



The Ancient Egyptian Daybook Tamara L. Siuda Illustrated by Megan Zane

per il mio principe grazie mille sempre, Tesoro

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Preface

I started compiling my first ancient Egyptian calendar some time in 1993. I'd been toying around with festival dates for a few years before that, out of curiosity and in tandem with work I had been doing with local polytheists while in college, but I'd never set out to make an official calendar before I'd been asked to teach a class on ancient Egyptian religion.

My first effort was a bare-bones listing of major festivals and where they fell within the year, along with how to calculate the date of the new year as had been done in antiquity. At that time, I didn't fully understand the difference between Julian and Gregorian calendar reckoning, so I was delighted to learn that the Egyptian New Year, or Wep Ronpet, fell on my own birthday, July 19 (Julian). (At least I'd never forget when the year started, right?)

Over time, as I read more books and acquired the ability to read more primary sources, the tiny worksheet from that original class grew and grew. I collated sources for various holidays, everything from confirmations of dates, to translations of temple calendars and manuscript references to festivals, to primary and secondary descriptions of how those festivals had been celebrated. In a few cases, there were even details about how ancient Egyptian holidays are still being celebrated to this day, in Egypt and elsewhere.

These snippets of research and reference eventually filled up an accordion folder. Then I started transferring those bits of paper into three-subject notebooks. After I ended up with three full notebooks, I started handing out an official monthly calendar to the members of the House of Netjer Kemetic Orthodox Temple. To this day, I recalibrate that calendar every month, adding any new data as well as the current year's relevant celestial data such as moon phases, solar phenomena (eclipses, solstices, equinoxes, etc.), and

any fixed dates that have become part of our shared religious life as Kemetic Orthodox.

Though more than 20 years have passed since I started my data gathering, I've found more things to add or correct, or elaborate on, each time I revisit the calendar project. In 2010 or 2011, a student suggested that I ought to make all of this collected data available more widely. It sounded like a great idea, but queries to various publishers, academic or esoteric, came back empty. At that time, I was not in a position to afford to publish the material myself.

Enter crowdfunding. I'd been watching the growth of crowdfunding platforms with some interest, as it seemed to be a perfect storm of public patronage fueled by the people power of the Internet, married to the latest technology and foreshadowing serious changes in traditional publishing models. If I could find enough patronage to afford to get the calendars printed, I would be more than capable of using my publishing experience to make it happen. At the same time, I wasn't sure that there would be enough interest, or enough people, to warrant such a project. Crowdfunding provided what seemed to be a solid start: it could gather patrons to make the project happen, as well as confirm whether there would really be interest in such a thing.

After a year of participating in and observing crowdfunding venues, I opted to place the Daybook's proposal on the Kickstarter platform. I was impressed with the way Kickstarter made sure that successful projects had a better chance of being completed, by not awarding funds unless a project met its goal. I was even more impressed that they took the time to read through each project proposal before approving it, to make sure it was well thought out and would have a better chance of success.

I also appreciated the tremendous help, feedback, and guidance I received from at least a dozen different

successful (and unsuccessful!) Kickstarter project creators. I contacted them to ask about their projects and solicit advice they might have for someone new to crowdfunding. The response I received was very helpful. And for this project, Kickstarter seemed like a great fit.

It took me some months to create a video. My initial excuse ("It's a writing project, why bother?") was scuttled by all my mentors and by Kickstarter itself. Research had shown that a project video lends personality and credence to any crowdfunding effort and becomes a major factor in project success. Being stubborn and self-directed, I taught myself to use Premiere Pro, and then started to script and create the project video. That process bogged down when my father was diagnosed with multiple myeloma in May 2012. Overnight my life shifted into endless phone calls and trips back to the Midwest, and very little work of any sort was accomplished, even outside of my plans for the Daybook project.

It wasn't until after my father passed away at the end of September that I was able to think about the project again, other than to work on basic updates I needed to make for our monthly temple newsletter. In January 2013, I made a promise to myself that I'd get the video finished and get the project going, if only because I'd promised my father I would. Once the video had been through a test audience of a dozen friends who helped me edit it to an appropriate length and tone, I sent it to Kickstarter along with my proposal and waited. I fully expected them to tell me my project was too obscure or my video too amateur. Instead, after about a week, I was told I could launch the fundraising phase any time I liked.

On February 13, 2013, just before I left the house that day, I clicked on a little rocket icon on my Kickstarter page that read "launch this project," and The Ancient Egyptian Daybook began life on Kickstarter. I'd asked for a financial

goal of \$3,000, representing a little more than I thought it would cost to print a hundred or so copies of the book and ship them out. Some of my Kickstarter mentors thought I should have asked for \$5,000 and warned me that because I had underestimated shipping costs, I was selling myself short. At the time, \$5,000 sounded like a ridiculous amount of money to ask, for a project that amounted to my personal obsession with ancient Egyptian calendar data.

About an hour after I'd left the house, as I was walking into a restaurant for a quick lunch, I noted that my cell phone was buzzing incessantly. Once I'd sat down, I pulled it out to see what was wrong. There were probably 20 texts, many of them cheers like "yay" and "ZOMG" and other cryptic comments, and then one that stood out at the top: "You made goal!" Happy, because I'd mentioned to that same person earlier in the morning that my daily goal was to raise at least \$300 toward the project, I texted back: "Great, 30 more days to get to goal! Sounds like they were right about the first day being faster."

"Go look at your website," was the answer. So I brought up the Kickstarter app on the phone and found my way to my project page. A bright green bar at the top of the project page read "Funded! This project will be successfully funded on Mar 14, 2013." Next to the bar, there was a big number: a number quite a bit larger than \$3,000. It had been less than 90 minutes since launch, and the Daybook project was already a success.

"Excuse me? Is something wrong?"

I glanced up to find the waiter standing patiently, with that look all waiters get when some idiot thinks their phone is more important than, say, eating. Once I explained my distraction, however, I got congratulations from him, and several more from a nearby table. In Silicon Valley, everybody's trying to get funding. And now I had my very

own angels, and would be seeing my very own project come to reality.

An exhausting month followed. Funding came in hard at the beginning, then dried up almost completely by the second week, only to rise again as we got closer and closer to the end. The entire process was counted down by a timer that went from days to hours and finally to minutes. In one of my many updates once I realized that further funding would permit me to do more than I'd originally intended, I put out a call for a professional illustrator. Dozens of portfolios and applications arrived in response. Sometime during the evening before our campaign ended, a Twitter conversation between myself and several authors including Laurell K. Hamilton and Neil Gaiman ended in hundreds of page views and a huge bump to the backer total that enabled me to meet not one, but two stretch goals.

An additional project I'd considered, to digitize the calendar as a stand-alone smartphone app, went from a ridiculous dream to a potential future project. I was interviewed about the Daybook and the Kickstarter success. It was a huge flurry of activity and drama and emotion, and then suddenly all that excitement came to a halt and the work resumed.

That work, as it does with many crowdfunding projects, took longer than I had wanted or expected. True to my mentors' predictions, I'd set the publication deadline too close, given the concept changes that had come about due to 314 people (and later, more who pledged via a separate website after the Kickstarter campaign) who were now not just readers but investors, personally involved in seeing the Daybook become a printed reality. Because of the increased interest, my initial publishing and shipping costs would also be far higher than I'd estimated.

Art takes time, even in the best of circumstances. Some Kickstarter projects are nearly finished before they approach funding; others, like mine, are funded before they really begin, to gauge whether or not there is interest in their existence. I started to work with the material I had, approved and collected all of the wonderful art provided by my illustrator Megan Winters Zane, and began to draft the general layout of the Daybook and its companion perpetual calendar piece.

Early in this process I learned that a tremendous amount of uncollated calendrical data was buried in the entries of an obscure but very important reference: the LGG, or the Lexicon der Ägyptischen Götter und Götterbezeichnungen (German for Dictionary of Egyptian Gods and God-Descriptions). Its eight volumes contain all known references to all of the divinities of ancient Egypt, including calendrical references, in thousands of pages. Unfortunately, the calendrical data was not indexed, and there is no searchable electronic version of the LGG, so to include this information I would have to read all eight volumes from beginning to end and copy down every calendrical reference by hand. Ultimately, this process would add thousands of additional entries, as well as backup references, to the material I had already gathered. It had the potential of creating a much bigger, much more useful and comprehensive reference, that would also become the only English-language publication to gather all of the calendrical data from the LGG.

I went to my Kickstarter backers, who by this time had been joined by more backers from the pre-order website at egyptiandaybook.com, and told them about the LGG data and what it could add to the Daybook. I pointed out that opting to include that data meant starting over on the Daybook entirely, more or less, and that it could take me quite some time to sift through the thousands of pages of those eight LGG volumes, all of which are rendered in three columns of ten-point text in academic German. The

response was almost unanimous that people were willing to wait however long it took to gather the LGG information. There was particular interest in the LGG's listings of the Chronokrater, a German word that literally translates as "Time Lords" (and provided great fun in backer updates with a plethora of Doctor Who jokes) but means the guardian deity or deities to whom each day of the year is assigned. It is my understanding that the Daybook is the first publication that lists the Chronokrater by dates, rather than simply by the names of the deities. This is an important reference not just for calendar aficionados or people who want to observe this calendar, but for Egyptologists with an interest in ancient Egyptian religion or ancient Egyptian calendars. I am proud of the work I did to synthesize the LGG additions to the Daybook material, and deeply grateful to all of my backers for not only encouraging me to add the material but for being incredibly patient while that process of reading and then collation went on. As it turned out, it took far longer than any of us could estimate, and pushed the Daybook publication back to 2016. I do think that the end result is well worth the delay, however, and if I had to do it all over again, I would not have left the LGG material out. Including it provided almost more material than I already possessed, and makes for a much stronger and more useful Daybook. I trust that this final product is as good as I could make it. Of course, like all books, there will be mistakes, and perhaps updated editions as I learn more about the ancient Egyptians and their calendars. Perhaps that smartphone app will happen after all. I hope that you enjoy reading it, and that if you were one of the people who backed either the Kickstarter or the stand-alone campaign, that you find this Daybook to be a worthwhile investment of your money and interest. Thank you all so very much for letting me do something exciting, and even fun, with my calendrical

obsession. This is as much your triumph as mine, now, and I hope that it lives up to your expectations.

Acknowledgments

This book has been a long time coming. Gratitude is owed to so many people, from those who helped with translations or locating books or resources, to my professional colleagues who helped with passing along sources, or by writing wonderful books and articles I got to read (in multiple languages even!) throughout this process. My first thanks must go to Christian Leitz and his team who put together the Lexicon der Altägyptischen Götter und Götterbezeichnungen. It's good to know that there are people out there who've spent even more time with the Chronokrater than I have. Vielen Dank for putting together so many years of research, and adding that much more depth to my data gathering here.

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I am sad that I won't get to share the book with my father (1949-2012) or my brother-from-another-mother, Eddy "Hyperion" Gutiérrez (1976-2014), who both passed away while I was writing. Thank you also to Frank Joseph Yurco (1944-2004), who convinced me to go back to graduate school and follow the Egyptology dream that let me learn the skills to do this kind of research. For my mother, who has now endured several years of phone calls about whatever was currently vexing me about the book; and to my friends and family who are patiently waiting for me to emerge from "book jail" to join the real world again, I thank you for your patience and for all of your support. While writing is a solitary practice, we cannot do it without the help of many people, even if they aren't present in the place where we do the work.

So many people contributed to this project or to my process, from the ancient Egyptian ancestors to the project backers, to family and friends and colleagues, that I am certain to miss names. If you were part of this project, I thank you. This was the most difficult project I have undertaken to date, and I know that I could not have completed it without the help of many, many people. Thank

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Tamara L. Siuda Portland, Oregon December 3, 2016 CE (Year 24, I Peret 3)



Introduction

"Do not say that today is the same as tomorrow. How will its like come to pass? When dawn comes, the day (i.e., today) is past."-From the fifth section of The Instruction of Amunemopet, dated to the New Kingdom (ca. 1300-1075 BCE) To the ancient Egyptian people, time had both great importance and no importance at all. They did not follow the hectic pace that many in the modern Western world take. This is still true in Egypt today, where a humorous proverb says that the three most common phrases related to whether a thing will occur at a given time are: Insh'allah ("God Willing"), Bukra ("Tomorrow"), and Mumkin ("Maybe").

"Egyptian time" has its own flow and meaning, as anyone who has visited Egypt can attest. Things happen according to a natural unfolding, and no one seems to lose time worrying over how or when anything will occur.

Time is a gift of the universe. We are given both life and time to explore that life under the eyes of the gods. By ancient Egyptian estimation, wasting time was an abomination not only to the gods, but to us as well, as we can never regain what is lost. As human beings, we cannot live in yesterday or in tomorrow; today alone is ours.

In ancient Egypt, the passage of time was not marked in a formal way except by temples and the government, and then only in order to keep ritual rhythms or to mark important legal occurrences. In the modern world, conversely, we measure time in every way we can think of, down to its smallest components: in seconds and even nanoseconds, with machines calibrated to divide time into unnatural bits. This sort of micromanagement would have been completely foreign to the ancients. Instead, they measured their own sense of the passage of time by the cycles of celestial events: the daily movements of the sun and stars, and the wider time of the seasons.

Seasons: The Cycles of Osiris and Ra

In ancient Egypt, as in any other place or time, things were born, grew, and died. The names given to those various stages of growth and decay, the passage of time known as seasons, are Shomu, Akhet, and Peret. These three seasons represent the ancient Egyptian year, as opposed to the four-season year we know in most of the modern world. Ancient Egypt's three seasons were not only a part of the life cycle of the Nile Valley, but part of ancient Egyptian culture itself.

Shomu means "heat" or "harvest," and is possibly at the root origin of the modern English word "summer." It marks the time between growth and inundation, the time before the beginning.

Akhet, meaning "flood" or "inundation," begins with Wep Ronpet (Opening the Year, or the ancient Egyptian New Year), and the annual inundation of the Nile from central Africa along its northern African valley. This annual flood continued throughout Egyptian history until the building of two Aswan dams during the 20th century CE. Since the construction of the Aswan High Dam in the 1960s, the Nile's inundation no longer occurs as a natural event north of Aswan, though it still occurs in Nubia (modern Sudan and South Sudan) and places further south and southeast. This means that most of Egypt no longer experiences the physical flood that marked its new year for the first four or more millennia of its existence.

Imagine a high tide that lasts for weeks, submerging and even sweeping away everything along the water's edge, leaving behind a fine black covering as it recedes. The inundation could be as much a blessing as not; if the floods came at the wrong time or wrong height, all life was in peril. A high Nile meant death for those who could not get out of its destructive path; a low Nile meant plagues,

famine, and difficulty preparing for future seasons. For the ancient Egyptians, Akhet was the season of the hand of God, and accordingly, the bulk of their religious festivals were celebrated during Akhet and continued into the first few weeks of the second season.

Peret, meaning "coming forth" or "growing," is the middle season of ancient Egypt's tripartite year: a time to return to the land, plow and sow the fields, and watch things grow. The first half of Peret shows many festivals connected with this fertility and growth process. The second half includes festivals seeking divine blessing on the bounty of the fields as Shomu approaches, and the fruits of the labors of previous months become obvious.

Finally Shomu with its heat returns, dries the land before inundation, and the cycle begins again.

Celebrations of Eternity: Festivals and Calendars

For the ancient Egyptians, each year (and each day) is a microcosm or a symbolic repetition of Zep Tepi: the First Time, a reference to the moment of creation itself. Each season mirrors the events of creation, again and again, eternally. Festivals and holidays continue the tradition of honoring the First Time and the ongoing existence of our universe. National festivals reminded the people of their connection to the linear movement of time from year to year, as well as to the cyclical continuation of time from season to season until each came around again. These two kinds of time, called djet ("forever," the forward movement of linear time) and neheh ("eternity," the perpetual repetition of cyclical time), respectively, are honored in all festivals and particularly in the ones celebrated by the ancient Egyptian state and all its citizens. These include: Wep Ronpet (Opening the Year): New Year, Beginning of Inundation Each New Year, the universe is reclaimed for Ma'at, both a goddess and the conception of divine order.

Zep Tepi begins again. During the days leading up to Wep Ronpet, several gods in particular are honored. On Wep Ronpet itself, temple icons were taken outside, for the one time of year they were shown to the public, to "kiss Ra" that is, to be bathed in the rays of the rising sun on the First Day. Additionally, prayers were made to Sekhmet to turn the dangers of the coming year, to curse and send back any evil or disease or misfortune that might occur in such a year. Debts were paid, forgiveness was sought, and vows were renewed. Priesthood and royalty celebrated initiations and consecrations to renew their own vows and authority. Wep Ronpet is considered to be the default birthday of any deity whose birthday is not otherwise known, and it is also the birthday of the god Ra-Horakhty as the sun itself. It was a time of great national celebration and widespread festivals.

The "Mysteries of Osiris" (The Festival of Sokar-Osiris)The Mysteries of Osiris (as they were called by the Greekspeaking peoples who came into Egypt in the Late Period) were ritual reenactments and celebrations surrounding the death, burial, and establishment of Osiris upon the throne of Amenti, the Land of the West where the ancestors dwell. This 19-day festival was marked at the end of Akhet season, to restore the fertility of the land just as people were beginning to sow. In our modern Gregorian calendar, this festival occurs toward the end of November. In Egypt today it is still a time when fields are sown. Elsewhere in the world, as people prepare for the end of the secular year, it represents a time when many projects that will have results in following months are begun. The Sokar-Osiris Festival is the most solemn festival of ancient Egyptian religion (as well as most of its modern interpretations), and one of the most beautiful. In celebrating Osiris, we understand the importance of life and death, our mortality and our

immortality, and our own ability to bring the potential of ourselves into being.

Other national festivals, and more local and regional holidays There are on average, three festivals per week in the ancient Egyptian calendar: festivals that are national, local, or related only to certain gods or certain people. Some national festivals, such as the Feast of the Reunion of Hathor and Horus, the Feast of Victory, the Opet Festival, or the Feast of the Beautiful Valley take days if not weeks to complete and are quite elaborate. Others are simple but beautiful commemorations, such as Isis Luminous (involving floating illuminated paper boats on the Nile) or the Feast of Purifications.

The Ancient Egyptian Year

The ancient Egyptian "calendar" is a misnomer. In reality, the ancient Egyptians did not use one calendar, but no less than three different ones that were created using three separate calculations: a civil or "state" calendar, based on the motions of the binary star-system Sothis (Sopdet), a solar calendar based upon a solar year, and a lunar calendar with its own unique calculations. In addition, each temple maintained its own festival calendar with its particular ruling deities and holiday dates. Leitz's 2002 article in RdE details one such elaborate temple calendar from Edfu.

The three different ancient Egyptian calendars were reconciled to each other in the Late Period under the Macedonian Ptolemies, who ruled Egypt from 305 to 30 BCE. Their calendar, sometimes called Alexandrian after the capital of their state, in turn forms the basis of the 365-day calendar used in the modern world, after adaptations made by the Romans. In 30/29 BCE, Augustus Caesar instituted the use of a modified Alexandrian calendar in Rome and all of its colonies. This calendar, named for his

predecessor and uncle Julius Caesar, was known as the Julian calendar, and it became the basis of the calendars used in the Western world from Rome onward. This Julian calendar also continues today as the basis of the Coptic Orthodox liturgical calendar, the living descendant of Egypt's ancient calendrical system that even preserves its pharaonic month-names. Ochala, Chapter 6 (pp. 221ff.), has an excellent summary of the Alexandrian-Coptic calendar. In the 14th century CE, Pope Gregory XIII ordered the reformation of the Julian calendar to match the seasons, as it had slipped over time. Gregory's calendar came to be known as Gregorian, and the new rendering of time as the Gregorian year. After the third-century Christian schism between Western and Eastern churches, the Eastern churches opted to remain with the Julian calendar of their Byzantine forefathers, and they did not adopt the Gregorian calendar. Julian and Gregorian calendars, while having the same organization, currently differ from each other by approximately 11 days. (Each century, the Julian calendar will continue to slip another day behind the reckoning of the Gregorian calendar, unless the Julian calendar is recalibrated someday). Any given Julian date thus will represent a corresponding earlier date in the Gregorian calendar. Be aware that some other ancient Egyptian calendars that you may observe on the Internet and in books use Julian dates. If they do, these must be recalibrated for use in a Gregorian system; otherwise, they will be off by anywhere from 11 days to two weeks from their corresponding Gregorian dates.

The ancient Egyptian calendar, whether calibrated according to civil, solar, or lunar principles, has 12 months of 30 days each. Each of the 12 months is further divided into three 10-day weeks. There are three seasons, of four months each, beginning with the season of Akhet. In the New Kingdom, some of the month names were changed to

reflect the major holidays celebrated within them. These later names persisted in the Egyptian language and are still used in the Coptic Orthodox liturgical calendar today. The names of the Egyptian months as they are arranged in the seasons are as follows: Pre-New Kingdom - After NK (Coptic month names in parentheses)

I Akhet - Thoth or Tekhy (Thot) "He of the plumb-bob" (one of Thoth's titles)

This word is also punned with Tekhy, meaning "drunk," as a reference to Sekhmet's Feast of Drunkenness during this month.

II Akhet - Pa-en-Opet (Paopi)

"the one [month of] the Opet Festival"; this month is named for the Opet Festival that occurs beginning at its new moon.

III Akhet - Khenet-Hathor or Hathor (Athyr)

This month is named for the goddess Hathor.

IV Akhet - Ka-her-ka (Khoiak) "two and two," or "power upon power"

A variant name for the month, Sekhmet, refers to its guardian goddess.

I Peret - Ta-abet (Tybi) "the offerings" or Pa-henu-mut "the one in honor of Mut" or Shef-bedet "the swelling of the emmer/grain"

The first month of the second season honors the arrival of the first harvest. It is sacred to the goddess Mut.

II Peret - Pa-en-mekhir (Mechir) "the one of low-lying land" In this month, the inundation would reach its lowest point and full agriculture could commence.

III Peret - Pa-en-Amunhotep (Phamenoth) "the one [of] Amunhotep (I)"

This month is named for the New Kingdom ruler Amunhotep I, whose birthday was celebrated during this month with a great festival and oracle at his native Thebes for centuries after his death.

IV Peret - Pa-en-Renenutet (Pharmuti) "the one of Renenutet"

The final month of the growing season culminates in holidays for the goddess Renenutet, who was equated both with fate and with the season of harvest and reaping.

I Shomu - Pa-en-Khonsu (Pachons) "the one of Khonsu" This month is named for the god Khonsu.

II Shomu - Pa-en-Inet (Payni) "the [month] of the valley" Final harvests before the summer heat were brought in during this month. It is named for its major holiday, the Beautiful Feast of the Valley.

III Shomu - Ipip (Epiphi) "Spitter (the uraeus goddess)" As the hottest part of the year, this month was named for the cobra goddess who represented the burning heat of the sun.

IV Shomu - Mesut-Ra (Mesore), Wep Ronpet, or Pa-shemeten-Horus: "the birth of Ra," "Opening the Year," or "the going out of Horus"

The final month of the year is named for an event that comes at its end: the New Year and the rebirth of the sun.

Twelve months of 30 days equals only 360 days, so after the last day of the year (IV Shomu 30), the ancient Egyptian calendar provides five heriu-ronpet, or "days upon the year." These extra days bring the total to 365, the number of days it takes Earth to circle the sun in a celestial year. Sometimes called "epagomenal" days after the Greek term, these days are set aside as the birthdays of the Children of Nut: five deities of the Heliopolitan Ennead (or the "Great Nine" gods of the city of Heliopolis): Epagomenal Day 1: Osiris

Epagomenal Day 2: Haroeris (Horus the Elder)

Epagomenal Day 3: Set

Epagomenal Day 4: Isis

Epagomenal Day 5: Nephthys The fifth epagomenal day is the day before Wep Ronpet and the beginning of the year once again.

The ancient Egyptian calendar and the cycle of festivals associated with it reflect Ma'at as translated through the day-to-day life of her people: a never-ending cycle of birth, growth, death, and birth again.

How To Use This Book

"Acting as is right for the calendar festivals for which the Lord (may He live, be prosperous and healthy) placed offerings again every year, on behalf of the life, prosperity, and health of the king of Upper and Lower Egypt, Menkheperre, son of Ra, Thutmose, given life like Ra, forever." - from inscriptions at the Akhmenu temple of Thutmose III, Karnak This Daybook is designed to be a useable daybook, if you choose. Once you locate the date for Wep Ronpet — "Opening the Year" or the Egyptian New Year's Day — the rest of the calendar simply rolls out after that date. This Daybook can thus be used as a perpetual calendar with any starting date, whether you wanted to calculate the "Sothic date" — the heliacal rising of Sirius over your personal location or any location you chose (such as the area of Memphis, Egypt, which was used for such calculations in antiquity) — or whether you wanted to start it on Gregorian January 1. If you wanted the calendar to be in keeping with the timekeeping at its last usage, or the "Alexandrian" system, you would add a leap day every four years, just as is done in the Gregorian calendar. Otherwise, your calendar will start to slide backward in time and seasons, and in several centuries, it will be more than a month off of the cyclical "new year" in reckoning. The Copts currently designate Thoth 1 as the first day of their year. In the early 21st century, this date

corresponds with Gregorian September 11. This represents a significant shift over time from when the Coptic calendar was first calibrated with the Alexandrian and then the Julian system, at which time Thoth 1 corresponded to July 19.

You could create a lunar calendar, starting with the new moon in the month of heliacal rising or any new moon of your choosing; or you could create a calendar from a synthesis of several or all the different types of ancient Egyptian calendars (Sothic/solar, lunar, or civil). The Kemetic Orthodox festival calendar is such a synthesis, being an Alexandrian-style calendar with some dates rendered lunar-style (notably certain lunar holidays), and Wep Ronpet determined by the date that Sirius rises the religion's main temple as its headquarters/royal residence. Our calendar also makes an adjustment for leap years. (In 2016 CE, for example, our calendar started with Wep Ronpet on Gregorian August 3.) Whatever system(s) you incorporate in your calendar, set I Akhet I (Thoth 1) as the Wep Ronpet date you have chosen, and then you know when the rest of the days will follow. There are 12 months, of three 10-day weeks each; each week begins with a celebration for the decan, or star, observed to be rising at that time. (See Joanne Conman's articles for a detailed explanation on how decans were probably observed.) The decans are provided in this book (see page 314 and following) for days 1, 11, and 21 of each month, as they occurred in antiquity. The sixth day of every month was a day to honor one's ancestral dead, and the final day of every month was called "House of Ra, House of Osiris, House of Horus," indicating either special offerings to these three gods, or to their three temples, were in order. Each month has its own major holidays in addition to these holidays that recur monthly; and each season begins and ends with a religious holiday as well.

The following chapters and pages list all known holidays of the ancient calendars, according to their known dates. Civil dating (Sothic and/or solar) designates specific days of the year for specific events. Each day of the year also has one or more Chronokrater, a German term (roughly translatable as "Time Lord") for an Egyptian deity that "owns" a particular day. To my knowledge, the Daybook is currently the only English-language source for a full listing of Chronokrater on their proper days. Leitz 2002, p. 138ff, notes that we only know Chronokrater in their standard form from the Late Period. While we cannot be entirely certain that they were known or honored in previous periods, or if they were equated with Chronokrater for individual days versus various decans, we can make some assumptions about the Chronokrater with a fair amount of certainty. Leitz argues, and I agree, that the deities designated as Chronokrater appear in at least a rudimentary form in documents dating from as early as Dynasty 12 in the Middle Kingdom.

Almost all the days of the year have one or more holidays listed on them. The Egyptians were fond of religious holidays and festivals, and though most were celebrated only on a regional basis, and it's unlikely that any particular person celebrated every single holiday to every single god all the time, we know that many of them were celebrated nationally. Some of those larger national holidays, such as Opet Festival or the Feast of the Beautiful Valley, are exclusively timed to lunar events, and thus these holidays will be listed at the end of the data for their relevant month and/or season. You will need to manually insert the lunar holidays into your perpetual calendar, depending on when the phases of the moon occur in the year your calendar is designated to cover.

The Daybook is fully referenced with details about which cities or temples would have celebrated any particular

holiday, and where you can read more about a particular event. Appendices to the Daybook text include a full bibliography for further reading and details on specific holiday-related folklore and religious practices.

A companion book in daybook planner/journal style, without the descriptions or footnotes of this larger volume, is available separately. Since it is a perpetual calendar, you could re-use it from year to year, or purchase a new one for each year that you intend to use it. You could do this simply out of curiosity, or for a fully functional ritual calendar for devotional purposes.

May the gods and goddesses of these days fill your year with blessings!

1

Chapter 1

Telling Time in Ancient Egypt "I escape my day of death, as Set escaped his day of death.

I escape my half-months of death, as Set escaped his half-months of death.

I escape my months of death, as Set escaped his months of death.

I escape my year of death, as Set escaped his year of death."

- from the Pyramid Texts, Utterance 570

Time is one of the few universal realities of human existence. None of us can touch it, taste it, start it or stop it, but we are all subject to its rule. From the earliest times, humans have sought to understand the mystery of this intangible reality that marks one moment from its next in a linear fashion, or one day or season from the next in a cyclical fashion. The ancient Egyptians designated the two

kinds of time (linear and cyclical) using two different hieroglyphic words: Djet, written with long and linear hieroglyphs, represented "forever" in a linear sense — time that continued to stack up moment by moment and month by month and year by year, never to return to the same place again. This linearity also marked chthonic time — things that were complete and would always be complete in a timeless sense — and not just linear time in the modern sense.

The concept of cyclical time, the passage of days and seasons marked by the same natural events that recurred eternally, was written with circular and rounded and twisted hieroglyphs, in the word nehel, which we usually translate into English as "eternity." Unlike djet time that noted things that had-and-always-will happen, neheh time described things that are-and-will-keep-happening in a continuative and recurring sense. Neheh time is most easily observed in the natural recurrence of the solar cycle itself, which is perhaps why the sun disk (the circle with a dot in the middle of it) was used as the central part of "spelling" the word neheh in hieroglyphs. Just as the sun rises, crosses the sky from east to west, then sets, only to do it again the following day and every day after that, neheh is time that happens and keeps happening. See Bakir 1974 for more philosophical discussion of the difference between djet and neheh, and how they apply to the human understanding of time.

Together, djet and neheh make up the existence of time in the human world. Our experience of time is simultaneously linear and cyclical. We measure minutes, but we also measure days and seasons. The ancients embodied both djet and neheh in their timekeeping, from the clepsydra or water clocks that noted when various rituals should be done in temples during the nighttime hours when sundials do not work, to the elaborate calendrical systems that work out the sacred and secular year.

From the earliest periods of hieroglyphic writing, we know that the Egyptians had worked out a sophisticated calendar system comprising a year of 360 days, divided into 12 months of 30 days each. On top of this year, they added five extra days that did not belong to any particular year, and which were said to be the birthdays of five major, nationally worshipped divinities who were all children of Nut, goddess of the stars and the nighttime sky.

While there is no extant Egyptian myth describing the particulars of these royal birthdays, a myth written by Plutarch, a Greek-speaking Egyptian priest in the latest period of Egyptian history, describes these events using a modified version of a similar myth told by the Greeks and their colonists, about the origins of Olympian Zeus and his siblings. Plutarch relates that Nut, called "Rhea" in his version due to his syncretism of the Egyptian material with Greek mythology, was forbidden by her father (Helios or "the Sun" to Plutarch, thus the Egyptian god Ra) to give birth to any children on any day of the year, because he did not approve of her relationship with Geb ("Cronus" in Plutarch, again following the Hellenic model). Thoth (here equated with Hermes) agreed to play a game with the moon, with segments of time put up as the prize. Eventually Thoth won enough time from the moon to create five extra days, so that Nut would be able to give birth to her five children: "The Egyptians even now call these five days intercalated and celebrate them as the birthdays of the gods. They relate that on the first of these days Osiris was born.... On the second of these days Arueris (Haroeris) was born, whom they call Apollo, and some call him also the elder Horus. On the third day Typhon (Egyptian Set or Seth) was born, but not in due season or manner, but with a blow he broke through his mother's side and leapt forth.

On the fourth day Isis was born in the regions that are ever moist; and on the fifth Nephthys, to whom they give the name of Finality (Teleute) and the name of Aphrodite, and some also the name of Victory (Nike)." (Plutarch, De Iside 12) The Egyptian calendar was internally consistent and was used as part of civil and personal timekeeping for millennia. Alexander the Great's entry into Egypt, which began the Ptolemaic period, saw a confusing period where two different calendar systems (the Egyptian and a shorter native Macedonian calendar of 12 months with differing day lengths) were continually adjusted to each other. As the Egyptian calendar was both easier to calculate and already in use by the entire populace, it eventually regained its place as the state standard. Appendix I in Grenfell and Hunt's book on the Hibeh Papyri, and Bennett's excellent book Alexandria and the Moon, both provide details and data on the relationship between Macedonian and Egyptian calendars.

When Julius Caesar came to Egypt, he was fascinated by its longevity and its ability to maintain various governmental structures, including the use of a standardized and consistent calendar system. The ancient writer Macrobius tells how Caesar adopted the use of the Egyptian calendar format to provide a solid and harmonious template for a Roman civil calendar that had grown so large that it could no longer all be celebrated in a single solar year: "...under the cover of a scrupulous precision the opportunity for confusion increased. But Gaius Caesar took all this chronological inconsistency, which he found still ill-sorted and fluid, and reduced it to a regular and well-defined order; in this he was assisted by the scribe Marcus Flavius, who presented a table of the individual days to Caesar in a form that allowed both their order to be determined and. once that was determined, their relative position to remain fixed. When he was on the point of starting this new

arrangement, then, Gaius Caesar let pass all the days still capable of creating confusion; when that was done, the final year of confusion was extended to 443 days. Then imitating the Egyptians, who alone know all things concerned with the divine, he undertook to reckon the year according to the sun, which completes its course in 365 ¼ days."

(Saturnalia Book I 14.2-4, p. 167) Caesar took the Egyptian calendrical format, and then adapted it to the Roman system and its non-uniform month lengths. But he also provided for the same Alexandrian leap-year/intercalary day and for months to be able to contain the holidays Romans already knew from certain months and days. He changed the lengths of individual months to make up the proper number of days, and yet made sure the days were properly preserved so that "each month kept its system of religious festivals intact" (Saturnalia Book I 14-10, p. 173). Julius Caesar's gift to his country, itself a gift from the Egyptians, persists as a gift to the modern world. The Gregorian calendar that is used in the modern West is simply a modified version of the Julian calendar, with its 12 months and 365 days of solar year correspondence left intact. Like the ancient Alexandrians, we also insert an intercalary day every four years to observe the "leap year" that keeps our calendar in sync with the 365.25-day astronomical rotation of our planet around the sun. Like the Egyptians, our diet and our nehel, our linear and cyclical time, remain permanently paired and executed as our experience of calendrical time.

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Chapter 2
Sun, Moon, and a

couple of stars: Solar, lunar, and Sothis calendars

"The documents are in your hands, and the instructions that the ancestors made still exist.... Respect this temple without arrogance, and do not neglect its rituals." - from calendrical inscriptions of Thutmose III at the temple of Amun at Karnak By inserting the five intercalary days into their 12-month, 360-day year, the ancient Egyptians created a 365-day year that is to this day the basis of Western calendrical systems, and which almost perfectly matches the astronomical earth year, the time it takes for our earth to complete one single orbit around the sun. Considering that they managed to come to this conclusion without the use of modern scientific instruments, one can say that the Egyptian calendar is a very sophisticated model of time, and indeed, it was in antiquity. The calendar system was so solid and so practical that the invading Persians adopted it for their own usage in 488 BCE (under Darius), and Julius Caesar also saw no problem with taking it back to Rome and using it to tame his own country's unruly calendar into a functional and useable model.

Yet even the most sophisticated calendar of 365 days cannot stay in synch with a 365.25-day solar rotation for long. Every four years, such a calendar would slip backward from its previous reckoning by one day. In 120 years, such a calendar would be off from Year 1 of that calendar by an entire month. Over more centuries, a calendar without a leap year, or another way to make up for that quarter of a day that is not noted in the 365-day year, will end up off by literal seasons. Ancient Egypt's calendar system was in place more than long enough for these

problems to occur. Ancient texts talk about this sort of calendrical chaos and the attempts to correct it, such as this excerpt from the Canopus Decree: "But these feast days shall be celebrated in definite seasons for them to keep forever After the plan of the heavens established on this day it will be that the case shall not occur, that all the Egyptian festivals, now celebrated in winter, shall not be celebrated some time or other in summer, on account of the procession of the rising of the Divine Sothis by one day in the course of four years. And other festivals celebrated in the summer in this country shall not be celebrated in the winter, as has occasionally occurred in the past. Therefore it shall be that for the year of 360 days and the five days added to their end, one additional day will be added from today onward as a feast of the Benevolent Gods [i.e., the Ptolemaic pharaohs] every four years, and it shall be added to the five epagomenae before the new year. In this manner all men shall learn what was a little defective in the order as regards the seasons and the year, and also the opinions contained in the rules of the learned on the heavenly orbits, now corrected and improved.

There is considerable scholarship on the problems inherent in ancient Egyptian calendars. Egyptologists, classicists, mathematicians and astronomers have all weighed in on the various issues and controversies around how ancient time was reckoned and what sort of sense we can make of these reckonings today. In Egypt's late antiquity, additional issues were introduced when the Macedonian Ptolemaic dynasty took over the government. Macedonian calendars have their own format, and the Ptolemies noted time in both Macedonian and Egyptian formats. Macedonian days begin at sundown; Egyptian days are reckoned from sunrise. Deciding what day a certain day in a certain text represents can be considerably difficult as a result. I am no astronomer, nor am I a genius at mathematics, so I would

recommend that if this subject interests you in detail, you will want to read the experts who have spent their lives discussing calendrical calibration, the reckoning of time, and the modern understanding of Egyptian chronology. For the purposes of this Daybook, we simply need to understand that there are multiple ways to render Egyptian time, from different and varying starting dates for each individual Egyptian year, and there is well-attested evidence for various starting dates and the three different types of calendars (solar-calculated, lunar-calculated, and a civil calendar based on the heliacal rising of Sirius, a star the Egyptians called Sopdet and the Greeks called Sothis). Ancient Egyptians were aware from early on that their calendar wasn't guite accurate, and that their calendar lost calibration over time. While they did not have access to the scientific tools that we have today to measure time, they could tell with simple observation of various stars and the sun that their civil calendars slowly drifted away from corresponding seasons and heavenly phenomena. Additionally, calendars marked by moon phases — lunar calendars — were even more difficult to reckon according to a 365-day system, because the moon's phases recur on a less than 30-day schedule. As a result, some lunar years had 12 moons and others would have 13. Where an Egyptian civil calendar had to add five "days on the year" each year, its lunar calendar occasionally found itself requiring an entire extra month. This created tension between the civil and lunar calendars. Egypt's third kind of calendar, tied to the observation of the heliacal rising of Sirius (which happens to be our sky's brightest star) after a 70-day period of invisibility, also had the same inherent problem, as it could be reckoned according to 365 days, but this would not account for the extra guarter day of the earth's solar orbit. Over millennia, all these calendars could become completely unrelated to each other. Astronomer

priests kept records of which day it was according to what calendar, and from these calculations, one might be able to tell when one could expect all of the calendars in use to "line up" once again. Modern scholars and even some New Age adherents who want to use the calendars to support their theories of Atlantis and pyramid-building aliens have made much of the "Sothic period" of 1,460 years, where all the calendars, if allowed their natural drift, will once again correspond. While it is interesting that these calendars do align eventually and on predictable intervals, this is a function of mathematics and does not prove ancient Egyptian intentions to create such abstract ages. There is in fact no evidence that the ancient Egyptians calculated the Sothic period or cycle, or even considered such a cycle, in their everyday timekeeping.

In the Ptolemaic period, the problem of calendars that did not correspond was addressed directly. The Ptolemaic pharaoh Ptolemy III introduced a decree in 237 BCE, which has come to be known as the Canopus Decree because the monumental copy of it was found in that city. The Canopus Decree puts forth the official inauguration of a composite calendar. This new official calendar used the civil/Sothic format but also included various lunar observations, and additionally took into account the solar calendar need for intercalary adjustments such as the epagomenal days and the leap day. This 365-day, leap-year inclusive calendar came to be known as the "Alexandrian calendar" after August 1, 30 BCE, when the emperor Augustus Caesar imposed it upon Rome and all Roman colonies, including Egypt. According to the Greek philosopher Macrobius: "Inserting the intercalary day before the fifth year begins is in line with the system of Egypt, the mother of all crafts. But the Egyptians have no difficulty sorting out the months; all their months are thirty days long, and so when the sequence of months is finished — 360 days having passed

— they make the year complete by adding five days between August and September; then after four years have passed they add the intercalary day that comprises the four quarters." (Saturnalia Book I 15.1, p. 175) Ptolemy III's calendrical correction provided for a calendar that would correct "the former defect in the arrangement of the seasons" (Winlock 451, note 16). It not only fixed the civil calendar according to a Sothic rising that could reliably be tracked, like the sun, for the 360+5-day year the Egyptians already knew, but it provided for a leap day every four years in the form of a sixth intercalary day. Unfortunately, this calendar reform was not universally enforced, and so calendrical problems persisted until well into the Roman period. Chris Bennett's Alexandria and the Moon provides ample mathematical and historical evidence for the challenge of Ptolemaic calendrical reform and its success and failure to be implemented throughout the end of Egypt's classical history.

Interestingly enough, even though this calendar was approved by the pharaoh and calibrated by Egyptian priests, not all Egyptians accepted the Alexandrian calendar. The fixed intercalated/leap year calendar was not formally recognized by all Egyptians until after the majority of Egyptians had become Christians, and thus accepted the calendrical reckoning of the Alexandrian church where the calendar had originated. Modern Coptic Christians use the Alexandrian calendar in their liturgical calendar, though they mark their New Year as starting in secular September, at the time when the Nile flood reaches its greatest height, instead of at the moment of Sirius' heliacal rising that marked the beginning of that flood.

Chapter 3 Flood

Akhet is the name the ancient Egyptians gave to the first season of their year. The word derives from a word for arable land, akh, and a pun/alternate meaning of that word, "papyrus marsh." In both cases, the nuance of the word refers to wet, farming-friendly land. Akhet as an adjective means "the arable one" or "the one that is full of marsh" — that is to say, the flooded land, the land made ready for a new year and a new time.

Before the 20th century, when the completion of the Grand Aswan Dam changed the natural flow of the Nile River forever, Egypt was a much more precarious place. It was entirely dependent upon the Nile's annual flood cycle for both agricultural prosperity and the life that came from such prosperity. As snow on the mountains of the southern highlands (now part of modern countries including Tanzania and Ethiopia) melted and fed into the other rivers that feed the Egyptian Nile, the river rose. The Egyptian Nile continued to rise as this meltwater ran steadily downward and northward toward the Mediterranean coast. Egypt's Nile would go from being a mighty river to an even mightier one in a "good" flood year, bringing nourishing silt and plant matter to refresh the Egyptian farmland after a hot and dry summer.

And yet, a good flood was relative. It could be neither too low nor too high in order to be good for everyone. A Nile flood that was too low would not bring enough fresh water or fresh nutrients through, resulting in potential famine when crops would not grow on time or in sufficient quantity to feed the large Egyptian population. At the same time, if the flood was too high, it might not recede soon enough for

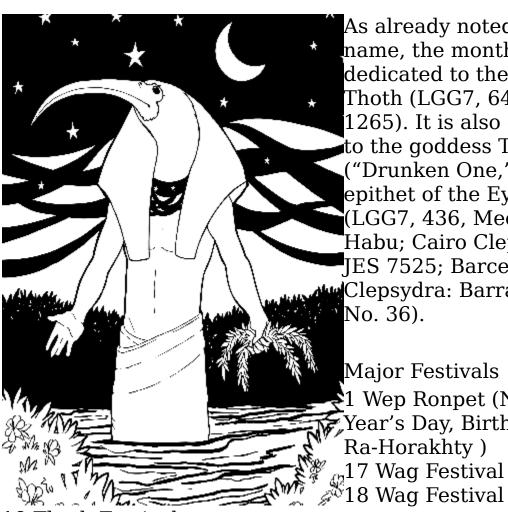
planting, causing the same problem — or if it was really too high or too fast, it could cause catastrophe for the bank-dwellers and their homes that would be washed away in the torrent. Each year, there must have been much anxiety for the ancient Egyptians, about whether or not the flood would come on time and in the right measure. Great care was taken to keep track of flood cycles, with measuring stations (modernly called Nileometers) located at regular intervals along the entire stretch of the Nile from the First Cataract near Aswan in the far south of the country, up into the Delta. Temples and palaces kept track of the Nile cycle, and instituted great festivals and rituals around securing a proper, life-giving flood. A good Nile meant the blessing of the gods to everyone.

Akhet contains many holidays, perhaps more than other seasons. This is probably for two reasons: one is the supreme importance placed on making sure the flood would be good rather than bad, and the other is that during the part of the season when the Nile was still in flood, much of the population could not work and thus there was national downtime: a perfect time for festivals and other things to keep people's spirits up while they waited to find out if the flood would bless them with prosperity in any given year. Akhet opens with the great festival of Wep Ronpet, or Opening the Year, and continues through the fourth month and its great rituals to the god Osiris, who was understood both as the lord of the underworld and as the mysterious power of regeneration and vegetation: the very power that Akhet's flood released into the world. There are also national holidays for formally welcoming the flood, for establishing ritual and cosmic order, and for honoring the ancestors during the four months of Akhet. It is a time of establishing the foundation and planning for the year to come.

Opening the Year, the Wep Ronpet festival, is the greatest festival of the year, and its first. In keeping with the concepts of cyclical (neheh) and linear/forward-facing (djet) time, Wep Ronpet at each new year mimics the very first day of all time, the Zep Tepi or "first instance," the moment of creation. Wep Ronpet's new beginning was thus a symbolic re-beginning not just for the year, but for everything in creation: "All life in the sky, on the earth, and in society, started anew each year on this day." (Wassef 1971, 8). Wep Ronpet was celebrated by making offerings on behalf of the dead as early as Dynasty 4 of the Old Kingdom (Drioton 1952, 85). The month leading up to the first day of the year was also called Wep Ronpet (Wilson 1997, 223), though from the Ramesside period that month was called by the name of Mesut-Ra or "birthday of Ra," another holiday marked on the first day of the year following that final month (Bakir 1966, plate 3). This later name persisted into modern times and is now the Bohairic Coptic name Mesore.

I Akhet

In the Middle Kingdom, this first month of the year was called Tekhy, or "he of the plumb-bob," one of Thoth's titles as the keeper of the eternal balance (Allen 2000, 108). Thoth is not only the ancient Egyptian deity credited with the creation of calendars and thus time, but he celebrated a major festival during I Akhet, as early as the Old Kingdom (Parker 1950, 35). By the end of the New Kingdom, the month of Tekhy was renamed for this god and also called Thoth. That later name persists in the modern Coptic Orthodox liturgical calendar, where the month is named Thot in Bohairic Coptic.



As already noted in its name, the month dedicated to the god Thoth (LGG7, 642; oDem 1265). It is also dedicated to the goddess Tekhyt ("Drunken One," an epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG7, 436, Medinet Habu; Cairo Clepsydra IES 7525; Barcelona Clepsydra: Barraco 1985, No. 36).

Major Festivals 1 Wep Ronpet (New Year's Day, Birthday of Ra-Horakhty) _n17 Wag Festival Eve

19 Thoth Festival

20 Feast of Drunkenness

WEP RONPET (Opening the Year, Ancient Egyptian New Year)

First Day of the First Month of Inundation (I Akhet 1) Chronokrater:

Horus (LGG5, 231, Dendera)

Sekhmet, Lady of Power (LGG4, 147, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Horakhty (LGG5, 239, Dendera)

Hathor Greatest-in-Heaven (LGG2, 583, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Ra (LGG4, 612; Louvre N3557)

Hathor, Lady of Shesmet (20th UE nome) (LGG4, 144, Edfu) Festivals:

Wep Ronpet (New Year's Day) (AF Illahun Senwosret Year 25 inscription, Hepdjefa tomb at Asyut; TFC Edfu)

Tepy-Ronpet ("First/Head/Front of the Year") (AF Akhmenu Temple/Thutmose III; TFC Sahure Valley Temple; TFC Niuserre Temple)

Feast of the Dressing, Day 7 (final) (TFC Hathor calendar at Edfu)

First Time, Day 7 of 11

Birthday of Ra-Horakhty (AF, LA, and CC: Daybook of Theban necropolis workers)

Feast of Khnum, Day 1 of 3 (AF, Elephantine Thutmose III) Feast of All Gods and Goddesses

Day of the Rising of Isis-Sothis (LA; AF Abydos Ramses II; Medinet Habu)

Festival of Amun, Day 1 of 3 (AF Elephantine Thutmose III) Sed-Festival of Behdety (i.e., Haroeris of Edfu) (TFC Edfu) Procession of Ra (TFC Edfu)

"Feast of Ra at the Opening of the Year" (TFC Hathor calendar at Edfu)

Feast of Nehebkau (LA)

Appeasement of Sekhmet/Litany of Sekhmet against the Seven Arrows of the Year (Cauville 2002, 38; Germond 1981, 6)

Confirmation of Royal Authority (pBrooklyn 47.218.50; Goyon 1972) "Opening the Year; causing the appearance of Horus, Lord of Kom Ombo; until the second day, resting in the hypostyle hall of Horus and Thoth; offering all good things; offering to Ra in His presence; appearing and resting in His temple. Doing likewise from I Akhet 4 until the 12th day" (TFC Kom Ombo) "Appearing of Horus Lord of Nubt, Euergetes, Philopator, Epiphanes, Philometor [Ptolemy VI]. Appearing of Horus Chief of the Great Seat, Sobek Lord of Kom Ombo, Tasenetnofret, Hathor, and Min, Lord of the Two Lands." (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI) "Festival of the Opening of the Year, for a double benefit. Festival of Nehebkau and Khnum and His Ennead. Shu

finds the Eye of Horus within the hands of Set. He takes it from Him." (TFC Esna) "Reading of the 'Opening of the Good Year,' accomplishing all the rites in accordance with what is in the ritual. Causing the appearance and coming forth of Khnum-Ra, lord of Esna and His Ennead, Pi-Khnum, Pi-Sahure, union with the disk, returning [home]." (TFC Esna) "Day of the Feast of Ra at Wep Ronpet. A feast of all gods and all goddesses. Now after all the rites of the sacred offerings have been carried out, when the eighth hour comes, [then] all the rites for taking out in procession of this goddess are celebrated, Hathor the Great, Lady of Dendera, Eye of Ra, in her portable barque, with her Ennead, to the great heavenly vault (i.e., the temple roof). She unites with her father, and people see her beauty. Then she returns to the temple at a slow pace, resting in her sanctuary." (TFC Dendera) "Birthday of Ra-Horakhty." Ablution on the entire land; water at the beginning of the high, which is called 'the Fresh Nun.' All gods are in great festivity, with everyone likewise." (CC; AF) "Nehebkau takes place on this day. Feast of Osiris and Isis, feast of every god, feast of Sobek lord of A'aiu-neferu. Do not travel by ship." (CC; LGG6, 259; LGG4, 274, Esna; Leitz TW 428-429).

"Feast of Ra. Do not cross the river on this day." (CC) "Uniting the male and female horizons before the horizon on this day." (LGG1, 54, Dendera)

"Isis-Sothis was honored as the guarantor of a good new year alongside Serapis in Rome in the second and third centuries CE. They were worshipped together as Felicitas (joy) and Prosperitas (prosperity) from Hadrian and Antoninus Pius' time." (LA6, 932) "Ramses II offers wine to Amun-Ra and Ra-Horakhty on Wep Ronpet on the walls of Abu Simbel for the coming of Inundation." (LA6, 1188) Offerings of pesen-bread were made for tepy ronpet (TFC Niuserre); Helck 1977, 56 notes an additional offering of

"1000 pesen bread, 1 cattle, 2 geese, honey, milk, and sweet things."

Ma'at was placed before Ra on this day (PT 1774).

Torches were placed on graves on Wep Ronpet and also during the epagomenal days (Poethke 1975, 1232).

Wep Ronpet is the ancient Egyptian New Year, when Sothis (the binary star system of Sirius) rises at dawn after being invisible for 70 days. The sighting of Sothis, later associated with the "Tears of Isis," is the first day when the ancient Inundation was noticed as the Nile started its annual flood. Today, the High Dam at Aswan prevents the inundation from flowing north of the First Cataract; yet Egyptians and Nubians still celebrate a festival called "Night of the Drop" in honor of this annual miracle of water.

The Feast of the Seat of the First Time continues, marking the establishment of life and Ma'at (the goddess and the concept of truth and order) on earth.

The Feast of the Dressing ends with all the icons of the deities receiving new Wep Ronpet garments at the Kissing the Face of Ra ritual.

I Akhet 2

Chronokrater:

Shu (LGG7, 35 and Leitz TW 29, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Hathor Lady of Terror, the Southern Female Horus (LGG4, 130, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Osiris Lord-of-Wine-Throughout-the-Inundation (LA6, 1188) Wadjet Lady of Shas-hotep (11th UE nome) (LGG4, 140, Edfu) Festivals:

Day of Wetting the Head before the Gods

First Time, Day 8 of 11

Feast of Khnum, Day 2 of 3 (TFC Elephantine Thutmose III)

Festival of Amun, Day 2 of 3 (TFC Elephantine Thutmose III)

Procession of Ihy the Great Lotus (LGG1, 542; Leitz TW 429 and 544; Dendera IX; Grimm 1994, 22) Feast of Shu, son of Ra (LGG1, 380; Leitz TW 429) Feast of Onuris of Heliopolis (LGG1, 380; Leitz TW 429) Feast of Maa'hes (LGG3, 211; Leitz TW 429) "Procession of the Great Lotus that appeared in the beginning in its form of Ihy. A sistrum is in his left hand; he is wide of stride and wears the double crown on the first day, when he rises as Osiris. He appears like this god from the first day of his birth, to claim the inheritance of his father." (TFC Edfu) "When it is the fourth hour, the Great Lotus goes out in procession, in his image 'Ihy the great, son of Hathor,' the Ihy-statue which is in the kiosk. Arriving at the waystation. The people see his beauty and he returns to his temple in great holiness. Going forth in procession in his noble shrine from within the temple; these deities rest in their places." (TFC Dendera) "Going forth in procession in his noble shrine from within the temple, stopping at the Mansion of the Bier. Procession of Hathor, Lady of Dendera, with her Ennead, stopping at the mammisi. When the tenth hour comes...." (TFC Dendera) "It is the Feast of Victory which Ra made for Shu, when he seized the Eye of Horus for him." (CC)

"Feast of Shu, son of Ra; Ihy son of Hathor; Onuris of Heliopolis; Ma'ahes. Do not eat a'afet [mandrakes?]. Cross the water today." (CC; LGG1, 380; Leitz TW 429) "If you see anything today, it will be good. Day of the going out of the Ennead before Ra. Their hearts are pleased when they see his youthfulness, after they killed him who raised up against their master, and overthrew Apophis whoever he might be, literally in every place of his, the one who fell on his back amidst the flood." (CC)

I Akhet 3

Chronokrater:

Atum, Lord of Dendera (variant Osiris, Lord of Dendera) (LGG3, 172, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Sekhmet (LGG6, 557; Leitz TW 430)

Hathor, Mistress of the Hill of the Qerhet-Snake (LGG4, 7, Edfu) Festivals:

Feast of the Pacification of Sekhmet-Hathor (CC and CC2) First Time, Day 9 of 11

Feast of Khnum, Day 3 of 3 (TFC Elephantine Thutmose III) Feast of Amun, Day 3 of 3 (TFC Elephantine Thutmose III) Feast of Ptah-the-Great, Son of Ra (sic?) (CC; LGG3, 172; Leitz TW 430) "Do not do anything, eat remu-fish, or journey in day or in night." (CC)

"Anyone born today will die by a crocodile." (LGG 3, 434; Leitz TW 15)

"Day of making a count(?) in the river by [...] The gods of the Duat..." (CC)

I Akhet 4

Chronokrater:

Hathor (LGG5, 76)

Horus (LGG5, 231, Dendera)

Sokar (variants Horus or Golden-Horus) (LGG 6, 664, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of the Khetdes Tree (LGG4, 121, Edfu) Festivals:

Feast of Thoth (TFC Esna; Dynasty 21 according to LA2, 174)

Feast of Hathor, Mistress of Byblos (CC)

Feast of Nekhbet, the White One of Nekhen (CC; LGG4, 302, Leitz TW 451)

Feast of Nut (CC)

First Time, Day 10 of 11

"The regular festival of Behdety on his sed (i.e., royal jubilee)" (TFC Edfu)

"Starting work is a great abomination. Beware of making friendship to a second person. As to anyone whose heart suffers, he will not live." (CC)

"Do not do anything. Day of going forth of Hathor together with the executioners (or 'butchers') in order to approach the riverbank. The gods are contrary [lit., 'come from a contrary wind'] today. Do not navigate boats. (LGG5, 229) "Do not do anything on it (i.e., the feast of Hathor)." (CC)

I Akhet 5

Chronokrater:

Horus (LGG5, 231; Leitz TW 431)

Ptah, Lord of Heaven (LGG3, 169, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Sekhmet, Who Is Loved by Her Lord (LGG3, 348, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Wadjet, Lady of Letopolis (LGG4, 118, Edfu) Festivals: Feast of Behdety (LGG5, 254; TFC Edfu; CC; CC2 notes possible Horus Shededty rather than Behdety)

Feast of Haroeris in Sais (CC)

Feast of Hathor (CC)

First Time, Day 11 (final) "Do not do any work in the entire land today. As to anybody whose stomach suffers, he will not live." (CC)

"If you see anything today, it will be good. The gods are peaceful in heaven and navigating the great barque." (CC) "The raging ones enter the flood." (LGG6, 34; Leitz TW 264 says they also emerge from the flood on II Peret 29)

I Akhet 6

Chronokrater:

Isis, Who Dresses Horus (LGG6, 715, Dendera and Dendera

Mammisi)

Sekhmet the Great (variant Iunmutef) (LGG1, 97, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi; LGG6, 557) Festivals:

Sixth-Day Festival (AF; TFC Thutmose III "Sixth Day

Festival of the [first month of] Inundation")

Feast of the Majesty of Mnevis (CC; CC2, name broken; LGG3, 329; Leitz TW 432)

Feast of Anubis Who Is in the Ut, Day 1 of 2 (CC)

Feast of Haroeris in Asyut (LGG5, 251; Leitz TW 431) "Do not eat the head of any goat, do not do any work on clothing or on grain today" (CC)

"Anyone born today will die by the one under the bull/steer (Hery-ka)" (Alternate reading "will die by being trampled under a bull/steer") (LGG6, 40; Leitz TW 18; CC) Mnevis is a dark-haired sacred bull that is a theophany (an animal symbolic of the powers of a god) of Ra-Atum.

Today Anubis is honored as He Who Is over the Ut, the Ut being a special symbol of the power of the Kingly Ka, the divine spirit of kingship that is installed in pharaohs upon their coronations.

The sixth day of any calendrical month, civil or lunar, is noted as the Suwenet, the "sixth-day festival." On the Suwenet, offerings were given to the deceased at their graves.

I Akhet 7

Chronokrater:

Hathor, Lady of Offerings (LGG5, 83)

Horus (LGG5, 231, Dendera)

Serget (LGG6, 438, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Isis the Great (variants Hathor, Lady of Offerings and

Horus-Lord-of-the-Sea) (LGG1, 70, Dendera) Festivals:

Day of Welcoming the Inundation (CC)

Feast of Sobek, Lord of Wadjty (CC; CC2 restores lost city

name)

Feast of Anubis Who Is in the Ut, Day 2 of 2 (CC) "Do not do any work in the entire land; do not eat the remainder of anything today." (CC)

"Day of Welcoming the Inundation and offering to the gods. Anything you see today will be good." (CC)

I Akhet 8

Chronokrater:

Sekhmet, Lady of Shenut (9th UE nome)

Ra-Horakhty (LGG4, 630, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi; variant Nemty in Dendera, LGG4, 232) Festival:

Feast of 'Anty (LGG4, 630, Dendera; LGG4, 232, written "Nemty" and listed as Chronokrat; CC2; Leitz TW 433)

"Feast of every god and goddess. Do not do any work in the entire land. Do not eat herbs, sugarcane, or mandrakes." (CC)

"Do not go out at night; Ra goes forth [...] Inundation. The one who navigates the Nun and anyone who is shipwrecked...." (CC)

'Anty, sometimes a form of Horus and sometimes a form of Set, is a hawk-headed god who serves as ferryman for the gods.

I Akhet 9

Chronokrater:

Nut (LGG3, 535, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi; variant Tefnut LGG7, 406, Dendera; variant Ra LGG4, 612, Dendera)

Whose Head Is Her Pillar (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG7, 383, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi) Festivals:

Pacifying the Hearts of Those in the Horizon in Front of Ra (CC)

Public Feast of Hathor (TFC Edfu)

Feast of Khnum, Lord of Senmet (unknown location) (CC) Feast of Ra (CC2)

Feast of Sobek (CC) "Present one ox and one bull" (note without reference to a specific festival) (TFC Akhmenu Thutmose III)

"Procession of Hathor of Dendera and her Ennead. Resting in the mammisi. The people celebrate the festival. The choir of singers and all the musical instruments return to the front hall until morning. Going in procession to her palace after the evening offerings." (TFC Edfu) "At the third hour, going in procession by Hathor, Lady of Dendera and her Ennead; stopping at the Mansion of the Bier. At the 10th hour, these gods go in procession into the temple and rest there." (TFC Dendera) "Do not eat abdu-fish; do not walk in darkness." (CC)

"Anything you see today will be great." (CC)

"Those in the Horizon" are the ancestors. Cool water and honey are traditionally offered to them.

