

Ahmose son of Abana, Autobiography of

Sethe

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The hieroglyphic of "The Autobiography of Ahmose son of Abana", following the transcription of Sethe (1927), number 1 (pp. 1-11).

Bibliography

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Nederhof - English

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Transliteration and translation for "The Autobiography of Ahmose son of Abana", following the transcription of Sethe (1927), number 1 (pp. 1-11).

For published translations, see Breasted (1906), pp. 3-9, §§ 1-16 & pp. 17-18, §§ 38-39 & pp. 33-35, §§ 78-82; Lichtheim (1976), pp. 12-15; Sethe (1914), number 1 (pp. 1-6).

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Se 1 2

Ne | ḥrj-ḥnyt J^cḥ-msjw s3 Jb3n3 m3^c-ḥrw | dd=f

Ne | Naval commander Ahmose, son of Abana, justified, | says:

Se

Ne dd=j n=tn rmt nbt dj=j rh=tn ḥswt ḥprt n=j

Ne "I speak to you, all people. I will let you know the favours that were granted to me.

Se

Ne jw^c.kw m nbw sp 7 hft-ḥr|³-n t3 r-dr=f

Ne I have been rewarded with gold seven times before the entire land,

Se

Ne ḥmw ḥmwt r-mjtt-jry s3ḥ.kw m 3ḥwt C3w wrt

Ne and with male and female slaves as well. I have been endowed with very many fields.

Se

Ne jw rn n qn m jrt.n=f

Ne The name of a brave man is in what he has done,

Se

Ne nn ḥtm |⁴ m t3 pn dt dd=f r-ntt

Ne without ever perishing in this land." He says:

Se

Ne jr.n=j ḥprw=j m dmj n Nḥb

Ne "I grew up in the town of Nekheb.

Se

Ne jw jt=j m w^cw n nsw-bjtj Sqnj.n-R^c m3^c-ḥrw

Ne My father was a soldier of the king of Upper and Lower Egypt Seqenenre, justified,

Se 8
 Ne m-ḥt swtw=f ḥr wrrytl=f 8

Ne after him riding on this chariot.

Se

Ne jw ḥms.tw ḥr dmj n Ḥwt-wꜣrt

Ne When the town of Avaris was besieged,

Se

Ne wn.ḥr=j ḥr qnt ḥr rdwj=j m-bꜣḥ ḥm=f

Ne I showed valour on foot in His Majesty's presence.

Se 9

Ne ḥꜥ.n=j dhn.klw r Ḥꜥ-m-Mn-nfr 9

Ne Then I was assigned to 'Rising in Memphis',

Se

Ne wn.jn.tw ḥr ḥꜣ ḥr mw m Pꜣ-Ddkw n Ḥwt-wꜣrt

Ne and there was fighting on the water in Padjedku of Avaris.

Se 10

Ne ḥꜥ.n ḥfr.n=j | jn=j dꜣt 10

Ne Then I made a capture | and carried off a hand. 10

Se

Ne smj.tw n whm-nsw wn.jn.tw ḥr rdjt n=j nbw n qnt

Ne When it was reported to the royal herald, I was given gold of valour.

Se

Ne ḥꜥ.n whmw ḥꜣ m st tn

Ne Then there was more fighting in this place,

Se 11

Ne wn.jn=j hr wḥm ḥf^c | jm jn=j drt

Ne again I made a capture | there and carried off a hand,

Se

Ne wn.jn.tw hr rdjt n=j nbw n qnt m wḥm-^c

Ne and again I was given gold of valour.

Se

Ne wn.jn.tw hr ḥ^c m ḥ Kmt rst n dmj pn

Ne Then there was fighting in Egypt south of this town,

Se

Ne | ḥ^c.n jn.n=j sqr-^cnh s ḥ^c.n=j r p³ mw

Ne | and I brought away a man as captive. I went down into the water,

Se

Ne mk jn.tw=f m mh hr ḥ w³t p³ | dmj

Ne for he was captured on the side of | the town,

Se

Ne ḏ³.n=j hr=f hr mw smjw n wḥm-nsw

Ne and crossed the water carrying him. When it was reported to the royal herald,

Se

Ne ḥ^c.n.tw mk¹ jw^c=j m nbw hr snnw=sj

Ne I was rewarded with gold once more.

