Posudek bakalářská práce

Autor: PhDr. Jan Rovenský, Ph.D.	Číslo studenta:
Název práce: Seth, The Guardian of Ra	
Rozsah: 58 stran celkem, z toho:	
47 stran textu, 11 stran bibliografie, 0 stran příloh	
Posudek vypracoval:	
PhDr. Filip Coppens, Ph.D. (vedoucí práce)	

General Evaluation

The topic of the paper, "Seth as the Guardian of Ra", and related issues and questions are clearly defined in the introduction to the volume. The subject is appropriately positioned within its historical context as well as against the backdrop of previous research.

The author presents, throughout the study, his thoughts in a clear and logical manner, making his line of reasoning easy to follow. The argumentation is moreover duly supported by appropriate and detailed evidence. Different point of views on specific issues are identified and presented in a lucid manner, with the author showing the ability to convincingly argue his chosen point of view.

Overall the study clearly indicates that the author is capable of working in a scientific and critical manner with historical documents as well as modern research and publications. The study conforms, both in form and content, to all requirements for an excellent BA paper. As such I would recommend that the study should be accepted for defence in front of the appropriate committee and rated as "výborně".

I. Formální kritéria

	výborně	velmi dobře	dobře	dostatečně	nedostatečně
Vědecký aparát					
Jednotnost citací, bibliografie a poznámkového aparátu	\boxtimes				
Citování použitých cizích myšlenek (dobrá vědecká praxe)	\boxtimes				
Formální stavba práce					
Obsahové členění	\boxtimes				
Formální členění (Obsah, nadpisy apod.)	\boxtimes				
Popisky k tabulkám a obrázkům	\boxtimes				
Jazyk					
Stručnost a srozumitelnost	\boxtimes			, 🔲	
Ortografie, gramatika, diakritika					
Odborná terminologie	\boxtimes				
Vzhled a přehlednost					
Layout, písmo	\boxtimes				
Výběr a kvalita obrázků a dalších příloh (včetně tabulek a grafů)					

Formal aspects of the study

The paper is written in a very clear, lucid style, making it easy for the reader to follow the argumentation of the author. Throughout the text the author demonstrates good knowledge of the specific terminology associated with the topic of his research.

The study is organised in a comprehensible manner, with individual chapters marked logically. The layout of the entire volume is clean and only on occasion are text and/or footnotes not as properly aligned as one would wish to see (e.g. page 47 or footnote 38), while one observes the erratic use of "-" versus "-" throughout the paper.

The bibliography and the reference system are according to expected standards. The main body of the text, as well as the footnotes, contain a very limited number of misspellings, which do not detract from the overall quality of the paper or interfere with the communication of ideas.

The illustrations are limited in number, but of good quality, and provide the reader with the most important images of the objects and scenes referred to throughout the volume.

II. Obsahové hodnocení

	výborně	velmi dobře	dobře	dostatečně	nedostatečně
Struktura a členění práce					
Přehled předchozího bádání (popř. teoretické pozadí)	\boxtimes				
Logická struktura textu a jeho prvázanost	\boxtimes				
Preciznost argumentace	\boxtimes				
Práce s literaturou					
Rešerše a výběr odborné literatury	\boxtimes				
Zohlednění relevantní literatury v argumentaci	\boxtimes				
Kritické zhodnocení odborné literatury	\boxtimes				
Metodologie					
Formulace otázek a hypotéz	\boxtimes				
Výběr pramenů	\boxtimes				
Transparentnost kritérií výběru pramenů	\boxtimes				
Přiznání možností a hranic práce s materiálem	\boxtimes				
Výsledky					
Jasná stavba hypotéz	\boxtimes				
Zdůvodnění hypotéz	\boxtimes				
Začlenení do stavu bádání	\boxtimes				

Evaluation of the content

The topic of the paper focuses on an often overlooked aspect of the Egyptian god Seth, in particular on his role as the protector and guardian of Ra and, as a result, his presence at the front of the solar bark to face and eliminate the dangers posed by Ra's nemesis, Apophis. The subject matter and related questions posed by the author are clearly defined in the introduction (pages 7–9) and suitably worked out. The overall structure and organisation of the paper is well thought out, clearly unified and very appropriate to its purpose as the author always kept track of the main research questions.

The author has gathered and studied a large number of resources related to the topic of the paper, showing his ability to both identify the more important general historical studies or overviews as well as more exhaustive, detailed research on very specific aspects of his study (see also the extensive bibliography, pages 48–58). Throughout the text the author is clearly in control of the material studied and the subsequent argumentation based on his research, illustrating his ability to work in a scientific and critical manner with historical documents as well as modern research and studies.

The paper leads naturally from a very general overview of the different roles assigned to Seth throughout ancient Egyptian history, providing a development from the fourth millennium BC well into Roman times, while observing a clear distinction between the perception of the god's nature and character along the banks of the Nile in comparison to the Western Oases. Concomitantly, throughout the overview the author also indicates the complex and varied nature of the evidence, illustrating the extreme difficulty to make any general assumptions on the deity's character by pointing out the continuously ongoing changes in how the Egyptians perceived Seth throughout time and space.

In the first chapter (pages 10–27), the author provides a very detailed overview of the available evidence from descriptions and depictions of the god. In the second chapter (pages 28–35), the author discusses a series of characteristic epithets associated with Seth, especially dealing with his physical and magical strength and abilities, as found in the Pyramid Texts, the Coffin Texts and the Book of the Dead. Based on the characteristic nature of the god, as identified through his iconography (chapter 1) and epithets (chapter 2), the author offers in chapter 3 (pages 36–45) an overview of the various occurrences, in text and image, of Seth as the guardian of Ra and his role at the front of the solar bark, during the latter's night time journey, in facing and defeating the snake Apophis. The author very clearly indicates on the basis of the available evidence that precisely Seth's well-known abilities and strength, often interpreted in a pejorative manner, make the deity the most suited to face the sun god's ultimate enemy and guarantee the safe journey of the solar bark towards a new day.

In conclusion, the paper clearly indicates the author's ability to appropriately question and examine ancient documents and modern research in a critical manner, as well as his capabilities to contribute to a better understanding and further development of specific topics in the study of ancient Egypt. As such the study meets all expectations (and more) of a BA paper.

Hodnocení: 1

Výborně

13.05.2019

OPPRIO DE

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¹ Škála: výborně – velmi dobře – dobře – neprospěl