LION AS AN EPITHET OF HORUS OF BEHDETY AT EDFU

Elsayed, M.
Egyptology dept., Faculty of Archaeology, Fayoum Univ., Fayoum, Egypt
E-mail: mas02@fayoum.edu.eg

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Abstract
This paper examines one of the epithets throughout the texts of Edfu where a dominating Horus of Behdety interacts with the forces of chaos as a lion by trampling, retreating, smiting and devouring. The textual sources contain lexical expressions of this epithet and provide the visual metaphors as dramatic scenes of the god’s domination. Also they show Horus as the upholder of the legitimacy of the kingship and the defender lion over any transgressors. Furthermore he played a beneficent role toward the two lands of Egypt, his sacred mound, his chapel, his divine character and Osiris with Isis.

Keywords: Edfu, Horus of Behdety, lion, Egyptian domination, Subdued enemies

1. Introduction
Lion is most often an epithet depicts Horus of Behdety at Edfu. It implies his triumphant over any transgressors or the forces of chaos that may threaten the safe and orderly around the divine places of the temple. It also underlines the legitimacy of the kingship and suggests that he is the upholder of order and defeater of the hostile foes in the land of Egypt. More of the following textual sources express Egyptian domination. So an essential element here is that some of the following concepts can be traced back to the earlier image of the battlefield palette dated back to Naqada III which represents the reigning pharaoh, a heir of Horus, as a lion devouring and triumphing over his defeated enemies [1-3]. This earlier picture is shown after that through lion-headed statues of sphinxes [4] and then through the iconographies of the king who smiting his prototypical enemies by catching them from their hair and holding the battle axe to annihilate them [5]. According to the texts of Edfu, the lion has various terms come as following: 3m $\delta\delta\delta\psi\varphi$ (a) [6], wr $\times\psi\varphi$ (b) [7], phty $\delta\delta\psi\varphi$ (c) [6], m$i$ $\delta\delta\delta\psi\varphi$ (d) [7], rwi $\times\psi\varphi$ (e) [7], $\delta n$ $\times\psi\varphi$ (f) [7], khp $\times\psi\varphi$ (g) [7], tlm $\times\psi\varphi$ (h) [7], tbrw $\times\psi\varphi$ (i) [7]. A wide spectrum of texts are related, they vary in nature between hymns and different offerings of Sethian creatures and sacrificed animals. The study presents a detailed analysis of two questions around the lion in the different contexts of Edfu. What are the offering rituals and lexical expressions of a dominating Horus of Behdety interacts with a lion? What are the different roles which Horus of Behdety played in a lion shaped?
2. Analytical study

2.1. Offering rituals and a lexical expressions dominating Horus of Behdety interacts with a lion?

By examining most of the offerings rituals which depicted Horus of Behdety as a lion, it become clear that they belong to a specific field as could be presented in the following categories:

2.1.1. The first category

It contains the following points: a) The destruction of the enemies such as smA smA “slaying the bull” [8]; hnk ʿbb “giving the harpoone”[k] [8]; ḫwī csrf tpw “strike the arm at the choice meat portions” [8]; hnk wḏt ʿr “giving papyrus plants and water fowl”[m] [8]; di ḫpswy “giving the forearms”[n] [8]; hnk wḏt “giving wedjate-eye” [8-10]. Along the way, these rituals are representing Horus of Behdety as a lion trampling and devouring his vanquished enemies. b) A fragrant gum or unguent such as rdī antyw “giving myrrh” [8]; di mDt “giving unguent” [8]. These ritual offerings are connected with the desert and the African country where Horus of Behdety was the lord of them. He is usually depicted as hry-tp mrwt “chief of desert” [8]; hry-ib wDnt hkJ w n T3-nTr “who resides the African country, great of Land of the god” [8]. Also some of the vessels used in these rituals are shown in a lion shape like ☐ to scatter the fragrant gum or myrrh. This may be a small indication to the same previous sense. One of the texts depicted that by saying “the lion brings pleasure to his ka with it” [8]. c) The double crown rdī ʿnty “giving the double crown” [8]. Here the texts emphasis the uniting of the two separate banks of Egypt through the struggle of Horus who triumphs over his enemies as a lion. d) Procession of Hapi figures [v] [8]. The main role of Horus Behdety as a lion was to catch desert’s sacrificial animals such as fowls, oxens and gazelles to offer them together with the variant nomes accompanied the king to the main gods of the temple. Also Horus of Behdety is depicted as the one who protects the king from the annually destroyed flood as ṣn.i n.k hry m “I drive away for you the height Nile” [w] [8].