¹ Read ḥr, according to Breasted (1906).

Se 14

Ne wn.jn.tw | hr h3q Hwt-w^crt wn.jn=j hr jnt h3qt jm

Ne Then Avaris was captured, and I brought booty from there:

Se

Ne s 1 st-hmt 3 dmd r tp

Ne one man and three women, altogether four people.

Se

Ne 4 wn.jn hm=f hr rdjt st n=j r hmw

Ne And His Majesty gave them to me for slaves.

Se 15

Ne wn.jn.tw hr hmst hr Šrh n m rnpwt 3 wn.jn hm=f

Ne Then Sharahen was besieged for three years, and His Majesty captured it.

Se

Ne hr h3q=s h^c.n jn.n=j h3qt jm st-hmt 2 drt

Ne Then I brought booty from there: two women and a hand.

Se 16

Ne wn.jn.tw hr rdjt n=j nbw n qnt

Ne I was given gold of valour,

Se

Ne mk rdj.tw n=j h3qt r hmw

Ne and I was given the captives for slaves.

Se

Ne hr-m-ht sm³.n hm=f mntjw-Stt

Ne After His Majesty had slain the bedouin tribes of Asia,

¹⁷
Se |

¹⁷
Ne | wn.jn=f hr hntyt r Hnt-hn-nfr

¹⁷
Ne | he sailed southward to Khent-hen-nefer

Se |

Ne r sksk jwntjw-Stj

Ne to destroy the Nubian nomads,

Se |

Ne wn.jn hm=f hr jrt h3t 3t jm=sn

Ne and His Majesty carried out a large massacre among them.

¹⁸
Se |

¹⁸
Ne | ^ch.n jn.n=j h3qt jm

¹⁸
Ne | Then I brought booty from there:

Se |

Ne s ^cnh 2 drt 3

wn.jn.tw hr jw^c=j m nbw hr snnw=sj

Ne two living men and three hands. I was rewarded with gold once more,

Se |

Ne mk rdj.tw n=j hmt 2

¹⁹
Ne n^ct m hd jn hm=f

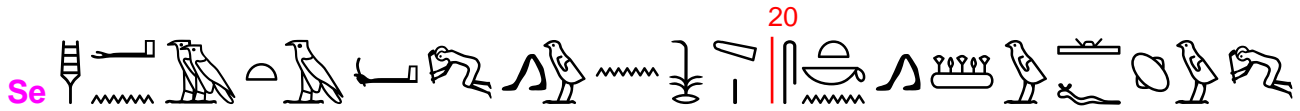
Ne and two female slaves were given to me. His Majesty sailed northward,

Se |

Ne jb=f 3w(.w) m qnt nht

jt.n=f rsjw mhtjw

Ne rejoicing in strength and victory, having captured southerners and northerners.

Se 

Ne ḥ^c.n ʒʒḏ jw(.w) n rsj | stkn šw=f mwt=f

Ne Then Aata came to the south, | and his fate brought on his doom

Se 

Ne ntrw šm^cw ḥr ʒm=f gm.tw=f jn ḥm=f m Tnt-ḏ^c

Ne when the gods of Upper Egypt grasped him. He was found by His Majesty at Tent-ta-o,

Se 

Ne wn.jn ḥm=f ḥr jnt=f | m sqr-^cnh

Ne and His Majesty brought him away | as captive

Se 

Ne rmt=f nb m js-ḥʒq

Ne and all his people as booty.

Se 

Ne ḥ^c.n jn.n=j mgʒ 2 m mh m pʒ dpt n ʒʒḏ

Ne Then I brought two warriors as captives from the ship of Aata.

