

البحث السابع- بحث مشترك

The Roles of the Goddess Hatmehyt	عنوان البحث
أدوار المعبودة حات-محيت	
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Abstract

Egyptian goddess, Hatmehyt was a minor fish-deity whose traces have survived throughout history since the 4th dynasty (2670 BC to 2500 BC) until Roman times (30 BC-641 AD). Her cult was centered in the area around *Djedet*, a city in the Delta known to the Greeks as Mendes. Goddess Hatmehyt played different roles in the Ancient Egyptian pantheon which were defined by her epithets and appellations. In many ways, her roles and epithets reflect her different aspects and reveal her nature as perceived by the ancient Egyptians.

Hatmehyt played multiple roles such as the goddess of the sky, a protector of the sun boat and the god Horus, which can be seen in her epithets that refer not only to her solar aspect: « Lady of the sky » and « Eye of Re », but also to her mighty character «Mighty One ». A further role was the goddess of protection and combat as reflected in many appellations such as « She who protects ames-scepter », « She is a fighter at the day of battle ». Her role in the myth of Osiris as a helper of Isis in the search for the body of Osiris adds a further dimension to her nature as perceived by the ancient Egyptians. This can be seen in such epithets as “She who looks for (the members of) her brother over the flow », « She who protects the body of the one who presides over the sarcophagus "= Osiris"», « Excellent Sister of Osiris ».

This study aims to identify the main roles of Hatmehyt as manifested in her different epithets and honorary appellations which varied according to the roles played by the goddess across the ancient Egyptian periods. The study, therefore, is



an attempt to examine some positions and roles of this divinity and to shed more light on the personality of Hatmehyt throughout her roles and appellations.

Keywords: *Hatmehyt, Banebdjedet, Roles, Osiris, Isis, Epithets, Dolphin's Nome, Mendes, Djedet.*