

# **ABUSIR AND SAQQARA IN THE YEAR 2015**

**Miroslav Bárta – Filip Coppens – Jaromír Krejčí (editors)**

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## ARCHAIC PERIOD AND THE OLD KINGDOM

**Miroslav Bárta – Katarína Arias Kytnarová – Martin Odler – Zdeňka Šůvová**

*'Killed' for eternity. Artefacts and ritual behaviour from a unique ceremonial structure in Abusir South* **1**

The principal aim of this contribution is to provide a preliminary report, analysis and interpretation of a Fifth Dynasty structure discovered in Abusir South during the 2014 season. This structure is square-shaped in ground plan, built entirely of mud bricks. It is located immediately to the north of the Fifth Dynasty mastaba of Neferinpu (about 2370 BC, early reign of Djedkara), which was excavated during the seasons of 2006 and 2007. The archaeological context seems to reflect a single, short-term event of a specific symbolical handling, perhaps a performance related to the burial ceremonies, and ending with the ritual of breaking the red sherds as evidence provided by the pottery and stone pounders seems to suggest.

*Keywords:* Old Kingdom – Abusir – Fifth Dynasty – cemeteries – burial ceremonies – ritual of breaking red sherds

**Edith Bernhauer**

*Erscheinungen und Wandel in der Privatplastik des Alten Reiches* **23**

*Abstract:* Die Privatstatuen des Alten Reiches sind bisher nur in Einzelartikeln ohne den Blick auf das Ganze, das heißt alle Statuentypen der Zeit, zu werfen, publiziert. Ihre Aufstellungsmöglichkeiten, teilweise zeitabhängig, schließen im Grab alle Räume, außerhalb das Dach und den Eingangsbereich mit ein. In den Tempeln sind sie dagegen selten belegt. Typologisch lassen sich nur im Serdab alle Statuentypen finden. Je nach Grabtyp (Mastaba, Felsgrab, Mischform aus beiden) können etwas unterschiedliche Dekorationskonzepte mit Statuen beobachtet werden. Parallel zur Vergrößerung des Verwaltungsapparates ab der 5. Dynastie nehmen die Anzahl der Gräber und die dazugehörigen Statuen zu. Insbesondere ab Niusserre fallen die „Pseudogruppen“, „Familiengruppen“ und „Statuen mit der Kauenden“ auf. Entsprechend der zeitlichen Nutzungslage, darin spiegeln sich dann die Statuentypen wieder, sind die zwei Hauptnekropolen in Giza und Sakkara zu sehen. So ist zum Beispiel zu beobachten, dass die Beamten der Verwaltungsschicht durch Leserstatuen und ihre häufig dazugehörenden Statuenkomplexe mehr das Bild von Sakkara als das von Giza prägen. Auch ist nicht von der Hand zu weisen, dass mehr Holzstatuen in der 6. Dynastie aus Sakkara als aus Giza bekannt sind. Da allerdings die Nekropole von Sakkara noch weiterer Ausgrabungen bedarf und fundierte statistische Auswertungen bisher fehlen, müssen viele Fragen offen bleiben. Dieser Artikel kann daher nur ein Versuch sein, sich den komplexen Fragestellungen zur Privatplastik im Alten Reich anzunähern.

*Keywords:* Altes Reich – Serdab – Mastaba – Felsgrab – Scheintür – Privatplastik

**Vivienne Gae Callender**

*Some Sixth Dynasty Queens: an historical perspective* **39**

*Abstract:* In contrast to the numerous names on the royal king lists, the number of known Egyptian queens is surprisingly small; even more noticeable is the limited quantity of secondary literature regarding these women. Thus, it is of great significance

that, over the last thirty years or more, a small number of archaeologists have increased that list of queens. Amongst these additions there have been some thrilling discoveries of Old Kingdom queens from South Saqqara to Abusir – the most recent addition being found only in the last months of 2014. These discoveries all add to our knowledge and understanding of these royal women in both minor and major ways – usually dependent upon the amount of evidence still remaining at the cemetery sites.

