# **The Murder Place of Osiris**

# Gḥsty and Ndit "A Comparative Study"

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#### **Abstract:**

The several sources of the myth of Isis and Osiris referred to different sites as the murder place of Osiris. The Pyramid Texts point out to *Ndit* as the place, where Osiris was killed. In other spells *Gḥsty* was the slain location of Osiris. It was assumed that god Seth attacked Osiris in *Gḥsty* and killed him on the banks of Nedit. It is a place near Abydos in the Thinite region, where most probably the Osirion was erected. This research shows a detailed discussion about the site *Gḥsty* and it presents a comparative study between the two sites *Gḥsty* and *Ndit*.

#### **Key words:**

- Murder of Osiris
- Nedit
- Ghst
- *Gḥsty*

The myth of Isis and Osiris is one of the most famous and dominant legends in the ancient Egyptian mythology. It recorded the story of the jealousy and conspiracy of Seth against his brother and the murder of Osiris. It also concerns with the loyalty of Isis to her husband, his resurrection and the fight of Horus to restore the usurped throne of his father. This myth is full of symbolic elements that were associated with the concept of

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kingship and justice in the world of human beings as well as the realm of the afterlife.

The several sources of this myth referred to different sites as the murder place of Osiris.<sup>1</sup> The Pyramid Texts point out to *Ndit* as the place, where Osiris was killed.<sup>2</sup> In other spells *Gḥsty* was the slain location of Osiris.<sup>3</sup> It was assumed that god Seth attacked Osiris in *Gḥsty* and killed him on the banks of Nedit.<sup>4</sup> The site Nedit has been published.<sup>5</sup> It is a place near Abydos in the Thinite region, where most probably the Osirion was erected.

This research shows a detailed discussion about the site *Gḥsty* and it presents a comparative study between the two sites *Gḥsty* and *Ndit*.

### I: Ghsty:

#### **Documentation:**

*Gḥsty* is a name of a site that was mentioned from the Old Kingdom on, as the place that attested the slain of Osiris by his brother Seth. <sup>6</sup>

#### **Doc.** 1:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> T., J., C., Baly, "A Note on the Origin of Osiris", in: *JEA* 17, 1931, P. 221.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> R., O., Faulkner, *The Ancient Egyptian Pyramid Texts*, Oxford, 1969, §§ 260, 721, 754, 819, 1008, 1256, 1267, 1500, 1502, 2108, 2188.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Faulkner, *Pyr.*, §§ 972, 1033, 1487, 1799.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> J., G., Griffiths, *Plutarch's de Iside et Osiride*, Great Britain, 1970, P. 34.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> N., Kamal El-deen, "The Site of Nedit and its Importance in the Ancient Egyptian Religion", in: *The Seventeenth Conference Book of the General Union of Arab Archaeologists*, Cairo 2014, PP. 224-236.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Faulkner, *Pyr.*, §§ 972, 1033, 1487, 1799.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> K., Sethe, *Die Altaegyptischen Pyramidentexte*, II, Leipzig, P. 44, § 972 a-c.

ii.n=t m hh sn=t wsir ny.n sw sn=f Stš hr gs=f m gs<sup>8</sup> pf n Ghsty

"You have come seeking your brother Osiris, for his brother Seth has thrown him down on his side in the yonder side of *Ghsty*".9

Spell 972 is included in utterance 478 of the Pyramid Texts. This utterance personifies the ladder,  $^{10}$  while searching for his brother Osiris.  $^{11}$  The Spell describes the act of finding Osiris, who was thrown on his side ( $^{\circ}$   $^{\circ}$   $^{\circ}$   $^{\circ}$   $^{\circ}$   $^{\circ}$  by a personification of a ladder in the site of  $^{\circ}$   $^{\circ}$  by a personification of a ladder in the site of  $^{\circ}$   $^{$ 

