HIERATICA 1.0.
A NEW AND UNIQUE TOOL DESIGNED FOR EGYPTOLOGISTS.

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It was many years ago when I managed to program the software named "Amanuense", the only hieroglyphs editor completely done in Spanish language. This editor permitted to work with 800 signs, groups of hieroglyphs created and inserted automatically, auto-learning function of the own program, many ways of writing and other utilities that lacked in the very extended software at that moment, as the well-known Winglyph.

That software, nevertheless, lacked one of the essential elements to be useful in printed publications: vectorial graphics.

Two years ago, I began to work again in the "Amanuense" with the intention of complete it with new functions and, fundamentally, to endow it of vectorial graphics. Now I can say that this purpose is already managed, but I have wanted to go further, and now the Egyptological community have a new program of hieroglyphs and hieratic edition. Now, at these moment, I am developing a new tool that will turn out to be extremely useful for professionals of Egyptology, which will be at public dispossal not before the end of this year, but at the begginings of 2008.

It is known for all the existing problem we have, when one try to insert hieratic signs into a hieroglyphs editor software and more difficult is still to find a single and unique hieratic editor software. Just like the moment in which I decided to create the "Amanuense", the past year I began to work with HIERATICA 1.0.

HIERATICA 1.0

As its own name shows, HIERATICA 1.0 is an editor of hieratic writing. What intends the one that subscribes, is to show in this Congress its more outstanding characteristics, the functions that the software permits to carry out and its components, that can be summarized in:

- Hieratic fonts taken from Müller, among others authors.
- Hieratic fonts of new creation.
- Multiple functions that we are used to work with using hieroglyphs editors.
- Possibility to export the text to a document of Microsoft Word.
- A small Spanish-Hieratic dictionary (English and French in project).
- Automatic Insertions of words and short phrases.
- Menus and help of the system in English and Spanish.
- Versatility in its use with different operating systems, included the new one Windows Vista.
- Great user friendliness.
- Visual form signs insertion possibility or by means of codes.

AIMS

The principal aim that has moved to the author to create HIERATICA 1.0 is to provide the professionals of Egyptology with a suitable tool to our days, avoiding specialized and scientific publications with insertions of composed text of drawn-by-hand signs or with difficult intelligible texts due to the lack of a suitable and specific software editor.

It turns out to be evident that Egyptology, like any other discipline, should be in harmony and has to be able to make use of new technologies. The study of an ancient civilization does not imply to renounce the contemporaries applied sciences. The application of the advances in modern technology, allow us to carry out our work in a more efficient way and spend less time with matters of form, what provides us more hours to dedicate to the study of the merits of the case.

Our purpose in presenting HIERATIC 1.0 in this Congress is not to give any publicity to this software to be sold, because, among other motives, before its publication and from now we have yet to attend some orders. We try to bring this new software to light, this new tool, to show all egyptological community its user friendliness, its adaptability to the needs of the professional of Egyptology, to show the need to create new tools and put them to the service of the study of ancient civilizations, and to solve the doubts that can arise in the course of my communication.

That last point, especially, united to the recommendations and suggestions which can be suggested by the participants in the Congress, will make us see if we have managed our principal aim (to create a useful tool for Egyptologists) or, on the contrary, to lay the foundations of those modifications or enlargements that we should carry out in HIERATICA 1.0 to adjust it to the needs declared.

PRESENTING HIERATICA 1.0 IN THE CONGRESS

To be coherent with the use of new technologies, my communication will be integrally carried out in a multimedia way, combining several systems to make a broad view of HIERATICA 1.0 easier, as well as all the capacity that it possesses, with special emphasis in demonstrate its practical use as a tool for Egyptologists.