Plutarch says priests do not eat fish on this day: "The priests, however, abstain from all fish; and on the ninth day of the first month, when every one of the other Egyptians eats a broiled fish in front of the outer door of his house, the priests do not even taste the fish, but burn them up in front of their doors." (De Iside 7, 20).

I Akhet 10

Chronokrater:

Min-Amun Who Is in the Opet Temple (LGG3, 291, Dendera)

Tefnut (LGG7, 406; Leitz TW 434)

The Female Atum, Lady of the Akhet-season (LGG7, 422, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Isis, Lady of Emergence (LGG4, 57, Edfu)

Isis, Lady of Netjeruwy (5th UE nome) (LGG4, 84, Edfu)

Amun (variant Min-Amun Who Is in the Opet Temple) (LGG1, 306; El-Sayed Neith I, 125 and 126) Festivals: Feast of Tefnut-Nebtu (TFC Esna, LGG7, 408; Esna II, 55; CC; CC2)

Procession of Nephthys

Procession of Isis (TFC Esna)

Procession of Harsomtus the Great God, Lord of Khadi (TFC Edfu; LGG5, 584, Dendera)

Procession of Hedihotep (CC; Leitz TW 21; LGG5, 602) Feast of Ha (god of the West) (CC; LGG5, 11; Leitz TW 434) "Making the procession of Nebtu, Mistress of Esna, dressed in the red colored garment; appearing at the [upper] place in the neighborhood of the children of Ra; return; receiving the red cloth, making a formal offering. Making the procession of Isis in Pi-Netjer, in order to present offerings to her brother Osiris and to...making procession of the same goddess at nighttime; return to the temple of Khnum." (TFC Esna) "Procession by Harsomtus, the great god, Lord of Khadi. Arriving at the waystation to pour a water libation to the resting ones in Khadi (i.e., the dead; LGG5, 584, Dendera). Going in procession into the temple. Turning to the north to go onto the roof; then reaching the way around the four-sided wall. Making many burnt offerings on the altar, with incense on the flame, and libating with wine before this god. Returning to his temple at a slow pace." (TFC Dendera) "Do not eat honey or sugarcane today." (CC)

"Day of going forth of Hedjhotep while all gods and goddesses are in festivity. Anyone born today will die an honored one in his old age." (CC)

I Akhet 11

Chronokrater:

Isis Who Grasps the Ankh (LGG5, 723, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Neith (LGG3, 511, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi) Festivals:

Feast of the Bawy, the Lords of Offerings (CC; LGG2, 711; Leitz TW 435)

Feast of Sobek of Shedty (CC; LGG6, 264; Leitz TW 435) Feast of Ra (CC)

Procession of the Great Flame (Nesret) (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (CC) "Do not do any work on this day. Do not eat fish having roe; or sun bread. Anyone born on this day will not live." (CC)

"Kindle fire. Day of going forth of the Great Flame raging in the inaccessible shrine in [...] who are in the following of His Majesty. Do not look at a bull or have sex today." (CC) Bawy, "Two Souls," is a reference to Horus and Set syncretized into a single god with two heads.

I Akhet 12

Chronokrater:

She Who Unites with Her Ba (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG6, 21, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi) Horus Khentykhety (LGG5, 849; Leitz TW 436; CC and

CC2) Festivals:

Day of Opening the Two Lands (TFC Edfu)

Feast of Satis of Elephantine (LGG6, 701; Leitz TW 435; CC)

Feast of Nefertem, Lord of Offerings (LGG4, 211; Leitz TW 435; CC)

Procession of Isis in Pi-Sahure (TFC Esna) "Making the procession of the same goddess [Isis] in Pi-Sahure; returning to Esna at nighttime." (TFC Esna)

"Day of Opening the Two Lands. One binds the cow for milking; milk is offered in the temple on this day" (TFC Edfu)

"Do not eat any meat." (CC)

"Do not go out today. Spend the day until sunset [indoors]. It is the day of the crew (?) whom Ra separates from one another. As to anyone disobeying Ra, his house will fall down immediately." (CC)

I Akhet 13

Chronokrater:

Hathor, the Female Sovereign (LGG5, 410, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Hathor, Lady of the Per-Nu Chapel (i.e., the Upper Egyptian royal sanctuary) (LGG4, 55, Edfu and Dendera)

Osiris, Lord of Life (LGG2, 530, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi) Festivals:

Jubilation of the Year's Beginning (TFC Edfu)

Feast of Nut (LGG3, 535; CC; CC2)

Feast of (Horus) Khentykhety, Lord of Leontopolis (CC)

Feast of Horus, Lord of Mendes (CC)

Feast of the Nun (Hibis 21; LGG3, 545; CC) "Present one ox and one bull." (note without reference to specific festival; could reference I Akhet 14) (TFC Akhmenu Thutmose III)

"First day of the feast of jubilation at the beginning of the year. Every ritual of this temple is performed." (TFC Edfu) "Do not eat mice." (CC)

"Anyone born on this day will die of blindness. Day of the massacre of the beloved southerner (an epithet of the Eye of Ra)." (CC; LGG3, 331; Leitz TW 25)

I Akhet 14

Chronokrater:

Hathor, She of Beautiful Eldership/Age (LGG4, 227,

Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Amun-Ra Great of Magic (LGG 2, 454, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi; variant Weret-hekau, the Eye Goddess "Great of Magic," LGG2, 493, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi) Festivals:

Feast of Tithoes, Child of Neith (TFC Esna; LA6, 602 notes

as male, and "chief of the spirits of Sekhmet and Bast") Feast of Khonsu-Osiris (possibly "Osiris-the Khons-bull") (CC; LGG5, 761; Leitz TW 437)

Feast of Ptah the Noble Djed (CC; LGG7, 679; Leitz TW 437)

Feast of the Meskhetiu constellation (CC2) "Present one ox and one bull." (note without reference to specific festival; could reference I Akhet 13) (TFC Akhmenu, Thutmose II) "Feast of Tithoes (Tutu), daughter (sic) of Neith; supplying the altar with offerings." (TFC Esna) "Do not eat siyu-fish. If you start an errand, it will be accomplished immediately."

If you start an errand, it will be accomplished immediated (CC) "Offering of great vegetables (?) in the southern heaven today. Offer to the god of your city." (CC)

Tithoes is a Roman Period god associated both with Bes and an otherwise unknown goddess said to be Neith's daughter.

Meskhetiu is the ancient Egyptian name for the constellation known to us today as Ursa Major, the Great Bear. It is a symbol and aspect of Set.

I Akhet 15

Chronokrater:

Khons (the Khons-bull) (LGG5, 761; Leitz TW 438; Altenmüller 1975, 166)

Montu (LGG3, 319, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi) Festivals:

Feast of the Half-Month

The Day of Unknown Rage in the Duat (CC)

Feast of Sepa-Osiris Who Rules in Heliopolis (CC)

Feast of Khonsu (CC)

Offerings to Amun-Ra King of the Gods and to the Nile (Hapi) (AF, Gebel Silsila, Ramses II, Ramses III, and Merenptah Stelae) "Feast of Sepa-Osiris who rules in Heliopolis. Do not eat rudj- or shena'a-fish. Do not start

anything." (CC) "Do not proceed in a boat today. The Day of Unknown Rage in the Duat. Behold, the rowers are on the river. Do not [...] today." (CC)

"Feast of Khonsu. It is favorable to do anything on it." (CC) "Offer to Amun-Ra, King of the Gods; and the Nile, Father of the Gods, in order that water does not harm anyone, or cause anyone to be given over to the lords of the Duat." (AF, Gebel Silsila, Ramses II, Ramses III, and Merenptah Stelae) The Day of Unknown Rage refers to the fighting between Harsiese and Set for the throne of Egypt.

I Akhet 16

Chronokrater:

The Perfect Horus (LGG5, 264, Dendera Mammisi) Sepa (LGG6, 358; Leitz TW 439; may be mistranslated Sebaka in CC2)

Hathor, Lady of the Horizon (LGG4, 5, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Isis, Lady of the Thrones (LGG4, 123, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Hathor, Lady of the Firestarter (i.e., flint stone) (LGG4, 93, Dendera)

Nebtu, Lady of the Temple of Neith (LGG4, 102, Edfu) Festival:

Feast of Sebaka (CC2; see above note on Sepa in Chronokrater list)

"Feast of Sebaka. Favorable to do anything on it." (CC2)

"Anyone born today will die by a crocodile. Day of [...] by Neith." (CC; LGG3, 434; Leitz TW 29)

Sebaka (or Sebaga), the ancient Egyptian name for the planet Mercury, is a theophany or symbol of the god Set.

I Akhet 17

Chronokrater:

The Perfect Horus (LGG5, 264, Dendera)

Tefnut, Who Gives Birth to Her Father (LGG3, 415, Dendera)

Tefnut (LGG7, 406, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Sepa-Osiris (LGG6, 269, Dendera Mammisi)

Hathor, Lady of the Lake (LGG4, 139, Edfu) Festivals:

Wag Festival Eve (Illahun; AF Asyut, Hapdjefa tomb MK;

LA2, 174; TFC Medinet Habu Ramses II and Ramses III; AF TT50 Amun-Neferhotep tomb, dated to Horemheb)

Feast of Sobek-Ra (LGG6, 258; Leitz TW 439; LGG6, 262)

Day of Sailing to Abydos (AF TT299 Inherkau tomb, dated to Ramses IV) "Do not eat any mehyet-fish. It is the day of taking away Sobek's offerings." (CC; LGG6, 259; Leitz TW 30) "In the ninth hour, one takes up the plant originally taken up by Thoth, in order to create a beautiful crown for Osiris" (AF, Papyrus Salt)

I Akhet 18

Chronokrater:

Hathor, Lady of the Walls (LGG4, 129, Edfu)

Hathor, Who Created Atum (LGG1, 436, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Wadjet (LGG2, 270, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Osiris, Foremost of Westerners (LGG2, 530; Leitz TW 439, Dendera Mammisi) Festivals:

Feast of the Gods of the Noble Chapel

Wag Festival, Day 1 of 2 (TFC Ramses II, Illahun MK, AF

Medinet Habu Ramses III; LA2, 174; LA6, 1135-1139; AF

Asyut, Hapdjefa tomb MK; TFC Thutmose III)

Feast of Shu and Tefnut, Day 1 of 5 (TFC Edfu)

Day of Magnifying the Majesty of Horus (CC)

Feast of Osiris (CC)

Drunkenness (Tekhy) Festival, Day 1 of 5 (LA2, 175)

"Offerings to Amun-Ra." (TFC Medinet Habu Ramses II; AF Medinet Habu Ramses II)

"Feast of Shu and Tefnut. If it is the full moon when the Sister comes, this lunar festival becomes a full festival day. Offer two men-vases to Hathor today." (TFC Edfu) "Anything you see today will be good. Day of magnifying Horus' majesty, more than his brother, which they (i.e., the gods) did at the court." (CC)

"As for anyone born today, he will not live." (CC) Tekhy festival is five days marking the return of the Eye goddess. The return of Hathor-Tefnut from Nubia extends through I Akhet 22, and was celebrated in Edfu and Dendera. (LA2, 175) "Assiut contracts indicate torches were raised, 18 days after New Year, on the Wag festival." (LA2, 79)

Wag Festival included wine offerings and drunkenness; the wearing of seshed-bands, night offerings to Wepwawet (Asyut, Senwosret I), illumination ceremonies with torches, visits to Abydos, the 'Sed Festival of Osiris' (BoD169), burning incense and libations, turning the divine boats to face Abydos, and prayers and celebrations overnight, to celebrate Osiris' being declared justified. The celebrations began Wag eve and went through Wag day. (LA6, 1135-1139) Osiris is Lord of Wine during the Wag Festival. (LA6; PT820a)

Wagy, known since the Pyramid Texts liturgies of the Old Kingdom, means "rejoicing" or "exaltation. (WB 262). It is also celebrated on the 18th day of the lunar calendar (Spalinger 2001, 224). In the Middle Kingdom, during a time when the calendars were far out of sync, there were two Wag festivals (Posener-Kriéger, Abousir 43, suggests there were two Wagy in the Old Kingdom as well). One was celebrated in II or III Shomu (Luft 1992, 151; a possible conflation with the Beautiful Feast of the Valley that occurs during that part of the year).

In Asyut, a man named Hapdjefi's tomb from the Middle Kingdom describes what he received during Wag Festival: cake, 500 kefen breads, 10 white breads for his ka statue on Wag eve, and bread and beer on Wag day, as well as glorifications and illuminations. Hapdjefi's ka statue was taken out of his tomb and carried to the temple of Wepwawet, to light a torch and give offerings on his behalf, and then it returned in a procession to his tomb chapel. (Posener-Kriéger 1986, 1135-36) Red and green cloth bands that were previously used in temple statuary rituals were gifted to tombs and the dead as part of the Wag Festival observance (Helck 1961, 264 and note 1; Schott ZAS 98 (1970), 47-48).

In the New Kingdom, people traveled to Abydos, or if they were deceased, their statues did. If statues were unable to be taken to Abydos, model boats were placed into the tombs to symbolize this pilgrimage. Within the tomb, the family priest or other representative would point the boats northward or southward to ritually enact the pilgrimage. Living people, statues of the deceased, or model boats in the tombs far from Abydos, also presented libations and incense to Osiris during Wag (Winter 1951, 23).

Victory wreaths were given to the dead on the final night of Wag and the day afterward, as part of the festival of Thoth.

I Akhet 19

Chronokrater:

The Seeker (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 356 Dendera and Edfu; variant Flame of the Foreign Lands, LGG7, 608, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Thoth (LGG7, 641 and Leitz TW 439, Dendera Mammisi; Leitz (2002) 153, Edfu)

Nephthys (LGG4, 96, Dendera Mammisi) Hathor, Lady of Esna (LGG4, 128, Edfu) Isis (LGG1, 62, Dendera) Festivals: Wag Festival, Day 2 of 2 (TFC Ramses II, Illahun MK, AF Medinet Habu Ramses III; LA2, 174; LA6, 1135-1139; AF Asyut, Hapdjefa tomb MK; TFC Thutmose III) Feast of Shu and Tefnut, Day 2 of 5 (TFC Esna) Feast of Thoth (LA6, 523; TFC Medinet Habu Ramses II and Ramses III; TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI; TFC Esna; AF Medinet Habu Ramses III; LA2, 174 MK; Hermopolis, Roeder 1959 plate 6)

Appearance of Horus (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI) Festival of Drunkenness, Day 2 of 5 (LA, Edfu and Dendera) Feast of Hedjhotep-as-Thoth (LGG5, 602; Tebtunis 171) Festival of Geb as a greyhound (LGG7, 502; Leitz in FS Westendorf 1994, 103-117; Tebtunis 171 and plate 20) This is the Thoth festival mentioned earlier as a major annual festival. In the Old Kingdom, it probably opened Wag Festival (LA6, 523). Victory wreaths called 'wreaths of the true-of-voice' were given to the dead as part of Thoth festival (Nelson 1934, 79); this wreath tradition started during the reign of Amasis (New Kingdom) and continued to the Late Period. The wreaths were made of grape, persea, olive, and acacia leaves and papyrus and lotus flowers (laurel was used in later times). They were first hung on the divine statues in the temples as an offering to the gods, then reverted from the temples, taken to the tomb chapels, and presented to the ancestors' statues as a sacred gift (Winter 1951, 33-36).

"Appearing of this god [Horus of Kom Ombo]; making every image of the feast of Thoth" (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI) "Feast of Thoth, the very great one, in the entire country; festival of Horus-Shu, son of Ra; entering to feed his father on this day; accomplishing all the rites" (TFC Esna; Esna V, 11) "A happy day in heaven in front of Ra, may he live, prosper, and be healthy; the great Ennead is in great festivity. Burn incense on the fire for his followers in the

evening barque, the day barque, and the gods. Day of

receiving [...] day of going forth...Babai...his..." (CC) "As for anyone born on this day, he will not live." (CC2)

"Thoth comes out of the necropolis, since the fiend Babai is in his grasp." (LGG2, 737; pJumilhac XVI, 8-22; Leitz TW 32)

"The rags of the god are brought forth today" (Hari 63-64 and plate 30 (TT50 Neferhotep tomb); LGG 6, 274)

"One places a statue of Isden (Isdes) on the festivals of Thoth" (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI; LGG1, 559; Tebtunis 171 and plate 20)

According to Plutarch (ch 68), participants in the festival of Thoth enjoy honey and figs and say 'sweet is the truth' to each other as a blessing around the sharing of these things. (Parthey 1850) Offerings of flowers and plants were given to Thoth in Hermopolis so "the house of Thoth would be decorated"; his temple was already a sacred enclosure with a well-known and shady natural garden. (Roeder 1959, 360)

I Akhet 20

Chronokrater:

Thoth (LGG7, 640 and Leitz (2002) 153, Edfu) Sekhmet (LGG6, 557, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi; variation Osiris-Foremost-of-Westerners, LGG2, 530) Hathor, Lady of Kenken (unknown location) (LGG4, 150, Edfu)

The Great Eye (goddess) (LGG2, 478, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi) Festivals:

Feast of Shu and Tefnut, Day 3 of 5 (TFC Edfu)

Feast of the Purification of Ra (TFC Dendera)

Feast of the Drunkenness of Hathor-Sekhmet (LA2, 174;

AF; TFC Dendera; Illahun MK)

Feast of Hathor (CC2)

Feast of Drunkenness, Day 3 of 5 (LA Edfu and Dendera); "Eating honey and figs on the feast of Tekhy" (LA2, 174) "It

is the third day of the procession of this goddess [Tefnut] and her Ennead. Her rituals are performed." (TFC Edfu) "Feast of the repeated drunkenness of this goddess [Hathor]; her barque is rowed." (TFC Dendera small calendar; LA2, 1035 gives more details)

"At the tenth hour, procession of Hathor, Lady of Dendera, to the temple roof; union with the disk. Then returning to her temple at a slow pace. A procession by her Ennead and union with the disk; resting in their places. Total: five days of festival." (TFC Dendera) "Do not do any work. Day when the great ones are partial." (CC)

"Day of the beginning of writing and the end of writing, coming out of life and death, on which the book of 'ending work' should be written." (AF, pSalt) "On I Akhet 20 one prepares the drink of drunkenness for her [Hathor's] ka." (LGG7, 11; Dendera V, 75.16-76)

According to the Illahun papyrus, the Drunkenness festival was celebrated "when the civil and lunar calendars coincide, on the first day of the second lunar month" (Cauville 2002, 50).

At Edfu, the Drunkenness festival was celebrated from 18-20 Thoth and conflated with the Festival of Shu and Tefnut ("the festival of Shu and Tefnut, the day on which the Udjat Eye is filled and the sister comes […] the menu-brew is offered to Hathor on this day" (Alliot 1949, 221).

The enthronement of Hathor by the gods Ptah and Ra-Horakhty was made in the presence of the gods Ihy-Nun and Ihy-Wab (Cauville 2002, 52), when the king also offered Hathor menu-beer and called her Mistress of the Two Lands and Mistress of Bread Who Makes Beer. Ptah and Ra-Horakhty are shown in festival depictions as raising their hands in protection to calm the raging goddess. The appeasement ritual was also conducted on behalf of Hathor-Sekhmet, in the same way it was carried out on Wep Ronpet (Cauville 2002, 52-53). At Edfu, Hathor was given a necklace of ibu-leaves as a protection against evil and disease (Wilson 1997, 58).

The Drunkenness festival, as its name might imply, was celebrated with a lot of wine offerings that were shared both with the goddess and her worshippers, so that people could connect with the goddess ecstatically (Bleeker 1973, 91).

I Akhet 21

Chronokrater:

Osiris (LGG2, 530; Leitz TW 440)

Ra-Horakhty (LGG5, 630, Dendera; variant Horus

Khentykhety LGG5, 279, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi) Hathor (LGG5, 76)

Wadjet, Lady of the Fields (variant Lady of Buto) (LGG4, 132, Dendera) Festivals:

Feast of Shu and Tefnut, Day 4 of 5 (TFC Edfu)

Feast of Osiris (TFC Ramses II; LGG2, 530; Leitz TW 440; CC2)

Feast of Drunkenness, Day 4 of 5 (LA Edfu and Dendera) Feast of Hathor (LGG5, 76; Leitz TW 440) "Carrying out 'the triumph of Thoth' in the presence of Ra" (TFC Esna)

"Make a holiday today. Offer to the followers of Ra. Do not kill a bull, and do not let it pass before your face or even close to it; be cautious." (CC)

I Akhet 22

Chronokrater:

Mistress of the Embalming Hall (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 42, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Hathor, Lady of Shetut (variant spelling Shadi) (LGG4, 145, Edfu)

She Who is in Her Moment (epithet of the Eye of Ra)

(LGG1, 295, Dendera and Edfu)

Wepwawet, Lord of the Mountain (LGG2, 343; Leitz TW 440)

Osiris, Great of Magic (LGG2, 454, Dendera Mammisi; variation Isis, Great of Magic, LGG2, 493, Dendera Mammisi) Festivals:

Feast of Shu and Tefnut, Day 5 (final) (TFC Edfu) Feast of Drunkenness, Day 5 (final) (LA Edfu and Dendera) Great Procession and Festival of Osiris (AF, TFC Akhmenu Thutmose III; TFC Medinet Habu Ramses II and Ramses III; Abydos MK; Illahun MK)

Procession of Anubis (LA6, 863)

Feast of Anubis in Idi (Dendera location) (TFC Edfu) Feast/Procession of Wepwawet (CC; MK Abydos; LGG2, 343; Leitz TW 440; called peret-tepet or "going out at the head"/"proceeding in front," in LA2, 929ff) Haker Festival (LA2, 929; Urk V, 124.5-12) "...on that night of Haker when the dead were counted, when the ancestors

of Haker when the dead were counted, when the ancestors were reckoned, when dancing occurred" (BoD18) (LA2, 929)

Haker Festival is also called "the night of sleep" or "the sleep of Battling Horus" in Abydos from the Middle Kingdom to Dynasty 18 in the New Kingdom. It included a feast of Osiris, a victory dance, and a procession of Wepwawet (LA2, 929).

"Offerings for Amun-Ra with his Ennead and the portable Image of Rameses III." (TFC Medinet Habu Ramses III) "Fifth day of the procession of the Goddess [Tefnut] and her Ennead. Her rituals are performed as in the feast of the Eye of Horus, the Mistress of Hermopolis Magna. This feast is reckoned [in the same way] as I Akhet 18." (TFC Edfu) "Ra calls every god and goddess and they await his arrival. He let them enter into his belly, then they began to move about in him, then he killed them all and vomited [them] into the water. They then turned into fish and their souls

turned into birds and flew to heaven. Do not catch birds or fish today. Do not eat fish, do not warm oil, do not eat birds." (LGG7, 427; Leitz TW 38) "Anything you do on the feast of Wepwawet will be good." (CC)

"Procession of Ra-Peker on the Night of Sleep" (LA2, Abydos)

I Akhet 23

Chronokrater:

Anubis (LGG1, 394, Edfu)

Sekhmet (variation Bast) (LGG6, 557, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Rait, Lady of the Sacred Boat (LGG4, 38, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, and Edfu)

Nekhbet, Lady of Upper Egypt (LGG4, 156, Edfu and Dendera)

Osiris, Lord of the Sacred Land (LGG2, 530, Dendera Mammisi)

Bast, Lady of Ankhtawy (variant Sekhmet) (LGG2, 740, Dendera) Festivals:

Feast of Anubis (CC2; LGG1, 391; Leitz TW 440)

"Day of offering" (all other information has been lost; TFC Akhmenu, Thutmose III) "Do not burn incense on the fire for the god today. Do not kill any snakes or birds. Do not eat birds or reptiles today. Do not listen to singing or dancing today. [It is the] day of causing the heart of the enemy of Ra, may he live, prosper, and be healthy, to suffer on account of what he has done against his children today. Anyone born today will not live." (CC; LGG2, 170; Leitz TW 46) "In the ninth hour, in which one takes up the plant originally taken up by Thoth in order to create a beautiful crown for Osiris" (AF, pSalt) (note: same entry on I Akhet 17) LA6, 1137 makes an interesting Wag-related note. It specifies that a second festival for Osiris was held on I Akhet 23, 25, 26 or 29 in dates after the New Kingdom. As

this reference is definitely related to the Wag festival, it may show the loss of time due to the lack of leap years counted since the Illahun references known from the Middle Kingdom, or it could be a note related to the idea that Wag offerings would revert from the gods to temple personnel at this time, or a note that this would be the day that the Wag festival pilgrimage boats returned from Abydos.

I Akhet 24

Chronokrater:

Nut the Great (LGG3, 535 and 539, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Shezmu, Powerful of Heart (LGG7, 120, Dendera Mammisi) Shezemtet, Lady of Mesheru (LGG7, 124, Dendera,

Dendera Mammisi, and Edfu)

Osiris, Lord of the Sacred Land (LGG2, 530; Leitz TW 440, Edfu; Leitz (2002) 153, Edfu) Festivals:

Feast of Osiris (TFC Ramses 2; CC2; Leitz TW 440) Procession of Sekhmet (LGG6, 558; Leitz TW 51)

"The Majesty of this god (Ra) sails with a favorable wind, peacefully. Behold, He settles down, His heart especially glad. Then He appears in the Mesektet boat, and then rising in the Mandjet boat. Anyone born today will die an honored one in old age." (CC)

I Akhet 25

Chronokrater:

Horus (LGG5, 231, Edfu)

Tefnut, Consort of the Gods (LGG7, 406, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

The Eldest (epithet of Ra) (LGG6, 347; Leitz TW 440) Isis, Who Makes Herself Sweet (LGG6, 409, Dendera Mammisi)

Lady of Rage (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 83; variant

She Whose Understanding Is Great, Lady of the Akhet Season, LGG2, 462, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi) Renenutet, Lady of the Perfect Food Offerings (LGG4, 149, Edfu) Festivals:

Feast of the Eldest Daughter (epithet of Isis) (CC2) Sekhmet Repels the Associates of Set (LGG6, 319; Leitz TW 51) "Do not go out of your house on any road at night. Day of Sekhmet going to the eastern district, and the repelling of the associates of Set. As for any lion whom they approach, he will pass away immediately." (CC) "Stay inside at evening." (pSallierIV, recto II.4)

"Feast of the Eldest Daughter. Do everything on it." (CC2)

I Akhet 26

Chronokrater:

Heka (LGG5, 443; Leitz TW 440, Dendera Mammisi) Great Mut, Mistress of the House of Ptah (LGG3, 251, Dendera Mammisi)

The High One (epithet of Osiris) (LGG7, 160, Dendera Mammisi)

Isis the Uniter (LGG6, 18, Dendera Mammisi; variant Sekhmet the Vigorous, LGG1, 19, Dendera Mammisi and Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of the Libation Basin (Nebet Minet; note there is a city in the 10th UE nome by this name) (LGG4, 62, Dendera and Edfu) Festivals:

Great Feast of Amun (TFC Akhmenu Thutmose III) "Day of the Eve of Amun's Festivals in Karnak" (LA, Urk IV 770, 3)

Feast of Heka (CC2; Leitz TW 440)

Day of Harsiese's Fighting with Set (CC)

"Feast of Amun and Offerings to Ptah-South-of-His-Wall" (LA, AF, TFC Akhmenu Thutmose III) "Don't do anything on this day. [It is the] Day of Horus Fighting with Set.

Everyone embraced his fellow and they were on their back

as two men. They were turned into ebony in the Duat. They spent three days and four nights this way, then Isis let a harpoon down and it fell before her son Horus. He called with a loud voice, saying "Behold, I am your son Horus." Then Isis called to the harpoon, saying "Loosen, loosen for my son Horus..." and immediately the harpoon loosened from her son Horus. Then she let down another harpoon which fell in front of Set. He called with a loud voice, saying "Behold, I am your brother Set." Then Isis called to the harpoon, saying "Be strong, be strong for my brother Set..." and immediately the harpoon was strong on her brother Set. Then this Set called to her many times, saying "Do you prefer the foreigner to the mother's brother?" Then she [...] evil [...] then she called upon the harpoon, saying "Loosen [...]." Isis called on him as her brother and the harpoon turned away. Then the majesty of Horus became angry with Isis like a panther. She placed [herself] before him." (CC; LGG5, 553; Leitz TW 56)

I Akhet 27

Chronokrater:

Nekhbet the Secret One, Lady of Heaven (LGG7, 140, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi; variant Nekhbet, LGG4, 301, Dendera Mammisi)

Khnum (LGG6, 26, Dendera Mammisi)

Hathor, Mistress of Ra's Isheru-lake (LGG4, 23, Dendera Mammisi)

Mistress of the Jubilation of the Two Lands (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 94, Dendera Mammisi and Edfu) Hathor, Lady of Foreign Lands (LGG4, 115, Dendera) Festivals:

Feast of Nekhbet (CC2; LGG4, 301; Leitz TW 440) Peace between Horus and Set (CC; LGG2, 170; Leitz TW 58)

Feast of Amun (Urk IV 770; LA; TFC Akhmenu Thutmose III) "Peace on the part of Horus with Seth. Do not kill any

ankhut-snake today. Make a holiday." (LGG2, 170; Leitz TW 58)

I Akhet 28

Chronokrater:

Khonsu (LGG5, 762, Dendera Mammisi)

Khonsu-of-Thebes (LGG5, 764, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Khonsu-in-Thebes-Neferhotep (LGG5, 765, Dendera)

Khendet ("Weaver," maidservant of Neith) (LGG5, 944;

Leitz TW 440)

Hathor, Beloved of the Two Lords (LGG3, 348, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Hathor, Lady of the Festival (LGG4, 104, Edfu) Festival: Offerings to Amun, Mut, and Khonsu of Isheru (TFC

Dendera, Edfu)

"Killing of the land of the Meshwesh (i.e., a Libyan tribe) by Ramses III." (TFC Medinet Habu Ramses III; LA2, 183)

"The gods are happy when they see the children of Nut peaceful and content. Whatever you see today is good." (CC)

I Akhet 29

Chronokrater:

Khnum, Lord of Tell Tebilla (LGG6, 26, Dendera Mammisi) Isis, Lady of the Temples (LGG4, 104, Dendera and

Dendera Mammisi)

Hathor, Lady of the Field of Ra (LGG4, 132, Edfu)

Ra-Horakhty (LGG4, 630, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi) Festivals:

Feast of Khnum (CC2; Leitz TW 442)

Appearance (Oracle) of Amunhotep I, Day 1 of 2 (AF oCairo 25275 from the Valley of the Kings; LA2, 184) "Do not kindle fire in the house, burn ointment, or go out by night."

(CC)

I Akhet 30

Chronokrater:

Sokar (LGG6, 664, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Hathor, Lady of the Followers/Retinue (LGG4, 143, Edfu)

Osiris (LGG2, 530, Dendera Mammisi)

Osiris the Great (LGG2, 542; Leitz TW 441) Festivals:

House of Ra, House of Osiris, House of Horus (Last Day of the Month)

Feast of Osiris and His Great Nine (TFC Ramses II; CC2; LGG2, 530 and 542)

Offerings to Osiris "whom the beetle attacks from the inside" (pMMA 35.9.21 Late Period, LGG5, 64)

Counting Up the Offerings to Harpocrates, Ruler of

Thrones (pMMA 35.9.21, LV, 16; LGG5, 514)

Appearance (Oracle) of Amunhotep I, Day 2 of 2 (AF oCairo 25275 from the Valley of the Kings; LA2, 184)

Libations for the Gods in their Chapels (LGG4, 382,

Dendera; some sources read II Akhet 30 for this entry)

"Anything you see today is good." (CC)

"The 'ritual for permitting the volume/amount to grow' is performed for Harsiese the Orphan today." (pMMA 35.9.21.XLII.3; Goyon, Imouthes 86; LGG6, 9) "This ritual [of the growing of the amount for Harsiese] is done for the one whose legs are struck off, without which he cannot be shown." (LGG4, 731; pMMA 35.9.21.XLII.3; Goyon, Imouthes 86)

II Akhet.

The greatest festival during II Akhet, from which the month gains its name pa en Opet (Coptic Paopi) or "the one of Opet," is the Opet Festival. While Opet is generally a lunar festival celebrated at II Akhet New Moon (the first day of



the lunar month of II Akhet). in some reians it was fixed to a civil date: the 15th day of the civil II Akhet, or the civil "Feast rof the Half Month" (LA4, 574ff). Regardless of lunar or civil reckoning, Opet was a multi-day festival, taking place over 11 days during the reign of Thutmose III in Dynasty 18, and stretching to 27 days within a century or so by the reign of Ramses III (Wolf 1931, 71). Opet is not mentioned in any

sources prior to Dynasty 18. An additional "Night of the Opet" was celebrated the evening before Opet began during the reign of Ramses III, and is attested up through the reign of Piye in Dynasty 25 (LA4, 574-579).

Opet, meaning "secret temple chamber" (Faulkner 1962, 17), refers to inner rooms of the temple of Amun-Ra at Luxor. This temple features many Opet scenes, dating to as early as Amunhotep III. Opet's name references a particular chamber that was a symbolic representation of the primeval first place of creation (Bell 1985, 177). The festival featured the presentation of the king before Amun-Ra to be rejuvenated and blessed by that god's powers. Opet was also the birthday of the Kingly Ka (the indwelling divine spirit of kingship present in every coronated pharaoh), and thus of Egypt's kingship itself (Bell 1985, 157-160; Murnane 1986, 22-25).

Sacred shrine barques containing cult images of Amun-Ra, his wife the goddess Mut, and their son the god Khonsu

were placed in the Karnak courtyard for the king to offer to, and then the barques were carried south to Luxor temple by priests, down a sacred route lined with sphinxes and rest stations that can still be walked today. Some of the procession was made by river, in boats that sailed from temple quay to temple quay. Citizens were allowed into the courtyards to receive oracles from Amun (Blackman 1998, 425) from the boat shrines, and also from the naos of the goddess Ma'at-in-Her-Opet-Festival (Murnane 1986, 578, note 25).

Interestingly, the Opet procession/parade and religious gathering to bless the people and the barques persisted even after pharaonic religion fell out of practice. Today, in the same time of year, the city of Luxor celebrates a festival in honor of the medieval Muslim holy man Sheikh Abu-el-Haggag. Several processions are held, starting from Karnak Temple and ending at Luxor Temple, where the mosque of Abu-el-Haggag sits perched atop one of Luxor Temple's hypostyle walls. A sacred cloth used to cover the sheikh's burial place in that mosque is paraded in a shrine, balanced on the back of a horse, along with other holy objects escorted by the sheikh's descendants and other city dignitaries. The people of Luxor follow these processions on horseback, on camels, or walking alongside parade floats created out of fishing boats. Inside the Luxor temple forecourt, below the mosque, people gather to pray and bless the boats and the city's children. See Wolf 1931, 75ff, for more on the Abu-el-Haggag processions.

Major Festivals

Lunar Holiday Opet festival (New Moon)

II Akhet is the month of the god Ptah (LGG3, 169; epithet South-of-His-Wall, EATIII plate 2; Medinet Habu VI, 478; epithet Lord of Ma'at, EATIII, plate 2; Catalog Ramses the Great 142; Cairo Clepsydra JE27525).

It is also the month of the goddess Shentayet ("widow," epithet of Isis, Dendera Naos in Cauville, RdE32, 53; LGG7, 105).

An ostracon (a pot shard, used like notepaper) states that "A thousand cattle are before Wer-en-Opet ("Great One of Opet," an epithet of Amun) this month." (oDem 1265, I, 6; LGG2, 426) A group of four gods named "The ones of the Thrones within the Body of Atum" protect the month (LGG4, 320, Edfu):

- 1. Lord of the Outstretched Arm (epithet of Horus of Behdet, LGG3, 582; LGG3, 181)
- 2. Wide-striding (epithet of Amun-Ra, LGG3, 181; LGG 7, 74)
- 3. Following on His Two Arms (epithet of Set?, LGG7, 74; LGG4, 731)
- 4. Whose Two Legs Are in the Heavens (epithet of Osiris, LGG4, 731; LGG7, 74) Twelve hippopotamus goddesses are listed as the month's protectors at Philae, Dendera, Sais, and on a coffin (CG29318 Cairo). They are named "Those Who Are in the Udjat-Eye, Giving Brilliance to Atum."
- 1. Sparkling One at the Front of the Valley (epithet of Hathor, LGG7, 485)
- 2. She Who is within the Udjat (LGG1, 291)
- 3. Luminous One, Foremost of Face (epithet of Aset; LGG3, 129-130)
- 4. Satis, Noble Body in the Nun (LGG6, 700)
- 5. Mistress of the Two Wings, Who is Singing (LGG4, 169)
- 6. She Who Preserves Shu in Heaven with Her Form (LGG2, 645)
- 7. Opet the Great, within the Body of Nut (LGG1, 219)
- 8. She Who is in Heaven, Leading the Gods (LGG1, 291)
- 9. Her Majesty Opet, Foremost of Akhet-season (LGG1, 219)
- 10. Perfect of Form, Who Guards What She Made (LGG4, 228)

- 11. Flame, Who Devours What Exists (LGG2, 171)
- 12. Elder Sister, Who Endows the Shrine (LGG6, 347)

Second Month of Inundation, Day 1 (II Akhet 1)

Chronokrater:

Wadjet (LGG2, 270; Leitz TW 441)

Mut (LGG3, 251, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Nehmet-Awai, Lady of Hermopolis Magna (LGG4, 119, Edfu)

Amun-Ra (epithets Lord of the Thrones of the Two Lands and Lord of Southern Behdet, LGG1, 321, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi) Festivals:

First Day of the Month

Guarding the Eye of Horus/Jubilation of the Great Nine (TFC Kom Ombo; TFC Esna; CC)

Feast of Wadjet (CC2)

Feast of Heka (LGG5, 553, Esna; TFC Esna) "After the eighth hour, causing the appearance of Horus Lord of the Two Lands, performing his rites; resting in the hypostyle hall. All the people keep vigil before him." (TFC Kom Ombo) "Guarding the Eye of Horus, on this day when Shu and Tefnut go out to judge the followers of His Majesty. Making the procession of Heka, Thoth, Khonsu; union with the disk; return." (TFC Esna) "Jubilation. The great Ennead is in festivity today. It is the day of Establishing the Heritage of the Great One (i.e., Horus)." (CC)

II Akhet 2

Chronokrater:

Montu (LGG3, 319, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Thoth (LGG7, 641, Edfu; Leitz TW 442)

Hathor, Lady of the Mansion of the Cow (LGG4, 901, Edfu) Festivals:

Appearance of Horus of Kom Ombo, Day 1 of 2 (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI)

Procession of Sobek "to see his mother Neith," Day 1 of 2

(CC)

Feast of Thoth, Day 1 of 2 (CC2)

Feast of Renenutet (LA2 Philae; Junker-Winter, Philae II, 305, 15)

Birthday of Harsiese (LA2, 477, Philae only) "Celebration in the temple of Horus Lord of Kom Ombo; causing the appearance of this god in his goodly festival of entering his town, when he has been in the northland. Performing his rites, resting in his Opets." (TFC Kom Ombo) "Appearance of Horus, the Lord of the Two Lands" (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI)

"The proceeding of the Majesty of Sais of Lower Egypt to his mother Neith, to [let her] see that he was suffering from his buttocks." (CC)

"Repetition of birth [...] great festivity in heaven. Offer to all gods. It is important to hear what I say to you." (CC)

II Akhet 3

Chronokrater:

Khonsu (LGG5, 762, Dendera Mammisi)

Lady of the Embalming House (variant Lady of the Annals of Ra's Power; variants attribute these epithets to four goddesses: Hathor, Nephthys, Heqat, and Isis in different locations; LGG4, 56, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi) Hathor, Lady of Neham (NW Delta location) (LGG4, 81) Powerful-Heart, Horus Lord of the Lake (LGG2, 12,

Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Ra, Great of Magic (LGG2, 454; Leitz TW 442; CC2) Festivals:

Procession of Sobek "to see his mother Neith," Day 2 of 2 (CC)

Festival of Thoth, Day 2 of 2 (CC; CC2; LGG5)

Festival of Sobek of Kom Ombo (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI)

Festival of Min of Coptos, Lord of the Two Lands (TFC Kom

Ombo Ptolemy VI)

Appearance of Horus of Kom Ombo (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI)

Feast of Horus, Foremost in Letopolis (LA3, 43, Edfu and Kom Ombo)

Appearance of the Standard of Haroeris (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI)

Appearance of Tasenetnofret (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI) "Thoth in the presence of Ra in the inaccessible shrine. He gave the written order of reconciliation of the Udjat; Hu and Sia were among (his) followers [...]? [...]? in his manner. If you see anything today, it will be good." (CC; CC2; LGG5) "Hu and Sia are in Ma'at's following, when Thoth undresses before Ra" (LGG5; Leitz TW 65)

II Akhet 4

Chronokrater:

She in Whom Power Is Found ("Gem[et]baues," epithet of Hathor and/or Bast and also the name of today's holiday) (LGG7, 310, Esna)

Nebtu (LGG4, 34, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, and Esna) Isis and Nephthys (as a pair, LGG4, 96, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Hathor, Lady of Khenmes (unknown location) (LGG4, 122, Edfu)

Isis, Mother of God (LGG1, 62, Dendera) Festivals: Feast of Gembaues of Esna (TFC Esna; CC; CC2; LGG7) Anubis Inspects the Embalming Tents (w'abet) (CC) "Festival of Gembaues; it is thanks to his (i.e., Anubis') power that the Eye of Horus was found on the eastern mountain. The goddess of this day is Nebtu, who has dread of hunger and thirst. Making the procession of this goddess as well as [...] in her presence; returning to her temple at nighttime." (TFC Esna) "Anyone born on this day will die of a skin rash. It is the day of the going forth of Anubis for the

inspection of this w'abet for the protection of the body of the god (i.e., Osiris)." (CC)

II Akhet 5

Chronokrater:

Isis-Hathor, Lady of the Gods, She Who Is Above the Wall (LGG5, 441, Dendera Mammisi)

Khonsu (LGG5, 762, Dendera Mammisi)

Hathor, Lady of Behbeit-el-Hagar (LGG4, 85, Edfu)

Hathor, Lady of Dendera (LGG4, 85)

Nekhbet (LGG4, 301, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi) Festivals:

Appearance of Min (TFC P6 Kom Ombo)

Procession of Hathor and Her Ennead (TFC Edfu)

Feast of Osiris and His Ennead (TFC Ramses II; CC2;

LGG2, 530; Leitz TW 442, Dendera Mammisi)

Offering in the Presence of Hedihotep and Montu (CC)

"Procession of Hathor Lady of Dendera and her ennead. All the ritual is performed. One provides food offerings for her father, the Great Nun (see LGG3, 548 and Edfu V, 349) in [...], fresh plants are put in the shrine of the creator of plants; they are put before the creator of water, without anyone seeing or hearing. To her is offered the [...] of her father; it is the phallus that fertilizes all that exists. She is called the Horus-goddess, mistress of the menat, and 'she who opens the new year." (TFC Edfu; LA2, 1036) "At the first hour, procession by Hathor Lady of Dendera and her ennead. Stopping in the great broad hall, setting out offerings for her father Nun the Great; then resting in her temple." (TFC Dendera) "Do not go out of your house on any road today. Do not have sex with a woman. It is the day of offering in the presence of Hedihotep and Montu. Anyone born on this day will die of sex." (CC; LGG5, 602) Leitz TW 68 notes that a model phallus was taken in procession to the temple of Montu in honor of Hedihotep today.

II Akhet 6

Chronokrater:

Hathor, Lady of the Farmland (LGG4, 27)

Serget (LGG6, 438, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

She Who Is in the Hearts (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG1,

290, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi) Festivals:

Sixth-Day Festival

Feast of Menhyt (TFC Esna)

Feast of Isis the Great, Lady of the Two Lands (TFC Esna; TFC Edfu)

Feast of Nekhbet (CC2; Leitz TW 442; LGG4, 301) "Feast of Menhyt; women play tambourines for her." (LGG3, 506; Esna II 55.3; TFC Esna)

"They call it (i.e., the feast of Isis) 'the beginning of making festivals.'" (TFC Esna)

"Feast of Isis the Great, Lady of the Two Lands. It is the beginning of writing for her of her annals by her mother Tefnut, concerning her brother Osiris." (TFC Edfu) "A happy day for Ra in heaven, and the gods are pacified in his presence. The Ennead is making glorification in front of the Lord of the Universe. Anyone born on this day will die in a state of drunkenness." (CC) The sixth day of any calendrical month, civil or lunar, is noted as the Suwenet, the "sixth-day festival." On the Suwenet, offerings were given to the deceased at their graves.

II Akhet 7

Chronokrater:

Shezemtet, Lady of Ankhtawy (LGG7, 124)

The Red Crown, Eye of Horus (Chronokratin and holiday both) (LGG7, 574; Leitz TW 306; LGG1, 432)

Hathor, Lady of the Hill-of-the-Wadi (LGG4, 6, Edfu)

Hathor, Lady of Cows (LGG4, 21, Dendera; variant Lady of

Aphroditopolis, LGG4, 160, Dendera Mammisi) Sekhmet, Lady of Khefa (unknown place) (LGG4, 118, Edfu) Horus, Pillar (ukh) of Cusae (LGG2, 527, Dendera Mammisi) Festivals:

Appearance of Tasenetnofret and Hathor, Day 1 of 4 (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI)

Appearance of Min, Day 1 of 4 (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI) Feast of the Eye of Horus/The Red One (the Red Crown) (CC2; LGG1, 432; Leitz TW 306; LGG7, 574)

Festival of Sobek, Lord of Kom Ishqau (LGG3, 609; Leitz TW 432) "Appearing of Tasenetnofret and Hathor; resting at their temple. Appearing of the Lord of the Two Lands (i.e., Min), resting at the mammisi, until Day 10." (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI) "Do not do anything today. The going of Ra [...] to the countries which he created in order to kill the children of Bedesh (i.e., Apophis), and the return of Ra on this day [...] his neck. Then he killed them before his ennead. Anyone born on this day will die in foreign lands." (CC)

II Akhet 8

Chronokrater:

Tefnut (LGG7, 406, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi; variant Wadjet, Lady of the Two Lands, LGG2, 270)

Hathor, Lady of the Obsidian Knife (LGG4, 167, Edfu) Sekhmet, Lady of the Borders of the Places (LGG4, 171, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

"Weeper in the Necropolis" (decan spirit) (CC2; Leitz TW 442, Edfu; LGG4, 670, Dendera Mammisi) Festival: Procession of Hathor (TFC Edfu; LA2, 1036)

"Procession of Hathor [...] stopping in the barque sanctuary, making an offering of bread, beer, oxen, fowl, and every good thing." (TFC Edfu)

"Anything you see today will be good." (CC)

"Favorable to do everything on it." (CC2)

II Akhet 9

Chronokrater:

Hathor, the Menat of Horus (LGG3, 299, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Neith (LGG3, 511, Dendera)

Tefnut, Daughter of Ra (variant Neith, LGG7, 406, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Hathor, Lady of the Mansion of Mehyt (8th UE nome) (LGG4, 101, Edfu) Festivals:

Navigation of the Barque of Horus of Behdet (TFC Edfu) Navigation of the Barque of Haroeris (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI)

Feast of Khnum (CC2) "Jubilation in the heart of Ra [...] His Ennead is in festivity; all enemies are overthrown on this day. Anyone born on this day will die at a good old age." (CC) "Feast of Khnum. It is favorable to do anything." (CC2)

II Akhet 10

Chronokrater:

Menhyt (LGG3, 306, Edfu)

Horus, Lord of Stomping (variant Horus Lord of Heaven, LGG3, 662, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Atum (LGG7, 412, Edfu)

Nekhbet, Who Tightens the Bow(strings) (LGG7, 539, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Isis, Lady of Heaven (LGG4, 49, Dendera) Festivals:

Appearance of Bast of Ankhtawy ("Life-of-Two-Lands," the Memphis necropolis) (CC)

Feast of Bennen-Atum (cosmic snake; CC2; LGG2, 802; Leitz TW 442)

II Akhet 11

Chronokrater:

Montu (LGG3, 319, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)Tefnut

(alternate line reads Montu, LGG7, 406, Dendera) Sekhmet, Lady of the Mehen-Snake (LGG4, 66, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Sekhmet, Lady of the City of Her Lake (LGG4, 70, Edfu) Festival:

Feast of Duamutef (LGG7, 516; Leitz TW 443; CC2)

"Fixing the front piece at the prow of the barque on this day. Life and prosperity are before the august [... (i.e., Ra)] which is established behind him. Everything is good today." (CC) Today and the next three days are dedicated to each of the Sons of Horus, protector-gods of the deceased's organs.

II Akhet 12

Chronokrater:

Hathor, Who Glorifies the Two Lords (LGG6, 157, Dendera Mammisi; variant Hathor, Who Is Effective for the Two Lords, LGG1, 32, Dendera)

Ra-Horakhty (LGG4, 630, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi) "If She Comes, She Is Great" (epithet of Mut, LGG1, 152, Edfu) Festival:

Feast of Qebshenuef (CC2; LGG7, 181; Leitz TW 443)

"It is the day on which he who rebelled against his lord raised his head. His (Harsiese's) utterance has annihilated the speech of Set, son of Nut. He who conspired against his lord is beheaded." (CC)

II Akhet 13

Chronokrater:

Imsety, Son of Ra (sic) (LGG1, 368, Dendera Mammisi) Hathor, Lady of the House (LGG4, 53, Edfu)

Hathor, Lady of the Twin Mountains (LGG4, 169, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Isis the Great, Mother of God (LGG2, 478, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi) Festivals:

Feast of Imsety (CC2; LGG1, 368; Leitz TW 443) Feast of Bast of Bubastis (LA2, 629, Late Period)

"Satisfying the heart of the great gods with a feast, and saluting their lord who overthrew the enemies. They will exist no more." (CC)

II Akhet 14

Chronokrater:

Harsaphes (LGG5, 381, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi) Mut, Who Pervades the Two Lands (LGG5, 760, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Bast, Lady of Khabas (city near Memphis) (LGG4, 115, Edfu) Festivals:

Feast of Hapy (CC2; Leitz TW 443)

Procession of Khnum-Ra (TFC Esna)

Horus Receives the White Crown (CC) "Feast today. Making the procession of Khnum-Ra, Lord of the Countryside and his Ennead. Union with the disk; return; offerings on the altar." (TFC Esna) "It is the day of receiving the white crown by the Majesty of Horus. His Ennead is in great festivity. Offer to your local gods, and pacify the spirits." (CC) "The ancestors are set free today and receive offerings on IV Akhet 30." (LGG1, 41; Leitz TW 82 and 191)

II Akhet 15

Chronokrater:

Ha'a "The Jubilating One" (form of Osiris) (LGG5, 33, Dendera)

Hathor, the Female Sovereign (LGG5, 536, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Hathor, Lady of Bakhu (the eastern mountain) (LGG4, 45, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Hathor, Lady of Kharu (Syria?) (LGG4, 115, Edfu) Isis (LGG1, 62; Leitz TW 443) Festivals:

Feast of Isis (CC2)

Appearance of Ra, "at night, with His followers" (CC) Procession of Tefnut, Daughter of Ra (LGG6, 107; Leitz TW 83)

Feast of the Half-Month "Do not go out of your house in the evening. Going forth of the Majesty of Ra at nightfall with his followers. If any person sees them, he will pass away immediately." (CC)

II Akhet 16

Chronokrater:

Tefnut (LGG7, 406, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of the Beautiful Hill (LGG4, 6, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Onuris (LGG1, 378, Dendera Mammisi)

The Red One, Eye of Horus (the Red Crown) (LGG1, 432; Leitz TW 442)

Anat (LGG2, 174, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi) Festivals:

Feast of Neith (TFC Esna)

Feast of Osiris and His Ennead (TFC Ramses II; CC) Feast of the Eye of Horus (CC2) "Feast of Neith. Feast of the Eye of Horus, Shu brings it back." (TFC Esna)

"...feast of Osiris Onnophris. The gods who are in his retinue are in great festivity; the Ennead, their hearts being pleased. If you see anything on this day, it will be good." (CC) "Feast of the Eye of Horus. Do everything on this day." (CC2)

II Akhet 17

Chronokrater:

Thoth, Lord of Hermopolis Magna (LGG3, 716, Dendera; variant Thoth, Opener of Ma'at, LGG7, 641, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Hathor, Who Permits Horus to Stand/Fight (LGG4, 33,

Dendera Mammisi and Kom Ombo; LGG2, 195, Dendera) Festivals:

Feast of Khesa ("the unanointed one," form of Osiris) (CC2) Feast of 17-23 Paenopet (II Akhet's Late Egyptian name), Day 1 of 7 (CC)

Feast of Clothing (also held on II Akhet 27, LA2, 175; Niuserre MK) "Smelling [...] on this day by the great Ennead and the little Ennead, who come forth from the Nun. Offer up bread and beer. Burn incense to Ra, and an invocation offering to the spirits. It is important, so that your words may be heard by the gods of your town." (CC) "Feast of Khesa (i.e., Osiris) on this good day." (CC2)

The Festival of 17-23 Paenopet marks both the halfway point of the Inundation season, and the Autumnal Equinox, when the Wandering Goddess, Who began her trek southward at the Summer Solstice, has "entered Nubia," and the sunlight of each day noticeably decreases in the northern hemisphere where Egypt is.

II Akhet 18

Chronokrater:

Lady of Awakening (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 89, Dendera Mammisi and Kom Ombo)

Hathor, Lady of the Tjenenet-Shrine (LGG4, 165, Edfu) Isis the Watchful (LGG4, 719, Dendera)

Amun-Ra (variant Amun-Ra, Lord of the Thrones of the Two Lands) (LGG1, 321, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi) Festivals:

Feast of Khnum and Anukis (TFC Elephantine Thutmose III; LA2, 182; AF; LA1, 334)

Feast of Meret of Hur-weret (CC2)

Feast of 17-23 Paenopet, Day 2 of 7 (CC) "Do not do anything on this day. It is the day of inspecting the w'abet, while he was making many transformations in the sight of all men [...] he found [...] being examined to care for the

burial (lit., "uniting with the earth"), then he started crying, then he repeated it as he had seen; and then, they started weeping aloud. They placed their hands on their heads; the gods, males and females likewise." (CC)

II Akhet 19

Chronokrater:

Nebtu (LGG4, 34, Dendera; variant Lady of the City, LGG4, 70)

Hathor, Lady of the Walls (LGG4, 124, Edfu and Kom Ombo) Banebdjedet (LGG2, 683, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi) Festivals:

Feast of Ptah, Lord of the Workshop (CC2; LGG3, 698; Leitz TW 443)

Nun Establishes the Djed (CC; LGG7, 48; Leitz TW 89) Processions of Hathor (until III Akhet 3) (TFC Edfu; LA2, 1036)

Feast of 17-23 Paenopet, Day 3 of 7 (CC) "Procession of the goddess and Her Ennead. Her ritual is performed at the river-quays until III Akhet 3, making 15 days, after which Inundation is observed and announced. Then, stopping at the great place." (TFC Edfu; LA2, 1036) "It is the day of the going forth of Nun to set the noble one (the Djed pillar of Osiris-Ptah) in his place, in order to give compensation to the gods who are in the presence of the noble one." (CC; LGG7, 48; Leitz TW 89)

II Akhet 20

Chronokrater:

Harsiese (LGG5, 231 and 283, Dendera)

Harsiese and Set (together) (LGG5, 231; LGG6, 692; Leitz TW 443; Edfu)

Horus the Great (LGG5, 246, Dendera)

Horus of Behdet (LGG5, 254, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of the A'aru Tree (LGG4, 32, Dendera,

Dendera Mammisi, and Kom Ombo)

Sekhmet, Lady of Sahret (unknown location) (LGG4, 131,

Edfu and Kom Ombo) Festivals:

Feast of Harsiese and Set (CC2)

Feast of 17-23 Paenopet, Day 4 of 7 (CC)

"It is the day of giving the compensation in the presence of Ra; and the conducting by Thoth likewise; it is making an example of it in overthrowing the rebels against (lit., of) their lord. Then they carried off Set, son of Nut, and they shall be underneath. So said the gods." (CC; Leitz TW 443)

II Akhet 21

Chronokrater:

Atum (LGG7, 412, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Lady of the Flood (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 5,

Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, and Kom Ombo)

Mut, Lady of What She Loves (alternate reading: Lady of Her Canals) (LGG4, 64, Edfu)

Neith, Lady of the Thrones (LGG4, 123, Edfu and Kom Ombo) Festivals:

Procession of Meret (Neith-Meret) (LGG3, 156; Leitz TW 92)

Feast of 17-23 Paenopet, Day 5 of 7 (CC)

"It is the day of the going forth of the Upper Egyptian Neith (i.e., Meret) in the presence of the Majesty of Atum-Ra-Horakhty, may he live and be prosperous. It is her eyes that guided Thoth in appearing and praising the Upper Egyptian Goddess." (See LGG3, 516, where she is called Southern Neith and Southern Neith-Meret; Leitz TW 92)

II Akhet 22

Chronokrater:

Iah (LGG1, 146, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi; LGG5, 492, Dendera Mammisi)

Hathor, Lady of Dendera (LGG4, 11, Dendera and Kom Ombo)

Sekhmet, Whose Heart Is Greater Than Her Father's (LGG2, 483, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, and Kom Ombo)

Festivals:

Feast of 17-23 Paenopet, Day 6 of 7 (CC)

"Do not bathe on this day. It is the day of cutting the tongue of the enemy of Sobek, son of Neith." (CC)

II Akhet 23

Chronokrater:

Amun(-Ra) the Ruler (LGG5, 492, Dendera Mammisi) Mut, Lady of Heaven (LGG3, 251, Dendera Mammisi) Serqet, Mistress of Silence (LGG6, 438, Dendera Mammisi and Kom Ombo; variant Hathor, Mistress of Silence LGG4, 137, Dendera and Edfu)

Hathor, Lady of the Great Sycamore (LGG4, 79, Edfu and Kom Ombo) Festival:

Feast of 17-23 Paenopet, Day 7 (final) (CC)

"Anyone born today will die of a crocodile." (CC; LGG3, 434; Leitz TW 93)

II Akhet 24

Chronokrater:

Horus, Lord of Stomping in Rosetjau (variant Horus, Lord of Stomping in Heaven) (LGG3, 663, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Hathor, Lady of the Great Sycamore (LGG4, 79, Edfu and Kom Ombo)

She Who Is in the Great Lake (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG1, 295, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, Edfu, and Kom Ombo) Festivals:

Offering-Presentations on the Lake of Anubis (eventually merged with the Festival of Gembaues and its procession of Setem priests; see festival notes from II Akhet 4, also given as Gembaues in some sources; LA, Middle Kingdom celebration) "Do not go out of your house [today] in any wind until Ra sets. It is the day of the going forth of the

butchers (or executioners) from Sais of the Delta to look for the children of Bedesh, when he is in the ocean. If any lion glances at them, he will die immediately." (CC; LGG5, 230; LGG3, 423; Leitz TW 102)

II Akhet 25

Chronokrater:

Isis, Foremost of the Divine Tent (LGG5, 929 and LGG1, 62, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, and Kom Ombo)

Ptah, Lord of Ankhtawy (LGG3, 169, Dendera Mammisi)

Hathor, Lady of Bia ("miraculous," a name for Egypt)

(LGG4, 46, Edfu and Kom Ombo)

Hathor, Lady of Stomping in Rosetjau (variant Hathor, Lady of Stomping in Heaven; counterpart to yesterday's Chronokrat) (LGG4, 76, Dendera)

Great Isis, Mother of God (LGG2, 478, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi) Festivals:

Feast of Ptah, Lord of Memphis, South of His Wall (TFC Esna; LA2, 175 Ramses II attribution)

Feast of Heka (TFC Esna; LGG5, 553) "Do not go out today on any road. It is the day of finding the children of Bedesh wrapped in a skin on their sides [...] in his charge. [If any lion] looks for the gods today, he will suffer the trampling of a bull until he dies." (LGG6, 40; CC; wordplay on Hery-ka "under the steer," an epithet of Horus, see Leitz TW 102)

II Akhet 26

Chronokrater:

Tayet (LGG7, 360, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, Edfu, and Kom Ombo)

Hathor, Lady of Saturation (floodwater) (LGG4, 124, Edfu and Kom Ombo)

Iah (LGG1, 147, Dendera)

Ptah, Who Is in the Temple (LGG1, 274, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi) Festivals:

Feast of Sokar (TFC Illahun MK)

"Opening and Sealing the Palace Windows of Busiris" (CC)

"Do not put the foundation of a house [down today]. Do not put a ship in a shipyard (i.e., begin building). Do not order any work. Do not do any work on this day at all." (CC)

Chronokrater:

II Akhet 27

Hathor, the Staring One (variant Sekhmet the Devourer) (LGG7, 301, Dendera Mammisi and Kom Ombo; LGG2, 411, Dendera)

Isis, Lady of Lamentation (LGG4, 93, Edfu and Kom Ombo) Amunet the Cow (LGG1, 537, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

[Horus], Lord of Athribis (Leitz (2002) 151, Edfu) Festivals: Feast of Montu of Medamud and Harendotes, Day 1 of 2 (TFC Dynasty 13 Theban court accounts; AF Dynasty 13 Theban court accounts; Scharff, ÄZ 57 (1922)) Feast of Clothing (also held on II Akhet 17; TFC Niuserre) "Do not go out. Do not give your back to any work until the sun sets. As to anyone born today, he will die by a snake." (CC; LGG5, 127; Leitz TW 106)

II Akhet 28

Chronokrater:

Khonsu-in-Thebes (LGG5, 764, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Khonsu-in-Thebes-Neferhotep (LGG5, 765, Dendera) Hathor, Ornamented (or Causing Ornamentation) from the Beginning (LGG6, 56, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, and Kom Ombo; variant Ma'at, Ornamented from the Beginning, LGG6, 596, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of the Eldest Ones (LGG4, 128, Edfu and Kom Ombo) Festivals:

Feast of Montu of Medamud and Harendotes, Day 2 of 2 (TFC Dynasty 13 Theban court accounts; AF Dynasty 13 Theban court accounts; Scharff, ÄZ 57 (1922)) Feast of Satis and Anukis (TFC Elephantine Thutmose III;

LA, AF multiple days, lost; LA2, 182; LA1, 334) Feast of Menhyt-Nebtu (TFC Esna) "Feast of Menhyt-Nebtu; making the procession of this goddess to make the countryside green; accomplishing the rites of return in the court of appearance." (TFC Esna; LGG3, 306; Esna II, 55.3) "If you see anything today, it will be good." (CC)

II Akhet 29

Chronokrater:

Hathor, Lady of the Incense-Grains (LGG4, 122, Edfu and Kom Ombo)

Ra-Horakhty (LGG4, 630, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi) "Anyone born on this day will die an honored one among his people." (CC)

II Akhet 30

Chronokrater:

Sokar (LGG6, 664, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi) Hathor (variant epithets: Lady of the Hill of the Shield, LGG4, 6, Dendera; Lady of the Hill of Creation, LGG4, 7, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi; Lady of the Mansion of the Flood/Great of Flood, LGG4, 102, Edfu and Kom Ombo) Festivals:

House of Ra, House of Osiris, House of Horus (Last Day of the Month)

Feast of Horus as the Winged Disk (TFC Edfu)

Procession of Harsomtus, Lord of Khadi, Day 1 of 3 (TFC Dendera)

Feast of Horus the Great Scepter (LGG5, 599, Edfu) Libations for the Gods in Their Chapels (LGG4, 382, Dendera; some sources read I Akhet 30 for this entry) "Feast of the great luminary who overthrows his enemies" (TFC Edfu, winged disk ref) "Procession by Harsomtus Lord of Khadi to the waystation, pouring libation for the gods in Khadi. Performing all the rites also done on I Akhet 10, offerings being sent there. Total, three days of feast." (TFC Dendera) "Last day [...] by Nun, father of the gods; the land is in festivity on this day. House of Ra, House of Osiris, House of Horus." (CC)



III Akhet

During the Middle
Kingdom, the full name of
the month of III Akhet was
Khenet-Hathor, "The
Voyage of Hathor."
Shortened to just Hathor by
the New Kingdom, the
month name eventually
became Athyr in Coptic
(Allen, 2000, 108; Alliot
1949, 225). III Akhet is
named for a Hathor festival
that takes place through
the entire month (Days 130). The first mention of

this festival occurs in a Fifth Dynasty festival calendar of Niuserre; there are also other Old Kingdom references to it in numerous tombs.

