

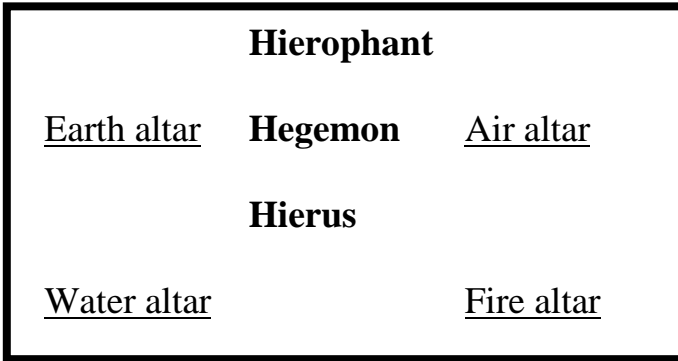
SISTERS OF SESHAT

TEMPLE RITUAL

Opening the Temple

Temple Diagram

East



Tools

Furniture

Chairs, one for each officer and for other sisters.

Temple tools

- Lamens for the goddess forms.
- A bell.
- An object which embodies the group egregore.
- Red cord wound on a spindle (or any other form of cord winder).
- First aid kit.
- Fire extinguisher.

Altars

- **Air altar:** small table, yellow altar cloth, yellow candle, spindle with red cord, egregore object, image of Seshat.
- **Fire altar:** small table, red altar cloth, red candle, censer and incense, lighter.
- **Water altar:** small table, blue altar cloth, blue candle, bowl of water and aspergillum.
- **Earth altar:** small table, green altar cloth, green candle.

Hierophant faces Hierus (west).

Hegemon and Hierus face Hierophant (east).

Hierophant: *(rings bell once)* Sorors of the Order of Seshat, please assist me to construct the temple. Soror Hierus, please see that the temple is guarded.

Hierus: *checks the door.* Soror Hierophant, the temple is guarded.

Hierophant: Soror Hegemon, please ensure that all present know the sign of Seshat.

Hegemon: Sorors, please give with me the sign of Seshat.

All stand and hold out their hands in the sign of Seshat.

Hegemon: Soror Hierophant, all present know the sign of Seshat.

All sit.

Hierophant: Let us establish the officers on their thrones. Soror Hegemon, what are your station and duties?

Hegemon: My station is in the center of the temple in the balance of light and darkness. I sit on the throne of Maat, and therefore am I called the Mistress of the Balance. I administer the air altar. In this temple I also administer the fire altar.

Hierophant: Soror Hierus, what are your station and duties?

Hierus: My station is at the edge of the temple where begin the regions of darkness. I sit on the throne of Nephthys, and therefore am I called the Mistress of Darkness. I administer the earth altar. In

this temple I also administer the water altar. I guard and protect the candidate in her introduction to the temple.

Hierophant: My station is at the edge of the temple where begin the regions of light and therefore am I called the Mistress of Light. I sit on the throne of Isis. I supervise the conduct of the temple, and I receive the sisters into the temple.

Hierophant: Let us prepare the temple. Soror Hierus, please purify the temple.

Hierus: *goes to the water altar. She picks up the bowl and aspergillum, circumambulates the temple once clockwise, asperging as she goes. She places the bowl back on the altar.*

Hierus: Soror Hierophant, the temple is purified.

She returns to her station and sits.

Hierophant: Soror Hegemon, please consecrate the temple.

Hegemon goes to the fire altar. She picks up the censer (with lit incense), and circumambulates the temple once clockwise, censuring as she goes. She places the censer back on the altar.

Hegemon: Soror Hierophant, the temple is consecrated. *She returns to her station and sits.*

Hierophant: Let us establish the temple. Soror Hegemon, what do you know of the source of our tradition?

Hegemon: It comes to us from all the corners of the globe, from Asia, Africa, Europe and America.

Hierophant: Soror Hierus, what do you know of the source of our tradition?

Hierus: It comes to us from human knowledge, from religion, philosophy, science, and gnosis.

Hierophant: Soror Hegemon, who preserves our tradition?

Hegemon: Our tradition was bequeathed to us by the ancients and by our foremothers.

Hierophant: Soror Hierus, who created our tradition?

Hierus: Our tradition is created anew every moment in our own hearts.

Hierophant: Let us measure the temple. Let the cord be stretched so that the foundation may be laid.

Hegemon and Hierus stand and go to the air altar. Hegemon picks up spindle. Hierus takes the end of the red cord and walks to the fire altar while Hegemon holds the spindle so the cord can unspool. Hegemon and Hierus stand holding the red cord.

Hegemon: The temple is measured from the east to the south.

Hegemon walks to Hierus and stands by the fire altar, winding the cord as she goes. Hierus then walks from the fire altar to the water altar while Hegemon remains at the fire altar, holding the spindle so the cord can unspool.

Hierus: The temple is measured from the south to the west.

***Hegemon** walks to **Hierus** and stands by the water altar, winding the cord as she goes. **Hierus** then walks from the water altar to the earth altar while **Hegemon** remains at the water altar, holding the spindle so the cord can unspool.*

Hegemon: The temple is measured from the west to the north.

***Hegemon** walks to **Hierus** and stands by the earth altar, winding the cord as she goes. **Hierus** then walks from the earth altar to the air altar while **Hegemon** remains at the earth altar, holding the spindle so the cord can unspool.*

Hierus: The temple is measured from the north to the east.

***Hegemon** walks to the air altar. **Hierus** gives Hegemon the end of the red cord. Hegemon re-winds the cord on the spindle and places the spindle on the air altar.*

Hegemon: Soror Hierophant, the walls of the temple have been measured.

***Hegemon** returns to her station and sits. **Hierus** remains at the air altar.*

Hierophant: Soror Hierus, please light the elemental candles and activate the four pillars of the temple.

***Hierus** lights the candles on the air, fire, water and earth altars, returns to her station and sits.*

Hierophant: *rings bell four times: ! ! ! !*. Sorors,
the foundation of the temple is laid. Let us invoke
the Mistress of the Temple.

All stand.

Hierophant: Establish the temple, Mistress of
Builders! *lifting her hands in the sign of Seshat.*

Repeat after me: *vibrates* Seshat!

All: *vibrate* Seshat!

Hierophant: placing hand on heart. Repeat after
me: Seshat is the ba in the heart of every
magician.

All: Seshat is the ba in the heart of every
magician.

All sit.

Closing the Temple

Hierophant: Sorors of the Order of Seshat,

please assist me to close the temple.

Soror Hierus, please extinguish the elemental

candles.

Hierus *extinguishes the candles on the air, fire,*

water and earth altars, returns to her station and

remains standing.

Hierophant: Sorors, our rite has ended. Let us all

keep Seshat in our hearts. Please give with me the

sign of Seshat.

All stand and lift their hands in the sign of Seshat.

Hierophant: Repeat after me: *vibrates* Seshat!

All: *vibrate* Seshat!

Hierophant: *placing hand on heart.* Repeat after me: Seshat is the ba in the heart of every magician.

All: Seshat is the ba in the heart of every magician.