#### Doc.2:

ippy=f h̄ss.wt m shn wsir gm.n=f sw dy h̄r gs=f m Gh̄st Wsir 'h̄c' n it=k Gb ndi=f tw m̄c Stš

<sup>10</sup> The ladder was personified several times in the Pyramid Texts, for example in §941 that the ladder was personified and identified with goddess Nut, cf: S., Mercer, *The Pyramid Texts in Translation and Commentary*, New York 1952, II, P. 480, § 941 a-b.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> m gs is parallel with hr gs (Pyr. § 972 b).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Faulkner, *Pyr.*, P. 167, § 972.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Mercer, *Pyr.*, II, PP. 494-495.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Faulkner, *Pyr.*, PP. 169-170, § 1008.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Faulkner, *Pyr.*, P. 303, § 2144.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Sethe, *Pyr.*, II, P.78, §1033 a-c.

"He examines the lands in search of Osiris, and he has found him thrown down upon his side in *Gḥsty*. O Osiris stand up for your father Geb that he may protect you from Seth" <sup>15</sup>

This spell refers to the act of finding Osiris laid on his side (Pip gs=f) in Pip Ghst. Then it refers to the resurrection of Osiris. Geb here substitutes god Horus in the protection of Osiris after his resurrection. <sup>16</sup>

#### **Doc. 3**:

hwn.t htp.t irt.n 3h pn Ghsty, šw.t=k Wsir

"The peaceful maiden who helped this spirit of *Gḥsty*; your shadow, O Osiris" 18

The spirit of *Gḥsty* in this spell refers to god Osiris, while the maiden is most probably "the sycamore" or "the tree-goddess", that is shown with its bending branches providing Osiris with libation. The King in this spell is identified with "the spirit of *Gḥsty*" god Osiris and he asked the tree-goddess for its help, like the aid she gave to the spirit of *Gḥsty* <sup>19</sup>

<sup>17</sup> Sethe, *Pyr.*, II, P.314, §1487, c-d.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Faulkner, *Pyr.*, P. 172, §1033.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Mercer, *Pyr.*, II, P. 523.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Faulkner, *Pyr.*, P. 229, §1487.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> H. S., Smith, "Review of the Ancient Egyptian Pyramid Texts by R. O. Faulkner", in; *The Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland*, No.2, 1971, P.182; Mercer, *Pyr.*, II, P. 726, § 1487, c-d.

#### **Doc. 4:**

ii hr mh m mdt shn.n=f it=f wsir gm.n=f sw hr gs=f m Ghsty

In another version of the Pyramid Texts the last part of this spell is depicted as:

$$\Leftrightarrow \underline{\Box} | \sim \mathbb{N} \square \mathbb{N} / \mathbb{N} \sim 21$$

hr gs=f m Ghsty

"Horus comes filled with unguent<sup>22</sup>; he sought for his father Osiris and he found him on his side in *Ghsty*". <sup>23</sup>

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Sethe, *Pyr.*, II, P.438, § 1799 a-b

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Sethe, *Pyr.*, II, P.438, § 1799 b.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> This expression "Horus comes filled with unguent" means he comes with the eye of Horus, because the eye of Horus is symbolized by unguent. The eye of Horus itself was mythically refers to the act of finding Osiris, cf; Mercer, *Pyr.*, II, P. 834.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> Faulkner, *Pyr.*, P. 1263, §1799.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> R. Anthes distinguished three conflicts between Horus and Seth in the Pyramid Texts. The first fight took place at any site that mentioned the injured eye of Horus and the testicles of Seth (*Pyr*. §§ 418,679, 946,1463), such fight could also happened in *Hry-<sup>c</sup>h*<sup>3</sup> at Heliopolis (*Pyr*. §1350 b). The second fight was very cruel and took place in *Ghsty* or Nedit. It resulted the murder of Horus "Senior", who after his death identified with Osiris. The third fight was a kind of revenge, in which Horus "junior" punished Seth and returned the eye of Horus and gave it back to Osiris (*Pyr*. §§ 578, 591, 1007). In other version It was Geb who searched Osiris and found him laid on his side in *Ghsty* (*Pyr*. §1033) and gave him back the eye of Horus (*Pyr*. § 139) which symbolized the crown of Egypt, cf; R. Anthes, "Egyptian Theology In The Third Millennium B.C", in: *JNES* 18, No. 3, 1959, PP.200-201.