Se 

Se 

Ne wn.jn.tw | ḥr rdjt n=j tp 5 ḥr dnjw ʒḥt sḥt 5 m

Ne I was given five people and five arourae of land in my town,

Se 

Ne njwt=j jr w n ḏ ḥnyt r ʒw=s m-mjtt

Ne and the same was done for the whole crew.

Se 23

Ne ḥ^c.n ḥr | pf jw(.w) Ttj^cn rn=f

Ne Then that enemy called Tetian came,

Se

Ne šḥwj.n=f n=f ḥ³kw-jb wn.jn ḥm=f ḥr sm³=f

Ne who had drawn together rebels. His Majesty slew him

Se

Ne jst=f m tmt ḥpr

Ne and his troop was annihilated.

Se 24

Ne ḥ^c.n rdj|n=j tp 3 ḥt sḅt 5 m njwt=j

Ne Then I was given three people and five arourae of land in my town.

Se

Ne wn.jn=j ḥr ḥnt nsw-bjtj Dsr-k³-R^c m³^c-ḥrw

Ne Then I conveyed the king of Upper and Lower Egypt Djoserkare, justified,

Se

Ne jw=f m ḥntyt r K³š

Ne as he sailed southward to Kush

Se 25

Ne r swsh | tšw Kmt wn.jn ḥm=f ḥr sqr jwntj-Stj pf

Ne to widen | the borders of Egypt. Then His Majesty smote that Nubian nomad

Se

Ne m ḥrj-jb mš^c=f jnw m gw³gw³ nn nhw=sn

Ne in the midst of his army, taken in a stranglehold, none missing,

Se ²⁶

Ne wthw | m dy hr gs mj ntjw n hpr

Ne the fleeing | were felled as though they had never been.

Se

Ne jstj wj m tp n mš^c=n jw ḥ^c.n=j r wn-m³^c

Ne Now, I was in the van of our army, where I fought properly,

Se

Ne m³.n ḥm=f qnt=j

Ne and His Majesty saw my valour.

Se

Ne jn=j drt 2 | ²⁷ m³s n ḥm=f

Ne I carried off two hands, and presented them to His Majesty.

Se

Ne wn.jn.tw hr ḥhy rmt=f mnmnt=f

Ne Then his people and his cattle were pursued.

Se

Ne ḥ^c.n jn.n=j sqr-^cnh ms n ḥm=f

Ne I brought a captive and presented him to His Majesty.

Se

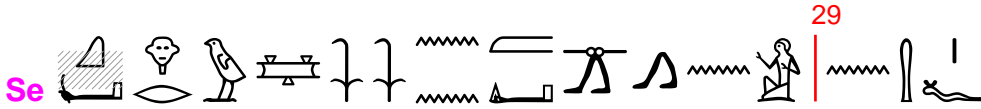
Ne jn=j ḥm=f m hrw 2 r Kmt | ²⁸ m Hnmt-ḥrw

Ne I brought His Majesty to Egypt from Upper Well in two days,

Se

Ne ḥ^c.n.tw hr jw^c=j m nbw ḥ^c.n jn.n=j ḥmt 2 m ḥ³q

Ne and I was rewarded with gold. Then I brought away two female slaves as booty,



Ne ḥrw nn n ms.n=j

29

I n ḥm=f

29

I to His Majesty.

Ne in addition to those I had presented



Ne wn.jn.tw ḥr rdjt=j r ḥwtj n ḥqʿ

Ne Then I was appointed to be warrior-of-the-ruler.



