

Panouphis son of Psenenteris, mortuary priest

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Place  
Date  
Language  
Material  
Number of texts  
Type  
Collections  
Find/Acquisition

Memnoneia (Djeme, Theban West bank)  
230-214 BC  
Demotic  
Papyrus  
3  
Private archive  
London, British Museum; Berlin, Staatliche Museen  
Bought from Anastasy in 1839

Bibliography

G. VITTMANN, 'Eine demotische Teilungsurkunde aus dem Jahr 230 v.Chr. (Papyrus Berlin 3089)', *Zeitschrift für Ägyptische Sprache und Altertumskunde* 109 (1982), p. 166-170, Taf. V-VIII.

P.W. PESTMAN, 'A family archive which changes history', in S.P. VLEEMING, *Hundred-gated Thebes: acts of a colloquium on Thebes and the Theban area in the Graeco-Roman period*, (Papyrologica Lugduno-Batava 27), Leiden, 1995, p. 93.

The numbers in **bold** refer to *P. BM. Andrews*.

Description

The British Museum papyri (**15**, **16**, **20**) were purchased in 1839 from Anastasy (Johann d'Anastasi), who became the Swedish-Norwegian consul-general in Egypt in 1828. The acquisition date of the Berlin fragment (to which **20** belongs) is unknown, in any case before 1902.<sup>1</sup> The archive has been reconstructed by Pestman (1995, p. 93).

The protagonist Panouphis, son of Psenenteris, was a "doorkeeper (*iry- '3*) of Amenophis (*Imn- Ippj*) in the west of Thebes"; the title of "doorkeeper" (*iry- '3*), a priest who controlled the areas of a sanctuary open to the public,<sup>2</sup> is in bilingual documentation translated as *pastophoros* (a "pastos-bearer"). Amenophis or Amun of Ipet, who probably had its roots in Ipet (on the East bank) and visited every ten days the small temple called *Dsr-s.t* ("Holy place") on the West bank, also had his own cult in one of the holies of holies of the *Dsr-s.t* temple.<sup>3</sup> Panouphis may have served in this small temple, whose priesthood was subordinate to that of Karnak. In addition, a doorkeeper (*iry- '3*)-priest often served as *choachytes*, who "poured libations" for mummies entrusted to him (see TM Arch 50). Panouphis and other family members indeed owned tombs on the Theban West bank.

The brothers Psenenteris and Thotsytmis purchased all possessions of their brother Patemis (including tombs in the necropolis of Djeme). After Psenenteris died his son Panouphis (who inherited his father's share) and his uncle Thotsytmis negotiated a new division in August-

<sup>1</sup> 1902 is the date of a preliminary edition by W. Spiegelberg, see Vittmann 1982.

<sup>2</sup> For the reading *iry- '3*, see F. Hoffmann and J.F. Quack, 'Pastophoros', in A.M. Dodson, J.J. Johnston, W. Monkhouse (eds.), *A Good Scribe and an Exceedingly Wise Man: Studies in Honour of W.J. Tait* (GHP Egyptology 21), London, 2014, p. 127-154.

<sup>3</sup> K. Vandorpe, 'City of many a gate, harbour for many a rebel', in S.P. VLEEMING, *Hundred-gated Thebes: acts of a colloquium on Thebes and the Theban area in the Graeco-Roman period*, (Papyrologica Lugduno-Batava, 27), Leiden, 1995, p. 225. See also P.W. Pestman, in *Papyrologica Lugduno-Batava* 19, p. 199-200.

September 230 BC. The tombs initially belonging to Patemis were divided now between Panouphis and Thotsytmis: Panouphis (with his mother's consent) confirms which tombs belong to Thotsytmis (**20**), while vice versa Thotsytmis details in a second document which tombs belong to his nephew (**15**). In April-May 214 BC Taubastis, wife of Thotsytmis, ceded the inherited tombs of her brother-in-law Patemis to her nephew Panouphis (**16**), probably after her husband had died.

All three Demotic documents, written by temple notaries of Djeme and endorsed with a list of witnesses, eventually became part of Panouphis' archive. Some family members of Panouphis are attested in another archive (TM Arch 444).

**Archive texts** *Zeitschrift für Ägyptische Sprache und Altertumskunde* 109 (1982), p. 167-168 + *P. BM Andrews* 20; *P. BM Andrews* 15; *P. BM Andrews* 16.

**Text types** Contracts: division: **15, 20**; cession: **16**.

**Appendix** **Stemma of Panouphis' family**

