PROCEEDINGS OF THE

# **SEMINAR**

# **FOR**

# **ARABIAN STUDIES**

VOL.27 – 1997

SEMINAR FOR ARABIAN STUDIES BREPOLS

– Институт восточных рукописей PAH / The Institute of Oriental Manuscripts, RAS –

# Regulation of conjugal relations in ancient Raybūn

# Serguei A. Frantsouzoff

Two years ago several results of the initial stage of my investigations in the field of Raybūn epigraphy were presented to the Seminar for Arabian Studies. Since then the interpretation of the Hadramitic inscriptions discovered at this site by the Soviet Yemenite Complex Expedition (SOYCE) has been progressing steadily. Thanks to the fact that some of the most complicated formulae used in these texts, as well as the general scheme of drafting peculiar to dedications offered to the goddess Dat Himyam, had already been examined (Frantsouzoff 1995), it became possible to turn our attention to a thorough analysis of the actual inscriptions, particularly to an understanding of their content and of the cultural phenomena reflected in them. The first steps in this direction were taken in my papers delivered to the 2nd and 3rd Sabaean Meetings (Rencontres sabéennes) in March 1995 and early February 1996. As a result, on the basis of new epigraphic material, the interpretation of the term grby-hn/ -n as 'stonemason' has been confirmed and the high social status of this craftsman in the society of ancient Raybūn has been demonstrated (Frantsouzoff, in press, a). In addition, different types of oracles uttered in the Raybūn sanctuaries and a group of thanksgiving texts on stelae dedicated to Sīn<sup>2</sup> on the occasion of recovery from disease have been explained (Frantsouzoff, in press, b).

Among the epigraphic monuments found in Raḥbān, one of the temples of Dāt Ḥimyam, there are two votive inscriptions, Rb I/84 no. 197a-e = SOYCE 705 and Rb I/84 no. 198a-f = SOYCE 706,<sup>3</sup>

which provide very interesting data about married couples of ancient Raybūn and the intervention of the priesthood in their conjugal relations. The revetment limestone slabs, which bear fragments of both texts, were excavated in situ directly on the western wall of building 3 (level 1).4 It should be noted that these two inscriptions of similar subject matter were attached to the same wall not far from each other. So the question arises whether the position of dedications in South Arabian temples bore any relation to their content. The peculiarities of script and spelling in both inscriptions suggest that they belong to the same palaeographic period designated by J. Pirenne as G (1990: tabl. II), by G. M. Bauer as IV, and dated to the second to first centuries BC on the basis of SOYCE research (Bauer 1989 : 154 fig. 1; 1995 : 126 & pl. 2, 144 & pl. 3). It seems preferable to name this period 'classical', for it was marked by the burgeoning of a specific variety of South Arabian civilization in inland Hadramawt. The classical period in the history of Raybun began with an abrupt change of script and orthography. The latter was altered, so that the character t of the inscriptions was completely excluded from the system of writing and replaced by  $s^3$ . However, this reform of the spelling was not carried out in Sabwah, the capital of ancient Hadramawt, or in other cities of this region beyond the borders of Wadi Hadramawt and its lateral valleys. The reasons for such a reform remain obscure. It is possible that it was undertaken on the initiative of the local priesthood and was connected

with some modifications of the cult (see Frantsouzoff, in press, b).

### Rb I/84 no. 197a-e = SOYCE 705

### Description

This text (Figs 1, 2) is inscribed on four rectangular slabs of different sizes (52.8 by 20.6 cm; 9.2 by 20.7 cm; 13.0 by 35.3 cm; 49.5 by 34.5 - 35.4 cm), the first of which is broken into two unequal parts. It was discovered in a very good state of preservation, almost all the characters are intact. The proportions of the signs (width: 1.7 - 2.2 cm; height: 6.0 - 6.2 cm) have a strong aesthetic effect on spectators and perhaps it is no mere chance that the ratio of width to half of a character's height is on average (1.95: 3.05 = 0.639) close to the golden section (0.618).<sup>5</sup> It is noteworthy that in the course of marking out the Raybūn inscriptions the masons drew upper and lower limits for every row of signs and then halved it with a horizontal line which was of great importance for the tracing and carving of signs. Bauer (1995) in his epigraphic diaries paid particular attention to the half-height of characters. In other words it appears that every character with the exception of ' and w is inscribed in two equal rectangles one above the other.

### **Text**

- 1. FTNM/bn/LH<sup>c</sup>M/s<sup>l</sup>qny/ # DTHMY # M/bh
- 2. thn/dtrdwt/clhns1/D # THMY # M/bn
- 3.  $hy{/}$  LR D/wbnmw/FTNM/  $\# < l > s^3 tw \# < r > /dw$
- 4.  $yhr/c \# m/^3s^3tm/ws^1whwr/cm/s^2w^c$
- 5.  $ts^{1}/ws^{3}$ # y/wrwtm/bmhrmhn/mhrm/D
- 6. <T>ḤMYM # DT/RḤBN/wtḍ²/FṬNM/b²ḍn
- 7.  $\langle D \rangle THMY \# M/nfs^l s^l/w^j dns^l/wr^j bs^l/r^j$
- 8.  $< b > s^3 / dy \# n^c m$

### Commentary

The structure of this text is standard for long Raybūn inscriptions found in the temples of Dāt Himyam. It consists of three parts: a dedication of the votive phallus (*bht-hn*), a request for the remission of sins introduced by the formula *w-bn-mw/X/l-s³twr* ... ('and from X may be remitted (lit. removed) ...') and a final section represented by the formula *w-tq²/X/b-²dn/DTHMYM* ... ('and X placed under the will of Dāt Ḥimyam ...'). The 'narrative' section, which

begins with the conjunction  $b^{-c}br/dt$  ... ('because') and contains a more detailed description of the dedicant's actions, is missing here (cf. Frantsouzeff 1995: 16, 18, 20-1). The first part of the text with the exception of the expression  $bn \ \underline{hy}\{/\}^2 LR^c D$  as well as its closing part were interpreted earlier in full detail:

(1) Fatanum, son of Laḥā'amm, dedicated to Dāt Himyam the (votive) phal-(2)lus, with which Dāt Himyam was satisfied for his sake, .....(3-5).........(6)..... and Fatanum placed under the will of (7)Dāt Himyam his soul and his will and by his reconciliation the reconcili-(8)ation with her which let be favourable (cf. Frantsouzoff 1995: 17, 18, 21-2).

It should be added that the dedicant's name FTNM has not so far been attested in either South Arabian, or in North Arabian epigraphy. It is to be compared, however, with al-Fityawn or al-Fityūn - the nickname of the famous Judaic king (malik) of Yatrib 'Āmir b. 'Āmir, - the etymology of which is obscure, but it is certainly not Hebrew contrary to the erroneous statement of Ibn Durayd (Caskel 1966, I: Taf. 195; II: 247; Ibn Doreid 1854: 259). As to the patronymic of the dedicant, Laḥā'amm, it is certainly a local variety of the well known name Laḥay'amm attested in the Qatabanian and Sabaean onomasticons.

The interpreted fragments of this inscription give no information about the reasons for its offering or the nature of a wrong action committed by the dedicant against the deity. The elucidation of these obscurities is to be found in the middle of the text which seems to be rather complicated and has no parallels among the South Arabian epigraphic monuments published to date.

