

An Analysis of the Joseph Smith Grammar and Egyptian Alphabet (A Look into the Joseph Smith Linguistic Method)

Uvajda (Karl Zander) [KryptoMagick 2021]

This paper gives insight into the sources and inspiration for Joseph Smith's Egyptian Grammar dialect as well as a comparison to the actual Ancient Egyptian language and the modern Fetu Egyptian dialect

- Introduction

While alive, Joseph Smith attempted to compile a journal documenting his Egyptian Alphabet and Grammar work. Compiled circa July-November 1835, the document shows the effort produced by the LDS Prophet in developing an Egyptian Grammar.

- Smith Pseudo-Egyptian Description

Joseph Smith's pseudo-Egyptian dialect is focused on adding breathy, shushy syllables, zippy Z's and drooling OO's. The flow of supposed speech and pronunciation of Smith pseudo-Egyptian sounds like a vague combination of Hebrew/Hindi and Native American speech with a strong root in Hebrew pronunciation and spelling.

- Text Analysis

First impressions are usually important but not necessarily conclusive. The first word constructed by Smith in the text is the word Za-ki on hish. This already is reminiscent of the pseudo-Hebrew words used in the Book of Abraham. Most words have no verifiable origin and seem conjured.

- Language

A characteristic of Joseph Smith's pseudo-Egyptian language is the use of the (on) conjunction. I understand the conjunction to literally mean the English on a place. A Shakespearean English construction of places utilized (on) or (upon) such as Stratford-upon-Avon is an example. This construction in Shakespearean English stems from Germanic roots in the language.

The 9th Greek letter Iota is used throughout the short text to indicate that Smith had a basic understanding of the Greek alphabet.

Word / Origin

Bethka – Bethel (Hebrew meaning house of God)

Beth – Likely Bethel or the name Beth, also Hebrew

Iota – defined by Smith as identifying self also being the name of the 9th letter in the Greek alphabet

Ka tou mun – Perhaps one of the only Egyptian type sounding words in the grammar text. Ka tou mun is said to be of the lineage of Ham
Phah=eh – Perhaps derived from the Egyptian word Pharaoh or king
Ahlish – Translated from Fetu Egyptian to mean language of the moon

The interpretations of Joseph Smith of the Egyptian symbols documented in the grammar text does not match actual Egyptian dialects.

Book of Abraham Names

Elkenah – Perhaps a name derived from the inspiration of the elk like antlers of the Egyptian god Min
Oliblish – A conjured word having its roots perhaps in the word oil
Kolob – perhaps taken from a Hebrew word meaning center

Adam-ondi-Ahman

Probably the most unique LDS Temple is that of the grounds of the temple of Adam-ondi-Ahman. Translated to Fetu Egyptian Atm-Amn-Maa or the birth of the phases of Ra the sun at the two opposing horizons (morning/evening). An alternate translation is Atum of the Double Hidden from a combination of Fetu Egyptian and Greek.

- Mathematics

Through the use of line markings combined with a hieroglyphic picture, Joseph Smith attempted to assemble an Egyptian math system.

The system counts the lines with the addition of the picture symbol as the number of lines plus one for the symbol. Smith also describes a rudimentary system for multiplicative values of symbols.

- Conclusion

Joseph Smith's notes into the research of an Egyptian grammar share little in common with the traditional dialects agreed upon by world Egyptian language scholars through modern history.

The method deciphered by KryptoMagick into constructing Smith's pseudo-Egyptian dialect is rooted in Hebrew phonetics and what can be identified as primarily Greek as a language bridge with evidence that Hindi, Polish and Latin could also have influenced him.