#### Doc.5:

'h' rk wsir hr gs=k m Ghst '=k n 3st dr.t=k n Nb.t-hw.t

"Rise up, Osiris, on your side in *Gḥst*; Isis has your arm and Nephthys has your hand". <sup>26</sup>

### **Analytical study:**

## The name of the site Ghsty and its interpretation:

The location *Gḥst*, var. *Gḥsty* was written in several ways as follows: 27, 27, 28, 28, 29, 10, 29, 10

The different spelling of this location show that it could be pronounced as *Gḥsty* or the vowel (y) is omitted in other texts and pronounced as *Gḥst*. The name of this location was either written with a determinative of "two gazelles", a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> A., de Buck, *The Egyptian Coffin Texts*, Chicago, VII, 37, q-r.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> R., O., Faulkner, *The Ancient Egyptian Coffin Texts*, England, 1978, III, P. 24.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> Sethe, *Pyr.*, II, P. 44, § 972.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> de Buck, *CT.*, VII, 37 q.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> Sethe, *Pyr.*, II, P.314, §1487d.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> Sethe, *Pyr.*, II, P. 438, § 1799 b.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> Sethe, *Pyr.*, II, P. 438, § 1799 b.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> F., Gomaà, "Särge und andere Funde aus der Nekropole der Falkenstadt", in: *MDAIK* 57, 2001, P. 37

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> Leitz, *LG*., IV, P. 152.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> S., Hassan, *Hymnes Religieux du Moyen Empire*, Le Caire, 1928, P. 79.

determinative of <sup>™</sup> "a desert or foreign land" or a determinative of <sup>®</sup> "a town".

The word ships means "gazelle". 35 ships ghst is "the female gazalle". Its dual feminine form Ghsty suits the pronunciation of this place and may refer to this place as "the desert of the two gazelles" or the "land of the two gazelles" This representation could correspond with the story that Seth surprised Osiris during his hunting trip in the desert and murdered him. 36 The desert was known as the place of god Seth. Most of the desert creatures were regarded as the manifestation of god Seth, such as scorpions, snakes and specially gazelles. 37 However the determinative of the two gazelles may allude to the two powers of Seth and Osiris. 38

All the above mentioned spells mentioned the name of this location preceded by the description of the position of Osiris on his side (rgs=f). This term refers to the status of the death of Osiris, when he was murdered by his brother Seth, so most probably the name of the location Ghsty is derived from the word gs "side", as the paronomasia by the falling away of the consonant h. 39

### The Location of Ghsty:

*Gḥsty* was identified with several places. One can not assure one certain place of these sites.

<sup>36</sup> Mercer, *Pvr.*, II, P. 495.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>35</sup>Wb., V. P.191, 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> Griffiths, *Iside et Osiride.*, P.388; S., Hassan, *Hymnes Religieux du Moyen Empire*, Le Caire, 1928, P. 82.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> V., A., Tobin, "Divine Conflict in the Pyramid Texts", in; *JARCE* 30, 1993, P. 103.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> Mercer, Pyr., II, P. 834, 1799 b; C., E., Sander-Hansen, Die phonetischen Wortspielen des Ältesten Ägyptischen, Kopenhagen, Acta Orientalia 20, 1948, P. 9 and 21.

It was identified with Pr mrt, which was a site at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Nome of Upper Egypt (Latopolis) between Esnah and El Kom El-Ahmar (Hierakonopolis), on the left side of the Nile, nowadays Komir. In this place goddess Anuket was defied in the form of a gazelle, that is why it was also known as probably connected with this goddess. Goddess Anuket took two titles that were connected with the location Ghst in her temple at Komir during the Graeco-Roman Period. The First one is All wds dt=s m Ghst "The one with the undisturbed body in Ghst". The Second title is All nb.(t) Ghst "Lady of Ghst".

