On the saite epithet wr m ntrt, the great one in Netjerit

Opinion

The epithet of the Late Saite non-royal elite member, Neshor Named Psamtikmenkhkhib, wr m NTrt “the Great One in Netjerit”, is interesting and requires a further comment. The first holder of this epithet was the ruler of Sais, Tefnakht, in the great victory stela of Pyre. According to JJ Clère, the vizier Bakenrenef, a contemporary of Psamtik I, held this epithet on his libation basin, probably from his tomb at Saqqara. The Late Saite official Wahibre, from the reign of Amanis, had this epithet on his statue Cairo CG 672. The owner of shabti Vienna no. 5285, the Thirtieth Dynasty official Djed Hor also held this epithet as HAtj-a wr m NTrt and, from the central Delta not far from Sais, gives jrrj-pat HAtj-a wr m NTrt. In addition to Behbeit (Hebyt), the geographical locality of NTrt is sometimes connected with Sebennytos, Sema-Behedet, and Sais.

This honorific epithet has received different readings and translations. H De Meulenaere reads it wr m NTrt and mentions many instances, in addition to that of Neshor, in which it occurs. C Favard Meeks reads and translates wr m NTrt as a separate title after with the title HAtj-a as “HAtj-a wr m NTrt”. Le comte, grand dans NTrw. G Vittmann points out that Papase and others held the title “HAtj-a wr m WAst.” He states that the correct reading should be (HAtj-a + wr) m WAst, and not HAtj-a + wr m WAst. That means he considers wr as an adjective of HAtj-a, rather than standing in its own right as an adjective functions as a noun, “the great one”.

The title HAtj-a + place name was common in the Late Period. The preposition m and the genitival article n were used to connect the adjectival noun wr with its toponym. H De Meulenaere refers to the existence of the place name HAtj-a wr mHAtj-a and the title HAtj-a wr nHAtj-a.


The book of the temple distinguishes between HAtj-a wr and HAtj-a jmj-jxt.


There are more recent discussions of this title and combination of HAtj-a wr n/m, see O Perdu, Documents relatifs aux gouverneurs du Delta au début de la XXVIe dynastie RdÉ 57: 151-88; I Guermeur (2004) Le groupe familial de Pachéryentaisouy.

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E Graefe\(^{21}\) refers to the formation of the title \(\text{wr m} \text{n + toponym with or without } \text{HAtj-a} \). H Ranke\(^{22}\) mentions another form of it associated with NTrt, “\(\text{HAtj-a n mr-NTrt} \).”

**Conclusion**

It is obvious that the formation of Neshor’s epithet \(\text{wr m NTrt} \) is different because it independently stands in its own right, and is not directly attached to his title HAtj-a, because his title xmtj-bjtj separates the two\(^{23}\). The designation of this epithet holder is not exactly known; however, H Kees characterizes it as a Saite honorific specification, while De Meulenaere\(^{24}\) states that it neither attaches its holder to the families of Behbeit nor confirms whether he was originating from the Delta.

**Acknowledgement**

None.

**Conflict of Interest**

Author declares that there is no conflict of interest.


\(^{22}\)H Ranke (1907) Statue eines hohen Beamten unter Psammetich I. ZÄS 44: 42-54.

\(^{23}\)De Meulenaere Trois Personnages Saïtes. 4: 252 pointed out that the title \(\text{wr m NTrt} \) is not attached to the title HAtj-a as in the other examples that he brings up.

\(^{24}\)See De Meulenaere Trois Personnages Saïtes. pp. 253.