

PALESTINIAN SCARABS AT ANDREWS UNIVERSITY

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I bought three of the eight scarabs published in this article in Jerusalem in the summer of 1962 (Nos. 1, 6, 7), but could not find out where they had been discovered. Two years later a hoard of scarabs was found, allegedly in the Samaria area if the Jerusalem dealers' information could be trusted. How many were found I do not know; but arriving in Jerusalem in June 1964, I was told that quite a few had already found their way into private hands while others were purchased by a foreign dealer in antiquities. I was able to obtain five of the scarabs (Nos. 2-5, 8) said to have come from that hoard (Pl. XVII).

1. (Andrews University Archaeological Museum [= AUAM] No. 62.003) A fragmentary scarab of dark gray steatite, *ca.* 25 × 16.7 mm. in size and 11.4 mm. thick. Its back and sides are elaborately carved. The base, of which the lower part is damaged, contains a hieroglyphic inscription in the center flanked on both sides by scroll designs. This combination of a hieroglyphic text with scrolls either surrounding it or flanking it is found frequently on scarabs of the 12th and 13th dynasties and of the early Hyksos period.¹ The text reads either *sš nṯry Ḥnhꜣyꜣꜣ*, "the divine scribe Ḥeneḥya," or *sš nṯry Ḥnhꜣyꜣꜣ*, "the scribe of the two goddesses (*i.e.*, the two uraeuses) Ḥeneḥya." The name is quite uncertain because the hieroglyph here transliterated as *h* has only two instead of the usual three loops. It may actually stand for the *wꜣh*-sign, which on scarabs is frequently defectively written.² Furthermore,

¹ See, for example, Alan Rowe, *A Catalogue of Egyptian Scarabs, Scaraboids, Seals and Amulets in the Palestine Archaeological Museum* (Cairo, 1936), Nos. 15-18, 33, 51-53, 60-62.

² Notice Rowe's remarks in *ibid.*, p. 90, No. 356, and the references given there.

the *nh*-bird (Gardiner's Sign List, G21) could possibly be the *b3*-bird (*ibid.*, G29), so that the name could be *hb3y3*, for which parallels in Old Kingdom names exist in *hb3* and *hb3y*.³ Equally questionable is the last character, of which only a fragment is preserved. It looks like the head of the *3*-bird (*ibid.*, G1), but could easily be something else. Hence, the reading of the hieroglyphic text must be considered questionable. However, our scarab is certainly to be dated either in the early phase of the Second Intermediate Period, or in the early Hyksos time.

2. (AUAM No. 64.022) A scarab of white steatite, 15.1 × 10.8 mm. in size with a thickness of 7.1 mm. The back is rather plain with neither the wings of the elytra nor the prothorax marked, while the head is merely indicated by a few incisions. The base contains a shallowly incised design of a pattern of spirals in a somewhat irregular fashion. The parallels to the pattern of spirals in our scarab show that it is a product of the Hyksos period.⁴

3. (AUAM No. 64.025) A scarab of brownish-gray steatite with green stains coming either from some green paint or from oxidized copper to which the scarab may have been exposed. Its size is 17.2 × 12.9 mm., and its thickness 7.5 mm. The various features of back and sides are well-carved. The base contains a design consisting of four crowns of Lower Egypt forming a frame⁵ for the name *h'y-nfrwy-R'*, "Appearing are the two beauties of Re'." The name can be compared with *R'-nfrwy*, "Rē' is beautiful,"⁶ and *h'y-nfrw*, "Beauty is appearing."⁷ The existing datable parallels to our scarab mark it as a Hyksos product.

³ Hermann Ranke, *Die ägyptischen Personennamen* (Glückstadt, 1935), p. 236, Nos. 18, 19.

⁴ W. M. Flinders Petrie, *Buttons and Design Scarabs* (London, 1925), Pl. VIII:246, 248, 261-265, 276, 277; Rowe, *op. cit.*, Nos. 369, 370, 372, 373.

⁵ For parallels of the crown of Lower Egypt serving to frame hieroglyphic texts on scarabs, see Rowe, *op. cit.*, Nos. 112, 114, 147, 224, 418.

⁶ *Ibid.*, Nos. 95-98.

⁷ Ranke, *op. cit.*, p. 264, No. 13.

4. (AUAM No. 64.024) A scarab of gray steatite somewhat damaged at the sides. Its preserved size is 16.8 × 13.0 mm. with a thickness of 6.6 mm. Its back is either worn down so much by long usage that most of its design has been obliterated, or it never had much of a design. At the present time only a faint indication of the head is visible and part of a line where the folded-up wings are supposed to meet. The base contains a cartouche with five hieroglyphs that may perhaps be read R^c -‘(3)- R^c - r - k 3. The reading of the four first characters is questionable, although parallels for every sign can be found in other scarabs. The first character could be not only a R^c but also an htp ;⁸ the second seems to be an ‘ which in scarabs is sometimes used instead of the ‘-sign; ⁹ the third character could be a R^c again,¹⁰ although it looks more like the ‘ d -sign (Gardiner’s Sign List, V26); the fourth gives the appearance of being the r but could be a badly made h^c -sign.¹¹ Because of this multiplicity of uncertainties no attempt is made to read the name which was evidently intended to represent a royal name of the Second Intermediate Period. On both sides of the cartouche are identical hieroglyphs which read from top to bottom, nfr - htp -‘ nh - htp - ntr , “beauty-satisfaction-life-satisfaction-god.” Below the cartouche are three ‘ nh -signs. The scarab in design and appearance clearly marks it as coming from the Hyksos period.