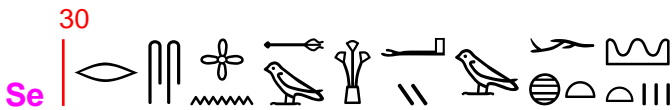
Ne wn.jn=j ḥr ḥnt nsw-bjtj ʿ3-ḥpr-k3-Rᶜ m3ᶜ-ḥrw

Ne Then I conveyed the king of Upper and Lower Egypt Aakheperkare, justified,



Ne jw=f m ḥntyt r Ḥnt-ḥn-nfr

Ne as he sailed southward to Khent-hen-nefer,



Ne | r sswn ḥ3ᶜj ḥt ḥ3swt

Ne | to crush rebellion throughout the lands,



Ne r dr bs n ᶜ ḥ3st

Ne and to drive off intrusion from the desert region.



Ne wn.jn=j ḥr qnt m-b3ḥ=f m p3 mw bjn

Ne I showed valour in his presence at the cataract,

Se 

Ne jst̄ wj m tp̄ n mš^c=n m³.n ḥm=f qnn=j

Ne Now, I was in the van of our army, and His Majesty saw my valour.

39

Se 

Ne | jn=j wryt ssm=s ntj ḥr=s m sqr-^cnh

39

Ne | I brought away a chariot, its horse, and him who was on it as captive,

Se 

Ne ms n ḥm=f wn.jn.tw ḥr jw^c=j m nbw ḥr snnw=sj

Ne and presented them to His Majesty. I was rewarded with gold once more.

40

Se 

Ne | tnj.kw ph̄.n=j j³wj

40

Ne | I have grown old and reached old age.

Se 

Ne ḥswt=j mj tpt=s [...] mr [...] ḥtp=j m ḥrt jrt.n=j ds=j

Ne The favours towards me are as before [...] beloved [...] I rest in the tomb that I myself

Ne built.

41

42

43

44

45

Se 

Ne | [...] | [...] | [...] | [...] | m Bhj wḥm rdj.tw n=j jn nsw-bjt

41

42

43

44

45

Ne | [...] | [...] | [...] | [...] | in Behi. Again I was given by the king of Upper and Lower

46

Se 

46

Ne [...] | sḥt 60 m Ḥḏ^c dmd sḥt [...]

46

Ne Egypt [...] | 60 arourae in Hadjaa, altogether [...] arourae.

47
Se | 

47
Ne | jmj-rn=f n n3 n hmw hmwt n h3qt rdj n=j

47
Ne | List of names of the male and female slaves from the booty given to me:

48 49 50
Se | 

48
Ne | hm P3-md3y

49
Ne | hm P3y-3bdw

50
Ne | hm Snb-nb=f

48
Ne | male slave Pamedjai;

49
Ne | male slave Pajabdju;

50
Ne | male slave Senebnebef;

51 52 53
Se | 

51
Ne | hm [...]

52
Ne | hm Qn-p3-hq3

53
Ne | hm Dhwtj-snbw

51
Ne | male slave [...];

52
Ne | male slave Qenpakheqa;

53
Ne | male slave Djehutisenebu;

54 55 56 57
Se | 

54
Ne | hm Sbk-ms

55
Ne | hm H3-r3y

56
Ne | hm P3-3m

57
Ne | hmt

54
Ne | male slave Sobekmes;

55
Ne | male slave Kharai;

56
Ne | male slave Paam;

57
Ne | female slave Taa;

58 59 60
Se | 

58
Ne T33 | hmt Sdm[=s]-n=j

59
Ne | hmt Bkt

60
Ne | hmt

58
Ne | female slave Sedjemesni;

59
Ne | female slave Baket;

60
Ne | female slave Ka[...].isi;

61 62
Se | 

61
Ne K3-[...]=j-sj | hmt T3-3-m-tw

62
Ne | hmt

61
Ne | female slave Taametju;

62
Ne | female slave Wabentasachmet;

Se	63 	64
Ne	W ^c b.n-t3-Shmt hmt Js-t3-r3-jw-mj	hmt
Ne	female slave Istarajumi;	female slave Itnefer;

Se	65 	66
Ne	Jt-nfr hmt Hdt-Kwš	hmt Jmn-ḥr-ssnb
Ne	female slave Hadetkush;	female slave Amunhersedeb.