2.1.2. The second category

In this part of the study is lexical expressions dominating Horus of Behdety interacts with a lion which as could be noted as tab. (1)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Terms</th>
<th>Expressions</th>
<th>References</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>✡鹞 鹞 鹞 鹞</td>
<td>- 3m nb T3rw, the lion, lord of Tjaru. - 3m 3m shyw, the lion who seizes the enemies. - 3m 3m shyw, the lion who burns the enemies. - 3m nb nSni, the lion, lord of rage. - 3m k nw, the strong lion. The previous epithet is related and can be read nʿs ḫps, strong of claws.</td>
<td>Edfou, VII, 168 (4). Edfou, V, 132 (17).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✡,tmp =tmp</td>
<td>- pfty wr pfty. The lion, great of might.</td>
<td>Edfou, I, 375 (2).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table (1) Lexical expressions dominating Horus of Behdety interacts with a lion
2.2. What are the different roles which Horus of Behdet played in a lion shaped?

In a lion shape, Horus of Behdet played a protective role with regard to the land of Egypt, his sacred mound, his chapel, his divine character, Osiris with Isis, Re in Ihnasya el-Medina and the reigning pharaoh. All of these ideas can be clearly read as following points:

2.2.1. Smiting Egypt's enemies.

King of Upper and Lower Egypt, the falcon who seizes the enemies, the living lion who drives away his enemies, who lives in slaying, who rejoices in ripping, who is content at drinking the blood, stretch of arm, great of might, who stabs the enemies, Horus of Behdet, the great god, lord of the sky [8].
Recitation by Horus of Behdety, the great god, lord of the sky, mighty arm, who slays the foreign countries, the living lion who makes the enemies drive back from Egypt, who watches upon his mound, who guards his city.

Recitation by Horus, the great god, lord of the sky, the great falcon in Edfu, the lion, great of might in Khent-Iabet, who guards Egypt against the foreign land and Fenkhu because lord of Mesen is upon his sacred place to slay the enemies at the place of piercing Edfu.

The falcon in his image inside his southern Mesen, the lion inside his northern Mesen, he puts his harpoon to drive away the foreign lands, Horus of Behdety, the great god, lord of the sky.

I give to you Egypt is sealed with your seal, I protect Egypt from Asia. Recitation by Horus of Behdety, the great god, lord of the sky, lord of Mesen, the falcon of the golden one is upon his Pe, the lion, great of might in Khent-Iabet, who repels Seth to the deserts, this god, the noble one, the golden Horus in front of his Edfu city, great of fear inside Khent-Iabet, who decrees to kill Seth inside Sekhet-djeaanet, who comes forth as the lion, great of might, who repels Seth, who slays his enemies, who puts the red one outside the foreign land, Horus in front of his Edfu city, great of fear inside Khent-Iabet, who decrees to kill Seth inside Sekhet-djeaanet.
great of roar, who watches Egypt [f] [8,15].

Recitation by Horus, the great god, lord of the sky, the guardian, the father who guards Egypt against the desert .. ? the great falcon inside the southern [Mesen], the lion inside the northern Mesen [g][8,16].

The lion, great of might, who attacks Seth in Asia, Horus, lord of Mesen, great of might, lord of Tjaru [i][8].

You seize the end of hippopotamuses [by] the might of the furious lion [k][8].

You are the furious lion, who is ready for the battle, who gave the enemies under him [l][8].

2.2.2. Guarding his divine mound, city and chapel.

The living lion, who drives away his enemies from his monde [m][8,19].
Beloved of the lord, great of might in the moment of attack, the furious lion against his enemies, lord of angry, who seizes his enemies, who brings the end of his enemies, the lion, who drives away his enemies, who watches upon his mound, who protects his city.

Dabbled of feathers, who comes forth from the horizon, the living lion inside his chapel.

2.2.3. Guarding his divine character

The divin god, the great one of the gods, the furious lion who protects himself by himself.

2.2.4. A rightful heir who guards his father and mother

King of Upper and Lower Egypt, the strong lion, Horus who seizes his office upon the throne of his father, the guardian of whom he created him in Khent-label.