Once, we knew a little – mainly about their pyramids – regarding just ten queens who lived in the Sixth Dynasty. Today, thanks to a group of French archaeologists working at South Saqqara, that list now numbers nineteen named queens and two others whose names are not known. As a result of those discoveries, we also understand much more about the queen's importance and status in her society for this period because of their work. The women themselves are still enigmatic, and their royal role is not by any means properly understood, but in this discussion I would like to offer some ideas about the impact on Egyptian history made by some of those queens from the Sixth Dynasty.

*Keywords:* female gender role – cartouches – family discord – erasures – queens – Teti – Khuit – Ankhnespepy I – Ankhnespepy II – Pepy I – Pepy II – Neith – Merenre I – Merenre II

### **Vassil Dobrev**

*A necropolis from the First Intermediate Period at Tabbet el-Guesh (Saqqara South)* 53

*Abstract:* The IFAO Mission at Tabbet el-Guesh has already revealed the existence of two priests' necropolis at the excavated area of 60 x 50 m. One of them is from the end of the Old Kingdom (Sixth Dynasty) and is characterized by rectangular or square mud brick structures which are in fact enclosure walls surrounding and protecting open-air courtyards where funerary chapels, storerooms and shafts with burial chambers were built into the mountain. The ancient Egyptians called this type of funerary structure *per djet*, 'house of eternity'. The other necropolis is from the beginning of the Late Period (Twenty-Sixth and Twenty-Seventh Dynasties) and its tombs are organised in several North-South rows of small mud brick mastabas orientated East-West.

During the excavation season 2012–2013, the Mission discovered several small mud brick structures that could be dated to the First Intermediate Period (Seventh–Eighth Dynasties) and seem to be just a fraction of a much larger necropolis. Some of these structures are very simple, just white plastered niches with funerary shafts behind them, but others resemble to the so-called house-mastabas, characterised by a small courtyard and a low surrounding wall to the East. The house-mastabas H 1 and H 2' present an interesting feature on their eastern sides: an inscribed lintel was added over the false door stela, which has an offering table in front of it. The traditional Old Kingdom disposition of stela + offering table is modified here by the addition of a lintel over the stela and this could be considered as a criterion for dating structures from the First Intermediate Period.

*Keywords:* First Intermediate Period (FIP) – necropolis – house-mastabas – criteria for dating FIP structures – restoration of priest's funerary cult

### **Veronika Dulíková – Radek Mařík**

*Complex network analysis in Old Kingdom society: a nepotism case* 63

*Abstract:* The current state of Egyptological research faces a problem to process the huge volume of data. Researchers have dealt with the datasets consisting of thousands of entities. Such a volume cannot be evaluated efficiently and rigorously using a traditional manual manner of paper and pencil. Although methods of complex networks (CNA) have been used for the quantification of a number of historical aspects, nobody has yet applied CNA to the Old Kingdom context. This paper proposes a new approach based on the method of complex network analysis which

provides new possibilities for the better understanding of the Old Kingdom social and administrative developments. The treatise demonstrates the first promising results of this technique on an assessment of nepotism in the second half of the Old Kingdom exemplified in the numerous illustrative graphical visualizations.

*Keywords:* Old Kingdom – Fifth Dynasty – Nyuserre – complex network analysis – social network analysis – nepotism – society – administration – titulary – relational data mining

### **Andrés Diego Espinel**

*A neglected hunting scene from Saqqara (Pitt rivers 1926.14.6) and the iconography of the desert hunters during the Old Kingdom* 85

*Abstract:* Desert hunting is a well-known scene type in Old Kingdom monuments. They have been extensively analysed by egyptologists, who have mainly taken into account both their symbolic and social meanings and the animal information depicted on them. However, few authors have devoted specific studies on the iconography of the desert hunters. The present study takes into consideration their clothes, tools and gestures, analysing their development in time and space during the Old Kingdom. Moreover, depictions of the Old Kingdom desert hunters, their implements and techniques are compared with data from other periods, shedding light on the role of desert hunting and hunters during the pyramid age.

