

ANCIENT EGYPTIAN SOCIETY

Challenging Assumptions, Exploring
Approaches

*Edited by Danielle Candelora, Nadia
Ben-Marzouk, and Kathlyn M. Cooney*

CONTENTS

<i>List of Abbreviations</i>	<i>ix</i>
<i>List of Figures</i>	<i>xiii</i>
<i>List of Tables</i>	<i>xvii</i>
<i>List of Contributors</i>	<i>xviii</i>

Introduction **1**

- 1 Investigating Ancient Egypt's Societies: Past Approaches
and New Directions **3**
*Danielle Candelora, Nadia Ben-Marzouk, and
Kathlyn M. Cooney*

SECTION I **Power** **9**

- 2 Power and the Study of Ancient Egyptian Society **11**
Nadia Ben-Marzouk
- 3 Hidden Violence: Reassessing Violence and Human
Sacrifice in Ancient Egypt **17**
Roselyn A. Campbell

4	Making the Past Present: The Use of Archaism and Festivals in the Transmission of Egyptian Royal Ideology <i>Jeffrey Newman</i>	29
5	Divine Kingship and the Royal Ka <i>Jonathan Winnerman</i>	40
6	Trade, Statehood, and Configurations of Power in Ancient Egypt (Early-Middle Bronze Age) <i>Juan Carlos Moreno García</i>	49
7	The Social Pyramid and the Status of Craftspeople in Ancient Egypt <i>Caroline Arbuckle MacLeod</i>	62
8	Ancient Egyptian Decorum: Demarcating and Presenting Social Action <i>John Baines</i>	74
9	Co-regency in the 25th Dynasty: A Case Study of the Chapel of Osiris-Ptah Neb-anekh at Karnak <i>Essam Nagy</i>	90
SECTION II		
	People	101
10	The Egyptianization of Egypt and Egyptology: Exploring Identity in Ancient Egypt <i>Danielle Candelora</i>	103
11	Ancient Egyptian “Origins” and “Identity” <i>S. O. Y. Keita</i>	111
12	Eight Medjay Walk into a Palace: Bureaucratic Categorization and Cultural Mistranslation of Peoples in Contact <i>Kate Liszka</i>	122

13	The Value of Children in Ancient Egypt <i>Caroline Arbuckle MacLeod</i>	140
14	Orientalizing the Ancient Egyptian Woman <i>Jordan Galczynski</i>	152
15	The Ancient Egyptian Artist: A Non-Existing Category? <i>Dimitri Laboury and Alisée Devillers</i>	163
16	Hellenistic Warfare and Egyptian Society <i>Christelle Fischer-Bovet</i>	182
17	Revealing the Invisible Majority: “Hegemonic” Group Artefacts as Biography Containers of “Underprivileged” Groups <i>Gianluca Miniaci</i>	195
18	Reevaluating Social Histories: The Use of Ancient Egypt in Contemporary Art <i>Nicholas R. Brown</i>	210
SECTION III		
	Place	223
19	People of Nile and Sun, Wheat and Barley: Ancient Egyptian Society and the Agency of Place <i>Kathlyn M. Cooney</i>	225
20	Shifting Boundaries, Conflicting Perspectives: (Re)establishing the Borders of Kemet Through Variable Social Identities <i>Danielle Candelora</i>	235
21	Urban versus Village Society in Ancient Egypt: A New Perspective <i>Nadine Moeller</i>	248

22	Reassessing the Value of Autobiographical Inscriptions from the First Intermediate Period and “Pessimistic Literature” for Understanding Egypt’s Social History <i>Ellen Morris</i>	265
23	Othering the Alphabet: Rewriting the Social Context of a New Writing System in the Egyptian Expedition Community <i>Nadia Ben-Marzouk</i>	279
24	Language Policy and the Administrative Framework of Early Islamic Egypt <i>Jennifer Cromwell</i>	299
25	New Methods to Reconstruct the Social History of Food in Ancient Egypt: Case Studies from Nag ed Deir and Deir el Ballas <i>Amr Khalaf Shahat</i>	313
26	Stop and Smell the Flowers: A Re-Assessment of the Ancient Egyptian “Blue Lotus” <i>Robyn Price</i>	325
27	The Body of Egypt: How Harem Women Connected a King with his Elites <i>Kathlyn M. Cooney, Chloe Landis and Turandot Shayegan</i>	336
	<i>Bibliography</i>	349
	<i>Index</i>	413