Who protects his father by replaying .. ? to his mother, he is the strong image in front of Edfu, the living lion who drives away [his] enemies.

2.2.5. Guarding Re at Ihnāsya el-Medina.

The lion of Re at Ihnāsya el-Medina.

2.2.6. Guarding the reigning pharaoh

He gives to you the might of Amun and the fear of the furious lion, who slays for you all foreign countries under your throne, who butchers their great ones for your, who sticks for your Asia to the limit of the sun.

Horus:

He gives to you the might of Amun and the fear of the furious lion, who slays for you all foreign countries under your throne, who butchers their great ones for your, who sticks for your Asia to the limit of the sun.

I cut your enemies in Sekhem\textsuperscript{(uu)}, I constrain them in Iet\textsuperscript{(uu)}. Reception by Horus, the great one, lord of Sekhem, the great god, who resides at Edfu, strong of arm, who strikes the enemies, the divine lion, great of might, loud of roar, who slay his enemies\textsuperscript{[8,25]}.

\[
\text{rw sps sndm m hr.k s\dot{n}t hs\dot{r} l\dot{h}tyw r hfi.k.}
\]

The noble lion, who settles to your face as a lion drives away the enemies before of you\textsuperscript{(vv)}\textsuperscript{[8]}.

\[
\text{swr phty.k snht hps\dot{w}y.k twt hm.k r hs\dot{t} s\dot{n}.}
\]

I increase your power, I make your arms strong, your majesty is resembling to the furious lion\textsuperscript{(ww)}\textsuperscript{[8]}.

\[
dl.i n.k phty mi m\dot{3}l hs\dot{t} s\dot{n}t h in p\dot{h}wy n h\dot{k}kw-ibw.k.
\]

I give to you the strength like the furious lion to seize the end of your enemies\textsuperscript{(xx)}\textsuperscript{[8]}.

2.3. As a chief of the deserts and a ruler of the African countries

The following texts confirm that the following texts confirm that Horus of Behdety in a lion shaped was the chief of the Egyptian deserts and the furious hunter of sacrificial animals\textsuperscript{[26-28]}. Also he was the ruler of southern foreign lands.

\[
m\dot{3}l wr phty h\dot{r}y-tp m\dot{r}wt Hr Bh\dot{d}ty ntr C n\dot{b} pt.
\]

The lion, great of strength, chief of the desert, Horus of Behdety, the great god, lord of the sky\textsuperscript{(yy)}\textsuperscript{[8]}.

\[
\text{rw h\dot{r}y-tp Wdntt.}
\]

The lion, chief of the African country\textsuperscript{(zz)}\textsuperscript{[8]}.

\[
jit.k dsrt m m\dot{3}l wr phty m irw n m\dot{3}l hs\dot{t} ph\dot{h} gh\dot{s}w n m\dot{r}wt.
\]

Your sacred image is the lion, great of might in the image of the furious lion, who throws the gazelles down in the desert\textsuperscript{(aaa)}\textsuperscript{[8]}.

\[
sw m m\dot{3}l wr phtyhb n.f \dot{w}t mn\dot{h} hr stp hps\dot{w}y.
\]

You are the lion, great of might, who tramples the animals, the butcher who cuts the forearms\textsuperscript{(bbb)}\textsuperscript{[8]}.

\[
M\dot{3}l \dot{r}n h\dot{r}y-ib Wdntt h\dot{k}3 wr n T\dot{3}-ntr.
\]

The living lion, who residences the African country, ruler of land of the god\textsuperscript{(ccc)}\textsuperscript{[8]}.

\[
ntr hnt h\dot{t} hr wr h\dot{r}t Ksn wd Wdntt h\dot{r}y Ht\dot{r}y.
\]

The god in the horizon, the great lion in Kesen, who commands the African country which are under Khtrey\textsuperscript{(ddd)}\textsuperscript{[8]}.
2.4. As a member of Edfu's Ennead

Based on the following two texts, Horus of Behdety was the chief of Edfu's Ennead in a lion shaped, where he guards the other ditties.

