



كلية السياحة والفنادق
Faculty of Tourism & Hotels



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Fayoum University

Goddess Tjenenet-7nnt: Religious-Cultural Study

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Submitted By:

Mina Samy Fareed

Demonstrator at the Tourism Guidance Department,
Faculty of Tourism and Hotels, Fayoum University.

Under Supervision of

Walid Shaikh Al-Arab

Professor at the Tourism Guidance
Department of Faculty of Tourism and Hotels,
Fayoum University

Taher Abdelhamid

Associate Professor at the Tourism Guidance
Department of Faculty of Tourism and Hotels,
Fayoum University

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Abstract

Having radiant worship from the Middle Kingdom until the Ptolemaic and Roman Period, goddess Tjenenet's theology was developed through the time. Tjenenet attested to the Egyptian Pantheon of deities as the wife of Montu, who affected her properties, character, and roles in many ways. Nevertheless, Tjenenet was only known in Upper Egypt, where her main cult centers Armant, Tod, and Medamoud exported her theology to reach Philae in the South and Dendera in the North.

The study was evolved using an analytical approach based on documentation and picture analyses with a descriptive approach to study Tjenenet's manifestations, epithets, related inscriptions, and the scene's context. The study aims to present a reliable study of the different aspects that circulate the character of goddess Tjenenet – 7nnt, her iconography, epithets and roles, cult centers, and the relationships with the different deities.

The study is divided into two parts; the first is a Catalogue with 88 documents, each inspects the scenes or the texts of Tjenenet with the following main elements: Identification, Description, Inscriptions, and Bibliography. The second part is the Synthesis of the study, divided into five chapters: I. The Iconography of Goddess Tjenenet; II. The Epithets and Roles of Goddess Tjenenet; III. The Cult Centers of Goddess Tjenenet; IV. The Relationship between Tjenenet and the other Deities; and at the end: V. The Results and Discussion.

The study concluded that Tjenenet was not a goddess of beer, as it is widely known. She appeared for the first time at Tod, on the Middle Kingdom temple's blocks and her worship continued until the reign of the Roman Emperor Antoninus Pius at Deir el-Chelouit. She took many forms, whether in an anthropomorphic form, lioness-headed human form, serpent-headed human form or a hybrid creature form. The main emblem for Tjenenet was the Bicornuate uterus of the cow which designates her main role as a mother and birth goddess. Tjenenet held 150 different epithets and played around 13 different roles. She had three main cult centers: Armant, Tod and Medamoud and nine secondary ones. Moreover, Tjenenet was blended with Rettawy, Iunit and Hathor, and was considered as the wife of Montu and Sobek. The study could identify the mysterious relationship between Tjenenet and Iunit, as she was the mother of Iunit. Tjenenet was not seen by all the men, so she had only a staff of priestesses.