To this end, an unpublished fragmentary relief of a hunting scene, probably dating from the Sixth Dynasty, will be firstly examined. It is the relief Pitt Rivers 1926.14.6, donated in 1926 to the Oxonian museum by Cecil Mallaby Firth, who discovered it somewhere in Saqqara. Despite of its fragmentary state, it is an important document as it is the only known non-royal depiction of an Old Kingdom bowman in a Memphite hunting scene.

*Keywords:* Desert hunting – iconography – private tombs – pyramid complexes – Old Kingdom

### **Laurel Flentye**

*Royal and non-Royal statuary of the Fourth Dynasty from the Giza Necropolis* 123

*Abstract:* This article traces the development and interrelationships between royal and non-royal statuary during the Fourth Dynasty at the Giza Necropolis. Evidence for life-size statues and small-scale statuettes is attributed to the reigns of Khufu through Menkaura. Implicit within this discussion is the variety of contexts in which statuary occurred at Giza, namely the pyramid and valley temples of the royal pyramid complexes as well as the mastabas and rock-cut tombs in the surrounding cemeteries. From the outset, statuary is a feature of Khufu's reign in the early Fourth Dynasty at the Giza Necropolis. Although Khufu's pyramid complex is mostly destroyed, statue fragments are assigned to it including those excavated by Selim Hassan. Also attributed to Khufu's reign are a variety of sculptural types in the non-royal sphere, namely the seated statue of Hemiunu discovered in his serdab (G 4000), the reserve heads mostly found in the shafts or burial chambers of the mastabas of the Western Cemetery, as well as evidence for statue platforms. In the Eastern Cemetery (G 7000), different statue types also decorated the mastabas belonging to members of the royal family, such as the bust of Ankh-haf (G 7510), the scribal statues of Ankh-haf (G 7510) and Kawab (G 7120), and the seated statues of Kawab (G 7120) and Khufu-khaf I (G 7140) which are dated from Khufu's through Khafra's reigns. Their reconstruction in exterior chapels as well as offering chambers attests to the diversity of contexts in which statuary occurred as well as their particular function within the decorative program.

Based on the absence of a statuary program in Khufu's pyramid complex, Djedefra's statues from Abu Rawash provide a significant link between Snefru's and Khafra's statuary programs, which must have impacted the development of statuary

in the mid to late Fourth Dynasty at Giza. Djedefra's statues from Abu Rawash range in type, iconography, size, and materials which certainly is reflected in the statuary program of Khafra. Reconstructions of Khafra's pyramid and valley temples with seated and standing statues suggest that statuary was probably more a feature of the decorative program than relief decoration. In the non-royal sphere, the statue chamber of Minkhaf (G 7430) in the Eastern Cemetery (G 7000) may resemble the layout of Khafra's pyramid temple based on Herbert Ricke's reconstruction, but certainly reflects the interest in statue niches also evident in Kawab's exterior chapel (G 7120).

In the late Fourth Dynasty, Menkaura's pyramid complex continues the predilection for statuary, both in the pyramid and valley temples, ranging in type, iconography, size, and materials, including an emphasis on the monumental. The series of greywacke triads from Menkaura's valley temple are almost three-dimensional relief decoration, which must have had a programmatic layout. Stylistically, Menkaura's greywacke statues have greater modeling as compared with Khafra's anorthosite gneiss statues. In the non-royal sphere, the rock-cut tombs in the Eastern Cemetery (G 7000), Khufu-Khafra Quarry, Central Field, and the Menkaura Quarry Cemetery were probably influenced by the statuary programs in the pyramid complexes and vice versa, particularly the use of multiple images of the tomb owner and gesture between statues, e.g., the rock-cut statues of Meresankh III (G 7530sub). However, the addition of servant statuettes in Meresankh III's rock-cut tomb (G 7530sub) reflects an interest in daily life iconography, occurring in both statuary and relief decoration, but also essential to the tomb owner's afterlife. In this respect, the Fourth Dynasty at Giza witnessed an expansion in the use of freestanding and rock-cut statuary in differing contexts, suggesting that three-dimensional representation became an important feature of the overall programmatic layout and cultic function of the tomb, similar to the statuary programs in the royal pyramid complexes.