On the other hand, one of the titles of goddess Nephthys is  $4^{12} \, \text{log} \, 4^{3} \, \text{limy}$  Ghsty "The One who is in Ghsty (the Gazelle Town). This title is found on the head of a sarcophagus of the general Potasimto from the Late Period (JE 31566) from the capital city of the  $11^{th}$  Nome of Lower Egypt (nowadays Kom Yasin, south-east of Hurbeit). This place was regarded as the

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> H., Kees, *Der Götterglaube im Alten Ägypten*, Berlin, 1956; P. 258, n. 2; E., Otto, "Anuket", *Lexikon der Ägyptologie* I, ed. W.Helck, E.Otto and W. Westendorf, Wiesbaden, 1975, 333-334; B., Altenmüller, "Geheset", in; *LÄ*, II, col. 513; Darssey, "La gazelle d'Anoukit", in; ASAE 18, 1919, P. 77; H., Gauthier, *Dictionnaire des noms géographiques contenus dans les textes hiéroglyphiques*, Le Caire, II, PP.86-87;K., Sethe, *Dramatische Texte zu Altaegyptischen Mysterienspielen*, Leipzig, 1928, II, P. 242.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> Ch., Leitz, *Lexikon der ägyptischen Götter und Götterbezeichnungen*, OLA 111, 2002, II, P. 645; M., Es-Saghir and D., Valbelle, "Deux hymnes aux divinités de Komir: Anoukis et Nephthys", in; *BIFAO* 83, 1983, PL. 9, P.160, line 17.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> Leitz, *LG*., IV, P. 152.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>43</sup> Leitz, *LG*., I, P.295.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>44</sup> Leitz, *LG*., I, P.40.

murder place of Osiris.<sup>45</sup> The text on the head of the sarcophagus depicts:

H, wsir, pdi-sm3-t3wy ii n=k sn.t=k Nbt-ḥwt imy Gḥsty ts=s n=k tp=k ink=s n=k ks.w=k dmd=s n=k \cdot w.t=k

"Ho Osiris, Pedi-sma-tawy; has come to you. Your sister Nephthys, the sister who is in Gehest; she lifts up for you your head; she collects for you your bones; she unites for you your members". 47

In this text, goddess Nephthys performed her role as the one who helped Osiris to be resurrected after his murder by Seth.

Another title of goddess Nephthys is  $^{48}$  nb.(t) Ghst "Lady of Ghst".

The name of Ghsty was identified with several other places such as a cult site of Hathor in the north part of the  $18^{th}$  Nome of Upper Egypt. <sup>49</sup> A goddess is shown with the Hathoric-headdress and she was given the title of hst "Lady of hst" is depicted on a sarcophagus found at this site.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>45</sup>Kees, *Götterglaube.*, P.258, n.2 ;A., Rowe, "New Light on objects belonging to the Generals Potasimto and Amasis in the Egyptian Museum", in; *ASAE* 38, 1938, P.170; Gauither, *DG.*,V., P. 220.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>46</sup> Rowe, ASAE 38,P. 170, 181 and n.1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>47</sup> Rowe, *ASAE* 38, P. 181 and n.1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>48</sup> Leitz, *LG*., IV, P. 152.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>49</sup> LÄ, II, col. 513.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>50</sup>Gomaà, *MDAIK* 57, P. 37; Leitz, *LG.*, IV, P.152.

