

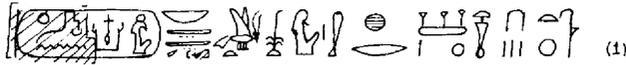
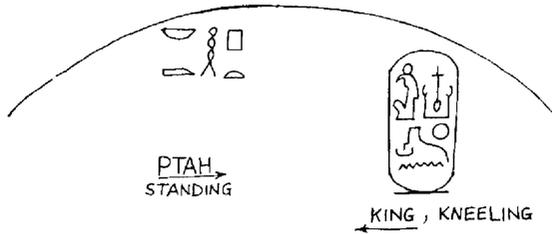
Notes on Ramesses IX in Memphis and Karnak

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Ramesses IX had one of the longer reigns of the 20th Dynasty (at least 17 years<sup>1</sup>), compared with most other kings of this dynasty. This period is known so much from the documents of Thebes in the south; so it is useful to have additional material from the north.

A new sidelight on this reign is given to us by a stela of the reign from Memphis. This stela is incomplete; we only have the top half of it<sup>2</sup>. The document is stored in Cairo Museum in room 19 on the ground floor: JdE.45567.

MEMPHIS, STELA (JdE.45567), YEAR 13, R. IX.



[ REST LOST ]

(3) FF.

Kneeling King: 'Neferkare Setepenre'.

Ptah seated: 'Ptah, the lord of truth'.

The main text reads: 'Year 13, 1st month of the inundation season, day 1, under the majesty of the king of Upper and Lower Egypt, Lord of the Two Lands, Neferkare Setepenre, the Son of Re, Lord of Crowns, Ramesses (IX) Khaemwaset, Beloved of Amun. One commanded(??)/There was...'. The rest is lost.

Year 13 is known from the Necropolis diary in Thebes<sup>3</sup>. This stela is dated to a well-known public holiday, the New Year festival<sup>4</sup>. On that day the people rested from their work, sometimes for 3 days or more<sup>5</sup>.

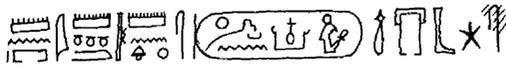
The purpose for which this stela was made is unknown. It could be for any of several reasons. Thus, it may have been a 'biographical' record (whether royal or private) of some event in this year of Ramesses IX's reign. Alternatively, it could have served a religious purpose, such as commemorating a dedication for a statue-cult or other foundation<sup>6</sup>.

This Memphite stela is not the only monument in this area from Ramesses IX's period<sup>7</sup>; but his main monuments are in Heliopolis<sup>8</sup> and Thebes<sup>9</sup>.

In the temple of Amun at Karnak, at the south wall between pylons III and IV, there is the doorway of Ramesses IX<sup>10</sup>. This doorway bears its name on both jambs, on both the north and south sides of the wall. The texts on the doorway have never previously been published in their entirety<sup>11</sup>, so they are here given in full (see next page).

(A) S. Face :-

W. Jamb :



E. Jamb :-



(B) N. FACE :-

W. Jamb :-



E. Jamb :-



The south door-jambs offer the following text:

'The great door of Neferkare Stepenre (var. Ramesses (IX), Khaemwaset, Beloved of Amun), who embellishes monuments in the Temple of Amun'.