*Keywords:* niches – pedestal – rock-cut – scribal – serdab – statues

### **Lucie Jirásková**

*Model stone vessels of the Old Kingdom – their typology and chronology* **145**

*Abstract:* Assemblages of model stone vessels unfortunately never got enough attention of scholars dealing with the material culture of the Old Kingdom in the past. The article thus attempts to show their value, especially in respect of chronology. Firstly, the group was typologically described. The author divided vessels into several classes regularly appearing within the Old Kingdom burial chambers. Reflecting their numbers and material used for their production, the assemblages were compared. Such an analysis led to several "stages" with particular pattern of distribution. The turning points between them also reflected not only major changes in the burial and funerary customs, but also more general changes in the ancient Egyptian society.

During the whole Old Kingdom, the assemblages of model stone vessels represented social markers. In the Fourth and first half of the Fifth dynasty, they were made exclusively from travertine, and appeared in the tombs of members of the royal family and the highest officials. By the middle of the Fifth dynasty, the limestone sets took the place of earlier pottery model vessels, and found their way to the burial chambers of middle class officials. The Sixth dynasty brought another major change. Burial equipment became wealthier, and there was no more need for "humble" model vessels made of stone. From the beginning of the Sixth dynasty, the model stone vessels were slowly substituted by copper pieces, and by the middle of the Sixth dynasty they almost disappear in favour of real vessels made of different materials.

*Keywords:* Old Kingdom – stone vessels – travertine – limestone – typology – chronology

### **Mohamed Ismail Khaled**

*Notes on the crews of workmen of Sahura* **157**

*Abstract:* The new discovery from the northern wall of the causeway of Sahura at Abusir has added to our knowledge of the programme of royal scenes depicted on

the Old Kingdom's royal complexes. The reliefs came to light during the excavation by the Egyptian Ministry of Antiquities' mission around the pyramid complex of King Sahura, which started in 1994 and continued from 2002 until 2004. The exploration by the Egyptian team has so far revealed scenes listing a large number of crews of workmen who participated in different royal activities in the presence of the king himself. This paper sheds more light on the crews of Sahura, as well as presenting new names.

*Keywords:* Old Kingdom – Fifth Dynasty – Sahure – Abusir – causeway – relief decoration – workmen – crews.

### **Evgeniia Kokina**

*Alone or together: for whom were the private tombs of the Old Kingdom built?* 163

*Abstract:* Among the private tombs of the Old Kingdom there were so-called family tombs and family tomb complexes. Recent excavations at Saqqara and Abusir brought to light new examples of such tomb types. As the analysis of the Old Kingdom data shows tombs intended for one person were quite rare. At the same time the presence of several shafts did not influence in most cases the decoration of tombs which remained to be dedicated only to one person. The analysis of the cemeteries in the Memphite area and provinces reveals only about 300 private tombs in which cult places for other people besides the tomb owner were allocated. A cult place can be identified by false doors, offering table scenes, offering bearer scenes, depictions of priests, offering formulae, offering lists, offering tables, statues, offering rooms. The article intends to show who and how could obtain such a cult place besides the tomb owner; how the presence of cult places correlated with the number of shafts; why additional cult places were allocated; how such joint tomb possession was regulated.

*Keywords:* Old Kingdom – private tomb – tomb decoration – cult place – family

### **Jaromír Krejčí**

*Nakhtsare's cemetery in central Abusir – the burial ground for the royals?* 173

*Abstract:* A group of four tombs aligned along the north–south axis is located to the south and east of the mortuary temple of King Raneferef in the southern part of central Abusir and has been named the Nakhtsare cemetery. The results of the archaeological excavations of these much destroyed mastabas (excavated 1994–2016) represent an important supplement to our understanding of the development of the Abusir Royal Necropolis. Following the completion of the archaeological research, it is time to make an interim report on the group of these mastabas.