At Dendera, Hathor's temple city, the eponymous national festival was hosted, where her icon was placed in a shrine called "The One Who Exalts Beauties" (Cauville 1993, 160). Hathor's icon and shrine were then themselves nested in a shrine atop her sacred barque called "Great of Love" (Cauville 1993, 106). This sacred barque for iconic processions, as befits a goddess of love and beauty, is

described as sumptuous and elegant: "It is like the sky filled with stars, and is a great marvel to see when it shines with the grace of the presence of the Golden One in the House of Gold" (Cauville 1993, 160, note 14).

Horus, Hathor's consort, joined the procession in a barque called "Master of Love." Her father, Ra-Horakhty, also came along in a barque called "The One Who Loves the Union [of Hathor and Horus]," and Hathor's entire entourage, including the goddesses Sekhmet, Bast, Shezmetet ("mistress of flame," a form of Sekhmet), Nekhbet, Neith, Mut, Wadjet, Serget, and Tjanenet ("mistress of nourishment, a form of Hathor) (Cauville 1999, 161-162) was gathered for parts of this major festival. The barques were carried in procession on the arms of the priests and into the temple courtyard with many offerings. Then, all the bargues were lowered into to the temple's sacred lake, towed across the lake and back, and returned to the temple. After the completion of the procession and navigation ceremonies, public banquets were held in Hathor's honor. These rituals were repeated throughout the entire month of III Akhet, as well as alongside additional related festivals.

On the 20th day of the month, Bast, Lady of Ankhtawy (Life of the Two Lands, the Memphite necropolis at Saqqara) made an appearance as part of the Hathor festival in Lower Egypt. As the "Northern Hathor," Bast carried Hathor's blessing into the Memphite necropolis for all of the dead. Toward the end of the month, between days 24 and 28, the king departed from the Hathor festivals to celebrate the holiday of "Horus Welcoming the Nile" (Alliot 1949, 278-279). The king journeyed south to Edfu and recorded the flood level there, and then conducted the rituals of establishing the Djed pillar (an image of Osiris and thus of growth) at the festival's end. This is a very old holiday. During Horus Welcoming the Nile, a barque procession of

Horus visited the temple of the royal ancestors at Edfu as early as the 14th Dynasty in the Middle Kingdom (Alliot 1949, 208; Wilson 1997, 404). In Dendera, on II Akhet 19 just before the king departed, Hathor and her Ennead went to the royal barque chapel "for the ceremony of greeting the Nile" (El-Sabban 2000, 174; Alliot 1949, 225).

In addition to being the deity who receives the longest festival in the month, the protective goddess of III Akhet is also Hathor (Poo, 1995; LGG5, 76)

There are five deities/spirits placed over the month, called "Those of the Thrones In the Body of Shu" (LGG1, 279; Edfu V, 11).

- 1. Horus the Heavenly (LGG1, 604; Vernus 1981, 119; LGG1, 279, Edfu)
- 2. The Lord of Uniqueness
- 3. Prominent Face (LGG2, 827)
- 4. The Rival (or The One Who Hates)
- 5. The Female Sovereign

Major Holidays

- 1-30 Festival of the Voyage of Hathor (all month)
- 20 Appearance of Bast, Lady of Ankhtawy
- 24-28 Horus Welcomes the Nile

Third Month of Inundation, Day 1 (III Akhet 1)

Chronokrater:

Sekhmet (LGG6, 557, Dendera; variant Bast LGG2, 740) Hathor, Lady of the Primordial Time (LGG4, 51, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, and Kom Ombo)

Osiris (LGG2, 530, Dendera Mammisi) Festivals:

First Day of the Month

Appearance of Harsiese (to Day 30) (TFC Kom Ombo)Feast of Hathor-Nut and the Members of Heaven (to Day 30) (TFC Dendera small calendar; CC; LA Niuserre; Leitz TW 109)

Feast of Sekhmet and the Standards of Khnum, Neith, and

Nebtu (TFC Esna)

Procession of Harsomtus, Lord of Khadi, Day 2 of 3 (TFC Dendera) The major festival of Hathor begins today and lasts the entire month at Dendera. At Kom Ombo, an appearance of the god Harsiese also takes place every day of this month.

III Akhet 2

Chronokrater:

Neith, Who Protects the Land (LGG6, 139, Dendera; LGG4, 124, Kom Ombo)

Nebtu (LGG4, 34, Edfu and Kom Ombo)

Onuris (LGG1, 378, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Festivals:

Procession of Harsomtus, Lord of Khadi, Day 3 of 3 (TFC Dendera)

Return of Wadjet from Buto to the Gods of the Chapel (CC; LGG4, 549; Leitz TW 109)

Return of Mut (AF, Piye Victory Stela) "Return of Wadjet from Buto to the Gods of the Chapel, in order to permit throwing (?) around the place of the gods' jubilation." (CC; Leitz TW 109)

III Akhet 3

Chronokrater:

Dedun (Nubian god) (LGG7, 579, Dendera Mammisi) Sekhmet (LGG6, 557, Dendera)

Wenut, Lady of Hermopolis (LGG4, 41, Edfu and Kom Ombo)

Mut-Nebtu, Lady of the Annals of the Power of Ra (variant Lady of the Embalming House) (LGG4, 152, Dendera) Festival:

Festival of Wadjet (LGG2, 271)

"[...] by the good god (Osiris). If you see anything today, it will be good." (CC)

Today is one of five festivals in honor of Wadjet (III Akhet 3, I Peret 2(22?), I Peret 20 outgoing (khenenet), II Peret 26 and II Peret 9) (Thutmose III Stela from Buto in Fs Winter, 47-48).

III Akhet 4

Chronokrater:

Horus Who Is Over the Year (LGG5, 371, Dendera Mammisi)

Tefnut (LGG7, 406, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of Khu (unknown city) (LGG4, 117, Edfu and Kom Ombo)

She Who Judges for Her Father (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG2, 359, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, and Kom Ombo) Festival:

Founding at Coptos (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI)

"Founding at Coptos. Horus of Kom Ombo visits the temple of Min." (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI)

III Akhet 5

Chronokrater:

Nut, the White Cow (LGG5, 738, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, and Kom Ombo)

Hathor, Lady of Fear (LGG4, 77, Edfu and Kom Ombo)

Hathor, Lady of Offerings (LGG4, 111, Dendera)

Isis, She Who Completes Her Forms (LGG2, 180, Dendera)

Ra's Sacred Barque (LGG2, 278, Dendera Mammisi) NO FESTIVALS TODAY

"Do not keep fire burning in the house today. Do not look at it. It is the day of blaming [...] by the majesty of this god (Nun)." (CC)

III Akhet 6

Chronokrater:

Neith (LGG3, 611, Dendera)

Isis, Lady of Coptos (LGG4, 85)

Neith, Opener of the Ways (Neith-Wepwawet) (LGG2, 359,

Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, and Kom Ombo)

Osiris (LGG2, 530, Dendera Mammisi) Festivals:

Sixth-Day Festival

Encouraging the Gods of the Two Lands (CC)

"The encouragement (lit., uniting of the hearts) of the gods of the Two Lands today [...] encouragement of [...] the entire land." (CC)

The sixth day of any calendrical month, civil or lunar, is noted as the Suwenet, the "sixth-day festival." On the Suwenet, offerings were given to the deceased at their graves.

III Akhet 7

Chronokrater:

Nut (LGG3, 535, Dendera)

Tefnut, Lady of the Angry Glance (LGG4, 1, Dendera Mammisi and Kom Ombo; variant Lady of the Primordial Time, LGG4, 51, Dendera)

Lady of the River (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 24, Edfu and Kom Ombo) Festival:

Birthday of Soknopaios (form of Sobek) (LA5, 1076)

"If you see anything today, it will be good." (CC)

III Akhet 8

Chronokrater:

Neith, Mistress of the Primeval Hill (LGG4, 6, Edfu and Kom Ombo)

Ra-Horakhty (LGG4, 630, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi) Wadjet (LGG2, 270, Dendera) (variant Powerful One,

epithet of Hathor, LGG2, 579, Dendera Mammisi and Kom Ombo) Festival:

Procession of Isis (CC)

"Isis goes forth, her heart being pleased today, the heritage being established upon her son Horus." (CC)

III Akhet 9

Chronokrater:

Hathor, Mistress of Forms (LGG4, 19, Dendera Mammisi; variant Hathor, Great of Form, LGG1, 534, Dendera) Hathor, Lady of Sunbeams (LGG4 32, Edfu and Kom Ombo) Osiris (LGG2, 530, Dendera) Festival:

Feast of Amun, Day 1 of 2 (TFC Elephantine Thutmose III; AF; Urk IV, 824)

"Do not go outside on any road from your house today. Do not let light fall on your face until Ra sets in his horizon. It is the day of blaming the great ones [...] who were in Ra's presence." (LGG2, 472; CC; Leitz TW 114)

III Akhet 10

Chronokrater:

Harsaphes (LGG5, 381, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi) Foremost in Her Protection (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG5, 910, Dendera; variant Foremost of Her Ka, LGG5, 931, Dendera Mammisi)

Hathor, Lady of the Complete Ones (LGG4, 32, Edfu) Festivals:

Feast of Amun, Day 2 of 2 (TFC Elephantine Thutmose III; Urk IV, 824)

Feast of Neith and Tithoes (LA6, 602; Esna V, 11) "Half-bad, half-good; feast of Neith and his (sic) son (sic) Tithoes. (TFC Esna; LGG7, 380; Esna II, 55; Esna V, 11; LA6, 602) "Great rejoicing in heaven. The crew of Ra are in peace. His Ennead is cheerful (lit., shouts loudly). Those in the fields are working." (LGG1, 259; Leitz TW 116; CC)

III Akhet 11

Chronokrater:

Horus, Lord of Stomping (LGG3, 662, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Seshat-Seven-Horned, Lady of the Walls (LGG4, 23, Edfu) Hathor, Lady of Cereals (LGG4, 37, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi) NO FESTIVALS TODAY

"If you see anything, it will be good." (CC)

III Akhet 12

Chronokrater:

Shu (LGG7, 35, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Seshat-Seven-Horned, Lady of the Walls (LGG4, 23, Edfu)

(note: two days in a row)

Isis, the Great Lady (LGG4, 42, Dendera) Festival:

Pacification of the Hearts of the Gods, Wherever They Are (CC)

"Pacification of the hearts of the gods, wherever they are, the Udjat-Eye being on Ra's head. Fixing [...] for the gods. Raising those who are upon their seats." (CC) "Procession (return) of the god of the festival of Amun, with his Ennead and the processional barque of Ramses III." (AF Medinet Habu calendar, 857)

III Akhet 13

Chronokrater:

Hathor the Embracer (LGG6, 571, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of Offerings (LGG4, 110, Edfu)

Astarte (LGG2, 174, Dendera; variant Anat, LGG2, 212, Dendera)

Babai (form of Set) (LGG2, 737, Dendera Mammisi) Festival:

"Osiris Sails to Abydos"/Neshmet Arrives in Abydos (TFC Ramses II; CC)

"Neshmet is brought to Abydos; the dead jubilate." (TFC Ramses II)

"It is the day of cutting into pieces [...] ferrymen on the river for not ferrying over the confederates of Set [...] any [...] against this Neshmet-boat of Osiris that is sailing upstream to Abydos, to the great town of Onnophris. Behold, he is transformed into a baby in the arms of his nurse, giving gold as a reward to 'Anty (LGG4, 243; Leitz TW 119) as a fare, saying, 'May you ferry me over to the West.' Then he received it from him [...] because of announcing the divine limbs. Behold, the confederates were following him like a swarm of reptiles. Then they recognized these gods, while Set entered into the embalming booth [...] to announce the god's limbs. Then they (i.e., Osiris' limbs) became fresh [...] he came [...] into small cattle (i.e., humans). Then these gods made a terrible massacre of the enemy of 'Anty to this day. One marveled at the small cattle in the West. One marveled at transforming the small cattle into flocks until this day." (CC) This feast is preparation for upcoming festivals at Abydos, Osiris' holy city. These festivals, sometimes called "mysteries," begin with the ritual reenactment of the death of Osiris and lamentations of his sisters Isis and Nephthys, and culminate in Osiris becoming king of the dead and his son Horus becoming king of Egypt. The next weeks include festivals celebrating various parts of this sacred drama. While the official Mysteries of Osiris are not until IV Akhet, this group of ceremonies is a trial run honoring Osiris, while the "official" Mysteries celebrate Sokar-Osiris.

III Akhet 14

Chronokrater:

Neith (LGG3, 511, Dendera)

Thoth, Lord of Hermopolis (LGG7, 641, Dendera Mammisi; Leitz 2002, 151, Edfu)

Nekhbet, Lady of the Wereret-Crown (LGG4, 42, Edfu) Isis, Lady of Growth (LGG4, 90, Dendera) NO FESTIVALS TODAY

"Do not do anything today. The heart of the gods is sad because of that which has been done by the enemy of 'Anty. Anyone born on this day will die of [...]" (CC)

III Akhet 15

Chronokrater:

Horus (LGG5, 231, Dendera)

Horus of Behdet (LGG5, 254, Dendera)

Khonsu (LGG5, 762, Dendera Mammisi)

Mut the Great, Lady of Tell-el-Balamun (LGG4, 128,

Dendera; variant Isis in one location)

Isis, Lady of the Snake Dens (LGG4, 164, Edfu)

Isis (variant Hathor the Great, Lady United with Behdet)

(LGG1, 62, Dendera) Festival:

Feast of the Half-Month

"Inspecting by Banebdjedet [...] in the sacred temple." (LGG2, 684; CC; Leitz TW 123)

III Akhet 16

Chronokrater:

Thoth, Lord of Hermopolis Magna (LGG3, 716, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Hathor, Lady of Order (LGG4, 132, Edfu)

Hathor, Lady of the Ka of Horus (LGG4, 148, Dendera) Festival:

Appearance of Thoth (CC; LGG2, 472; Leitz TW 124)

"Appearance of the great ones in Hermopolis Magna. Bringing of the ibis [...] establishing [...] in Hermopolis Magna. A happy day of eternity and forever." (CC; LGG2, 472; Leitz TW 124)

III Akhet 17

Chronokrater:

Sekhmet, She Who Grasps (LGG3, 371, Dendera)

The Jubilating Protectress (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG3, 455, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of the Lake of Khab (unknown location) (LGG4, 139, Edfu) Festivals:

Lamentations of Isis and Nephthys at Sais (CC; TFC Ramses II)

Landing of the Greater and Lesser Enneads at Abydos (TFC Ramses II; CC; LGG2, 475; Leitz TW 126) "Landing of the great ones, the upper and lower ones at Abydos; loud weeping and wailing by Isis and Nephthys, her sister, over Onnophris in Sais. It is heard in Abydos." (CC)

III Akhet 18

Chronokrater:

Sekhmet, Lady of the Tent (LGG4, 131, Edfu; variant Sekhmet, Lady of the Divine Booth, LGG4, 132, Dendera) Khonsu (LGG5, 762, Dendera) NO FESTIVALS TODAY "It is the day of the strife by the children of Geb, Set and sister [...] Do not approach any road for making a journey today." (CC)

III Akhet 19

Chronokrater:

Sekhmet, Lady of Heaven, Mistress of Ankhtawy (LGG6, 557, Dendera)

Isis-Hathor of the Heden-plants, Lady of the Forefront (Shore?) of Buto (LGG4, 44, Edfu)

Hathor, Lady of the House of Women (LGG4, 56, Dendera) Festivals:

Oracle Procession of Amunhotep I (LGG1, 333; oLouvre 694/2: KRI VII, 284, 5)

"Feast of the Red Bandage (?)" (TFC Esna) "The children of Bedesh [...] do not sail downstream or upstream on the

river. Do not navigate on any boat today." (CC; LA6, 155 refers to the children of Bedesh, who are demon-servants of Apophis, as "storms.")

III Akhet 20

Chronokrater:

Neith (LGG3, 511, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of Sharing/Dividing Up (LGG4, 58, Dendera) Festivals:

Procession of Bast-Lady-of-Ankhtawy in front of Ra (CC; LGG2, 740; Leitz TW 134)

Feast of Hathor of the Heden-plants (TFC Illahun MK; LGG4, 93, Edfu) "Bast, Lady of Ankhtawy, comes before Ra, she being angry. The god could not stand in her vicinity. Anyone born on this day will die of the plague of the year." (CC; LGG2, 740; Leitz TW 134)

III Akhet 21

Chronokrater:

Shezemtet (LGG7, 124, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of the Swallow (bird) (LGG4, 63, Edfu)

Osiris (LGG2, 530 and Leitz (2002) 153, Edfu) Festivals:

Feast of Shu, Son of Ra (CC)

Day of Renenutet and Neith in the Evening-Barque (CC)

Feast of Hathor of Dendera, Day 1 of 2 (LGG5, 76,

Dendera)

III Akhet 22

Chronokrater:

Hathor, Lady of Thousands (LGG4, 114, Edfu)

Wadjet, Mistress of the Two Lands (variant Mehyt) (LGG2, 270) Festivals:

Feast of Heka (TFC Esna; LGG5, 553, Esna)

Feast of Hathor of Dendera, Day 2 of 2 (LGG5, 76,

Dendera)

"Raising Ma'at in order to see Ra, when she is summoned by the gods in Ra's presence. A uraeus was placed upon her, and another below her, being fixed at the front of the evening-barque." (CC)

III Akhet 23

Chronokrater:

Hathor, Lady of the Horizon (LGG4, 5, Edfu)

The Great Unifier (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG1, 136, Dendera)

Osiris (LGG2, 530, Dendera) Festivals:

Feasts of Khonsu and Seshat (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI) Feast of Sekhet (field-spirits) (TFC)

Procession of Nebtu and Khnum, Day 1 of 4 (TFC Esna; LGG4, 35) "Nun drags [...] by their hands out of the fire. Behold, the majesty of this god judges in that great place [...] on the river. Anyone born on that day will not live." (CC) "Nebtu and Khnum the Good Protector, (going) toward the great place; making the libation of water and the fumigation of incense; return to the temple of Khnum." (TFC Esna; LGG4, 35)

III Akhet 24

Chronokrater:

Hathor, Lady of Offerings (LGG5, 83, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of Uniting-with-the-Horizon (LGG5, 76 and LGG4, 8, Edfu)

Mut of the Palace (LGG2, 183, Dendera) Festivals:

Procession of Isis and Nephthys in Jubilation (CC)

Procession of Nebtu and Khnum, Day 2 of 4 (TFC Esna; LGG4, 35)

Horus Welcomes the Nile, Day 1 of 5 (Richter 2003, 34; Alliot 1949, 208, 278-279; Wilson 1997, 404)

Feast of Hathor (LGG5, 76, Dendera) "Isis goes forth, her heart being happy, and Nephthys being also in jubilation when they see Onnophris [...] heart. He has given his throne to his son Horus, in front of Ra." (CC) The feast of Horus welcoming the Nile comes from an ancient ritual, where a king went forth to the Nile's banks to record the

height of the annual inundation. This festival would be happy or subdued, depending on whether or not a good inundation had been secured to assure the fertility of the land for another year.

III Akhet 25

Chronokrater:

Atum (LGG7, 412, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of Khab (unknown location) (LGG4, 121, Edfu)

Hathor, Lady of Divine Might (LGG4, 133, Dendera)

Festivals:

Procession of Nebtu and Khnum, Day 3 of 4 (TFC Esna; LGG4, 35)

Horus Welcomes the Nile, Day 2 of 5 (Richter 2003, 34; Alliot 1949, 208, 278-279; Wilson 1997, 404)

"Shu son of Ra [...] Khnum, Lord of the Countryside" (TFC Esna) "If you see anything, it will be good to the heart of the gods." (CC)

III Akhet 26

Chronokrater:

Isis, the Protector (LGG5, 666, Dendera)

Isis, Lady of Offerings (LGG4, 26, Edfu)

Onuris (LGG1, 378, Dendera) Festivals:

Procession of Nebtu and Khnum, Day 4 (final) (TFC Esna; LGG4, 35)

Horus Welcomes the Nile, Day 3 of 5 (Richter 2003, 34;

Alliot 1949, 208, 278-279; Wilson 1997, 404)

Procession of Thoth to Judge in Ra's Presence (CC)

"Establishing the Djed [...] of Atum in the heaven and the earth of Heliopolis at the moment of uproar [between Horus and Set]. Reconciliation of the Two Lords and causing the land to be in peace. All of Egypt (lit., Kemet, "the black land") is given to Horus, and all the deserts (lit.,

Deshret, "the red land") to Set. Going forth of Thoth in order to judge in Ra's presence." (CC; part of the Horus Welcomes the Nile festival)

III Akhet 27

Chronokrater:

Sekhmet (LGG6, 557, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of the Throne (LGG4, 123, Dendera)

Isis-Hathor, Lady of Ta-teb (unknown location) (LGG4, 157, Edfu) Festivals:

Horus Welcomes the Nile, Day 4 of 5 (Richter 2003, 34; Alliot 1949, 208, 278-279; Wilson 1997, 404)

Feast of Sokar

"Horus and Set Are Judged by Thoth" (CC; LGG3, 801; Leitz TW 143) "Judging Horus and Seth; stopping (lit., breaking) the fighting. Hunting down the rowers and putting an end to the uproar. Satisfying the Two Lords and causing the Two Doors to open." (CC; LGG3, 801; Leitz TW 143)

III Akhet 28

Chronokrater:

Hathor (LGG5, 76, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of Sothis (LGG4, 127, Edfu)

Festivals:

Horus Welcomes the Nile, Day 5 (final) (Richter 2003, 34; Alliot 1949, 208, 278-279; Wilson 1997 404; CC)

Feast of Hathor (TFC Kom Ombo; LGG5, 76, Dendera)

Appearance of Horus and Hathor, Day 1 of 5 (TFC Kom Ombo)

Oracle of Amunhotep I, True of Voice (LA2, 184, New Kingdom) "Festival of Hathor Who Lives in Kom Ombo. Causing the appearance of Horus and Hathor. Performing all the rites." (TFC Kom Ombo)

"The gods are in jubilation and joy, when the will is made for Horus son of Osiris, to propitiate Onnophris in the necropolis. The land is in festivity, and the gods are pleased. If you see anything, it will be good." (CC) III Akhet 29

Chronokrater:

Hathor, the Female Sovereign (LGG5, 536, Dendera) Sothis (LGG6, 292)

Bast (LGG2, 440, Dendera) Festivals:

Procession of Nebtu, Day 1 of 2 (TFC Esna; LGG4, 35; Esna II, 55.4)

Procession of Horus of Behdet, Day 1 of 3 (TFC Edfu) Procession of Hathor and Her Ennead, Day 1 of 3 (TFC Edfu; LA2, 1036)

Procession of Wadjet, Nekhbet, and Sekhmet (CC) Appearance of Horus and Hathor, Day 2 of 5 (TFC Kom Ombo) "Resting of Horus and Hathor of Kom Ombo in the hypostyle hall, until the fifth day (i.e., IV Akhet 2). Performing all the ritual of the appearing and resting in the hypostyle hall." (TFC Kom Ombo) "They call it 'presentation of offerings.' Making the procession of Nebtu in her good feast; coming back into the outer hypostyle, presenting offerings to her in accordance with the specification on the stela of Menkheperre (i.e., Thutmose III). Appearance of the procession at the great good place. After the evening service, coming back to the temple." (TFC Esna; LGG4, 35; Esna II, 55.4) "Procession of Behdety, first day. Resting at the maru-chapel of King Menibre; offering every kind of good thing to him." (TFC Edfu) "Procession of Hathor, Lady of Dendera, and her Ennead. Proceeding to the royal waystation for the 'bringing of the Nile flood'; salutation; stopping in the barque-sanctuary." (TFC Edfu) "The going forth of the three noble ladies who are in the Tanenetsanctuary (Memphis) in the presence of Ptah-Beautiful-of-Face, while giving praise to Ra, him to whom the throne of Ma'at of the temples of the goddesses belongs. Giving the white crown to Horus and the red one to Set. Their hearts

are pleased with it." (CC; these goddesses are Wadjet, Nekhbet, and Sekhmet)

III Akhet 30

Chronokrater:

Hathor, Lady of Women (LGG4, 166, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of Offerings (LGG4, 111, Dendera)

Isis-Hathor, Lady of Bakchias (LGG4, 152, Edfu) Festivals:

House of Ra, House of Osiris, House of Horus (Last Day of the Month)

Procession of Nebtu, Day 2 (final) (TFC Esna; LGG4, 35; Esna II, 55.4)

Procession of Horus of Behdet, Day 2 of 3 (TFC Edfu) Procession of Hathor and her Ennead, Day 2 of 3 (TFC Edfu; LA2, 1036)

Appearance of Horus and Hathor, Day 3 of 5 (TFC Kom Ombo)

Feast of Anukis (multiple days, but number of days is lost) (LA1, 334; LA2, 182; AF; Urk IV, 823; TFC Elephantine Thutmose III)

Appearance of Heka-the-Child (TFC Esna)

Revealing/Opening the Breasts of the Women, Day 1 of 2 (TFC Edfu and TFC Dendera) "Second day of the procession of this goddess (i.e., Hathor); performing the ritual of 'opening the breasts of the women.'" (TFC Edfu) "If you see anything, it will be good on this day. House of

Ra, House of Osiris, House of Horus." (CC)

The Revealing-the-Breasts festival is a fertility rite, promising births for women who attended the festival for blessing (Alliot 1949, 226).



The Coptic name of IV Akhet, Khoiak, derives from the month's original name, which was actually a phrase: ka her ka, "ka upon ka," or "power upon power," or "sustenance upon sustenance" (Gardiner 9). The reference to power or ka (soul) in the month's name is the renewal of the earth itself, and the institution of order in the form of divine kingship that is also celebrated as part of the Mysteries of Osiris (or Sokar-Osiris), the great

national festival of this final month of the first season. Sustenance refers to the food offerings of early harvest, as well as the sowing of winter crops. IV Akhet/Khoiak persists as a special holiday month for Coptic Christians. Because the calendar has shifted, Khoiak now roughly corresponds to December, and thus it contains the holidays surrounding the birth of Jesus Christ.

In earliest times, a national festival for the god Sokar was celebrated once every six years (Schott 1950, 64). Eventually, the Sokar festival became an annual feast (Altenmüller 1997, 175-176) associated with Ptah and Osiris as well as Sokar (Spalinger 1992, 126-127; van Dijk 324). By the time of Ramses III in the later half of the New Kingdom, the Mysteries of Sokar-Osiris were given 10 days (IV Akhet 21-30; see El-Sabban 2000, 104ff). In the Ptolemaic period, at Dendera and Edfu, the Mysteries merged celebrations for Sokar-Osiris and those strictly for

Osiris, and took 18 days to perform, from IV Akhet 12-30 (Davies 249-250).

The formal rituals for the Mysteries usually began on the 23rd day of the month. On the day before, called "Hacking the Earth," cows pulled a tamarisk plough with a copper blade to cut into the fertile earth, while a young boy sowed the furrow with barley at one end, flax in the middle, and spelt on the other end while a priest recited rituals (Schott 1950; Chassinat 1966, 67ff). The first day of the Osiris Mysteries themselves, IV Akhet 23 in Edfu, saw the driving of calves into the necropolis and the consecration of four special chests containing linen strips that represented Osiris' mummy bandages (Egberts I 381 and 439; Chassinat 1996, 655ff; Alliot 1949, 463-465). There was a ritual navigation of Osiris icons in sacred boats, while a ritual combat between groups of men designated as "followers of Set" and "followers of Osiris" took place along the shore at Abydos (Frankfort 1948, 205-206; Bleeker 1967, 81-82; Sethe 1929a, 96, 101; Breasted 1988, 299). At Dendera, the Osiris boats, 34 in all for Osiris and all of the gods and goddesses in his entourage, floated in the sacred lake during the ritual combat of the followers of Osiris and Set (Chassinat 1966, 64; Otto 42).

After the ritual battle, Osiris' sacred barque was pulled on a sledge to the southwest of the Abydos temple (Frankfort 1948, 206; Schäfer 1904, 71ff, Wegner 2001, 9), and then it was carried on the arms of priests down into the subterranean Osiris temple called the Osireion. Other locations held a solemn procession around the temple walls instead (Cauville 2002, 8). At Memphis, priests and other procession participants wore bundles of onions around their necks, representing renewal and deification (Schott 1950, 68). At Sais, Herodotus reports that they processed with the icon of a golden cow, representing the mourning of

the god's wife, Isis, and circled the temple walls seven times (Frazer 1950, 433).

In the central part of the Mysteries, lamentations were recited over three days and nights, by priestesses playing the roles of Isis and Nephthys as they mourned their lost brother. On the final day of the lamentations, a recitation of the standard 70-day royal funeral ritual was performed, compressed into a single 24-hour vigil (LA6, 104; Schott 1950, 75 and 101). People fasted (Schott 1950, 10), and also lit lamps and left them burning all night long outside their houses during the vigil (Dunand, 38; Herodotus II, 62.) According to El-Sayed, the entire city of Sais was also lighted this way in honor of Osiris during the annual Night Vigil (El-Sayed, Appendix C, 26).

Earlier in the month, "corn mummies" had been created in Osiris' honor. These mummies are known from examples found at the temples in Abydos, Dendera, Philae, and Thebes. They were made in wooden or silver molds fashioned to resemble Osiris, and multiple images were often created; at Dendera, two molds were made for Khentiamentiu ("foremost of Westerners," a title of Osiris) and one for Sokar. The Khentiamentiu molds were filled with wet sand spread with barley, while Sokar's contained earth, sand, water, date pulp, incense and precious stones (Cauville 1997, 14-17). Once the molds were filled, they were allowed to sit in the darkness of the temple for 10 days, during which the seeds would begin to germinate. Then, as the Osiris Mysteries began, the mold halves, which had been left open, would be tied together to create the statue forms, wrapped in linen bandages, anointed with oil, and dressed in sumptuous clothing.

All the statues that had been created during the previous year's Mysteries were removed from a sanctuary where they had been placed the year before, and the new statues were put into their place, on a bed of sycamore branches,

until the end of the month. This resting symbolized Osiris' conception; one day equaled one month, and the branches were a symbol of his mother Nut (Chassinat 1966, 757ff). After the end of the month, the branches were buried in the necropolis, along with the previous year's corn mummies. The promise of life and renewal in the corn mummies was considered a great blessing for all of the people; sometimes, corn mummies made in the same fashion were placed into tombs to give Osiris' blessing to the dead. A set of such corn mummies is known from the tomb of Tutankhamun, complete with germinating seeds.

At the close of the Osiris Mysteries, a great banquet called the Festival of Foods on the Altar was celebrated. At Edfu, this festival also saw the consecration of a new temple icon of Osiris, the sacrifice of a wild ass from the temple of Set, and the destruction of a wax effigy of Apophis over a brazier in front of Sokar-Osiris to demonstrate the triumph of good over evil and life over death (El-Sabban 2000, 171; Alliot 1949, 281). The final act of the Osiris Mysteries included the erection of a Djed pillar (Altenmüller 1997, 175ff) and a festival in honor of Horus' coronation as the king of the living (Alliot 1949, 283).

Major Holidays

- 12 Preparations for corn mummies
- 22 Hacking the Earth
- 23 Driving the Calves and Offering the Chests
- 24 Defense of Osiris against Set
- 24-25 Night of Death
- 25 Great Mourning of Osiris
- 25-26 Night Vigil
- 26 Circumambulation of the White Walls
- 28 Festival of Foods on the Altars
- 30 Raising the Djed Pillar IV Akhet is sacred to the goddess Sekhmet (LGG6, 557; EAT III plate 5; Medinet Habu VI,

478). She is also called Female Sovereign (LGG1, 604; Vernus 1981, 119).

The gods/spirits over the month are referred to as "Those of the Thrones in the Body of Set" (LGG4 390); unfortunately, their names are unknown.

Fourth Month of Inundation, Day 1 (IV Akhet 1) Chronokrater:

Hathor (LGG5, 76, Dendera; Leitz TW 147, Dendera)

Neith, Lady of the Neith-Nome (LGG4, 69, Edfu)

Amun (LGG1, 306; variant Amun-Ra Lord of the Thrones of the Two Lands in Schott, ZAS 98 (1970), 21-50, Edfu)

Amun-Ra (LGG1, 321, Dendera; variant Amun) Festivals: First Day of the Month

Procession of Horus of Behdet, Day 3 (final) (TFC Edfu) Procession of Hathor and Her Ennead, Day 3 (final) (TFC Edfu; LA2, 1036)

Appearance of Horus and Hathor, Day 4 of 5 (TFC Kom Ombo)

Appearance of Min, Lord of the Two Lands (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI)

Festival Procession of Hathor (TFC Illahun; AF Kahun acrobat troupe Plate 25; LA1, 958; TFC Medinet Habu Ramses III)

Procession of Khnum-Ra, Day 1 of 6 (TFC Esna; LA4, 363-364)

Revealing/Opening the Breasts of the Women, Day 2 (final) (TFC Edfu and TFC Dendera)

Purification of Nun (CC; Leitz TW 147)

Festival of Tatenen the Great (LGG7, 348, Esna; Esna III, 346) "Festival of Hathor, offerings for Amun-Ra with his ennead and the portable image of Ramses III." (TFC Medinet Habu Ramses III)

"Feast of Khoiak; making the procession of Khnum-Ra; lord of his principal seat in Esna, accompanied by his ennead.

Union with the disk; then returning. Making the procession of Nebtu as Hathor-Tefnut and her followers to the great place; libation with water and fumigation with incense; return to the temple of Khnum; offerings on the altar." (TFC Esna) "Third day of the procession of this god (i.e., Horus Behdety). Celebrating his rituals and resting in his sanctuary." (TFC Edfu)

"Third day of the procession of this goddess and her ennead (i.e., Hathor of Dendera); opening the breasts of the women. Its ritual is performed. Stopping in her great place. Feast of [...]" (TFC Edfu) "The great ennead and the small ennead went to offer to the majesty of Nun in the cavern. The majesty of Thoth ordered Sia and his followers [...] saying 'A copy of the order of the majesty of Ra saying to his Father Nun, this command of the majesty of Ra-Atum is brought to you. Ra is joyful in his beauty. His ennead is in festivity. Everybody, every lion, and each nose among the ankhy-reptiles, gods, goddesses, spirts, dead, and those who came into being at the first time, your form is in every one of your bodies.'" (CC; Leitz TW 147)

IV Akhet 2

Chronokrater:

Khonsu (LGG5, 762, Dendera)

Khonsu-in-Thebes (LGG5, 764, Dendera; Aswan Isis temple block 248: see Bresciani, Assuan, 176)

Mut, Lady of Isheru (LGG4, 22, Edfu)

Sekhmet, Lady of the Way (LGG4, 36, Dendera) Festivals: Appearance of Hathor and Horus, Day 5 (final) (TFC Kom Ombo)

Procession of Khnum-Ra, Day 2 of 6 (TFC Esna; LA4, 363-364) "The gods come to their provinces to contemplate the venerable god [Khnum-Ra]; namely: Horus of Herakleopolis Magna; Shu, son of Ra; Hathor the Great, Mistress of Agmy; Nephthys of Komir; Menhuy, Great of Numbers in the Resting House; Horus of the East of Hefat; Sobek, Chief

of Sumenu, who is the son of Geb; Hemon of Sekhmet-iuret; Amun of Pe, who is in the east of Esna. That divinity [...]" (TFC Esna; LA4, 363-364) "Gods and goddesses are in festivity; the sky and the earth are in joy. If you see anything on this day, it will be good." (CC)

IV Akhet 3

Chronokrater:

Neith (LGG3, 511, Dendera; Aswan, see Bresciani, Assuan 176)

Hathor, Lady of the Sycamore(-quarter) (near Memphis; LGG4, 80, Edfu)

Sekhmet, Who Separates the Two Enjoyers/Pleasured Ones (LGG2, 360; reference to Nut and Geb) Festival:

Procession of Khnum-Ra, Day 3 of 6 (TFC Esna; LA4, 363-364)

"Making the procession of Khnum-Ra, chief of the countryside; union with the disk; return; travelling the [...] along the course of Heka-the-Child; running around the sacred area (?)" (TFC Esna) "Do not do anything on this day. It is the day of smashing the two ears of Bata within his own secret temples. Anyone born on this day will die of his ears." (CC; LGG2, 748; Leitz TW 150)

IV Akhet 4

Chronokrater:

Nut, Who Gives Birth to the Gods (LGG3, 535, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of Embracing (LGG4, 19, Edfu)

Hathor, Lady of the Elevated Farmlands (LGG4, 47,

Dendera) Festivals:

Feast of Sokar (CC)

Procession of Khnum-Ra, Day 4 of 6 (TFC Esna; LA4, 363-364)

Procession of Nebtu and Her Following (TFC Esna)

"Procession of Nebtu and her following to the great place.

Feast in her presence; returning to the temple of Khnum at night." (TFC Esna)

"Perform rituals in the temple of Sokar and your house today, with all provisions in the necropolis. They will be pleasant to the gods." (CC)

IV Akhet 5

Chronokrater:

Tefnut, Consort of the Gods (LGG7, 406, Dendera) Hathor, Lady of the Vulva (LGG4, 25)

Festivals:

Feast of the Winged Disk, Day 1 of 3 (TFC Edfu) Feast of the Soaring Falcon, Day 1 of 16 (TFC Edfu) Procession of Heka-the-Child (TFC Esna) Procession of Hathor, Foremost of Horns (CC) Procession of Khnum-Ra, Day 5 of 6 (TFC Esna; LA4, 363-364) "Taking this noble god, Horus of Behdet, Lord of Heaven, out in procession, on his beautiful feast of going out to his horizon, after [submission occurs] on the night of the Protected One, as he is called; resting in the maruchapel and celebrating his rituals." (TFC Edfu) "The going forth of Hathor, Foremost of Horns, in the presence of the great ones in Kher-aha. Life, prosperity, and health are given to her and the ennead and the gods of Kher-aha, and the majesty of Inundation (i.e., Hapi), Father of the Gods, is in great festivity today." (CC; Leitz TW 152) The Winged Disk is a form of Haroeris worshipped in Edfu, known also as Behdety. Ra gave the disk to Haroeris to destroy the enemies of Egypt. Forever after, a winged disk was placed over the doors of the pylons and the gates of every temple to commemorate Haroeris' victory.

The 16-day Feast of the Soaring Falcon was celebrated at Edfu in honor of Haroeris as well.

IV Akhet 6

Chronokrater:

Isis-Hathor, the Female Horus (LGG5, 297, Dendera)

Sekhmet, Lady of the Knees (LGG4, 62, Edfu)

Hathor, Great One of Heliopolis (LGG2, 282, Dendera)

Festivals:

Sixth-Day Festival

Winged Disk, Day 2 of 3 (TFC Edfu)

Soaring Falcon, Day 2 of 16 (TFC Edfu)

Procession of Khnum-Ra, Day 6 (final) (TFC Esna; LA4, 363-364) "Making the procession of Khnum-Ra, chief of the countryside, while the gods [who] come from their provinces stand in front of this god. The lector priest says 'O all you gods and goddesses, who came to honor Khnum during the feast, you can now return happily to your provinces.' Making the procession of the gods to their provinces by their respective priests, and making [the procession] of Nebtu and Heka-the-Child to Pi-Sahure. Return to Esna at night." (TFC Esna) "Second day of the god's procession (i.e., Horus of Behdet) and celebrating his rituals." (TFC Edfu)

"Do not go out today [...] when the barque of Ra is established in order to overthrow the enemies from one moment to another on this day." (CC)

The sixth day of any calendrical month, civil or lunar, is noted as the Suwenet, the "sixth-day festival." On the Suwenet, offerings were given to the deceased at their graves.

IV Akhet 7

Chronokrater:

She Who Flies Off (Horus-Sepat, a female Horus) (LGG6, 273, Dendera)

Isis, Mistress of the Island of Crocodilopolis (LGG4, 10,

Edfu)

Banebdjedet (LGG2, 683, Dendera; variant Baenra "soul of Ra," LA2, 688) Festivals:

Winged Disk, Day 3 (final) (TFC Edfu)

Soaring Falcon, Day 3 of 16 (TFC Edfu)

Feast of Renenutet (LA, Late Period) "It is the day of [...] wind [...] death in [...] he will turn into [...] fish. Do not eat or taste mehyet-fish on this day." (CC)

IV Akhet 8

Chronokrater:

Horus, Lord of Stomping (LGG3, 662, Dendera; variant Horus Lord of Heaven)

Hathor, the Companion (LGG6, 346, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of the Uga-Waterway (LGG4, 43, Edfu)

Isis, Lady of Heaven (LGG4, 49, Dendera) Festivals:

Soaring Falcon, Day 4 of 16 (TFC Edfu)

Feast of the Marriage of Isis-Nepherses, Great Goddess of Heaven (Bricault 527; may have lasted nine days) "If you see anything today, it will be good." (CC)

IV Akhet 9

Chronokrater:

Mut, Lady of Heaven (LGG3, 251, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of Thousands (LGG4, 114)

Festivals:

Procession of Sokar (?) and Hathor (TFC Edfu)

Soaring Falcon, Day 5 of 16 (TFC Edfu)

Killing the Enemy of Set (CC; Leitz TW 157; LGG5, 638)

"Entering the temple of Shentayet until Day 26. Procession of [Sokar? ...] resting at his place. Procession of Hathor, Lady of Dendera, and her ennead; they turn and stop." (TFC Edfu) "[T]he day Thoth acted. Speech by the Majesty of Ra in the presence of the great ones. Afterward, these gods together with Thoth caused the enemy of Set to kill

himself in his (i.e., Set's) sanctuary. This was done by the executioners of Qosret." (CC says Kosar, a form of Set as a Syrian war god; Leitz TW 157 reads a crossword-writing of Serget; LGG5, 638.)

IV Akhet 10

Chronokrater:

Sekhmet, Daughter of Osiris (sic) (LGG6, 103, Dendera)

Wenut, Lady of Hermopolis (LGG4, 41, Edfu)

Bast (LGG2, 740, Dendera) Festival:

Soaring Falcon, Day 6 of 16 (TFC Edfu)

"As for anyone born on this day, he will die in old age, while beer enters into his mouth, his eyes, and his face." (CC)

IV Akhet 11

Chronokrater:

Neith, Lady of Sais (LGG4, 124, Edfu)

Isis (LGG1, 62, Dendera)

Festivals:

Feast of Osiris in the Neshmet Boat (TFC Ramses II; CC; AF Abydos)

Soaring Falcon, Day 7 of 16 (TFC Edfu)

Feast of Khnum (TFC Esna)

Feast of Min (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI) "Feast of Osiris in Abydos in the Neshmet-boat. The dead jubilate." (TFC Ramses II; CC; AF Abydos)

"Appearance [of Min], beginning from [the city of] Qenu." (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI)

"Khnum the Good Protector [goes forth] to Pi-Sahure. Return to Esna on the same day." (TFC Esna)

IV Akhet 12

Chronokrater:

Great Thoth, Lord of Hermopolis Magna (LGG7, 614; LGG3,

716; Dendera)

The Manifestations (Iru) of Bast (LGG1, 534, Dendera) Neith, She Who Is Great (LGG2, 10, Edfu) Festivals: Osiris Mysteries: Preparing the Corn-Mummies (LGG4, 539; Chassinat 1966, 205ff and note 119; Dendera X, 29; LA1, 959)

Day of Transformations of the Bennu (CC; LGG2, 796; Leitz TW 161)

Soaring Falcon, Day 8 of 16 (TFC Edfu) "Do not go out today on any road in the wind. It is the day of transformations into Bennu. Offer to the Bennu in your house today." (CC; LGG2, 796; Leitz TW 161) "A statue of Osiris, Foremost of Westerners, is prepared, and the divine bandages are mixed with earth and barley and then watered." (LA1, 959)

"The gods-who-protect-the-seedbed flood the Osirismummy in Busiris on this day, which they protect until IV Akhet 21." (Chassinat, 1996 205ff and note 119; Dendera X, 29; LGG4, 539)

IV Akhet 13

Chronokrater:

Harsaphes (LGG5, 381, Dendera)

Bast, Who Hurries through the Land (LGG5, 633, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of the Two Flagpoles (LGG4, 128, Edfu)

Sekhmet, Lady of the Tent (LGG4, 131, Edfu) Festivals:

Soaring Falcon, Day 9 of 16 (TFC Edfu)

Procession of Hathor as the White One (CC)

"Going forth of the White One, the Majesty of Heaven, her heart being pleased in Ra's presence. The great ennead is in festivity. Make a holiday in your house today." (CC)

IV Akhet 14

Chronokrater:

Horus (LGG5, 231, Dendera)

Wadjet, Lady of the Sacred Land (LGG4, 155, Edfu)

Her-Effectiveness-Is-Within (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG1, 35, Dendera) Festivals:

Osiris Mysteries: Forming the Earth (LA1, 959)

Procession of Hedjhotep and Tayet, Day 1 of 2 (CC; LGG5, 602; LGG7, 360; Leitz TW 165)

Soaring Falcon, Day 10 of 16 (TFC Edfu) "Hedjhotep and Tayet come forth from the temple of the Benben today. They handed over [sacred] things to Neith. Their hearts are happy." (CC; LGG5, 602; LGG7, 360; Leitz TW 165) "A statue of Sokar-Osiris was formed out of soft earth in a silver mold on this day, and prepared until IV Akhet 16." (LA1, 959)

IV Akhet 15

Chronokrater:

Hathor, Lady of the Mountain (LGG4, 168, Edfu)

Sekhmet, Sweet-of-Life (LGG4, 602, Dendera)

Iah (LGG1, 147, Dendera) Festivals:

Osiris Mysteries: Preparing the Coffin and Unguents (LA1, 959)

Festival of the Half Month

Procession of Hedjhotep and Tayet, Day 2 (final) (CC;

LGG5, 602; LGG7, 360; Leitz TW 165)

Feast of Sekhmet and Bast before Ra (CC)

Procession of Kenmet (LGG7, 290; Leitz TW 167)

Soaring Falcon, Day 11 of 16 (TFC Edfu) "Do not [...] of [...]

another. The sweet one [goes out] in order to bring [...]

Feast of Sekhmet and Bast in [front of] Ra. Behold, [...]

(CC; this festival may be improperly dated in this source, and might be part of tomorrow's festival for Sekhmet and Bast, rather than a separate holiday.) "The coffin of Sokar, equated with Osiris, is decorated, and the sacred ointment is prepared today." (LA1, 959)

Kenmet is the spirit of the decan, in the form of a snake, who "goes out in order to bring about the time of Osiris"

(Leitz TW 167; LGG7, 290)

IV Akhet 16

Chronokrater:

Ha'a "The Jubilating One" (form of Osiris) (LGG5, 33, Dendera)

Sekhmet, Lady of the Two Acacia Trees (LGG4, 144, Edfu) Sekhmet of Perfect Accuracy (LGG4, 229, Dendera) Festivals:

Osiris Mysteries: Opening of the House (LA1, 959) Feast of Sekhmet and Bast of Isheru (LGG6, 558; Leitz TW 167; LGG2, 740; KRI IV, 353.11, Abydos) Soaring Falcon, Day 12 of 16 (TFC Edfu)

IV Akhet 17

Chronokrater:

Hathor, Mistress of the Horizon (LGG4, 5, Dendera) Hathor, Lady of the Western Desert (LGG4, 115, Edfu) Onuris (LGG1, 378, Dendera; variant Onuris-Shu, Son of Ra, LGG1, 380, Dendera) Festival: Soaring Falcon, Day 13 of 16 (TFC Edfu)

"The people and the gods judge the crew's speech in Heliopolis, when Horus arrives in Kher-aha. Do not go out at noon today." (CC)

IV Akhet 18

Chronokrater:

Ptah, Beautiful of Face (LGG3, 169, Dendera)

Hathor, the Foremost (LGG7, 53, Dendera)

Tayet (LGG7, 360, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of the Eastern Desert (LGG4, 115, Edfu)

Festivals:

Osiris Mysteries: Opening Ceremonies (TFC Ramses II; AF TT50 Neferhotep; LA2, 176; LA6)

Osiris Mysteries: The Gods Appear in 34 Boats (LGG5, 119)

Soaring Falcon, Day 14 of 16 (TFC Edfu)

Feast of Ptah-Sokar at the Holy Place (Djeseru), Day 1 of 9 (LGG3, 169) IV Akhet 18 marks the beginning date of the Osiris Mysteries from the New Kingdom onward (LA2, 176). Theban Tomb 50 (TT50) notes that "the making of sleep of Osiris goes [from IV Akhet 18] to IV Akhet 23" (AF TT50, tomb of Neferhotep, dated to Horemheb; LA Khoiak festival). During the reign of Ramses II, the Osiris Mysteries went from IV Akhet 18 to IV Akhet 30 (LA2, 176; TFC Medinet Habu). In Greece and Rome, the Mysteries of Osiris continued to be celebrated, from November 13-16 (cf. Plutarch). After Caligula, the Isia (also called Isideia), as the Mysteries were renamed, was celebrated from October 28 through November 1, or until the Hilaria began on November 3 (LA6).

"It is the day of overthrowing the divine boat." (CC)

Boats for Osiris and his companion deities were floated on the Dendera sacred lake on IV Akhet 18. There were 34 boats total (Dendera X, 38ff; Chassinat 1966, 615ff):

- 1. Osiris
- 2. Isis
- 3. Nephthys
- 4. Horus
- 5. Thoth
- 6. Imset (one of the sons of Horus)
- 7. Hapy (one of the sons of Horus)
- 8. Duamutef (one of the sons of Horus) (LGG7, 516, Dendera)
- 9. Qebshenuef (one of the sons of Horus) (LGG7, 181, Dendera)
- 10. The Capturer (LGG5, 27, Dendera)
- 11. Who Acts Violently (LGG5, 27, Dendera)
- 12. Horus Who Beholds His Father (LGG5, 27, Dendera)
- 13. Who Creates His Own Name (LGG1, 471, Dendera)
- 14. Who Is in His Lifetime (LGG1, 230, Dendera)

- 15. Horus, Beautiful of Front (Face/front side) (LGG4, 214, Dendera)
- 16. Their Thrones (LGG6, 59)
- 17. Maker of Boundaries (lit., limits) (LGG6, 59)
- 18. Khonsu the Conductor
- 19. The Divine Falcon over His Arm (LGG5, 359, Dendera)
- 20. The Terrifying One (LGG6, 402, Dendera)
- 21. Sia (LGG6, 164, Dendera)
- 22. Who Creates Himself (LGG1, 507, Dendera; CT VII, 246)
- 23. In Front of Two (LGG6, 255, Dendera)
- 24. She Who Is Great in Age (LGG1, 113, Dendera)
- 25. The Two Runners (LGG5, 123, Edfu)
- 26. name lost
- 27. name lost 28. name lost
- 29. name lost
- 30. Who Doesn't Give His Flame (LGG3, 496, Dendera)
- 31. The Two Red-Eyed Ones (LGG7, 571)
- 32. Foremost of the House of the Red Garment (LGG5, 828, Dendera)
- 33. The Lion of the Night Who Brought Him Low (LGG6, 676)
- 34. The Destroyer (LGG6, 676)

IV Akhet 19

Chronokrater:

Sokar, Lord of Hen (unknown location) (LGG6, 664, Dendera and Edfu)

Hathor, Lady of Ornaments (LGG4, 122, Dendera) Festivals: Osiris Mysteries: Presenting the Corn-Mummy to Daylight, Day 1 of 5 (LGG1, 959) and Making Ointment (CC; LGG1, 959)

Feast of Ptah-Sokar at the Holy Place (Djeseru), Day 2 of 9 (LGG3, 169)

Soaring Falcon, Day 15 of 16 (TFC Edfu) "Presenting offerings in the House of the Red Ones. Making ointment

for Osiris before the hall of embalming. Do not eat bread and beer on this day. Drink grape juice until Ra sets." (CC) "The raven awakens together with a jackal, above the head of Osiris, who was found on this day. The raven is Horus Lord of Letopolis/Esna, the jackal is Anubis." (pJumilhac IV, 1-5; LGG2, 417)

IV Akhet 20

Chronokrater:

Khonsu (LGG5, 762, Dendera)

Hathor, Mistress of the Pillar (LGG4, 13, Edfu)

Hathor of the Perfect Face (LGG4, 230, Dendera) Festivals:

Osiris Mysteries: Presenting the Corn-Mummy to Daylight,

Day 2 of 5 (LGG1, 959); Finding the Udjat Eyes and

Weaving the Burial Cloth

Feast of Ptah-Sokar at the Holy Place (Djeseru), Day 3 of 9 (LGG3, 169)

Soaring Falcon, Day 16 (final): Feast of Closure and Procession of Horus of Behdet (TFC Edfu)

Purifying and Offering to Amun-Ra and His Ennead (TFC/AF Medinet Habu Ramses III)

Oracle of Amunhotep I, True of Voice (LA2, 184, New Kingdom) "Feast of the Lord of Flight. He who is amidst his wings extends himself; offering and libation is presented to those in repose." (TFC Edfu, reference to Horus of Behdet) "Do not go out on any road today. Do not anoint yourself with ointment. It is the day of looking in the direction of the Akhet-eye. Do not go out of your house at noon." (CC) "The two Udjat eyes of Osiris are found. An abnen-bird emerges from them. It is in the form of a standard of Pakhet, to which one says: 'Shining Lady.'" (pJumilhac IV, 7; LGG4, 13) "A large piece of cloth is woven (for Osiris) in one day (today)." (LA1, 959)

At Medinet Habu in the late Ramesside period (i.e., from Ramses III onward), the Osiris Mysteries are recorded to have begun on the 20th and extend to the 30th (LA2, 176).

IV Akhet 21

Chronokrater:

Neith (LGG3, 511, Dendera)

Lady of Tell Tebilla (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 103, Edfu)

Festivals:

Osiris Mysteries: Presenting the Corn-Mummy to Daylight, Day 3 of 5 (LGG1, 959); Removing the mummy and the divine bandages

Feast of Ptah-Sokar at the Holy Place (Djeseru), Day 4 of 9 (LGG3, 169)

Feast of Sokar, Day 1 of 10 (TFC/AF Medinet Habu Ramses III) "Day of opening the window in the secret shrine; offerings for Ptah-Sokar." (TFC Medinet Habu; AF Medinet Habu, Ramses III; First day of Sokar festival at Medinet Habu, LA5, 1075) "It is the day of the going forth of the mysterious great ones to look for the Akhet-eye. Do not go out of your house during the daytime." (CC; Leitz TW 177; LGG2, 472) At Asyut, today was the first day of the feast of Sokar, which started with a set of torches being lighted (LA2, 79).

IV Akhet 22

Chronokrater:

Atum (LGG7, 412, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of the Eastern Mountain (LGG4, 45, Dendera and Kom Ombo)

Hatmehyt, Lady of Mendes (LGG4, 173, Dendera) Festivals: Osiris Mysteries: Procession of the 34 Boats (see IV Akhet 18 entry for specific names; LA1, 959)

Osiris Mysteries: Presenting the Corn-Mummy to Daylight, Day 4 of 5 (LGG1, 959)

Feast of Ptah-Sokar at the Holy Place (Djeseru), Day 5 of 9

(LGG3, 169)

Feast of Sokar, Day 2 of 10 (TFC/AF Medinet Habu Ramses III)

Feast of Cutting the Earth (TFC Akhmenu Thutmose III; LA; AF Medinet Habu Ramses III; LA5, 1075)

Festival of Ptah-South-of-His-Wall, Lord of Memphis, at Thebes (AF Horemheb and/or Ay inscription, south wall, Karnak temple)

Festival of the Two Female Kites, Day 1 (LGG7, 632; pBremner-Rhind 1, 1) "Feast of cutting the earth; offerings for Ptah-Sokar-Osiris who resides in the temple of Ramses [III] in Amun's estate in western Thebes" (AF Medinet Habu Ramses III; LA5, 1075) "If you see anything today, it will be good." (CC)

"A procession was made to the sacred lake (i.e., at Karnak), in the eighth hour, consisting of 34 papyrus boats of about 60cm in size, illustrated with images of various forms of Horus, Thoth, Anubis, Isis, and Nephthys. The boats were interred at the end." (LA1, 959) "Beginning of the singing for the festivals of the two female kites (i.e., Isis and Nephthys), to be celebrated in the temple of Osiris-Foremost-of-Westerners from IV Akhet 22-26." (LGG7, 632; pBremner-Rhind 1, 1)

IV Akhet 23

Chronokrater:

Horakhty (LGG5, 239, Dendera)

Harsiese (LGG5, 283, Dendera)

Isis, Protector of the Workplace (LGG6, 122, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of Storms (LGG4, 121, Edfu) Festivals:

Feast of Ptah-Sokar at the Holy Place (Djeseru), Day 6 of 9 (LGG3, 169)

Feast of Sokar, Day 3 of 10 (TFC/AF Medinet Habu Ramses III; LA5, 1075)

Osiris Mysteries: Presenting the Corn-Mummy to Daylight, Day 5 (final and Preparations for Burial (LGG1, 959) "Day of libation (specific offerings lost; related to Sokar festival)" (TFC Akhmenu Thutmose III)

"Day of making a way in the secret shrine; offerings for Ptah-Sokar-Osiris" (TFC/AF Medinet Habu Ramses III; LA5, 1075)

"Do not go out during the night [...] in heaven [...] They [...] in order to destroy [...] Harendotes. If you see any lion, you will die immediately." (CC)

"The heart of Osiris is found, which was in the hands of a crocodile named Khentykhety (i.e., a form of Horus)." (Barta, ZAS 99 (1973), 76-81; pJumilhac IV, 12; LGG5, 849) "The dead receive flower garlands from the Ennead." (pBM10507 dem IV, 22; LGG3, 142; Smith, Mortuary Texts, 40 and 95).

