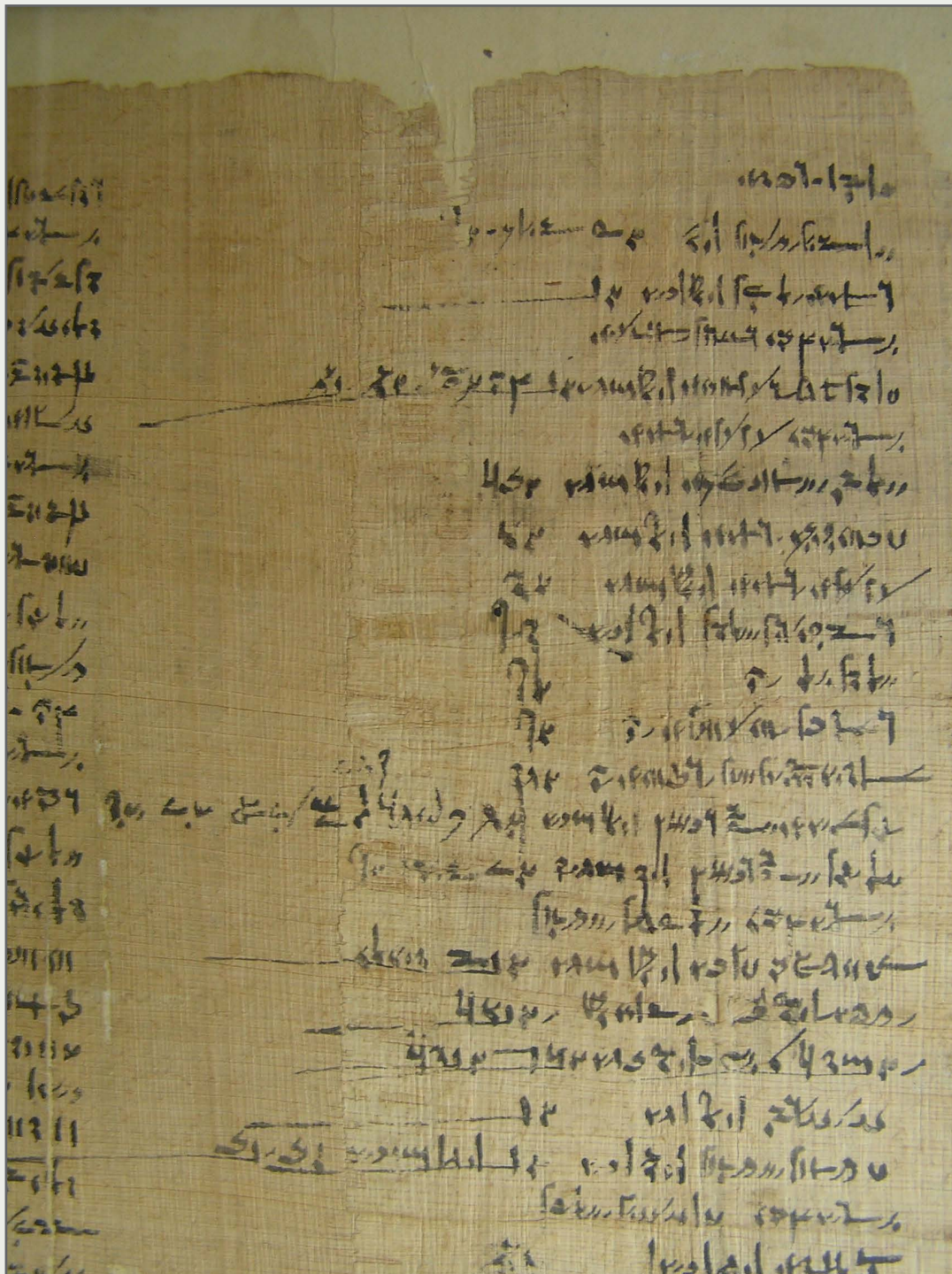


Lending in Ptolemaic Egypt

The Demotic Loan-account Papyri of Panas, Son of Espmetis



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Brian P. Muhs

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Back cover: Bronze coin of Ptolemy IV (222–204 BCE) from the Birabi Hoard, found in a jar buried in front of a Ptolemaic tomb in Thebes, deposited during the Theban revolt (205–186 BCE), excavated 1915–1916, in the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Object Number 22.3.476. Rogers Fund and Edward S. Harkness Gift, 1922. Photograph courtesy of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, open access, public domain.

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I first became interested in the Demotic loan-account papyri of Panas, son of Espmetis, when I worked at the Papyrological Institute of Leiden University. There I encountered a description of the archive of Panas, son of Espmetis, and separately a description of an unpublished Demotic loan-account papyrus naming Panas, son of Espmetis, BM EA 10556, which had not been attributed to his archive. Further research revealed a second unpublished Demotic loan-account papyrus of Panas, son of Espmetis, BM EA 10557.