The expression  $bn hy{//}^2LR^cD$ , for instance, is not attested outside Raybūn. Its spelling in the fragmentary inscription Rb I/88 no. 68 (line 3) with two dividing strokes (...  $bn/hy/^2LR^cD$  ...)<sup>6</sup> indicates that it consists of three separate words. The last of them appears to be a proper name Ilracad. The mention of 'the regulation that Ilracad was (usually) imposing on him'  $(fth/tfth-s^I/^2LR^cD)$  and of 'the regulation that she imposed on him'  $(fth/ftht-s^I)$  in SOYCE 706 (lines 5, 6), examined below, put an

FIGURE 1. SOYCE 705 (Rb I/84 no. 197a-c) beginning of the inscription.



FIGURE 2. SOYCE 705 (Rb I/84 no. 197d-e) end of the inscription.



end to doubt about the gender of this person, since both verbs are in the feminine (imperf. and perf., 3 sing.). The context suggests that she held an important position in the hierarchy of the temple Raḥbān. In all probability the term 'mt in the damaged fragment Rb I/88 no. 129 ((1) wb/\(^pmt/DT/H[MYM/...]\) (2) \(^1/LR\(^tD/...)\) is applied to Ilra'ad and means not simply 'devotee', but 'servant', i.e. 'priestess' of the goddess (see Beeston et al. 1982)

: 5). By its structure and place in the text, the expression  $bn \frac{hy}{l}^2LR^cD$  resembles to some extent the passage  $bn \frac{hy}{s^2t^cr/wftqd}$  ('because of (in consequence of) the unfavourable oracle that he recognized and examined'), which is also used directly after the formula of the dedication of bht-hn, in Rb I/84 no. 183, etc. = SOYCE 732 (lines 2-3).

No meaning suitable for such a context among the derivatives from the roots HWY and HWW has

been found in Arabic or in other Semitic languages except the Modern South Arabian (MSA) languages. In Mehri the verb hwū, whūt/yěháyw/ yěhēhěw, which derives from the root HWY, has a specific significance: '(usually a woman to a man) to send, or cause to be sent, a confidential or secret message (usually in the earliest stage of marriage negotiations)' (Johnstone 1987: 456). In Jibbāli the meaning of the verb ahbé, which despite its form is of the same derivation (HWY), is analogous: '(wife) to tell a secret (to her husband)', 'to catch (b-) someone alone for confidential talk' (Johnstone 1981: 311).8 It is very important that hy also issued from a woman (Ilracad) and seemed to be addressed to a man (Fatanum). Taking into account the general religious content of the Raybūn epigraphic material as well as the sense 'oracle' of the term bhl used in a similar position, there are good reasons for the interpretation of the noun hy as 'a confidential message sent by a priestess to a worshipper of a deity (and probably inspired by this deity)'. In this case the whole expression may be translated because of (in consequence of) the confidential message of (the priestess) Ilracad'.

The formula w-bn-mw/X/l- $s^3twr$  ... in SOYCE 705 is notable for a specific feature: the verb  $s^3twr$  is followed by dw instead of d which is normally used in that position. Both forms, however, are attested in Qatabanic for the relative pronoun of m. sing. (Beeston 1962 : § S 40:1; 1984 : § Q 25:1). It is obvious now that the same phenomenon was present in Hadramitic (Frantsouzoff, in press, b).

The key to the interpretation of the passage after dw lies in two terms,  ${}^{3}s^{3}t$ -m and  $s^{2}w^{c}t$ -s<sup>1</sup>. The first, which derives from the root 'NT, is common to all the epigraphic Sayhadic languages, where its spelling is rather variable ('ntt, 'tt (sing.), 'nt, 'ntt, "nt (pl.) in Sabaic; 'tt (sing.) in Qatabanic; 'nt, 'ntt (sing.), 'ntht (pl.) in Minaic), and has two general meanings 'woman' and 'wife' (Beeston et al. 1982: 7; Ricks 1989: 14; Arbach 1993, I: 6). The fragmentary context  $s^3t-m/dt$  ... in Rb I/84 no. 6 = SOYCE 546 clearly demonstrates that  ${}^{2}s^{3}t-m$  in Hadramitic is a form of the singular. There is no doubt that in Rb I/90 no. 143 = SOYCE 2306 (lines 1-2) the expression  $h^{-3}hhy/^2s^3t-n$  signifies 'for the brothers of the wife'. In SOYCE 705 the use of 3s3tm in the absolute state with mimation, which does not always correspond to the English indefinite article, gives no grounds for the conclusion that it was logically undefined and meant 'a woman'. Therefore the choice between 'woman' and 'wife' for the translation of  ${}^{2}s^{3}t$ -m depends on an accurate interpretation of the whole passage. <sup>10</sup>

The term  $s^2w^ct$ , which is to be compared with  $s^{2c}t$  'spouse' in Sabaic texts of the monotheistic period, is already attested in Hadramitic. The general context of al-'Oqm/1977, which mentions the dedication of a child (wld-m) to some goddesses ( $^2lhty/...$ ),  $^{11}$  when the author's spouse was recovering from a disease ( $w-mt/tbr^2/s^2w^ct-s^1/bn/m[rd...)$ , gives conclusive proof that  $s^2w^ct$  in Hadramitic had the same meaning as  $s^2ct$  in late Sabaic. It should be noted that in post-classical Yemeni Arabic  $s^2a^ct$  also signifies 'spouse' (Piamenta 1990-1, 1: 271).

The verbs yhr and s<sup>1</sup>whwr obviously derive from the same root, the first of them being in the imperfect of the base-stem (3 m. sing.), the second in the perfect of the causative stem (3 m. sing.). But to what root are they to be related? The form yhr implies three possible derivations, viz. from the root with w as first radical (WHR), with w as middle radical (HWR) or with doubled second letter (HRR) (see Beeston 1962: §§ 23:2, 6, 10; 1984: §§ 5:10, 11). The two occurrences of w in  $s^{l}whwr$ , one of which undoubtedly corresponds to a radical, permit us to exclude the third possibility. It is worthy of note that a form such as s<sup>1</sup>whwr, with w after the causative prefix and another between two radicals, which in both cases seem to render the diphthong,12 has no parallels in any Semitic language with the exception of Mehri.<sup>13</sup> In that MSA language the causative and causative-reflexive stems of the verbs with initial w are represented either by the type hěf<sup>c</sup>ūl/šěf<sup>c</sup>ūl (hěwrūd from WRD, šěwgūś from WGŚ) or by the type hěf<sup>c</sup>áwl/šěf<sup>c</sup>áwl (hěwgáwf from WQF, hěwsáwf from WSF, hěwsáwl from WSL, šěwháwś from WHŚ) (Johnstone 1987: XLIII, XLI, 425, 427, 431). The latter seems to be due to the transformation of [ū] into [aw] under the influence of the glottalized radicals like [q], [s], [d], [t] or the pharyngal [h] (see Johnstone 1987 : XLIV, n. 1). Therefore the presence of h in  $s^{l}whwr$  probably testifies to the existence of a similar phenomenon in Hadramitic. 14 The forms hewsawb, šewsawb (of type hěfcáwl/ šěfcáwl), that derive from the 'hollow' root

SWB, constitute also a type in the paradigm of the verbs with medial w, but according to Johnstone this came into being, in place of ordinary types such as  $h \bar{e} n w \bar{u} f$  or  $s \bar{e} g \bar{e} w \bar{e} b$ , as a result of the transposition of the initial and medial radicals (SWB  $\rightarrow$  WSB) and of the above mentioned change of the long vowel  $[\bar{u}]$  into the diphthong (Johnstone 1987: XLIV and n. 1, LXI, LXV). Thus, from a grammatical point of view, it seems preferable to consider  $s^l w h w r$  as a derivative of WHR, not of HWR.