*Gḥsty* was also identified with a location at Tell Edfu,<sup>51</sup> the city of Aphroditopolis in the 12<sup>th</sup> Nome of Upper Egypt.<sup>52</sup>

K. Sethe identified it with another unidentified place called *šs³t*. It is thought to be the place where Osiris came from. <sup>53</sup>

The different locations that were identified with the site Ghsty may refer to the fact that Ghsty was not a definite geographical site, but it is a name that was given to any place connected with the act of finding Osiris, while being thrown on his side. Wherever the play of this myth was religiously performed, the place of finding Osiris was called Ghsty. One should also take in consideration the play of words between the word gs "side" and the name of the site Ghsty. All the texts that refer to this place in the religious texts were preceded by the description of the position of Osiris as being thrown on his side gs=f.

### II: A Comparative Study between Ghsty and Nedit:

The two sites *Gḥsty* and *Nedit* were mentioned in the ancient Egyptian religious texts as the murder place of Osiris. The following table shows a comparison between the two sites according to the ancient Egyptian religious and funerary Texts:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>51</sup>E., Chassinat, *Le Temple d'Edfou*, MMAF 20, III, 1928, P.297 (16); H., Brugsch, *Dictionnaire Géographique de l'ancienne Égypte*, Leipzig, 1880, PP. 862-863.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>52</sup> LÄ, II, col. 513; Gauither, DG V, P.220; Speleers, in; Rec. Trav., 39, 1921, P.123.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>53</sup> K. Sethe, Dramatische Texte zu altägyptischen Mysterienspielen, 1928, II, P. 240-242;

L., Keimer, "Le signe ", in: ASAE 48, 1948, PP. 43-45; Baly, JEA 17, P.221, n. 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>54</sup>Tobin, *JARCE* 30, P.103

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>55</sup> Mercer, *Pyr.*, III, P. 834, § 1799 b.

	Ndit	Gḥsty
Name	This name is either derived	This name could either
	from verb $\stackrel{\circ}{\downarrow}$ $\stackrel{\circ}{\longleftarrow}$ $n\underline{d}$ "to protect"	be derived from the
		word gs "side" or it
	or from verb $\rightleftharpoons$ 'ndi' "to	means "the Desert of
	throw down".56	the two Gazelles".
Determinative of the name	<u>~</u> ,⊗,	<sup>∞</sup> , mm, ®
<u> </u>	- It is identified with a site	*Several sites: <sup>60</sup>
Location	near Abydos in the Thinite	- A site in Second
	region (Osirion). <sup>57</sup>	Nome of Upper Egypt,
	- It is identified with Byblos <sup>58</sup> .	after the city of Edfu. 61
	- It is not a specific site, but it	- Komir in the 3 <sup>rd</sup>
	is a mythical site connected	Nome of Upper
	with the murder of Osiris. <sup>59</sup>	Egypt. <sup>62</sup>
		- A site in the 18 <sup>th</sup>
		Nome of Upper
		Egypt. <sup>63</sup>
		- Kom Yasin in the 12 <sup>th</sup>
		Nome of Upper
	65	Egypt. <sup>64</sup>
	*Pyramid Texts: <sup>65</sup>	*Pyramid Texts:
	( <i>Ndit</i> )§§ 260, 721,754, 819,	§§972, 1033, 1487,
	1256, 1267, 1500, 1502, 2108,	1799.
	2188; (wdb Ndit) § 1008.	
	*Coffin Texts: 66	
Deligious	I (\$69) 292 a; III (\$237) 312	*Coffin Tout
Religious	a; (§238)318 L; IV (§349) 383	*Coffin Text:
Texts	g; V (§398) 127 a; 128 a;133b; (§469) 388 d and g; (§470)	VII, (§837) 37q.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>56</sup> Wb., II, P.367, 12; Kamal El-deen, *Arab Archaeologists* 17, P. 225.
<sup>57</sup> Kamal El-deen, *Arab Archaeologists* 17, P. 226.
<sup>58</sup> Kamal El-deen, *Arab Archaeologists* 17, P. 226.
<sup>59</sup> Gauither, *DG*, III, 110; Kamal El-deen, *Arab Archaeologists* 17, P. 226

Gauither, DG., II, P. 87; V, P. 220.
 Gauither, DG., V, P. 220; Hassan, Hymnes., P. 28.

