

The Papyrus CGT 54015

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THE PAPYRUS under study from the collection of the Egyptian Museum of Turin consists of five fragments¹, which contain various parts of “The Story of Sanehet.”² It presumably originated from Deir-el-Medina and was acquired by B. Drovetti in 1824. It was a complete text, because we have passages from the beginning and middle sections. This manuscript was identified fifty years ago by A. Roccati, but remained unpublished³.

Unfortunately, even the fragment D does not preserve an original size of the column, nevertheless the manuscript is an important source for the history of the text, and has much in common with the versions of the Moscow papyrus and the Ashmolean ostrakon.

I propose that the papyrus is dated to the end of Dyn. 18 or the beginning of Dyn. 19⁴. The handwriting is clear, some sentences are rubricated. The verse-points were added later, the scribe put them on the first pages (one is preserved in fragment A), but did not continue his work further. For correspondence to other versions, see below⁵.

¹ My thanks go to Dr. S. Töpfer (Turin) for providing the photo of the papyrus and M. Tilgner (Wedel) for discussion of the draft.






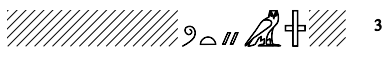


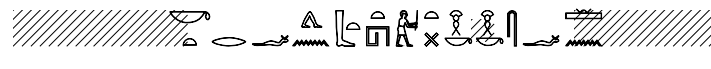

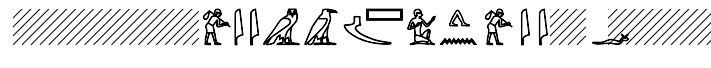

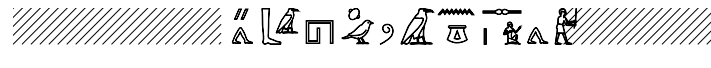


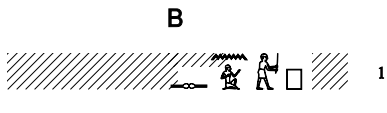






² The common transcription of the name of the personage is based on the Coptic phonetic value of the word sycamore, not on its Middle- or Late Egyptian value (with ending *-t*). I have already discussed this question, see M. PANOV, *Ancient Egyptian Historical and Literary Documents Translated into Russian. Catalogue*, ET XVI, Novosibirsk, 2021, p. 233; see also St. QUIRKE, *Egyptian Literature 1800 BC Questions and Readings*, London, 2004, p. 58f: “Sanehat”.

³ See A. ROCCATI, “Tra i papiri torinesi”, *OrAnt* 14, 1975, p. 245, no. 6: “resti di pagine successive di papiro, scritte solo sul recto, che si riferiscono ad una intera copia della Storia di Sinuhe. Il frammento principale di questo unico esemplare di Sinuhe posseduto dal Museo corrisponde a B 138-161, ed è stato identificato il 17.4.1973.”

⁴ According to the museum database the manuscript comes from Dyn. 20.

⁵ The abbreviations follow the edition R. KOCH, *Die Erzählung des Sinuhe*, Bruxelles, 1990.

Text (Hieroglyphic transcription of the papyrus)

D	A
 1	 1
 2	 2
 3	 3
 4	 4
 5	 5
 6	 6
 7	
 8	
 9	 1
 10	 2
E	C
 1	 1
 2	 2

Translation

Fragment A (68 mm x 10 mm, cf. B, 1–10)

(1) [js]t w(j) 'h'.kw[j...]

(2) [...] sd₃⁶ [...]

(3) [...] jmj.tw [b₃tj...]

(4) [...spr] r hnw [pn...]

(5) [...n]mj.n=j[...]

(6) [... n] sh⁷t⁷ h⁷d.[n=j...]

⁶ For writing cf. AOS, 10rt.

⁷ Here is the only red verse-point in this papyrus.

- (1) [Now] I was standing [...]
- (2) [...] trembling [...]
- (3) [...] between [two bushes...]
- (4) [...to arrive] at [this] Residence [...]
- (5) [...I] traversed [...]
- (6) [...of] the field. [I] went forth at dawn [...]

Fragment B (30 mm x 35 mm, cf. B, 18–21)

- (1) [...šs]p.n=j [k]s[w...]
- (2) [...jmj hrw]šf jr.tšj šmt r [t]r [n h3wj]⁸...
- (1) [...] I crouched [...]
- (2) [...] who [was on duty]. I went on (*lit.* made a departure) at time [of night...]