5. (AUAM No. 64.026) A scarab of white steatite, 13.7 × 9.4 mm. in size with a thickness of 5.7 mm. Its hole is filled with a bronze rod, probably the remnant of a ring or mounting to which it had been originally attached. The back and sides

⁸ See the htp -sign in Rowe, *op. cit.*, No. 166.

⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 19, No. 64.

¹⁰ See H. R. Hall, *Catalogue of Egyptian Scarabs, etc., in the British Museum* (London, 1913), p. 152, No. 1553; Rowe, *op. cit.*, Nos. 30, 32, 100, 227, 231, 232.

¹¹ In that case the name could perhaps be read R^c -‘3 R^c - h^c - k 3, “Great is Rē’, arising is the Ka of Rē’.” The name h^c - k 3- R^c , “arising is the Ka of Rē’,” occurs on a royal scarab of the 13th dynasty, Percy E. Newberry, *Scarab-Shaped Seals* (“Catalogue général des antiquités égyptiennes du Musée du Caire” (Cairo, 1907), Pl. I:36025.

are nicely carved. The base is inscribed with four hieroglyphs in three lines: at the top is a h^{c} -sign, separated from the hieroglyphs underneath by two parallel lines. The second line consists of the red crown of Lower Egypt (*i.e.*, $\text{d}\dot{\text{s}}\text{r}\text{t}$) and the dd -hieroglyph. At the bottom is a nb -sign. Since the third line is not separated from the middle one it is possible that the $\text{d}\dot{\text{s}}\text{r}\text{t}$ -crown must be considered sitting on the nb , giving to this combination the meaning nt (Gardiner's Sign List, S4). The inscription can therefore be read either $\text{h}^{\text{c}} \text{d}\dot{\text{s}}\text{r}\text{t} \text{dd} \text{nb}$, "Appearing is the Red Crown (in) all durability," or as $\text{h}^{\text{c}} \text{nt} \text{dd}$, "Appearing is the Red Crown (in) durability." Similar Hyksos scarabs have been found in Jericho, Lachish, and Gezer.¹²

6. (AUAM No. 62.002) A flat, rectangular seal of gray steatite, 21.8×15.2 mm. in size and 7.0 mm. thick. The seal is damaged on all sides, especially on the reverse where the design is barely visible. The obverse contains the hieroglyphs $\text{mn-hpr-R}^{\text{c}}$, the prenomen of Thutmose III, of whom either scarabs or seals have been found at many Palestinian sites.¹³ The prenomen of Thutmose III seems to have been extremely popular among seal cutters¹⁴ and there is evidence that many of the scarabs and seals carrying this name were produced long after the king's death and were in use for centuries.¹⁵ The reverse side shows a sitting lion facing the right, with the R^{c} -sign over his back.

7. (AUAM No. 62.004) A flat, oval seal of limestone, 18.2×13.3 mm. in size with a thickness of 5.0 mm. The reverse contains a cartouche with Thutmose III's prenomen mn-hpr -

¹² Rowe, *op. cit.*, Nos. 251, 252, 343-346.

¹³ *Ibid.*, Nos. 473-523.

¹⁴ Hall, *op. cit.*, presenting the scarabs and seals in the British Museum in 1913, lists a total of 2891 inscribed scarabs of which 1050 carry Thutmose III's name. This means that more than one out of three scarabs in the British Museum were inscribed with Thutmose III's prenomen.

¹⁵ For an extreme case of finding Thutmose III scarabs in a context of the second century A.D., see Horn, *JNES*, XXI (1962), 13, n. 86.

R^c, and outside of the cartouche the title *Hr-nbw-dt*, "Horus of gold, forever." The reverse contains the inscription 'Im-R^c, "Amon-Rē^c," framed on three sides by a representation of a necklace that seems to have hawk-headed clasps at the end, just as a scarab of Thutmose III in the British Museum.¹⁶

8. (AUAM No. 64.023) A scarab of gray steatite, 16.2 × 12.3 mm. in size and 7.6 mm. thick. A bronze rod, probably the remnant of the original ring to which it was attached, fills the hole of the scarab. The back and sides are exquisitely carved. The base shows a king wearing the blue crown and a uraeus on the forehead standing on a chariot drawn by a horse. In front of the king are the hieroglyphs *wśr-hpr*, probably an abbreviated form of *wśr-hprw-R^c*, the prenomen of Seti II, one of the last kings of the 19th dynasty. This date agrees with practically all other known scarabs showing a king on a chariot which originate in the 19th dynasty, many of them carrying Ramses II's name.¹⁷

¹⁶ Hall, *op. cit.*, p. 85, No. 861.

¹⁷ Newberry, *op. cit.*, Pls. V:36261; XIV:36329, 36351, 36352; Rowe, *op. cit.*, No. 812; Petrie, *Scarabs and Cylinders with Names* (London, 1917), Pl. XL:26.



Palestinian Scarabs in the Andrews University Archaeological Museum
Photos: Avery V. Dick