<sup>62</sup> Leitz, *LG*., VII, P. 324. 63 Leitz, *LG*., VII, P. 324.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>64</sup> Gauither, *DG*., V, P. 220.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>65</sup> Sethe, *Pyr.*, I-II.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>66</sup> De Buck, *CT*, I-VII.

398 j; VII (§825) 26 t; (§837) 37h; (§838) 40 a; (§839) 41a.  *Book of The Dead: § 142.  - → Ndi "the thrown One" → The deceased, the sun  The spirit who is in	
*Book of The Dead: § 142.  - Ndi "the thrown One"   The deceased, the sun  "The spirit who is in	
§ 142.  - → Ndi "the thrown One" → The deceased, the sun  State of the spirit who is in	
- Shift who is in  - Shift of the thrown one"→The deceased, the sun	
One"→The deceased, the sun "The spirit who is in	
Titles connected with the Location  Titles consected with the Location  Ndit "Who rises in Ndit"→ bnw ntry "The phonix bird" and w3d r3w" the fresh plant" from the Graeco-Roman Period. For Wsir m Ndit "Osiris in Ndit"→Osiris.  The Bull of Ndit". →Osiris.  The Bull of Ndit". →Osiris.  The Bull of Ndit". →Osiris.  The protector in Ndit"→Horus the protector of  To him, the People in Ghst leap up" → Osiris	connected with the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>67</sup> Leitz, LG., IV, P.577; Kamal El-deen, *Arab Archaeologists* 17, P. 235. <sup>68</sup> Leitz, LG., I, P.240; Kamal El-deen, *Arab Archaeologists* 17, P. 235. <sup>69</sup> Leitz, *LG.*, II, P.317; Kamal El-deen, *Arab Archaeologists* 17, P. 235.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>70</sup> Leitz, LG., II, P. 550; Kamal El-deen, Arab Archaeologists 17, P. 235. <sup>71</sup> Leitz, LG., II, P. 577; Kamal El-deen, Arab Archaeologists 17, P. 235.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>72</sup> Leitz, *LG*., VI, P. 670; Kamal El-deen, *Arab Archaeologists* 17, P. 236.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>73</sup> Leitz, *LG*., IV, P. 594; Kamal El-deen, *Arab Archaeologists* 17, P. 236.

his father.	
- 1	
Ndit "The Great Might in	
Ndit"→Osiris.	
rmnwtyt k3 Ndit "The	
Companion of the Bull of	
Ndit"→Isis	

Table (1)

#### (A comparison between the two sites Ghsty and Ndit)

From The above mentioned representation it is clear now that the site Nedit was mentioned much more than the site *Gḥsty* in the ancient Egyptian religious texts as the murder place of Osiris.

The names of these two locations used the signs of "city" and "desert" as determinatives. The word Nedit takes the sign of "water" as a determinative \( \sum\_{\operatorn}^{\infty} \) Ndit. This may refer to the topography of Nedit as a land that contains a stream of water and two banks, that is why the site of Nedit was sometimes described as \( \sum\_{\operatorn}^{\infty} \) \( \wdots \) Ndit "Banks of Nedit", as follows:

gm.t t(w) hr gs=k hr wdb Ndit

"She finds you on your side on the river bank of Nedit".

This way of writing the word Nedit may allude to the drowning of Osiris. The determinative of "water" never appeared in the writing of the word *Gḥsty*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>76</sup> Hassan, *Hymnes.*, P. 79.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>74</sup>Leitz, LG., VI, P. 528; Kamal El-deen, Arab Archaeologists 17, P. 236.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>75</sup> de Buck, CT., III, 312 a, §237; Kamal El-deen, Arab Archaeologists 17, P. 236.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>77</sup> de Buck, *CT.*, VII, (§838) 40 a.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>78</sup> Sethe, *Pyr.*, II, § 1008 c.