Fragment C (20 mm x 18 mm, cf. B, 31–33)

- (1) [...sdm=k] r3 [n kmt]⁹
- (2) [dd.n]šf nn¹⁰ rh.nšf qdš[j...]
- (1) [...you can hear] the language [of Kemet”].
- (2) He [said] this because he knew [my] character...

Fragment D (175 mm x 85 mm, cf. B, 138–162)


- (1) [...] ršj¹¹ hmt.nšf hwtšf[f wj...]
- (2) [...hr] fndšf šhr.nšj sw m mjnbjw¹²šj [dj].nš[j...]
- (3) [...'3mw]nnšj¹³ rdj.nšf wj m qnjšf wn[j.nšf...]
- (4) [...jr].nšj st ršf jn¹⁴.nšj ntj m jm(w)šf kf[3.nšj...]
- (5) [...].nšf sksk{t} th{t}.nšf r kt [h3st]
- (6) [...]šf¹⁵ [šm3]jj n¹⁶šj šm3jj¹⁷ [...]

⁸ The verses in AOS, 17rt and G, 7 are also rubricated.

⁹ This column should be small in width, since both phrases followed one by one in all sources.

¹⁰ Cf. the writing in AOS, 21rt.

¹¹ Cf. AOS, 53rt.

¹² This word is written identically in AOS, 54rt: .

¹³ The ruler's name is rubricated only in this papyrus.

¹⁴ Cf. AOS, 56rt.


¹⁵ Cf. B, 150, probably the traces of the suffix are visible in the upper part of the next line, if for [...n h3w]šf, so one verse is omitted.

¹⁶ We meet [šm3]jj in this version as a verb of motion (after the determinative), *Wb* VI, 470, 2, fixed šm3 with the preposition *r* “nach” only based on few archive slips, but a preposition *n* is common, cf. *r* “nach einem Ort” und *n* “zu jem.” after *jj* (*Wb* I, 37) *jw* (*Wb* I, 44), *q* (*Wb* I, 230-231), *prj* (*Wb* I, 519), *šm* (*Wb* IV, 464). To read the sentence as *sdm.nšf* one should insert a preposition: [šm3]jj.nšj <r> šm3jj[w] “I was estranged (?) <from> the stranger[s]”, cf. J.A. WILSON, “A Group of Sixth Dynasty Inscriptions”, *JNES* 13, 1954, p. 256-257.

- (7) [...b_l] s n-g₃w h₃b_z[f...]
 (8) [...w'rt] tn htp_zk {wj} dj_zk wj r hn_w [...]
 (9) [...bw wr]š j_bzj jm_zf bw nfr r 'b(t)-[h₃tzj...]¹⁸
 (10) [...r s]mn_h p_hwj n sf[n.n]z_fjb_zf mr [...]
 (1) [...] against me. He intended, that [he] rob [me...]
 (2) [...on] his nose. I slew him with my axe. [I placed...]
 (3) [...Ammu]nenshi, he took me in his embrace. [He...]
 (4) [...] I [did] it to him. I brought what was in his tent. [I] uncovered...]
 (5) [...] he had [...] destroy, (whom) he led away to another country.
 (6) [...] his/ he [...]. A traveler travels (?) to me [...]
 (7) [...] A man runs for lack of [one] to send [...]
 (8) [...] this [flight], be merciful, place me at the Residence [...]
 (9) [...the place] where my heart spends time, the beautiful place for [my] burial [...]
 (10) [...to embellish] the end of him whom he [had] punished, his heart is ailing [...]

Fragment E (25 mm x 30 mm, cf. B, 183–184)

- (1) [...] jr_ztw r_zk nn w' 'z'z_zk [...]
 (2) [...m]-b₃h srw jtn_z[tw tsw_zk...]
 (1) [...] (that) one should act against you? You had not cursed [...]
 (2) [...in] the presence of officials, [(that) your utterances should be] rejected [...]

¹⁷ It is the third NK source of this story with the word šm₃jj, but only here in the full form, cf. AOS, 57rt and DM 6, x+3, the determinative  after šm₃jj is not listed by G. Möller (*Paläographie* I-III).

¹⁸ This line contains a version of the text different from B, 158. For bw nfr, as designation of the west, see Meir, tomb 2 (text 3, column 8) of Meir (A.M. BLACKMAN, *The Rock Tombs of Meir* IV, London, 1924, pl. IVa).



Pl. I. The papyrus CGT 54015 (© Fondazione Museo delle Antichità Egizie di Torino).