The great lion, ruler of the Ennead, the gods fear from him  

Great of might more than the gods, perfect heart among the Ennead, a fierce faced lion in his enemies, Hor[akhty], the great god, who resides in the southern city

2.5. As a solar lion

According to the following texts Horus of Behdety and Re are identified in solar attributes that made in shines in the sky to give light as following:

You are Re, the great lion in his sun-disc, who shines in the sky to give the light

3. Discussion

Based on the different words that are used to refer to the lion, it become clear that the determinatives are varied to three types. The first one showing the lion in a walked-shaped as and the second representing him in a recumbent lion as and the third one displaying him with opening eye as . All of the three shapes are carefully used to point to the combat and the guarding cases .

Different expressions are used to show the lion's action against any transgressors or the forces of chaos as following; who slays the enemies who kills Seth inside Sekhet-djea-anet who gives the enemies under him . The hunt scene is already noted by depicting Horus as “the lion who emerges as the flood” and “the furious lion, who seizes the end of your enemies” . The two previously examples are used to show the speed of the lion in chasing enemies. Furthermore eating enemies and drinking their blood in a feral image are mentioned as “who lives in slaying”, “who rejoices in ripping” and “who is content at drinking the blood” . In the same way is used to depict the terror and angry that Horus of Behdety showing them when he faces his enemies. Also it may refers to the great fear which the defeated enemies will face when they see his fierce face.

Guarding Egypt and the sacred places are also ensured by the recumbent lion who roars loudly to make his enemies escape and run away. The loudly roar prev-
ents any enemy to approach from him as *rw wr phty n n hḥ‘ m hw.f*, “the lion, great of might, there is no one stands near of him” [8]. Also an onomatopoeic verbs are used to declare this sense as: *rs* “to watch”, *sḥ* “to protect”, *mk, nhw* “to guard” *ḥḥ’t, šhm, dr* “to drive away”. The studied texts assert that Horus of Behdety in a lion shaped residences at Tjaru, Mesn and Khent-labet. It is already known that all of these locations are situated on the eastern border of the delta, so it clearly means that he is embodied the furious lion to face the traditional enemies in the boundaries. Also the various texts confirm that the whole protection of the southern boundaries was ensured by the falcon shape. Also the different texts show that most of transgressors or the forces of chaos that threaten the safe and orderly of Egypt are coming from Asia, so Horus of Behdety in a lion shaped is always ready to struggle against enemies and evil chaos. One of the most important questions is giving here does Horus of Behdety really embody the lion shape? One can observe the texts evidences which refer to the divine embodiment in a lion shape as following: *šrs đd.f m rw wr phty r šhr sbiw.f m ḫrw* “who makes his form into the lion great of might to overthrow his rebels in [Tjaru (?)]”; *Bik n nbt [m] hpr m wr.* “The falcon of the golden one in the form of the lion” [8]. *rw ṣps sdmd m hr.k šn‘ šn‘ hqtyw r ḫt.k* “The noble lion, who settles to your face as a lion who drives away the enemies before you” [8].

4. Conclusions

As I hope, it becomes clear that this title presents Horus of Behdety as a devouring lion against his enemies. The different texts show him as the upholder of the legitimacy of the kingship and the defater lion over any transgressors or the forces of chaos in Egypt. Also he played a beneficent role toward the two lands of Egypt, his sacred mound, his chapel, his divine character, Osiris with Isis, Re in Íhnásya el-Medina and the reigning pharaoh. Furthermore he was the chief of the Egyptian deserts and the faster hunter of sacrificial animals which offered daily upon the alters. In addition to that he is identified in a solar attributes with the solar god in his daily shining. His authority in the southern foreign lands and Edfu’s Ennead are ensured.

5. Endnotes

(a) Wb, I, 10 (6-8).
(b) Wilson, Ptol. Lexikon, p.243.
(c) Wb, I 540 (16-18).
(d) Wilson, Ptol. Lexikon, p.395.
(e) Wilson, Ptol. Lexikon, p.576.
(f) Wilson, Ptol. Lexikon, p.1018.
(g) Wilson, Ptol. Lexikon, p.1089.
(h) Wilson, Ptol. Lexikon, p.1159.
(i) Wilson, Ptol. Lexikon, p.1160.
(j) Edfou, V, 165 (4).
(k) Edfou, VI, 90.
(l) Edfou, VII, 73 (4); Edfou, V, 52 (12).
(m) Edfou, VII, 101, 8.
(n) Edfou, III, 127.
(o) Edfou, V, 94 (7). A close related between offering wedjate and destruction of the enemies is returned to the conflict between Horus and Seth who disguises in a white oryx and hurts his eye. So he is known as sbi wDAt, “the enemy of wedjate eye”, see, Esna VII, No 575; Derchain, Ph., le sacrifice de l’ oryx p. 8 ff.
(p) Edfou, VIII, 57 (5).
(q) Edfou, I, 131.
(r) Edfou, VII, 62 (15).
(s) Edfou, VIII, 53 (2); VIII, 57 (15); VI, 314 (17).
(t) Edfou, I, 132 (15).
(u) Edfou, V, 101.
(v) Edfou, V, 115; II, 291.
(w) Edfou, V, 53 (10).
(x) It is usually accompanied the protective demons in Bigeh temple. In some cases, it may merely indicates that the holder had general protective role such
as #Atyw demons, For a detailed definition of these demons in ancient Egypt, see LGG, V, 635-637.

