

TREATY OF PEACE
BETWEEN
RAMESES II. AND THE HITTITES,

TRANSLATED BY
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THE inscription of the Treaty of Peace in the 21st year between Rameses II of the XIXth dynasty and the Kheta, supposed to be the Hittites, occurs on an outer wall of the temple of Karnak where it still remains. The text has been published by Rosellini, *Monumenti Storici*, fo., Firenze 1832, MR. CXVI; by M. Lepsius, *Denkmaeler*, fo., Berlin, Abth. III, Bl. 146; and by M. Brugsch, *Recueil des Monuments*, 4to., Leipzig 1862, I, Pl. xxviii. The following are the principal translations that have been made of it: one by Rosellini, *Monumenti Storici*, 8vo., Firenze 1839, Tom. 3, Pt. II, p. 268; another by De Rougé in M. Egger's *Études sur les Traités Publics*, 8vo., 1866, p. 243; and another also by the same translator in the *Revue Archéologique*,

8vo., Paris 1866, Vol. XIII, p. 268 ; that of the present translator in the *Pantheon*, 4to., London 1862, No. 14 ; and one by M. Chabas, *Voyage d'un Égyptien*, 4to., Chalon 1866, p. 33. Unfortunately the final portion of the inscription is very much destroyed, and as no duplicate copy has as yet been discovered the interesting details at the close are left very obscure. It is the earliest example on record of an extraordinary treaty, and the careful provisions stipulated for the protection of the persons delivered up show the humane state of international law prevalent at this remote period amongst the Egyptians and neighbouring nations as well as the solemn pledges and oaths taken by the contracting parties to ratify the treaty and carry out their engagements. The document also throws some light upon the religion of the Kheta, and mentions among their gods Sutech and Astaruta or Ashtaroth. It is also remarkable for stating that the original of the treaty was inscribed upon a plate of silver, and as the front had the device of the god Sutech it is probable that it was the authenticated one of the Kheta prince, and also in the language and character of that people.

S. B.

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- 1 The twenty-first year, the twenty-first day of Tybi,¹ in the reign of King RA-USER-MA, approved by the Sun, Son of the Sun, RAMESSU-MERIAMEN, endowed with life eternal and for ever; lover of AMEN-RA, HARMACHU, PTAH of Memphis, MAUT Lady of Asheru, and CHENSU-NEFERHOTEP; invested upon the throne of HORUS, among the living, like his father HARMACHU, eternally and for ever.
- 2 On this day behold His Majesty was in the city of the House of Ramessu-Meriamen, making propitiations to his father AMEN-RA, to HARMACHU, to ATOM Lord of On, to AMEN of Ramessu-Meriamen, to PTAH of Ramessu-Meriamen, to SUTECH the most glorious son of NUT; may they grant him an eternity of thirty-years' festivals, an infinity of years of peace, all lands, all nations, being bowed down beneath his feet for ever.
- 3 There came a royal Herald (nearly a whole line is erased here; the sense is, two royal Heralds came, bringing a tablet of silver, which)
- 4 the Grand-Duke of Kheta, KHETA-SIRA, had sent to the King to beg for peace of King RA-USER-MA, approved of the Sun, Son of the Sun, RAMESSU-MERIAMEN, endowed with life for ever and ever, like his father the Sun continually. Copy of the plate of silver which the Grand-Duke of Kheta, KHETASIRA, sent to the King by the hand of his Herald
- 5 TARTISBU, and his Herald RAMES, to beg for peace of His Majesty RA-USER-MA, approved of the Sun, Son of

¹ The fifth month.

- the Sun, RAMESSU-MERIAMEN, Chief¹ of rulers, whose boundaries extend to every land at his pleasure, The covenant made by the Grand-Duke of Kheta, KHETASIRA, the puissant, son of MARASARA,
- 6 the Grand-Duke of Kheta, the puissant, grandson of SAPALALA, the Grand-Duke of Kheta, the puissant; upon the plate of silver, with RA-USER-MA, approved of the Sun, the great ruler of Egypt, the puissant, son of RAMEN-MA (Seti Meneptah I.) the great ruler of Egypt, the puissant, grandson of RA-MEN-PEHU (Ramessu I).
- 7 the great ruler of Egypt, the puissant: The good conditions of peace and fraternity . . . to eternity, which were aforesaid from eternity. This was an arrangement of the great ruler of Egypt with the great Prince of Kheta, by way of covenant, that god might cause no hostility to arise between them! Now it happened
- 8 in the time of MAUTENARA, the Grand-Duke of Kheta, my brother, that he fought with . . . the great ruler of Egypt. But thus it shall be henceforth, even from this day—Behold; KHETASIRA the Grand-Duke of Kheta covenants to adhere to the arrangement made by the Sun, made by SUTECH, concerning the land of Egypt,
- 9 with the land of Kheta, to cause no hostility to arise between them for ever. Behold, this it is—KHETASIRA the Grand-Duke of Kheta covenants with RA-USER-MA, approved by the Sun, the great ruler of Egypt from this day forth, that good peace and good brotherhood shall be between us for ever.
- 10 He shall fraternize with me, he shall be at peace with me, and I will fraternize with him, I will be at peace with him for ever. It happened in the time of MAUTENARA the Grand-Duke of Kheta, my brother, after his decease, KHETASIRA sat as

¹ Lit., bull.

