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The text-image relationship in amuletic papyri: The case of the description of
the hierocephalic crocodile in P. Louvre E 32311

The papyrus Louvre 32311 is part of a group of textual amulets acquired by the Louvre in 1995, which also includes the papyrus Louvre 32308 (the papyrus of Mutemheb) published by Yvan Koenig in 2004. The papyrus Louvre 32311 was written for a female individual called Taiset. On palaeographic and onomastic basis, it may date to the end of Dynasty 20 at the earliest and most probably to the post-ramesside period. Inscribed with ten lines of hieratic script (7 full lines and 3 short lines), it has also a set of drawings, including six squatting deities and a hierocephalic crocodile. It presents two invocations (lines 1-5 and 5-10), each one beginning by a vocative. The first of the two invocations describes (specifically on lines 1-2) a divinity that has a composite appearance, and emphasizes the notion of *ba*. Despite some uncertainties about the reading of the text, it is likely to be related to the hierocephalic crocodile drawn at the bottom of the sheet of papyrus. After an examination of the text of the description and a comparison of its phraseology with other textual descriptions of composite or polymorphic deities, the text will be compared with the accompanying vignette. The question of the text-image relationship in textual amulets will be then considered.