*Keywords:* Abusir – Fifth Dynasty – mastaba – royal family – royal mother – royal son – Raneferef – Khentkaus III – architecture

### **Hella Küllmer**

*„Das Verteilen von Gold“ – Einige Überlegungen zu den Webereien des Alten Reiches* 185

*Abstract:* After Hermann Junker published the Mastaba of Seneb in Giza V in the year 1941, including a study on some few other “Rewarding the female weavers”-reliefs, there has been little attention on this topic. This article provides a detailed description of the scenes and a discussion of the economic importance of the distribution of gold and other goods. A study of the titles and the social status of the persons engaged in the weaveries of the Old Kingdom shows a special connection to the king and the palace.

*Keywords:* weavers – titles – market – exchange – reward – Old Kingdom – reliefs

### **Audran Labrousse**

*Derniers hommages aux reines: Les autels de Noubounet et Inénék/Inti* 201

*Abstract:* During the excavation of the family necropolis of King Pepy I, inscribed fragments of altars were collected in the mortuary complexes of two of his wives:

Nebu-wenet and Inenek/Inti. These last tributes to the queens once belonged to the north chapel built on the access to the pyramid and to the offering room of the cult temple. We have now, for the first time, some knowledge of the altars of the north chapels. The altars belonging to the offering rooms, added to those already known, allow important differences in style, disposition of texts and material.

*Keywords:* Old Kingdom – Pepy I – South-Saqqara – altar – Nebu-Wenet – Inenek/Inti

### **Rémi Legros**

*Inhumations privées dans la nécropole de Pépy I<sup>er</sup>*

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*Abstract:* La nécropole de Pépy I<sup>er</sup> est aujourd'hui connue essentiellement pour les complexes funéraires du roi et des reines de la VI<sup>e</sup> dynastie. Pourtant, de nombreux particuliers sont venus là pratiquer leurs dévotions et, pour certains, s'y faire inhumer, constituant ainsi ce qui apparaît comme un véritable lieu de mémoire.

Trois grandes phases se distinguent, qui témoignent de l'évolution de cette nécropole royale, dans sa perception et son occupation. L' Ancien et le Moyen Empires se caractérisent par une continuité de l'activité rituelle dans le temple. Ensuite, jusqu'au Nouvel Empire au moins, les sépultures de particuliers se multiplient, mais conservent une certaine considération pour les installations royales. C'est à la Basse Époque enfin qu'il faut situer la cessation des pratiques funéraires.

*Keywords:* Pépy I<sup>er</sup> – inhumations privées – sacralité – lieux de mémoire

### **Émilie Martinet**

*L'administration des nomes de Basse-Égypte sous l'Ancien Empire*

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*Abstract:* In contrast to Upper Egypt, titles related to the Delta's administration are scarce on all levels: nomes but also in the region as a whole. Hence, the fact is that there are so few studies devoted to the organisation of this region during the Old Kingdom.

Although the epigraphic sources show that there was a territorial division initiated by the palatine elite, the nomes cannot be considered as provinces at the beginning of the Old Kingdom, in the sense where nothing proves their administrative nature at that time. This paper highlights the lack of a systematic and complete organisation based on the nome unit in Lower Egypt during the Old Kingdom. However, it is possible to perceive the importance of other administrative structures all along this period that we will describe, as well as a direct intervention of the royal power in some Lower Egypt sites.

In order to have a better understanding of the administration of Lower Egypt, one needs to take into consideration all the different officials, regardless of the position they held in the hierarchy and their sphere of influence. This paper tackles the importance of the supra-provincial level made up of men who played a role between the central institutions and province. With respect to the elites directly buried in the nomes of Lower Egypt under the Sixth dynasty and who have adopted the "formal palatine culture", it is unclear whether they had an influence on the entire nome. In any event, these elites were included in the Court society, as the elites of Upper Egypt.

