

### ملخص البحث السادس – بحث مشترك

Women in the Temple: an Appeal to the Living by a Woman, on a Statue Fragment of the Late 1st Millennium BC in the Petrie Museum, London	عنوان البحث
نساء في المعبد: نداء من امرأة للأحياء، جزء من تمثال من أواخر الألفية الأولى قبل الميلاد في متحف بيتري، لندن	
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#### Abstract

The article publishes a fragment from the lower half of a basalt statue depicting a striding woman, inscribed with a short Appeal to the Living and provisionally dated to the Ptolemaic Period. The fragment is one of the unprovenanced objects from Henry Wellcome collection included now in the collections of the Petrie Museum of Egyptian Archaeology at University College London No (LDUCE-UC60160). A brief description of the statue fragment is introduced, including the content of the remains of four lines of hieroglyphic inscription. After referring to its acquisition history, the research additionally introduces the object parallels and material features: size, material, form, and garment.

The significance of the object in relation to other statues of women is assessed, demonstrating that most of the parallels give an offering formula or an address to the woman depicted or present her name, filiation, titles and epithets, while at least five parallels bear inscriptions including words spoken by the woman depicted. The fragment under discussion adds to these examples an apparently exclusive focus on women, in which, as the inscriptions show, one woman chooses to address only other women, rather than divine beings, men or men and women, in the Appeal to the Living in order to secure a good eternal life. This specific fact raises the



question of female literacy and whether the addresses to women also imply an advanced degree of literacy. The research attempts a discussion of the female literacy question in Ancient Egypt citing earlier reviews and researches on the topic.

**Keywords:** Statue Fragment, Appeal to the Living, Petrie Museum, Temples, Women