- 11 Grand-Duke of Kheta upon the throne of his father- Behold I am at one *in heart*¹ with RAMESSU-MERIAMEN, the great ruler of Egypt . . . of peace, of brotherhood ; it shall be better than the peace and the brotherhood, which was before this. Behold, I the Grand-Duke of Kheta with
- 12 RAMESSU-MERIAMEN the great ruler of Egypt, am in good peace, in good brotherhood ; the children's children of the Grand-Duke of Kheta shall be in good brotherhood and peace with the children's children of RAMESSU-MERIAMEN the great ruler of Egypt. As our (treaty) of brotherhood, and our arrangements
- 13 (made for the land of Egypt) with the land of Kheta, so to them also shall be peace and brotherhood for ever ; there shall no hostility arise between them for ever. The Grand-Duke of Kheta shall not invade the land of Egypt for ever, to carry away anything from it ; nor shall RAMESSU-MERIAMEN the great ruler of Egypt invade the land
- 14 of Kheta for ever to carry away anything from it for ever. The treaty of alliance which was even from the time of SAPALALA the Grand-Duke of Kheta, as well as the treaty of alliance which was in the time of MATENARA² the Grand-Duke of Kheta my father, if I fulfil it, behold RAMESSU-MERIAMEN the great ruler of Egypt shall fulfil it
- 15 . . . together with us, in each case, even from this day, we will fulfil it, executing the design of alliance. If any enemy shall come to the lands of RAMESSU-MERIAMEN the great ruler of Egypt, and he shall send to the Grand-Duke of Kheta saying, Come and give me help against him, then shall the Grand-Duke of Kheta
- 16 . . . the grand-Duke of Kheta to smite the enemy ; but if it be that the Grand-Duke of Kheta shall not come

¹ Lit., "in corde."² Should be Mura-sara.

- (himself), he shall send his infantry and his cavalry . . .
to smite his enemy . . . of the anger of RAMESSU-
MERIAMEN
- 17 . . . the slaves of the gates, and they shall do any
damage to him, and he shall go to smite them, then shall
the Grand-Duke of Kheta together with . . .
- 18 . . . to come to help to smite his enemies, if it shall
please RAMESSU-MERIAMEN the great ruler of Egypt to
go, he shall . . .
- 19 . . . to return an answer to the land of Kheta. But if
the servants of the Grand-Duke of Kheta shall invade
him, namely RAMESSU-MERIAMEN . . .

(Lines 20 and 21 are nearly erased.)

- 22 . . . from the lands of RAMESSU-MERIAMEN the great
ruler of Egypt and they shall come to the Grand-Duke
of Kheta, then shall the Grand-Duke of Kheta not
receive them, but the Grand-Duke of Kheta shall send
them to RA-USER-MA, approved of the Sun, the great
ruler of Egypt . . .
- 23 . . . and they shall come to the land of Kheta to do
service to any one, they shall not be added to the land of
Kheta, they shall be given up to RAMESSU-MERIAMEN the
great ruler of Egypt. Or if there shall pass over . . .
- 24 . . . coming from the land of Kheta, and they shall
come to RAMESSU-MERIAMEN the great ruler of Egypt,
then shall not RA-USER-MA, approved of the Sun, the
great ruler of Egypt . . .
- 25 . . . and they shall come to the land of Egypt to do
service of any sort, then shall not RA-USER-MA, approved
of the Sun, the great ruler of Egypt, claim them; he
shall cause them to be given up to the Grand-Duke of
Kheta . . .
- 26 . . . the tablet of silver, it is declared by the thousand

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gods, the gods male,¹ the gods female, those which are of the land of Kheta, in concert with the thousand gods, the gods male, the gods female, those which are of the land of Egypt, those . . .

27 . . . SUTECH of Kheta, SUTECH of the city of A . . . , SUTECH of the city of Taaranta, SUTECH of the city of Pairaka, SUTECH of the city of Khisasap, SUTECH of the city of Sarasu, SUTECH of the city of Khira(bu), SUTECH . . .

28 . . . SUTECH of the city of Sarapaina, ASTARATA of Kheta, the god of Taitatkhherri, the god of Ka . . .

29 . . . the goddess of the city of . . . the goddess of Tain . . . , the god of . . .

30 of the hills of the rivers of the land of Kheta, the gods of the land of Kheta, the gods of the land of Tawatana, AMEN the Sun, SUTECH, the gods male, the gods female, of the hills, the rivers of the land of Egypt, the . . . the the great sea, the winds, the clouds. These words

31 which are on the tablet of silver of the land of Kheta, and of the land of Egypt, Whosoever shall not observe them, the thousand gods of the land of Kheta, in concert with the thousand gods of the land of Egypt shall be (against) his house, his family, *his servants*. But whosoever shall observe these words which are in the tablet of silver, be he of Kheta . . .

32 . . . the thousand gods of the land of Kheta, in concert with the thousand gods of the land of Egypt shall give health, shall give life to his (family) together with himself together with his servants. If there shall pass over one man of the (land of Egypt) or two, or three

33 (and they shall go to the land of Kheta then shall the Grand-Duke of Kheta cause them to be) given up again to RA-USER-MA, approved of the Sun, the great ruler of

¹ Lit., warriors.

END OF SAMPLE TEXT



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