

Bentresh Stela (Louvre C 284)

Notes by Minh-Tâm Trinh

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Glossing Conventions

(May not match the conventions in my older notes)

()	text omitted by the scribe, but implicitly understood
< >	addition to fix a scribal error
{ }	deletion to fix a scribal error
[]	addition to fix lacuna, or addition uncertain

References

[C 284] Stèle de Bakhtan [CM 463 ; BN 50 ; E 13481 ; C 284]. Département des Antiquités égyptiennes. Louvre site des collections.
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https://mqtrinh.github.io/other/egyptian/middle-egyptian/bentresh-stela_trans-nederhof.pdf

[TLA] Thesaurus Linguae Aegyptiae. Version 2.2.0. Union of the German Academies of Sciences and Humanities. <https://tla.digital/home>

11/17/25

(1) *Hr K3 Nht*

twt ḥ.w

dd ns.y(t) mi (I)tm

Hr Nbw

ws(r) hpšw dr Pdt 9

Nsw Bity Nb T3.wy

Wsr-Ṃ3.t-Ṛ Stp-(n)-Ṛ

S3 Ṛ

ht=f Mri-Imn Ṛ-ms-s(w)

Imn-Ṛ (2) Nb Nsw.t Psd.t Nb.wt W3s.t

mri ntr nfr Imn

ms.[ti]w Ṛ-Hr-3h.ty

pr.w ḥ n Nb Dr.(t)

wtt n K3-Mwt=f

nsw.t n Km.t hk3 Dšr.wt

ity (3) it Pdt 9

pri m ht

sr(w) n=f nh.tw

wd n=f pri ḥ m swh.t

(1) Horus, Mighty Bull,

perfect [F 295] of appearance [F 185] [*nfr hr*],

enduring of kingship [*nfr hr*], like Atum,

Golden Horus,

strong [F 68] of arm [*nfr hr*] [who] drives away the Nine Bows [*pd.t psd.t*],

Dual King, Lord of the Two Lands,

Usermaatre Setepenre,

Son of Re,

his presence [F 200], Meriamun Rameses,

Amun-Re, **(2)** Lord of the Thrones [*cf. G 627 and TLA 26200*] [of] the Ennead, of the Ladies of Thebes¹,

beloved of the good god, Amun,

bo[r]n of Re-Horakhty,

seed [F 91] of the *akh* of the Lord of Ancestors[? F 324],

begotten of Kamutef,

king of the Black Land², ruler of the Red Land³,

1 *W3s.t* = Waset = “The Scepter”.

2 *Km.t* = Kemet.

3 *Dšr.wt* = Deshru.

sovereign (3) [who] seized the Nine Bows,
 that when he came forth from the womb [second tense?],
 victories [F 139] were foretold [passive] [F 235] of him,
 command [F 73–74] [given] to him [while] active [F 91] in the egg,

12/7/25

*k3 mn ib hb=f mtwn
 nsw.t n ntr pri nh.t mi Mnt(w)
 wr ph.ty (4) mi s3 Nw.t*

*is hm=f m Nhrn mi n(y)t-ε=f tnw rnp.t
 wr.w n h3s.t nb iw<=sn> m ks.w m htp.w n b3.w n hm=f s3ε <r> phw.w*

Bull firm [F 106] of heart [*nfr hr*], when he trots [circumstantial?] [F 158] [into] the arena [variant spelling, F 121],
 divine king [indirect genitive] [who] came [no gemination, so perfect participle] [in]
 might like Montu,
 Great of strength [playful spelling of dual -ty] [leopard heads?] [*nfr hr*] (4) like the son of Nut:

So, his majesty [was] in Naharina like [that] of his custom [cf. H 248] each [F 305] year.

[As for] the princes of every foreign land [F 185], they came in prostrations [F 287], in peace [“peaces”], to the might [*b3.w* = mass noun?] of his majesty, as far as the far north [F 92, last variant spelling].

12/21/25

*inw=sn nbw hsbd (5) mfk3.t h3.w nb t3-ntr hr psd=sn
 wε nb hr hrp snw=f
 ‘hε rdi{.t} p3 wr n Bhtn in.tw in.w=f
 di.n=f s3.t=f wr.t h3t ir.w[?]
 hr sw3š{y} hm=f
 hr dbh [‘nh] hr=f
 wn (6) st nfr(.ti?) r ε3 wr hr ib hm=f r ht nb*

[As for] their tribute [F 22]: gold, lapis lazuli, (5) turquoise [F 106], every herb [F 183] from the gods’ land [were] upon their back[s].

Each one was outdoing [F 196, “getting ahead of”] his companion.

Then the chief of Bakhtan caused that his tribute be brought.

[and] put his eldest daughter in front of [?],

[and] was praising [F 216] his majesty,

[and] was pleading [F 311] [for] [life] from [“upon”] him.