FIGURES

3.1	A wooden label (left) from the tomb of an official named Hemaka at Saqqara seems to show a bound individual being stabbed in the chest by a second individual, who collects the spilled blood in a vessel (detail on right).	25
4.1	The Narmer Macehead.	30
4.2	Statue of Netjerikhet Djoser in festival garb, part of a statue triad from the festival courtyard of the Step Pyramid complex at Saqqara.	33
4.3	Ebony “year label” of Den from his tomb at Abydos.	35
4.4	Relief of Netjerikhet Djoser from the South Tomb of the Step Pyramid complex. The relief reads “creating (a statue) at the Great Southern <i>Weshet</i> -Court	37
8.1	A. Group of two (originally three) prostrate figures of statues of high officials prostrating. Mid 12th Dynasty, ca. 1850 BCE. B. Senwosret lid.	82
8.2	Blade of ornamental axe of Ahmose (ca. 1540–1505 BCE), from the burial of Queen Ahhotep in Western Thebes.	83
8.3	The executant, in a scene in the open court at the temple of Isis in Philae. Reign of Ptolemy II Philadelphos, 285–245 BCE.	84
8.4	A. Fragment of painted relief in the tomb of Reneny at Elkab. Reign of Amenhotep I, ca. 1500 BCE. B. Detail of scene of Amenemhab adoring king Thutmose III, with hieroglyph of prostration. Tomb of Amenemhab at Thebes (TT 85). Reign of Amenhotep II, ca. 1420 BCE.	85

8.5	A. Tomb of Ramose at Thebes (TT 55), hall, west wall, north, detail. Early reign of Amenhotep IV/Akhenaten, ca. 1350 BCE. B. Detail of processional scene in the very eroded <i>sed</i> -festival reliefs in the temple of Amenhotep III at Soleb, Sudan. Ca. 1360 BCE.	87
9.1	Relief showing Taharqo and Tanutamun, performing <i>heb sed</i> before God Osiris from Osiris-Ptah neb-anekh Chapel.	94
9.2	Image Showing Taharqo & Divine Adoratrice chapel Osiris neb ankh gate.	96
9.3	Relief from a chapel in the Temple of Mut, Karnak, showing Taharqo before Mut, with Nesptah, Montuemhat and Nesptah, standing behind him.	97
9.4	Relief shows the singer of Amun, sister of Montuemhat, governor of Thebes, standing behind Shepenwepet II, chapel of Osiris in the Ished-tree.	98
12.1	Section 42, PBoulaq 18.	128
12.2	Sections 46–46 & 49, PBoulaq 18.	130
12.3	Section 69–70, PBoulaq 18.	136
14.1	The North Triangular Court of the Temple of Mentuhotep II with pit tombs under discussion marked.	153
14.2	Artistic rendering of the tattoos on the individuals from Pit 26.	154
15.1	A. Detail of the scene of inspection of the workshops in the Theban Tomb of the Vizier Paser (TT 106). B. Depiction of the Vizier Mereruka as a painter in the doorway of his mastaba in Saqqara.	168
15.2	A. The socio-professional class distribution of the depicted artists. B. Chronological distribution of the two analyzed corpora: workshop scenes and individualized pictorial representations.	170
15.3	A. Chronological distribution of self-thematized representations of artists by trades. B. Monumental distribution of self-thematized representations of artists by trades.	171
15.4	Epigraphic drawing of the self-portrait <i>in assistenza</i> of Sennefer in the tomb of his father, the servant (lit. “the call listener”) Amenemhat in Deir el-Medina (TT 340).	175
15.5	Double depiction of “the lector-priest and scribe of the house of the divine books of the Great-House” Ihy-em-sa-Pepy, aka Iry, in the scene of “watching the painting and the work [of the sculptor]” in the tomb of the governor Pepy-anekh-heny-kem at Meir (T Meir 2).	177
17.1	Boots Adidas X17 Deadly Strike of Mohammed Salah, football player of the Liverpool football team in 2018, as exhibited in the British Museum in 2018.	197

