



## بحث رقم ٦

### **Relationship between Isis and Hatmehyt**

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#### **Abstract:**

Isis was one of the earliest and most important goddesses in ancient Egypt. In the typical form of her myth, Isis was the first daughter of Geb, god of the Earth, and Nut, goddess of the Sky. She was the sister and wife of Osiris and the mother of Horus. She personifies the faithful wife and the devoted mother. Isis was the Mistress of the Words of Power and the Goddess of Nature. She was the embodiment of nature and magic. Her major cult centers are Philae and Abydos.

Egyptian goddess, Hatmehyt was a minor fish-deity whose traces have survived throughout history since the 4<sup>th</sup> dynasty until Roman times. Her cult was centered in the area around *Djedet*, a city in the Delta known to the Greeks as Mendes. She was the consort of the ram god Banebdjedet and together they have the child god Harpocrates of Mendes as the third member of the Mendesian Triad.

The research highlights not only the relationship that unites Isis and Hatmehyt, but also understanding the reasons for the presence of such relationship between a native deity of Lower Egypt namely Hatmehyt and a major goddess of Upper and Lower Egypt namely Isis.

The main epithets of Hatmehyt in her legends in Dendara temple expressly reflect the presence of an indirect link that unites the goddess Hatmehyt and Isis. The theologians of Dendara temple considered Hatmehyt as an aspect of the Goddess Isis. She was regarded as the sister of Osiris, a role specially played by the goddess Isis. To summarize, the relationship that unites Hatmehyt and Isis returns back to the god Osiris who was often described as his Ba is in the ram of Mendes.

**Keywords:** Egyptian pantheon, Isis, Hatmehit, Osiris, Banebdjedet, Djedet, Dendara.