IV Akhet 24

Chronokrater:

Nut, Lady of Heaven (LGG3, 535, Dendera)

Hathor-Tefnut, Lady of Praise (LGG4, 126, Dendera)

Festivals:

Feast of Sokar-Osiris, Day 1 of 3 (Memphis)

Feast of Ptah-Sokar at the Holy Place (Djeseru), Day 7 of 9 (LGG3, 169)

Feast of Sokar, Day 4 of 10 (TFC/AF Medinet Habu Ramses III; LA5, 1075)

Osiris Mysteries: Defense of Osiris from Set by Horus (Edfu); Night Procession (TFC Dendera); Burial/Wrapping the Corn Mummy (Dendera)

Procession of Sokar and Hathor, Day 1 of 3 (TFC Dendera) "Day of placing Sokar in the midst of them (i.e., the great ennead); offerings for Ptah-Sokar-Osiris." (TFC/AF Medinet Habu Ramses III)

"Feast of [Horus] Behdety who rescued the shroud of his father (i.e., Osiris) from Pef (lit., 'that one')" (Edfu V, 399;

LGG4, 36)

"Procession of Osiris by night; stopping opposite the sacred lake. Performing all the rites, going around the temple, and resting [again] in his place." (TFC Dendera) "On this day, the body parts of Osiris are found in Teku, which were themselves saved from out of a living snake. One calls them 'Atum (the complete one) of Teku.'" (LGG7, 422; pJumilhac IV, 15ff) "The one in the horizon (Akhety, a form of Osiris as the god of the season) is joyful in the body of Nut." (LGG1, 54, Dendera)

"Procession of Sokar at the first hour to the temple of Horus; pouring a libation and returning to the temple and stopping there. Procession of Hathor Lady of Dendera and her ennead to the temple roof. Union with the disk, then resting in her temple. Total, one night and two days of feast." (TFC Dendera; LA2, 1036) "From another papyrus...we know that at Karnak, the execration ritual with its execration figurines was part of the Khoiak festival. The papyrus says that 'on the twenty-fourth day when Sokar-Osiris rests in the hall of the Akhmenu, perform the ritual of 'making Osiris enter,' 'protection of the bed chamber'; 'praising by the head ornaments,' 'offering to Osiris incense and libation at the entry to the hall,' and also 'the slaughter of the execration figurines.''" (KSG 3/3, Gee, "Execration Rituals in Various Temples," 73-74; see also LGG6, 667 and Bourguet, pLouvre 3176 V, 1.) "The Khoiak ritual, however, is described in some detail on the walls of the roof chapels at Dendera. There the twenty-fourth day of Khoiak is described as the day of the burial (or wrapping, qrs) of the corn Osiris." (KSG 3, Gee 74; Dendera X, 31, notes 37-41) "Swaddling and preparation of the Sokar statue and its divine bandages, as well as the statue of Osiris-Foremost-of-Westerners from the previous year. After seven days, the statues were buried; these days

represented the gestation of the god within his mother, Nut." (LA1, 959)

IV Akhet 25

Chronokrater:

Sekhmet the Great, Beloved of Ptah (LGG6, 561, Dendera; variant Nephthys LGG4, 96)

Hathor, Lady of Injury (Soqar, pun on Sokar) (LGG4, 137, Edfu)

Who Unites the Heavens (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG1, 136, Dendera) Festivals:

Feast of Sokar-Osiris, Day 2 of 3 (Memphis; LGG6, 665; Abusir Papyri 13, 1; Urk I, 121 and 124)

Feast of Ptah-Sokar at the Holy Place (Djeseru), Day 8 of 9 (LGG3, 169)

Feast of Sokar, Day 5 of 10 (TFC/AF Medinet Habu Ramses III; LA5, 1075)

Osiris Mysteries: "Night of Death" (TFC/AF Medinet Habu Ramses III; LA5, 1065)

Day of Planting Onions for Sokar (AF TT2 tomb of Khabekhnet, New Kingdom; LA5, 1075; AF TT9 tomb of Amonmes, New Kingdom)

Feast of Heqat (?) (LGG5, 490; Hibis 22, eastern wall) Procession of Sokar and Hathor, Day 2 of 3 (TFC Dendera) "The day of the Netjeryt (twin goddesses) festival; offerings for Ptah-Sokar-Osiris." (TFC/AF Medinet Habu Ramses III; LA 5, 1065; AF TT50 tomb of Neferhotep dating from reign of Horemheb) "Opening the doors of the temple and offerings on the altar." (TFC Esna)

"At the 12th hour, procession of Osiris, Foremost of Easterners (sic); arriving at the temple of Horus, and stopping in his tomb." (TFC Dendera) "Laying of onions on the night of the goddess's festival." (AF TT2 tomb of Khabekhnet, 19th/20th Dynasty)

"Twisting and wearing onions on your neck on the night of the goddess' festival." (AF TT9 tomb of Amonmes,

19th/20th Dynasty)

"I made room for a boat for Osiris, by which he might travel in his great festival of IV Akhet 25." (AF Taharqa inscription, Karnak sanctuary)

"The hidden form of the old year" (i.e., the previous year's corn mummy) is buried on IV Akhet 15 in the necropolis at Abydos called "Knowing Eternity" (Dendera X, 30,4; Chassinat, 1966, 249, plate 25; LGG6, 651).

"Today gods in their (burial) mounds dance." (LGG4, 455; Dendera X, 374)

"As Sokar-Osiris is undressed in the night of IV Akhet 25, he wears the sons of Horus." (LGG3, 425; Haikal, Nesmin, 52 (110, 17); Goyon 1967, 143)

IV Akhet 26

Chronokrater:

Hathor, Lady of Terror (LGG4, 130, Dendera and Kom Ombo; variant Hathor, Lady of Wrath, Kom Ombo)
Hathor, Lady of Wrath (LGG4, 169, Edfu and Kom Ombo)
Neith-Onuris (LGG3, 511, Dendera; also written Anheret (lit., 'female Onuris'), a form of Neith, LGG1, 378, Dendera)
Festivals:

Festival of Sokar (TFC Illahun, MK)

Feast of Ptah-Sokar at the Holy Place (Djeseru), Day 9 (final) (LGG3, 169)

Feast of Sokar, Day 6 of 10 (TFC/AF Medinet Habu Ramses III; LA5, 1075; LGG6, 655; Esna II, 55, 7; TFC Edfu) Feast of Sokar-Osiris, Day 3 (final)

Osiris Mysteries: "Mourning" and "Destroying the Ass and Serpent" (TFC Edfu; LGG5, 244)

Appearance of Min of Kom Ombo in Coptos, Day 1 of 5 (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI)

Feast of Sokar and Procession of Khnum (TFC Esna) Procession of Sokar and Hathor, Day 3 (final) (TFC

Dendera) "Festival of Sokar; offerings for Ptah-Sokar-Osiris and Nefertem-Protector-of-the-Two-Lands." The henubarque of Sokar is preceded by five other barques: those of Hathor, Wadjet, Shezemtet, Bast, and Sekhmet. (TFC/AF Medinet Habu Ramses III; LA5, 1062 and 1074-1075) "Feast of Sokar, stopping in Pi-Sahure; accomplishing all the rites, then making the procession of Khnum-the-Good-Protector, for chasing evil from the temple." (TFC Esna) "All rites of the feast of Sokar; in the morning hour, abundant offerings are presented before Osiris. Then the wild ass is brought from the temple of Set. Then one brings [...] the harpooners seize the harpoon. The king arrives, the victim is slain before Osiris. Then one brings the gods who overthrew the foe in Per-Meret of the Lord of Pharbaithos. The king slays Apophis [...] opposite [...] [he] being put on the brazier of Horus-in-the-Shrine, opposite Osiris. [Then] the king [is brought] to his palace; mourning is ended; they offer to the weary ones (i.e., the dead)." (TFC Edfu) "[...] Thoth establishes the nobles in advanced position in Letopolis." (CC)

"At dawn, when one celebrates Sokar in his annual feast...." (AF TT2 tomb of Khabekhnet, 19th/20th Dynasty)

"Putting on of onions" (LA2; AF TT219 tomb of Nebenmaat, Deir el Medina, 19th/20th Dynasty)

"A fiend is thrown on his (i.e., Horus-in-his-shrine's) flame on this day of the Sokar festival." (LGG5, 244, Edfu, referencing execration rituals of votive wax objects on the fire) Foundation rituals are noted for Osiris in the grave of Djehutynakht (AF El Bersheh, Middle Kingdom tomb).

"Going around the walls with the Sokar boat." (LA2, 176, Medinet Habu)

"Borne on the shoulders of 16 priests, the henu barque on the sledge-stand was central to the great procession of Sokar, when carried forth from the Per-Henu around the walls of Memphis on the 26th day of the fourth month of Akhet annually" (LA2, 1119-1120).

IV Akhet 27

Chronokrater:

Tefnut, Daughter of Ra (LGG7, 406, Dendera) Neith, Lady of Sais (LGG4, 124, Edfu and Kom Ombo) Who Gives the Desert (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 788, Dendera and Kom Ombo) Festivals:

Feast of Sokar, Day 7 of 10: Anointing the Ennead (TFC/AF Medinet Habu Ramses III; LA5, 1075; LGG6, 655; Esna II, 55, 7; TFC Edfu)

Osiris Mysteries: "Night Vigil"

Appearance of Min of Kom Ombo in Coptos, Day 2 of 5 (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI)

Feast of Neith (TFC Esna) "Feast of Neith, opening the doors in various places. Anointing the gods, making the procession of this goddess and her ennead. Union with the disk; return." (TFC Esna) "If you see anything today, it will be good. Do not go out at night." (CC)

"The lower leg of Osiris is found on the eastern way. He creates a maggot in silver, which he attaches to the head of an ox. One calls it 'Nemty.'" (pJumilhac IV, 19 lower). CT VI, 3866 adds: "In his name of 'maggot,' none (of the dead) will be infested by maggots." (LGG4, 243; Gardiner, 188ff).

A set of devotions and meditations for the Night Vigil of Osiris, as practiced in modern Kemetic Orthodoxy, are available online at the Kemet Today blog (www.nisut.org), starting with the first thread at

http://www.nisut.org/2009/11/god-is-dead-thoughts-about-mysteries-of.html

IV Akhet 28

Chronokrater:

Hathor, the Great Menat (necklace) (LGG3, 299, Dendera

and Kom Ombo)

Nephthys, Sister of God (LGG4, 96, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of the Hesau-plants (LGG4, 121, Edfu and Kom Ombo) Festivals:

Feast of Sokar, Day 8 of 10: Drawing Forth/Setting Up the Benben (TFC/AF Medinet Habu Ramses III; LA5, 1075; LGG6, 655; LA2, 176)

Mysteries of Osiris: "Feast of Offerings upon the Altar" (TFC Edfu)

Appearance of Min of Kom Ombo in Coptos, Day 3 of 5 (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI)

Procession of Hatmehyt (CC; Leitz TW 187; LGG5, 644) "Do not eat any mehyet-fish on this day. It is the day of going forth of the Hatmehyt fish which is in Busiris, its form being a dolphin." (tilapia fish, not the mammal; CC; Leitz TW 187; LGG5, 644) A single reference to a procession of Sokar that began on IV Akhet 28 and continued through I Peret 17 is likely an instance of a civil calendar slipping from a Sothic calendar; no other reference to a separate Sokar festival that began when most of the others were ending has been located. (LA2)

IV Akhet 29

Chronokrater:

Geb (LGG7, 304, Dendera)

Sopdu, Lord of the East (form of Horus) (LGG6, 290,

Dendera; variant Horus, Lord of the East)

Lady of Working (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 149, Kom Ombo)

Hathor, Lady of Doing Evil (i.e., to evildoers) (LGG4, 164, Edfu) Festivals:

Feast of Sokar, Day 9 of 10: title lost (TFC/AF Medinet Habu Ramses III; LA5, 1075; LGG6, 655; Esna II, 55, 7; TFC Edfu)

Feast of Hathor and Her Great Nine, Day 1 of 2 (TFC Edfu; LGG4, 275, Edfu; LA2, 1036)

Mysteries of Osiris: "Feast of Food on the Altar" Appearance of Min of Kom Ombo in Coptos, Day 4 of 5 (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI)

Feast of Neith "Procession of Hathor, Lady of Dendera, and her ennead to the royal waystation, in her beautiful feast of Nehebkau. Her rituals are performed. Return to the kiosk of Userkare Meryamun (i.e., Ptolemy II)." (TFC Edfu) "Do not eat or smell any mehyet-fish while throwing flame into water from what they offer, and do not take any mehyet-fish or any [other] fish in your hands." (CC)

IV Akhet 30

Chronokrater:

Sopdu-Iah (LGG6, 290, Dendera; variants Sopdu, Iah, and Sopdu-Iah)

Khonsu (LGG5, 762, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of Joy (LGG4, 20, Edfu)

She Who Is in the Inundation (form of the Eye of Ra; goddess of the Akhet season) (LGG1, 284, Dendera and Kom Ombo) Festivals:

Feast of Sokar, Day 10 (final): title lost (TFC/AF Medinet Habu Ramses III; LA5, 1075; LGG6, 655; Esna II, 55, 7; TFC Edfu; LA2 description includes "going around the walls")

Mysteries of Osiris: "Raising the Djed" ("three statues of the year were wrapped, along with the djed pillar," LA1, 959; TFC Esna and Edfu)

House of Ra, House of Osiris, House of Horus (Last Day of the Month)

Appearance of Min of Kom Ombo in Coptos, Day 5 (final) (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI)

Procession of Hathor and Her Great Nine, Day 2 (final) (TFC Edfu)

Feast of Khnum (TFC/AF Elephantine Thutmose III; Urk IV, 823; LA2, 182. Known to be multiple days, but actual number is lost.)

Appearance of Horus and Hathor, Day 1 of 5 (TFC Kom Ombo)

Procession of Horus of Behdet (TFC Edfu) Oracle of Amunhotep I (LA2, 184; AF BM5625 Ramesside ostracon)

Eve of I Peret I or New Moon of I Shomu 1: "Feast of the Heavens" (New Kingdom Min festival, described in LA4, 142-143) "The ancestors are set free on II Akhet 14 and receive offerings today." (LGG1, 41; Leitz TW 82 and 191) "Taking this god (i.e., Horus of Behdet) and his ennead out in procession to rest in the maru-chapel, and celebrating his rituals." (TFC Edfu) "If you see anything today, it will be pleasing to the hearts of the gods and goddesses. Offer to the gods and to the assistants of the ennead. Make an invocation-offering to the spirits, and give food in accordance with their lists. It is the day of the pleasure of the great ennead. House of Ra, House of Osiris, House of Horus." (CC; LGG6, 46; Leitz TW 190-191) "The children of Horus, that is, the four vessels of Osiris, are found." (pJumilhac IV, 27ff; LGG3, 425)

l Chapter 4 Growth

After the Akhet-flood receded and the land could once again be worked, Egypt's people, most of whom were farmers, started their labors in seeding and then reaping their first harvest, corresponding to the winter-harvest of many European climates. This four-month season, the middle season of the ancient Egyptian calendar, was appropriately named Peret, or "coming forth."

Immediately following the solemn Osiris Mysteries, Peret season opens with holidays celebrating the renewal of kingship on earth, in the Coronation and Sacred Falcon Festivals of Horus of Edfu. Shortly thereafter, Peret commemorates the return of the sunlight, the Eye of Ra, in the festivals of the Wandering Goddess celebrated around the winter solstice. The season then goes on to mark more festivals, in honor of victorious gods and goddesses and the divine protectors of growth and harvest.

The two earliest holidays from any time of the year that we know of from ancient calendars, the Rekeh-wer and Rekehsheri (Greater and Lesser Burning Festivals, respectively) are celebrated in the middle two months of Peret season, as festivals of fire and land. Where Akhet was a season of and about water, Peret is a season of earth: the earth warming up and becoming fruitful. The final month of Peret adds festivals of early harvest such as the Day of Chewing Onions, the Festival of Measuring Grain, and concludes with the birth of the great god Harsiese, the son of Osiris whose blessing ended the previous season.

I Peret

I Peret 1 not only was the first day of a new season, but we know that it was commemorated during the Ptolemaic period as the Wep Ronpet (New Year's Day) of the god Horus of the city of Edfu (Grimm 1994, 388 and Altenmüller 1997, 176). After the Nehebkau Festival, children would stand anointed and in festival clothes at their doors, holding flowers and plants in honor of Horus (Sadek 181). Priests wearing falcon or jackal masks representing the royal ancestors as the souls of Nekhen (Hierakonpolis Magna) and Pe (Buto) carried an icon of Horus from his sanctuary on a special litter in silent



procession (Fairman 189). Before the litter, priests carried the divine standards, and behind the litter, the other gods from Horus' family processed in their own respective shrines.

This procession ended at
the Sacred Falcon Temple
in the outer temple
precinct, where living
falcons were presented to
Horus' icon. By an oracle of
that icon, a new living
falcon was chosen to be the
living image of Horus for

the following year. Then the living falcon and the divine falcon icon were taken to the Sacred Falcon Temple's roof, and the rites of Wep Ronpet, including those to greet the New Year and turn the dangers of the year via the litany of Sekhmet, were said over the living falcon, which was also coronated as a kingly form of Horus (Fairman 1954, 190; Cauville, 1984, 72).

The falcon icon of Horus, the living falcon that had just been coronated, and the king (also himself symbolically a falcon/Horus) joined in a banquet, where the king fed the living falcon and celebrated until the living falcon returned to the Sacred Falcon Temple and the icon of Horus returned to his own temple sanctuary. As this set of ceremonies marked a renewal of Horus and the living king, this date was also favored for setting the Heb Sed, or royal jubilee, of a reigning king (Fairman 1954, 192).

The first day of the month and season also saw a festival in honor of the god Nehebkau, whose name means "harnesser of spirits." In the Middle Kingdom, the Nehebkau Festival was only one day long. By the New Kingdom, the festival was two days long and celebrated on I Peret 1 and 2. Seti I celebrated his Heb Sed on this day, which is noted in inscriptions located at Abydos and at Nuri in Nubia as "The beginning of eternity and the start of happiness for hundreds of thousands of years and millions of Sed festivals" (AF). Ramses II celebrated his sixth Heb Sed festival in year 42 of his reign on I Peret 1 as part of the Nehebkau festivities and the Wep Ronpet of Horus also honored on that day (AF multiple monuments). Ramses III also received his own coronation on I Peret 1. In keeping with Nehebkau's role in protecting the ancestors, in the Late Period this god's holiday became a festival to serve the Ramesside kings as ancestors (LA).

Peret season's most significant holidays beyond those of the royal renewal coincident with the renewal of the land revolve around the winter solstice and its commemoration of "She Is Led Back," the ancient name for the return of the Wandering Eye of Ra. This goddess is most often named Tefnut, but can be embodied in other goddesses who take on the forms of lions and/or cobras. According to a series of mythological references in various temples (see Junker 1911 for more details about the myth of the Wandering Goddess) the Eye had grown angry in Egypt and fled her father Ra's presence, wandering about the southern Nubian deserts and slaughtering all she found. The departure of the Wandering Eye corresponds to the summer solstice, and celestially explains the shortening of the days as the sun moves southward toward the equator (Bonnet 2000, 734). Ra asked two gods to find his daughter, pacify her, and bring her home: the Eye's twin brother, Shu, called Onuris or "the bringer of the distant one" in these stories; and Thoth, Ra's personal advisor. At Bugem (literally "the place of finding"), Onuris and Thoth

encounter the Eye and proceed to tell her of all the wondrous things she will see, and all the celebrations and offerings that will be made in her honor, if she will return with them to Egypt and take her place at Ra's side once more. Onuris/Shu begs his sister to return home and stop being angry, singing and dancing and telling jokes to appease her. Thoth, using his magic, presents the Eye with a miniature version of himself in baboon form (Wilson 1997, 238, 660; Sambin 1988; WB I, 325). This tiny baboon, called a shebet or wensheb, represents Thoth as the keeper of time, seated upon the basket-shaped hieroglyph for 'festival' and holding another hieroglyph, meaning 'infinity.' In addition to the gift of the shebet, Thoth presented the Eve with gifts of real baboons and other animals, as well as enticing the local Nubians to sing and dance in her honor. Thoth, Shu, and the gathered animals and people convince the Eye to return northward, and at winter solstice (from I Peret 19 through II Peret 4), the Eye journeys north with the procession. At Philae, she is greeted upon reaching Egypt's southern border with a great crowd and a banquet in her honor. She quenches her fire in the waters of the holy island of Biga (where Osiris sleeps in death, adjacent to the temple of his wife, Isis), and then enters a boat and proceeds northward for nine days (or in nine segments/stopping places), until she finally reaches her temple in Dendera. In the Late Period, there was a great festival at each of the Eye's stopping places, including Biga, Kom Ombo, Edfu, Nekheb, Esna, and Medamud, culminating in the final festival at Dendera, where She Is Led Back was one of the most important annual festivals. Sixteen jars of inundation-water were poured into a miniature "sacred lake" encircling the Eye's icon in the great sanctuary of Dendera, one for each day of the festival (Chassinat 1934, plates 164 and 196; Chassinat 1952, plate 439). The goddess was also ferried daily across Dendera's

actual sacred lake in her shrine boat, alongside the barques of Horus, Ra-Horakhty, and Hathor for several hours, that she might "meet with her father, Nun, who enfolds her in his arms" (Gessler-Löhr 328). Singing, professional music and dancing, drinking wine, and presenting offerings to the goddess continued inside and outside the temple, by the king and priesthood as well as the common people, throughout the days of this long and beautiful festival. In the midst of She Is Led Back, there is a related festival called the Raising of the Celestial Cow. This festival occurs on I Peret 25 and refers mythologically to the aftermath of the near-destruction of humankind by the Eye in the form of the goddess Sekhmet. Weary of dealing with human beings and their schemes, Ra asks his daughter to take the form of a cow and climb into the heavens with him on her back, so that he might not have to live among mortals any longer. As Hathor, Nut, and/or Mehet-weret "Great Flood," this cow-goddess becomes the Celestial Cow after asking Ra to give her company in her new heavenly home. Ra turns the spots on the Celestial Cow's back into stars, the souls of the dead who have ascended into blessedness, and the Cow becomes the sky that contains them. Drinking and eating honey and other sweet things was part of the celebration of this holiday (Bakir 1974, 32).

Another Eye-related festival occurred during the Celestial Cow festival: the Thanksgiving Offerings of Ra, where all the temples in Egypt sent gifts on behalf of their own gods to the temple of Horus at Edfu, in commemoration of Harsiese's coronation after his triumph over Set (Alliot 1949, 806-807). Thanksgiving Offerings festival extended from I Peret 25 to I Peret 27. Boat processions at Dendera and other temples for celebrating She Is Led Back were suspended during this time, so that offerings could be made in Horus' honor instead. A unique offering for Thanksgiving Offerings was a bunch of red grapes, crushed

into a cup that was half-filled with water. Called the "great Horus" or the "great day" (heru-a'a), this was given as a divine libation and then the king, or the priest acting as royal proxy, drank it (with the grapes still in the cup and chewed along with the drinking) as a charm for strength and good luck.

Major Festivals

1 Feast of Nehebkau

1-5 Feast of Coronation of the Sacred Falcon (or "Wep Ronpet of Horus")

19 (through II Peret 4) "She Is Led Back," the feast of the return of the Wandering Eye-Goddess

25 Raising the Celestial Cow

25-27 Festival of the Great (Thanksgiving) Offerings of Ra Goddesses of the month:

Shezemtet (LGG7, 124)

Hathor, the Shining One (LGG5, 651, Dendera and Edfu; variant "Hathor Who Causes Brilliant Sparkling," LGG6, 712, Edfu) Gods of the month:

Min (LGG5, 288; McFarlane 1995; Medinet Habu VI, 478) Amun-Ra, King of the Gods (LGG1, 321, Cairo Clepsydra JE 37525) The four protective gods/spirits of the month are named "The Ones of the Thrones Within the Body of Geb":

- 1. name lost
- 2. Ma'aef "He sees" (LGG3, 197, Edfu)
- 3. The Lord of the (Law) Court (LGG3, 662)
- 4. name lost

First day of the First Month of Growing (I Peret 1)

Chronokrat:

Osiris (LGG2, 530, Dendera) Festivals:

First Day of the Month

Feast of Coronation, Day 1 of 4 (KSG 3, 3; Spalinger 1990, 289-294 and note 36; Bleeker, 109; von Beckerath 1991, 32 and note 12)

Nehebkau Festival, Day 1 of 2 (LA; TFC Karnak Thutmose III; AF Medinet Habu Ramses III; LGG4, 275; Fs Winter 47; AF Kahun acrobatic troupe inscription; AF TT50 tomb of Neferhotep, dated to Horemheb)

Appearance of Horus and Hathor, Day 2 of 5 (TFC Kom Ombo)

Feast of Tefnut (TFC Esna)

Procession of Menhyt, Nebtu, and Heka (TFC Esna) Feast of Hathor "to Thebes to cool Her ka" (LGG5, 76, Dendera, Kom Ombo, and Edfu; TFC Illahun "Periplus of Hathor, Lady of Ahnas")

Oracle of Amunhotep I, True of Voice (LA2, 184) Horus of Behdet has his own Wep Ronpet at Dendera and Edfu on this date (LGG5, 253; LA2, 176; TFC Edfu): "Feast of Opening the Year of the Reign of Horus of Behdet, Son of Ra, Beloved of Mankind, for the lifespan of Ra in Edfu. All the rites ae performed as on I Akhet 1 [...] silver, gold, and all precious stones..." (TFC Edfu). This is celebrated specifically with a torch festival (LA2, 176).

"The daughter of Ra proceeds (up) into heaven; her purification is in this month, in which her divinization is also found. She is the Eye of Ra, the uraeus on his forehead, his uraeus." (Canopus Decree in Urk II, 145 and Spiegelberg 1922, 28; also LGG5, 253 and LGG6, 107; continues through the entire month) "Double the offerings and present the gifts of Nehebkau to the gods in the presence of Ptah, in the shrines of the Nunet of the goddesses and gods, protectors of Ra and his own followers, and the [...] of Ptah-Sokar and Sekhmet the Great, Nefertem, Horus of Hekenu, Ma'ahes, Bast the Great Flame [...] propitiating the Udjat eye. It will be good." (LGG3, 211; Leitz TW 193 CC) Coronation and Sed festivals' close relation was emphasized on the "ideal date" when they were celebrated. Several sources suggest that I Peret 1 was the ideal day for holding a coronation or Sed

festival (KSG 3, 3; Spalinger 1990, 289-294 and note 36; Bleeker, 109; von Beckerath 1991, 32 and note 12; WES I, Warsaw 1997, pp 16-17).

I Peret 2

Chronokrater:

Horus of the Duat (LGG5, 295; Leitz (2002) 146, Edfu) Montu (LGG3, 319, Dendera)

Nekhbet, the Mysterious One (LGG7, 140, Dendera)

Wadjet, Lady of Protection (LGG4, 117, Edfu)

Isis, the Unique Goddess (LGG2, 286, Dendera, Kom Ombo, and Edfu) Festivals:

Nehebkau Festival, Day 2 (final) (AF TT341 tomb of Nakhtamun, dated to Ramses II)

Coronation, Day 2 of 4 (KSG 3, 3; Spalinger 1990, 289-294 and note 36; Bleeker, 109; von Beckerath 1991, 32 and note 12)

Appearance of Horus and Hathor, Day 3 of 5 (TFC Kom Ombo)

Feast of Montu (TFC Dendera)

Festival of Wadjet (LGG2, 271) "Offering before [...] in nourishment. Make a festival in your house." (CC)

Today is one of five festivals in honor of Wadjet (III Akhet 3, I Peret 2(22?), I Peret 20 outgoing (khenenet), II Peret 26 and II Peret 9) (Thutmose III Stela from Buto in Fs Winter, 47-48).

I Peret 3

Chronokrater:

Sopdu, Lord of the East (form of Horus) (LGG6, 290, Dendera)

Sekhmet, Mistress of Is-hat (unknown location) (LGG4, 21, Edfu)

She-to-Whom-Her-Face-Belongs (epithet of the Eye of Ra)

(LGG1, 151, Edfu; variant "She-to-Whom-Things-Belong") Thoth-Isdes (Thoth as a falcon) (LGG1, 560; Edfu, List 3) Festivals:

Coronation, Day 3 of 4 (KSG 3, 3; Spalinger 1990, 289-294 and note 36; Bleeker, 109; von Beckerath 1991, 32 and note 12)

Appearance of Horus and Hathor, Day 4 of 5 (TFC Kom Ombo)

Appearance of Harsiese

Appearance of Sobek

Feast of the Drunkenness of the Eye of Ra (TFC Edfu; LA2, Edfu)

Appearance of Horus, Chief of the Great Throne; Min, Lord of the Two Lands; and Sobek, Lord of Kom Ombo (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI) "Do not burn fire in Ra's presence." (CC) LA2 notes that at Edfu, festivals of drunkenness and dancing were held in honor of the Eye of Ra on I Peret 3, 5, and 9.

I Peret 4

Chronokrater:

Harsiese (LGG5, 283, Edfu)

Harsaphes (LGG5, 381, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of the Glance/Look (LGG4, 152)

Sekhmet, Gold of Her Mother (LGG4, 183, Dendera, Kom Ombo, and Edfu) Festivals:

Coronation, Day 4 (final) KSG 3, 3; Spalinger 1990, 289-294 and note 36; Bleeker, 109; von Beckerath 1991, 32 and note 12)

Appearance of Horus and Hathor, Day 5 (final) (TFC Kom Ombo)

Procession of Horus of the Beautiful Upper Egyptian Barley (Horus Shema-Nefer) (TFC Esna) "Going out by Shema-Nefer after he received banquets in the presences of his father and mother; sacrifices at the altar." (TFC Esna)

"If you see anything it will be good. Anyone born on this day will die old among his people. He will spend a long lifetime, and he will be received by his father." (CC)

I Peret 5

Chronokrater:

Horus of the Duat (LGG5, 295; Leitz 2002, 146, Edfu)

Hathor, Lady of Sweetness (LGG4, 47, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of Behbeit-el-Hagar (LGG 4, 85, Edfu and Kom Ombo)

The White Crown (LGG2, 507, Dendera)

Hathor, Sweet of Voice (LGG2, 806, Kom Ombo and Edfu; variant Hathor, Lady of Sweetness) Festivals:

Feast of Horus and Hathor, Lady of Dendera (TFC Edfu)

"Sekhmet Places the Flame before the Great Ones" (CC; TFC Edfu) LA2 notes that at Edfu, festivals of drunkenness and dancing were held in honor of the Eye of Ra on I Peret 3, 5, and 9.

"It is the day of placing the flame in front of the great ones by Sekhmet who reigns in the Lower Egyptian sanctuary, when she was violent in her manifestations, because of her coming into it; [placing the flame] by Ma'at, Ptah, Thoth, Hu and Sia, the gods on this day [...] of each day." (CC)

I Peret 6

Chronokrater:

Neith (LGG3, 511)

Isis, Lady of Peret-season (LGG4, 57, Edfu and Kom Ombo; wordplay variant Isis, Lady of Emergence)

Wepwawet, Lord of the Mountain (LGG2, 343, Edfu)

Festivals:

Sixth-Day Festival

"Food offerings for He Who Dwells in Weret" (Khenty-irety) (CC)

Feast of Amun(-Ra) (AF Medinet Habu Ramses III; TFC Medinet Habu)

Appearances of Tasenetnofret, Hathor, and Min (TFC Kom

Ombo Ptolemy VI) "Day of the Festival of Amun, decreed by the King of Upper and Lower Egypt, Userma'atre Meryamun (Ramses III), when the leaf of the ished-tree was carved with the name of the King of Upper and Lower Egypt, Userma'atre Meryamun in the Mansion of Ptah; offerings for Amun-Ra with his ennead." (AF Medinet Habu; TFC Ramses III Medinet Habu) "Repeat the food offering for He Who Dwells in Weret, and revert the offerings of the noble Khenty-irety (here an epithet of Osiris), and offerings to the gods are doubled by everyone today." (CC) The sixth day of any calendrical month, civil or lunar, is noted as the Suwenet, the "sixth-day festival." On the Suwenet, offerings were given to the deceased at their graves.

I Peret 7

Chronokrater:

Shezemtet (LGG7, 124, Dendera)

Sobek, Lord of Heaven (LGG6, 259, Edfu; Leitz 2002, 140, Edfu)

Hathor, Lady of Byblos (LGG4, 150, Edfu)

Isis the Great (LGG2, 52, Edfu and Kom Ombo) Festival: Feast of Renenutet (LA2, Dendera; TFC Edfu)

"Do not have sex with any woman or any person who is in your house in front of the great flame (i.e., the sun) today." (CC)

I Peret 8

Chronokrater:

Isis, Guide of the Gods (LGG5, 950, Dendera, Edfu, and Kom Ombo)

Mut-Isis (LGG3, 251, Dendera; LGG 1, 62, Dendera; variation Mut)

Sobek, Lord of the Caverns (LGG6, 259; Leitz 2002, 140, Edfu)

Hathor, Lady of Weavers (LGG4, 120, Edfu and Kom Ombo) Bast (LGG2, 740, Edfu and Kom Ombo) NO FESTIVALS TODAY

"If you see anything today, it will be good." (CC)

I Peret 9

Chronokrater:

Sobek, Lord of [...] (LGG6, 259; Leitz 2002, 140, Edfu) Isis, Lady of Chemmis (LGG4, 3, Dendera, Kom Ombo, and Edfu)

Bast, Lady of the Chest/Box (LGG4, 92, Edfu and Kom Ombo; variant Menhyt, Lady of the Chest/Box)
Ra-Horakhty (LGG4, 630, Dendera) Festivals:
Feast of Hathor, Lady of Dendera (TFC Edfu)
Procession of Khnum "to visit his ancient father, Atum"
(LA5, 281, Esna) "The gods are joyful with the offerings of Sekhmet on this day. Establish the paut-cake and repeat the offerings. It will be pleasant to the hearts of the gods and spirits." (CC) LA2 notes that at Edfu, festivals of drunkenness and dancing were held in honor of the Eye of Ra on I Peret 3, 5, and 9.

I Peret 10

Chronokrater:

Horus, Lord of Heaven (LGG3, 624, Dendera)

Sobek, Lord of the Inundation (LGG6, 259; Leitz 2002, 140, Edfu)

Isis, Lady of Heaven (LGG4, 49, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of the Water's Edge (lit., lips of the shore)

(LGG4, 128, Edfu and Kom Ombo)

"She Who Generates Her (Own) Perfection" (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG2, 606, Dendera, Edfu, and Kom Ombo) Festival:

Oracle of Amunhotep I, True of Voice (LA2, 184, New Kingdom)

"Do not burn any papyrus today. It is the day of the coming forth of the flame, together with Horus, from the marshes." (CC)

I Peret 11

Chronokrater:

Horus (LGG5, 231; variant Horus, Lord of Cool Water, Leitz 2002, 150, Edfu)

Mehyt-Wadjet (LGG3, 371, Dendera; LGG2, 270, Dendera) Hathor, Lady of Foundations (LGG4, 152)

She Whose Power Exists (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG2, 375, Dendera, Edfu, and Kom Ombo) NO FESTIVALS TODAY

"Do not approach flame on this day..." (CC)

I Peret 12

Chronokrater:

Hathor of Dendera (LGG5, 76, Dendera)

Ka-of-the-Great-One (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG7, 236, Dendera, Kom Ombo, and Edfu)

Lady of Writing among the Primordial Ones (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 8, Edfu and Kom Ombo)

Hathor, Lady of the Sycamore(-quarter) (near Memphis) (LGG4, 80, Dendera) Festival:

"Answering Every Speech of Sekhmet" (CC)

"If you see any dog today, do not ... approach him on the day of answering every speech of Sekhmet." (CC)

I Peret 13

Chronokrater:

Osiris, Who Loves His Mother (LGG3, 338, Edfu)

Shu, Lord of Ma'at (LGG3, 639, Dendera)

Mut, Lady of Roaring (LGG4, 92, Edfu and Kom Ombo)

Hathor, Lady at the Height of Her (Magical) Power (LGG4, 161, Dendera, Edfu, and Kom Ombo)

Wadjet (LGG2, 270, Dendera)

Ptah of Abydos, Great in His Reverence (LGG2, 427, Edfu) Tefnut (?) (LGG7, 406, Dendera; one instance says I Peret 13, the rest say I Peret 14) Festivals:

"Feast of Prolonging Lifetime, and Making Ma'at

Beneficent in the Temple" (CC)

Feast of Bast (LA2, 178; LA1, 629, Late Period at Bubastis)

I Peret 14

Chronokrater:

Neith (LGG3, 511, Dendera)

Tefnut (LGG7, 406, Dendera; one instance says I Peret 13 instead)

Hathor, Lady of the Eastern Mountain (LGG4, 45, Edfu) Isis, Lady of the Evening Barque (LGG4, 67, Edfu and Kom Ombo)

Horus, Who Loves His Mother (Leitz 2002, 146, Edfu) Festival:

Lamentations of Isis and Nephthys in Busiris (CC)

"Weeping of Isis and Nephthys. It is the day when they mourned Osiris in Busiris, in remembrance of what he had seen. Do not listen to singing or chanting today." (CC)

I Peret 15

Chronokrater:

Neith (LGG3, 511, Dendera; this may be a duplicate or error of yesterday's entry)

Nut (LGG3, 535, Dendera)

Hathor of Holy Jubilation (LGG7, 671, Dendera, Edfu, and Kom Ombo)

Hathor, Lady of Fate (LGG4, 140, Edfu and Kom Ombo) Horus, Who Carries His Mother (form of Harsiese) (LGG4, 671, Edfu) Festivals: Festival of the Half Month

Feast of Hathor, Lady of Dendera (TFC Edfu)

Appearance of Nun (CC)

"Feast of the Heavens" for Min (LA3, New Kingdom)

I Peret 16

Chronokrater:

Mut (LGG3, 251, Dendera)

She Who Loves Her People (epithet of the Eye of Ra)

(LGG3, 349, Dendera and Edfu)

Nut (LGG3, 535, Dendera; may be a duplicate of yesterday's entry)

Sekhmet, Lady of the Tent (LGG4, 131, Edfu; variant

Sekhmet, Lady of the Tent of Ra's Temple, LGG4, 132, Kom Ombo)

Isis Who Is Beautiful to Behold (LGG4, 228, Dendera and Kom Ombo)

Sobek Who Enters the Place of Strength (LGG2, 233, Edfu) Festival:

Appearance of Horus-Shu (CC)

"Going forth of Horus-Shu [...] in order to count the crew of the evening barque." (CC)

I Peret 17

Chronokrater:

Sobek, Lord of Neb-seh (unknown location) (LGG6, 259, Edfu; Leitz 2002, 140, Edfu; variant Sobek, Lord of Heb-Sed Festivals)

Hathor, Lady of the Deserts (LGG4, 168, Edfu)

Isis Who Gives What She Loves (variant Isis Who Gives to Those Whom She Loves, LGG4, 777, Dendera and Edfu) Onuris (LGG1, 378, Dendera) Festivals:

Procession of Nun (CC)

Feast of Meshenet for the Followers of Horus (TFC Edfu) Navigation of Menhyt (LGG3, 306; Esna II, 55, 8; TFC Esna) "Do not wash yourself with water today. It is the day of the going forth of Nun to the place where the gods are. Those who are above and those who are below come into existence, the land still being in darkness." (CC) The word meshenet refers to fishermen, specifically harpooners, who kept crocodiles and hippopotami away from the fishing nets. Horus has a long association with harpooning from the myths surrounding his Contendings with Set for the throne of the Two Lands.

I Peret 18

Chronokrater:

Nunet (the female Nun) (LGG3, 550, Edfu)

Isis, Lady of Athribis (LGG4, 150, Edfu)

Horus, Great of Magic (LGG2, 454; Leitz 2002, 147, Edfu; variant Heka, Great of Magic, Leitz 2002, 153, Esna)

Festivals:

Procession of the Gods to Abydos (TFC Ramses II; CC) Feast of Neith and Heka of Isheru (sacred lake of Mut's temple at Karnak), Day 1 of 4 (TFC Esna, Sais, and Karnak; LGG5, 553, Esna)

Holiday in Rosetjau (TFC Ramses II; CC)

"Very Great Festivals" (Old Kingdom reference from LA) "Feast of Neith, the very great feast of Heka and the feast of the child (i.e., Heka) at Sais; processional appearance of this goddess (i.e., Neith), accomplishing all the rites of the 'navigation of the sacred lake of the Isheru' until I Peret 21." (TFC Esna) "A holiday in Rosetjau today. The going forth of the gods to Abydos." (CC)

I Peret 19

Chronokrater:

Sekhmet (LGG6, 557, Dendera)

Nunet (the female Nun), She Who Encompasses (with her

arms) (LGG6, 570, Dendera and Edfu) Hathor, Lady of What Is Brought (LGG4, 119, Edfu) Oebshenuef, Whom His Father Made (LGG1, 443, Edfu) Hathor, Who Shines as the Golden One (LGG2, 330; Dümichen 1877, Plates 15 and 17, Dendera naos) Festivals: Feast of Neith and Heka of Isheru, Day 2 of 4 (TFC Esna, Sais, and Karnak; LGG5, 553, Esna) Procession of Nebtu (TFC Esna) Navigation of Hathor of Dendera (from I Peret 19 to I Peret 21 and from I Peret 28 to 2 Peret 4; also called "She (the Wandering Eye) is Led Back") (LA2, 1035; TFC Dendera; TFC Edfu; CC) "Making sure of the union of the disk in favor of Nebtu." (TFC Esna) "Navigation of Hathor of Dendera to I Peret 21. Procession to the quay, stopping there [...] All the ritual of navigation is performed there. One does the same from I Peret 28 to II Peret 4. The ritual was made for the goddess by her father Ra. It is made for her again when she returns from the place of finding, that the inundation may be given to Kemet (the traditional name of Egypt), with all the miracles of the Beloved Land (Ta-mery, another name for Egypt) in the spring, and that she might turn her back on Nubia." (TFC Edfu) "Procession of Hathor, Lady of Dendera, and her ennead. Stopping at the kiosk at the canal guay. Her beautiful face is turned to the north. Performing the ritual of navigation, and making all the rituals. Procession (again) by this goddess and her ennead. Resting in the hall in the front of this temple. The same (ritual) is done on I Peret 20. A libation is poured for those in Khadi by the priest of the king. The same (ritual) is done on I Peret 21, 22, 28, 29, 30, II Peret 1, 2, and 3." (TFC Dendera) "The great gods are in heaven today, together with all of the pestilences of the year. Many deaths are in it (i.e., today). If it (i.e., the pestilence) passes by anyone, he will not recover from the disease that is in him." (CC; Leitz TW 212)

Chronokrater:

Ra, Who Makes the Nun Healthy (LGG6, 380, Edfu)

Hathor-Isqeret (? epithet unclear) (LGG1, 557, Edfu)

Amun-Ra, the Unique One (LGG2, 280, Dendera)

Sobek in Kom Ombo (Leitz 2002, 154, Edfu) Festivals:

Navigation of Hathor of Dendera (from I Peret 19 to I Peret 21; from I Peret 28 to 2 Peret 4; related to the Intues ("She is Led Back" Festival/solstice/return of the Eye) (LA2, 1035; TFC Dendera; TFC Edfu; CC)

Feast of Neith and Heka of Isheru, Day 3 of 4 (TFC Esna, Sais, and Karnak; LGG5, 553, Esna)

Procession of Bast (CC; Leitz TW 214)

Festival of Wadjet (LGG2, 271; LA6, 908; AF 94: T3 stela, Mut temple of Karnak)

Festival of Haroeris at Edfu (LA2, 1001)

Feast of Renenutet at Amun's Temple (LGG4, 657; Stela Bordeaux KRI VII, 204) "Do not do anything today. It is the day of the procession of Bast who protects the Two Lands, who cares for him who comes in the darkness. Beware of passing on land until Ra sets." (CC) "Give one jug of beer for Renenutet on I Peret 20." (LGG4, 657; Stela Bordeaux KRI VII, 204)

Today is one of five festivals in honor of Wadjet (III Akhet 3, I Peret 2(22?), I Peret 20 outgoing (khenenet), II Peret 26 and II Peret 9) (Thutmose III Stela from Buto in Fs Winter, 47-48).

I Peret 21

Chronokrater:

Hathor, Whose Ka Is in Her Heart (LGG7, 234, Dendera and Edfu)

Hathor, Lady of Refay (unknown location) (LGG4, 87, Edfu) Ra (LGG4, 612, Edfu)

Wadjet (LGG2, 270, Dendera) Festivals:

Navigation of Hathor of Dendera (from I Peret 19 to I Peret

21; and from I Peret 28 to 2 Peret 4; related to the Intues ("She is Led (Back)"/solstice/return of the Eye) (LA2, 1035; TFC Dendera; TFC Edfu; CC)

Bast Guards the Two Lands (CC)

Feast of Shu (TFC Edfu)

Feast of Neith and Heka of Isheru, Day 4 (final) (TFC Esna, Sais, and Karnak; LGG5, 553, Esna) "Guarding the Two Lands by Bast, and making vegetable offerings to the followers of Ra today." (CC)

I Peret 22

Chronokrater:

Lady of Reckoning (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 14, Dendera; variant Lady of Offering-foods, LGG4, 148) Hathor, Mistress of the Ipep-Plants (LGG4, 14, Edfu) Amun-Ra Iakhu (epithet reading unclear) (LGG1, 109, Edfu) Onuris (LGG1, 378, Dendera) Festivals:

Feast of Heryt ("the ones above," the two goddesses of the royal crowns) (LGG4, 809; AF Medinet Habu; TFC Medinet Habu; AF TT2 tomb of Khabekhnet; KRI III, 805; Hari 1985, 172 and plate 37)

Festival of Wadjet (LGG2, 271) "Day of the festival of the Heryt. Offerings for Amun-Ra with his ennead, and the portable image of Ramses III." (TFC/AF Medinet Habu)

"If you see anything today, it will be good." (CC)

"Festival of the crown-snakes" (AF TT50 tomb of Neferhotep, dated to reign of Horemheb)

"Feast of the holiday of Heryt" (AF TT2 tomb of Khabekhnet, 19th/20th Dynasty)

Today is one of five festivals in honor of Wadjet (III Akhet 3, I Peret 2(22?), I Peret 20 outgoing (khenenet), II Peret 26 and II Peret 9) (Thutmose III Stela from Buto in Fs Winter, 47-48).

I Peret 23

Chronokrater:

Lady of Fate against Him (i.e., Apophis) (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 140, Edfu)

Iah (LGG1, 147, Dendera)

Hathor of the Green Fields (LGG2, 265, Dendera and Edfu) Horus-of-Both-Eyes in the Menset (i.e., the temples of Shu and Tefnut in Heliopolis) (Leitz 2002, 151, Edfu) NO FESTIVALS TODAY

"Anyone born on this day will die in great old age, and rich in every good thing." (CC)

I Peret 24

Chronokrater:

The Lady of Nehnu (unknown location) (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 81, Edfu)

Hathor, Lady of Light (LGG4, 135, Dendera and Edfu)

Amun-Ra (LGG1, 321, Dendera; one instance says Amun-Ra Lord of the Thrones of the Two Lands)

Horus, Shining in the Cavern (LGG2, 802, Edfu) NO FESTIVALS TODAY

"Everything has been placed behind him in the presence of the ennead on the occasion of being loyal to the executioners of Ra. Happiness is in heaven and on the earth today." (CC)

I Peret 25

Chronokrater:

Montu (LGG3, 319, Dendera)

Sobek, Lord of Ir-merty (unknown location) (LGG6, 259;

Leitz 2002, 140, Edfu; variant Sobek, Lord of

Creating/Creation)

Mistress of the Opet Temple (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 14, Edfu)

Wadjet, the Akhet-Eye (LGG1, 46, Dendera and Edfu)

Festivals:

Establishing the Celestial Cow (or Great Milking-Cow) (LGG5, 483; Leitz TW 219)

Descent of the Dove (epithet of Isis) (TFC Edfu)

Feast of Thanksgiving Offerings, Day 1 of 3 (or 4) (TFC Edfu; LGG4, 484; Edfu V, 400 and in Edfu source, to Day 27; other sources to Day 28)

Feasts of Horus of Behdet and Hathor, Lady of Dendera (TFC Edfu) "Do not eat (sic) milk today. Establishing the great divine Cow in the presence of Ra's majesty. Drink and eat honey today." (CC) "Then this god (Ra) said to Nut: 'I placed Myself on Your back to be elevated, what then?' So He said, and Nut became Sky...then the majesty of this god looked into Her and She said, 'Make me into a multitude!' And there were stars." (Book of the Divine Cow, Tutankhamun burial shrine, KV 62, Valley of the Kings, Dynasty 18)

I Peret 26

Chronokrater:

Horus in Letopolis (LGG4, 278; Leitz 2002, 151, Edfu) Hathor, Who Pervades the Asiatics (reference to Levantine peoples, LGG5, 760, Dendera and Edfu)

Neith (LGG3, 511, Dendera; some entries read "Neith and Wadjet")

Wadjet (LGG3, 511; LGG2, 270, Dendera; some entries read "Neith and Wadjet") Festival:

Feast of Thanksgiving Offerings, Day 2 of 3 (or 4) (TFC Edfu; LGG4, 484; Edfu V, 400 and in Edfu source to Day 27; other sources to Day 28) "Do not go out today until Ra sets, when offerings are diminished in Busiris, while they are put on the earth towards heaven. They will be greatly blamed about it." (CC)

I Peret 27

Chronokrater:

Horus-Foremost-of-Eyes (LGG5, 262; Leitz 2002, 147, Edfu)

Khonsu (LGG5, 762, Dendera)

Khonsu-in-Thebes (LGG4, 764, Dendera)

Nekhbet, Wide of Stride (LGG3, 184, Dendera and Edfu) Festivals:

Feast of Thanksgiving Offerings, Day 3 (final, or Day 3 of 4) (TFC Edfu; LGG4, 484; Edfu V, 400 and in Edfu source, to Day 27; other sources to Day 28)

Feast of Sokar "Great festivity in Hefau [...] the snake is in festivity [...] today." (CC; Leitz TW 223; the snake is possibly a form of Ra-Horakhty)

I Peret 28

Chronokrater:

No Silence within Her (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG3, 507, Dendera and Edfu)

Duamutef (LGG7, 516, Dendera)

Anubis (LGG1, 391, Dendera) Festivals:

Navigation of Khnum-Ra, Day 1 of 4 (TFC Esna)

Appearance and Oaths of Thoth

Procession of Hathor (to II Peret 4) (LA2, 177; related to "She Is Led Back"/solstice/return of the Wandering Eye) Feast of Thanksgiving Offerings, Day 4 (final, if 4 days) (TFC Edfu; LGG4, 484; Edfu V, 400 and in Edfu source, to Day 27; other sources to Day 28) "Taking a solemn oath by Thoth in Hermopolis Magna, and the going forth of the noble one. The land is in festivity today. Make a holiday in your house." (CC; Leitz TW 224; LGG3, 84)

I Peret 29

Chronokrater:

Haroeris (LGG5, 249, Edfu)

Menqbet (the palace, personified as a goddess) (LGG3, 318, Dendera and Edfu)

Onuris (LGG1, 378, Dendera) Festivals:

Navigation of Khnum-Ra, Day 2 of 4 (TFC Esna)

Day of Erecting the Willow (TFC Medinet Habu Ramses III)

Thoth Sends Bast and Sekhmet to Protect the Two Lands (CC; LA1, 629; AF stela in the Mut Temple, Karnak, Thutmose IV) "Day of erecting the Willow (tjeryt) (i.e., a willow tree in honor of Osiris); offerings for Amun-Ra." (TFC Medinet Habu, Ramses III) "The feast of entering in his town; taking the procession of Khnum, Ra, Lord of Esna, to [Agny?]" (TFC Esna)

"Appearance in the sight of Hu. Thoth will send this command south to guide the Two Lands, by Bast, together with the sole mistress, Sekhmet the Great, the gods being happy. If you see anything today, it will be good." (CC)

I Peret 30

Chronokrater:

Sokar (LGG6, 664; one variant says Osiris, LGG2, 530; both references from Dendera)

Isis, Lady of Peret-season (alternate reading Lady of Emergence) (LGG4, 57, Dendera and Edfu)

Hathor, Lady of Aphroditopolis (LGG4, 137, Edfu) Festivals: House of Ra, House of Osiris, House of Horus (Last Day of the Month)

Navigation of Khnum-Ra, Day 3 of 4 (TFC Esna)

Feast of Hathor, Mistress of Agny (TFC Esna)

Procession of Shezmetet (LA5, 588; AF stela in the Mut temple at Karnak, Thutmose IV)

Boat Procession of Mut, Lady of Isheru (AF pTurin 68; Gardiner, 1930; AF 43 ship's log; all Ramesside) "Crossing over in the presence of Nun from the temple of Hapi, the father of the gods and the ennead, while incense is in the fire according to their scrolls today. House of Ra, House of Osiris, House of Horus." (CC)

II Peret



The second month of Peret was originally named Rekeh-wer, "Great Burning," after a festival known from at least the Middle Kingdom. The Great Burning was an ancient festival, consisting of a major burnt offering presented to Haroeris in honor of the beginning of planting season. In the Late Period, both II Peret 8 and II Peret 9 became the Greater and Lesser Burning festivals (in

earlier times, the Rekeh-sheri, or "Lesser Burning," had been held on III Peret 1 instead, and lent its name to that month). The importance of the return of arable land, after the inundation receded, was marked in the Peret season and particularly during this month, which eventually was renamed Pa-en-mekhir, "the [month] of the low-lying one," by the New Kingdom. This later name is also the basis of the surviving Coptic month name of Mekhir or Mechir. Mekhir, "the low-lying one" or "the one who lays [enemies] low," is also an epithet of the lion-form of the god Horus-Shu who is celebrated in the Victory Festival noted below. At Kom Ombo, one of Haroeris' great temples, another land-related holiday called the Festival of the Pastures began on II Peret 9 and extended for five days. During this festival, the icon of Haroeris was brought out of its sanctuary to receive large offerings of calves and grain, portions of which were also burned on ritual bonfires. A willow tree was planted during the bonfire portion of the

festival at the time of Ramses III. The planting of the willow, like the erecting of the Djed pillar at the end of the Osiris Mysteries or the willow planting at the end of the She Is Led Back festivals of the Wandering Goddess, was intended to bless the fertility of the land and to establish growth and harvest (Brunner 1977, 338).

A third great festival for a Horus god takes place in II Peret: the Victory festival, celebrated nationally from II Peret 21 to 25. This Horus, also considered to be a manifestation of the god Shu (Alliot 1949, 288), was the same god as the one honored during the festival performed on I Akhet 19 in Dendera in honor of Shu and Hathor-Tefnut. A ritual drama re-enacting the triumph of Horus over evil, symbolized by a falcon-masked priest who speared a model of a male hippopotamus (Watterson 1998, 115) recalled not only the events of the contendings of Harsiese and Set, but the establishment of Egypt itself in predynastic times. The Winged Disk legend was retold, as the king (Horus' representative on earth) was blessed and reconsecrated in Horus' name (Fairman 1974, 93ff).

Major Holidays

- 1 Peret 19 through 2 Peret 4 "She Is Led Back" Feast of the Return of the Wandering Eye-Goddess
- 1 Boat Procession of Anubis
- 9 Great Burning (Rekeh-wer) Festival (Middle Kingdom III Peret 1, James 1961, 123; Late Period II Peret 8 at Esna and II Peret 9 at Edfu, Altenmüller 1994, 177 and Alliot 1949, 228).
- 9-13 Festival of the Pastures (Grimm 1994, 393, Kom Ombo)
- 21-25 Festival of Victory The gods of the month of II Peret are:

Rekeh-wer (the holiday, deified as a jackal on a standard) (LGG4, 729; Medinet Habu VI, 478; EAT III, plate 5; JE

37525 clepsydra); and Mekhir, the lion form of Horus-Shu (Alliot 1949, 285 and 288, Edfu) There are four spirit/deity protectors of II Peret, called "Those of the Thrones in the Body of Thoth" (LGG4, 320):

- 1. name lost
- 2. He Who Is Swift of Stride (LGG5, 630)
- 3. He of the Swift Arm (LGG6, 172)
- 4. The Breaker (LGG7, 314-315, Edfu)

Second Month of the Season of Growing, Day 1 (II Peret 1) Chronokrater:

Hathor, Lady of the Night (variant Hathor-Who-Is-Above) (LGG4, 43, Dendera and Edfu)

Hedjhotep, Son of Isis (LGG5, 602; Leitz 2002, 147, Edfu) Osiris (LGG2, 530, Dendera) Festivals:

First Day of the Month

Ptah Lifts Ra's Heaven, Day 1 of 2 (CC; LGG3, 169; Leitz TW 228)

Boat Procession of Anubis (TFC/AF Medinet Habu Ramses III; LA)

Navigation of Khnum-Ra, Day 4 (final) (TFC Esna)

Appearance of Horus (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI)

"Navigation of Anubis; offerings to Amun-Ra and his ennead." (AF/TFC Medinet Habu Ramses III; LA)

"Feast of the gods and goddesses (of Khnum-Ra of Esna) accomplishing all the rites of navigation, making a stop in their place; passing a happy day with all the people." (TFC Esna) "The gods and goddesses are in festival today, namely the feast of Lifting the Heaven of Ra by Ptah with his hands, he who has no equal. A holiday in the entire land." (CC; LGG3, 169; Leitz TW 228)

II Peret 2

Chronokrater:

Seed-of-the-Effective-Ones (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG3, 97, Dendera and Edfu)

Hathor, Lady of Sehenu(?) (unknown location) (LGG4, 131,

Edfu)

Great of Fear, the son of Horus (LGG2, 30, Edfu) Festival: Ptah Lifts Ra's Heaven, Day 2 (final) (CC; LGG3, 169; Leitz TW 228)

"The day of receiving Ra by the gods. The heart of the Two Lands is in festival." (CC)

II Peret 3

Chronokrater:

Hatmehyt, Lady of Mendes (LGG4, 93, Edfu)

Hathor-Mut, Lady of the Two Lands (LGG4, 157, Dendera and Edfu) Festivals:

Procession of Set and His Followers (CC)

Navigation of Ma'at (CC)

"Do not go out of your house on any road today. It is the day of the going forth of Set with his followers to the eastern horizon, and the navigation of Ma'at to the place where the gods are." (CC)

II Peret 4

Chronokrater:

Harsaphes (LGG5, 381, Dendera)

She-Who-Is-Over-the-East (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG5, 411, Dendera)

Wadjet, Lady of Iakhmet (12th UE nome) (LGG4, 8, Edfu) Osiris (LGG2, 530, Edfu) Festivals: Heb Wer ("Great Festival") (LA2, 177; TFC Edfu; CC; Niuserre inscriptions, Old Kingdom)

Final Day of "She Is Led (Back)" Festival (solstice festival of the Wandering Eye) at Dendera (TFC Dendera; LA2, 1036) "The very, very, very great festival. The altars are furnished with oxen and birds, with gazelles, with oryx and ibex. There is singing, dancing, jumping, and rejoicing by the braided-haired dancers of the town. In the eighth hour today, they will stop at the palace." (TFC Edfu; LA2, 177)

"At the third hour, procession by this goddess (i.e., Hathor), stopping at the kiosk at the quay; performing all rites. At the fifth hour, procession by Hathor, Lady of Dendera; then resting in her temple." (TFC Dendera) "Place your heart toward your local gods, honor your spirits, exalt your crew during the day today." (CC)

"Offerings of uniting with the disk, together with various dances and music without end" (LA2, 1036, end of She Is Led Back festival)

The Heb Wer is one of the oldest recorded Egyptian festivals, a national holiday in honor of Haroeris. Some calendars simply refer to it as the "Very, very, very great festival": a day everyone knew and enjoyed greatly!

II Peret 5

Chronokrater:

Geb (LGG7, 304, Edfu)

Tefnut (LGG7, 406, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of Cusae (LGG4, 146, Edfu)

She-Who-Is-in-the-Palace (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG1, 290, Dendera and Edfu) NO FESTIVALS TODAY

"If you see anything today, it will be good." (CC)

II Peret 6

Chronokrater:

Hathor, Great of Love (variant Hathor, What She Loves, Is Great) (TFC Esna; Esna VI, 55, 8; LGG2, 443, Dendera and Edfu)

Sobek, Lord of Kom Ombo (variant Lord of Lords or Lord of the Basket-lands) (LGG6, 259, Edfu)

Hathor, Lady of Neferusy (16th UE nome) (LGG4, 75, Edfu) Wadjet (LGG2, 270, Dendera) Festivals:

Sixth-Day Festival

Raising the Djed Pillar for Osiris (TFC Ramses II; CC)

Feast of Shu (TFC Esna)

Feast of Sekhmet (TFC Esna)

Feast of Menhyt (TFC Esna; LGG3, 306; Esna II, 55, 8) "Raising the Djed pillar for Osiris; gods mourn him." (TFC Ramses II)

"Half bad, half good. Feast of Shu, feast of the Eye of Ra, namely Sekhmet; feast of Menhyt. The goddess of this day is Hathor, Great of Love." (TFC Esna; LGG3, 306; Esna II, 55, 8) "It is the day of putting up the Djed by the Majesty of Osiris. Then the gods were sad, with their faces downward, when they remembered this god's majesty. They spoke of those who went before." (CC) The sixth day of any calendrical month, civil or lunar, is noted as the Suwenet, the "sixth-day festival." On the Suwenet, offerings were given to the deceased at their graves.

The Djed pillar, as an amulet and an actual pillar as tall as a man, is raised in a ritual context by the king to indicate a return of stability, as the Djed is the image of stability as well as a symbol associated with the Lord of the Black Land, Osiris.

II Peret 7

Chronokrater:

Hathor, Lady of Iaga (LGG4, 8, Edfu)

Isis, Lady of What Will Be (LGG4, 142, Dendera and Edfu) Osiris (LGG2, 530, Edfu) Festival:

Invoking and Offering to the Ancestors (CC; LA6, 155)

"Make invocation offerings to the ancestors in your house. Make food offerings to the gods, and they will be accepted today." (CC; LA6, 155)

Most months include an invocation/offering for the ancestors on the Sixth-day festival. In II Peret, perhaps because the sixth day was already being celebrated for the

re-establishment of Osiris, the calendar honors the ancestors in a special way on the seventh day.

