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**Title of thesis:** A Lexicographical and Analytic Study of the Cryptographic Writing of the Ancient Egyptian Language Since its Beginning up to the Early 4<sup>th</sup> Century B.C.

### **Summary:**

The thesis is entitled 'A Lexicographical and Analytic Study of the Cryptographic writing of the Ancient Egyptian Language since its beginning up to the early 4<sup>th</sup> Century B.C'.

The previous studies of the Cryptography have revealed the absence of a dictionary of cryptic words which are not found in dictionaries of Ancient Egyptian Language. For this reason, this thesis is an attempt to present a lexicon of cryptographic writing. The aim of this study is collecting all the cryptic texts and writings -which are known until now- since the beginning of Cryptography up to the early 4<sup>th</sup> century B.C, and setting them in chronological order to investigate and analyze them.

The study starts with an introduction providing literature review on cryptography and the previous studies on this topic. It presents the beginning and development of Cryptography and how this form of writing flourished in the later part of Egyptian history, particularly in the Ptolemaic Period. The reason why such mysterious writing was used and what are the principles and rules of this script.

The study consists of three parts, each including several chapters arranged according to the phonetic values (phonemes) of the first sign of the word from *ʒ* to *ḏ*.

**The 1<sup>st</sup> part** included eight chapters. It deals with the cryptographic writing from the sound *ʒ* to the sound *f*. Each chapter starts with the cryptic signs then examines the cryptographic words and expressions. **The 2<sup>nd</sup> part** has nine chapters. It demonstrates the sounds from *m* to *ʃ* and **the 3<sup>rd</sup> part** from *k* to *ḏ*.

The thesis ends with a general conclusion bringing together the results reached above and showing how this form of writing developed during the pharaonic period and how it reached its peak during the Ptolemaic period. And also the appendices of plates giving signs used in cryptic writing, cryptic words, proper names, pronouns and texts, and finally the references.