*Gḥsty* is connected with the titles of Osiris, Nephthys, Hathor and Anuket.

Nedit was connected with the titles of Osiris, Isis, the deceased and his soul, Soker, the sun at its setting, the phonix bird" and wad raw" the fresh plant".

All the texts that mentioned the site Ghsty were preceded by the a description of Osiris laid on his side. On the other hand only some of the texts that mentioned the site Nedit were preceded by the description of Osiris hr gs=f on his side.

The main idea of the religious texts that mentioned the site *Gḥsty* was about finding Osiris laid on his side. It is intersting to note that the act of finding Osiris in *Gḥsty* as mentioned in the spells of the Pyramid Texts did not mentioned Isis and Nephthys. It was performed by:

- A personification of a ladder, which act as the brother of Osiris.  $^{81}$
- God Geb, who act like Horus in the protection of his father. 82
- The tree-goddess.<sup>83</sup>
- God Horus.<sup>84</sup>

The only spell of the Coffin Texts that mentioned the act of finding Osiris in *Gḥsty* shows that Isis and Nephthys found him and helped him in his resurrection. <sup>85</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>79</sup> Sethe, *Pyr.*, II, §§ 972, 1033, 1487, 1799; de Buck, *CT.*, VII, 37 q.

<sup>80</sup> Sethe, *Pyr.*, §260, 819, 1008, 1500; de Buck, *CT.*, I, 292; IV, 383.

<sup>81</sup> Sethe, *Pyr.*, § 972 a-c; Mercer, *Pyr.*, II, P. 494-495.

<sup>82</sup> Sethe, *Pyr.*, §1033 a-c; Mercer, *Pyr.*, II, P. 523.

 <sup>83</sup> Sethe, *Pyr.*, §1487; Mercer, *Pyr.*, II, P. 726.
 84 Sethe, *Pyr.*, §1799 a-b; Mercer, *Pyr.*, II, P. 834.

<sup>85</sup> de Buck, *CT.*, VII, 37 q-r; Faulkner, *CT*, III, P. 24.

The texts that mentioned the finding of Osiris in Nedit refer to Isis as the one who found Osiris laid on his side in Nedit, as follow:

šn.t=k wr.t s3K =t iwf=k kfn.t dr.wt=k

shn.t tw gm.t tw hr gs=k hr wdb Ndit

"Your eldest sister is she who gathered up your flesh, who closed your hands, who sought you and found you on your side on the river-banks of Nedit" <sup>87</sup>

Other texts mention both Isis and Nephthys as the goddesses who found Osiris in Nedit.<sup>88</sup>

il 3st il Nbt-ḥwt w<sup>c</sup>.t=sn m lmn.t w<sup>c</sup>.t=sn m l3b.t w<sup>c</sup>.t=sn m ḥ3.t w<sup>c</sup>.t=sn m dr.t gm.n=sn Wsir ndl.n sw sn=f Stš r t3 m Ndlt

"Isis comes and Nephthys comes, one of them from the west and one of them from the east, one of them as a screecher, one of them as a kite; they have found Osiris, his brother Seth having laid him low in Nedit". <sup>90</sup>

### Another spell states:

<sup>87</sup> Faulkner, *Pyr.*, PP. 169-170, § 1008.

<sup>90</sup> Faulkner, *Pyr.*, PP. 199-200, §§ 1255-1256.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>86</sup> Sethe, *Pyr.*, § 1008 b-c.