II Peret 8

Chronokrater:

Wadjet, Foremost of Thousands (LGG5, 923, Dendera and Edfu)

Atum (LGG7, 412, Dendera)

Sobek, Son of Isis, with Pacified Limbs (Leitz 2002, 144, Edfu) Festivals:

Feast and Procession of Neith (TFC Esna)

Holiday in Letopolis (CC)

"Feast of Neith; opening the two doors in the house of Neith for placing food offerings to the gods. Making the procession of this goddess and her ennead; [...] of Neith, then keeping the evening ritual; union with the disk, return." (TFC Esna) "Make a holiday in Letopolis. The gods and goddesses are in festival today." (CC)

II Peret 9

Chronokrater:

Hathor in Ra's Pasture (LGG5, 85, Edfu)

Hathor (LGG5, 76, Dendera)

Haroeris, Pacified in the Pastures (LGG5, 580; Leitz 2002, 147, Edfu)

Wadjet, Lady of Fire (LGG4, 41, Edfu)

Renenutet (LGG4, 686, Dendera and Edfu) Festivals:

Amun Lifts the Sky, Day 1 of 2 (AF/TFC Medinet Habu Ramses III)

Great Burning (Rekeh-Wer) (or Willow Festival of Horus),

Day 1 of 5 (LA2, 178, Esna; TFC Kom Ombo; LA2, 177,

Edfu; TFC Edfu; CC; Leitz TW 234; LGG4, 499)

Festival of Wadjet (LGG2, 271) "Celebrating for the temple of Horus, Lord of Kom Ombo, for the second month of

Peret, day 2, on his beautiful festival of the feast of the Willow. One calls it 'devouring of calves.' Appearance of this god; resting in the hall. Placing and burning many calves before him: one calls it 'bringing the willow.'" (TFC Kom Ombo) "The god (i.e., Haroeris) enters, as he will conduct his rationing, [with] all the gods of Kher-aha (i.e., a location near Memphis). If you see anything today, it will be good." (CC) Today is one of five festivals in honor of Wadjet (III Akhet 3, I Peret 2 (22?), I Peret 20 outgoing (khenenet), II Peret 26 and II Peret 9) (Thutmose III Stela from Buto in Fs Winter, 47-48).

II Peret 10

Chronokrater:

Foremost of Her Head/Front (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG5, 933, Dendera and Edfu)

Sekhmet (LGG6, 557, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of Vision (LGG4, 59, Dendera) Festival: Great Burning (Rekeh-Wer) (or Willow Festival of Horus), Day 2 of 5: Udjat Procession "for singing"; "Raising of Ma'at" (TFC Kom Ombo; LA2, 178, Esna; LA2, 177, Edfu; TFC Edfu; LGG3, 329; Leitz TW 235)

Amun Lifts the Sky, Day 2 (final) (AF/TFC Medinet Habu Ramses III) "Performing [Haroeris'] rites on the second day (i.e., of Great Burning); appearing of this god; performing his rites likewise on day 13, to the 5th day [of III Peret]; resting in his place." (TFC Kom Ombo) "The going forth of the Udjat for singing in Heliopolis. Raising up of the female majesty of the temple (i.e., Ma'at) by the Mnevis bull. Ra raises Ma'at again and again to Atum." (CC; LGG3, 329; Leitz TW 235) "The second day of Amun's festival in his Feast of Lifting Up the Sky. Offer a ro-goose." (TFC Medinet Habu Ramses III) The Udjat, or Divine Eye, is a symbol of Horus and Ra as well as many goddesses, including Sekhmet, Nekhbet, Bast, and Hathor. "Presenting

the Eye" is also an ancient idiom for presentation or making of offerings, so this "Udjat Procession" relates to a major offering ritual.

II Peret 11

Chronokrater:

Sekhmet, Foremost of Plagues (LGG5, 923, Dendera and Edfu)

Hathor, Lady of Prosperity (LGG4, 44, Edfu)

Isis (LGG1, 62, Dendera)

Osiris, He Who Makes His Own Name (LGG1, 471, Edfu) Festivals:

Great Burning (Rekeh-Wer) (or Willow Festival of Horus),

Day 3 of 5 (TFC Kom Ombo; LA2, 178, Esna; LA2, 177,

Edfu; TFC Edfu; LGG3, 329; Leitz TW 235)

Feast of Neith and Procession of Sobek (CC, Sais)

Feast of Imhotep (LA2, 184)

Procession of Hathor to Pakhet (LA2, 1036) "Feast of Neith in Sais, and taking the writing material prepared in her house. The going forth of Sobek to guide her majesty. You will receive good [things] at her hands." (CC, Sais) The Hathor procession to Pakhet's temple at Speos Artemidos begins today and continues through II Peret 30 (LA2, 1036).

II Peret 12

Chronokrater:

Tefnut (LGG7, 406, Dendera)

Thoth (LGG7, 641, Dendera)

Horus the Son in [...] (LGG6, 125, Edfu)

Sobek, Lord of Apollinopolis Parva (LGG6, 259, Edfu; Leitz 2002, 141 and 151, Edfu)

Hathor, Lady of Flame (LGG4, 151, Edfu)

Sekhmet, Lady of Rage (LGG4, 167, Dendera and Edfu)

Festival:

Great Burning (Rekeh-Wer) (or Willow Festival of Horus), Day 4 of 5 (TFC Kom Ombo; LA2, 178, Esna; LA2, 177, Edfu; TFC Edfu; LGG3, 329; Leitz TW 235) "If you see anything today, it will be good." (CC)

II Peret 13

Chronokrater:

Thoth, Lord of Hermopolis Magna, Lord of Hieroglyphs (LGG3, 716, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of the Dendera Nome (LGG4, 23, Edfu) Sobek, Who Reckoned the Bright One (i.e., Eye goddess) (LGG1, 222, Edfu)

Wadjet (LGG2, 270, Dendera and Edfu)

Bat, Lady of Heaven (LGG2, 735, Dendera; variant Hathor-Bat, Lady of Heaven) Festivals:

Great Burning (Rekeh-Wer) (or Willow Festival of Horus), Day 5 (final) (TFC Kom Ombo; LA2, 178, Esna; LA2, 177, Edfu; TFC Edfu; LGG3, 329; Leitz TW 235)

Procession of Sekhmet and Her Executioners (CC; LGG5, 636; Leitz TW 238) "Do not go out of your house today, on any road. It is the day of the proceeding of Sekhmet of Letopolis. Her great executioners (lit., "knife demons") pass by the offerings of Letopolis today." (CC; Leitz TW 238)

II Peret 14

Chronokrater:

Hathor, Whose Ka Is in Her Heart (LGG7, 234, Dendera and Edfu)

Mercury (the planet, sacred to Horus) (LGG6, 266, Edfu) Mut, Lady of Power (LGG4, 44, Edfu; variant Amunet, Lady of Power) Festival:

"Set Kills Apophis" or "The Day Set Kills the Rebel" (CC)

"Do not go out today at the beginning of dawn. It is the day of seeing the rebel, and killing him by Set, at the prow of the great barque." (CC)

II Peret 15

Chronokrater:

Sekhmet (LGG6, 557, Dendera)

The Lady of Horus' Arrows (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 138, Dendera and Edfu)

Hathor, Mistress of All (lit., Lady to the Limit) (LGG4, 170, Edfu)

Harsiese, Beautiful-in-Strength (LGG2, 119, Edfu; variant reading Beautiful-in-Strength, son of Isis) Festivals: Procession for an unknown god (name lost) to the shrine of Haroeris Khenty-Irety (CC; Leitz TW 340; LGG3, 395) Festival of the Half Month

Renewing the Year (TFC Edfu) "...the gods go forth for him in heaven, his two hands holding the ankh and was scepters, which he gives to the nose of Khenty-Irety (a form of Horus) at the time of his reckoning." (CC; Leitz TW 340; LGG3, 395) Today is literally the halfway point of the year. Celebrations of the "renewal of the year" were held to renew and revitalize the year, similar to those held at Wep Ronpet.

II Peret 16

Chronokrater:

Neith (LGG3, 511, Dendera)

Sepa (here described as a form of Osiris) (LGG6, 269, Edfu) Sekhmet, Lady of the Great Marshes (LGG4, 139, Dendera and Edfu)

Isis-Hathor, Lady of Geheset (18th UE nome) (LGG4, 152, Edfu) Festival:

Isis Is Awakened by Ra's Majesty (CC; LGG5, 269; Leitz TW 241)

"...awakening of Isis, by the majesty of Ra. [...] their hands when the son Horus saved (lit., stood by) his father. He defeated Set and his followers." (CC; LGG5, 269; Leitz TW 241) This festival would have been celebrated symbolically, by taking an icon of Isis out of the darkened temple sanctuary to witness the sun's rising.

II Peret 17

Chronokrater:

Nut, Lady of the Sycamore (LGG3, 573, Dendera)

Wadjet, Lady of Buto (LGG4, 15, Edfu)

Hathor, Lady of the Sycamore(-quarter) (location near Memphis) (LGG4, 80, Dendera)

Sekhmet, She Who Burns Them (LGG4, 356, Dendera and Edfu)

Min, Lord of Sais (Leitz 2002, 151 and 154, Edfu) Festivals: Feast of Neith and Min of Sais (TFC Esna; LGG3, 288-289, Edfu; Esna II, 55, 9)

Defending the Akhet-Eye, Day 1 of 2 (LGG5, 628; Leitz TW 243) "Feast of Neith, Mistress of Lower Egypt. Acting in accordance with the ritual of the feast of Min, Lord of Sais." (TFC Esna; LGG3, 288-289, Edfu; Esna II, 55, 9) "It is the day of keeping those things of the pure place (w'abet) of Osiris which have been placed in Anubis' hands." (CC)

"Procession of the seven executioners (lit., knife-demons) in order to find the Akhet-Eye." (CC; LGG5, 628; Leitz TW 243)

The Akhet-Eye is a form of the Eye of Ra associated with the dawn (akhet here being a word for the horizon from which the solar Eye rises, as well as in a word play with the name of the season of Inundation (Akhet), which begins with the Nile flood that is also considered to be a form of the Eye).

II Peret 18

Chronokrater:

Horus (LGG5, 231, Edfu; noted for two days: II Peret 18-19, Leitz 2002, 154, Edfu)

Isis, Who Seeks the Two Lords (LGG5, 467, Dendera) Geb (LGG7, 304, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of the Food Offerings (LGG4, 169, Edfu)

Nehmet-Awai (LGG4, 284, Dendera) Festivals:

Defending the Akhet-Eye, Day 2 (final) (CC; LGG5, 628; Leitz TW 243)

Feast of Bast in Bubastis (LA2, 178; LA1, 629; Edfu G31) "Procession of the seven executioners (lit., knife-demons) in Letopolis. Their fingers are searching for the Akhet-Eye in the towns of Iyet and Letopolis." (CC)

II Peret 19

Chronokrater:

Horus (LGG5, 231, Edfu; noted for two days: II Peret 18-19, Leitz 2002, 154, Edfu)

Hathor, Who Sees Her Beauty (LGG3, 205, Dendera; variants Hathor, Lady of Perfection and Hathor, Lady of True Perfection, LGG4, 74, Edfu)

Hathor, Lady of Praise (LGG4, 125, Kom Ombo and Edfu) Wadjet (LGG2, 270, Dendera) Festival:

Offerings to Haroeris (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI)

"Taking the haunch before [Haroeris]" (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI)

"Do not decide to go out during the daytime. It is the day of mourning the god (i.e., Osiris)." (CC)

II Peret 20

Chronokrater:

Horus of Both Eyes (LGG5, 260, Edfu; variant adds Lord of Thebes, Leitz 2002, 151, Edfu)

Sekhmet-Menhyt (LGG3, 371, Dendera and Edfu)

Hathor, Who Creates Her Own Greatness (LGG6, 160, Dendera and Edfu)

Hathor, Lady of Walking [About] (LGG4, 58, Edfu)

Isis, Lady of Offerings (LGG4, 111, Dendera) Festivals:

Procession of Hathor "the female majesty of heaven" (CC) Birthday of Amun's Priesthood and Rites for Sekhmet, Day 1 of 5 (AF Karnak Thoeris statue) "The procession of the female majesty of heaven [goes] southward to the road...." (CC)

Hathor's navigation to the temple of Pakhet begins with a procession to the waystation kiosk at the edge of the Dendera temple complex, where her icon was readied for boat travel.

II Peret 21

Chronokrater:

Nekhbet, Lady of Fa'ag (3rd UE nome) (LGG4, 59, Edfu) Nemty of the 12th UE Nome (LGG4, 244; Leitz 2002, 147 and 154, Edfu)

Osiris (LGG2, 530, Dendera) Festivals:

Feast of Horus-Shu, Day 1 of 2 (TFC Edfu; CC; Leitz TW 258)

Feast of Amun, Day 1 of 11 (AF Hatshepsut Red Chapel; LA Medinet Habu Ramses III)

Feast of Ptah, Day 1 of 11 (LGG4, 264, Edfu)

Feast of Victory (Mekhir Festival), Day 1 of 5 (TFC Esna; TFC Edfu; TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI; TFC Dendera; CC; Leitz TW 259)

Birthday of Amun's Priesthood and Rites for Sekhmet, Day 2 of 5 (AF Karnak Thoeris statue)

Procession of Heka-the-Child (TFC Esna)

Procession of Hathor (TFC Edfu; TFC Dendera)
Navigation of Hathor to Pakhet (or "Planting the Herbs of the God" or "the Day of Myrrh and Incense"), Day 1 of 5 (TFC Dendera; Grimm 1994, 395) "Feast of Victory; making the procession of Heka the child, as far as the court of appearance, and accomplishing all rites of the feast of victory, and [...] in the court of this god (i.e., Khnum) [...] in the presence of this god." (TFC Esna) "Feast of victory [...] when they punished Set [...] as a hippopotamus, and his majesty (i.e., Haroeris) is a falcon." (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI)

"Feast of victory in the entire land; on it, the ritual is celebrated as on I Akhet 19. Mekhir is the name of this day. Feast of Reunion it is also called." (TFC Edfu) "Until [II Peret] day 30, growing the plants of the gods. Day of the fruits of Osiris. One performs the navigation of Hathor to Pakhet, temple of the seven Hathors, in this month." (TFC Dendera) "Procession by Hathor, Lady of Dendera, and her ennead. Resting at the roof (lit., the great heavenly vault). Celebrating all the rites for the feast of victory. Going in procession; stopping at the mammisi, and performing all the rites. At the tenth hour, this goddess goes in procession. She then rests in her temple with her ennead. Total, five days." (TFC Dendera) Hathor's navigation to the temple of the goddess Pakhet at Speos Artemidos, also called the Sanctuary of the Seven Hathors, was part of the Dendera Feast of Victory. Hathor of Dendera went to Pakhet's temple to visit with Pakhet, and then returned to the Dendera mammisi for rituals related to the protection and blessing of Horus and the reigning king. (Grimm 1994, 395) "Birth of the cattle [...] to the place where the pastures are, in the neighborhood of this foremost god (i.e., Horus)." (CC)

"The day of the birth of the wild things of the desert, where the desert gods live." (LGG4, 493; Leitz TW 259)

II Peret 22

Chronokrater:

Horus of Both Eyes (LGG5, 260; noted for three days, II Peret 22-24)

She-Who-Is-Filled-with-Ma'at (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG3, 369, Dendera and Edfu)

Sokar (LGG6, 664, Dendera)

The Lady of Nehenu (unknown location) (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 81, Edfu) Festivals:

Horus-Shu, Day 2 (final) (TFC Edfu; CC; Leitz TW 258)

Amun, Day 2 of 11 (AF Hatshepsut Red Chapel; LA Medinet Habu Ramses III)

Ptah, Day 2 of 11 (LGG4, 264, Edfu)

Victory, Day 2 of 5 (TFC Esna; TFC Edfu; TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI; TFC Dendera; CC; Leitz TW 259)

Birthday of Amun's Priesthood and Rites for Sekhmet, Day 3 of 5 (AF Karnak Thoeris statue)

Navigation of Hathor to Pakhet (or "Planting the Herbs of the God" or "the Day of Myrrh and Incense"), Day 2 of 5 (TFC Dendera; Grimm 1994, 395) "If you see anything today, it will be good." (CC)

II Peret 23

Chronokrater:

Horus of Both Eyes (LGG5, 260; noted for three days, II Peret 22-24)

Hathor, Lady of Swiftness (LGG4, 115, Edfu and Kom Ombo)

Tefnut, Lady of Faience (LGG4, 165, Edfu)

Nefertem (LGG4, 222, Dendera) Festivals:

Amun, Day 3 of 11 (AF Hatshepsut Red Chapel; LA Medinet Habu Ramses III)

Ptah, Day 3 of 11 (LGG4, 264, Edfu)

Victory, Day 3 of 5 (TFC Esna; TFC Edfu; TFC Kom Ombo

Ptolemy VI; TFC Dendera; CC; Leitz TW 259)

Birthday of Amun's Priesthood and Rites for Sekhmet, Day 4 of 5 (AF Karnak Thoeris statue)

Navigation of Hathor to Pakhet (or "Planting the Herbs of the God" or "the Day of Myrrh and Incense"), Day 3 of 5 (TFC Dendera; Grimm 1994, 395) "If you see anything today, it will be good." (CC)

II Peret 24

Chronokrater:

Horus of Both Eyes (LGG5, 260; noted for three days, II Peret 22-24)

Nut (LGG3, 535, Dendera and Edfu)

Lady of A'ay (unknown location) (form of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 26, Edfu) Festivals:

Amun, Day 4 of 11 (AF Hatshepsut Red Chapel; LA Medinet Habu Ramses III)

Ptah, Day 4 of 11 (LGG3, 169, Dendera; LGG4, 264, Edfu) Victory, Day 4 of 5: The Gods Descend to the River (TFC Esna; TFC Edfu; TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI; TFC Dendera; CC; Leitz TW 259)

Birthday of Amun's Priesthood and Rites for Sekhmet, Day 5 (final) (AF Karnak Thoeris statue)

Navigation of Hathor to Pakhet (or "Planting the Herbs of the God" or "the Day of Myrrh and Incense"), Day 4 of 5 (TFC Dendera; Grimm 1994, 395)

Feast of Ptah Who Protects the Winged Golden Disk, Day 1 of 7 (TFC Edfu) "Do not sail in a boat today. The gods are descending to the river. As to anyone who approaches it (i.e., the divine procession) on the river, he will not live." (CC) Ptah and Horus Behdety are honored together in the great festival of Ptah's protecting the Winged Disk.

At this midpoint of the coinciding festivals of Ptah and Amun, the icons of each god were placed onto barges for a

navigation, either up- or down-river to the opposite god's town, for their annual visit.

II Peret 25

Chronokrater:

Atum (LGG7, 412, Dendera)

Horus (epithet damaged) (LGG7, 693, Edfu)

Lady of the Father of the Fathers (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 24, Edfu)

Neith, Lady of the Bow (LGG4, 143, Dendera and Edfu) Festivals:

Amun, Day 5 of 11 (AF Hatshepsut Red Chapel; LA Medinet Habu Ramses III)

Ptah, Day 5 of 11 (LGG4, 264, Edfu)

Victory, Day 5 (final) (TFC Esna; TFC Edfu; TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI; TFC Dendera; CC; Leitz TW 259)

Navigation of Hathor to Pakhet (or "Planting the Herbs of the God" or "the Day of Myrrh and Incense"), Day 5 (final) (TFC Dendera; Grimm 1994, 395)

Feast of Ptah Who Protects the Winged Golden Disk, Day 2 of 7 (TFC Edfu) "If you see anything today, it will be good." (CC)

II Peret 26

Chronokrater:

Horus Behdety (LGG5, 254, Dendera; also written Horus Behdety, Great God, Lord of Heaven, Lord of Mesen and Horus Behdety, Great God, Lord of Heaven, Lord of the Southern Behdet)

The Unifier, Protectress of the Divine Falcon (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG6, 316, Dendera)

Lady of the Throat (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 110, Edfu)

Osiris-in-Busiris (LGG2, 569; Leitz 2002, 147 and 151,

Edfu) Festivals:

Amun, Day 6 of 11 (AF Hatshepsut Red Chapel; LA Medinet Habu Ramses III)

Ptah, Day 6 of 11 (LGG4, 264, Edfu)

Feast of Ptah Who Protects the Winged Golden Disk, Day 3 of 7 (TFC Edfu)

Procession of Min of Coptos (CC)

Festival of Wadjet (LGG2, 271; LGG7, 310) "...going forth of Min from Coptos today. He is guided to it, bragging of his beauty. Isis saw that his face was beautiful." (CC)

Today is one of five festivals in honor of Wadjet (III Akhet 3, I Peret 2(22?), I Peret 20 outgoing (khenenet), II Peret 26 and II Peret 9) (Thutmose III Stela from Buto in Fs Winter, 47-48).

II Peret 27

Chronokrater:

Osiris (epithet lost) (LGG7, 193, Edfu)

Hathor, Lady of Terror (LGG4, 130, Edfu)

Festivals:

Amun, Day 7 of 11 (AF Hatshepsut Red Chapel; LA Medinet Habu Ramses III)

Ptah, Day 7 of 11 (LGG4, 264)

Feast of Ptah Who Protects the Winged Golden Disk, Day 4 of 7 (TFC Edfu)

Feast of Sokar in Rosetjau (CC)

Feast of Sokar in Abydos (TFC Ramses II, reading unclear, may be read II Peret 28; CC)

Feast of Hathor of Dendera (LGG5, 76, Dendera) The Cairo Calendar makes a note that the festivals of Sokar in Rosetjau (the Memphite-area necropolis) and Abydos are consecutive, and that the Rosetjau festival precedes the Abydos festival. Whether or not this means that they were held one day apart with Rosetjau being first, or whether they were started at Rosetjau and then begun at Abydos, is

not entirely clear. Sokar's festival in both locations is called the Feast of Sokar in front of Onnophris.

II Peret 28

Chronokrater:

Mut-with-Swift-Arrows (LGG5, 632, Dendera and Edfu)

Sobek, Lord of Buto (LGG6, 259, Edfu; variant Sobek, Lord of the Eastern Mountain, Leitz 2002, 140)

Sekhmet, Lady of the Executioners of (location lost) (LGG4, 116, Edfu)

Hathor, Lady of the Son of Ra (LGG4, 124, Dendera)

Osiris (LGG2, 530, Dendera) Festivals:

Amun, Day 8 of 11 (AF Hatshepsut Red Chapel; LA Medinet Habu Ramses III)

Ptah, Day 8 of 11 (LGG4, 264)

Feast of Ptah Who Protects the Winged Golden Disk, Day 5 of 7 (TFC Edfu)

Feast of Sokar in Abydos (TFC Ramses II, reading unclear, may be read II Peret 27)

Feast of Osiris-Onnophris and the ancestors (TFC Ramses II; TFC Edfu; CC) "Feast of removing the dead to the Isle of Flame. Feast of Ptah who protects the great winged disk in gold, who saves Shu from Geb in [...] Memphis." (TFC Edfu 28, 29) "Onnophris is pleased and the spirits are joyful. The dead are also in festival." (CC)

The festival of Osiris-Onnophris is celebrated "after Sokar," that is, after the Sokar festivals held on II Peret 27 (TFC Ramses II).

II Peret 29

Chronokrater:

Sobek, Lord of Tell Tebilla (LGG6, 259; Leitz 2002, 152, Edfu)

Sekhmet (LGG6, 557, Dendera; altered to Nofret, "The

Beautiful One" in Dendera Mammisi; see Chassinat 1934, 60, plate 98 and LGG4, 225)

Hathor, Lady of Desire (LGG4, 2, Edfu)

Sekhmet, Lady of Trembling (LGG4, 138, Dendera and Edfu) Festivals:

Amun, Day 9 of 11 (AF Hatshepsut Red Chapel; LA Medinet Habu Ramses III)

Ptah, Day 9 of 11 (LGG4, 264, Edfu)

Feast of Ptah Who Protects the Winged Golden Disk, Day 6 of 7 (TFC Edfu) "The beginning of fighting, the creation of rebellion, and making uproar among the children of Geb. Do not do anything today." (CC)

"The raging ones arise from the flood." (LGG6, 34; Leitz TW 264; note also says that they entered the flood on I Akhet 5)

II Peret 30

Chronokrater:

Horus the Lion, Lord of Takhet (LGG4, 207, Edfu)

Nut-Sekhmet (LGG3, 535, Dendera; some instances read

Nut-Sekhmet-Who-Births-the-Gods, LGG6, 557)

Hathor, Lady of White Calcite (LGG4, 18, Dendera and Edfu)

Hathor, Lady of Rejoicing (LGG4, 92, Edfu) Festivals:

House of Ra, House of Osiris, House of Horus (Last Day of the Month)

Amun, Day 10 of 11 (AF Hatshepsut Red Chapel; LA Medinet Habu Ramses III; Urk IV 836, line 3; AF Karnak Thutmose III)

Ptah, Day 10 of 11 (LGG4, 264, Edfu)

Feast of Ptah Who Protects the Winged Golden Disk, Day 7 (final) (TFC Edfu) "Do not have loud words with anyone today. House of Ra, House of Osiris, House of Horus." (CC)

"The tenth day of the festival of Amun of Karnak." (Cairo 34012 foundation monument from Karnak construction of

Thutmose III; Urk IV 836)

"The day of filling the Sacred Eye in Heliopolis." (AF Stela BM155, Thutmose of Mennefer, 18th Dynasty; Naville 1904, plate 22.)



In the Middle Kingdom, III Peret was also named either Rekeh-nedjes or Rekeh-sheri,

"Lesser/Small Burning,"
after the festival held on
its first day. In the New
Kingdom, and around the
same time that the
Lesser Burning festival
moved to II Peret 9 to
follow the day of the
Greater Burning festival,
III Peret was renamed
Pa-en-Amunhotep, or

"the one of Amunhotep," after the festivals and oracles of the deceased king Amunhotep I held in Thebes during the month. The total number of festivals in the calendar is now smaller, owing to a need to work the fields during the height of the agricultural season and the chronological center point of the year. An ancient festival of Ptah that began in II Peret, and extended to also be an Amun festival in later periods, was also celebrated into the beginning days of III Peret, as part of the half-year celebrations. At Esna, a similar festival was given to Khnum-Ra, as their regional form of the Creator of All Things (Sauneron 1963, 78ff). Other creator gods are celebrated during III Peret,

including Thoth, who goes forth with his spirits and places Ptah and Ra on their thrones; and the creator-goddess Neith, who receives her own procession and torchlight festival on III Peret 5.

Amunhotep's festivals, celebrated for one day on III Peret 21 (the date of his son Thutmose I's accession to the throne, and thus officially the date of Amunhotep's memorial) and again for four days between III Peret 29 and IV Peret 2, were major feasts in honor of the deceased king and his mother, Ahmose-Nefertari. On IV Peret 21, a statue of Amunhotep was carried to his mortuary temple as if reenacting the royal funeral; like a real funeral, mourners wailed and covered themselves in dust, beat their faces and breasts in grief, and were rewarded with food and gifts for their participation. Between III Peret 29 and IV Peret 2, land and river processions, public oracles in front of certain tombs along parade routes, and public banquets with drinking and singing were held in the king and his mother's honor (Cerny 1927, 184ff; Bierbrier 1982, 98ff).

Despite being in honor of a specific pharaoh, these oracular festivals were celebrated for at least eight centuries after his death. There is documentation of their celebration from the time of Amunhotep's death in Dynasty 18 through the time of the Nubian pharaoh Taharga of Dynasty 25 (Lesko 1994, 111ff; Sadek 1979, 131). Amunhotep I had great renown in Thebes, as a unifying king who had inherited a renewed kingdom from his father Ahmose I, the pharaoh who drove out the invasion of Hyksos peoples and ended the Second Intermediate Period. Amunhotep I was the special divine ancestor of the royal artisans' town at Deir el-Medina. Particularly deep devotion to the king and his mother can be seen in the tombs of those workers, who depicted themselves offering to Amunhotep and Ahmose-Nefertari just as they might offer to any god. Cult statues of the king and his mother were used in official oracles and

taken out in procession, just like the statues of the gods. For more details on the Amunhotep I oracles, see LA2, 184; LGG1, 333; and oCG 25234 in KRI VII, 370, 11.

Major Festivals

II Peret 29 - III Peret 1 Feast of Ptah

1 Lesser Burning (Middle Kingdom to early New Kingdom)

5 Procession of Neith at Sais

13 Procession of Thoth and His Spirits Oracle Festivals of Amunhotep I:III Peret 21 (one day only)

III Peret 29 - IV Peret 2 (four days)

The gods of III Peret are Rekeh-nedjes (the holiday itself, personified as a standing hippopotamus or a jackal on a standard; EAT III plate 5; Medinet Habu VI, 478; JE 37525 clepsydra); and Sobek (LGG6, 258; Vernus 1981, 119).

The four protective spirits/gods of the month are called "Those of the Thrones in the Body of Ptah" (LGG4, 320; LGG4, 276, Edfu):

- 1. Lord of Offerings (reading unclear, LGG3, 733)
- 2. Dismemberer (protective knife god, LGG2, 239)
- 3. He Who Breaks the Egg (LGG6, 721)
- 4. He Who Eats Hearts (protective knife god, LGG2, 408)

Third Month of Growth, Day 1 (III Peret 1)

Chronokrater:

Ptah (LGG3, 169; Leitz 2002, 153-154, Edfu)

Amun-Ra, Lord of the Thrones of the Two Lands (LGG3,

672, Dendera Mammisi; variant Amun-Ra)

Hathor, Lady of Birds (LGG4, 3, Edfu)

The Lady of Heritage (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 10,

Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, and Kom Ombo)

Amun-Ra (LGG1, 321, Dendera) Festivals:

First Day of the Month

Lesser Burning (Rekeh-sheri or Rekeh-nedjes) (LA, TFC

Illahun)

Feast of Tawy (the Two Lands, i.e., Egypt) (LA2, 177-180) Appearance of Haroeris (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI) Feast of Harsaphes (TFC Edfu)

Feast of Ptah at the Half Year (LA 2, 177-180; LA5, 281-282)

Offerings to the King and Nebtu (LA4, 363, Esna) Amun, Day 11 (final) (AF Hatshepsut Red Chapel; LA Medinet Habu Ramses III)

Ptah, Day 11 (final) (LGG4, 264, Edfu; AF daybook of the Theban necropolis workers) "Re-entry of Amun in His Festival of Lifting Up the Sky; 1 bull, 1 living ro-goose." (TFC/AF Medinet Habu Ramses III) "Feast of Ptah; feast of lifting up the sky; feast of Khnum-Ra, Lord of Esna. Dawn procession of Khnum-Ra and his ennead, together with a union with the disk, under the cloth kiosk. The ritual of 'setting up the tower.'" (TFC Esna) "Feast of [Amun], feast of lifting up the sky by Ptah; alongside Harsaphes, Lord of Herakleopolis Magna. Burial of Osiris of Busiris; feast of Ptah who protects the great golden winged disk." (TFC Edfu) "It is the day of [...] in heaven and on the earth and every day likewise. Feast of entering into heaven and the Two Riverbanks. Horus is jubilating." (CC) The Feast of Ptah at the Half Year is celebrated either at II Peret 15 or III Peret 1, and was known from the Old Kingdom all the way up through the Late Period temples of Dendera, Edfu, and Esna.

III Peret 2

Chronokrater:

Mistress of Rituals (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 19, Dendera Mammisi and Edfu)

Nekhbet, Lady of Fa'ag (3rd UE nome) (LGG4, 19, Edfu) Ra-Horakhty (LGG4, 630, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi) Ra, Who Cleaves the Acacia-Tree (LGG2, 356, Edfu) NO FESTIVALS TODAY

"If you see anything today, it will be good." (CC)

III Peret 3

Chronokrater:

Horus (LGG5, 231, Dendera)

Neith (LGG3, 511, Dendera)

Isis, Lady of the Palace (LGG4, 56, Edfu and Kom Ombo) Anubis, Overseer of the 13th UE Nome (Leitz 2002, 152, Edfu)

Most Beautiful of the Gods (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 229, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, Edfu, and Kom Ombo)

NO FESTIVALS TODAY

The Cairo Calendar had a line for this day, but its details are lost.

"If you say anything today, you will answer for it in the necropolis." (AF BM 155, stela of Thutmose of Memphis, 18th Dynasty)

III Peret 4

Chronokrater:

Hathor, Lady of Gentleness (LGG4, 127, Edfu and Kom Ombo)

Anubis Who Is in the Ut (Imy-Ut) (LGG1, 291, Dendera Mammisi) Sekhmet-Hathor, Whose Souls (bau) Are Millions (LGG2, 728, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, Edfu, and Kom Ombo)

NO FESTIVALS TODAY

"Announcement of fighting; Set calls out in Heliopolis, his voice being (heard) in heaven, [and] his voice being (heard) on the earth, in great fury." (CC)

III Peret 5

Chronokrater:

Hathor, Lady of Astonishment (LGG4, 151, Edfu and Kom Ombo)

Horus Great of Magic (LGG2, 454, Dendera Mammisi; variant in some locations Isis Great of Magic, LGG2, 493) Kherty (Leitz 2002, 145, Edfu) Festivals:

Nighttime Procession of Neith (CC, Sais)

Feast of Nebtu (TFC Esna; LGG4, 35; Esna II, 77, 10) Feast of Horus (epithet lost) (TFC Edfu) "Neith goes forth from Sais, when they see her beauty in the night for four and a half hours. Do not go out during them." (CC)

III Peret 6

Chronokrater:

Horus (LGG5, 231, Dendera)

Sekhmet-Hathor, Who Is in the Center of the Heart (LGG5, 432, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Nut (LGG3, 535, Dendera)

Horus, Foremost of [epithet damaged; likely Eyes] (LGG6, 48, Edfu)

Neith, Lady of the Hill (LGG4, 6, Edfu and Kom Ombo) Kherty (Leitz 2002, 145, Edfu) Festivals:

Sixth-Day Festival

Jubilation of Osiris and Procession of Anubis "with adorers" (CC)

"Jubilation of Osiris in Busiris; going forth of Anubis, his adorers following; he receives everyone in the hall. Make the ritual!" (CC)

The sixth day of any calendrical month, civil or lunar, is noted as the Suwenet, the "sixth-day festival." On the Suwenet, offerings were given to the deceased at their graves.

III Peret 7

Chronokrater:

Sepa (here a form of Osiris) (LGG6, 269, Edfu)

Hathor, Lady of Byblos (LGG4, 150, Edfu and Kom Ombo)

Anubis (LGG1, 391, Dendera Mammisi) Festival:

"The Eye of Ra Called the Shemsu" (CC)

"Do not go out of your house today until Ra sets. It is the day when the Eye of Ra called the Shemsu, and they reached him in the evening. Beware of it!" (CC)

III Peret 8

Chronokrater:

Horus, Lord of Stomping in the Sky (variant Lord Who Stomps in the Sky) (LGG3, 663, Dendera)

The Lady of [Wen...] (location name damaged) (seated goddess in Hathor crown) (LGG4, 40, Edfu)

Lady of the Hidden Land (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 154, Dendera, Edfu, and Kom Ombo)

Ra, Who Carries His Offerings (LGG4, 671, Edfu) Festival: Khnum Makes Way for the Gods

"If you see anything today, it will be good. It is the day of making way for the gods by Khnum, who presides over the ones who remove themselves from his presence." (CC)

III Peret 9

Chronokrater:

Golden-Limbed One (LGG5, 31, Dendera; unknown epithet of a deity depicted as a lion-headed snake)

Henu (Sokar's shrine barque) (LGG5, 159; Leitz 2002, 148, Edfu)

The Lady of Movement (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 64, Edfu and Kom Ombo)

Nehebkau (LGG4, 274, Dendera) Festivals:

Day of Judgment in Heliopolis (CC)

Appearance of Haroeris, Day 1 of 5 (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI)

"Appearing of this god (Haroeris), in the festival of entering-his-city when he is within his city. Performing the ritual." (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI)

III Peret 10

Chronokrater:

Horus-in-His-Heaven (LGG5, 257, Edfu)

The Red Crown (LGG7, 466, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, Edfu, and Kom Ombo)

Sothis (LGG6, 687, Edfu and Kom Ombo)

Iah (LGG1, 147, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Bast, Lady of Heaven (LGG2, 740, Dendera) Festivals:

Processions of Thoth and Nesret (CC; LGG4, 355; Leitz TW 277)

Procession of Khnum-Ra, Day 1 of 3 (TFC Esna)

Appearance of Haroeris, Day 2 of 5 (TFC Kom Ombo

Ptolemy VI) "Second day of the appearance of this god (i.e., Haroeris of Kom Ombo) to the north of this town: one calls it baiu, "the places." Ships are sailed before him. Until III Peret 12, performing his rituals and resting in the temple." (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI) "Procession of Khnum, the good protector, and union with the disk. Pause at Pi-Sahure; continues to III Peret 12." (TFC Esna)

"It is the day of the coming of Thoth and Hu. They guided the very great flame (Nesret) into her house of the eternal desert, along the way which she found among them. As to anyone else who approaches her on this day, you (sic) will not be separated from her by violence." (CC)

III Peret 11

Chronokrater:

Isis-Hathor Who Pacifies the Heart of the Lord of Running (i.e., Osiris-Apis) (LGG5, 586, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, Edfu, and Kom Ombo)

Montu-Ra, Lord of the Place of Fighting (LGG3, 637,

Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

The Two Enjoyers (i.e., Horus and Seth) (Leitz 2002, 148, Edfu) Festivals:

Procession of Khnum-Ra, Day 2 of 3 (TFC Esna)

Appearance of Haroeris, Day 3 of 5 (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI) "Festival of Khnum-Ra the good protector. Also, making the procession of Thoth in the middle of the house of the two little birds, at the same time, at evening. Union with the disk at sunset." (TFC Esna) "As to the dead who go about in the necropolis today, they are going about in order to repel the anger of the enemy who is in that land." (CC)

III Peret 12

Chronokrater:

Sobek, Lord of the Temple (LGG6, 259; Leitz 2002, 141, Edfu)

Lady of the Flame (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 73, Edfu and Kom Ombo)

Wadjet of Perfect Character (LGG4, 228, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, and Kom Ombo)

Anubis Who Is in the Ut (Imy-Ut) (LGG1, 371, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi) Festivals:

Appearance of Osiris as the Userhat Comes from Nun (LGG3, 66; CC; Leitz TW 280)

Procession of Khnum-Ra, Day 3 (final) (TFC Esna) Appearance of Haroeris, Day 4 of 5 (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI) "Userhat (i.e., "strong in front," the divine barque of Amun) comes from Nun today. Food offerings are given. The chapel of the one who comes forth from Nun is well equipped." (LGG3, 66; CC; Leitz TW 280)

III Peret 13

Chronokrater:

Horus, Lord of Stomping (variant Horus, Lord of Stomping in Heaven) (LGG3, 662, Dendera)

Sekhmet, Lady of Twin Lions (LGG4, 87, Edfu and Kom

Ombo)

Sekhmet, Lady of Carnelian (LGG3, 108, Dendera, Edfu, and Kom Ombo)

Ra, Lord of All (lit., Lord to the Limit) (LGG4, 612, Edfu) Festivals:

Appearance of Thoth with His Spirits (CC)

Appearance of Haroeris, Day 5 (final) (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI)

Feast of Bast (LGG2, 740; Stela BM188 in Reymond 1981, 218, plate 7) "Thoth comes with his spirits today. Replacing [...] in the seats of the goddesses. As to any ritual that is done, they will be good on this day." (CC)

III Peret 14

Chronokrater:

Sobek, Lord of el-Harageh (Faiyum location) (LGG3, 755; Leitz 2002, 141 and 151; variant Sobek, Lord of Lights, Leitz 2002, 141, Edfu)

Sekhmet (LGG6, 557, Dendera)

Satis, Lady of Radiance (LGG6, 700, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, and Edfu)

Lady of Procrastination (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 22, Edfu and Kom Ombo)

Hathor, Lady of Arrows (LGG4, 136; single variant Satis, Lady of Arrows, Kom Ombo)

Anubis (LGG1, 391, Dendera Mammisi) Festivals:

Day of Making Health and (Long) Life (CC)

Procession of Khnum-Ra, Day 1 of 5 (TFC Esna)

Procession of the Udjat-Eye from Letopolis (LGG2, 646;

Leitz TW 282) "Procession of Khnum the good protector to the house of Khnum. Libation of water and burning

incense. Going to Pi-Sahure, until III Peret 18." (TFC Esna)

"Do not go out of your house on any road today. It is the day of making health and a lifetime in Heliopolis." (CC)

III Peret 15

Chronokrater:

Sobek Lord of [location lost] (LGG6, 259; Leitz 2002, 142, Edfu)

Bast, Lady of Running (LGG4, 105, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, Edfu, and Kom Ombo)

Hathor, Lady of Heads (LGG4, 161, Edfu and Kom Ombo) Onuris (LGG1, 378, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi) Festivals:

Feast of the Half-Month

Feast of Horus Behdety, Lord of Dendera (TFC Edfu) Procession of Khnum-Ra, Day 2 of 5 (TFC Esna) Feast of Amunhotep I, true-of-voice (LA2, 184, New Kingdom) "Rebellion in the shrine (?). Do not do any work today." (CC)

III Peret 16

Chronokrater:

Sopdu, Lord of the East (form of Horus) (LGG6, 290, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)
Hathor, Lady of All Broken Souls (or Lady of All Stolen Souls (bau)) (LGG4, 45, Edfu and Kom Ombo)

Menhyt, Lady of Mankind (lit., "the ones of Atum") (LGG4, 162, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, Edfu, and Kom Ombo) Banebdjedet (LGG2, 683; Leitz 2002, 152, Edfu) Festival: Procession of Khnum-Ra, Day 3 of 5 (TFC Esna)

III Peret 17

Chronokrater:

Horus Who Is in His Papyrus Plants (epithet of Khonsu of Edfu) (LGG5, 375, Dendera Mammisi)

Neith (LGG3, 511, Dendera)

Sobek, Lord of Buto (LGG6, 259; Leitz 2002, 142 and 151, Edfu)

Neith, Lady of the Hill (LGG4, 6, Edfu and Kom Ombo) Hathor, Mistress of the Ipep-Plant (LGG4, 14, Edfu and Kom Ombo)

Isis, Lady of the World (lit., "all the sun shades") (LGG4, 105, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, Edfu, and Kom Ombo) Festivals:

Appearance of Haroeris (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI) Procession of Khnum-Ra, Day 4 of 5 (TFC Esna)

"Do not speak the name of Set today. As to the one who pronounces his name in ignorance, he will not stop fighting in his house, forever." (CC)

III Peret 18

Chronokrater:

Isis, Lady of the Papyrus-Scepter (LGG4, 38, Edfu) Nehebkau (LGG4, 274; Leitz 2002, 148, Edfu)

Isis (LGG1, 62, Dendera) Festivals:

Feast of Nut Who Counts Up Days (CC; Leitz TW 287; LGG1, 217)

Procession of Khnum-Ra, Day 5 (final) (TFC Esna) "Feast of Nut who counts up days; make a holiday in your house." (CC; Leitz TW 287; LGG1, 217)

III Peret 19

Chronokrater:

Montu (LGG3, 319, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi) Ra-Horakhty, Bull of Heliopolis (LGG7, 250; Leitz 2002, 148 and 152, Edfu)

The Lady of Stars (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 126, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi) Festival: Birthday of Nut (CC; LA2, 477)

"Birth of Nut, renewed [... it is good to see] any dead [to]day. [...] Bast [...] majesty of the foreign land, Eye of

Yam (the sea). Do not go out of your house. Do not see sunlight." (CC)

III Peret 20

Chronokrater:

Isis, She with a Healthy Heart (LGG6, 380-381, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, and Kom Ombo)

Hathor, Lady of the Mummy-Bandages (LGG4, 126, Edfu and Kom Ombo)

Anubis (LGG1, 391, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi) Banebdjedet (LGG2, 683; Leitz 2002, 152, Edfu) Festival: Appearance of Haroeris (TFC P6 Kom Ombo)

"Do not go out of your house on any road. Do not see sunlight." (CC)

III Peret 21

Chronokrater:

Khonsu-in-Thebes (LGG5, 764, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Lady of the Eggs (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 126, Edfu)

Onuris (LGG1, 378, Edfu)

Hathor, She of Many Hearts (LGG2, 224, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, Edfu, and Kom Ombo) Festival:

Procession of Amunhotep I, true-of-voice, Lord of the Region (AF Cairo 24449 recto; LGG1, 333; oCG 25234 in KRI VII, 370, 11; LA2, 184) This procession of Amunhotep I honors both his death and the coronation of his son Thutmose I (LA2, 184; AF Cairo 24449 recto; reference in CC is all but destroyed).

III Peret 22

Chronokrater:

Nut, Lady of Heaven (LGG3, 535, Dendera) Menhyt, Lady of the Primordial Ones (LGG4, 51, Edfu) Ra, Lord of Heaven (LGG4, 612, Dendera Mammisi) Anubis of the Shredding Claws (LGG1, 398, Edfu) Isis the Great (LGG2, 52, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, Edfu, and Kom Ombo) Festival:

Birthday of Apophis (CC; LA2, 477-478; LGG3, 478; Leitz TW 291; see pSallier for ritual to turn Apophis)

"Birth of the mysterious one, by his limbs. Do not have the thought of pronouncing the name of the snake. It is the day of catching his children that were born to him in Dep." (CC) You may be surprised that the birthday of Apophis, the Uncreated One who opposed and attempted to destroy Ra and all the gods on a daily basis, was noted in ancient Egypt. In fact, Apophis was not honored on this day. Rather, this was a day to remember to protect oneself against the evil and violence that Apophis represented. (Not coincidentally, this date is in the midpoint of the ancient Egyptian year, and the festival is also meant to reinforce rituals against the Uncreated One that were performed at every New Year's Festival.) Essentially, the ancients knew, as we do, that some things happen that are out of our control, and the best one can do about such "random acts of Apophis" is to live in ways that honor Ma'at and do not allow evil to gain a foothold in our lives. In antiquity, the resolve not to let Apophis win was symbolized in a ritual where a model snake was cursed and then set on fire, broken, buried, or tossed in a river. The curse, as opposed to a prayer, went like this: "Down on your face, Apophis, enemy of Ra! Retreat, enemy! Fiend without arms or legs, whose snout is split! You are fallen, you are overthrown. Ra-Horakhty destroys you. He drives hooks into your body. You are overthrown by the flame, fire comes forth from it, and the blaze comes forth against you. The gods and the guardians of the hidden gates repel you. Flame comes forth against you from the fire. Back! Retreat! Back from the flames that issue from their mouths, fallen one, wriggler,

Apophis! Retreater! Retire, enemy of Ra! Those who are in the sun boat have overthrown you. Retreat!"

III Peret 23

Chronokrater:

Harsiese (LGG5, 283, Dendera Mammisi)

Neith (LGG3, 511, Dendera)

Hathor the Wise (LGG6, 125, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, Edfu, and Kom Ombo)

Anubis, Lord of Hermopolis (LGG1, 391; Leitz 2002, 151, Edfu) Festival:

Feast of Horus in Athribis (CC)

"Feast of Horus in Athribis on this day of his years, in his very beautiful images." (CC)

III Peret 24

Chronokrater:

Haroeris (LGG5, 249, Dendera)

Sobek, Lord of the Bulls (LGG6, 259; Leitz 2002, 142, Edfu) Sekhmet, Eye of Ra (LGG6, 557, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of Joy (LGG4, 94, Edfu and Kom Ombo)

Wadjet, Who Rejoices (LGG4, 726, Dendera, Dendera

Mammisi, and Kom Ombo) Festivals:

Appearance of Haroeris, Day 1 of 2 (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI)

Appearance of Horus and Hathor of Edfu, Day 1 of 2 (TFC Edfu)

Feast of Horus Behdety, Day 1 of 3 (TFC Edfu) "The male and female Winged Disks (i.e., Horus and Hathor) fly to the horizon and appear (?) as the stars of the sky. Ra's heart is happy today. It is also the feast of Horus of Behdet." (TFC Edfu) "Do not go out of your house on any road today." (CC)

Chronokrater:

Hathor the Female Ruler, Lady of Heaven (LGG5, 536, Dendera)

Horus the Male Ruler, Lord of Heaven (LGG5, 553, Dendera Mammisi)

Isis, Daughter of Geb (variant Isis, Ornament of Geb)

(LGG6, 110, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, and Edfu)

Hathor, Mistress of Aphroditopolis (LGG4, 5, Edfu)

Ptah-Sokar, Who Weeps in the Sky, Son of Geb (LGG4, 670, Edfu)

She in Whose Power the King Is (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG1, 151, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, and Edfu) Festivals:

Appearance of Haroeris, Day 2 (final) (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI)

Appearance of Horus and Hathor of Edfu, Day 2 (final) (TFC Edfu)

Feast of Horus Behdety, Day 2 of 3 (TFC Edfu) "Do not do anything today, because of the great cry that the gods of the sacred places made, having come today." (CC)

III Peret 26

Chronokrater:

Whose-Face-is-Malachite-Colored (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG7, 125, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, and Edfu) Hathor, Lady of Heat (or Lady of Hot Winds) (LGG4, 154, Edfu)

Onuris (LGG1, 378, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi) Festival:

Feast of Horus Behdety, Day 3 (final) (TFC Edfu)

"Feast of Horus of Behdet; the respect that is due to Horus is given to him." (TFC Edfu)

"He was sent into the cave, without the knowledge of the great ones [...] to look for the way of traveling today." (CC)

III Peret 27

Chronokrater:

Isis, Lady of Love (LGG4, 65, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, Edfu, and Kom Ombo)

Hathor, Lady of Divine Power (LGG4, 133, Edfu)

Iah (LGG1, 147, Dendera Mammisi)

She Who Hears Jubilation (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG1, 151, Dendera, Edfu, and Kom Ombo)

Tefnut-Sekhmet, Great in Millions (LGG2, 64, Dendera and Edfu) Festival:

Appearance of Haroeris (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI)

"Do not do anything today." (CC)

III Peret 28

Chronokrater:

She in Whose Following Are Thousands (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG5, 624, Dendera and Edfu)

Sopdu (here a form of Horus) (LGG6, 290, Edfu)

Hathor, Lady of the Peace of the Two Gods (LGG4, 113, Edfu)

Isis (LGG1, 67, Dendera)

Iunmutef ("Pillar of His Mother," an epithet of Harsiese) (LGG1, 197, Dendera Mammisi) Festival:

Feast of Osiris-Onnophris (TFC Ramses II; CC)

"Feast of Osiris at Abydos; raising the willow tree." (TFC Ramses II)

"Feast of Osiris at Abydos. The majesty of Onnophris erected the willow tree." (CC)

III Peret 29

Chronokrater:

She Who Binds Her Father (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG7, 177, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, and Edfu)

Horus of Denem (unknown location) (LGG7, 550, Edfu) Amun-Ra, Great of Magic (LGG2, 454, Dendera Mammisi; variant in one location to Great of Magic as an epithet of the female Eye of Ra, LGG2, 493, Dendera Mammisi) Festival:

Festival of Amunhotep I, true-of-voice, Lord of the Region, Day 1 of 4 (LA2, 184; LGG1, 333; oCG 25234 in KRI VII, 370, 11)

"If you see anything today, it will be good." (CC)

III Peret 30

Chronokrater:

Horus Foremost-of-Eyes (LGG5, 849, Edfu; variant adds Lord of Athribis, Leitz 2002, 151, Edfu)Silent One (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG7, 316, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, and Edfu)

Hathor, Lady of Rejoicing (LGG4, 92, Edfu)

Amun-Ra, Ba in His Temple (LGG2, 680, Dendera Mammisi) Festivals:

House of Ra, House of Osiris, House of Horus (Last Day of the Month)

Festival of Amunhotep I, true-of-voice, Lord of the Region, Day 2 of 4 (LA2, 184; LGG1, 333; oCG 25234 in KRI VII, 370, 11) "Last day [of the month]: feast in Busiris. The names of the doorways of the horizon come into existence. House of Ra, House of Osiris, House of Horus." (CC)

IV Peret

Since the Middle Kingdom, IV Peret has been called Renenutet, after an agricultural goddess associated with crops, who was also a royal deity connected to the destiny of kings. In the New Kingdom, the month's name was changed to the phrase pa en Renenutet, or "the one



belonging to Renenutet," and this phrase persists into Coptic and to the modern day in the Bohairic month-name Pharmuti or Pharmouthi. During IV Peret, all the early crops sown just before the Osiris Mysteries at the end of Akhet-season would be coming to harvest, and so Renenutet's mastery over the month relates to this idea of first harvest, protected by both gods and kings and bringing prosperity to the Egyptian

land and people.

Renenutet is a cobra deity (depicted either as a full cobra or in the form of a cobra-headed woman). Thus, she is also a member of the large grouping of goddesses referred to as the Eye of Ra (or Eye of Horus), solar deities who are embodiments of divine vengeance and/or solar heat. Other Eyes of Ra receive prominent festivals during IV Peret, including Hathor, Pakhet, Bast, Sekhmet and the generic "Eve of Ra" itself. The immense festival of Bast at Bubastis, memorialized in Herodotus' histories and allegedly attracting hundreds of thousands of revelers, occurred on the fourth and fifth days of IV Peret. Renenutet was depicted as mother to and protector of pharaohs, and on the second day after the new moon (Day 2 in the lunar calendar's version of IV Peret), a Mystery of the Divine Birth was honored in most temples. This mystery was observed on behalf of each local temple's goddess and whichever god was designated as her infant son, whether

that was Hathor and Ihy at Dendera, Isis and Harsiese at Busiris, or Hathor and Harsomtus at Edfu. Special mammisi, or "birth house" shrines, are known to us today particularly from Late Period temple enclosures, but date from at least the New Kingdom (Gundlach 2001, 375). The mammisi were used to celebrate these rejuvenation mysteries of the living king, symbolically expressed via celebrating the birth of a divine child to a mother goddess (Rundle-Clark 1959, 188). At Kom Ombo, the birth-giving festival of Tasenetnofret and Panebtawy was regularized into the civil calendar as falling on IV Peret 10; at Esna, Neith and Heka-the-Child (and/or Ra as the Divine Child in some sources) marked their Divine Birth celebration on IV Peret 11 (Hart 1986, 134; El-Sabban 2000, 165).

An unusual holiday for the god Set is also known from IV Peret, on its 25th day: the "Festival of Seth, Lord of the Oasis." This festival was celebrated during the Libyan 22nd Dynasty in the Dakhleh Oasis, according to a stela discovered in the oasis at its ruined Set temple. The temple itself dates from at least the Old Kingdom (Gardiner 1933, 19ff; Schott 1950, 101, Mills 1999, 221ff). An oracle of Set as "this great god, great of strength, the Son of Nut" was presented as part of the "beauty of the daytime" rites carried out in this temple and in the nearby oasis. This same festival may have been carried out in the Kharga Oasis (Osing 1995, 233), and was observed in multiple oases through the Roman period, despite the discontinuation of Set-related cultus in other parts of Egypt, and in royal religious ritual, past the New Kingdom (Kaper 1997, 233ff).

Major Holidays

- 1-5 Feast of Ra and the Eye of Ra
- 4 Feast of Bast
- 5 Day of Chewing Onions for Bast

- 25 Feast of Set, Lord of the Oasis
- 27 Feast of Measuring the Flour (Renenutet Festival)
- 28 Feast of Horus of Sepa, Son of Sekhmet Lunar Festival Mystery of the Divine Birth (day after new moon)

Vernal Equinox Festival

Feast of Zep Tepi

The god of IV Peret is Ptah (LGG3, 169, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi). Three goddesses are given dominion over the month: Renenutet (LGG4, 686; EAT III; Medinet Habu VI, 478; JE 37525 clepsydra); Wadjet (LGG2, 271, Kom Ombo); and Hathor, Mistress of the Two Lands (LGG5, 77, Kom Ombo).

There are four spirits/gods protecting the month, named "Those of the Thrones in the Body of [Horus? reading unclear]" (LGG 6, Edfu):

- 1. He Who Can See (lit. the seeing one) (LGG7, 576)
- 2. Lord of Flight (LGG3, 629)
- 3. Fetterer (LGG6, 392, Edfu)
- 4. He Who Lassoes (LGG6, 276, Edfu) Twelve hippopotamus goddesses guard IV Peret as a group named "Those Who Are in Heaven, the Lotus-Flowers of the Gods" (note these are also the same names as those for II Akhet, which may be a scribal error)
- 1. Sparkling One at the Front of the Valley (epithet of Hathor, LGG7, 485)
- 2. She Who is within the Udjat (LGG1, 291)
- 3. Luminous One, Foremost of Face (epithet of Aset; LGG3, 129-130)
- 4. Satis, Noble Body in the Nun (LGG6, 700)
- 5. Mistress of the Two Wings, Who is Singing (LGG4, 169)
- 6. She Who Preserves Shu in Heaven with Her Form (LGG2, 645)
- 7. Opet the Great, within the Body of Nut (LGG1, 219)

- 8. She Who is in Heaven, Leading the Gods (LGG1, 291)
- 9. Her Majesty Opet, Foremost of Akhet-season (LGG1, 219)
- 10. Perfect of Form, Who Guards What She Made (LGG4, 228)
- 11. Flame, Who Devours What Exists (LGG2, 171)
- 12. Elder Sister, Who Endows the Shrine (LGG6, 347)

Fourth Month of Growing, Day 1 (IV Peret 1)

Chronokrater:

She Who Circles the Desert (epithet of the Eye of Ra)

(LGG3, 114, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, and Edfu)

Horus, Lord of Mer-shas (unknown location near Dendera)

(LGG3, 647, Dendera Mammisi)

Tefnut (LGG7, 406, Dendera)

Lady of Seizing (variant Lady of Theft) (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 25, Edfu)

Ra (LGG4, 612, Edfu) Festivals:

First Day of the Month

Feast of Ra and the Eye of Ra, Day 1 of 4 (TFC Edfu)

Feast of Horus and the Eye of Horus (TFC Edfu)Rekeh-sheri

(or Rekeh-nedjes, "Lesser Burning") Festival (LA2, 177;

TFC Illahun; Middle Kingdom/early New Kingdom only)

Feast of Renenutet (AF Ostraca non cit 35, 14, see Cerny;

LA2, 177 Middle Kingdom and Greco-Roman references)

Festival of Amunhotep I, true-of-voice, Lord of the Region,

Day 3 of 4 (LA2, 184; LGG1, 333; oCG 25234 in KRI VII,

370, 11) "Great feast in heaven. It is the day of smiting the enemy as rebels against their mistress today." (CC)

"Hathor, Lady of Dendera, goes to Edfu with her child." (LGG4, 11, Edfu Mammisi; a reference to the first day of the lunar month and the eve of the Divine Birth Mysteries)

IV Peret 2

Chronokrater:

Horus (LGG5, 231, Dendera)

Nut Who Births the Gods (LGG3, 535, Dendera)

Lady of Teeth (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 14, Edfu) Wadjet the Bright (LGG2, 744, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, and Edfu) Festivals:

Feast of Ra and the Eye of Ra, Day 2 of 4 (TFC Edfu, details lost)

Procession of Geb "to see Anubis" (CC)

Feast of Amunhotep I, true-of-voice, Lord of the Region, Day 4 (final) (LA2, 184; LGG1, 333; oCG 25234 in KRI VII, 370, 11) "The majesty of Geb proceeds to the throne of Busiris to see Anubis, who commands the council on what is required today." (CC)

IV Peret 3

Chronokrater:

Haroeris, Son of Ra (LGG5, 249; Leitz 2002, 154, Edfu)

Mut, Lady of Heaven (LGG3, 251, Dendera)

Lady of Na'a (unknown UE location) (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 71, Edfu)

Hathor, Lady of Inundation (LGG4, 124, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Horus, Who Carries His Mother (LGG4, 671, Dendera Mammisi) Festivals:

Ra and the Eye of Ra, Day 3 of 4 (TFC Edfu)

Festival of Horus, Son of Ra (TFC Kom Ombo)

The Udjat-Eye of Haroeris Fights the Great Ones (CC;

LGG7, 122; Leitz TW 303) "Festival of Horus, son of Ra (i.e., Haroeris); performing his rites." (TFC Kom Ombo)

"Do not do anything today. Fighting of the Great Ones with the Udjat-Eye. She stands up as this Eye of Haroeris, as a lion. As for any [lion] who pronounces the name of the decan (i.e., Shezmu) today, he will pass away at once." (CC; LGG7, 122; Leitz TW 303)

IV Peret 4

Chronokrater:

Horus (LGG5, 231, Dendera)

Horus the Radiant (LGG3, 235, Edfu)

Isis, Lady of the Sanctuary (LGG4, 24, Edfu)

Hathor, Lady of Offerings (LGG4, 111, Dendera)

She-Who-Is-Greedy-for-Gold (epithet of the Eye of Ra)

(LGG2, 80, Dendera and Edfu) Festivals:

Ra and the Eye of Ra, Day 4 (final) (TFC Edfu)

Feast of Pakhet and Horus Lord of Life (TFC Edfu)

Great Festival of Bast/Day of Chewing Onions for Bast, Day 1 of 2 (LGG2, 740; KRI III, 803, 4; Hari 1985, plate 38.185; TFC/AF Medinet Habu Ramses III; Medinet Habu Calendar 1373; Medinet Habu III, plate 165, after Feucht 1985, 32; LA1, 629 Thebes; AF TT50 tomb of Neferhotep, dated to Horemheb; AF TT341 tomb of Nakhtamun, dated to Ramses II: AF TT2 tomb of Khabekhnet, 19th/20th Dynasty:

Ramses II; AF TT2 tomb of Khabekhnet, 19th/20th Dynasty; LA2; Herodotus II, 60ff; LA7, 738)

Offerings to Amun-Ra and His Ennead (AF Medinet Habu Ramses III suggests this may go with the celebration of the Bast festival at Thebes) "Feast of Pakhet; it is the Eye of Horus. Feast of Horus, Lord of Life." (TFC Edfu)

"Day of Chewing Onions for Bast. Offer bread, beer, geese, fruit, birds, flowers, incense, and wine." (AF Medinet Habu Ramses III; LA1, 629; Medinet Habu Calendar 1373 says that the chewing onions only occurs on the first day of this festival, and that a boat procession takes place on the second day.) "If you see anything today, it will be good. The gods and goddesses are satisfied when they see the children of Geb, sitting in their thrones." (CC; Leitz TW 305; LGG3, 428)

IV Peret 5

Chronokrater:

Horus (LGG5, 231, Dendera)

Neith (LGG3, 511, Dendera)

Amun-Ra, Lord of All (lit., Lord to the Limit) (LGG3, 795,

Edfu)

Storming One (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG7, 293,

Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, and Edfu)

Hathor, Mistress of Itnef (unknown location) (LGG4, 24, Edfu) Festivals:

Great Festival of Bast/Day of Chewing Onions for Bast/Boat Procession of Bast, Day 2 (LGG2, 740; KRI III, 803, 4; Hari, Neferhotep, plate 38.185; AF Medinet Habu Ramses III; Medinet Habu Calendar 1373; Medinet Habu III, plate 165, after Feucht, Nefersecheru 32; TFC Medinet Habu Ramses III; LA1, 629 Thebes; AF TT50 tomb of Neferhotep, dated to Horemheb; AF TT341 tomb of Nakhtamun, dated to Ramses II; AF TT2 tomb of Khabekhnet, 19th/20th Dynasty; LA2; Herodotus II, 60ff; LA7, 738) Medinet Habu Calendar 1373 says that the chewing onions only occurs on the first day of this festival, and that a boat procession (also noted in Louvre A88) takes place on the second day.