17.2	Tiles in faience from the Building K II in the Eastern Cemetery of Kerma, MFA 20.1224.	198
17.3	Sketch plan and drawings of the contents of the tomb 1159A in the Western Cemetery at Deir el-Medina, Thebes, belonging to Sennefer (M) and Nefertiry (F).	200
17.4	A. Fingerprint analysis. a: figurine from Lahun with fingerprints (circled in red), b: finger regions and ridge breadth measurement parameters. B. Clay figurines from Lahun organized by showing the different steps in their manufacture of their production.	205
17.5	A. Detail of the cuboid rod segment, ManchM 1795. B. Detail of the waist of the limestone truncated-leg female figure, ManchM 1789. C. Detail of the right side of the wig of the limestone truncated-leg female figure, ManchM 1794.	206
18.1	“Nefertiti 5” by Egyptian Contemporary Artist Hossam Dirar. 2018. Oil on Canvas.	213
18.2	“Nefertiti” by Egyptian Street Artist El-Zeft. 2012. Cairo, Egypt.	215
18.3	“100 Years of Theft” by Egyptian Contemporary Artist Ammar Abo Bakr. 2012. Frankfurt, Germany.	216
18.4	“Nofretete” by Isa Genzken. 2018. Paint and Plaster.	219
18.5	Fred Wilson (American, born 1954). <i>Grey Area (Brown version)</i> , 1993.	220
21.1	Map of the settlement sites discussed.	259
23.1	Similarities and differences between the early alphabet and Egyptian writing system.	286
23.2	Leaders of the Aamu of Shu, Tomb of Khnumhotep (Tomb 3) at Beni Hasan. 12th Dynasty.	288
23.3	Possible examples of capitalized Aamu identity. A and B. Tomb and scarab of the “Deputy Treasurer, Aam” at Tell el-Dab’a. C. Donkey rider identified variously as Khebeded at Serabit el-Khadem in Sinai. D. Statue of Aam dignitary at Tell el-Dab’a. E. Obelisk from Serabit el-Khadem in Sinai depicting modified Egyptian soldier classifier (Gardiner sign A14A) holding a fenestrated axe and possible papyrus scroll or writing board, interpreted as an expedition scribe.	290
23.4	Graphic similarities between the early alphabetic script and inscribed personal objects in various craft circles. A. 13th Dynasty scarab from tomb at Tell el-’Ajjul. B. Wadi el-Hôl Inscription 2, with fifth grapheme highlighted and mirrored. C. Above: First and last graphemes from Wadi el-Hôl Inscription 1 and human head grapheme from Lachish dagger. Below: Limestone dagger mold from Tell el-Dab’a. D. Lachish dagger. E. Wadi el-Hôl Inscription 1. F. Stone mold bearing resemblance to modified Egyptian soldier classifier (Gardiner sign A12) on Sinai 163.	294

23.5	Similarities between specific graphemes in east Mediterranean, southwest Asian, and Egyptian scripts during the second millennium BCE.	295
25.1	Map of the study area, predynastic Nag ed Deir and New Kingdom Deir el Ballas, both in Upper Egypt.	317
25.2	A. Tigernut rhizome (<i>Cyperus esculentus</i>) from cemetery 7000 Nag ed Deir found in Basket N7459. B. Beer mash was found in a wavy-handled Jar from tomb N7402 from the Predynastic cemetery of Nag ed Deir. C. Pasticia fruits (<i>Pistacia Lentiscus</i> L.) from Tomb 7626, Cemetery 7000.	318
25.3	Multiple fruit species found from cemetery 1–200 at Deir el Ballas.	321
26.1	Blue water lily featured both in bouquet atop offerings and wrapped around jar beneath table. Tomb of Maya, Saqqara, 18th Dynasty.	326
26.2	Wood bust of Tutankhamun as Nefertem emerging from a blue water-lily, 18th Dynasty, JE 60723.	330
26.3	<i>smꜣ-tꜣ.wy</i> located on the side of the throne of the east colossus of Ramses II, inner courtyard, Luxor Temple.	334

TABLES

3.1	Subsidiary burials from the 1st Dynasty royal tombs and enclosures.	20
12.1	Section 61, PBoulaq 18.	135
21.1	Selection of settlement sites and their urban attributes.	257
25.1	AMS carbon Dating and $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ stable isotope results.	316