<sup>88</sup> Sethe, *Pyr.*, II,P. 520, § 2144 a-b.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>89</sup> Sethe, *Pyr.*, II,P. 210, § 1255 c-d and § 1256 a-b.

in 3st gm.n in Nbt-hw.t m33.n =s[n] Wsir hr gs=f m idb [Ndit] "says Isis "I have found [you]", says Nephthys, for they have seen Osiris on his side on the Bank [Nedit]". 92

As for the site Nedit it was mentioned in the different religious and funerary texts in the following contexts:

### a) The Murder Place of Osiris:

Nedit was regarded in several texts as the murder location of Osiris, for example; <sup>93</sup>

ndi.n=k Wsir r t3 Ndit

"You felled Osiris to the earth of Nedit" 95

### b) The Resurrection Site of God Osiris:

Several texts refer to Nedit as the place that attested the resurrection of Osiris, for example; <sup>96</sup>



Wsir hr gs=f in sn=f Stš nmnm imy Ndit

ts tp=f in R<sup>c</sup> bwt=f kdd msd=f b3gi

"Osiris was laid down by his brother Seth, but he who is in Nedit moves, his head is raised by Re; he detests sleep and hates inertness". 98

92 Faulkner, *Pyr.*, P. 303, § 2144.

<sup>97</sup> Sethe, *Pyr.*, II, § 1500 a-b, PP. 317- 318.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>91</sup> Sethe, *Pyr.*, §2144 a-b.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>93</sup> Cf; Sethe, *Pyr.*, §§ 721, 819, 1256; Kamal El-deen, *Arab Archaeologists* 17, PP. 227-228.

 $<sup>^{94}</sup>$  de Buck, *CT*., VII, 37 h, (§837); Most probably the sign  $\stackrel{\smile}{}$  in the word Nedit is mistakenly replaced the sign  $\stackrel{\smile}{}$ .

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>95</sup> Faulkner, *CT.*, III, P. 23, §837.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>96</sup> Cf; Sethe, *Pyr.*, II, § 1502; de Buck, *CT*, I, 292 a (§ 69); IV, 383 g (§ 349); VII 40 a (838), VII 41 a (839); Kamal El-deen, *Arab Archaeologists* 17, PP. 229-233.

### c) Nedit attested a conflict between Horus and Seth:

It seems that on a high plateau in Nedit, a fight took place between Horus and his uncle Seth, as follows:

Hr km3 hn<sup>c</sup> Stš m k3.t t3 m Ndit

"Horus is wrestling with Seth in the high place of the land in Nedit". 100

In the same way the land of Nedit witnesses the defeat of the enemies of the deceased in the realm of the afterlife. <sup>101</sup>

#### **Conclusion:**

From the above mentioned representation it is clear now that:

- The two sites of *Gḥsty* and Nedit are connected with the murder of Osiris.
- *Gḥsty* is mainly mentioned when describing the act of finding Osiris, while Nedit was widely used in the religious texts either to indicate; the murder place of Osiris, the place of his resurrection or the Place which attested a fight between Horus and Seth.
- *Gḥsty* was not a definite geographical site, but it is a name that was given to any place connected with the act of finding Osiris, thrown on his side. Wherever the play of this myth was religiously performed, the place of finding Osiris was called as *Ghsty*.
- Nedit was a place that has a definite topography as a land with plateaus and a stream of water with two banks.

<sup>98</sup> Faulkner, *Pyr.*, § 1500, P. 231.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>99</sup> de Buck, *CT*, V, 128 a (§398), M3C.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>100</sup> Faulkner, CT., II, P. 34, (§ 398), 128, n.17

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>101</sup> Cf; Kamal El-deen, Arab Archaeologists 17, PP. 233-234.

# مكان مقتل أوزوريس

# جهست و ندیت "دراسة مقارنة"

د دينا صادق

### الملخص:

المصادر التاريخية المختلفة التى ذكرت لأسطورة إيزيس و أوزوريس الشارت إلى أماكن مختلفة للدلالة على مكان مقتل أوزوريس وهى جهست و نديت. نديت هى المكان الذى يعتقد بانه الذى انشأ عليه الاوزيرون فى البيدوس اما جهست فقد اعتقد على وجودها بأماكن متتعدة بالمحافظات المصرية القديمة. يقدم هذا البحث دراسة عن جهست كمكان مقتل اوزوريس ويعقد مقارنة بينه وبين نديت.

### الكلمات الدالة:

مقتل أوزوريس، نديت، جهست