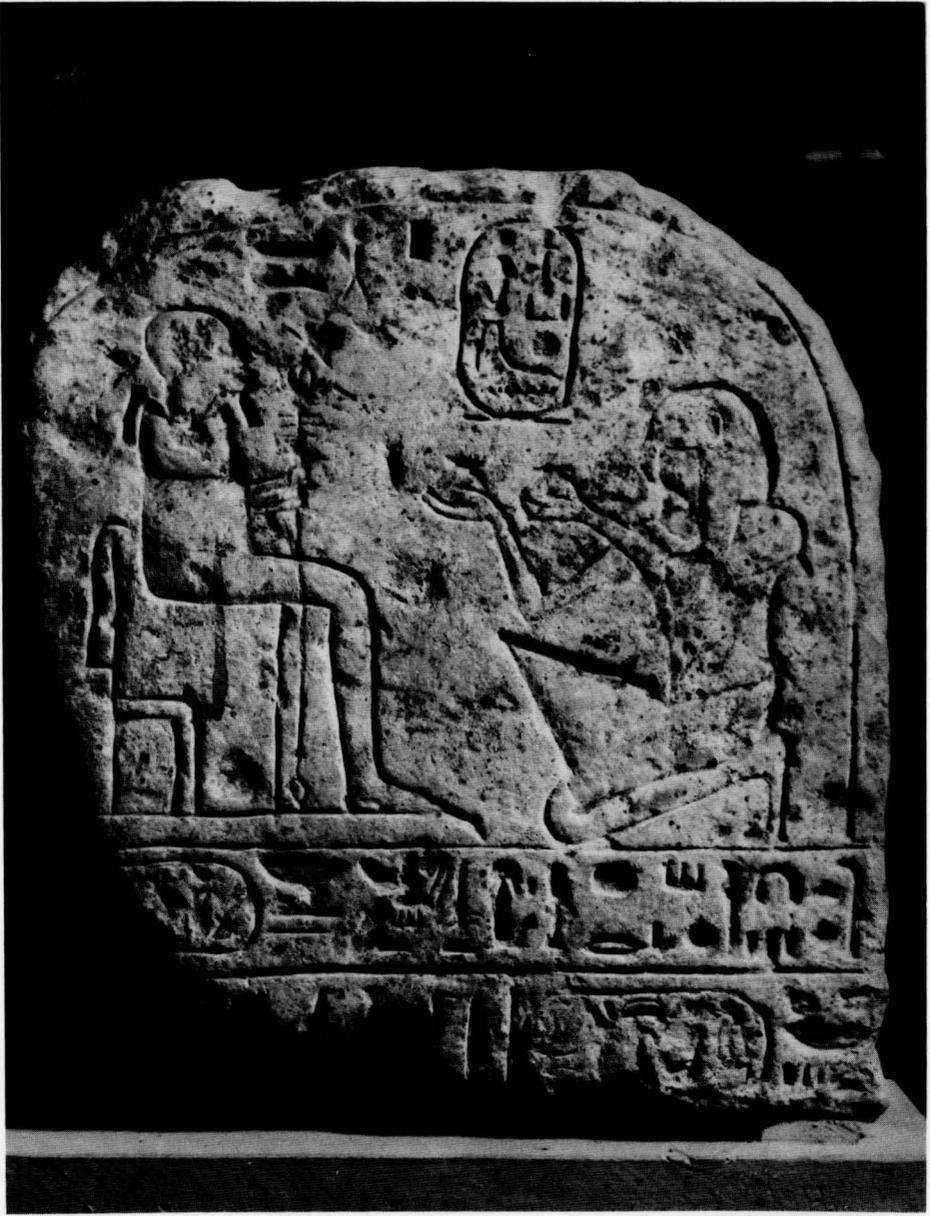
The north face offers the same basic text, but uses the description 'great and noble door', including both cartouches in each text, and adding 'given life' (once also 'dominion') after the first cartouche.

#### Notes

1. For references, see Černý, Cambridge Ancient History<sup>3</sup>, II/2, p.616, n.3. Cf. Peet, JEA 14(1928), pp.61-63.
2. See figs. 1 and 3; I wish to thank Dr. Mohammed Saleh, Director of Cairo Egyptian Museum, for his kind help and for the photograph in fig.3.
3. See Botti and Peet, Il Giornale della Necropoli di Tebe, 1928, pp.12-13, plates 5-7.
4. For this feast, see the references in Schott, Altägyptische Festdaten, 1950, pp.79-80.
5. See, for example, ODM 209, verso, lines 18-20, published by Černý, Ostraca hiératiques non-littéraires de Deir el-Médineh, III, 1937, plate 8; now, KRI, IV, p.219:4-6.
6. For such statue-cults, see such examples as Ramesses III at Memphis (KRI, V, pp.249-250), or Ramesses VI at Aniba (references, Porter & Moss, Topographical Bibliography, VII, 1951, p.76:5), and in general, Helck, Materialien zur Wirtschaftsgeschichte des Neuen Reiches, II, 1961, pp.192-199. If ḥw wd. tltlw is to be read in line 2 of our stela, then this stela may have recorded a royal decree for some such purpose.

7. An Apis-bull was buried in the Serapeum under Ramesses IX, and his name was once seen on work of Ramesses II; cf. Porter & Moss, op.cit., III, pp. 207 E, 227 end.
8. A kneeling statue (fragment), ASAE 5(1904), pp. 116-7 (Porter & Moss, op.cit., IV, p. 3); a statue making offering, Aldred, JEA 41(1955), pp. 3-8; a table of offerings, Cairo Museum, Cat. 23093, see Ahmed Kamal, Tables d'offrandes, sub no.; gateways of the king's son Nebmare as high priest of Re in Heliopolis, cf. Mohammed I. Moursi, Die Hohenpriester des Sonnengottes, MMS 29, pp. 73ff, Abb. 2, plate XI, and now A. A. Saleh, Cairo University, Excavations at Heliopolis, Vol. I, 1982, pp. 65ff., plates 28-29.
9. See generally, Porter & Moss, op.cit.<sup>2</sup>, II, under index of kings.
10. See ibid., pp. 75-76.
11. Extracts only, by Nims, JNES 14(1955), pp. 116 and 123, fig. 2, No. 17, and by Barguet, Le Temple d'Amon-rê à Karnak, 1962, pp. 84 top, 273 top.

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