As for the semantics, the various meanings of the verb hwr and of its causative stem in the Sayhadic languages - which can be reduced to two basic notions, viz. 'to be ordained/to ordain' and 'to settle in a town' - do not conform to the context, where some action with a woman or wife  $(yhr/^cm)^2s^3t-m$ and with the author's spouse  $(w-s^l whwr/^c m/s^2 w^c t-s^l)$ are implied. 15 Although the derivatives of the root WHR occur rarely in Semitic languages, the Arabic verb wahira (yahiru, yawharu, yayharu) has a rather suitable meaning 'to be angry', 'to be irritated, annoyed', 'to hate', 'to be anxious, worried' (Ibn Manzūr 1300-7, 7: 143), 'être animé de colère ou de haine contre ('alā) quelqu'un' (de Biberstein Kazimirski 1860, II: 1499). In the causative stem it means asmaca-hu mā yagīzu 'he made him listen to something annoying' (al-Zabīdī 1306, 3: 600).16 Since there is no direct object after s<sup>1</sup>whwr it is better to propose a slightly different interpretation of this causative form: 'to provoke an angry quarrelling, conflict, disagreement, discord'. Hence the passage  $yhr/(m)^2s^3t-m/w-s^1whwr/(m/s^2w)^2t-s^1$  may be translated in the following way: 'he was becoming angry with the woman and provoked the angry conflict with his spouse.'

It is evident that the terms  ${}^{2}s^{3}t$ -m and  $s^{2}w^{2}t$ - $s^{1}$  designate in this context the same person, *i.e.* the author's wife, and their use is for stylistic reasons only (cf. 'wife' and 'spouse' in English).<sup>17</sup> The verb in the perfect  $s^{1}whwr$  certainly renders here a completed momentary action and refers to a concrete quarrel between the spouses, while the form yhr describes an iterative (or perhaps continuous) action in the past, which is typical for the imperfect in the Raybūn inscriptions (Frantsouzoff 1995: 25, n. 24; in press, b), and thus alludes to the general discord in their relations.

The expression  $w-s^3y/wrwt-m/b-mhrm-hn$  is also

difficult to interpret. Though the noun wrwt-n was attested in Sabaic long ago (as-Sawdā' 29 - CIH 320 line 2), it still remains completely obscure (Beeston et al. 1982: 162; Avanzini 1995: 127). 18 On the other hand, the meaning of the verb wrww (pl.) mentioned in RÉS 3945 (line 13) is clear: 'to attack' (Beeston et al. 1982 : 162). It has etymological parallels in other Semitic languages, especially in Ge<sup>c</sup>ez: wäräwä 'to throw', 'to cast off (down or forth)', wäräw 'iavelin, dart' (Leslau 1987: 618). In post-classical Yemeni Arabic the form III of WRY, wārā, probably means 'to violate the honour of a woman' (Piamenta 1990-1, 2:522). The word wrw-m inscribed on the scabbard discovered by French archaeologists among the treasures of Wādī Durā' (Durā'-Tombes 45 A) provides evidence that in Hadramitic<sup>19</sup> the root WRW belonged to the same semantic range, since 'Piercing' or 'Striking' would seem to be a good name for a sword. Given the religious content of almost all the inscriptions from Raybūn, the term wrwt-m appears to signify 'an act that hurts a deity', 'an insult or an injury to it', i.e. 'a sacrilege', as a kind of indirect assault on divine commandments and ritual.

The form  $w-s^3y$  is certainly a verb with 2nd and 3rd weak radicals which has not yet been attested in the Savhadic languages. The initial letter of its root may correspond either to tā' or to sīn in Arabic. Among possible parallels there is a verb sawwā (from SWY) in the sense 'to do, to make' (originally 'to make level or straight') represented in the dialect of Datīnah as well as in some other dialects of the Yemen and Oman. One of the derivatives from the same root,  $s\bar{a}$  (vis $\bar{i}$ ), employed in the expression vis $\bar{i}$ 'l-munkur 'il commet des actions reprouvables' (de Landberg 1920-42, 3: 2004-5)<sup>20</sup> is of considerable interest, for this particular meaning to commit (reprehensible actions)' fits very well into the context w-s<sup>3</sup>y/wrwt-m/b-mhrm-hn, which in this case can be rendered as 'and he committed sacrilege in this temple'.

## Translation

(1) Faṭanum, son of Laḥā'amm, dedicated to Dāt Ḥimyam the (votive) phal-(2)lus, with which Dāt Ḥimyam was satisfied for his sake, in consequence of (3) the confidential message of (the priestess) Ilra'ad; and from Faṭanum may be removed

(remitted) that <sup>(4)</sup> he was becoming angry with the woman and provoked the angry conflict with his <sup>(5)</sup> spouse and committed sacrilege in this temple, in the temple of Dat <sup>(6)</sup> Ḥimyam dat Raḥbān, and Faṭanum placed under the will of <sup>(7)</sup> Dat Ḥimyam his soul and his will and by his reconciliation the reconcili-<sup>(8)</sup>ation with her which let be favourable.

It is not clear from this context if the expression b-mhrm-hn relates to all the passage after dw or only to the last sentence beginning with w- $s^3y$ , i.e. whether the quarrel of Faṭanum with his spouse was considered sacrilege, because it took place in the temple Raḥbān, or every serious conflict between spouses in ancient Raybūn was put on the same footing as violation of the temple ritual. In any case it seems to be no mere chance that conjugal relations were regulated by the priestess of the goddess Dat Himyam. The interpretation of SOYCE 706 given below confirms this conclusion.

# Rb I/84 no. 198 a-f = SOYCE 706 Descripton

The inscription (Figs 3 - 6) was carved on six rectangular slabs one of which has not been discovered. The first of them (38.0 by 23.9 cm) is broken on the right side and split in two (parts a and b). The slabs c (Fig. 4, right; 12.2 by 25.4 cm) and e (Fig. 5; 46.3 by 35.1 - 35.35 cm) were found in a satisfactory condition, whilst d (Fig. 4 left; 46.3 by 25.6 cm) was split into six pieces. Only a fragment of the last slab, marked as f (Fig. 6; width: 9.3 cm), has been preserved. As is the case with a considerable proportion of epigraphic the monuments excavated at this site, the inscription was coated with red paint. The slabs were scorched in the fire that destroyed ancient Raybūn. The characters of this text are narrower than those of SOYCE 706 (width: 1.5 - 1.8 cm; height: 6.2 cm).