I am deeply grateful to Prof. Ursula Kaplony-Heckel for her encouragement and support of my research, and for her generosity in sharing her detailed knowledge of collections of Demotic papyri and ostraca, from which I have benefited on multiple occasions. In this case during a visit to Marburg on Saturday–Sunday, 21–22 May 2011, I mentioned to her my interest in working on papyri BM EA 10556 and 10557. She smiled mischievously, and pulled out of a file cabinet her fifty-year-old hand-copies of a third unpublished demotic loan-account papyrus, BM EA 10670. A quick perusal indicated that it too belonged to Panas, son of Espmetis, and further study revealed that it contained working drafts of the loan-accounts recorded in BM EA 10556 and 10557.

I would like to thank all the staff of the British Museum Department of Egypt and Sudan who assisted me during my visits to study the loan-account papyri of Panas, son of Espmetis; and particularly Prof. Richard Parkinson and Dr. Ilona Regulski. I examined and photographed papyrus BM EA 10556 at the British Museum on Wednesday–Thursday, 14–15 January 2009, and papyrus BM EA 10557 on Thursday–Friday, 24–25 June 2010. I then requested and received permission to publish the papyri from Richard Parkinson on behalf of the British Museum on 12 July 2010. After Ursula Kaplony-Heckel called my attention to papyrus BM EA 10670, I examined and photographed it at the British Museum on Monday, 5 September 2011, and I then requested and received permission to publish the papyrus from Richard Parkinson on behalf of the British Museum on 9 September 2011. Ilona Regulski kindly provided me with scans of all the papyri on 29 March 2019, in advance of another visit to the British Museum on Tuesday–Thursday, 9–11 April 2019 to reexamine the loan-account papyri to check my readings against the originals. She also confirmed my permission to publish the papyri on 6 September 2023.

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Brian Muhs

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ABBREVIATIONS

ÄA	Ägyptologische Abhandlungen
ÄAT	Ägypten und Altes Testament
AfP	<i>Archiv für Papyrusforschung</i>
AncSoc	<i>Ancient Society</i>
BdÉ	Bibliothèque d'Étude
BIFAO	<i>Bulletin de l'Institut Français d'Archéologie Orientale au Caire</i>
CDD	Johnson, Janet, ed. <i>The Demotic Dictionary of the Institute for the Study of Ancient Cultures of the University of Chicago</i> , 2001–. https://isac.uchicago.edu/research/publications/chicago-demotic-dictionary .
CdÉ	<i>Chronique d'Égypte: Bulletin périodique de la Fondation égyptologique reine Élisabeth</i>
CHANE	Culture and History of the Ancient Near East
ClQ	<i>Classical Quarterly</i>
CNIP	Carsten Niebuhr Institute Publications
Chrestomathie	Révillout, Eugène. <i>Chrestomathie démotique</i> . Paris: Vieweg, 1880.
DemBL	Den Brinker, A. A., Brian P. Muhs, and Sven P. Vleeming. <i>A Berichtigungsliste of Demotic Documents</i> . Part A: <i>Papyrus Editions</i> . Part B: <i>Ostrakon Editions and Various Publications</i> . StudDem 7.A, B. Leuven: Peeters, 2005.
Dem. Lesestücke	Erichsen, Wolja. <i>Demotische Lesestücke, II: Urkunden de Ptolemaerzeit, 1. Heft, Texte</i> . Leipzig: Hinrichs, 1939.
DemNb	Lüddeckens, Erich, et al. <i>Demotisches Namenbuch</i> . Vol. 1, fascicles 1–18. Wiesbaden: Reichert, 1980–2000.
DemStud	Demotische Studien
Enchoria	<i>Enchoria: Zeitschrift für Demotistik und Koptologie</i>
JAOS	<i>Journal of the American Oriental Society</i>
JARCE	<i>Journal of the American Research Center in Egypt</i>
JEA	<i>Journal of Egyptian Archaeology</i>
JESHO	<i>Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient</i>
JJP	<i>Journal of Juristic Papyrology</i>
MVCAE	Material and Visual Culture of Ancient Egypt
NS	new series
OBO	Orbis Biblicus et Orientalis
OIMP	Oriental Institute Museum Publications
OIP	Oriental Institute Publications
OLA	Orientalia Lovaniensia Analecta
PLB	Papyrologica Lugduno-Batava
RdÉ	<i>Revue d'égyptologie</i>
SAOC	Studies in Ancient Oriental Civilization
StudDem	Studia Demotica
StudHell	Studia Hellenistica
Urk.	Urkunden des ägyptischen Altertums
ZPE	<i>Zeitschrift für Papyrologie und Epigraphik</i>

SUBJECT INDEX

The subject index covers the first twelve chapters of the book; the indexes of Egyptian names and words serve editions in the thirteenth chapter. The selected subjects are related to law, economy and documentation, money and measures, objects and commodities, places and occupations. Rulers and common terms for documents, money, measures, and commodities are only indexed where they are the subjects of discussion.

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