"I permitted Bast to shine forth in her boat, on her beautiful festival of the fifth day of the eighth month." (Louvre A88, Saite statue inscription)

"The majesty of Horus is well, when the red one sees his form. As for anybody who approaches [Horus] on it, anger will start on it [today]." (CC)

IV Peret 6

Chronokrater:

Horus (LGG5, 231, Dendera)

Harsaphes (LGG5, 381, Edfu)

 $She-from\mbox{-}Whose\mbox{-}Terror\mbox{-}There\mbox{-}Is\mbox{-}No\mbox{-}Fleeing \ (epithet\ of\ the$

Eye of Ra) (LGG3, 487, Dendera and Edfu)

Isis, Lady of Athribis (LGG4, 150, Edfu)

Isis (LGG1, 62, Dendera) Festivals:

Sixth-Day Festival

Going Forth of the Bitter[ly Red] Star[s] (CC, LGG6, 243; Leitz TW 306)

This festival (of the "bitterly red star" or the "bitter red stars" depending on the reading) honors the movement of Mars, one of Haroeris' symbols.

The sixth day of any calendrical month, civil or lunar, is noted as the Suwenet, the "sixth-day festival." On the Suwenet, offerings were given to the deceased at their graves.

IV Peret 7

Chronokrater:

Bast, Lady of Heaven (LGG5, 176, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of Radiance (LGG4, 113, Edfu)

She of the Strong Arm (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4,

316, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, and Edfu)

Ra (LGG4, 612, Edfu)

Horus, Soul (ba) of Ra (LGG2, 688, Dendera Mammisi) Festival:

Procession of Min (CC)

"Going forth of Min into the tent, may he live, prosper, and be healthy, in festivity. The gods are in jubilation. Pay attention to the incense on the fire. Smell the sweet myrrh." (CC)

IV Peret 8

Chronokrater:

Atum (LGG7, 412, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi) Hathor, Lady of the Moringa Tree (LGG4, 46, Edfu) Lady of the Heavenly Thrones (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 123, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, and Edfu) Ra in Herakleopolis Magna (LGG4, 627 and Leitz 2002, 151, Edfu) Festival:

Feast of the Udjat, Day 1 of 2 (CC)

"The ennead is in adoration when they see this Eye of Haroeris (the Udjat) in place. All its parts are reckoned for its owner." (CC)

IV Peret 9

Chronokrater:

Atum (LGG6, 412; Dendera Mammisi)

Mistress of Extinguishing Fires (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 33, Edfu)

Nefertem (LGG4, 222, Dendera)

She Who Is Great through Her Power (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG2, 485, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, and Edfu) Amun-Ra, Ba in His Temple (LGG2, 680, Edfu) Festival: Feast of the Udjat, Day 2 (final) (CC)

"Do not go out on it during the darkness, when Ra goes (down) in it [...] its name [...] It is the day of introducing the great ones before Ra to the wholeness of the Udjat-Eye. If you see anything today, it will be good." (CC)

IV Peret 10

Chronokrater:

She-Who-Watches-on-the-Road (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG6, 137, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, and Edfu) Sobek Lord of Anasha (LGG6, 259 and Leitz 2002, 142 and 151, Edfu)

Hathor, Lady of the Sycamore(-quarter) (location near Memphis) (LGG4, 80, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi) Hathor, Lady of Sebty (unknown location) (LGG4, 126, Edfu)

Festivals:

Appearance of Tasenetnofret, Hathor, and Min (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI; Day 1 of 2 for Min only) "Do not go out of your house on any road today." (CC)

"After the eighth hour: appearance of Tasenetnofret, Hathor, and Min Lord of the Two Lands. Trumpets are not played and there is no singing. Resting at the mammisi." (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI) Tasenetnofret, "the good sister," is a form of Hathor associated with the goddess Nephthys and honored as the wife of Horus the Healer (a form of Haroeris) in the temple of Kom Ombo.

IV Peret 11

Chronokrater:

Min, Lord of Coptos (LGG3, 288, Dendera Mammisi) Sobek, Lord of the Temple (LGG6, 251; Leitz 2002, 141, Edfu)

Lady of Offerings (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 111, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of Distress (LGG4, 151, Edfu) Festivals: Appearance of Min, Day 2 (final) (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI)

Procession of Neith and Heka (Divine Birth Mystery; can also be second day of the lunar month) (TFC Esna) Birth of Ra and the Son of Shu and Tefnut (Divine Birth Mystery; can also be second day of the lunar month) (LA2, 477, Philae) "Dawn, revealing the face at the mammisi. Making all the images for the birth of the gods. Appearing of the Lord of the Two Lands (i.e., Min) at the temple of Horus, giving him food. Resting at the mammisi." (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI) "Procession of Neith and Heka-the-Child in the morning, union with the disk, return. Feast of navigation of this goddess; performing the ritual of Ra and today the divine birth of Horus in the second lunar day of this month." (TFC Esna) "Birth of Ra and the Son of Shu and Tefnut." (LA2, 477, Philae; also placed into the civil calendar at I Shomu 1 and III Shomu I.)

"The gods of the shrines in the temple..." (remainder lost; CC)

IV Peret 12

Chronokrater:

She Who Crosses the 10th Upper Egyptian Nome (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG5, 760, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, and Edfu)

Horus-Shu, Chosen by the Udjat (LGG6, 689, Dendera) Horus, Who Carries His Mother (LGG4, 671, Edfu) Onuris (LGG1, 378, Dendera) NO FESTIVALS TODAY

"As for he who sees any dancing, or digging, on any road, [...] do not approach the majesty of Montu [...] in digging or dancing, and do not look at it at all...." (remainder lost; CC)

IV Peret 13

Chronokrat:

Sekhmet, Lady of the Great Ones (LGG4, 25, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, and Edfu)

Festival:

"Conducting Osiris in His Ship to Abydos" (CC)

"[...do not go out? on] any wind on this day. It is the day of conducting Osiris [in] his ship to Abydos." (CC)

This festival was celebrated in antiquity by taking statues of Osiris to the temple of Abydos, his sacred center and the city of the ancestors, to greet the blessed dead and honor their tombs.

IV Peret 14

Chronokrater:

Horus (LGG5, 231, Dendera)

Sekhmet-Mehyt (LGG3, 371, Dendera)

Lady of Movement (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 64, Edfu)

Hathor, Great of Heat (LGG2, 63, Esna) Festival: Going Forth to the Sky (TFC Illahun; may also be IV Peret 15)

"The crew circle around the gods today to look for the minions of Set. Do not be arrogant (lit., big-hearted) today."

(CC)

"Going Forth to the Sky" was a Middle Kingdom festival in honor of Osiris. It may have been held on IV Peret 15; the dating is unclear in the Middle Kingdom source (TFC Illahun), but the New Kingdom Cairo Calendar implies a date of IV Peret 15 in the later periods.

IV Peret 15

Chronokrater:

Horus (LGG5, 231, Dendera)

Sobek, Lord of [location lost] (LGG6, 259; Leitz (2002) 142-

143, Edfu; multiple readings all beginning with Sha-)

Isis, Who Knows Her Mother (LGG4, 709, Dendera,

Dendera Mammisi, and Edfu) Festivals:

Festival of the Half-Month

Going Forth to the Sky (TFC Illahun; may also be IV Peret 14)

"A great happy day in the eastern horizon of the sky, when the instructions were given to the followers of the gods in their temples, in the presence of the great ones of both horizons." (CC) "Going Forth to the Sky" was a Middle Kingdom festival in honor of Osiris. It may also have been held on IV Peret 14; the dating is unclear in the Middle Kingdom source (TFC Illahun), but the New Kingdom Cairo Calendar implies a date of IV Peret 15 in the later periods.

IV Peret 16

Chronokrater:

Set, Lion of Ra in Herakleopolis Magna (Edfu; possibly a form of Amun-Ra according to variants)

Lady of A'af (unknown location) (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 27, Edfu)

Nefertem (LGG4, 222, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Festival:

Procession of Khepera (CC)

"The going forth of Khepera, who hears the words of his followers there. Every town is rejoicing." (CC)

IV Peret 17

Chronokrater:

Horus of Lower Egypt (LGG1, 381; LGG5, 231, Edfu) Isis, the North Wind (LGG5, 379, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, and Edfu)

Lady of Linen Bandages (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 75, Edfu)

Ra-Atum, Greatest of Gods (or Eldest of Gods) (LGG2, 449, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi) Festival:

Procession of Set, Son of Nut (CC)

"Going forth of Set, son of Nut, to disturb the great ones who hold him back in his town of Su (an unknown town in the Herakleopolite nome). Then these gods recognized him, and they repelled his followers. None of them remained." (CC)

IV Peret 18

Chronokrater:

Horakhty (LGG5, 239, Dendera; variant Ra-Horakhty, LGG4, 630, Dendera Mammisi)

She Whose Love Is Made Great (or She Who Loves Making Greatness) (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG3, 350, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, and Edfu)

Onuris of Thinis (LGG1, 381; Leitz 2002, 148 and 151, Edfu) Festival:

Procession of Ra (CC)

"Do not approach when the majesty of Ra goes forth. Do not wash yourself with water today." (CC)

IV Peret 19

Chronokrater:

Horus, Lord of Mesen (LGG1, 381; LGG5, 231, Dendera and Edfu; Leitz 2002, 152, Edfu)

Hathor, Lady of Gega (unknown location) (LGG4, 153, Edfu) Hathor, Lady of the Winds (LGG4, 163-164, Dendera,

Dendera Mammisi, and Edfu)

Ra, Great of Magic (LGG2, 454, Dendera Mammisi) Festival:

Appearance and Festival of Ra in His Barque (CC)

"The majesty of Ra goes forth in his barque [...] heaven. Feast [and ...] in Heliopolis. If you see anything today, it will be good." (CC)

IV Peret 20

Chronokrater:

Horus, Who Comes from the Delta (LGG3, 55, Dendera Mammisi)

Min, Lord of Coptos (LGG3, 288; Leitz 2002, 151, Edfu) Shezemtet (LGG7, 124, Dendera)

The Lady of Generation (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 138, Dendera and Edfu)

Sothis, Lady of Arrows (LGG4, 144, Edfu) Festivals: Appearance of Sobek and Min, Lord of the Two Lands (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI)

"Appearance of Sobek, and the Lord of the Two Lands (i.e., Min). Vigil at the mammisi." (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI) "Do not do any work today. It is the day when he (Sobek?) repels those who rebelled against their master. As to anyone who passes them (i.e., the rebels), he will suffer beneath the bull (or, be trampled by a bull) forever." (CC; Leitz TW 320)

IV Peret 21

Chronokrater:

Hathor, Lady of the Sycamore(-quarter) (area near

Memphis) (LGG4, 80)

Hathor, Lady of the Bull (variant Lady of Her Bull, LGG7, 245, Dendera and Edfu; LGG4, 149, Edfu)

Wadjet (LGG2, 270, Dendera)

Banebdjedet (LGG2, 683, Dendera Mammisi)

Montu, Lord of Thebes (Leitz 2002, 151, Edfu) Festival:

Feast of Montu (LGG3, 319, Edfu)

"Do not go out today, on any road." (CC)

IV Peret 22

Chronokrater:

The Great Nine (Pesdjet) (LGG3, 133, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Sobek, Lord of Incense (LGG6, 259; Leitz 2002, 143, Edfu) The Lady of Night (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 43, Edfu)

Protection-Is-Great-in-Her (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG2, 458, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, and Edfu) Festival: Killing the Children of Bedesh (CC; LGG3, 423; Leitz TW 321)

"Anyone born today will not live. It is the day of killing the children of Bedesh." (CC; LGG3, 423; Leitz TW 321)
The "Children of Bedesh" (bedeshat, "weary one," an epithet of Apophis) are evil spirits, the spirits of chaos and

disorder, hate and rebellion.

IV Peret 23

Chronokrater:

She-Who-Walks-around-Her-House (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG5, 760, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, and Edfu) Horus, Lord of Stomping (variant Horus, Lord of Heaven; LGG3, 662, Dendera; variant Lord of Stomping in Heaven, LGG3, 663, Dendera Mammisi) Sobek, Lord of Anasha (LGG6, 259; Leitz 2002, 142-143)

and 151, Edfu)

Sekhmet, Lady of Letopolis (LGG4, 118, Edfu) Festival: Offerings to the Ancestors in Abydos (CC; TFC Ramses II) "It is the day of offerings [in] Abydos; food offerings [...] invocation offerings to the ancestors." (CC)

IV Peret 24

Chronokrater:

Sobek, Lord of [location lost] (LGG6, 259; Leitz 2002, 143, Edfu)

Sepa-Osiris (LGG6, 269, Dendera Mammisi)

Mut, Lady of Xois (LGG4, 115, Dendera)

She Who Brings Low with (Her) Two Horns (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG2, 295, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, and Kom Ombo)

Osiris (LGG2, 530, Dendera) NO FESTIVALS TODAY

"Do not mention Set's name in a loud voice today. It is the day of the rebellion he made against Onnophris. As to anyone who mentions his name in forgetting (i.e., forgetting one is not supposed to name him), fighting will happen in his house forever." (CC)

IV Peret 25

Chronokrater:

Horus (LGG5, 231, Edfu)

She Whose Papyrus-Scepter Emerges (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG3, 57, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, and Edfu) Hathor, Lady of the Wing (LGG4, 169, Edfu)

Banebdjedet (LGG2, 683, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi) Festival:

Feast of Set, Lord of the Oasis, Day 1 of 2 (JEA 19 Dakhleh stela; LGG6, 692; Oxford Stela see Spiegelberg, 1899, 14)

"Do not eat anything that is on (or in) water. It is the day of cutting the tongue of Maga, son of Set, [by] Sobek." (Maga is a crocodile spirit. CC; Leitz TW 325; LGG6, 259; LGG3,

459) "All beautiful and pure things are offered to Amun, in all of his places." (AF TT38 tomb image of a grain-scribe offering to Amun and Renenutet, dating to Thutmose IV) Noted in stelae at Dakhleh Oasis in the southwestern Egyptian desert near modern-day Libya, the Feast of Set, Lord of the Oasis honored Set as "Lord of the Daytime" and involved questioning him in an oracle.

IV Peret 26

Chronokrater:

She for Whom There Is No Darkness (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG5, 507, Dendera Mammisi)

Khnum (LGG6 26, Dendera Mammisi)

Lady of Sending Away (or Lady of Repulsing) (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 93, Edfu)

Horus, Who Is in the Great Sanctuary (LGG1, 247, Edfu) Festivals:

Feast of Set, Lord of the Oasis, Day 2 (final) (JEA 19 Dakhleh stela; LGG6, 692; Oxford Stela see Spiegelberg 1899, 14)

Feast of Hathor of Dendera (LGG5, 76)

IV Peret 27

Chronokrater:

Horus, Lord of the East (LGG3, 571, Dendera)

Isis, She Who Clothes Horus (LGG6, 715, Dendera,

Dendera Mammisi, and Edfu)

The Lady of Nawet (unknown location) (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 70, Edfu)

Hathor, Lady of Egypt (lit., Kemet, the Black Land) (LGG4, 150, Edfu) Festivals:

Feast of Renenutet (Measuring the Grain Festival) (LA2; AF TT48 tomb of Amunemhat; LA2; AF TT37; LA5, 232)

Sekhmet Rages in the Land of the Tjemhu "Do not go out of your house until Ra sets, because the majesty of Sekhmet is angry in the land of the Tjemhu (i.e., a tribe in Libya). Behold, she went around, walking and standing..." (CC) IV Peret 28

Chronokrater:

Horus, Foremost of Eyes (LGG5, 849; Leitz 2002, 149 and 151, Edfu; variant adds Lord of Athribis)

Sothis (LGG6, 292, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, and Edfu) Sekhmet (LGG6, 557, Dendera)

Amun (LGG1, 306; Sethe 1929a, 16) Festivals:

Feast of Horus of Hierakonpolis Magna (TFC Edfu; LGG5, 266)

Procession of Harsiese and Heka-the-Child (TFC Esna) Feast of Horus-Sepa, son of Sekhmet (TFC Edfu) "If you see anything today, it will be good." (CC)

"The heart of Nephthys is joyful today." (pWilbour, Dynasty 20; LA, Edfu)

Offerings are made to Hathor today, according to Cerny's translation of an ostracon in Cairo (AF oCairo25780).

IV Peret 29

Chronokrater:

Khepera (LGG5, 714, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi) Horus Who Emerges from Darkness (LGG3, 59, Edfu) Hathor, Who Comes Today (LGG1, 131, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, and Edfu) Festival:

Adorations to Onnophris (CC)

"The gods are satisfied [when] they give adoration to Onnophris, with incense on the fire, and your local gods [are given] myrrh [...] [It is] pleasant today." (CC)

IV Peret 30

Chronokrater:

Thoth, Lord of the Hieroglyphs (lit., lord of divine words) (LGG3, 654, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi; variant reads Thoth, Lord of the Gods)

Hathor, Friend of Women (lit. who unites with women) (LGG6, 22, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, and Edfu) Banebdjedet (LGG2, 683 and Leitz (2002) 152, Edfu) Festivals:

House of Ra, House of Osiris, House of Horus (Last Day of the Month)

Offering to Ptah-Sokar-Osiris, Atum, and All the Gods (CC) Procession of Nebtu (TFC Esna)

Renenutet Festival of Mut (evening of IV Peret 30 through morning of I Shomu I; Sauneron, plate 9; Esna II, 77; LGG4, 687) "Offer to Ptah-Sokar-Osiris, [and] Atum, Lord of the Two Lands [and] of Heliopolis, [and] to all the gods [...] today. House of Ra, House of Osiris, House of Horus." (CC)

Chapter 5 Heat "Heat" is the most common way to translate the Egyptian word Shomu, the name given to the third season of the ancient year. It is possible that this word is the ultimate root of the English word summer. Whether or not that can be proven, it is true that Shomu and summer both refer to a season of warmer temperatures and slower days.

Shomu contains fewer festivals than the other two seasons, but there are several large, important national festivals. Two of them are marked on successive new moons (in II and III Shomu respectively): the Beautiful Feast of the Valley and the Festival of the Beautiful Reunion. In the Valley festival, people gathered on the Nile's western bank at Thebes to visit the eastern bank necropolis and stay with their ancestors in the tombs, as the gods of Thebes — Amun-Ra, Mut, and Khonsu — also went to the necropolis to bless the dead. At the Beautiful Reunion, one entire city sailed to another in festival: the people of the city of Edfu and their god Horus journeyed downstream to the city of Dendera and their goddess Hathor, for a multi-week wedding celebration.

Egypt's astronomer-priests noticed that at the end of Shomu season, Sopdet (Greek Sothis; "sharp one," the ancient name for Sirius, the brightest star in our nighttime sky, which is actually two stars in a binary system) disappeared from visibility for approximately 70 days. When it reappeared, the Nile flood tended to begin almost immediately thereafter. Over time, Sothis came to be associated with Isis, the wife of Osiris and his chief mourner. Her tears at his untimely murder filled the Nile and caused it to rise in the flood that brought Osiris' blessing of fertility from the lands beneath the earth. Even in modern times, Egyptians who generally no longer worship Isis or Osiris celebrate a holiday called "the Night of the (tear)Drop," recognizing the promise of the Nile's flood to the land. It is customary to go down to the river,

and some still make offerings to the Nile itself, or to the "angels" in the Nile, with food and dancing and singing, or by taking a sword into the water and making ritual cuts in it to open the flood season to follow.

Once the fiery season of Shomu reached its end, the flood of a new year would come and quench it, and the cycle of the Egyptian festival year began anew: a linear (djet) expression of the cyclical (neheh) nature of things, forever and eternally circling back to the Zep Tepi, the First Time of the first day of the year.



I Shomu

The first month of the season of Shomu was named for the god Khonsu as early as the Middle Kingdom, and by the New Kingdom it had been renamed pa en Khonsu, or "the one of Khonsu." In Coptic, this name persists in the form Pachons or Bashons. The procession of Khonsu held on the 19th day of the month at Edfu temple is likely the reason for this naming (Alliot

1949, 212ff). The month (and thus the season) also begin with the culmination of the Renenutet festivals of harvest that began in IV Peret. The birthdays of Renenutet and a god named Nepri (or Neper), alternatively given as a form of Osiris or Horus and considered the embodiment of ripened grain itself, were both celebrated on I Shomu 1

(Helck 1992, 739; Schott 1950, 103). Food was placed atop piles of winnowed grain in Nepri's honor; this practice persists into contemporary times, though modern Egyptians explain that they give the food to the ifrit spirits of harvest, and not to a pharaonic deity (Blackman 1927, 176ff).

A great festival to another fertility god, Min, is also marked in I Shomu. Historical references place the beginnings of this festival back as far as the Old Kingdom (Brunner-Traut 1982, 141). Medinet Habu's festival calendar fixes the date at I Shomu 11 in the New Kingdom civil calendars of Ramses III (Bleeker 1956, 69-71), and later sources note the festival as beginning on the eve of the new moon in the lunar calendar (Brunner-Traut 1982, 142). It was celebrated as a first-fruits festival in multiple cities, from Min's hometown (Coptos) and Memphis in early times, to Abydos in the Middle Kingdom, and Thebes during the New Kingdom (Gauthier 1931, 15). There is abundant evidence for the festival at Medinet Habu and the Ramesseum in Thebes, showing how Ramses III and II, respectively, celebrated this major annual festival as "the raising of the beauty of Min on his beautiful festival of the stairs" (Bleeker 1956, 69; Gauthier 1931, 178). During the New Kingdom, this festival became particularly elaborate and was personally celebrated by pharaohs, with a white sacred bull to carry the god's image, a train of priests bearing images of various pharaonic ancestors (Gauthier 1931, 179ff) and a delegation of priests and dancers from the Nubian peoples south of Egypt (Gauthier 1931, 199ff), who also considered Min to be one of their patron deities. In the lunar calendar, the new moon marked a major festival for Harsomtus at Dendera. This procession, called "Harsomtus Voyages to Khadi," commemorated the victory of the younger Horus over the forces of chaos. His icon went in ritual procession by river from Dendera's main

temple to a special chapel southeast of the Dendera complex, called Diadia or Khadi (after the mythical location of the Contendings of Horus and Set). During this five-day festival, the god's representatives, "the soldiers of Harsomtus," went out of the chapel and into the fields each day to ritually cut grain, which they then brought to be threshed on the floor of the Khadi temple before Harsomtus' icon, "striking enemies to the ground like barley" (Grimm 1994, 422; Alliot 1949, 230). This was a ritual destruction of Harsomtus' enemies and, by extension, of anything that might preclude a good harvest. Harsomtus also received a major festival at Edfu in the I Shomu lunar calendar: on the full moon, his birthday was celebrated as "the birthgiving of Hathor in Pakhons" for 23 days, a much longer version of the birthgiving festivals of the previous month. On the 23rd day of the festival, a "purification of Hathor" was observed, just as it would have been done for a human mother after the birth of her own child (Alliot 1949, 295). This festival was celebrated mostly in the mammisi, or birth chapel, of Edfu, and the southern and northern walls of that building still show the illustrations of the festival's celebration (Chassinat, 1910, plates XIII and XIII).

Major Festivals

1 Feast of Renenutet, Birthdays of Renenutet and Nepri 19 Procession of Khonsu

Lunar Festivals

Going Forth of Min on the Steps (Abydos; eve of the new moon)

Voyage of Harsomtus to Khadi (new moon) Birthgiving of Hathor of Dendera (full moon)

There are three gods over the month of I Shomu: Khnum, "He Who Creates in Isheru, Who Kills and Takes Away by

Force" (Vernus 1981, 120; LGG1, 443); Khonsu (LGG5, 761; EAT III/Medinet Habu VI, 1478); and "The Lord of the Riot," a form of Sobek who is the third of the deities named as the Seven Arrows of Mut, Bast, Nephthys and a fourth unnamed goddess. (Kom Ombo; LGG3, 262) There are also twelve hippo goddess protectors of I Shomu according to an inscription at Edfu (which is incidentally the same list as for II Akhet):

- 1. Sparkling One at the Front of the Valley (epithet of Hathor, LGG7, 485)
- 2. She Who is within the Udjat (LGG1, 291)
- 3. Luminous One, Foremost of Face (epithet of Aset; LGG3, 129-130)
- 4. Satis, Noble Body in the Nun (LGG6, 700)
- 5. Mistress of the Two Wings, Who is Singing (LGG4, 169)
- 6. She Who Preserves Shu in Heaven with Her Form (LGG2, 645)
- 7. Opet the Great, within the Body of Nut (LGG1, 219)
- 8. She Who is in Heaven, Leading the Gods (LGG1, 291)
- 9. Her Majesty Opet, Foremost of Akhet-season (LGG1, 219)
- 10. Perfect of Form, Who Guards What She Made (LGG4, 228)
- 11. Flame, Who Devours What Exists (LGG2, 171)
- 12. Elder Sister, Who Endows the Shrine (LGG6, 347)

The four protective gods of I Shomu are named "Those Who Are above/behind Khonsu" (LGG5, 762):

- 1. Who Jubilates over the Outpouring (Edfu IV; LGG5, 762)
- 2. High-Backed (i.e., proud or arrogant) (LGG7, 161)
- 3. He Whose Legs Are Short (LGG5, 93, Edfu V, 104)
- 4. The Terrible One (LGG6, 402-403)

First Month of Heat/Harvest, Day 1 (I Shomu 1)

Chronokrater:

She Who Raises Up Her Father (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG2, 177, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, and Edfu)

Amun-Ra (LGG1, 321, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi) Khonsu (Leitz 2002, 152, Edfu) Festivals:

First Day of the Month

Feast of the Hand of God (i.e., Hathor Iusaas, "she is brought") (LGG2, 311; LGG3, 270; Edfu V, 400 note 7; Dendera Naos LD IV, 69d; this festival runs to II Shomu 1) Appearance of Harsiese and His Followers, Day 1 of 8 (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI; CC)

Feast of Harsomtus of Edfu (LA2)

Feast of Renenutet (LA2, TFC; TT57; LGG4, 688 note 45; AF TT50 tomb of Neferhotep, dated to Horemheb; LA2 reference says at Thebes the Renenutet fest is in honor of Amun)

Birthday of Renenutet at Esna (LA2, 477)

Birthday of Shu and Tefnut at Philae (LA2, 477)

Birth of Nepri (AF TT52 tomb of Khaemhet, dated to Amunhotep III; LA2, 477; LGG4, 203; AF tomb TT57; URK IV 1844; LA4, 454, Amenemhet III and IV with a note of five days of festival; LA3, 196 birth of Nepri-Osiris and Feast of His Mother Isis)

Appearance of Min, Tasenetnofret, and Hathor (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI)

Sunset Prayers and Feasts for All Gods

Feast of Khnum, Nebtu, Heka, Thoth, and All the Gods (LA2; LGG4, 35; Esna II, 77, 11; LGG5, 553) "Birth of Ra and the Son of Shu and Tefnut." (LA2, 477, Philae; also placed into the civil calendar at III Shomu I)

"I Shomu 1, day of the festival of 'She is brought' by the one who arises in this temple on His festival (i.e., Horus-Shu)." (LGG2, 311; Dendera Naos LD IV, 69d) "Feast of Khnum, of Nebtu, and of Heka and Thoth and the gods. Shu and Tefnut are carried, and Heka-the-Child (here a form of Geb) their son, whom they love. Shu and Thoth return the Eye to its owner. Feast of revealing the face [of the cult statue] in the temple of Khnum, followed by a procession of

Heka-the-Child on a gold palanguin. Procession of Amun-Min up to the mammisi; pause before Nebtu, her face turned to the inside. Revealing of the face. Second hour of the day: procession of Heka-the-Child before his father, followed by Min; making Khnum-Ra, Lord of Esna, appear in procession with his ennead. Union with the disk and return. Appearing of Heka who traverses his domain before his father in Pi-Khnum. Coming back to the mammisi before his mother, return. Bringing out in procession Khnum-Ra, Lord of the Countryside, with his ennead, at Pi-Khnum and Pi-Sahure. Feast of Renenutet." (LA2; LGG4, 35; Esna II, 77, 11; TFC Esna) "Feast of Hathor-Iusaas, Hand of God, Eve of Ra, Mother of Shu and Tefnut. Hathor, Lady of Dendera, they say of her [...] to II Shomu 1." (LGG3, 270; Edfu V, 400 note 7) "All beautiful and pure things for Renenutet, Lady of the Harvest, on the day of the birth of Nepri." (AF TT52 tomb of Khaemhet, dated to Amunhotep III; LA2, 477; LGG4, 203; AF TT57; URK IV, 1844)

I Shomu 2

Chronokrater:

Hehet (LGG5, 472, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi) Horus, Lord of Stomping (LGG3, 667, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi; variant Horus Lord of Heaven) Hathor, Lady of the Firestarter (i.e., flint stone) (LGG4, 93, Edfu)

Osiris (LGG2, 530, Edfu) Festivals:

Appearance of Harsiese and His Followers, Day 2 of 8 (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI; CC)

"Do not sail(?) in any wind today." (CC)

Festival calendars at the Akhmenu temple in Karnak indicate a "revealing the face" on this day. This phrase is the name of a daily ritual and does not indicate a special festival, though it is explicitly mentioned in the calendars as occurring on this particular day (TFC Akhmenu Thutmose III).

I Shomu 3

Chronokrater:

Nut (LGG3, 535, Dendera)

Sepa of Dendera (form of Anubis) (LGG6, 270; variant Sepa of Heliopolis, Leitz 2002, 152, Edfu)

Sekhmet, Lady of Ikhenet-hy (unknown location) (LGG4, 24, Edfu)

Neith, Lady of Sais (LGG4, 124, Dendera, Dendera

Mammisi, and Edfu) Festivals:

Appearance of Harsiese and His Followers, Day 3 of 8 (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI; CC)

Procession and Appearance of Heka (TFC Esna)

"Procession and appearance of Heka. The god [is] crowned with the small wig in the mammisi; change to the Red Crown in the presence of his father." (TFC Esna) "If you see anything today, it will be good." (CC)

I Shomu 4

Chronokrater:

Ma'at (LGG3, 222, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, and Edfu) Atum (LGG7, 412, Dendera Mammisi)

Sobek in Kom Ombo (LGG6, 262; Leitz 2002, 143/150/154, Edfu)

Hathor, Lady of Par (unknown location) (LGG4, 52, Edfu) Festivals:

Appearance of Harsiese and His Followers, Day 4 of 8 (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI; CC)

Feast of Anukis, Day 1 of 3 (boat navigation by water) (LA1, 334; Stela CG 34019 dated to Amunhotep II)

Feast of Horus of Edfu (LA2) "Do not go out of your house on any road today. It is the day of [...] year." (CC)

I Shomu 5

Chronokrater:

Mafdet (LGG3, 235, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, and Edfu) Neith, Lady of Sais (LGG4, 124, Edfu)

Hegar of the West (local form of Osiris, paired with Sobek and Khnum) (LGG4, 813, Edfu)

Osiris (LGG2, 530, Dendera Mammisi) Festivals:

Appearance of Harsiese and His Followers, Day 5 of 8 (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI; CC)

Feast of Anukis, Day 2 of 3 (boat navigation by water) (LA1, 334; Stele CG 34019 dated to Amunhotep II)

Feast of Banebdjedet (LGG2, 684; Leitz TW 331; CC) "Feast of Banebdjedet on this day. [...] As to anyone who goes out of his house today, disease will abandon him until he dies." (CC)

I Shomu 6

Chronokrater:

Min (LGG3, 288, Dendera Mammisi)

Khnum, Lord of Tanis (LGG6, 26, Edfu)

The Speckled Falconess (epithet of Hathor) (LGG6, 148,

Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, and Edfu; variation Hathor,

Mistress of Lust, LGG4, 86, Dendera)

Sekhmet (LGG6, 557, Dendera) Festivals:

Appearance of Harsiese and His Followers, Day 6 of 8 (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI; CC)

Feast of Anukis, Day 3 (final) (boat navigation by water)

(LA1, 334; Stela CG 34019 dated to Amunhotep II)

Sixth-Day Festival

Appearance of Tasenetnofret and Min (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI)

Procession of Heka (TFC Esna)

"The Great Ones and Their Followers Receive the Udjat" (CC; LGG2, 462; Leitz TW 332) "Appearing of Tasenetnofret and the Lord of the Two Lands (i.e., Min)." (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI)

"[Heka receives] The White Crown at the birth house and the Double Crown in the presence of his father." (TFC Esna)

"The Great Ones come from the house of Ra, rejoicing on this day when they receive the Udjat, together with their followers. If you see anything today, it will be good." (CC; LGG2, 472; Leitz TW 332) The sixth day of any calendrical month, civil or lunar, is noted as the Suwenet, the "sixth-day festival." On the Suwenet, offerings were given to the deceased at their graves.

I Shomu 7

Chronokrater:

Horus, Lord of the East (LGG3, 571, Dendera) Sobek, Lord of [location lost] (LGG6, 259; Leitz 2002, 143, Edfu)

Isis, Mistress of the Twin Sanctuaries (LGG4, 24, Edfu) She-Who-Desires-Hearts (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG1, 207, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, and Edfu) Festival: Appearance of Harsiese and His Followers, Day 7 of 8 (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI; CC)

"The crew follows Horus in the foreign lands, and examines its list [...] therein, when he smote him who rebelled against his master. Every land is in joy, and their hearts are glad...." (CC)

I Shomu 8

Chronokrater:

Beloved of Min (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG3, 348, Dendera, Edfu, and Dendera Mammisi)

Nut (LGG3, 535, Dendera)

Sekhmet, Lady of the Road/Way (LGG4, 36, Edfu)

Nefertem (LGG4, 222, Dendera Mammisi)

Amun (LGG1, 306, Edfu) Festival:

Appearance of Harsiese and His Followers, Day 8 (final) (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI; CC)

"If you see anything today, it will be good." (CC)

I Shomu 9

Chronokrater:

The Flesh of Those-Who-Belong-to-the-Tribunals (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG5, 32, Dendera)

Ma'ahes (LGG3, 211, Dendera Mammisi)

Sekhmet, Lady of Is-hat (unknown location) (LGG4, 21, Edfu and Kom Ombo)

Anubis (LGG1, 391; Leitz 2002, 145 and 152, Edfu; variant Anubis, Lord of Sepa, a location south of Heliopolis) NO FESTIVALS TODAY

"If you see anything today, it will be good. [...] the ennead [...]" (CC)

I Shomu 10

Chronokrater:

Montu (LGG3, 319, Dendera Mammisi)

Neith (LGG3, 511, Dendera)

Lady-of-the-Watering-Place (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 105, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, Edfu, and Kom

Ombo)

Hathor, Lady of Speech (LGG4, 173, Edfu and Kom Ombo) Festivals:

Hathor Proceeds Upstream (CC)

Clothing Anubis (TFC Medinet Habu Ramses III; AF Medinet Habu Calendar 1416) "Proceeding of the white one of heaven, upstream, to observe at the front, among those who rebelled against their master in the Delta." (CC)

The festival of Clothing Anubis involved giving new ritual clothes to Anubis' cult statues and sanctuaries, as well as

offerings to Amun-Ra and his ennead at Medinet Habu (AF Medinet Habu Calendar 1416).

I Shomu 11

Chronokrater:

Min (LGG3, 288; Leitz 2002, 155, Edfu)

Isis, Lady of Protection (LGG4, 124, Edfu and Kom Ombo) Lady of Procession (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 142, Dendera, Edfu, and Kom Ombo)

Amun (LGG1, 306; variation Amun-Ra, Lord of the Thrones of the Two Lands, LGG1, 321, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi) Festivals:

Birthday of Shu and Tefnut, Day 1 of 10 (LA3, 217; TFC Edfu)

Procession of Hathor and Her Great Nine, Day 1 of 3 (TFC Dendera with related lunar festival; LGG4, 11, Edfu Mammisi: "Hathor, Lady of Dendera, goes to Edfu with her child.")

Appearance of Horus (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI)
Feast and Procession of Min to the Temple Steps (also I
Shomu 15, see LA4, 142; LGG5, 656; Min is "He who
protects the moon" in the New Kingdom festival entry in
Medinet Habu IV, 197, 1; Leitz 2002, 154, Edfu)
Feast of the Divine Birth at Dendera, Day 1 of 5 (LA2, 1036)
"The birthgiving of Iusaas, also called Hathor, Lady of
Dendera. It is the Eye of Ra, mother of Shu and Tefnut,
until day 21." (TFC Edfu)

"Procession of Hathor, Lady of Dendera, and her ennead. Union with her father, then stopping in the Mansion of the Bier. On the feast of the 15th of this month, on the day of full moon, a great festival in the entire land. Procession by Hathor. Union with the disk; resting in the mammisi. Total three days of feast." (TFC Dendera) "The followers [of Horus bring the shrine gods out of] the house of the Red Crown [...]" (CC; LGG7, 92; Leitz TW 339)

I Shomu 12

Chronokrater:

Montu (LGG3, 319, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Nunet (variant Niut, LGG3, 550, Dendera and Edfu)

Festivals:

Birthday of Shu and Tefnut, Day 2 of 10 (LA3, 217; TFC Edfu)

Procession of Hathor and Her Great Nine, Day 2 of 3 (TFC Dendera with related lunar festival; LGG4, 11, Edfu Mammisi: "Hathor, Lady of Dendera, goes to Edfu with her

Mammisi: "Hathor, Lady of Dendera, goes to Edfu with her child.")

Feast of the Divine Birth at Dendera, Day 2 of 5 (LA2, 1036) "Do not [...] he goes forth. His body [...]" (CC)

I Shomu 13

Chronokrater:

Hathor, Lady of Offerings (LGG4, 111, Dendera)

Isis (LGG1, 62, Edfu and Kom Ombo)

Amun (variant Amun, Whose Beauty Is in the Entire Land, LGG1, 306, Dendera Mammisi) Festivals:

Birthday of Shu and Tefnut, Day 3 of 10 (LA3, 217; TFC Edfu)

Procession of Hathor and Her Great Nine, Day 3 (final) (TFC Dendera with related lunar festival; LGG4, 11, Edfu Mammisi: "Hathor, Lady of Feast of the Divine Birth at Dendera," Day 3 of 5; LA2, 1036) "Do not [...] until [...]" (CC)

I Shomu 14

Chronokrater:

Horakhty (LGG5, 239; variant Ra-Horakhty, LGG4, 630, Dendera and Dendera Mammisi)

Whose Height Reaches Heaven (epithet of the Eye of Ra)

(LGG7, 174, Dendera, Edfu, and Kom Ombo)

Isis, Lady of Finding-the-Heart (LGG4, 151, Edfu and Kom Ombo)

Osiris-Isdes in [location name lost] (LGG1, 561; Leitz 2002, 149, Edfu) Festivals:

Birthday of Shu and Tefnut, Day 4 of 10 (LA3, 217; TFC Edfu)

Feast of the Divine Birth at Dendera, Day 4 of 5 (LA2, 1036) Crowning of Heka, Day 1 of 12 (TFC Esna) "[Heka is crowned with] the round wig in the birth house [and the] disk, flanked by the two plumes, all of them mounted on the horizontal horns in the presence of his father." (TFC Esna) "[...] of Apophis in [...] cutting into the tongue of Sobek's enemy today. It is the day of [destroying the children of Bedesh, ...] his head by [...]" (CC; Leitz TW 321; LGG3, 423)

I Shomu 15

Chronokrater:

Atum (or Temag?) (LGG7, 431, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of Hiddenness (LGG4, 138, Edfu and Kom Ombo)

She to Whom Jubilation Belongs (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG1, 151, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, and Edfu) Osiris (LGG2, 530, Edfu) Festivals:

Birthday of Shu and Tefnut, Day 5 of 10 (LA3, 217; TFC Edfu)

Feast of the Divine Birth at Dendera, Day 5 (final) (LA2, 1036)

Crowning of Heka, Day 2 of 12 (TFC Esna)

Feast of the Half Month

Birthday of Horus, Son of Hathor (LA2, 477, Edfu)

Appearance of Min-Amun (boat procession; TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI) "[Heka is crowned with the] hemhem-crown, surmounted with three crowned falcons, in the mammisi, and in the lunar disk in the presence of his father. Going to

Pi-Sahure. Accomplishing all the rites, coming back to the presence of his mother, and returning. Appearance of Min-Amun, installed in the mammisi, his face turned toward the outside." (TFC Esna) "Anyone born today will die [...] Do not go out of your house until Ra sets in the horizon [today]." (CC)

I Shomu 16

Chronokrater:

Min (LGG3, 288, Edfu)

She Whose Side Cannot Be Struck (epithet of the Eye of

Ra) (LGG3, 496, Dendera, Edfu, and Kom Ombo)

Hathor, Lady of Reptiles (LGG4, 173, Edfu and Kom Ombo) Isis (LGG1, 62, Dendera) Festivals:

Birthday of Shu and Tefnut, Day 6 of 10 (LA3, 217; TFC Edfu)

Crowning of Heka, Day 3 of 12 (TFC Esna)

"[Heka is crowned with] the headdress [of plumes?] in the mammisi, and the daily crown of Amun in his father's presence." (TFC Esna)

"If you see anything today, it will be good. The ennead is in joy and the crew of Ra is in festival." (CC)

I Shomu 17

Chronokrater:

Hathor, the Female Sovereign (LGG5, 536, Dendera, Edfu, and Kom Ombo)

Hathor, Lady of the Heavens (LGG4, 151, Edfu and Kom Ombo)

Isis, Greatest of the Great, Lady of Heaven (LGG2, 484, Dendera) Festivals:

Birthday of Shu and Tefnut, Day 7 of 10 (LA3, 217; TFC Edfu)

Crowning of Heka, Day 4 of 12 (TFC Esna)

I Shomu 18

Chronokrater:

She Who Made Herself Distant (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG5, 460, Dendera)

Thoth, Lord of Hermopolis, Lord of the Hieroglyphs (lit., divine words) (LGG3, 716, Dendera)

Mistress of Heritage/Ancestry (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 10, Edfu and Kom Ombo)

Nefertem, Son of Atum (LGG4, 222, Edfu) Festivals: Birthday of Shu and Tefnut, Day 8 of 10 (LA3, 217; TFC Edfu)

Crowning of Heka, Day 5 of 12 (TFC Esna)

"[Heka is crowned with] the Atef-crown in the mammisi, and the hemhem-crown in the temple of Khnum." (TFC Esna)

I Shomu 19

Chronokrater:

Ma'ahes (LGG3, 211, Edfu)

Hathor, Lady of Both Legs (lit., two legs) (LGG4, 90,

Dendera, Edfu, and Kom Ombo)

Nekhbet, Shining in Hierakonpolis Magna (LGG4, 301, Dendera) Festivals:

Birthday of Shu and Tefnut, Day 9 of 10 (LA3, 217; TFC Edfu)

Crowning of Heka, Day 6 of 12 (TFC Esna)

Counting of Thoth, "Who Heard Ma'at" (CC; LGG7, 642; Leitz TW 343)

Appearance of Khonsu (TFC Edfu; Edfu V 124/12, 131/5; LGG5, 768) "Taking this noble god [Khonsu] out in procession in Edfu, to the temple roof; his face is revealed, [his] garment is put on, and he is anointed. A hymn is sung and the opening of the mouth is performed." (TFC Edfu) "It

is the day of counting in the presence of [name lost; probably Ra] by Thoth who heard Ma'at, this great one. All the gods are in great festivity." (CC; LGG7, 642; Leitz TW 343)

I Shomu 20

Chronokrater:

Snake (hereret) of the Foreign Lands (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG5, 464, Dendera, Edfu, and Kom Ombo; variant Snake, no mention of foreign lands, at Kom Ombo only) Lady of the Waters (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 62, Edfu and Kom Ombo)

Ma'ahes, Who Saves Everyone (LGG4, 281, Edfu; variant Who Saves All [word lost])

Wadjet (LGG2, 270, Dendera) Festivals:

Birthday of Shu and Tefnut, Day 10 (final) (LA3, 217; TFC Edfu)

Crowning of Heka, Day 7 of 12 (TFC Esna)

Ma'at Judges before the Gods "[Heka is crowned with] the round wig, surmounted by four straight plumes in the mammisi; the hemhem-crown with four cobras hanging from the horns, in the temple of Khnum. Making [him] travel through his town, arriving at the mammisi with his mother Nebtu, and making a stop. The crown of four plumes in the mammisi. The great Atef crown in the presence of his father, his mother [being] behind him. At the eighth hour of the day, Nebtu arrives in Esna." (TFC Esna) "Ma'at judges before the gods, who became angry in the island of the sanctuary of Letopolis. The Majesty of Horus changed it." (CC)

I Shomu 21

Chronokrater:

Isis the Heavenly Kite (LGG7, 631, Dendera, Edfu, and Kom Ombo)

Hathor, Lady of Atfih (LGG4, 137, Edfu and Kom Ombo)

Ra-Horakhty (LGG4, 630, Dendera)

Amun (LGG1, 306, Edfu) Festival:

Crowning of Heka, Day 8 of 12 (TFC Esna)

"Vomiting [up] the things that come back from the boat, so that no follower of Ra remains: that is, his followers attending him." (CC)

I Shomu 22

Chronokrater:

Khnum, the Great Youth (LGG5, 95 and Leitz 2002, 149, Edfu)

Nephthys (LGG4, 96, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of Offerings (LGG4, 111, Edfu and Kom Ombo) Festivals:

Procession of Sobek-Hapi (LGG6, 263; LGG4, 687) Crowning of Heka, Day 9 of 12 (TFC Esna)

"[Heka is crowned with] the tenu-crown in the mammisi. Traveling through his town. Purifying this god, returning to his main seat in the temple of Khnum, in the presence of his father." (TFC Edfu) The Procession of Sobek-Hapi is "when one drinks in honor of Renenutet." (LGG6, 263; LGG4, 687; pOxGriffith 58, 4; Bresciani, 58) "Anyone born today will die in old age." (CC)

I Shomu 23

Chronokrater:

Nut (LGG3, 535, Dendera)

Hathor, the Beautiful Daughter (LGG6, 102, Kom Ombo)

Hathor, Lady of Drunkenness (LGG4, 162, Edfu)

Hathor, Lady of Shares (i.e., pieces or objects) (LGG4, 166, Dendera, Edfu, and Kom Ombo)

Amun, Going Forth [words lost] (LGG1, 306, Edfu) Festival: Crowning of Heka, Day 10 of 12 (TFC Esna)

"If you see anything today, it will be good." (CC)

I Shomu 24

Chronokrater:

Horus (LGG5, 231; variant Horus Lord of Busiris, Leitz 2002, 151, Edfu)

Atum (LGG7, 412, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of Divine Might (LGG4, 133, Edfu and Kom Ombo)

She Who Is in the Flood (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG1, 289, Dendera, Edfu, and Kom Ombo) Festivals:

Crowning of Heka, Day 11 of 12 (TFC Esna)

"[Do not listen to the?] words of the rebels today..." (CC)

I Shomu 25

Chronokrater:

The Great Nine (LG3, 141, Dendera)

Horus-Sopdu, Lord of the East (LGG6, 290, Edfu)

Seshat, Mistress of the Wall(s) (LGG4, 23, Edfu and Kom Ombo)

Sekhmet, Who Rejects Evil (LGG2, 279, Dendera, Edfu, and Kom Ombo) Festivals:

Crowning of Heka, Day 12 (final) (TFC Esna)

Festival of Horus Behdety (TFC Edfu)

Procession of Heka, Nebtu, and Khnum (TFC Esna) "Feast of Horus of Edfu, Lord of Heaven [...] third day of the procession of these [gods...]. His ritual is celebrated. Going around the south maru-chapel. The barque comes..." (TFC Edfu) "Making the procession of these great gods (i.e., Heka, Nebtu, Khnum) at the east of the resting place of Sahure [...] 'Appearing in the palace of Renenutet' is its name. Completed in six days." (TFC Esna)

I Shomu 26

Chronokrater:

Isis, Who Unites with the Heart of Ra (LGG6, 19, Dendera,

Edfu, and Kom Ombo)

The Lady of Nashi (unknown location; epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 83, Edfu and Kom Ombo)

Anubis, Lord of the Sacred Land (LGG1, 391, Edfu) NO FESTIVALS TODAY

"If you see anything today, it will be good." (CC)

I Shomu 27

Chronokrater:

Horus, Lord of the East (LGG3, 571, Dendera)

Mut, Protector of the Land (LGG6, 122, Dendera, Edfu, and Kom Ombo)

Hathor, Lady of the Cavern Mouths (name of the Asyut necropolis) (LGG4, 87, Edfu and Kom Ombo)

Osiris of [location name lost] (LGG2, 536, Edfu) Festival: Feast of Amunhotep I, true-of-voice (LA2, 184, Ramesside Theban necropolis; feast and oracle)

"[Appearance of] Ba[bi] in front of Ra..." (CC)

I Shomu 28

Chronokrater:

She Who Watches Over the Land (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 19, Edfu and Kom Ombo)

Hathor the Golden One, Lady of Yamet (LGG4, 180, Dendera)

Hathor of the Pleasant Breeze/Wind (LGG4, 602, Dendera, Edfu, and Kom Ombo)

Ra-Horakhty (LGG4, 630, Edfu) NO FESTIVALS TODAY

"...great [...] him today...If you see anything today, it will be good." (CC)

I Shomu 29

Chronokrater:

Djedjeh, Son of [Thoth] (spirit minion of Thoth as a solar baboon) (LGG 7, 650; Leitz 2002, 149, Edfu)
Lady of Favor (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 81, Dendera, Edfu, and Kom Ombo)
Isis, Lady of the Marshes (LGG4, 106, Edfu)
Sothis, Lady of Arrows (LGG4, 144, Kom Ombo)
Isis, Lady of the Life of the Two Lands (LGG1, 62, Dendera)
NO FESTIVALS TODAY

I Shomu 30

Chronokrater:

Hathor, United with Her Mother (LGG7, 547, Dendera, Edfu, and Kom Ombo)

Hathor, Lady of Severity (LGG4, 167, Kom Ombo)

Horus Who Receives Offerings (LGG2, 628, Edfu) Festivals:

House of Ra, House of Osiris, House of Horus (Last Day of the Month)

Feast of Min (CC)

"Feast of [Min, the gods being?] happy [...] House of Ra, House of Osiris, House of Horus." (CC)

II Shomu

While the second month of Shomu season was named for Khenty-khety, god of Athribis, in the Middle Kingdom, by the New Kingdom it would come to be known by the name of the major Theban festival held at its new moon, the Beautiful Feast of the Valley. The ancient Egyptian phrase pa en inet, "the one of the valley," was the month's informal name from the New Kingdom onward. This name is preserved today in the Coptic calendar as Payni or Paoni.



II Shomu's major festival is its eponymous Beautiful Feast of the Valley, in which Amun-Ra of Thebes, his wife/consort Mut, and their son Khonsu traveled in an opulent boat procession over both land and water from the great temples of Karnak across the river to the western necropolis. They visited tombs and temples in honor of the ancestors and also provided a reigning pharaoh with the rejuvenating power of the

ancestors' blessing. During the New Kingdom, the divine procession wound from Karnak to the mortuary temples of Montuhotep and Hatshepsut located at Deir-el-Bahri on the western rock wall that separated the Valley of the Kings from the cultivated land on the western side of the river, a distance of several miles.

Over time, the procession became longer and involved other kings' mortuary temples. At Medinet Habu, guest rooms for the king and his entourage to stay in during the Valley festival can still be visited today; most of the temples would have had similar accommodations (Kemp 1991, 210). While the kings remained in the temples with the gods, ordinary people who had also taken part in the parade would camp in or outside their own families' tombs, making the Valley festival a giant celebration for both the dead and the living citizens of the Theban area.

Flowers and burnt offerings were provided to the dead, and flowers and food were given to the living at banquets held

in the tombs themselves, with the blessing "For your ka!" (Bell 1997, 137; Schott 1950, 82). People danced, sang, ate, drank, gave and received gifts, and listened to music with each other, alongside their ancestors, in all-night vigils, pouring libations to the family shrines and inviting the dead to come and celebrate with the living.

As the Valley festival was the major feast of the Theban necropolis, it is known from many sources, from the temples to the tombs themselves, and over many time periods, as early as Dynasty 11 of the Middle Kingdom (Bell 1997, 136). The length of this festival varied over time, but in the Greco-Roman period we know it was celebrated for 12 days (Rössler-Köhler 1997, 670; Drioton 1944, 24). In modern times, Egyptian Christians and Muslims still celebrate holidays that involve visiting their ancestors in the cemeteries for feasts including music, food, and celebration (Spalinger 1997, 521ff; Bleeker 1967, 137).

Major Festival Lunar Festival

Beautiful Feast of the Valley (new moon) (El-Sabban 2000, 67; Schott 1950 107; Graefe 1986, 187)

The gods of II Shomu are Khenty-khety of Athribis (a crocodile god in the Middle Kingdom represented by the Kemwer bull, later syncretized with both Horus and Osiris; LGG5, 849; LA1, 923ff); Montu (LGG3, 319, Dendera); and the goddess of II Shomu is the Eye of Ra (LGG1, 426), more specifically titled the Eye of Ra, Lady of the Two Lands, Female Sovereign Who Comes in Flames (Vernus 1981, 120, Kom Ombo).

There are 13 protector gods of II Shomu, named "Those Who Are in the Body of Bast" (LGG1, 276; Edfu V and X):

- 1. Khonsu, Who Lives On Hearts (LGG2, 154)
- 2. He Who Swallows Hearts (LGG6, 175)
- 3. He Who Breaks the Dew (LGG7, 314)
- 4. He Who Brings Violence (LGG1,372)
- 5. He Who Seeks the Outflow (of blood) (LGG5, 467)
- 6. The Lord of Hiddenness (lit. concealment) (LGG3, 582)
- 7. He Who Loves Destruction (LGG3, 342)
- 8. He Who Quickly Brings Defeat (lit., brings to a quick fall) (LGG6, 379)
- 9. He Who Approaches the Two Doors (Gates) (LGG7, 445)
- 10. He Who Sends Out Flames (LGG4, 747)
- 11. name lost
- 12. name lost
- 13. He Who Guards His Plans (LGG6, 129)

Twelve hippopotamus goddesses protect II Shomu (LGG4, 275; AF Coffin of Padiamunopet CG29318, 123 and 136; Daressy, 1912, 190, statue in Sais; Opet I, 85; Philae II, 209; TFC Kom Ombo; AF El Qa'la). The preserved names once again resemble those from the similar list of II Akhet:

- 1. name lost
- 2. name lost
- 3. name lost
- 4. name lost
- 5. name lost
- 6. name lost
- 7. name lost
- 8. name lost
- 9. Mistress of Opet, Foremost of the Temple (?)
- 10. Beautiful of Face
- 11. Who Exists (?) to Devour Life
- 12. name lost

Second Month of Heat, Day 1 (II Shomu 1)

Chronokrater:

Hathor, Lady of the Valley (LGG4, 17, Dendera and Edfu) Neith, Lady of the Mothers (LGG4, 62, Edfu) Amun (LGG1, 306; Leitz 2002, 152, Edfu) Festivals: First Day of the Month

Appearance of Khnum, Neith, and Nebtu (TFC Esna) Appearance of Nephthys (TFC Esna)

Feast of Hathor (TFC Edfu; entire month of II Shomu) Feast of Montu

Oracle of Amunhotep I (AF BM5627 ostraca, end of Dynasty 18; LA2, 184) "Half bad, half good. Making the appearance of Khnum, Neith, and Nebtu; union with the disk, going up to Pi-Sahure. Placing fish at the four doors; putting them to the flame outside this building, without being seen. [Then] the priest of Sekhmet throws them in the canal." (TFC Esna) "Feast of Hathor of Dendera, Eye of Ra, Eye of Horus, Eye of Atum, resting in Bubastis. Her sacrifice-priests carry out the ritual in the temple of the northern Bubastis. Candles are lit in the temple sanctuaries by the torch-bearers, and the fire sticks are rubbed from when Hathor, the Eye of Horus, is provided with her needs until the last day of the month." (TFC Edfu)

II Shomu 2

Chronokrater:

Lady of Migratory Birds (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 90, Edfu)

Ra (LGG4, 612, Dendera)

Osiris (LGG2, 530, Edfu) Festival:

Festival of Ra's Crew (CC)

"O heart of the gods, listen well, listen well... [...] The crew of Ra is in festivity." (CC)

II Shomu 3

Chronokrater:

Beloved of the Two Lords (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG3, 348, Dendera and Edfu)

Atum, Lord of the Two Lands (LGG7, 412, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of Judgment (LGG4, 44, Edfu) Festival: Holiday of the Month of Ra's Followers (lit., "those who are in Ra's body"; LGG1, 277; Leitz TW 353)

"The month of those who are in Ra's body. A day is established in heaven and on the earth as a festival." (CC)

II Shomu 4

Chronokrater:

Harsaphes (LGG5, 381, Dendera)

[Name lost], Lord of Sena (unknown location) (LGG3, 733, Edfu)

Lady of Her Portion (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 87, Edfu and Dendera; variant Lady of Her Weakness, LGG4, 152, Edfu) Festivals:

Geb and Nut Are Judged before the Gods (CC) Procession of Khnum, Neith, and Nebtu (TFC Esna)

"Do not shout at anyone today, which is the day that which Geb and Nut have done was judged in the presence of (lit., upon the hands of) the gods." (CC)

This festival is a celebration of the separation of Geb (earth) and Nut (sky), metaphorically creating the earth.

II Shomu 5

Chronokrater:

Neith (LGG3, 511, Dendera)

Lady of the Great Waterway (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 39, Dendera and Edfu)

Lady of Creation (lit., Lady of All Things) (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 72, Edfu)

Osiris, Lord of [location lost] (LGG2, 530, Edfu) NO FESTIVALS TODAY

"If you see anything today, it will be good." (CC)

II Shomu 6

Chronokrater:

Nun the Great, Father of the Gods (LGG3, 548, Edfu)

The Heavy One (epithet of Thoeris and/or Hedjet as a

hippopotamus) (LGG7, 550, Dendera and Edfu)

Satis (? name broken) (LGG6, 174, Dendera)

Lady of Water(s) (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 62, Edfu) Festivals:

Sixth-Day Festival

Horus Inquires from Osiris-Onnophris (CC)

"Horus proceeds to repel what was done against his father, and to inquire from the followers of his father Onnophris today." (CC)

The sixth day of any calendrical month, civil or lunar, is noted as the Suwenet, the "sixth-day festival." On the Suwenet, offerings were given to the deceased at their graves.