### Text

- 1.  $[QN]Y^2L/bn/S^3RTMM/s^1 # [qny/DT/HMY]$
- 2. M/bḥthn/wbnmw/QNY # ['L/ls<sup>3</sup>twr/dw]
- 3.  $ynsf/dydl/^2LR^cD/w \# ....$
- 4.  $m/kd^2 # l/^2 LR^c D/wyr^c d/hS^3 cMR/w$
- 5. dw/yng # m/bn/fth/tfths<sup>1</sup>/<sup>2</sup>LR<sup>2</sup>D/ws<sup>1</sup>
- 6.  $n\bar{g}m/bn # fth/fthts^{1}/m{/}s^{2}w^{c}ts /wt < d >$
- 7.  $^{2}/b^{2}dn/DT/HMYM/nfs^{1}s^{1}/w^{2} + dns^{1}/[wb]$

8.  $r^3bs^1/r^3bs^3/dyn^cm$ 

### Commentary

In contrast to SOYCE 705 the beginning of this text is marked with many lacunae. Even the author's personal name has not been entirely preserved. But it is possible to restore it thanks to the fact that only two initial characters before Y'L are missing in line 1, while in line 2 after the preposition bn-mw, which in Raybūn inscriptions introduces the formula with  $s^3$ twr and is always followed by a proper name (see Frantsouzoff 1995: 20-1). three characters, ONY. are intact. The coincidence of the third letter y in both cases suggests the possibility that the dedicant was called ONY'L (Qanav'il), This name, however, is not attested in the onomasticon of pre-Islamic Arabia. But the element QNY forms part of two North Arabian composite proper nouns 'BDONY and ZDONY (Lankester Harding 1971: 296, 400). The comparison of North and South Arabian personal names like 'BDMK, 'BDMLK, 'BDYT'M/'BDYT'N, 'BDWD, ZDWD/ZYDWD,  $ZDS^2MS^1$ , on the one hand, and MK'L, MLK'L, YT'L, WD'L, S'MS'L, on the other hand (op. cit.: 296, 297, 305, 358, 400-2, 561, 565, 637, 658), demonstrates that in principle the second element of proper nouns preceded by 'BD or ZD/ZYD could be employed as the first element followed by L. Thus the name ONYL proves to be in complete conformity with the structure of ancient Arabian composite names and its existence is quite possible. The name of the dedicant's parent,  $S^3RTMM$ , which probably derives from the quadriliteral root S3RTM, was also previously unknown.

SOYCE 706 is distinguished from the majority of Raybūn texts by the lack of the relative clause with the verb rdwt which defines the votive object. The restoration of l-s<sup>3</sup>twr in line 2 after w-bn-mw is obvious, while dw instead of d is inserted here by analogy with the use of the same relative pronoun in line 5 and in SOYCE 705.

On the whole the translation of the two initial lines of SOYCE 706 as well as its final section (lines 6 - 8) offers no difficulty:

(1) [Qana]y'il, son of ŚRTMum, de[dicated to Dāt Ḥimy-]<sup>(2)</sup>am the (votive) phallus and from Qanay['il may be removed (remitted) that] (3 · 5).........

- Институт восточных рукописей PAH / The Institute of Oriental Manuscripts, RAS -

# REGULATION OF CONJUGAL RELATIONS IN ANCIENT RAYBÛN

FIGURE 3. SOYCE 706 (Rb I/84 no. 198a-b) beginning of the inscription.

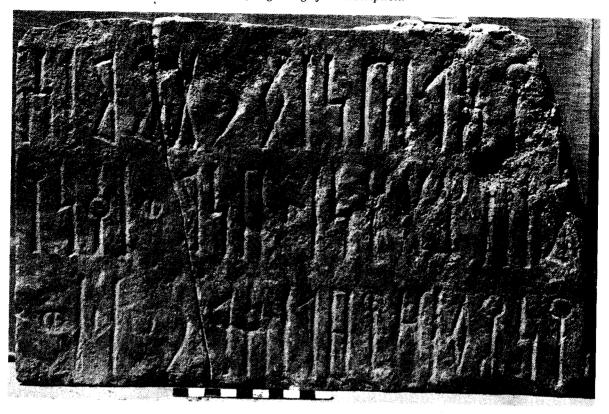


FIGURE 4. SOYCE 706 (Rb I/84 no. 198c-d) middle of the inscription.

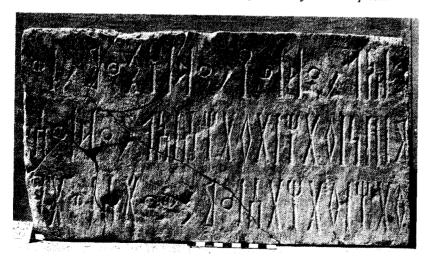




FIGURE 5. SOYCE 706 (Rb 1/84 no. 198e) towards the end of the inscription.





FIGURE 6.(Rb 1/84 no. 198f) end of inscription.

In the passage ynsf/d-ydl/^LR^D the first verb which is already attested in the epigraphy of Raybūn in the same sense as in Sabaic 'to perform rites' (Rb I/84 no. 196, etc. - SOYCE 708 (line 3) - Frantsouzoff 1995: 19; cf. Beeston et al. 1982: 99), is followed by a relative clause with an imperfect form ydl apparently deriving from the root DLL. But the meaning of dll in Sabaic, 'to fall sick of an epidemic' (op. cit.: 41), does not fit this context, where the direct object after ydl is expressed by a proper name. The semantic range of the Arabic verb dalla 'to err,

120

stray, go astray', 'to deviate from the right way, or course' (dalla' al-tarīgah), 'to miss, lose' and especially of its form IV adalla-hu 'he, or it, made him, or caused him, to err, stray, or go astray, etc.' (Lane 1863-93, V: 1796-7) seems to conform well to this section of SOYCE 706. It should be noted that this verb can sometimes have the same meaning in form I and in form IV; for instance, dalla fulānun ba'ira-hu or adalla fulanun ba'ira-hu which both mean 'such a one lost his camel' (op. cit.: 1796). Thus it seems possible to interpret the Hadramitic verb ydl used in the base-stem on the pattern of adalla in Arabic: 'to cause to err, to deceive, to lead into error, to mislead, to delude'. 25 As appears from the above, the dedicant 'was performing as rites something that was misleading Ilracad'.

The lacuna at the end of line 3, which covers approximately 20 cm or 10-11 signs (2-3 words), unfortunately cannot be restored and makes the general sense of this passage obscure. This missing fragment obviously contained a new sentence introduced by w- which probably gave some additional information about the breach of rites committed by the dedicant. The subordinate clause that relates to it k-d'll'LR'D is, however, intact. The verb d'l has been attested only in Minaic in the unique context of M 87 (line 2), and its interpretation is a matter of serious difficulty (Arbach 1993, I: 30). In Arabic da'ula 'to be, or become, small in body, small, slender, thin, despicable, abject, ignominious, lean, spare' (Lane 1863-93, V: 1760) is intransitive. Its meaning as well as those of its other forms (III, VI, VIII) cannot be accepted for this context. By contrast, a parallel with säcalä 'to rebuke, reprove, reproach, offend, abuse, outrage, insult, etc.', which in Ge'ez had various spellings, i.e. sä'alä, dä'alä (Leslau 1987 : 543), seems promising. It is possible to connect its etymology with the root D<sup>2</sup>L.<sup>26</sup> In this case kd'l/LR'D means 'when he (i.e. the dedicant) offended Ilracad'.27

The expression w-yr<sup>c</sup>d/h-S<sup>3</sup>cMR is to be compared with ra<sup>c</sup>ada la-hu 'he threatened him, or menaced him' in Arabic (Lane 1863-93, III: 1105). Even the government of both verbs is similar (cf. h- and la-). Śa<sup>c</sup>mar is certainly a proper noun like ŚRTMum. The names, which derive from quadriliteral roots, occur in other Raybūn inscriptions (cf. <sup>c</sup>Akrabum in

Rb I/90 no. 2, line 1; 'Ašdar in Rb XIV/89 no. 1, line 9), while among common nouns such roots are extremely rare in Hadramitic as well as in the Sayhadic languages in general (Beeston 1962: § 17:3). The translation 'and he was threatening Śa'mar' raises no problems. But who was Śa'mar: a man, a woman, perhaps the dedicant's wife? The context gives no answer to this question.

