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# **The Palaeographical Features and Writing Forms Development of the Names and Titles of Deities, Kings, and Individuals through the Abnormal Hieratic**

**"Analytic and Comparative Study applied to the Archives of Theban  
Choachytes"**

A thesis submitted in partial fulfillment for the requirements of Master's degree  
of Egyptology (Ancient Egyptian Language-Hieratic)  
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## ملخص الرسالة باللغة الإنجليزية

### Abstract

This study investigates the palaeographical features and writing forms development of the names and titles of deities, kings, and individuals through the abnormal hieratic. A comparative analytical study applied to a corpus of legal and administrative documents ascribed to a group of funerary priests. Those priests worked in Theban necropolis during the Twenty-fifth and Twenty-sixth Dynasties, and they carried the ancient Egyptian title wAH-mw (lit. pouring water, water-pourer), which translated into Ancient Greek as *χοαχύτες*, and in the modern literatures is rendered as *Choachyte*.

The study aims to identify the owners of the documents, their titles and job functions. It also aims to clarify the differences between the abnormal hieratic palaeographical stages during the Third Intermediate Period and the Saite Period. Moreover, this study examines the format and layout of the classic and late abnormal (cursive) hieratic legal texts in Thebes and its scribes. Furthermore, it aims to collect and identify palaeographical features and writing forms development of the names and titles of deities, kings, and individuals which were written in abnormal hieratic. In addition, the study aims to investigate the mutual influences among abnormal hieratic, normal (late) hieratic and early demotic in the writing forms of the names and titles.

The current study consists of an introduction and three main sections; each of which presents an important point, as follows:

1. The study sources and Theban Choachytes.
  2. Abnormal Hieratic.
  3. A palaeographical study of the names and titles of deities, kings, and individuals in the archives of Theban Choachytes.
- Then, a conclusion which includes the study findings and analytical tables, and the lists of sources and bibliography. In addition to the indexes, with a special one of the abnormal hieratic personal names and titles.

The present study found that 31 individuals mentioned in its sources were titled wAH-mw, including 4 women, as it classified the abnormal hieratic legal documents during the 25th and 26th dynasties in Thebes into two main types and two subtypes based on their layout. The study identified more than six main different ways to writing the name of Amun in abnormal hieratic texts. It also indicated that the names of kings were mentioned irregularly in the documents of the 25th Dynasty, unlike the documents of the 26th Dynasty, which consistently mentioned their names. Palaeographically, the names of the kings were written with uncial signs, contrary to the cursive forms of the same signs when written

within the main text. Furthermore, the study found about 200 personal names and 40 titles for individuals in its sources, the patterns of individual names varied and included both simple and compound names, and few foreign names. Moreover, the palaeographical study showed that the abnormal hieratic system of writing names and titles is preserved throughout its classical and late stages, although a few differences can be found in some names, such as the name of the deity +Hwty.

It also shows several personal names which were influenced by (or written entirely in) the early Demotic tradition during the late abnormal hieratic. It was also found that there were a number of individuals' names that were written in two ways, long and short writing. Furthermore, the study contributed to proposing new readings of some individual names that were the subject of question.

Finally, the importance of this study is that it provides a palaeographical study and a concise dictionary of the names and titles of deities, kings, and individuals written in abnormal hieratic during the Twenty-fifth and Twenty-sixth Dynasties.

### ***Key-words***

Names and Titles of Deities- Names and Titles of Kings- Abnormal Hieratic- Cursive Hieratic- Early Demotic- Normal Hieratic- Palaeographical Study- Personal Names- Theban Choachytes- Writing forms- water-pourer- wAH-mw