(y) Edfou, IV, 341, (13).

(aa) Edfou, 102, (1).
(bb) Edfou, V, 91 (8).

(cc) is a cultivated land in the 14th nome in lower Egypt, it is now Tanis. See Gauthier, H.D., V, p. 60; Gardiner. A., JEA, 5, p.200.

(dd) See for this translation Wilson, Ptol. Lexikon, p 322. Edfou, III, 188 (14).

(ee) Edfou, II, 94 (15).

(ff) Edfou, VIII, 29 (4); this texts refers that the lion roar was one of the most methods to bring fear and terror to Egypt's enemies. Also the hmhm-crown drives its name from it, see Cauville, S., Essia, p.142.

( gg) Edfou, V, 104 (1). Another text has the same sense translated by Gaber as “the lion, great of strength, who overthrows his enemies in Tjaru”, see Gaber, The Central Halls, p.475.

(hh) Edfou, II, 167, (6). One of the most methods of defense is to force the rebels to retreat. Six beneficent and demonic snakes are given a similar task of guarding Horus of Behdety and the doorways and passages of his temple, see Waitkus, W., Die Heiligen Schlängen von Edfu, pp.265-282; Gaber, A., Some Snake Deities from the Temple of Edfu, pp.1093–1114.

(ii) Edfou, V, 213 (2).

(jj) Edfou, VII, 320 (1).

(kk) Edfou, VI, 87 (4).

(ll) Edfou, VI, 74 (10).

(mm) Edfou, VIII, 57 (15).

(nn) Edfou, VI, 191 (17).

(oo) Edfou, V, 307 (10).

(pp) Edfou, VIII, 21 (5).

(qq) Edfou, III, 230 (15).

(rr) Edfou, V, 165 (15).

(ss) Edfou, XV, 54.

(tt) Edfou, VI, 271 (9).

(uu) Edfou, II, 39 (15). sxmt is a country in the 2nd nome in lower Egypt, it is now Oseem, see Gauthier, H.D., V, p.46; iyt is a foreign country in Syria, see Gauthier, H.D., II, p.39.

(vv) Edfou, I, 18 (32).

(ww) Edfou, II, 61 (16).

(xx) Edfou, III, 139 (10).

(yy) Edfou, VII, 62 (15).

(zz) Edfou, II, 198 (1).

(aaa) Edfou, II, 291 (9).


(ddd) Edfou, II, 200, (6).

(eee) Edfou, VIII, 97 (15), V, 219 (7).

(fff) Edfou, III, 271 (14).

(ggg) Edfou, V, 115, (13).

(hhh) Edfou, IV, 32 (4).

(iii) Wb, I, 10 (6-8); Wilson, Ptol. Lexikon, p.243; Wb, I 540 (16-18).

(jjj) Wilson, Ptol. Lexikon, pp.576; 1159; 1160.

(kkk) Edfou, VI, 87 (4).

(lll) Edfou, VII, 320 (1); Edfou, III, 139 (10); Edfou, VI, 74 (10).

(mmm) Edfou, V, 53 (10); Edfou, IV, 341, (13).

(nn) Edfou, V, 53 (10).

(ooo) Wilson, Ptol. Lexikon, p 322; Edfou, III, 188 (14).

(ppp) Edfou, VI, 74 (10).

(qqq) Edfou, IV, 166 (7).

(rrr) Edfou, III, 139 (10).

(sss) Edfou, V, 53 (10).

(ttt) Edfou, V, 270 (9).

(uuu) Edfou, II, 11 (3).

(vvv) Edfou, I, 18 (32).
References

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