The second part of the section introduced by the formula  $w-bn-mw/X/l-s^3twr/...$  is of great value for the reconstruction of religious life in ancient Raybūn, since it resembles the corresponding section of SOYCE 705, even in its syntax:  $\frac{dw}{yn\bar{g}m/bn/fth/tfth-s^l/s}LR^cD/w-s^ln\bar{g}m/bn/fth/ftht-s^l/s^w/t-s^l...$ 

In the first sentence the predicate is expressed by a verb-form of the base-stem imperfect, in the second the verb of the same derivation in the perfect of the causative stem is employed in the similar position (cf.  $dw/yn\bar{g}m/.../w-s^{\bar{l}}n\bar{g}m/...$  and dw yhr/.../ws<sup>1</sup>whwr/...). The common root of yngm and  $s^{I}n\bar{g}m$  appears to be NGM, but a semi-circle after  $s^{I}$ at the very end of line 5 implies a restoration  $s^1 < w >$ and casts doubt on this. It is not possible to assume, however, that the root in question is WNG. First of all, it is attested neither in Arabic, nor in the other Semitic languages. Although mimation of the imperfect occurs in Raybūn epigraphy (Frantsouzoff 1995: 15, 19, 23, n. 5, 25, n. 24), its possible use in the perfect would be without parallel. As to  $s^{l} < w? > n\bar{g}m$ , this verb-form is doubtless in the perfect on the analogy of ftht-s<sup>1</sup> in the following subordinate clause. Besides that, the left edge of the slab d seems to have been slightly bevelled. The last character of the following line (line 6) d is situated just under s<sup>1</sup>. Was there enough space for the full circle of the sign w after s<sup>1</sup>? It should be borne in mind that mistakes occur rather often in the texts from Raybūn. In Rb I/83 no. 33 = SOYCE 190 (line 2) the initial character of the divine name 'Attarum was superimposed on  $s^{I}$ , for the engraver intended at first to write the name of Sīn. In Rb I/84 no. 178, etc. = SOYCE 729 (line 1) the last letter in the dedicant's name Sarh was transformed from t into h. In Rb I/90 no. 6 = SOYCE 2170 w with a vertical line over it demonstrates that the engraver began to carve q instead of w in the expression w-qny- $s^{l}$ . In Rb I/90 no. 64 = SOYCE 2228 there is a dividing

stroke erroneously inserted in the name of the goddess (HM/YM). In Rb V/91 no. 61, etc. (line 5) b-wbr was inscribed instead of b-cbr. The list can be extended.

There are good reasons to suppose that the engraver of SOYCE 706 confused at first s<sup>1</sup>ngm with s<sup>1</sup>whwr, for the meanings of both verbs prove to be very similar.<sup>28</sup> In MSA languages the semantic range of the derivatives from NGM is in perfect conformity with this context. They signify in Harsūsi: negam 'to get angry, be angry', angom 'to anger, make angry', nátgem 'to get angry', šenégem 'to be angry with, argue with, quarrel with' (Johnstone 1977: 95); in Jibbāli: nagám '(wife) to be angry', 'to refuse (a husband his) conjugal rights', 'to be angry with a relation or close friend', engim 'to anger one's wife, alienate one's wife's affections', šinigem '(married couple) to separate' (Johnstone 1981 : 185); in Mehri:  $n \in gm$  '(wife) to be angry, be angry and refuse her husband his conjugal rights', hěngáwm 'to anger (one's wife)', nátgěm 'to get angry', šěnēgěm 'to be angry, quarrel with one another.' (Johnstone 1987: 288-9).

It follows from all this that in Hadramitic the base-stem of  $n\bar{g}m$  can be interpreted with a certain vagueness as 'to have a family quarrel', 'to take part in a family quarrel' and its causative stem as 'to provoke a family quarrel'.

The term fth 'judicial order', 'order, directive', 'decree' is well known in all the Sayhadic languages (Beeston et al. 1982: 47; Ricks 1989: 132; Arbach 1993, I: 34), but in this context, where the intervention of the temple authorities, not of the secular political power is implied, I prefer to ascribe to it a more neutral meaning 'regulation'. As Korotayev has already established for the Sabaic language by analogy with dmr/b-cm 'to give judgement in favour of someone,' (Beeston et al. 1982: 39), the verb hfth, when it governs an indirect object with the preposition  $b^{-c}m$ , means 'to make a judicial decision in favour of someone.' (cf. Fa 76 (line 8) reinterpreted in Korotayev 1995: 93-4). Since the forms  ${}^{c}m$  and  $b^{-c}m$  are interchangeable, the same sense of this preposition in the expression ftht $s^{l}/(m\{/\}s^{2}w^{c}t-s^{l})$  is to be revealed in line 6.

Thus the dedicant expressed the wish to be forgiven for 'taking part in family quarrels because of the regulation that Ilra ad was imposing on him

and provoked the family quarrel because of the regulation that she imposed on him in favour of his spouse ...'

### Translation

(1) [Qana]y'il, son of ŚRTMum, de[dicated to Dāt Himy-]<sup>(2)</sup>am the (votive) phallus and from Qanay['il may be removed (remitted) that] <sup>(3)</sup> he was performing as rites something that was misleading Ilracad and ..... <sup>(4)</sup>., when he offended Ilracad, and he was threatening Śacmar, and <sup>(5)</sup> that he was taking part in family quarrels because of the regulation that Ilracad was imposing on him and pro-<sup>(6)</sup>voked the family quarrel because of the regulation that she imposed on him in favour of his spouse and he pla-<sup>(7)</sup>ced under the will of Dāt Ḥimyam his soul and his will [and by] <sup>(8)</sup> his reconciliation the reconciliation with her which let be favourable.

# **Conclusions**

The comparison of these two texts, SOYCE 705 and SOYCE 706, reveals many similarities between the situations described in them. In both cases Ilracad, priestess of the temple Rahban of the goddess Dat Himyam, intervened between spouses who were quarrelling in order to adjust their conjugal relations. It is noteworthy that no mention of such events was discovered in the epigraphy of other Raybūn temples, even among numerous inscribed stelae from the temple Mayfa<sup>c</sup>ān of the god Sīn. So the question arises whether there existed a certain division of functions between South Arabian deities, at least in the pantheon of ancient Hadramawt. The sphere of family life seemed to be under the protection of Dat Himyam, while the recovery from disease was within the competence of Sīn and perhaps of the goddess 'Attarum ('Astarum) (see Frantsouzoff, in press, b).