[*wn* as preterite converter? TLA 550129] The (6) woman had been pleasing [stative?] to the utmost greatness upon his majesty's heart, than any thing [else].

1/4/26

*ḥ̣.n wdn(.w) nḥb(.t)=s Nsw.t Wr.t Nfr.w-Ṛ
 spr hm=f r Km.t
 ir.n=s irty nb hm.t-nsw*

*hpr hsb.t 15 šmw (2) sw 22
 isk hm=f m W3s.t Nh.t ḥm.t Niw.wt
 hr ir{y}<.t> (7) hs(ty) n (i)t=f Imn-Ṛ Nb Nsw.t T3.wy
 m hb=f nfr n Ip(.t) s.t ib=f nt sp tp
 ii.tw r dd n hm=f
 wn wp.(wt) ii.n p3 wr n Bhtn iw hr in.w š(3){t} n nsw.t*

Then her titulary [F 138] was recorded [F 73] [past passive]: Great Queen Neferure. As the king returned [second tense?] to the Black Land, so she did every doing [which noun form?] of a king's wife [direct genitive].

It happened in regnal year 15, month 2 [playful spelling], day 22, lo [“non-enclitic” particle, TLA 31760; see also F 30], his majesty [was] in Mighty Thebes, Wife of the Cities, [and] was doing (7) the rites [F 177] for his father [*f* for both *it* and =*f*?], Amun-Re, Lord of Thrones of the Two Lands [TLA 26200], in his fine feast of Luxor⁴ [F 16], his heart's place [direct genitive] since [“from”] the beginning of time [“foremost time”], [when] one came to say to his majesty: There was [preterite converter? TLA 550129] a messenger [F 17, 60] of the chief of Bakhtan that came, with[?] numerous [F 49] presents have come for the queen.

1/18/26

*ḥ̣.n ms(.w)[?]=f (8) m-b3ḥ hm=f hṇ in.w=f
 dd=f m sw3š hm=f
 iw n=k Ṛ n Pdt 9 imi nn nḥ hr=k
 ḡ̣.n dd=f sn-t3 m-b3ḥ hm=f whm=f dd hr hm=f
 ii=i n=k it- (9) -y nb hr Bntrš snw.t kt n hm.t-nsw Nfr.w-Ṛ
 mn 3bh(.w) m ḥw=s*

Then he was brought [F 116] (8) before [“into the potency of”] [F 77–78] his majesty, with his gifts, [and] he said, in praising [F 216] his majesty,

4 *Ip(.t)* = Ipet = “The Adyton”.

Hail to you, Re of the Nine Bows! Give us life from you!
 Then he spoke [tribute], kissing the earth [TLA 888530] [typo for *t3* in De Buck?] before his majesty, [and] he continued, saying to his majesty:
 I have come to you, sovereign, lord, on [account of] Bentresh, the younger [“other”] daughter of the king’s wife Neferure.
 Illness has seized [F 2] her body.

2/1/26

*im{t} [?] wd hm=k rh-(i)h.t r m3=s
 h̄ dd.n hm=f
 in n=i tt(iw) nt pr-*nh knb.(w)t (10)* nt tnw
 st3.n=f hr-*(wy)*
 dd hm=f
 mt(n) rti (tw) *s{t}.tw n {t}<_>n r sdm=tn mdw tn
 isk in n=i hmw.t m ib=f sš m db̄w=f m k(3)b=tn
 ii pw <ir> n ss (11) nsw tn Dhwtym-Hb m-b3h hm=f
 wd.n hm=f šmy=f r Bhtn hn̄ wp.(wt) pn
 spr pw ir n rh-(i)h.t r Bhtn
 gm.n=f Bntrš m shr hr h̄yw**

O [that] your majesty [would] command a wise man [missing determinative? F 151] to inspect [F 100] her.

Then his majesty spoke:

Bring to me the staff [TLA 177470] of the temple [“house of life”], the councils [F 280] (10) of the residence.

They were ushered in [F 255] immediately [F 175].

Spoke his majesty:

Look, it was caused that you were summoned [F 48] to this, in order that you hear [prospective] these words.

Now, bring to me a craftsman [F 170] in his heart, a scribe in his fingers, [from] within your midst [F 275].

There was a coming by a royal (11) scribe, this Thothemheb [*hb* on F 167], before his majesty.

His majesty commanded that he go forth to Bakhtan with this messenger.

There was an arrival by this wise man to Bakhtan,

[where] he found Bentresh in the state [F 242–243] of [being] upon spirits [F 4].

2/15/26

*gm.n=f (12) sw hry n h̄b hn̄=f
 wn wr n Bhtn wh[m=f h(3)b m-b3h] hm=f m dd*

He found him an enemy [F 195] for fight[ing] with him.