In this paper, we will develop a more informal model of the Delta's administration than previously proposed. This model is based on a crossover study of the historical and archaeological sources dated from the end of the Old Kingdom, may they be royal or private. The ongoing process of territorial division especially in the oriental Delta, even at the end of the Fifth dynasty, is one of the factors which could explain the establishment of a peculiar administrative system in this part of the country.

*Keywords:* Old Kingdom – Delta – notes – administration – elites – local temple

### **Mohamed Megahed – Peter Jánosi**

*The pyramid complex of Djedkare at Saqqara-South – Recent results and future prospects*

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*Abstract:* Until recently the pyramid complex of Djedkara at Saqqara-South was

considered one of the most neglected royal funerary monuments of the Old Kingdom. Identified only in 1945/46 the complex has seen a number of brief investigations, which however remained unpublished or largely passed without notice. Yet, recent surveys and documentation started by the SCA in 2010 have shown that this king's mortuary complex is better preserved than most of the pyramid temples of the late Fifth and entire Sixth Dynasty. While the valley temple must be considered entirely lost under the present-day village of Saqqara the other parts of the complex are quite well preserved and yield a number of interesting features. Despite this, no complete documentation of the monument has been achieved thus far and the entire complex with its different architectural parts remains largely a riddle. The plans by Vito Maragioglio and Celeste Rinaldi (published in 1962 and 1977) still forming the major basis for any scientific engagement, are – as can be gathered after the observations/ documentations of the initial campaigns – misleading or wrong. This paper is briefly surveying the temple's main features and present condition. As the main focus of the paper the results of the recent work at Saqqara and future prospects is presented and discussed. The importance of the building and its potential for the art and architecture of the Old Kingdom highlighted.

This paper aims also to provide some new results of a project that started in 2009 with the aim to publish the material from the archaeological excavations of pyramid complex of Djedkare in South Saqqara. Numerous fragments of relief decoration were collected by the Egyptian missions in the king's complex, and therefore, a selection of fragments are presented in this paper.

*Keywords:* Old Kingdom – Fifth Dynasty – Djedkare – Saqqara–South – mortuary complex, architecture – relief decoration

**Massimiliano Nuzzolo** (with the collaboration of Patrizia Zanfagna)

*Patterns of tomb placement in the Memphite necropolis. Fifth Dynasty Saqqara in context* 257

*Abstract:* This article investigates the patterns of spatial distribution of tombs in the Saqqara necropolis during the Fifth Dynasty. After some preliminary considerations on the tombs spatial distribution and GIS-analysis, and the peculiarities of the other main contemporary necropolises of the Memphite area (e.g., Giza and Abusir), attention will be focused on Saqqara, either because it was the main cemetery of private people during the above period, or, and most importantly, because its overall topographical development has still to be fully understood. By crossing several kinds of data, including size and location of tombs, titles of tomb owners, and landscape phenomenology (accessibility and visibility of tombs and royal monuments), the paper shall provide some new insights into the historical dynamics of formation of the sacred landscape of the necropolis at the Fifth Dynasty.

*Keywords:* Saqqara – Fifth Dynasty – private tombs – spatial analysis – titles – social status

**Martin Odler**

*For the temples, for the burial chambers. Sixth Dynasty copper vessel assemblages* 293

*Abstract:* The article is a preliminary report on an assemblage of copper vessels found in the Sixth Dynasty tomb of the official Inti at the Abusir South cemetery (towards the end of the period of ca. 2305–2118 BC). The most important assemblage of full-size and miniaturized copper vessels comes from Shaft A of the complex with the burial of Inti Pepyankh, probably a relative or a client of Inti. The vessels contained a written reference to the ritual of funerary repast (*pr.t-hrw*), and their role in the ritual is explored in the article. The assemblage from this tomb is studied also from the point of view of regularized production of artefacts. It is then compared to other assemblages of copper vessels from Sixth Dynasty Egypt connected to the funerary repast and the Opening of the Mouth ritual. On the basis of the collected evidence, it is argued that the scope of vessels present in the burial equipment was similar to the vessels used in contemporary temples. The occurrence of the same types of vessels in several

specimens in full-size as well as miniaturized versions is explained as a possible trace of the agency of different participants in the provision of the burial equipment.