Conflicts between husband and wife are also referred to in some Middle Sabaean inscriptions which thereby constitute an indirect argument in corroboration of the correctness of our interpretation. For instance, Ja 700 relates a story of Barlat the Nashanite, a woman from a vassal group subject to the clan of Banū Maqārum, who asked a steward (mqtwy) of her seigneurs to return her son to her from her husband.<sup>29</sup> The separated spouses in this case were certainly involved in a serious

conflict. The situation sketched in Ja 750 (lines 13-16) seems to be more similar to those represented in two texts from Raḥbān. The dedicants, *i.e.* Farrwalay Mayḥayān, his two sons and his wife Wada'[tān?], made a request 'that Almaqah protect them against the ex[change of bl]ows (?), which might happen between him (*i.e.* Farrwalay) and his wife, [and that] Almaqah protect them against this excha[nge of blows] (?) with his wife' (13) ... l-h'nn-hmw/2LMQH/bn/l (14) [hm-]n/d-yknn/byn-hw/w-byn/2tt-hw (15) [w-l-]h'nn-hmw/2LMQH/bn/hwt/ lh (16)[m-n][/]b-m/2tt-hw/...).30

In spite of some resemblances there are also considerable differences between the cases described in Ja 750 and in the Hadramitic inscriptions examined here. In the temple Awwam the devotees of Almaqah asked the god to prevent them from family troubles, considered as an everyday occurrence, though an unpleasant one. In Rahban the worshippers of Dat Himyam dedicated penitential texts from which it appeared that their conflicts with their wives were regarded as offences against the ritual, perhaps as sins. The regulation of their conjugal relations was under the jurisdiction of the priestess of the goddess and SOYCE 706 clearly states that in at least one case she gave a decision in favour of the woman. Here once more we come across the problem of the Arabian matriarchate which in the unanimous opinion of its numerous opponents was removed from the agenda of research and shelved long ago. But facts are stubborn things, especially when they are extracted from epigraphic monuments. The inscriptions excavated by SOYCE testify with certainty that in ancient Raybun women played a considerable part in various spheres of life (see Frantsouzoff, in press, c). For instance, the priestess Ilfa'al, who in accordance with the predominant prejudices of scholars was taken by Bauer for a man (1989: 157), performed sacred ceremonies in the same temple as Ilracad. The texts mention that she not only gave orders to Sarah'il, one of the goddess' devotees, probably in connection with his family affairs (cf. Rb I/90 no. 143 = SOYCE 2306 (lines 2-3):  $m^2mrt/^2mrt-s^1/^2LF^2L$ ), but also participated in the reconstruction of Rahban which seems to have been undertaken under her guidance (cf. Rb I/89 no. 279, etc. interpreted in Frantsouzoff, in press, a). Thus some parts of the theory suggested by Robertson Smith, who, by the way, asserted on the basis of medieval Arabic sources that in pre-Islamic Arabia women could be chosen as judges (1903: 125-6, n. 1), have been corroborated by recently discovered material from Raybūn. I am sure that forthcoming excavations in the Arabian Peninsula, especially within the periphery of the South Arabian civilization, will provide us with new epigraphic evidence of the high social status of women and even of their supremacy in the ancient society of this region at the earliest stage in its history.

An important remark on comparative grammar is appended. If the existence of lexical parallels between Hadramitic and MSA (alone among the Semitic languages), such as hy and  $hw\bar{u}$  as well as the derivatives from NGM, can be explained by analogy with the term  $r^cbt$  (see Frantsouzoff 1995: 19), the appearance of w after the 2nd radical in the perfect of the causative stem of verbs with initial w, which regularly occurs only in Mehri, but is now attested in  $s^lwhwr$  in Hadramitic, suggests the idea of their close genetic affinity within the Semitic group.

### **Notes**

- \* The following conventions are used:
  - [] restoration of obliterated character
  - <> damaged character or doubtful reading
  - {} omitted character added by the editor
  - # break in the inscription.
- The Round Table, Archaeology and Epigraphy of Hadramawt, which took place in the environs of St. Petersburg on 4th March 1995 and the European Science Foundation Workshop, Civilisations de l'Arabie preislamique, held at Aix-en-Provence on 3rd February 1996.
- The conventional transcription of the divine name  $S^{I}YN$  is here accepted, though its real vocalization seems to be different. Pliny the Elder reported that in Šabwah (Sabota) they worshipped the god Sabin (Pliny Nat. hist.: XII. 14.63 (32.63)) whose name was pronounced as Savin according to the Latin phonetic rules of the first century AD. However, the reading Sayīn proposed by Robin (1994: 102, n. 4) is not the only possible one, since in the medieval Arab tradition the legendary king SVyān (Sayān, Siyān

- or even Suyān) is to be identified with this god (see Abdallah 1975 : 50).
- <sup>3</sup> The archaeological symbols used for the designation of Raybūn inscriptions have already been explained (Frantsouzoff 1995: 23, n. 3). In addition, most of the texts found at this site, but unfortunately not all of them, were marked with epigraphic sigla consisting of the abbreviated name of the Expedition (SOYCE) followed by numbers.
- <sup>4</sup> The temple of Raḥbān consists of three buildings to which the SOYCE archaeologists allotted the numbers 2-4. As for building 1 at the same site, Raybūn I (Rb I), it was identified with the sanctuary of the goddess 'Attarum/ 'Astarum.
- This regularity proved to be typical of those Raybūn inscriptions which belong to the same palaeographic style. The value of the abovementioned ratio for them fluctuates just around the golden section and not around two thirds (0.666...), for example.
- 6 Cf. also the restored fragment of Rb I/84 no. 193
   SOYCE 699 (line 2): ... b]n/hy/2LR/5D ...
- <sup>7</sup> The interpretation of the formula with *bhl* is given in Frantsouzoff, in press, *b*.
- The signs 'x', 'ə' and 'k', which in the works of Johnstone render the sounds [h], [ĕ] and [q], are replaced in this paper by h, ĕ and q to keep the uniformity of transcription and transliteration.
- It seems that the assimilation of n was possible only in the singular of this noun, while in the plural n and  $\underline{t}$  were probably divided by a vowel (cf. untā (sing.),  $ina\underline{t}^{um}$ ,  $unu\underline{t}^{un}$ ,  $ana\underline{t}a$  (pl.) in Arabic).
- See Beeston 1962: § 27:1: '...the form 's'm needs to be rendered either 'a man' or 'the man' according to the context.' See also Beeston 1951: 313-15 for a discussion of the function of mimation in Sayhadic.
- The form 'lhty, that is used here in the construct state of the plural, not of the dual, as Pirenne supposed (1990: 77), is known from two different expressions, 'lhty/mhrm-s'/PLM 'the goddesses of his (i.e. Sīn's) temple Alīm' and 'lhty/hgr-hn/S'BWT 'the goddesses of the city of Šabwah', in RÉS 2693 (lines 5, 6). Therefore it is difficult to propose a reliable restoration of the lacuna after 'lhty/....

- The purely consonantal nature of the South Arabian system of writing is here accepted as self-evident.
- In Ḥarsūsi the form awṣáwl (from WṢL) seems to be unique (Johnstone 1977: 137). In Jibbāli this type of internal vowel change does not occur.
- In Rb I/84 no. 196, etc. = SOYCE 708 (line 4) belonging to the same palaeographic period as SOYCE 705 the form  $s^l w d^{j-s^l}$ , where w did not appear after d, suggests the idea that in Hadramitic this phenomenon was a tendency, not a rule. It is not excluded, however, that the difference of spelling between  $s^l w h w r$  and  $s^l w d^j$  was due to the influence of the 3rd radical [2].
  - Cf. hwr, hr 'to be ordained, be issued (command, decree)', hhr 'to decree, ordain', yhwr 'to settle (transitive and intransitive) in a town' in Sabaic (Beeston et al. 1982: 73), hwr,  $s^{l}hr$  'to order, to decree', hwr 'to establish, remain' in Oatabanic (Ricks 1989 : 61-2), hwr, yhr 'être mis en vigueur, publier', ys<sup>1</sup>hwr 'décréter, ordonner' in Minaic (Arbach 1993, I: 50). In Hadramitic the verb hwr in the sense 'to settle' or 'to emigrate' has been attested in Khor Rori 3 (lines 5-6) and 4 (lines 6-7) in the expression w-hwr/cm $s^{1}/s^{2}ltt/hty-m$  'and he settled along with himself three groups of immigrants (?)' (cf. Beeston 1976 : 42: 'and along with him there emigrated three hty-groups'; the other interpretations (Pirenne 1975: 86, 89; von Wissmann [and Müller] 1977 : 55-6) are to be rejected; the term hty-m, which was also read as 'hty-m (von Wissmann [and Müller 1977: 55-6), still remains obscure). The noun hwr occurs in Rb XIV/89 no. 221 = SOYCE 2075 (line 7), where hwr/QDT-HN 'the settlers (or immigrants) of (the village of) Oudathān (identified with modern al-Ouzah at ten kilometres' distance south of Raybūn)', are mentioned.