II Shomu 7

Chronokrater:

Horus, Lord of the East (LGG3, 571, Dendera)

Duamutef of Chemmis (LGG7, 518; Leitz, 2002, 151, Edfu)

Serqet (LGG6, 438, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of the Room (LGG4, 131, Edfu)

She Who Belongs to the Heart (epithet of the Eye of Ra)

(LGG1, 421, Dendera and Edfu) Festivals:

Appearance of Khenty-Osiris

Day of the Executioners of Sekhmet (lit., going forth of the seven arrows/knife demons of Sekhmet) (CC; Leitz TW 356) "Do not go out of your house during walking time [... until

the setting of] Ra in the horizon. It is the day of Sekhmet's executioners [...] counting by names [...]" (CC)

II Shomu 8

Chronokrater:

Ptah, Lord of Heaven (LGG3, 169, Dendera)

From Whose Ka There Is No Fleeing (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG3, 487, Dendera and Edfu)

Osiris (as Sah, either the planet Jupiter or the constellation Orion) (LGG6, 154, Edfu)

Hathor, Lady of Water Plants (Nebit) (LGG4, 72, Edfu) Festivals:

Holiday of Ra and His Followers

Appearance of Harsiese, Day 1 of 2 (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI)

Festival of Horus of Letopolis (LA3, 43, Edfu and Kom Ombo) "Make a holiday for Ra and his followers, [and] a good day today." (CC)

II Shomu 9

Chronokrater:

Osiris, Foremost of Westerners (LGG5, 784, Edfu)

Hathor, Noble One of Her Father (LGG7, 55, Dendera and Edfu)

Hathor, Lady of the Bulls/Steers (LGG4, 149, Edfu)

Wadjet (LGG2, 270, Dendera) Festivals:

Appearance of Harsiese, Day 2 (final) (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI)

Procession of Ra "to see Shu" (CC; TFC Esna) "Ra enters the upper palace to see his son, Shu." (TFC Esna)

"Make incense of different kinds of sweet herbs, for his (i.e., Ra's) followers while pleasing him today." (CC)

II Shomu 10

Chronokrater:

Two-Fronds (Hapwy, a marsh spirit that defeats northern demons, called "friend of Osiris") (LGG5, 123; Leitz 2002, 149, Edfu)

She with Downcast Glance (epithet of the Eye of Ra as uraeus/cobra) (LGG6, 593, Dendera and Edfu) Lady of the Chest (epithet of Bast and/or Menhyt) (LGG4, 92, Edfu) Festivals:

Appearance of Amun (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI) Procession of Heka (TFC Esna)

"Anyone born on this day will be noble." (CC)

II Shomu 11

Chronokrater:

Bast, Mistress of Heaven (LGG5, 176, Dendera and Edfu)

Min (LGG3, 288, Dendera)

Nut (LGG3, 535, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of Nighttime (LGG 4, 43, Edfu) NO FESTIVALS TODAY

"Do not sail in a boat on the river. It is the day of the followers of Ra catching birds and fish. Anyone who sails on the river will not live." (CC)

II Shomu 12

Chronokrater:

Nun and Nunet (LGG3, 520, Kom Ombo; variant The Great Eight Kau (male spirits) or The Great Eight Hemsut (female spirits))

Atum, Lord of the Two Lands (LGG7, 418, Edfu)

Shezemtet-in-Festival (LGG7, 125, Dendera)

Lady of Khau (unknown location) (epithet of Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 114, Edfu)

Hathor, Lady of Shas (unknown location) (LGG4, 140, Edfu and Kom Ombo)

Isis (LGG1, 62, Dendera) "If you see anything today, it will be good." (CC)

II Shomu 13

Chronokrater:

Heh and Hehet (LGG5, 468 and LGG5, 472, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, and Edfu)

Horus, Lord of Ma'at (LGG3, 639, Kom Ombo; AF Kom Ombo 793; Gutbub 1995, 205)

Sister of the Two Lords (epithet of the Eye of Horus) (LGG6, 374, Dendera and Edfu)

Hathor, Lady of Suffering (?) (LGG4, 94, Edfu) Festival: Feast of Wadjet and Her Followers (CC)

"Feast of Wadjet in Buto. Her followers are also in festival, when singing and chanting take place, on the day of offering incense and all kinds of sweet herbs." (CC)

II Shomu 14

Chronokrater:

Lady of Reckoning (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 14, Edfu)

Onuris-of-the-Retinue (LGG1, 380, Edfu)

Wadjet, She Who Jubilates (LGG1, 539, Dendera)

Banebdjedet (LGG2, 683, Dendera) Festivals:

Feast of Hathor, Mistress of Agny (TFC Esna)

Navigation of Nebtu, Day 1 of 2 (TFC Esna)

Procession and Oracle of Ahmose-Nefertari, Day 1 of 2 (LA1, 105-106; LA2, 183; AF Daybook of Theban Necropolis Workers)

II Shomu 15

Chronokrater:

Nun and Nunet (LGG3, 520, Edfu)

Menhyt, Lady of the Primordial Ones (LGG4, 51, Edfu) Hathor, Lady of Two Flagpoles (LGG4, 128, Dendera and Edfu)

Osiris (LGG2, 530, Dendera) Festivals:

Feast of the Half Month

Navigation of Nebtu, Day 2 (final) (TFC Esna)

Procession/Oracle of Ahmose-Nefertari, Day 2 (final) (LA1, 105-106; LA2, 183; AF Daybook of Theban Necropolis

Workers) "Do not judge yourself [...] today. It is the day of fighting [...] their rebellion." (CC)

II Shomu 16

Chronokrater:

Hathor, Lady of Her Grief (LGG4, 3, Dendera and Edfu)

Mut, Lady of Isheru (LGG4, 22, Edfu)

Isis, Lady of Offerings (LGG4, 111, Dendera)

Anubis (LGG1, 391, Edfu) Festivals:

Appearance of Haroeris and Min (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI)

Feast of Menhyt (TFC Esna; LGG3, 306; Esna II, 77, 15) Feast of Bast (TFC Esna; Esna II, 77, 15; Esna V, 25; LA1, 629; LA2, 178; LGG2, 740)

Purification of Sekhmet (TFC Esna; LGG6, 558; Esna II, 77, 15; LA5) "Anyone born today will die great, as a magistrate among all people." (CC)

II Shomu 17

Chronokrater:

The Lady of That Which Pervades the Gods (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 119, Dendera; LGG1, 389, Edfu) Hathor, Lady of Ta-by (unknown location) (LGG4, 154, Edfu)

Ra-Horakhty (LGG4, 630, Dendera)

Amun and Amunet (LGG1, 306, Edfu) Festival:

Feast of Thoth (Middle Kingdom, related to I Akhet 19 feast, LA2, 174)

"Do not go out on it. Do not do anything, or any work, today." (CC)

II Shomu 18

Chronokrater:

Joyful One (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG7, 475, Dendera)

Sekhmet, Lady of Ihu (unknown location) (LGG4, 21, Edfu) Amun and Amunet (LGG1, 306, Edfu)

She Who Brings the Sacred Lake (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG1, 387, Dendera and Edfu) Festival:

Procession of Osiris (CC)

"Do not eat the meat of any lion [today]. It is the day of the going forth of the Foremost One of the gods' house (i.e., Osiris). He goes around to the noble mountain (i.e., the necropolis). All who smell death or skin rash [today] will not recover." (CC)

II Shomu 19

Chronokrater:

Meretseger (LGG1, 387, Dendera; LGG3, 343, Edfu) Hathor, Lady of Every Utterance (Speech) (LGG4, 76, Edfu) Horus, He Whose Love Is Great (LGG2, 444, Edfu) Festivals:

Appearance of Harsiese (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI)
The Ennead Sails on the Day of Judging of the Great Ones
"The Ennead sails. They are numerous [...] in the entire
land. If any lion is seen, he will die at once. Today is the day
of judging the great ones." (CC)

II Shomu 20

Chronokrater:

Thoth, Lord of Hermopolis (LGG7, 641 and Leitz (2002) 151, Edfu)

Hathor, Lady of the Stars (LGG4, 114, Dendera and Edfu) Sekhmet, Lady of Raging (LGG4, 167, Edfu)

Astarte (LGG2, 212, Dendera) Festival:

Grasping-the-Crook Festival for Min and Procession of Hathor (LA2, 179, Old Kingdom)

"Many die when they (i.e., the gods) come with a contrary wind. Do not go out with any wind today." (CC)

II Shomu 21

Chronokrater:

Harsiese (LGG5, 283, Dendera)

Sothis (LGG6, 292; Leitz 2002, 153, Edfu)

Ra (LGG4, 612, Edfu)

Hathor Quadrifons, Foremost of Cows (LGG1, 292,

Dendera)

Hathor, She with Many Followers (LGG2, 228, Edfu; variant Hathor, Foremost of Cows) Festivals:

Day of the Living Children of Nut (CC)

Greening-the-Fields Feast of Min and Hathor (LA 2, 179, Old Kingdom; TFC Esna, Greco-Roman Period) "It is the day of the living great ones, the children of Nut (Osiris, Haroeris, Set, Isis, and Nephthys). Do not go out on it until daybreak." (CC; Leitz TW 366; LGG3, 423)

II Shomu 22

Chronokrater:

Ptah, Beloved of the Gods (LGG3, 169, Edfu) Hathor, Lady of Astonishment (LGG4, 151, Edfu)

Astarte (LGG2, 212, Dendera) NO FESTIVALS TODAY

"Disturbance below. Uproar of the gods in their shrines today, when Shu was complaining to Ra about the great ones of eternity. Do not go out on it." (CC; Leitz TW 368; LGG2, 472; LGG2, 475)

II Shomu 23

Chronokrater:

Amun-Ra, Lord of All (LGG3, 795, Edfu)

Hathor, Lady of the Heat of the Land (LGG4, 154, Edfu)

Hathor, Great of Love (LGG2, 59, Dendera) Festival:

Thanksgiving Festival of Amun (TFC Thebes Ramses IV)

"The crew (i.e., of Ra) rest when they see the enemy of their master." (CC)

II Shomu 24

Chronokrater:

Foremost-of-Ptah's Temple-Library (a servant spirit) (LGG5, 808, Edfu)

Hathor the Primordial One (LGG7, 19, Dendera and Edfu) Tefnut (LGG7, 406, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of Before-Her-Time (i.e., primordial time before creation) (LGG4, 90, Edfu) NO FESTIVALS TODAY "If you see anything today, it will be good." (CC)

II Shomu 25

Chronokrater:

Hathor, Lady of Oracular Sight (LGG4, 168, Edfu) Hathor, Greatest in the Heavens (LGG2, 486, Dendera)

Osiris (LGG2, 530, Edfu) Festival:

Procession of Hathor to the Southern House of Horus, Day 1 of 5 (LA2, 1036-1037, Dendera)

"The Akhet-Eye, everything, and everyone are pacified. It is pleasant to the gods and to Ra." (CC; LGG1, 47; Leitz TW 368)

II Shomu 26

Chronokrater:

Ptah (LGG3, 169, Edfu)

She Who Gives Birth to the Foremost of the Land (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG3, 420, Dendera and Edfu)

Wenut (LGG2, 390, Edfu) Festivals:

Procession of Hathor to the Southern House of Horus, Day 2 of 5 (LA2, 1036-1037, Dendera; LGG5, 76)

Appearance of Neith "with the weavers" (TFC Esna; CC; LGG5, 944; Leitz TW 369) "Feast of the beginning of the year. Feast of the revealing of the face in the temple of Neith, giving the cloth material to the gods, like what was done on the eighth day of the second month of Peret." (TFC Esna) "The going forth of Neith. She walks in the flood

today with the weavers, in order to look for Sobek's things. If any lion sees them, he will die immediately." (CC)

II Shomu 27

Chronokrater:

Thoth, Lord of Hieroglyphs (lit., divine words) (LGG3, 654, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of Thousands (LGG4, 114, Edfu) Festivals: Procession of Hathor to the Southern House of Horus, Day 3 of 5 (LA2, 1036-1037, Dendera; TFC Dendera) Appearance of Haroeris, Haroeris' standard, and Min at Coptos (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI) "Appearance of Horus (i.e., Haroeris) of Nubt, his noble standard, and the Lord of the Two Lands (i.e., Min) at Coptos. Arriving at 'Flood-Crest' (a location); sailing before them by the ships. Mooring and resting at Coptos. Appearing after the eighth hour and resting in the hypostyle hall of Horus and Thoth." (TFC Ptolemy VI Kom Ombo) "Procession of Hathor, Lady of Dendera, in her noble shrine. Procession of Horus, the great god residing in Dendera (i.e., Haroeris), along with her, in his portable barque. Going around the city, then going to the south of this city (i.e., Dendera) and stopping at the temple of Horus, celebrating all the rituals. Then these gods go in procession and turn to the north. Resting in her temple, which is in the divine sanctuary." (TFC Dendera) "The cutting of heads and the tying of throats (or binding to the oars), and the occurrence of flight (i.e., fleeing) among the gods today." (CC)

II Shomu 28

Chronokrater:

Osiris, Foremost of the Living [Ancestors] (LGG5, 754) Ptah (LGG3, 169, Edfu)

Nut (LGG3, 535, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of Rejoicing (LGG4, 91, Edfu)

Isis, the Female Falcon (LGG2, 774, Dendera and Edfu)

Festivals:

Procession of Hathor to the Southern House of Horus, Day 4 of 5 (LA2, 1036-1037, Dendera)

Feast of Purification and Offerings in Busiris (CC; AF Taharqa chapel, Karnak)

Food-Offerings for the Ogdoad (LGG5, 742, Leclant 1961, 213) "Purifying things and offerings in Busiris. The gods spend the day in festivity. Act in accordance with that which happens today." (CC)

II Shomu 29

Chronokrater:

Serget (LGG6, 438, Dendera)

Mut, Lady of Roaring (LGG4, 92, Edfu)

Nephthys, Savior of the Gods (LGG4, 587, Dendera, Edfu, and Esna; variant Neith, Savior of the Gods, El-Saghir and Valbelle, 1983, 166)

Harsiese, Heir of Osiris (LGG1, 173, Edfu) Festival:

Procession of Hathor to the Southern House of Horus, Day 5 (final) (LA2, 1036-1037, Dendera)

"If you see anything today, it will be good." (CC)

II Shomu 30

Chronokrater:

Khnum (LGG6, 26, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of the Unique/Sole Wind (LGG4, 164, Dendera and Edfu)

Festivals:

House of Ra, House of Osiris, House of Horus (Last Day of the Month)

Day of Pacifying Sekhmet (TFC Esna; LA5, 328; LGG6, 558; Esna II, 77, 15)

Procession of Shu to Retrieve the Udjat: "Thoth Calms Her" (CC; Leitz TW 373; LGG2, 646) "The going forth of Shu,

with the intention that he will bring back the Udjat. Calming her by Thoth today. House of Ra, House of Osiris, House of Horus." (CC; Leitz TW 373; LGG2, 646) Shu and Thoth go forth today to find the Wandering Goddess, Tefnut-Sekhmet, in Nubia. This is leading to the end of the year, as the Eye of Ra returns from the south to her place in Egypt (i.e., the metaphoric "return" of the sun to its place in the sky at Summer Solstice, just a few days away).



III Shomu

Opet, a hippopotamus form of the Eye of Ra known from the Old Kingdom and equated with Thoeris in later times, lends her name to the third month of Shomu. It was called Opet or Opet Hemet, which can be translated as "Her Majesty Opet" (Meeks 1980, 173), or "She Whose Incarnation Is Select" (Allen 2000, 108). The month was also

known as Ipip, or "Spitter" (von Beckerath 1980, 299), a reference to the venom-spitting cobra form of the Eye of Ra. Erman and Grapow argue that Ipip might also be a derivation from the earlier Opet (WB 59). Regardless of interpretation, this ancient name survived into Sahidic Coptic as Epep or Epiph, and today is the Bohairic Coptic month of Epiphi (Abib in Arabic).

Like last month, III Shomu also features a major national festival that begins at the new moon: the Beautiful Feast of the Reunion or Feast of the Beautiful Reunion. This reunion is of the goddess Hathor of Dendera and her consort Horus of Edfu. Dendera and Edfu are separated by a Nile journey of more than 100 miles. The Beautiful Reunion began on the days before the new moon (either four days, according to Dendera texts; see Alliot 1989, 445 and Mariette 1871, 78), or up to 13 days earlier, according to a text at Edfu in Chassinat 1931, 26. In preparation for the Reunion, Hathor's icon would be taken from her temple and on a sacred boat named Great of Love, to travel along with other boats filled with icons, her entire priesthood, and many ordinary people, upstream (south) to Edfu.

Hathor's arrival in Edfu, regardless of the length of the navigation itself or the various side stops made at other temples or shrines, was timed to coincide with the new moon (Watterson 1998, 106). The first and most significant stop on this journey, where Hathor actually left her boat, was in Thebes, to greet Mut at the temple of Isheru in Karnak, Amun's great temple (Alliot 1949, 449). Further upstream, at Per-mer and Hierakonpolis Magna in the third Upper Egyptian nome, Anukis and Horus-of-Nekhen were honored, and their icons and priests joined the flotilla. Finally, the procession reached Edfu in the afternoon of new moon day (Alliot 1949, 446ff).

Horus of Behdet, the form of Haroeris to whom Edfu temple was dedicated, greeted Hathor and her entourage at the quay, and then both Hathor and Horus were carried in their sacred barques over land to visit various shrines, eventually arriving at the temple of Edfu itself.

The marriage festival of Hathor and Horus, which Reunion commemorates, was a huge holiday celebrated by thousands of people. It not only honored the deities themselves, but served as a blessing of the land as it

entered the last part of the year and the hottest part of the season. As the land began to dry and wither from the heat and Set's desert encroached on Osiris' cultivation, the reunion of these deities was understood to renew the world, so the floods of Wep Ronpet could bring fertility, health, joy, and prosperity to the land once more.

The pharaoh and the institution of kingship were renewed and blessed at the Reunion festival as well, in a series of rituals performed on the day of Hathor's arrival. These rituals included the dragging of four decorated chests filled with linen and representing the four winds/four corners of the earth (Egberts 1995, 435ff; Wilson 1997, 447), and the "driving of the calves" ceremony (Fairman 1949, 98ff; Chassinat 1931, 655ff.). According to Egberts, these rituals were also performed at other festivals, and may not have been unique to the Reunion (Egberts 1995, 440).

Once these rituals were complete, Hathor and Horus proceeded to the main temple with great rejoicing, dancing, music, incense, and flowers. Sparkling green and gold powders and dried barley were scattered across the ground to create a shining carpet that resembled fertile fields (Goyon 1997, 89). Carried to the sanctuary, the holy couple was then placed before Horus' great shrine and left alone for the night while celebrations continued outside and around the temple.

On the second day of the reunion, Hathor and Horus journeyed to the Edfu necropolis to greet the city's ancestors in their tombs (Alliot 514ff). Offerings to Harsiese for his triumph over evil, symbolic of the pharaoh's triumph over the enemies of Egypt, were also presented, along with apotropaic ceremonies to protect Egypt, its gods, and its people from evil through the slaughtering of a red animal (representing Set and chaos) and the ritual destruction of wax figures of hippopotami and crocodiles, along with sacrifices of fish and birds,

representing the enemies of the state (Alliot 1949, 521ff). Hathor and Horus continued to make public visits and offerings in the necropolis daily until the 14th day of the festival, coinciding with III Shomu's full moon. On that final day, Hathor headed back to the Nile for a final ritual to Ra and the royal ancestors (Alliot 1949, 551ff), then began her long journey northward, going home to Dendera.

Major Festivals

Lunar Festival

Feast of the Beautiful Reunion (new moon to full moon, 14 days) (Alliot 445ff; Edfu VI, 26ff)

The goddess of III Shomu is Opet, the Sparkling Eye of Horus (LGG1, 433; Vernus 1981, 120; CC; LGG1, 219; EAT III, 5; Medinet Habu VI, 478; Clepsydra Cairo JE37525; Catalog Ramses the Great 140; Clepsydra Barracco Museum 36, 1985)

There are seven protective spirits/gods over III Shomu, called "Those of the Thrones in the Body of Geb" (LGG4, 320, Edfu):

- 1. name lost
- 2. Furious One (form of Set as a hippopotamus) (LGG4, 360)
- 3. name lost
- 4. name lost
- 5. He Who Stills His Longing (LGG3, 365)
- 6. He Who Tears Down Houses (lion with a knife and a club) (LGG5, 945)
- 7. Evil One (alternative reading "Windy One")

Third Month of Heat, Day 1 (III Shomu 1)

Chronokrater:

Horus Khenty-khety (LGG5, 849; Leitz 2002, 152, Edfu) Hathor, Lady of Oracular Sight (LGG4, 168, Edfu) Effective-for-the-Two-Lands (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG1, 33-34, Dendera and Edfu) Festivals:

First Day of the Month

Feast of Thoeris (CC; LGG1, 219; LA2)

Birth of Ra and the Son of Shu and Tefnut (LA2, 477, Philae; also placed into the civil calendar at I Shomu 1) "A great feast in the southern heaven. Every land and everyone begins rejoicing. The mistress of heaven, Opet-Hemet, and every land are in festivity today." (CC; LGG1, 219; LA2)

III Shomu 2

Chronokrater:

She Who Follows Sepa (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG7, 86, Dendera and Edfu)

Horus, the Dawning Soul (Ka) of Ra (LGG7, 506; Leitz 2002, 145, Edfu)

Hathor, Lady of Astonishment (LGG4, 151, Edfu) NO FESTIVALS TODAY

"Every god and every goddess spends the day in festivity and in great astonishment in the temple [of Djosret]." (CC)

III Shomu 3

Chronokrater:

Mafdet, Daughter of Geb (LGG3, 235, Edfu; variant Hathor, the Female Ruler, LGG1, 604, Dendera)

Sobek, Lord of Harageh (Faiyum location) (LGG3, 755, Edfu)

Lady of the Place of Fighting (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 59, Edfu) Festival:

Day of the Anger of Hedjet (the White Crown, form of Nekhbet) (LGG5, 606; Leitz TW 376; CC)

"Anger of the divine majesty. Do not do anything today." (CC)

III Shomu 4

Chronokrater:

The Northerner (form of Isis as the north wind) (LGG3, 379, Dendera and Edfu)

Horus, Lord of Stomping, Lord of Heaven (LGG3, 662, Dendera)

Nekhbet the Secret One (LGG7, 140, Edfu) Festivals:

Feast of Khnum-Ra (TFC Esna)

Birthday of Heka (TFC Esna)

Conception of Harsiese (TFC Edfu) "Feast of Khnum-Ra, lord of the countryside, reading the second ritual of the divine birth for Heka-the-Child." (TFC Esna)

"Conception of Harsiese. He is called 'Beautiful Falcon of the Golden One.' While he is in the goddess' womb, he forms a house-of-Horus within her. The name Hathor (lit., house of Horus) is because of this. Many food offerings are provided for the temple of Dendera until the fourth month of Shomu." (TFC Edfu) "If you see anything today, it will be good." (CC)

III Shomu 5

Chronokrater:

Neith, United with the Cavern (LGG6, 24, Dendera and Edfu)

Khnum (LGG6, 26, Dendera)

Sokar in the Tephet-Djat Sanctuary (LGG6, 675, Edfu) Hathor, Lady of Primordial Time (LGG4, 51, Edfu) NO FESTIVALS TODAY

"Do not go out of your house. Do not proceed on a boat. Do not do any work today. It is the day of the departure of this goddess (i.e., Hathor), to the place from whence she came. The heart of the gods is very sad about this." (CC; indication that today was the day the Reunion festival closed at the time this calendar was created)

III Shomu 6

Chronokrater:

Hathor, Lady of Splendor (LGG4, 36, Edfu)

Osiris (LGG2, 530, Edfu)

Wosret ("Powerful One," here an epithet of Nekhbet)

(LGG2, 579, Dendera and Edfu) Festivals:

Sixth-Day Festival

"Do not fight or make uproar in your house, while every temple of the goddess (i.e., Hathor) is in this manner." (CC) The sixth day of any calendrical month, civil or lunar, is noted as the Suwenet, the "sixth-day festival." On the Suwenet, offerings were given to the deceased at their graves.

III Shomu 7

Chronokrater:

Hathor, Lady of Musicians (LGG4, 21, Edfu)

Lady of Multitudes (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 34, Dendera)

Anubis, Foremost of the Divine Booth (i.e., the embalming tent) (LGG1, 391, Edfu) NO FESTIVALS TODAY

"Sailing of the gods after the majesty of this goddess (i.e., Hathor, a reference to the Beautiful Reunion going on at the time of the Cairo Calendar's creation). As for [...] in it, [there is the lighting of] a flame which takes place in front of everyone today." (CC)

III Shomu 8

Chronokrater:

Horus, Lord of Stomping, Lord of Heaven (LGG3, 662, Dendera)

Duwayit ("Morning," also called "Daughter of Nut"; epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG7, 307, Dendera and Edfu) Hathor, Lady of Decay (LGG4, 144, Edfu) NO FESTIVALS TODAY

"Do not beat anyone; do not strike anyone. It is the day of the massacre of the followers of the majesty of the goddess (i.e., Hathor)." (CC)

III Shomu 9

Chronokrater:

Mut (LGG3, 251, Dendera)

Osiris-Wenut, Foremost of Westerners, Whose Forms (Faces) Are Hidden (LGG6, 305; Leitz 2002, 146, Edfu) Hathor, Lady of Shenat (possibly Shentayet?) (unknown location/unclear reading) (LGG6, 379, Edfu)

Lady of the Sands (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 141, Edfu)

Isis, Lady of What-Will-Be (LGG4, 142, Dendera) NO FESTIVALS TODAY

"The gods are satisfied and happy, because Ra is at peace with the Akhet Eye. Every god is in festivity today." (CC; LGG1, 47; Leitz TW 380)

III Shomu 10

Chronokrater:

Horus (LGG5, 231, Edfu)

From Whom No Distance Exists (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG3, 497, Dendera and Edfu)

Shezemtet (LGG7, 124, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of the Primordial Time (LGG4, 51, Edfu) NO FESTIVALS TODAY

"Creating enmity according to the event. The gods who are in the shrine, their hearts are sad." (CC)

III Shomu 11

Chronokrater:

She Who Is Great Every Day (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG3, 18, Dendera and Edfu)

Sobek, Lord of Ra-huwy (area near Alexandria) (LGG6, 259; Leitz 2002, 142-143 and 151, Edfu)

Hathor, Lady of the Great Throne (LGG4, 48, Edfu)

Nefertem (LGG4, 222, Dendera) Festivals:

Anger of the Eye of Horus (Haroeris) (CC; LGG2, 472, Leitz TW 381)

Appearance of Amunhotep I (oracle and procession) (LA2, 184; AF Daybook of the Theban necropolis workers; LGG1, 333; KRI VI, 695) "Ra introduces the great ones to the booth, to see what he had observed through the Eye of Haroeris. They were with their heads bent down, when they saw an Eye of Horus, being angry in front of Ra. Do not perform any ritual today." (CC; LGG2, 472; Leitz TW 381) III Shomu 12

Chronokrater:

Hathor, Lady of the (Cooking) Flame (LGG4, 127, Edfu) Anubis, Lord of Yanet (unknown location) (LGG1, 391, Edfu)

Wadjet (LGG2, 270, Dendera) Festivals:

Celebration of Isis' Marriage Contract (TFC Dendera)

Birth of Ihy-Harsomtus (TFC Dendera)

Feast and Reception of Ra (CC; TFC Dendera) "They celebrate the marriage contract of the Lady of Mankind [...] Isis; Ihy is born then. Feast of Ra." (TFC Dendera)

"Holiday. It is the reception of Ra. His followers are in festival and everyone is in festival." (CC)

III Shomu 13

Chronokrater:

Sobek, Lord of Apollinopolis Parva (LGG6, 259; Leitz 2002, 143 and 151, Edfu)

Sekhmet (LGG6, 557, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of the Great Throne (LGG4, 48, Edfu)

Hathor, Lady of Eternity (neheh) (LGG4, 81, Dendera and

Edfu) Festivals:

Nighttime Feast of Neith (TFC Esna; LA2, 31)

Navigation of Ra (TFC Esna; CC)

Feast of Bast of Memphis (Stela BM188; LA2, 178; LA1, 629)

Appearance of Amunhotep I (oracle and procession; LA2, 184; BM5637 ostraca in JEA 12) "Feast of Neith, who saved her son Ra from the hands of her children, having placed him between her [legs], who swims carrying him across the water. She reaches her town on II Shomu 13. And Ra says to the gods, 'Make Neith welcome.' Making the procession of this goddess (i.e., Neith) and her ennead, making a stop by the hall of the appearance; accomplishing all the rites of the black heifer, at nighttime; accomplishing all the rites in accordance with what occurs in the ritual." (TFC Esna) "The majesty of this god (i.e., Ra) proceeds, sailing westward to see the beauty of Onnophris today." (CC)

III Shomu 14

Chronokrater:

Sekhmet-Menhyt (LGG3, 371, Dendera)

Sobek, Lord of el-Harageh (Faiyum location) (LGG3, 755; Leitz 2002, 141 and 151, Edfu; variant Sobek, Lord of Strength, LGG6, 259, Edfu)

The Lady of Awakening (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 89, Dendera and Edfu)

Great-of-Food-Offerings (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG2, 86, Edfu) Festival:

Feast of Chewing Cucumbers for Sekhmet (TFC Edfu)

"Feast of counting, one day. Removing the tie and unrolling her papyri by this goddess (i.e., Sekhmet), while the women of this town (i.e., Edfu) take menats in their hands to gladden everyone, singing 'Osiris is well, and Tebeh is no more!' Cucumbers issue forth from him. It is the Eye of Horus that chews on them; the priest of Sekhmet chews on cucumbers before her likewise." (TFC Edfu; LGG7, 381; Edfu V, 356) "Do not burn [anything] today, in your house, with anything, in the manner of burning flame with any of its glow, on that day of the anger of that Eye of Haroeris." (CC)

III Shomu 15

Chronokrater:

Horus of the Dual Sun-Shades (LGG5, 450)

Nut (LGG3, 535, Dendera)

Hathor, Who Gives [Breath] to His Ka (LGG7, 234, Edfu) Festivals:

Feast of the Half Month

Offerings for Amun-Ra and Hapi (AF Gebel Silsila stelae of Ramses II, Merenptah, and Ramses III) "If you see anything today, it will be good. Horus hears your words in the presence of every god and every goddess today. You will see every good thing in your house." (CC)

III Shomu 16

Chronokrater:

She Who Shines in the Horizon (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG2, 327, Dendera and Edfu)

Babai (form of Set) (LGG2, 737; Leitz (2002) 150, Edfu) Festivals:

Feast of Victory for Amun (TFC Medinet Habu Ramses III) Transmitting Ma'at to the Shrine by Ra (CC)

Birthday of Imhotep (LA2, 184; LGG6, 50) "Feast of Victory for Amun. 340 loaves of honey bread, 716 loaves of pesenbread, 60 heqat-jars of beer, 20 bouquets of fresh flowers, 20 baskets of incense." (TFC Medinet Habu Ramses III) "It is the day of transmitting Ma'at to the shrine by the majesty of Ra in Heliopolis. These gods knew that she was much blamed for it." (CC)

"A vizier calls off work and crowns the goddess of Thebes (i.e., Mut)." (AF Cairo 25920 ostraca; see also Daressy, 37)

"III Shomu 16 is the day of the birth of Imhotep, from his father, Ptah, and through his mother, Kheredu-ankh." (LGG6, 50; BM512 statue base in Wildung 1977, 75.)

III Shomu 17

Chronokrater:

Ma'at (LGG3, 222, Dendera and Edfu)

Dedun, Son of the Mistress of Heaven (Nubian god) (LGG7, 579; Leitz 2002, 150, Edfu)

Hathor, Lady of Her Property (LGG4, 114, Edfu)

Great One, Mistress of the Gods (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG2, 478, Dendera) NO FESTIVALS TODAY

"The escape of the fugitive Eye [...] and the gods were deprived of Ra, who had come to hand the rebels to him [...] in their path." (CC)

III Shomu 18

Chronokrater:

The Great Nine (LGG3, 141, Dendera)

Sekhmet, Lady of Neferu (unknown location) (LGG4, 75, Edfu)

Nekhbet (LGG4, 301, Dendera and Edfu) Festival: Secret Procession of Ma'at and Ra (CC; Leitz TW 386)

"Do not go out of your house on any road today. The going forth of Ma'at and Ra [in] secret today. If anyone goes out on it, he will come under the influence of the steer (or, he will be trampled by a bull) and will not live." (CC; Leitz TW 386)

III Shomu 19

Chronokrater:

Sobek, Lord of Tema(t) (unknown location) (LGG6, 259; Leitz 2002, 143, Edfu)

Isis the Clever (lit., sharp-faced) (LGG6, 288, Edfu) She Who Is Great in Offerings (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG1, 295, Dendera and Edfu) Hathor the Great (LGG2, 478, Dendera) Festivals:
Appearance of Horus in Letopolis and Papremis (LA2, 182)
Appearance of Khnum (TFC Esna; LA2, 31 notes that
Khnum is acting in the place/as a form of Shu in these rites)
Treading the Fishes, Day 1 of 5 (TFC Kom Ombo)
"Appearance of this god (i.e., Haroeris of Kom Ombo) in his
beautiful festival of Treading the Fishes. Arriving at the
hypostyle hall. Treading the fishes by this god. Doing the
same for five days, until day 23. Resting in his temple."
(TFC Kom Ombo) "Appearance of Khnum, the good
protector of Pi-Khnum; making a stop by the entrance of
the red pool, his beautiful face being turned to the khenencanal. Offerings on the altar until dawn." (TFC Esna) "Do
not repeat greetings today, nor do any work today. Breaking
of [...] into the water today." (CC)

Treading the Fishes is a ceremony in which dried fish are placed in a basket and stomped on by the king, to indicate both victory over evil and renewal of the cycle of life. The fish are then buried in the fields, to provide nutrients for the next planting season.

III Shomu 20

Chronokrater:

The Great Daughter (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG6, 103, Dendera and Edfu)

Lady of the Claw (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 34, Edfu)

Sekhmet (LGG6, 557, Dendera) Festivals:

Treading the Fishes, Day 2 of 5: Feast of Grasping the Crook (TFC Kom Ombo and Esna; LA5, 282)

Appearance of Khnum-Ra, Day 1 of 2 (LA5, 283)

Procession of the Oars (probably related to Reunion-festival navigations) (AF Cairo 25503 ostraca recto)

Feast of the Souls (Bau) of Hierakonpolis (i.e., royal ancestors) (festival normally marked during the Beautiful

Reunion; LGG2, 724; Stela Buto Thutmose III; Bedier in Fs Winter, 48) "Feast of grasping the crook; making the appearance of Khnum-Ra, Lord of the Countryside in Aba, his face turned toward the interior (of the shrine) in order to delight the heart of his father Atum. Making a stop in the resting hall. Then, after the evening ritual, the appearance of the god in the upper place, after he overthrew his opponent who fought against him there. Pouring much wine on the offering tables of this god, his beautiful face being turned toward the north to the khenen-canal, in order to satisfy his heart. Pouring libation water and fumigation of incense in honor of the gods and those (i.e., humans) who are dead. Accomplishing the ceremony of 'perfecting the countryside.'" (TFC Esna) "Do not go out of your house on any road today." (CC)

As part of Treading the Fishes, a king would renew his oaths to serve the people of Egypt, which were symbolized by the crook (the Heqa scepter, heqa meaning "rulership"). The Heqa was then presented to its owner Khnum, the Shaper of Mankind, and the royal entourage departed to prepare for more processions to occur over the next few days.

III Shomu 21

Chronokrater:

Horus Khenty-khety (LGG5, 279)

Khnum, Lord of the Lake City (LGG6, 26, Edfu)

Hathor, Lady of Fate/Destiny (LGG4, 140, Edfu)

The Udjat-Eye (LGG2, 646, Dendera and Edfu) Festivals:

Treading the Fishes, Day 3 of 5 (TFC Kom Ombo)

Appearance of Khnum-Ra, Day 2 (final) (TFC Esna)

Feast of Nebtu, Lady of the Aker-Region (TFC Esna; Esna II, 77, 17) "If you see anything today, it will be good." (CC)

III Shomu 22

Chronokrater:

Horus, Lord of Stomping, Lord of Heaven (LGG3, 662, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of Watchfulness (LGG4, 37, Edfu) Anubis, Lord of the Sacred Land (LGG1, 391, Edfu) Festivals:

Treading the Fishes, Day 4 of 5 (TFC Kom Ombo) Day of Sepa (form of Osiris) (CC)

"Do not look at [or] itch (lit., dig) any skin rash, or any fevers today. It is the day of Sepa in Tura, coming from Heliopolis." (CC)

III Shomu 23

Chronokrater:

Hathor the Foremost Cobra (LGG5, 443, Dendera) Horus Who Protects His Body (LGG5, 664, Edfu) Hathor, Lady of Musicians (LGG4, 21, Edfu) Festivals: Treading the Fishes, Day 5 (final) (TFC Kom Ombo) Feast of Hathor of Dendera (LGG5, 76)

"Anyone born on this day will not live. It is the day of fighting and reproaching with Onnophris." (CC)

III Shomu 24

Chronokrater:

Neith (LGG3, 511, Dendera)

Thoth, Born of [word lost] (LGG7, 641, Edfu)

Hathor, Lady of Borders (LGG4, 159, Edfu)

Great-in-Followers (epithet of the Eye of Ra as the Ihetcow) (LGG2, 228, Dendera and Edfu) NO FESTIVALS TODAY

"It is the day of [the killing of] the children of Bedesh. The gods killed them when he (i.e., Ra) came. Then he sailed south." (CC; LGG3, 423; Leitz TW 392)

III Shomu 25

Chronokrater:

Wadjet Who Protects Horus (LGG3, 455, Dendera and Edfu) Nut (LGG3, 535, Dendera)

She of Hidden Magic (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG2, 107, Dendera and Edfu) Festival:

"Day of [...] of Amun-Ra" (AF Cairo 25974 ostracon)

"Do not go out at noon; the great enemy is in the temple of Sekhmet." (CC)

III Shomu 26

Chronokrater:

Hathor, Lady of Light (LGG4, 135, Dendera and Edfu) Iah (LGG1, 147, Dendera)

Amun in [location lost] (LGG1, 306, Edfu) Festival: Birthday of Isis-Nepherses, Thrice-Great Goddess (Bricault 527; may have lasted 19 days in the Roman Period) "If you see anything today, it will be good." (CC)

III Shomu 27

Chronokrater:

Hapi (i.e., the Nile) (LGG5, 44, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of Radiance (LGG4, 113, Edfu)

Festival:

Heb-Sed (Sed Festival), Day 1 of 2: Procession of Hathor and Harsomtus (TFC Edfu; Edfu V, 358; LA2, 1037 notes that this procession repeats daily until IV Shomu 8 and this may be a reference to Reunion festival, occurring at the same time as Senwosret III's Heb Sed) "Going in procession of Hathor, Lady of Dendera, and Harsomtus, to the south of the town. Stopping at the maru-chapel of Senwosret; they call it 'house of Behdety.' The face of this goddess is turned toward the south. Every ritual is performed for the Lord of Behdet (Edfu). Returning to the

temple, and stopping in his temple (i.e., Haroeris of Edfu)." (TFC Edfu; Edfu V, 358; LA2, 1037) "Do not go out of your house today. It is the day of sailing on the river, and of overthrowing the enclosure walls." (CC)

Heb-Sed is known from Egypt's prehistory. Usually celebrated at three-year, 10-year, or (most commonly) 30-year intervals, this two-day jubilee honors and reaffirms a king as vicar of the gods and the supporter of the people. The king spent the first day of Heb-Sed in ritual seclusion. On the second day, a public fitness demonstration was conducted, by making the king run a ritual lap around two monuments, and coronation ceremonies followed the public running.

III Shomu 28

Chronokrater:

Thoth, Lord of Ma'at (LGG3, 639, Dendera)

Sokar (LGG6, 664, Edfu)

Nut, Who Provides Water (LGG4, 777, Dendera and Edfu) Festivals:

Heb-Sed, Day 2 (final) (TFC Edfu; Edfu V, 358; LA2, 1037) Appearance of Sothis (TFC Elephantine Thutmose III) "Appearance of Sothis. Offerings: one bull from the herd, five birds, ten loaves of white bread with dates, 35 baskets of plain white bread, and ten bowls of incense." (TFC Elephantine Thutmose III) "Creating misery, and bringing terror into being, in conformity with the custom of what is in the year." (CC)

This festival of Sothis marks the halfway point of her 70-day disappearance from the Egyptian skies, corresponding to her secret travel in the Duat. New Year is only 35 days away!

III Shomu 29

Chronokrater:

Hathor, Lady of the Waterway (LGG4, 153, Edfu)

Onuris (LGG1, 378, Dendera)

Festivals:

Feast of Mut (CC)

Feast of Amun-Ra, King of the Gods (AF Louvre Stela, dated to the 24th year of the High Priest of Amun Menkheperre) "Feast of the gods, on the occasion of the feast of her majesty (i.e., Hathor) performing the ritual concerning them, taking three days." (TFC Esna; probably references Reunion) "The feast of Mut in Isheru today. It is the day of feeding the gods and her followers." (CC)

III Shomu 30

Chronokrater:

Sekhmet (LGG6, 557, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of Damage (LGG4, 113, Edfu)

Festivals:

House of Ra, House of Osiris, House of Horus (Last Day of the Month)

"Burning the Widow's Flame" (TFC Edfu; AF Thutmose III memorial at Ptah Temple in Karnak)

Feast of Opet-Hemet, Day 1 of 2 (LA2, 179, Dendera) "Fourth day of the procession of Hathor, Lady of Dendera. She proceeds to the royal kiosk, with a great torch of dried grass before her. It is called 'widow's flame.' Returning and resting again in her temple." (TFC Edfu) "My majesty (i.e., Thutmose III) desired all the temple's business to be directed to my mother Hathor, Lady of Thebes, on the day of the eve of her festival, which is on the last day of the eleventh month." (AF Thutmose III memorial at Ptah Temple in Karnak)



IV Shomu

Wep Ronpet, "Opening the Year" (dating as early as the Middle Kingdom) and Mesut-Ra, "Birth of Ra" (from New Kingdom onward) are the earliest names of this final month of the Shomu season that is also the final month of the ancient Egyptian year. Both refer to the events of the Egyptian New Year celebrations that begin at month's end: Wep Ronpet (or New

Year's Day) itself, and the birthday of Ra celebrated on that same day. In Coptic, the latter name becomes Mesore, and remains the name of the 12th and final month of the year to this day.

Like the other months of Shomu, IV Shomu has fewer holidays than earlier months in the year, but two in particular stand out as major national festivals: the feast of Isis Luminous on IV Shomu 2; and the last day of the year commemorated on its final day (IV Shomu 30). "The Feast of Isis the Luminous One, Mother of God, Eye of Horus" was observed at major temples and is described on the walls of both Edfu and Dendera (Alliot 1949, 299ff). Isis celebrated a royal Sed festival (a jubilee, like the one held for the king only a few days previous, near the end of III Shomu), and received offerings of harvested grain and lighted lamps. These lamps, which continued to be lit in Isis' honor even up to the fourth century CE (Witt 1997, 92), symbolized Isis' search for her beloved husband Osiris

after he had been murdered by Set. They would be set in the windows of homes and carried at night in the streets to frighten evil spirits and to help light the Widow's way, as in the torch festival of Hathor called "Burning the Widow's Flame" on III Shomu 30.

At Esna (Sauneron 1963, 171), and possibly at Sais as well (Herodotus II, 62; Altenmüller 1997, 182), a special festival for Khnum and Neith called the "festival of lights" was held on the final day of the month and year. This festival included a ritual banquet and the appearance of the gods' icons in the darkest part of the night, alongside torches and many burning lamps, just as in the Isis Luminous night vigil. Herodotus' description of the Saite feast of lights suggests the entire city was filled with light throughout the entire night. Thus our Egyptian year both begins with light — the birth of the sun itself — and ends with a vigil of lighted lamps to shine the way toward the Zep Tepi of a new year.

Major Festivals

2 Isis Luminous

30 Last Day of the Year: Feast of Lights at Esna (and Sais?)

The god of the month is Horus as Heribakef, "Who Is over His (i.e., Osiris) Protection," the Lord of the Great Circle of Powerful Flames (LGG5, 233; LGG6, 36)

The four protector spirits/gods over IV Shomu are named "Those of the Thrones in the Body of Osiris" (LGG4, 320, Edfu):

- 1. With Secret-Filled Speech
- 2. Lord of Daily Life
- 3. name lost
- 4. Abomination/Forbidden One (LGG2, 788)

Twelve hippopotamus goddesses protect IV Shomu (again what remains of the list resembles II Akhet's list):

- 1. name lost
- 2. name lost
- 3. Primordial One, Foremost of Face
- 4. Satis, Noble Body in the Nun (LGG6, 700)
- 5. Lady of Wings upon Her Festival
- 6. name lost
- 7. name lost
- 8. name lost
- 9. name lost
- 10. name lost
- 11. name lost
- 12. Elder Daughter (epithet of Isis) (LGG6, 346, Philae, Kom Ombo, and private tombs)

Fourth Month of Heat, Day 1 (IV Shomu 1)

Chronokrater:

Hathor the Furious One (LGG7, 554, Dendera and Edfu)

Isis, Lady of the Great Ones (LGG4, 41, Edfu)

Horus, Lord of Love (LGG3, 648, Edfu)

Atumet (the female Atum) (LGG7, 422, Dendera) Festivals: First Day of the Month

Appearance of Haroeris (river navigation, TFC Kom Ombo) Appearance of Horus' standard, Tasenetnofret, and Min (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI)

Feast of Hathor of Dendera (TFC Dendera Small Calendar) Feast of Onnophris (TFC Ramses II; CC)

Feast of Khnum (TFC Esna)

Feast of Opet-Hemet, Day 2 (final) (LA2, 179, Dendera; TFC Edfu) "Likeness of that day of crossing over for him (i.e., Haroeris) against the rebel (i.e., Apophis); sailing." (TFC Kom Ombo)

"Feast of Khnum-Ra, lord of Esna. Ra says to this god, 'May Nut not give birth this month, because I was born in it myself!' Sprinkling a large amount of fresh milk along the

central (temple) aisle, when this god appears in procession." (TFC Esna) "Set is cut to pieces today. His phallus and testicles are placed on Osiris's bier. The chief of singers, with his harp in his hand, celebrates the rituals before this goddess (i.e., Hathor); offering through IV Akhet." (TFC Edfu) "Feast of Opet-Hemet. Last day of the procession of this goddess. Stopping in the kiosk of Userkare Meriamun (i.e., Ptolemy II), playing the sistrum, reaping the barley, releasing three geese. The ritual of today's feast is performed before them. Then, leaving and resting in her temple." (TFC Edfu; LA2, 179) "At the third hour, procession of Hathor, Lady of Dendera, and her ennead. Resting in the hypostyle hall, performing all the rites of the ritual for the feast of Opet-Hemet, returning in procession and resting in her palace." (TFC Dendera) "Sending food offerings to those who are in heaven. Every god and every goddess spend today in the feast of Onnophris." (CC)

Starting today, the workers at Deir-el-Medina were given two days off to celebrate festivals (AF Ostraca NonLit 209 verso).

IV Shomu 2

Chronokrater:

Serqet (LGG6, 438, Dendera)

Hathor, Mistress of the Processional Way (LGG4, 46, Edfu) Hathor, She of the Great Flame (LGG2, 60, Dendera and Edfu) Festival:

Isis Luminous (Webenut) (alternate title Procession of Isis, Mother of God) (TFC Edfu) "Taking out in procession of Isis Luminous, Mother of God, residing in Edfu. Resting in the barque sanctuary. Every kind of good thing is offered to her." (TFC Edfu) "Ma'at and all gods perform the rites, like the one who is in heaven." (CC)

IV Shomu 3

Chronokrater:

Horus, Whose Body Rests in Ma'at (LGG5, 583, Edfu)

Isis, Lady of Heaven (LGG4, 49, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of the Face (LGG4, 107, Edfu; variant Hathor, Lady of the Earth, LGG4, 154, Edfu)

Osiris (LGG2, 530, Dendera) NO FESTIVALS TODAY

"Proceeding of the majesty of this goddess (i.e., Hathor) to the Heliopolis of Ra. A feast was made on this day. Do not go out to do anything." (CC)

IV Shomu 4

Chronokrater:

Min, Lord of Many Things/Creations of [word lost] (LGG3, 586, Edfu; variant Khnum, Lord of Many Things/Creations of Esna)

Isis, Kite (bird) of Her Beloved (LGG7, 639, Dendera and Edfu)

Sokar (LGG6, 664, Dendera)

Lady of Ha... [place name broken off] (LGG4, 90, Edfu) Festivals:

Procession of Sopdu and His Followers (CC; LGG2, 719; Leitz TW 398)

Feast of Heqat (LGG5, 490; Lefebvre 1924, plates 61.32 and 81.71) "It is the day of the procession of Sopdu, together with his followers, they being young and remaining through the course of the day. The living bas will not find the remainder of the offering meal today." (CC; LGG2, 719; Leitz TW 398)

IV Shomu 5

Chronokrater:

Haroeris, Foremost of Eyes (LGG3, 395, Edfu)

Nut (LGG3, 535, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of the End (lit., backside/buttocks) (LGG4, 57,

Edfu)

Lady of Dawn (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 113, Dendera and Edfu) Festival:

Appearance of Min (CC)

"The house of Min is in festival, Min being at Akhmim. If you see anything today, it will be good." (CC)

IV Shomu 6

Chronokrater:

Osiris, Greatly Shining One (LGG5, 601, Dendera) Tefnut (LGG7, 406, Dendera)

Hedj-wer ("great (and) white" or "great of club," a protective spirit of Haroeris, Leitz 2002, 150, Edfu) Hathor, Lady of Walking (lit., circling around) (LGG4, 58, Edfu)

She Who Unites with the Primordial Ones (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG1, 136, Dendera and Edfu) Festival: Sixth-Day Festival

"Offering to the rejuvenated one (i.e., Onnophris) in Rosetjau and hiding the mysteries of the conspirators on this day. Do not do anything today." (CC)

The sixth day of any calendrical month, civil or lunar, is noted as the Suwenet, the "sixth-day festival." On the Suwenet, offerings were given to the deceased at their graves.

IV Shomu 7

Chronokrater:

The Cobra (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG5, 102, Edfu) Sekhmet (LGG6, 557, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of the First Canal (LGG4, 106, Dendera and Edfu) NO FESTIVALS TODAY

"A dead one goes about in the necropolis, and comes to the earth. As for the one who approaches him, he will come

under the influence of the steer (or, he will be trampled by a bull) and will not recover until he dies." (CC; Leitz TW 400)

IV Shomu 8

Chronokrater:

Hathor, Lady of the Firestarter (i.e., flint stone) (LGG4, 93, Edfu)

Ra (LGG4, 612, Edfu)

Festival:

Feast of Hathor of Dendera (LGG5, 76)

"If you see anything today, it will be good." (CC)

IV Shomu 9

Chronokrater:

Khnum (LGG6, 26, Dendera)

Hathor, Mistress of the Horizon (LGG4, 5, Dendera)

Mut, Lady of the Two Lands (LGG4, 157, Edfu) Festival:

Feast of Imhotep (LA2, 184)

"Anyone born today will receive noble honors." (CC)

IV Shomu 10

Chronokrater:

Amun-Ra, Lord of All (lit., Lord to the Limit) (LGG3, 795, Edfu)

Neith (LGG3, 511, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of the Two Arms (LGG4, 25, Edfu)

Hathor, Lady of Opening-the-Face (LGG4, 40, Dendera and

Edfu; wordplay that can also mean "lady of mirrors" or

"lady of the icon greeting ritual") Festival:

The Eye of Ra Enters the Horizon

"It is the repulsion of the crew that was in the Delta. It is the day of the Eye of Ra entering his horizon, when he sees his beauty." (CC)

IV Shomu 11

Chronokrater:

Khepera-Who-Created-Himself (LGG5, 714, Edfu)

Horus, Lord of the East (LGG3, 571, Dendera)

The Eye of Sekhmet (LGG1, 436, Edfu; variant The

Powerful Eye, LGG1, 528, Dendera)

Born in [?] the Sun-Disk (epithet of the Eye of Ra, name unclear in Edfu listing) (LGG1, 620, Edfu and Kom Ombo) "Causing outrage in the presence of Ra's followers, and repelling the confederates of Set in the eastern desert."

(CC; LGG6, 594; Leitz TW 403; LGG6, 319)

IV Shomu 12

Chronokrater:

Amun-Ra, Lord of All (lit., Lord to the Limit) (LGG3, 795, Edfu)

Hathor, the Sacred One (LGG7, 669, Dendera and Edfu) Sekhmet (LGG6, 557, Dendera)

Unknown goddess (seated with Hathor crown, name cannot be read) (LGG7, 697, Edfu) Festival:

"Jubilation in the Entire Land" (CC)

"Jubilation throughout the entire land today. The heart (sic) of those who are in the shrine is happy." (CC)

IV Shomu 13

Chronokrater:

Encircler (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG7, 531, Dendera and Edfu)

Hathor, Hand of God (LGG7, 628, Edfu)

Nekhbet (LGG4, 301, Dendera)

Ra (LGG4, 612, Edfu) Festival:

Defending Harsiese, Day 1 of 2 (CC)

"A holiday because of defending the son of Osiris [from joining in the combat in the] back of the law court, by Set."

IV Shomu 14

Chronokrater:

Montu (LGG3, 319, Dendera)

Atum (LGG7, 412, Edfu)

Lady of Offerings (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 43,

Dendera and Edfu) Festival:

Defending Harsiese, Day 2 (final) (CC)

"Establishing her (i.e., Ma'at's) seat and her hall [...] in the divine court on the Zep Tepi today." (CC)

IV Shomu 15

Chronokrater:

Atum, Ruler of Heliopolis (LGG5, 495; Leitz 2002, 152, Edfu)

Hathor's Sacred Barque (LGG2, 277, Edfu)

Isis, Who Protects the Gods (LGG2, 593, Dendera and Edfu; variant Isis without epithets, LGG1, 62, Dendera)

Festivals:

Feast of the Half Month

Feast of Haroeris the Great Shining One (TFC Edfu; LGG5, Edfu)

Appearance of Ra "to propitiate the Nun" (CC) "Do not do anything. Do not go out on any road today. [It is the] going forth of Ra to propitiate the Nun [...] in his cavern, in front of his followers and the ennead of the night-barque today." (CC)

IV Shomu 16

Chronokrater:

Neith (LGG3, 511, Dendera)

She Who Separates Souls (bau) (epithet of the Eye of Ra)

(LGG2, 359, Dendera and Edfu) Festival:

Ritual Water for Those in the Next World (CC)

"[G]ive water to those in the mysterious world [and the] ennead of the West. It is pleasant to your fathers and mothers in the necropolis." (CC)

IV Shomu 17

Chronokrater:

Ptah (LGG3, 169, Dendera)

Ma'at Who Loves Words (lit., things that are said) (LGG3, 351, Dendera and Edfu)

Hathor, Mistress of Mourning (LGG4, 10, Edfu)

Horus, the Fearsome [word lost] (LGG4, 254, Edfu)

Festival:

Celebration of the Justification (apotheosis/deification) of Imhotep, Day 1 of 7 (LA2, 184)

"If you see anything today, it will be good." (CC)

In the Greco-Roman period, a holiday for the deification of the Old Kingdom vizier Imhotep as a semi-divine son of Ptah extended seven days. Imhotep (Greek Imouthes) was syncretized with the demigod Asklepios. IV Shomu 18Chronokrater:

She Who Sees (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG3, 205, Dendera and Edfu)

Sokar (LGG6, 664, Dendera)

Lady of Isden (unknown location) (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 22, Edfu) Festival:

Celebration of the Justification of Imhotep, Day 2 of 7 (LA2, 184)

"Do not go out in the morning because of the crew who leads the rebels. If any lion goes out on the earth today, he will be blind, and they will say concerning him: 'he will not live.'" (CC)

IV Shomu 19

Chronokrater:

Horakhty (LGG5, 239, Dendera)

Tasenetnofret-Tefnut, She Who Is Loved by Her Lord (LGG3, 348, Dendera and Edfu)

Shu (LGG7, 35, Edfu)

Hathor, Lady of the Primordial Time (LGG4, 51, Edfu) Festivals:

The Eye of Horus Returns Complete (CC)

Praise of Mut, Day 1 of 3 (TFC Edfu; LGG4, 473; Edfu V, 358)

Celebration of the Justification of Imhotep, Day 3 of 7 (LA2, 184) "Celebrate the feast of your god. Appease your spirit, for this Eye of Horus has returned complete; nothing is missing in it." (CC)

IV Shomu 20

Chronokrater:

She Who Beholds Suwen ("the southerner" (?) Meaning unclear) (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG3, 206, Edfu) Hathor, Mistress of Kom-el-Hisn (LGG4, 16, Dendera and Edfu)

Nefertem (LGG4, 222, Edfu)

Banebdjedet (LGG2, 683, Dendera) Festivals:

Feast of Menhuy ("Slaughterer," an epithet of Amun) (TFC Esna)

Cleaning and Renewing the Noble Ones (CC)

Praise of Mut, Day 2 of 3 (TFC Edfu; LGG4, 473; Edfu V, 358)

Celebration of the Justification of Imhotep, Day 4 of 7 (LA2, 184) "Do not kill an ankhyt-reptile today. It is the day of the cleansing and renewal of the noble ones. There is silence because of it upon the earth, in order to propitiate the Udjat Eye." (CC)

IV Shomu 21

Chronokrater:

Sekhmet, Friend of the Gods (LGG5, 756, Dendera and Edfu; variant Sekhmet, LGG6, 557, Dendera)

Atum-Khepera, Lord of the High Ones/Heights (LGG3, 757, Edfu)

Lady of Necessities (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 66, Edfu) Festivals:

Review of the Subjects of the Golden One, Horus-Min of Apollinopolis Parva (Abusir Papyri 14a2; LGG2, 527) Praise of Mut, Day 3 (final) (TFC Edfu; LGG4, 473; Edfu V, 358)

Celebration of the Justification of Imhotep, Day 5 of 7 (LA2, 184) "If you see anything today, it will be good." (CC)

IV Shomu 22

Chronokrater:

Thoth the Scribe, Lord of Hieroglyphs (lit., divine words) (LGG6, 599, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of Neham (unknown northwestern Delta location) (LGG4, 81, Edfu)

Isis, Who Is Beautiful to Behold (LGG4, 228, Dendera and Edfu) Festivals:

Feast of Anubis (CC)

Celebration of the Justification of Imhotep, Day 6 of 7 (LA2, 184)

"The feast of Anubis, who is upon his mountain, today. The children of Geb and Nut spend the day in festival today, which is a holiday after the beautiful bathing of the gods (i.e., icon purifications)." (CC)

IV Shomu 23

Chronokrater:

Horus-Who-Creates-Marshlands (LGG7, 198, Edfu)

Hathor, Lady of Offerings (LGG4, 111, Dendera)

Neith, Lady of Eternity (djet) (LGG4, 168, Dendera and Edfu)

Hathor, Beautiful-Faced (or "perfect of face") (LGG4, 230, Edfu) Festival:

Celebration of the Justification of Imhotep, Day 7 (final) (coincides with the anniversary of Imhotep's burial, LA2, 184)

"Do not taste bread or beer today, because the [...] of that which was done before the one who rebelled against his master." (CC)

IV Shomu 24

Chronokrater:

Horus, Lord of Heaven, Great God (LGG3, 624, Dendera) Hathor, Lady of Beholding the Mysteries (or "lady of what the mysterious ones see," LGG4, 60, Edfu and Kom Ombo) Festivals:

"Offerings in Ra's Presence" (CC)

Feast of Ptah, South of His Wall, Lord of Memphis (AF graffito from a Middle Kingdom pyramid at Saqqara, dated to 34th year of Ramses II) "Make food offerings to the gods, in Ra's presence. Make a holiday in your house." (CC)

IV Shomu 25

Chronokrater:

Thoth, Lord of Hermopolis Magna (LGG3, 716, Dendera) Hathor, Lady of Perfection (LGG4, 74, Edfu and Kom Ombo) Ra in the Midst of His Eye (LGG4, 637, Edfu) Hathor, the Many-Faced (LGG2, 226, Dendera and Edfu) Festival:

"The Gods Are Established in Front of Ra's Crew" (CC)
"The god[s are...] established in front of Ra's crew, who is
(sic) happy in the temple." (CC)

IV Shomu 26

Chronokrater:

Neith (LGG3, 511, Dendera)

Hathor, Lady of Her Going Forth (LGG4, 142, Edfu and Kom

Ombo)

Who Belongs to the Heart of Her Mother (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG1, 421, Dendera and Edfu) Festival: "The Gods Sail" (CC)

"Do not go out today at noon. The gods [...] sail with all winds [...] takes place [...] Do not go out of your house." (CC)

IV Shomu 27

Chronokrater:

Who Loves the One Who Gives Water (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG3, 349, Dendera and Edfu)

Hathor the Wise (LGG6, 125, Edfu)

Lady of Work(ing) (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 149, Dendera and Edfu)

Haroeris, Noble Falcon of Heaven (LGG2, 771, Edfu) Festival:

Procession of Hathor and Her Great Nine (TFC Dendera; LA2, 1037; LGG5, 76)

"[...] earth. Do not do anything today." (CC)

IV Shomu 28

Chronokrater:

Horus, Lord of Stomping, Lord of Heaven (LGG3, 662, Dendera)

Shu, Son of Atum (LGG7, 35, Edfu)

Heqat, Lady of the Flood (LGG4, 71, Edfu) Festival: Feast of Min (CC)

"Feast of Min. Day of [...] [If you see anything] today, it will be good." (CC)

IV Shomu 29

Chronokrater:

Thoth (LGG7, 641, Edfu)

Hathor, Lady of Incense Smoke (LGG4, 149, Edfu)

She of Perfect Work(ing) (epithet of the Eye of Ra, LGG4,

233, Dendera; variant Lady of Working)

Amun (LGG1, 306, Dendera) Festivals:

Holiday of the Temple of Ptah-Sokar (CC)

Clepsydra Festival of Mut

Feast of Hathor of Dendera (LGG5, 76, Dendera and Edfu) "Holiday in the temple of Sokar, in the estate of Ptah, and those who are in this estate are healthy and in great festivity." (CC)

The water-clocks, or clepsydra, that were kept in the temples were taken out and blessed today in preparation for Wep Ronpet.

