) Right side
- d) Rear side
- e) Front side