At first sight the meaning 'to settle' of the verb hwr (with a possible form of its imperfect yhr) as intransitive seems to be suitable for the context of SOYCE 705. But in that case the causative stem shhwr must be transitive, which is at variance with the lack of a direct object after it. In addition, from the semantic point of view hwr always implies the process of settling a group of people, not a single person, and in contrast to

Khor Rori 3 and 4 and to SOYCE 2075, no toponym is mentioned in SOYCE 705. So this assumption is proved to be wrong.

Among the derivatives of the root HWR in other Semitic languages the Gecez verb horä attracted our attention, for one of its secondary significances 'coire, inire' (Dillmann 1865: 113), 'to have sexual intercourse' (Leslau 1987: 249) fits well with the context of SOYCE 705. It is well known that the restriction or temporary interdiction of sexual life played an important role in the temple ritual of ancient peoples. But, as Dillmann has already stated, the use of horä in this specific sense is euphemistic, mostly typical of the language of the Ethiopian Bible (1865: 113-14). Therefore the reference to it in search of an etymological parallel with the epigraphic language of the polytheistic epoch would be too slight and unfounded.

- In this edition of Tāğ al-carūs there is an obvious misprint: yagītu instead of yagīzu.
- It should be noted that in Arabic the derivatives of WHR are attested not only in the dictionaries, but in the texts too. 'In my bosom ... there is an anger (fi ṣaḍrī ... waḥr<sup>un</sup>)', says a Huḍaylī verse (Levin 1978: 464).

It must be emphasized once more that the mimation of  ${}^2s^3t$ -m is not an obstacle at all to its translation with 'the'. In addition to the rule mentioned above (see n. 10) Beeston cites 'a considerable number of instances of the ESA mimation employed in contexts where the notion of indefiniteness is wholly out of place' (Beeston 1951: 313-15).

- This is accounted for by the fragmentary and perhaps mutilated nature of the text copied by Hayyīm Habshūsh for Halévy. The attempt of Avanzini to connect wrwt-n with awrā (WR') 'to bring home (livestock) in the evening' in Ḥarsūsi (Johnstone 1977: 136) and not in Mehri, as she stated by careless mistake (Avanzini 1995: 127), is really hypothetical and cannot be accepted.
- 19 The forms of attached pronouns and of the causative prefix as well as the dedication to Sīn dū Alīm in other texts engraved on artefacts from this archaeological complex demonstrate that the written language employed by the owners of these treasures was Hadramitic (Breton &

- Bāfaqīh 1993: 71-2; cf. Durā'-Tombes 1, 2, 5).

  According to de Landberg the form sā was explained in different ways (1920-42, 3: 2005).
- He probably meant that it could also derive from  $s\bar{a}^2a$  (SW<sup>3</sup>) 'to be evil, bad, etc.' (cf. also  $s\bar{a}^2a$ -hu 'he did evil to him'; Lane 1863-93, IV : 1457) in classical Arabic.
- The restoration proposed by Bauer (unpublished) in the epigraphic diary of 1984 w-bn-mw/qny-[s<sup>1</sup>...] is to be rejected, for there is no instance of the dedication of possessions (qny) to any deity in the formula with s<sup>1</sup>qny at Raybūn and in ancient Ḥaḍramawt in general, though the term qny often occurs in the final formula of Raybūn texts (after td<sup>2</sup>).
- The proper nouns like 'BDWD or 'BDQNY can be interpreted as 'slave (or devotee) of Wadd (or Qanay)', their second element being the deity's name or epithet. The name WD'L certainly means 'Wadd is god'. So QNY'L appears to signify 'Qanay is god'. Unfortunately, no mention of Oanay outside the onomasticon is known.
- It is not excluded that S<sup>3</sup>RTMM was a woman's name, for the matrilinear system of kinship occurred sometimes in ancient Raybūn (see Frantsouzoff, in press, a).
- The formula with td from SOYCE 706 has already been translated (Frantsouzoff 1995 : 22). Unfortunately its transliteration was reproduced there with an obvious misprint: [w/wb] instead of [wb]. This restoration at the end of line 7 corresponds well to the width of the lacuna (2.8 cm), which could not cover more than two characters, and is based on the analogy with Rb I/89 no. 291, etc., line 11-[12]: b-r^b-s^1/w-wld-s^1/r^b-s^3/d-yn^c[m] (ibid.).
- The term 'form I' and 'form IV' have been used for Arabic verbs and 'base-stem' and 'causative stem' for ESA (Epigraphic South Arabian) verbs.
- It is well known that in medieval Ge<sup>c</sup>ez the signs sädāy and däppā, cāyn and alĕf did not differ in pronunciation and were often confused.
- This meaning of del seems suitable for the context of M 87 (lines 1-3) too: ... b-ywm/del/hl/mn/ybr/ehl/HNWN ... 'when he offended (or rather reproached) those who were transgressing the boundaries (?) of the clan of HNWN'.
- It is not excluded, however, that the prefix s'w-

could be employed in the causative stem of the verb  $n\bar{g}m$  by analogy with the enigmatic form  $s^l wkbr$  attested in the fragmentary context of as-Sawdā<sup>2</sup> 69 = M 110 = RÉS 2885 (line 1).

This text has already been examined in detail by Irvine (1967), Beeston (1983: 9) and Korotayev (1995: 92).

The restorations l[hm-]n and lh[m-n] are here proposed instead of l[hb-]n and lh[b-n] accepted by Jamme who interpreted this term as 'contentions', although the meaning of lahaba in Arabic 'to slap, strike with the open hand' (Lane 1863-93, VII: 2656) implies a more concrete translation. The root LHB, however, is not attested in South Arabian epigraphy, while the word lhm-m occurs in the expression  $w-s^{l}b$  bynhmy/ $lhm-m/b^{c}ly/hwt/wld-n$  'and an exchange of blows was provoked between them both (i.e. between the steward and the husband of Barlat) because of this child' in Ja 700 (lines 10-11) (cf. Beeston et al. 1982: 82, 123).