IV Shomu 30

Chronokrater:

Horakhty (LGG5, 239, Dendera)

Hathor, Mistress of Farmland (LGG4, 3, Edfu)

Hathor, Lady of the High Ones (or Lady of the Heights)

(LGG4, 145, Edfu and Kom Ombo)

Ra (LGG4, 612, Edfu) Festivals:

Feast of Lights for Khnum (Last Day of the Egyptian Year or a'areq Ronpet) (TFC Esna; LA2, 179; Herodotus II, 62), including the ceremonies of the Evening Meal (AF TT50 tomb of Neferhotep dated to Horemheb; LA2, 19; AF TT9 tomb of Amonmes, 19th/20th Dynasty)

House of Ra, House of Osiris, House of Horus (Last Day of the Month)

Feast of the Dressing, Day 1 of 7 (Grimm 1994, 416; TFC Edfu; TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI)

Feast of the First Seat of the First Time, Day 1 of 11 (El-Sabban 2000, 172; TFC Edfu; TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI) "Revealing-the-Face festival of Haroeris of Edfu at his noble

mound. Appearing at every first seat, [performing the rites of clothing and providing his ointment. Performing all the rites of the First Feast. Appearing, sailing, resting at his noble mound; making a great offering before him." (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI) "Feast of Khnum performed at Pi-Khnum. When the 12th hour of the night comes, may the processions appear. [...] lighting many torches in it, by everyone." (TFC Esna) "Feast of clothing Horus Behdety, the great god, lord of heaven. A great offering of every good thing is made. The god is taken in procession to the place of the First Feast. All the rituals are performed, in accordance with the ritual of Seat of the First Feast." (TFC Edfu) "Offerings on the altar for Osiris, in his seat, with the beginning of the five days over the year." (TFC Edfu) "[...] Anything that comes forth from it on the estate of Ptah will be good. As for any offering, any ritual, or anyone on this day, it is good throughout the year. Sing and offer much." (CC) On the last day of the year, a magician is instructed to make an amulet of a pig and tie it up with a red thread while saying, "I am Reret, who protects her lord; I am Hememyt, child of Sekhmet" (pLeiden I, 346, col 3, 10 in Stricker, 1948, 65).

"The dead smell the aroma of the burning of goats and pigs through the purifications of Sekhmet and her knife-demons at the end of the year." (Herbin 1994, IV, 5)

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Chapter 6
Very Special Days

The Intercalary or Epagomenal Days

Five days that belong to no year, the heriu Ronpet or "days upon the year," are set aside in the Egyptian festival calendar as intercalary days. These days, also called the "five days of festival" in later periods (CDD 14:1, 1) are holidays set aside for the birth of five deities from the sky goddess, Nut. While no surviving Egyptian myth explains the nature of these days and how they came to be, we do still have a Greek-language myth that describes the intercalary half-week, set down in the surviving writings of Plutarch. According to Plutarch, Nut (whom he names Rhea) became pregnant by Geb (or Cronus). Ra (Helios), who was Nut's consort, became so angry at this that he decreed that Nut might not give birth on any day of the year.

Over time, just as in the very similar Greek myth of the travails of Rhea, Nut's pain and difficulty became serious. Eventually, Thoth (Hermes), Nut's lover and friend, wanted to help, so he contrived a way to "win" pieces of the moon's light through playing a game with the moon. After Thoth collected the equivalent of five days of extra time, he presented these days as a gift to Nut, so her children could each have a birthday that did not belong to any year, and thus did not defy Ra's command.

Egyptian sources that do not mention this very late (second century CE) explanation from Plutarch agree that there are five intercalary or epagomenal days, and that these days correspond to the birth of the five children of Nut: Osiris, Haroeris, Set, Isis, and Nephthys, in that order. Because these days are not governed by the order inherent in the festival year, they have a potentially dangerous quality. Ancient calendars note that one must be very careful during these days as anything can happen, and especially on the day that is dedicated to Set, the deity of confusion and disorder. Special prayers were provided for people to say during the epagomenal days, so that they might gain

the blessing and protection of the birthday gods, and not fall to any chaos or difficulty during them. Amulets and special protective ritual garments like the seshed band (a red or white ribbon worn tied around the forehead), or linen strips twisted into cords and knotted while speaking ritual incantations, were created and distributed among the populace to provide divine protection for the epagomenal days and beyond. An example of knotted white linen amulets intended to provide the protection of 12 deities called the "messengers of Sekhmet" is known in detail from incantations inscribed in Papyrus Leiden (Raven 1997, 276ff).

More general and festive celebrations were held for all five gods during the epagomenal days, alongside ceremonies of presenting new cloth for icons' clothing (the Feast of the Dressing; Grimm 1994, 416), processions to the ancestors' tombs (Schott 1950, 71; Poethke 1975, 1232), and processions and offerings to temples of the primordial deities (the Feast of the Seat of the First Time; El-Sabban 2000, 172). In Thebes, tombs received both guests and offerings. Tomb visitors lit candles in those tombs, and poured libations to commemorate the dead buried there, on each epagomenal day and on Wep Ronpet day (David 96ff). As these festivals were celebrated throughout the entire day and night, we also know that the people had time to celebrate: the epagomenal days are the only days noted in civil calendars as universal work holidays (LA6, 153).

At least through the Roman Period, the birth of Isis continued to be observed with ceremonies, and even today, the liturgical calendar of the Coptic Orthodox Church provides for a "little month" (Coptic pikouyi enavot, from the pharaonic pa kidj-en-abed, "tiny month"). The Coptic "little month" is five or six days of special prayers and ceremony to round out the year. A tradition of distributing "New Year's water" in tiny commemorative flasks as good

luck charms and for protection during the pharaonic period (Germond 1981, 329; von Bissing 1902, 3738ff) probably inspired the flasks gifted to Christian pilgrims to Egypt's shrine of St. Menas in the fourth and fifth centuries CE.

An additional epagomenal day, in honor of Thoth and placed at the beginning of the epagomenal week (thus becoming the first epagomenal day and pushing the birthday of Osiris to Day 2 in such a year) was officially added to the Egyptian calendar under the reign of Ptolemy III, to correct what was called a ronpet gab, or "lame year" (Montet 1946, 38).

The lame year was the name for a year where the seasons no longer lined up with the civil calendar owing to the lack of a dedicated leap day. Ptolemy III's decree (known from a trilingual monument dated to 238 or 239 BCE called the "Canopus decree" after the town in which it was discovered) added a day for Thoth every fourth year. However, this was inconsistently applied, and a standardized leap day/sixth epagomenal day once every four years was not officially added to the Egyptian calendar until it was adopted for use by the Roman emperor Augustus, several centuries later (Poethke 1975, 1232). In the Roman Period, this special leap-day epagomenal was celebrated as a holiday to all gods (LA4, 11).

The Epagomenal or "Little" Month

The goddess of the Epagomenal Month is Renenutet, given the epithet Mistress of the Desert. (LA; reference from Senmut tomb)

Epagomenal Day 1

Chronokrat:

Hathor, Lady of Thousands (LGG4, 795, Edfu and Kom Ombo)

Festivals:

BIRTHDAY OF OSIRIS (CC; pLeiden I; TFC Illahun; TFC Esna; TFC Edfu; LGG7, 275; Leitz TW 418)

Feast of the Dressing, Day 2 of 7 (Grimm 1994, 416; LGG1, 196; TFC Edfu)

Feast of the First Seat of the First Time, Day 2 of 11 (El-Sabban 2000, 172)

Appearance of Min (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI) "The day of the Bull in the West, whose name is hidden from his children." (Stricker 1948, 55ff; Spalinger 1995, 33ff; alternate name He Whose Rudder Is Hidden) "The day of the pure bull in his field." (CC; Leitz TW 416ff)

"The day of the Nile perch in his pond." (URK VII, 140, 5ff)

"Feast of the birth of Osiris. Presenting material (or dressing) to Khnum- Ra, lord of Esna, and his ennead; offerings on the altar." (TFC Esna)

"Birth of Osiris. Dressing of the great pillar of Behdet (an epithet of Haroeris of Edfu) and his ennead." (TFC Edfu)

"Birth of Osiris. Providing the clothing of Osiris, residing in Dendera, according to what is in the ritual." (TFC Edfu)

"The great ones are born. As for the great ones whose forms are not mysterious, beware of them! Their moment will not come [...] they have proceeded [...] his [...] Birth of Osiris, Birth of Haroeris, Birth of Set, Birth of Isis, Birth of Nephthys. As for anyone who knows the names of the five epagomenal days, he does not hunger, he does not thirst; Bast does not overpower him. He will not enter into the great law court, he will not die through an enemy of the pharaoh, and he will not die through the pestilence of the year. But he will endure, every day, until death arrives, even as no illness will take him. As for him who knows them, Hu will be prosperous within him. His speech is important to listen to in Ra's presence. First day: the birth of Osiris. Words to be said: 'O Osiris, Bull in his cavern, whose name is hidden [from] the children of his mother.

Hail to you, hail to you! [...] I am your son, [Horus...], O father Osiris.' The name of this day [is] the pure one [...] house [...]" (CC) "The name of the days for protecting the limbs is 'the ape who is with him.'" (CC)

"O Osiris, bull in his cavern, whose mother's name is hidden, [if] you are asked, I am your son Horus." (CC)

"Eye of Horus, ga-bull, who is pure in his field." (CC alternate day name)

"Providing offerings to Nut, the mistress of the gods, Great of Birth." (LGG3, 439, Kom Ombo)

Epagomenal Day 2

Chronokrat:

Heqat, Lady of the Flood (LGG4, 71, Edfu and Kom Ombo) Festivals:

BIRTHDAY OF HAROERIS (HORUS THE ELDER) (TFC Illahun; TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI; TFC Esna; TFC Edfu; LGG6, 526; Leitz TW 420-422; LGG6, 85; LA3, 42; LGG5, 231; pLeiden I 346, column 2.9)

Feast of the Dressing, Day 3 of 7 (Grimm 1994, 416) Feast of the First Seat of the First Time, Day 3 of 11 (El-Sabban 2000, 172)

Appearance of Min (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI)

Feast of Heka-the-Child (TFC Esna)

Procession of Hathor of Dendera (TFC Edfu) "[Haroeris is] Great of strength, master of fear, great of awe." (pLeiden I in Stricker 1948, 55ff; Spalinger 1995, 33ff)

"He is strong of heart." (CC; Leitz TW 416ff)

"The day of the pure bull in his field." (URK VII 140, 5ff)

"Birth of Horus; appearance of Horus and the Lord of the Two Lands (i.e., Min)" (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI)

"Feast of the birth of Horus and the feast of Heka-the-Child. Feast of revealing the face in the temples, in this eighth hour." (TFC Esna) "Birth of Horus [...] of this day. The divine service is conducted as on every day. All the rites are celebrated, as one does on IV Shomu 30, at the Feast of the Dressing." (TFC Edfu) "Birth of Horus. Procession of this noble goddess, Hathor Lady of Dendera, and her ennead. Stopping at her seat until the evening meal. Then she rests in the palace." (TFC Edfu) "The Birth of Horus. Words to be said on it: 'O Horus, Foremost-of-Eyes of Letopolis, it is repeated again. It will be made [...] good protection from it. [...] You make [...] Horus, son [of Ra...]' The name of this day is Powerful of Heart." (CC; LGG6, 526; Leitz TW 420) "The name of the days for protecting the limbs is 'Horus the bull, whose father is unknown.'" (CC; LGG6, 85; Leitz TW 421)

"O Haroeris, great of strength, lord of fear, [...] everyone. May you save me from any bad or evil things, from any slaughtering. The name of this day is 'powerful of heart.'" (CC; LGG6, 526; Leitz TW 420) "The Majesty of Horus, who fights the timid one in his pool." (CC)

"Birth of Horus [...] this day of dedication to Amun of Luxor, the bull with high arm, man of the gods [...]" (AF block of a Dynasty 25/Kushite king at Luxor temple, now in Berlin) Another name for today is "The falcon, who sees the rudder" (LGG7, 314; Leitz TW 422; pLeiden I, 346)

Epagomenal Day 3

Chronokrat:

Lady of the Day (i.e., time period) (epithet of the Eye of Ra) (LGG4, 106, Edfu and Kom Ombo)

Festivals:

BIRTHDAY OF SET (TFC Illahun; CC; AF pRhind; AF Daybook of the Theban necropolis workers; LGG3, 141; pLeiden I, 346 column 2, 12; Stricker 1948, 64; Bonnet 2000, 16; Leitz TW 421)

Feast of the Dressing, Day 4 of 7 (Grimm 1994, 416) Feast of the First Seat of the First Time, Day 4 of 11 (El-Sabban 2000, 172)

Appearance of Min (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI) Festival of Thoeris (LGG7, 331, El Qa'la; El-Qa'la II, 272) "[Set is] Lord of life, in the front of Ra's barque." (pLeiden I 346 column 2; Stricker, 1948, 55ff; Spalinger 1995, 33ff) "On the day of Set's birthday, this god could be heard." (URK VII, 140, 5ff)

"Powerful of heart, Shu who is in his nest." (CC; Leitz TW 416 and 421)

"Offerings are on the altars." (TFC Esna)

"Celebrating according to what is in the ritual of the evening meal [...] of the fresh water in front of this goddess (i.e., Hathor). Making a very great number of burnt offerings until the ninth hour of the night. [Then] a procession by Hathor, Lady of Dendera. Offering bearers are sent to Behdety (i.e., Haroeris of Edfu). Stopping and making a holiday." (TFC Dendera) "Birth of Set. Words to be said on it: 'O Set, son of Nut, great of strength [...] protection is at the hands of your holy power.'" (CC)

"The name of the days for protecting the limbs is: 'Horus-Shu who is in his nest.'" (CC)

"Birth of Set. Words to be said on it: 'O Set, son of Nut who is in front of the barque of millions of years, whose name is 'How is this land?', may you save me from any bad or evil thing, from any slaughter of this year.' The name of this day [is] Horus-the-falcon who sees the rower." (CC) "Birth of Set. The majesty of this god allows itself to be heard." (AF pRhind)

"The third day upon the year is the birth of Set, the beginning of restlessness, and the beginning of the ennead's acts." (pLeiden I, 346, column 2, 12; Stricker 1948, 64; Bonnet 2000, 16) Another name for today: "The

falcon of (or with) lasting beauty" (URK VI 143, 10 and 15; LGG7, 314; Schott 1950, 8).

Epagomenal Day 4

Chronokrat:

Nephthys, Powerful of Heart (LGG4, 93, Edfu and Kom Ombo)

Festivals:

BIRTHDAY OF ISIS (TFC Illahun; TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI; TFC Esna; TFC Edfu; TFC Dendera; CC; LGG1, 13, 218 and 476; Leitz TW 422-423; LGG2, 835; LGG6, 105; LGG5, 708)

Feast of the Dressing, Day 5 of 7 (Grimm 1994, 416) Feast of the First Seat of the First Time, Day 5 of 11 (El-Sabban 2000, 172)

Appearance of Min (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI) "Isis in Chemmis is the Great One, Daughter of Nut." (pLeiden I in Stricker 1948, 55ff; Spalinger 1995, 33ff)

"The child that is in his nest." (URK VII, 140, 5ff; LA2, 136) "Eve of the day of the child who is in his nest." (LGG5, 708, Dendera Mammisi; LA2, 136)

"Birth of Isis, that perfect feast of heaven and earth, presenting the clothing to Khnum and his ennead." (TFC Esna)

"Birth of Isis. The First Feast of this god (i.e., Haroeris) is celebrated. Going out in procession, resting in the place of the First Feast, opposite Ra. Invocation [...] offering made for this purification festival. Every command for the dressing is carried out. Going in procession from there, resting in the birthing chapel." (TFC Edfu) "Birth of Isis. Feast of revealing-the-face of this goddess (i.e., Hathor of Dendera) with her ennead. Performing all the rites of the feast of dressing [...] according to the ritual of the Seat of the First Feast. They make a great offering of bread, beer,

oxen, birds, wine, milk, pomegranate, gazelles, oryxes, ibexes, herons, pigeons, and ducks, together with fresh vegetables and every kind of fruit. It is very sweet to serve the Beautiful One with night offerings! This goddess is taken out in procession as a female Bes. Consecrating [...] invocation and welcoming. All the rites are performed in accordance with what is in the festival ritual." (TFC Edfu) "This beautiful day of 'the night of the child in his nest,' a great feast in the entire land. Procession by Hathor, Lady of Dendera, during the night that is in front of that day. Going around her temple; celebrating all the rituals, then the gods rest in their places." (TFC Dendera) "Fourth day: the birthday of Isis. Words to be said on it: 'O Isis, this eldest daughter of Nut, mistress of magic, the provider of the book, the mistress who satisfies the Two Lands, her face is glorious. I am the brother and [I am] the sister.' The name of this day is 'he who makes terror." (CC; LGG1, 476; LGG6, 105; Leitz TW 416 and 422) "The name of the days for protecting the limbs is: 'Haroeris who is pure in the field.'" (CC; Leitz, TW, 423; variant "the eldest/great one who is pure in the field") "O Isis, the goddess who guides [...] the Akhet Eye, daughter of Nut, the mistress of Chemmis. Save me from any bad or evil thing. Save the son Horus on this day. The name of this day is 'making preparation.'" (CC) "Opening of the shrine of She-Who-Unites-with-Life (epithet of Isis)." (LGG6, 20; Dendera II, 190)

Another name for today: "Isis the Abdu-fish who is pure in the front of Ra's boat" (CC; LGG1, 13; Leitz TW 423; URK VI, 145; Goyon 1975, 345).

Epagomenal Day 5

Chronokrat:

Hathor, Lady of Splendor (LGG1, 47, Edfu and Kom Ombo)

Festivals:

BIRTHDAY OF NEPHTHYS (TFC Illahun; TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI; TFC Esna; TFC Edfu; TFC Dendera; CC; LGG1, 586; Leitz TW 423; LGG6, 536)

Night of Ra (i.e., the eve of Ra's birthday, or New Year's Eve) (AF tomb of Hapdjefa, Asyut; LA2, 79) Feast of the Dressing, Day 6 of 7 (Grimm 1994, 416)

Feast of the First Seat of the First Time, Day 6 of 11 (El-Sabban 2000, 172) "Daughter of Nut." (pLeiden I in Stricker 1948, 55ff; Spalinger 1995, 33ff)

"Birth of Nephthys the Akhet-Eye." (LGG1, 47; Leitz TW 424)

"Pure fish before the barque of Ra." (URK VII 140, 5ff)
"The child who is in his nest." (CC; Leitz TW 416ff; LGG4, 306; Leitz 1993, 135-165; LGG5, 708, Dendera Mammisi)
"Feast of the birth of Nephthys. Isis is in the house of the gods, she who offers and goes out in procession every ten days..." (TFC Esna)

"[...] birth of Nephthys. All the ritual of this day is performed, as is appointed for the festival." (TFC Dendera) "Birth of Nephthys [...] in all his (sic) offerings. These are the royal festivals, enduring forever." (TFC Edfu)

"The birth of Nephthys. Words to be said on it: 'O Nephthys, daughter of Nut, sister of Set, she whose father sees a healthy daughter, stable of face, stable of face! I am the divine power in the womb of my mother Nut.' The name of this day is 'the child who is in his nest.'" (CC; LGG6, 536; LGG1, 586; Leitz TW, 423) "The name of the days for protecting the limbs is 'The great heir...'" (CC)

"O Nephthys, daughter of Nut, save me from any bad thing of this year, from any slaughter of this year, just as you have made my protection. Protect me again, in the name of this day 'child who is in the nest.'" (CC) The Child in His Nest referenced on the fifth epagomenal day is the

newborn sun as Ra-Horakhty, about to be born from his mother Sothis on Wep Ronpet, immediately at the end of the fifth epagomenal day (Leitz 1993, 138). Illuminations and preparations for a huge festival for Ra's birthday on Wep Ronpet happen on this night (Posener-Kriéger 1970, 132), and continue through the night after Wep Ronpet. At Dendera, Hathor's statue entered into the eastern temple crypts, where it was dressed in linen and illuminated to await Ra's (re)birth (LA2, 1035ff).

The Close of the Epagomenal Days: A Ritual for the End of the Year

The Cairo Calendar includes a set of incantations to be said as a ritual on the final day of the epagomenal month, just before the dawn of Wep Ronpet morning: "Words to be said after them (i.e., the incantations to the epagomenal gods), when the epagomenal days are completed:

Hail to you, o great ones, according to their names, children of the goddess who have come forth from the sacred womb, lords because of their father, goddesses because of their mother, without knowing the necropolis. Behold! May you protect me and save me. May you make me prosperous, may you make my protection, may you repeat [it] and may you protect me. I am the one who is on their list.

This spell is to be said four times. Make for yourself an amulet for protection [to wear] around the neck, for the five epagomenal days in the name of these gods on the day [...] written on the choicest of [linen...] amulet [...and draw on it the male figure of Osiris, the male figure of Haroeris, the male figure of Set, the] female figure of Isis, [and] the female figure of Nephthys [in] black color, anointed with first-class oil and fumigated with burning incense. They should be purified, loosened, and thrown into the water of the father Nun or of the mother Nut after the day of Ra's

birth. And do [this]: behold, make for yourself a large food-offering of bread, beer, oxen, birds, carob beans, incense, ti-shepes wood, and all kinds of dates and vegetables — being very clean in front of Ra-Horakhty when he shines in the eastern horizon of heaven, and when he sets in the western horizon. Behold, you should bathe in the fresh water of the beginning of the inundation. Paint your eyes with green paint; take a drink of wine, and anoint yourself..."

Leap Day (Epagomenal Day 0)

This day, when it occurred, was dedicated to Thoth, and would be placed as the first of the epagomenal days, the day after the end of the year and before the birthday of Osiris.

Ptolemy III, who inserted this day into the calendar, decreed that it should recur every four years thereafter, but this was not accurately enforced until the time of Augustus Caesar, more than 200 years later. The Romans also confused themselves and placed the leap day after three years rather than four for some time, causing the calendars to require even more recalibration.

Leap Day, when it occurred, included a festival and procession of Wepwawet to the temple of Anubis-of-the-Cavern-Mouth in the Memphite necropolis during the Roman period (Diodorus I, 18; LA6).

Lunar Calendar and Lunar Festivals

Alongside the civil calendar, which was calibrated to the rising of Sothis and/or to solar phenomena, a lunar calendar was also kept, both for those holidays traditionally reckoned by lunar phenomena, and as an alternative calendar that began not with solar reckoning but with the new moon closest to the inundation. Each lunar month

began with the observation of the new moon "on the morning when the old crescent could no longer be seen just before sunrise," that is, the day closest to the new moon's astronomical totality (Parker 1970, 217). There were 12 months, named and conceived of in exactly the same way as the 12 civil months already outlined in this calendar, along with specific lunar-fixed data and an optional 13th month for correcting the calendar if it no longer matched with the seasons. The lunar calendar and the civil calendar matched up (that is, I Akhet 1 in the civil calendar was also a new moon day) once every 25 years. Tables to show how the two calendars can be compared date from as early as Dynasty 12 in Beni Hasan, and were in use well into the Roman period after the second century CE (Bohleke, 25ff). Each of the 30 days of the lunar month were mythologically likened to the Eye of Horus. The moon's phases throughout the days corresponded to the damage of Horus' eye by Seth during their battles for the kingship, and Thoth's subsequent restoration and healing of the eye. The disappearance and gradual return of the moon's light thus demonstrated the healing of the Udjat, the "healthy" eye; and then the moon's waning after its fullness told the story of its damage. See Priskin 2002 for the mathematical theory linking these fractions of the Eye to the days of the synodic month.

The protective deities of the lunar months were the same as those for the civil months, with the exception of the addition of Hathor to lunar III Shomu (LGG5, 77; Herbin 1982, 250), and Renenutet over the 13th or epagomenal month.

Chronokrater/Gods of the Lunar Days

Unlike the civil calendar with god(s) for every single day of the year, the lunar calendar noted the same god(s) for each month, listed by lunar day and/or moon phase related to

that day:

- 1. (new moon/pesdjentiu) Child-of-the-First-Day (epithet of Min at Dendera and epithet of Khonsu at Edfu, LGG5, 618); Ptah (pBerlin 3053 XI/XII, 9.1; LGG 3, 169); Montu "the Burning Bull" (LGG3, 321; Herbin 1982, 248; LGG7, 256; Aufrére 255, Dendera); Thoth (Dendera Pronaos, western side moon steps, Brugsch 46); and Khnum (LGG6, 26, Dendera Pronaos, western side moon steps, Brugsch 48). Min-Amun-Ra is the "deputy of the moon on the pesdjentiu" (LGG1, 645, Kom Ombo; Dittmer, 1983, 76; Fs Derchain, 365) 2. Atum (LGG7, 413; Herbin 1982, 248); Min, Young One of the Month (LGG5, 97, Dendera); and Harendotes (LGG5, 268, Dendera Pronaos)
- 3. Shu (LGG7, 35; Herbin 1982, 248)
- 4. Tefnut (LGG7, 35; Herbin 1982, 248); and Imset (Herbin 1982, II, 23; LGG7, 213)
- 5. Geb "in peace" (LGG7, 305; Herbin 1982, 249); and Hapy (of the four sons of Horus) (LGG5, 119; Herbin 1982, II, 24)
- 6. Nut "in peace" (LGG7, 205; Herbin 1982, 265); Iah, Chief of the Shrine (LGG5, 299, Dendera; Petrie, plate 3, Ankhruty coffin); Atum (LGG7, 411; pBerlin 3053, XIII, 1); and Duamutef (LGG7, 516; Dendera Pronaos, western side moon steps, center third) 7. Ra, Ruler of the Seventh Day (LGG5, 530, Edfu); Osiris, Foremost of the Mekes-vase (LGG5, 818); and Thoth (LGG7, 640; Khonsu II, 190, 7) 8. Isis the Goddess "who comes rejoicing and protects the moon in his manifestations" (LGG1, 74; Herbin 1982, 250 and 266-267); Nephthys (LGG4, 96; Khonsu II, 190, 8); and Khonsu-Harsiese Who Sees His Father (LGG3, 199; Karnak VI 187; Cairo TR23/1/21 coffin of Aset-weret) 9. Horus Who Gives Rules (LGG5, 233; Herbin 1982, 250, 287-288); and Amun-Ra, Who Makes His Djet-Time (LGG1, 585, Dendera Pronaos; Khonsu Temple Pronaos) 10. Horus in the Great

- Palace (LGG5, 273, Dendera); and Osiris, Who Creates His Own Name (LGG1, 471)
- 11. Khonsu the Great Savior (LGG4, 553; Karnak VI; Dendera Pronaos)
- 12. Horus of Behdet, Who Shines in the Lunar Eye (LGG5, 254; Herbin 1982, 250); and Sekhmet, Lady of Slaughtering as She Wishes (LGG4, 120, Dendera, Dendera Mammisi, Edfu, and Kom Ombo; Germond 1981, 42) 13. Sobek "is the god of the 13th lunar day, which is named 'Sobek' for him" (LGG6, 258; Khonsu II, 190); Tekenu (LGG7, 446, Dendera Pronaos stairs in Brugsch, 47; Willems, Heqata, 110-165); and Tjenenet (LGG1, 190; Herbin 1982, 250 and 266-267) 14. Iunit (lit., the Heliopolitan Goddess) (LGG1, 190; Herbin 1982, 250 and 266-267)
- 15. (full moon/tepy semdet) Horus the Young One "since he is rejuvenated like the full moon" (LGG5, 94, Dendera); Osiris-Iah-Thoth (LGG5, 522); and Khonsu-in-Thebes-Neferhotep-Horus (Athribis and Deir Chelouit) 16. Set Who Makes Trouble/Anger (LGG7, 159; Karnak VI, Khonsu temple; Dendera Pronaos in Brugsch, 47)
- 17. Horus upon His Papyrus-Scepter (LGG5, 275, Dendera Mammisi)
- 18. Ihy (LGG1, 542; Khonsu Temple 187; Dendera Pronaos western half in Brugsch, 47)
- 19. Horus-of-Behdet Who Spears the Thief (LGG5, 108, Dendera); and Iunmutef (i.e., Min-Horus, Pillar of His Mother) (LGG1, 197; Karnak VI, 187 Khonsu temple chapel; EAT III, plate 41; Dendera Pronaos stairs) 20. Anubis (LGG1, 391; Karnak VI, 87)
- 21. Anubis (LGG1, 391; Dendera Pronaos, western half moon stairs, eastern third, in Brugsch, 48)
- 22. names lost
- 23. names lost

- 24. names lost
- 25. Over Her, People Rejoice as Her Flame Becomes Green (epithet of the pacified Hathor) (LGG5, 33); and Horus-the-Errant (LGG7, 79, Dendera)
- 26. names lost
- 27. Horus of the Shredding Claws (LGG7, 525, Dendera Pronaos, western half moon stairs, center third, in Brugsch, 48)
- 28. names lost
- 29. names lost
- 30. Harendotes (LGG5, 268, Dendera Pronaos) and Khnum-Ra, the Awakened One (LGG4, 261, Edfu)

Lunar Holidays

General comments about the lunar calendar:

The lunar calendar has 12 months, except in a leap year, when it will have 13. The first day of a lunar month is the day of new moon, and the first new moon of I Akhet is called Tepy-Ronpet, "head of the year." (LA3) Every fourth day of the lunar month is set aside for an appearance and procession of the Setem, or funerary priests. (LA3) Every sixth day of the lunar month, just like the sixth day of every civil month, is a festival in honor of the blessed dead, the Akhu or shining ones. It is also called the Senut, or "shrine" festival. (LA3) The seventh and twenty-third days of each lunar month, called Djenit or "festival jar," are days of libations for the gods and ancestors. (LA3) According to the Thutmose III festival calendar at Karnak, the royal treasury offered 96 hegat-measures of honey bread, 144 hegatmeasures of sat-bread, 495 hegat-measures of depet-bread, and 96 hegat-measures of pesen-bread for offerings every lunar month. (TFC Karnak Thutmose III) At Kom Ombo temple, Min made an appearance at every new moon, or on

the first day of each lunar month. (TFC Kom Ombo Ptolemy VI)

At Letopolis temple, the day after every new moon (i.e., the second day of the lunar month) was a festival of Horus-Foremost-of-Letopolis. (LA3, 45, cf. Parker)

I Akhet New Moon

Pesdjentiu (New Moon Festival)

Ihhy (Jubilation) of the Year's First Pesdjentiu (TFC Illahun) Renewing the Year (TFC Illahun; Tepy Ronpet or "head of the year," LA)

Birth of the Sun (TFC Illahun; TFC Edfu) "Feast of Harsomtus, Lord of Khadi, in his beautiful feast of the birth of the sun. This god and his ennead are taken in procession in their portable shrines. They stop at his pure place, opposite the house of Ra. One offers to them bread, beer, oxen, birds, and every good thing." (TFC Edfu)

I Akhet Full Moon

Tepy-Semdet (Full Moon Festival)

Ihhy (Jubilation) of the Year's First Full Moon (TFC Illahun)

II Akhet New Moon

Pesdjentiu (New Moon Festival)

Opet Festival, 11 days (day 11 adds "Appearance of Amunem-Opet")

Clothing Anubis (LA Niuserre temple; AF Senwosret II mortuary chapel)

Feast of Horus (LGG5, 233; pCarlsberg1 VII, 22)

Opet Festival is one of Egypt's largest annual festivals, honoring the marriage of Amun-Ra and Mut, and the birth of Khonsu, as well as the renewal of the Kingly Ka, a form of Horus that manifests in the king.

"Presentation of offerings to Amun in the 23rd Regnal year of Thutmose III" (AF Thutmose III annals thus imply that Opet happened on II Akhet 15 in that year) Ramses III

celebrates Opet from II Akhet 19 to III Peret 12; by his death, it is lengthened to III Akhet 15 (LA4, 74)

"One calls Amun in his oracle in his beautiful Opet Festival" (reference to Opet Day 11's Appearance of Amun, corresponding to the civil date of III Akhet 1 in a Ramesside papyrus, BM10335) During the Middle Kingdom, the Festival of "Clothing Anubis, Who is upon His Mountain," occurred at the new moon of II Akhet. By the New Kingdom, it was given a fixed date in the civil calendar separate from New Moon and/or the Opet Festival.

In a civil calendar, the Autumnal Equinox will happen during II Akhet, during its Festival of Paenopet (II Akhet 19-23). It may or may not also coincide with Opet Festival.

II Akhet Full Moon

Tepy-Semdet (Full Moon Festival)
Feast of the Gods of the Noble Chapel (TFC Edfu)
Shifting/Gathering Sand Festival (TFC Illahun; AF festival
list from Year 35 of Senwosret III at Kahun) "Every ritual of
the feast of the gods of the noble chapel. They are offered
bread, beer, oxen, birds, and every good thing." (TFC Edfu)
"Festival of Sand-Gathering, of Anubis Who Is on His
Mountain, in the pyramid city of Senwosret II, true of
voice." (TFC Illahun; this inscription is dated to the 24th
day of the civil II Akhet) "Day of Gathering Sand. Clothing
of Senwosret II, true of voice." (AF festival list from Year 35
of Senwosret III at Kahun)

II Akhet 18

In the lunar calendar, this is the original date of Wag Festival. In civil and/or Sothic calendars, it was established as I Akhet 18; the lunar Wag of II Akhet 18 predates the civil date of I Akhet 18 (Spalinger 1995, 23).

III Akhet New Moon

Pesdjentiu (New Moon Festival)

Feast of Ra's Entering the Sky (TFC Illahun; AF festival list from Year 35 of Senwosret III at Kahun)

Periplus of Sokar (TFC Illahun) "Holding up the plates of burnt offerings [for Ra]." (AF festival list from Year 35 of Senwosret III at Kahun)

III Akhet Full Moon

Tepy-Semdet (Full Moon Festival)

Exalting the Gods Festival (TFC Illahun)

Taking to the River (shezep iteru) Festival (TFC Illahun; AF festival list from Year 35 of Senwosret III at Kahun; LA2, 175)

Land Festival (TFC Illahun) Taking to the River was marked from the III Akhet full moon (on the 15th day of the lunar calendar) through lunar IV Akhet 1 with boat processions and joyful celebrations of the renewal of nature. This festival is known from Edfu, Dendera, and Esna, going back to the time of Niuserre, and may be the festival behind depictions of leisurely boat processions in Old Kingdom tomb paintings (LA2, 175).

IV Akhet New Moon

Pesdjentiu (New Moon Festival) "Anointing and Exalting the Gods" (TFC Illahun, NK) Feast of Nehebkau (LA)

IV Akhet Full Moon

Tepy-Semdet (Full Moon Festival)
Entering the Sky (TFC Illahun)
Drawing the Sokar Boat (TFC Illahun)
Procession of the Setem-Priests (TFC Illahun)

Feast of Amun (URK IV, 1273) Note: the Osiris Mysteries will often occur at or around this moon.

Eve of I Peret I or New Moon of I Shomu 1: "Feast of the Heavens" (New Kingdom Min festival, described in LA4, 142-3; similar to the festival on New Moon Eve of I Shomu) I Peret New Moon Pesdjentiu (New Moon Festival)

I Peret Full Moon Tepy-Semdet (Full Moon Festival)

II Peret New Moon

Pesdjentiu (New Moon Festival)

Lunar Festival of Sokar-Osiris-Onnophris (AF festival list from Year 35 of Senwosret III at Kahun)

Festival of Entering the Temple Sokar and Osiris-Onnophris are gods of darkness and death. Far from gloomy, they are associated with the underworld or more properly "otherworld" of the night, and the gates through which Ra makes a nightly journey before rebirth every morning.

II Peret Full Moon Tepy-Semdet (Full Moon Festival) Feast of Sokar (TFC Illahun)

III Peret New Moon Pesdjentiu (New Moon Festival) Festival of Entering the Temple (TFC Illahun)

III Peret Full Moon

Tepy-Semdet (Full Moon Festival)

Opening the Windows of the Court

"Opening of the windows and opening of the court of Osiris, and looking into the doorways of Karnak, where his place is. Do not look; there is darkness today." (CC)

IV Peret New Moon

Pesdjentiu (New Moon Festival)

Festival of Sokar (TFC Edfu)

Birthday of Harsiese (TFC Edfu)

"Offerings to Amun-Ra and His Ennead." (AF Medinet Habu Calendar 1388, Ramses III)

IV Peret Day after New Moon

Mystery of the Divine Birth (Richter 2003; LA 2, 1036)

"Procession of Neith and Heka-the-Child in the morning, union with the disk, return. Feast of navigation of this goddess; performing the ritual of Ra today and the divine birth of Horus in the second lunar day of this month." (TFC Esna; placed in civil calendar as IV Peret 11) "Birth of Ra and the Son of Shu and Tefnut." (placed in civil calendar on multiple days: IV Peret 11, I Shomu 1, and III Shomu 1 according to LA2, 477, Philae Mammisi) "Birth of Harsomtus-Ihy at Edfu." (LA2, 471, Dendera, 21st or possibly 28th in civil calendar)

Where we have civil dates to correspond to the lunar Mystery of the Divine Birth, it was celebrated on IV Peret 28-29 at Edfu (Alliot 1949, 246; LA2, 1036, Edfu); IV Peret 21 at Dendera in one period and IV Peret 28 in another (TFC Dendera small calendar)

IV Peret Full Moon

Tepy-Semdet (Full Moon Festival)

"Birth of Harsiese. Celebration of the birth-giving of this goddess, for Isis, Mother of God, until the 21st [lunar day;

total six days]. This goddess goes around her town." (TFC Philae) "At the third hour, procession of Hathor, the Lady of Dendera, and her ennead. Stopping at the mammisi." (TFC Dendera; repeats on IV Peret 28 in lunar calendar) Sometime during IV Peret, the Vernal Equinox will occur and the Feast of Zep-Tepi, "renewing the year" is honored for two days (TFC Edfu; at the time of the creation of this particular calendar, the feast also coincided with New Moon).

I Shomu New Moon Eve

Festival of Min "Going forth of Min on the Steps" or "Feast of the Heavens" (Abydos Middle Kingdom; Medinet Habu calendars of the New Kingdom fix this holiday to civil I Shomu 11; LA2, 178; AF Medinet Habu Calendar 1430, Ramses III; LA4, 142)

Feast of Amun-Ra (4 days) (LA2, 180) "Procession of Min to the terrace; offerings to Amun and the processional barque of Ramses III. Procession of Shu." (AF Medinet Habu Calendar 1430, Ramses III)

I Shomu New Moon

Pesdjentiu (New Moon Festival)

Appearance of Horus and Victory Procession to Khadi (5 days, TFC Edfu and TFC Dendera)

Feast of Sobek, Lord of Sehwy (TFC Illahun)

Feast of Amun (4 days) (AF Medinet Habu Calendar 1451ff; LA) "He who appears in his temple, appears to bring offerings" (reference to Haroeris) (Dendera Pronaos, western wall, second register; LGG3, 126)

"Appearance of Horus of Kom Ombo to go to Gebgeb.
Resting in the secret sanctuary in the southeast of this town. Making offerings by this god in the secret place.
Appearing, sailing, resting at his temple. Keeping the vigil before him by the youth. Doing the same on the fifth day (of

the lunar month) [...] arriving at the open court in the north of this town. Reciting aloud the spells for overthrowing Apophis resting on the land. One calls it 'the judging of the Two Lords.' On the fifth day, anointing this god with tishepes oil by the chief priests, the fathers of the god, and the pure (w'ab) priests. On the seventh day, appearing of this god, crossing the field before him with barley and spelt. [On the eighth day] appearing of this god, taking the haunch of meat before him." (TFC Kom Ombo) "Going out to Khadi, taking Harsomtus and his ennead in procession on his beautiful feast of Proceeding to Khadi. One (i.e., the king) approaches his barque on the river. Leading the gods on their standards before him, while the lector priest, in the god's presence, recites the prayer named 'overcoming the foe.' They cross the river to Khadi, spending five days there, while he strikes the foe. The floor of the temple is strewn with threshed barley. The procession of this god is made to the royal waystation of Khadi, then the followers scatter the barley on the floor in the hall, and throw (it) at the feet of this god. They play sistrum and the drum, and sing: 'You have crushed the attackers, O Harsomtus! You have slaughtered your enemies, who fell beneath your feet, you crushed them like barley. May you cause all lands to fall on their faces at your name, for you are Ra, ruler of foreign lands.' The same is done for five days." (TFC Edfu) "The visit to Khadi. Procession of this noble god Horus, great god, Lord of Khadi. Proceeding to his beautiful barque called 'Illumination of the Two Lands.' Reaching Khadi. The shemsu-priest is in front of him, celebrating all the rites until the fifth day. (Then) going in procession to the road from his temple to the temple of [...] resting in his barque, and arriving at the temple of the noble goddess (i.e., Hathor); then stopping in his place." (TFC Dendera) During the Khadi festival, Harsomtus is called "He from whose body the barley is ripped" (LGG5, 57, Edfu).

I Shomu Full Moon

Tepy-Semdet (Full Moon Festival)

Birthgiving of Hathor of Dendera (23 days; day 23 is named "purification of Hathor") (LA3, 217; TFC Dendera; TFC Edfu) "Procession of Hathor, Lady of Dendera and her ennead [...] on the feast of the 15th day of this month, on the full moon, a great festival in the entire land. Procession by Hathor; union with the disk; resting in the mammisi. Total, three days of feast." (LA3, 217; TFC Dendera) "Purification of Hathor, Lady of Dendera. Taking in procession of Horus of Behdet, great god, lord of heaven. Resting in the south maru-chapel." (TFC Edfu) "A great feast in the entire land. Offering bread, beer, oxen, birds, the oryx is slaughtered. Wine [...] in pieces (?). A pig is cut up, and placed on the altar at the riverbank. An altar of sand is made at this time, until the present day. It is the feast of the 'birthgiving of the goddess' for Hathor, Lady of Dendera. Fruit seeds are allowed to fall on the ground; the goddess' clothing is removed; all the ritual is performed for the birth of this god. Harsomtus-the-Child is taken in procession. He is carried on the arms (of the priests) as far as the royal waystation. Then he arrives before Hathor, and stops in the mammisi. Making an offering before him of bread, beer, oxen, birds, and every good thing. The third day of the birthgiving of the goddess: the god is brought out in procession. Stopping at his chamber, in the Room of Gold. The people of the city introduce him there; his ritual for the first day is performed. On the seventh day of the feast, the god is brought out in procession and his ritual is performed the same way. On the 14th day of the feast, his rituals are performed in the same way. On the 15th day of the feast, the god is brought in procession to the bank of the great canal, and his ritual is performed likewise. On the 23rd day of the feast, his ritual is performed, according to

the festival ritual named 'Beginning of Purifying the God.' One (i.e., the pharaoh) leaves from there in procession; then he stops in the Sheps-hotep ("peaceful ancestors") shrine." (TFC Edfu)

II Shomu New Moon

Pesdjentiu (New Moon Festival)

Beautiful Feast of the Valley (TFC Montuhotep Deir-el-Bahri; LA, 12 days according to Foucart 1924; AF Medinet Habu Calendar 135)

II Shomu Full Moon

Tepy-Semdet (Full Moon Festival) Appearance of Khenty-Osiris (TFC Edfu) Feast of the King/Ruler (TFC Illahun)

III Shomu New Moon

Pesdjentiu (New Moon Festival)

Feast of the Beautiful Reunion (TFC Edfu; TFC Dendera)

"Horus of Behdet, great god, lord of heaven, is taken in procession to the river barque 'Brow of Horus.' Hathor, Lady of Dendera, is in the river barque 'Lady of Love.' The ritual of the first fruits of the fields is celebrated. Proceeding to the Edfu temple [...] Hathor goes (back) to Dendera after the ten days of jubilee festival." (TFC Edfu) "Feast of Reunion. They celebrate the ritual of the first fruits of the fields, in accordance with the commands of King Amunemhat. The Lady of Dendera goes in procession in her town. Resting in 'Lady of Love,' and sailing upstream to the Edfu nome, then landing in peace at Edfu (Behdet), by Behdety and the Lady of Dendera. The harpooners celebrate the feast of the hunt [...] 'the Circle of Eternity,' one calls it. Proceeding to the sacred place of Ma'at, [and the sacred places of [...], sacred places of reeds, the people's enclosure, and other places within the Heb Sed festival area. For ten more days, stopping at the temple, in

processions made by the chief priests, the gods' fathers, and the pure (w'ab) priests at the temple. Then, bearing the gods' images to the barque [...] Hathor goes (back) to Dendera. Finishing after 14 days." (TFC Edfu) "Causing this goddess, the Lady of Dendera, to go in procession to Edfu, to celebrate her beautiful festival of navigation. A great offering is presented, of oxen, birds, and everything good and pure, for the ka of this goddess, when this goddess enters into her river barque, named 'Great of Love,' by [means of] the chief priests and prophets of Hathor, Lady of Dendera; the servants of the goddess are in front of this goddess. The lector-priest is in front of this goddess. All the rituals of the procession are celebrated for her for four days." (TFC Dendera) "The feast of Happy Reunion, it is called. At the tenth hour, procession by Hathor, Lady of Dendera, and her ennead, up to the roof temple; union with the disk; then the gods rest in their places. Total: one day of feast." (TFC Dendera) III Shomu Full Moon Tepy-Semdet (Full Moon Festival)

Feast of Sobek (TFC Illahun)

IV Shomu New Moon
Pesdjentiu (New Moon Festival)

IV Shomu Full Moon Tepy-Semdet (Full Moon Festival)

The Decans (10-day weeks)

The word decan is Greek, and derives from the number ten. The Egyptian year consists of 36 ten-day weeks, divided through the 12 months at the rate of three decans per month. The passage of the decans was observed by the rising of certain stars. There is considerable scholarly

disagreement about the manner of observing the decanal stars. In the late 1960s, Neugebauer and Parker created a "decanal belt" theory that had them rotating around the sky like a proto-zodiac, which was widely adopted by Egyptologists whose backgrounds were not in astronomy or mathematics. More recently, Joanne Conman, an Egyptologist with astronomy training, has made compelling arguments that the decanal stars were deliberately observed in certain locations at certain times of the year, in the same manner as the rising and setting of Sothis was observed: "Approximately every 10 days, a bright star would rise just before the sun in the msqt region [i.e., the range ecliptic on the eastern horizon], marking the beginning of a new 10-day Egyptian week.... Once a year, a decan star will rise just after the sun sets, which is called its heliacal rise, and once a year, it will rise just after the sun sets, which is called its achronychal rise. There were 36 decans that rose heliacally (just before the sun) over the course of the year." (Conman 2003, 37) Like the months, each decan has a Chronokrat over it. The Egyptian terms for the Chronokrater spirits and/or gods presiding over the decans are baku, "servants"; netjeru imyu-pet, or "the gods of the heavens"; or bau ankhu, "living spirits." (LA1, 1036ff). Some of the oldest lists of decans and their stars are preserved in beautiful "star clock" drawings that decorate coffins dating from as early as the Middle Kingdom's Dynasty 9. A naos (temple shrine cabinet) dating from the Late Period and the reign of Nectanebo I describes the stars behind the decans and their mystical powers as they rise, fall, and are identified with various gods and spirits. (For more information on the decanal spirits and their purposes and identities, see Habachi and Habachi 1952; Kákosy 1982; and Conman 2003.) For the purposes of this Daybook, we simply need to know the order in which the decans were observed in relation to the weeks of the festival calendar.

Names of the Decans (in parentheses) and their Chronokrater

- 1. (Shetau/Tortoise) Sothis
- 2. (Kenemut/Obscurity)
- 3. (Khery-heped Kenemut/Beneath the Obscurity) "Who causes the dead to be in the earth" (LGG5, 158; Leitz TW 14) or "Who permits heat to arise for the fire demons and the bitter water demons" (LGG6, 515; Leitz SU 14) 4. (Hat Djat/Front Part of the Stork)
- 5. (Pekhwy Djat/Back End of the Stork)
- 6. (Tjemat Teryt/Upper Field)
- 7. (Tjemat Kheryt/Lower Field)
- 8. (Weshty/Fat Woman) "Isis, who stands in the secret temple" (Khonsu I, 77, 3)
- 9. (Bekati/Pregnant Woman) "Who strikes back at the abominations of all foreign lands" (LGG5, 57) or "Who kills everything wild in the desert" (LGG6, 32; Leitz SU 17) or "Who permits slaughter" (LGG6, 515; Leitz SU 17) 10. (Tepy-a'a Khentet/Before the Fountain)
- 11. (Khentet Heryt/Upper Fountain)
- 12. (Khentet Kheryt/Lower Fountain) "Who permits rain to happen in the sky" (LGG6, 510; Leitz TW 17-19)
- 13. (Tjemes ny Khentet/Bloody One of the Fountain)
- 14. (Serpat Khenu/Lily-Pad of Resting Places)
- 15. (Hery-ib Wia/The One within the Barque) Set and Iah are the gods of this decan (LGG5, 322; Leitz SU 90)
- 16. (Shezmu/Executioner)
- 17. (Kenemu/Obscure One) "Who saves the king from the fiends" or "Who protects Geb from the rebels" (LGG4, 282; Leitz SU 20)

- 18. (Semed/Image) "Lady of Flame in her place, who steals hearts for her(self)" (epithet of Sekhmet) (LGG5, 750, Dendera) or "Who allows every calamity to happen" (LGG4, 753; Leitz SU 21) 19. (Tepy-a'a Semed/Before the Image)
- 20. (Zaret/Ewe) "Who permits the son of the wind to arise in the sky" (LGG6, 516; Leitz SU 23)
- 21. (Zetit Zaret or Sawy-Zaret/The Ewe's Twin) "Who permits the north wind to arise in the sky" (LGG6, 516; Leitz SU 23)
- 22. (Khery-heped Zaret/Beneath the Ewe) Horus is the god of this decan (LGG5, 2344; EAT III, 122 and 131)
- 23. (Akhwy/Pair of Akhu) Kheperut (i.e., Khepera as a goddess) is the deity of this decan (LGG5, 713, Kom Ombo)
- 24. (Bawy/Pair of Bau)
- 25. (Khenty-heriu/Upper Faces) "He who receives life from the living" (LGG6, 177-178; Leitz SU 25)
- 26. (? Faces?) "Who permits the devilish wind to arise in the sky at night" (LGG6, 514; Leitz SU 26) or "Who gives plague to the Eye" (LGG4, 753, Leitz SU 26) or "Who makes way for the morning barque" (LGG1, 449; Leitz SU 26, naos) 27. (Khentiu-heriu/Foremost Faces) Horus-who-is-in-Shenut is the god of this decan (LGG5, 245; EAT III, plate 22)
- 28. (Qed/Exalted One) "Who creates the dead of the Asiatics (i.e., Levantine foreigners)" (LGG6, 508; Leitz SU 28)
- 29. (Zati Qed or Sawy Qed/The Exalted One's Twin) "Who creates the dead of the Libyans" (LGG 6. 508; Leitz SU 28) or "Who allows the bitterness of the nine (days) to happen" (LGG6, 517; Leitz SU 28) 30. (A'aryt/Jaws) "Who makes wekhau-sickness in the entire land" (LGG1, 151; Leitz SU 30) or "Who permits fear of the king to arise in the hearts of all foreign princes" (LGG6, 514; Leitz SU 30) or "Who permits slaughter of the devils in the midst of all the living"

(LGG6, 515; Leitz SU 30) 31. (Khau/Thousands) Osiris and the Sons of Horus are the gods of this decan (LGG5, 624; Leitz SU 93 and 104)

- 32. (Remen Heri Sahu/Upper Shoulder of the Strider)
- 33. (Mesdjer Sahu/Ear of the Strider)
- 34. (Remen Kheri Sahu/Lower Shoulder of the Strider)
- 35. (A'a Sahu/Hand (or Arm) of the Strider)
- 36. (Sothis/Sharp One) "Who permits life, death, [and the] plagues of the year" (LGG4, 738; Leitz SU 37, naos)

At the beginning of every decan, Amun-of-Opet (i.e., the Luxor temple in Thebes) made a procession to Medinet Habu temple, to offer to "the peaceful ones" (i.e., the Ogdoad in their temple) (LGG5, 583).

Fixed Dates and Historically Attested Festivals

Some general calendrical notes pertaining to dates fixed permanently from calendar to calendar, such as historical events, can be made. This section includes references to known historical events, as well as general statements about time and its reckoning in relation to calendars in ancient Egyptian culture, that cannot be fixed to a specific calendar date.

After the death of a king, 72 days of official mourning were observed (Diodoros I, 62; LA3, 416).

The civil calendar provided for an official day off, on the 10th day of each week, as well five (or occasionally six in a leap year) epagomenal days (LA2, 145; LA6, 153).

I Akhet 1

Hatshepsut's coronation (KSG 3.3, 20; northern obelisk in Thutmose I's hypostyle at Karnak; Ratie 201)

I Akhet 19

Merenptah built a new temple of Amun in Hermopolis Magna in Thoth's temple district and dedicated it on Thoth Festival Day (I Akhet 19). The king came personally, and Thoth went in procession from his temple to the new temple. Thoth then blessed the king, according to a song recorded on the temple wall. Many offerings were given and reverted for the temple personnel and the people of the city. (Stela in Hermopolis Magna temple, Roeder 1959, 328-329)

III Akhet 2

- Renewal of a statue of Thutmose II by Thutmose III in the 42nd year at the southern residence (URK IV, 606; AF)
- Traveling of Seti I to the Upper Egyptian residence after the Year 2 census (Spiegelberg 1908 Rechnungen VI-a, 12; AF)
- Ramses II (first regnal year) follows Amun to Luxor (AF Graffito)
- Traveling of Seti II to the southern residence in first regnal year (Cerny ostraca 25560 recto); vacation until III Akhet 13 (AF)
- Piye travels to Luxor for Opet (Urk III, 14; AF)
- Nitocris arrives as God's Wife of Amun in eighth year of Psamtik I (Sander-Hansen, Gottesweib text 2, 10f; AF)
- Coronation of Thutmose II (URK IV, 82; AF)
- end of Opet during Piye's invasion year (LA4, 575)

IV Akhet 19

During the reign of Nectanebo II, an Apis bull was embalmed starting on IV Akhet 19 (coinciding with the beginning of the Osiris Mysteries. "Embalming Apis: Things from the southern sanctuary of Neith (Res-Nit at Sais) and the northern sanctuary of Neith (Meh-Nit at Sais); things out of the hand of Tayet. Following on the date of IV Akhet 19." (Stele Nectanebo II, Spiegelberg in Quibell 1908, 91) III Peret 1

Death date of Amunhotep I = III Peret 21 in the lunar calendar in the year he died (Richter 2003)

III Peret 11

Birthday of Amunhotep, Son of Hapu (TFC Karnak)

IV Peret 9

Seti I re-established or renewed a festival (unfortunately not named) on this day. (AF BM1665 stela)

IV Peret 21

Possibly because the two events coincided in antiquity, Senwosret III instituted a victory holiday on this day of the feast of Montu, in honor of a military victory at Semna in Nubia (AF Semna; URK IV 195; LA2, 183). In the New Kingdom, this holiday was resurrected by Thutmose III in Senwosret's honor as the "Feast of victory of the turning of the Bedouins, renewed by Thutmose III in honor of Senwosret III" (TFC Thutmose III).

I Shomu 4

Accession of Menkheperra Thutmose (i.e., Thutmose III). A major offering was given to the temple of Amun-Ra at Karnak as part of the feast: "Feast of the accession of Menkheperra Thutmose, may he live forever. Two heqat of honey bread, three heqat of sedet-bread, ten heqat of depet-bread, [and] two heqat of pesen-bread." (TFC Akhmenu Thutmose III)

I Shomu 26

Coronation festival of Ramses III celebrated at Medinet Habu. Offerings to the gods, the royal standard, and a "drinking party" for the priesthood are all noted in Papyrus Harris (TFC Medinet Habu Ramses III; AF). A total of 20 days of festival related to the holiday ran through II Shomu 14.

II Shomu 1

A festival of some kind (whose details are unfortunately lost) is listed in the calendars of Senwosret IV at Thebes. "The heart of his majesty, may he live, prosper, and be healthy, stands there to place erect monuments to Amun-Ra." (AF Senwosret IV statue at Karnak; TFC Senwosret IV) II Shomu 4

Traditionally, II Shomu 4 is the date of the death of Imhotep. (LA2, 184)

III Shomu 12

An unnamed Ptolemaic king recorded his building of a monument in a Philae temple inscription of this date: "The King renewed the mammisi for Hathor the Great, Mistress of Biga, namely, the monument in the festival hall, so that she might rest there." (Philae II, 235; LGG5, 81)

October 30, 130 CE (Julian)

The Roman emperor Hadrian established the Egyptian city of Antinoöpolis on this day, in honor of his deified companion and lover Antinous, who was syncretized with Osiris after drowning in the Nile. (LGG1)

Good and Bad, Lucky and Unlucky Days

There are nine known hemerologies, or calendars in almanac style, that describe days as good (nefer) or bad (dju in Papyrus Kahun) or "uncertain/fighting" (a'aha in the New Kingdom calendars). Occasionally the New Kingdom calendars label a "bad" day with the word for good, but

write it in red ink; this is either sarcasm, or an apotropaic attempt to turn the bad day into a good one (LA6, 153ff). The practice of using these calendars continued among diviners and ordinary people well into the classical period (Porceddu et al, 328ff) and those who kept such calendars consulted them much in the same way modern people might consider a daily horoscope: "On a good day there is joy, success in tasks undertaken and good omens for children born on such a day. On bad days, problems arise in matters related to health and work. Furthermore, children born on days which are considered bad are under threat of death from various causes, for example sickness" (Porceddu et al, 329). The Cairo Calendar (pCairo 86637, dating to the ninth regnal year of Ramses II, is our most complete surviving example of a hemerology that includes details on what days are good or bad, how to celebrate those days, and what one can expect of the fate of a child born on certain days.

According to Papyrus Kahun XVII 3 from the Middle Kingdom, the 16th, 22nd, and 23rd days of each month are "half good and half bad."

Papyrus BM10474 verso (pHierBM Budge I, plates 31 and 32; the same papyrus on which the famous text called the Instruction of Amunemopet is written on the opposite side) states that days are divided into four sections: morning, noon, evening, and night. Night is always considered "bad," even if the other parts of the day are lucky or "good." Other hemerologies list three prognoses for each day: "Good! Bad! Good!" would mean that the morning and the evening of a particular day would be good, but the midday could be dangerous.

Both the first day and the last day of any month are designated as a "good" day in all the hemerologies. The formal name of the Cairo Calendar is "from the beginning of forever (neheh) to the end of eternity (djet)"

and may also be a euphemism for the name of the 13th lunar month (LA6, 153). In fact, lunar phases have been proven to have a statistically-demonstrable impact on which days of a month are good or bad (Porceddu et al, 336ff), and the times of the month when the moon was full or new (corresponding to the first day and the half-month festivals in a lunar calendar) were always good days, even when transferred into a civil calendar system that added more good or bad days depending on the distribution of other festivals and holidays.

In 400 CE, 24 "unlucky" days in medieval European calendars were still being labeled as dies aegyptiaci or "Egyptian days," continuing the tradition of keeping almanacs of lucky and unlucky days (LA6, 156).

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Appendix I

Abbreviations Used in this Book

AF: Schott's Altägyptische Festdaten

ARW: Abhandlungen Rheinisch-Westfälischen Akademie

Wissenschaften

BIFAO: Bulletin de l'Institut Français d'Archéologique

Orientale

BiOr: Bibliotheca Orientalis Leiden

BoD: Naville's Book of the Dead

ASAE: Annales du Service des Antiquités de l'Égypte

CC: Cairo Calendar (also CC2, Cairo Calendar 2)

CDD: Chicago Demotic Dictionary

CdE: Chronique d'Égypte (abbreviation various)

CRE: Current Research in Egyptology

DE: Discussions in Egyptology

Dendera: Cauville's Dendera books

EAT: Neugebauer and Parker, Egyptian Astronomical Texts (3 vols).

Esna: Sauneron's Esna books Edfu: Chassinat's Edfou books

Fs Winter: M. Minas and J. Zeidler, eds., Aspekte spatägyptischer Kultur. Festschrift für Erich Winter zum

65. Geburtstag.

GM: Göttinger Miszellen

IFAO: Institut Français d'Archélogique Orientale

JARCE: Journal of the American Research Center in Egypt

JEA: Journal of Egyptian Archaeology

JHA: Journal of the History of Astronomy

JNES: Journal for Near Eastern Studies

Karnak: Karnak books by the University of Chicago Oriental Institute's Epigraphic Survey

Khonsu: Khonsu Temple books by the University of Chicago Oriental Institute's Epigraphic Survey

KRI: Kitchen's Ramesside Inscriptions (7 vols.)

KSG: Königtum, Staat und Gesellschaft früher Hochkulturen

LA: Lexicon der Ägyptologie

LGG: Lexicon der Ägyptischen Götter und

Götterbezeichnungen

MDAIK: Mitteilungen der Deutschen Archäologischen Instituts Kairo

Medinet Habu: Medinet Habu books by the University of Chicago Oriental Institute's Epigraphic Survey

OLA: Orientalia Lovaniensa Analecta

OMRO: Oudheidkundige Mededelingen uit het

Rijksmuseum van Oudheden te Leiden

oNAME: Ostraca are often abbreviated in this manner by Egyptologists: for example, oDEM694 is Demotic Ostraca 694.

pNAME: Papyri are often abbreviated in this manner by Egyptologists: for example, pLeiden is the Leiden Papyrus.

RdE: Revue d'Égyptologie

RecTrav: Recueil de travaux rélatifs à la philologie et à

l'archéologie égyptiennes et assyriennes Paris

SAK: Studien zur Altägyptischen Kultur

SAOC: Studies in Ancient Oriental Culture

SU: Leitz's Sternuhren

TFC: El-Sabban's Temple Festival Calendars

TW: Leitz's Tagewählerei

Tebtunis: Osing and Rosati, Papyride Tebtynis WB: Erman and Grapow's 1926 Wörterbuch der

Aegyptischen Sprache

WES: Warsaw Egyptological Studies

ZAS: Zeitschrift für Ägyptische Sprache

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Appendix II
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For more information about Kemetic Orthodoxy, see our official websites:

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About the Artist

Megan Zane is a freelance illustrator living in Ohio. She is a graduate of Columbus College of Art and Design with a focus in illustration. Her art is inspired by spirituality, with a focus on mythology, and aims to bring the gods into the lives of modern peoples.

All of the illustrations in this book, including the cover painting, were created by Megan Zane explicitly for the book between summer 2013 and autumn 2016. The Ancient Egyptian Daybook would

not be what it is without Megan's hard work and beautiful art.

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