Publish and Study a Group of Hieratic Ostraca from the Egyptian Museum of Cairo (Deir el-Bahri and Deir el-Medina)

A dissertation submitted to the Faculty of Archaeology-Cairo University for fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor in Egyptology.

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Summary:

The current thesis is dealing with publishing and studying a group of hieratic ostraca kept in the basement of the Egyptian Museum in Cairo. Most of these ostraca was found by H. Winlock through his excavation at Deir el-Bahri between 1911-1931. The whole texts were written in black ink except the ostracon 488 and the verso of ostracon 308 were inscribed in red ink. The methodology of this study started by measuring the ostraca i.e. the length and width, in addition to the thickness of the potsherds, making a classification to the texts according to their chronological division. A further internal division according to topic has been done as well. Each ostracon was preceded by its number, material, colour, measurements, provenance, and the date with a short description. This was followed by the hieroglyphic transcription, transliteration, and translation. The palaeographical remarks are used for each ostracon to highlight the problems in reading or to compare with other parallel texts that could help in dating. The texts were also accompanied by a commentary on their cultural and linguistic aspects. The facsimile of the whole group of ostraca has been done by the scholar on the photos not on the ostraca, and embedded with the plates at the end of the study.
Key Words:

- Ostraca
- Hieratic
- Deir el-Bahri
- Deir el-Medina
- Administrative
- Letters
- Literary
- Religious
- 18th dynasty
- Ramesside time
To the memory of my Father, I dedicate this work
Acknowledgments

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Everything I owe to my parents, and last but not least, I should mention my wife for her unlimited support, and my children Malak, and Hassan.
Textual signs

[ ]: In transcriptions, transliterations, and translations indicates missing text in the original, and any additions enclosed by such brackets have been restored by me.

( ): In transliterations and translations indicates a word or phrase inserted by me for clarity but nonexistent in the Egyptian.

< >: In transliterations and translations indicates an omission by the ancient scribe.

{ }: In transliterations are used for letters or words which erroneously added by the scribe.

■ ■: In the hieroglyphic transcriptions indicates damaged or illegible text in the original.

........: In transliterations and translations indicates a missing or illegible text in the original.
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Barns, Ashmolean Ostracon


BdE

Bibliothèque d’Etude, Cairo

Bénédite, Philae

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BEM  Bulletin of the Egyptian Museum
BES  Bulletin of the Egyptological Seminar.

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BIFAO  *Bulletin de l'Institut Français d'Archéologie Orientale*


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