## Sigla of the inscriptions cited

CIH: Corpus Inscriptionum Semiticarum.
Pars quarta. Inscriptiones
himyariticas et sabaeas continens.
Paris 1889-1932. 6 vols

Dura'-Tombes

1, 2, 5, 45A: Breton & Bafaqih 1993 : 23-4, 31-2, 71-2, 74, pls. 9 no. 21, 10 no. 22, 11 no. 26, 22 no. 65, 23 no. 66, 24 no. 67a, 29 no. 90

Ja 700, 750: Jamme, A. 1962. Sabaean Inscriptions from Maḥram Bilqîs (Mârib). (Publications of the American Foundation for the Study of Man 3): 190-1, 221-3. Baltimore

Khor Rori: Pirenne 1975 : 82-90, pl. 1-3A; Beeston 1976; von Wissmann [and Müller] 1977 : 53-6, Taf. 1

M: G. Garbini (ed.) 1974. Iscrizioni subarabiche. I: Iscrizioni minee. (Pubblicazioni del Seminario di Semitistica, Ricerche 10) Naples

al-'Oqm/1977: Pirenne 1990: 76-7, pl. 59a

RÉS: Répertoire d'épigraphie sémitique. V-VIII. Paris 1900-68. 8 vols

as-Sawda<sup>3</sup>

29, 69: Avanzini 1995 : 126-7, 191-2.

### References

Abdallah, Y. 1975. Die Personennamen in al-Hamdānī's al-Iklīl und ihre Parallelen in den altsüdarabischen Inschriften. PhD thesis, University of Tübingen. [distributed]

Arbach, M. 1993. Le madābien: Lexique - onomastique et grammaire d'une langue de l'Arabie méridionale préislamique. PhD thesis, Aix-en-Provence. 3 vols. [unpublished]

Avanzini, A. 1995. *As-Sawdā*<sup>2</sup>. (Inventario delle iscrizioni sudarabiche 4). Paris/Rome.

Bauer, G. M. 1989. Gorodishche Raybūn po dannym epigrafiki. Vestnik Drevnej Istorii [Journal of Ancient History, Moscow] 189: 153-7.

1995. Epigrafika Rejbuna (sezony 1983-1984 gg., obshchij obzor). Hadramaut. Arheologicheskie, etnograficheskie i istoriko - kul'turnye issledovanija. (Trudy Sovetsko-Jemenskoj kompleksnoj ekspeditsii I): 12-52. Moscow.

Beeston, A. F. L. 1951. A Sabaean Penal Law. Le Muséon 64: 305-15.

1962. A Descriptive Grammar of Epigraphic South Arabian. London.

1976. The Settlement at Khor Rori. JOS 2: 39-42. 1983. Women in Saba. In, R. L. Bidwell & G. R. Smith (eds) Arabian and Islamic Studies: articles presented to R. B. Serjeant on the occasion of his retirement from the Sir Thomas Adams's Chair of Arabic at the University of Cambridge. London.

1984. Sabaic Grammar. (JSS Monograph 6). Manchester.

Beeston, A. F. L., Ghul, M. A., Müller, W. W. & Ryckmans, J. 1982. *Sabaic Dictionary (English-French-Arabic)*. Louvain-la-Neuve/Beyrouth.

Biberstein Kazimirski, A. de 1860. Dictionnaire arabe-français. Paris. 2 vols.

Breton, J.-F. & Bāfaqīh, M. 'A. 1993. Trésors du Wādī Dura' (République du Yémen). Fouille franco-yéménite de la nécropole de Hajar am-Dhaybiyya. (Institut français d'archéologie du Proche-Orient, Bibliothèque archéologique et historique 141). Paris.

Caskel, W. 1966. Ğamharat an-nasab. Das genealogische Werk des Hišām b. Muḥammad al-Kalbī. Leiden. 2 vols.

- Dillmann, A. 1865. Lexicon linguae aethiopicae. Lipsiae.
- Frantsouzoff, S. A. 1995. The Inscriptions of the Temples of <u>Dh</u>āt Ḥimyam at Raybūn. *PSAS* 25: 15-27, pls I, II.
  - (in press, a). La mention du 'tailleur de pierre' (grby-hn/ n) dans les inscriptions sudarabiques. Raydān 7.
  - (in press, b). En marge des inscriptions de Raybūn (remarques sur la grammaire, le lexique et le formulaire de la langue ḥaḍramoutique épigraphique). Yemen 2.
  - (in press, c). Raybūn et la Mecque (sur la corrélation entre la politique et la religion en Arabie préislamique). Notes préliminaires. Yemen 2.
- Ibn Doreid, Abu Bekr Muhammed ben el-Hasan 1854. Ibn Doreid's genealogischetymologisches Handbuch. F. Wüstenfeld (ed.). Göttingen.
- Ibn Manzūr Muḥammad b. Mukarram 1300-7/1882-89. *Lisān al-sarab*. Cairo. 20 vols.
- Irvine, A. K. 1967. Homicide in pre-Islamic South Arabia. *BSOAS* 30: 286-92.
- Johnstone, T. M. 1977 Harsūsi Lexicon and English-Harsūsi Word-List. London.
  - 1981. Jibbāli Lexicon. Oxford.
  - 1987. Mehri Lexicon and English-Mehri Word-List. London.
- Korotayev, A. 1995. Were there any truly matrilinear lineages in the Arabian peninsula? *PSAS* 25:83-98.
- Landberg, C. de 1920-42. Glossaire datinois. Leiden. 3 vols.
- Lane, E. W. 1863-93. *An Arabic-English Lexicon*, I. London/Edingburgh. 8 parts.
- Lankester Harding, G. 1971. An Index and Concordance of pre-Islamic Arabian Names

- and Inscriptions. Toronto/Buffalo.
- Leslau, W. 1987. Comparative Dictionary of Ge<sup>e</sup>ez (Classical Ethiopic). Ge<sup>e</sup>ez-English/English-Ge<sup>e</sup>ez with an index of Semitic roots. Wiesbaden.
- Levin, B. 1978. A Vocabulary of the Hudailian Poems. (Acta regiae societatis scientiarum et litterarum gothoburgensis. Humaniora 13). Göteborg.
- Piamenta M. 1990-1. Dictionary of Post-Classical Yemeni Arabic. Leiden/New York. 2 parts.
- Pirenne, J. 1975. The Incense Port of Moscha (Khor Rori) in Dhofar. *JOS* 1: 81-96, pls 1-5.
  - 1990. Les témoins écrits de la région de Shabwa et l'histoire. Fouilles de Shabwa, I. (Institut français d'archéologie du Proche-Orient, Bibliothèque archéologique et historique 134). Paris.
- Pliny the Elder. Natural History.
- Ricks, S. D. 1989. Lexicon of Inscriptional Qatabanian. (Studia Pohl 14). Rome.
- Robertson Smith, W. 1903. Kinship and Marriage in Early Arabia. S. A. Cook (ed.) New edition with additional notes by the author and by Prof. I. Goldziher. London.
- Robin, C. J. 1994. Yashhur'īl Yuhar'ish, fils de 'Abīyaśa', mukarrib du Ḥaḍramawt. *Raydān* 6: 101-11.
- Wissmann, H. von [and Müller, W. W.] 1977. Das Weihrauchland Sa'kalān, Samārum und Moscha. Mit Beiträgen von W.W. Müller. (Sitzungsberichte der philosophischhistorischen Klasse der Österreichischen Akademie der Wissenschaften 324). Wien.
- al-Zabīdī, Abū al-Fayḍ Muḥammad Murtaḍā 1306/1888. Šarḥ al-Qāmūs al-musammā Tāğ al-carūs. 10 vols. Cairo.

### Contributor's address

Dr Serguei A. Frantsouzoff, Secretary for International Relations, St Petersburg Branch of the Institute of Oriental Studies, Russian Academy of Sciences, 18 Dvortzovaya nab., St Petersburg, 191186 - Russia. e-mail: invost@mail.convey.ru