Pre-Battle Scenes in Egyptian New Kingdom Temples

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1. Abstract

Literature has exposed a huge amount of information about battles and wars in ancient Egypt especially those which date back to the New Kingdom. However, these writings tend to study either certain battles such as Kadesh, Megiddo, etc. - or specific king's battles - such as Ramesses II's, Thuthmosis III's battles. None of them tends to compare between the representation of battle scenes in different battles and different kings.

This paper aims to investigate the representation of pre-battle scenes during the New Kingdom in ancient Egyptian temples. It compares between these representations following specific comparison criteria. The research adopted the historical approach as a methodology. It depended on analyzing New Kingdom pre-battle scenes to figure out mutual implications using data collection form.

Through battle's 'picture analysis', new issues about pre-battle scenes emerged. it can be concluded that pre-battle scenes consist of five stages including: I) the king takes the blessing of gods to start battle; II) recruiting and arming soldiers; III) Marching to battlefield; IV) Camping scenes; and V) Consultation council scenes.

Keywords

Ancient Egyptian Temples, New Kingdom, Pre-battle.