*Keywords:* Old Kingdom – Sixth Dynasty – copper vessels – funerary repast – Opening of the Mouth ritual – artefact regularization – agency

**Adel Okasha Khafagy**

*New excavation at North Saqqara. Soped-Hotep tomb* 317

*Abstract:* This is a report on the re-discovery of the mastaba of Soped-hotep dating to the Fifth Dynasty. The mastaba was found in 2013 when an illegal digging in the North Saqqara area led to the exposure of the tomb's chapel. The tomb was originally discovered by Mariette and labeled as D15, being located about 150 m east of the tomb of Ti. This report provides an account of the mastaba's architecture, decoration and later history as reflected through archaeological finds.

*Keywords:* Saqqara – Old Kingdom – Fifth Dynasty – mastaba – Seped-Hotep

**Dominic Perry**

*Requisition economics in provincial centres and Abusir in the Old Kingdom* 331

*Abstract:* The article examines the Old Kingdom's economic institutions from a new theoretical perspective: the theory of "requisitioning". It suggests that the Crown instructed and empowered consumers to collect goods directly from producers. Doing so, it avoided the institutional burden inherent in more redistribution-based systems. Evidence for this practice may be observed in various textual sources from Abusir, the Wadi al-Jarf accounts, royal decrees and autobiographies. It is concluded that requisitioning – legitimized appropriation – may have occurred in Egypt during these periods; its prominence, however, fluctuated wildly over different periods and regimes. The Crown's attitude frequently changed and requisitioning could be treated either as a necessary tool of management, or a harmful practice requiring prohibition.

*Keywords:* Redistribution – Requisitioning – Royal Economy – Abusir papyri – royal decrees

**Marie Peterková Hlouchová**

*Gods with solar aspects in selected written and epigraphic sources of the Old Kingdom* 345

*Abstract:* In the Old Kingdom the cult of the main sun god Re reached one of its peaks which was reflected even in written material of that period. On the contrary, other gods with connection to the sun, such as Atum, Shu, Horus, Sokar, Nefertem or Weneg, are not attested so often and, moreover, some of these gods appears only in the religious texts. This study is based on an analysis of selected written sources of the Old Kingdom coming from the Memphite area: the Palermo Stone, papyri from Abusir, seal impressions and the South Saqqara List. The Gebelein papyri are also included, as a sample of provincial documents. Most of these sources have not been studied in this way so far. The material is rather selective and is somehow connected to the royal sphere. The majority of evidence is dated to the Fifth Dynasty, to the period when the cult of Re reaches its zenith. Therefore, it is worth comparing the frequency of the attestations of Re and other deities with solar aspects. This *sondage* provides us with interesting and significant information concerning various gods of the solar religion.

*Keywords:* sun cult – Palermo Stone – Abusir papyri – seal impressions – South Saqqara List – Gebelein papyri

**Patrizia Piacentini**

*Excavating the egyptological archives of the Università degli Studi di Milano: The Varille's documentation on the pyramid complex of Djedkare-Izezi at Saqqara* 355

*Abstract:* Between 1944 and 1949, Varille worked as epigraphist at Saqqara for the Antiquities Service. He joined the mission of Abdel Salam Mohammed Hussein on

the excavations of the funerary complex of Djedkare-Izezi, but because of the premature death of both archaeologists their results were never published. Some large folders found in the Varille archives, housed in the University of Milan, contain materials that can be useful to understand the way in which the excavations were carried on and some of the objects discovered. This unpublished documentation consists in photographs, cards with notes and photographs, and a short report on the excavations. The aim of the article is to present and analyse these materials, as well as to discuss the role of some of the people who worked with Varille on the site, who are mentioned in his papers.

*Keywords:* Saqqara – Djedkare-Izezi – Alexandre Varille – Mohammed Hussein – Hassan Ahmed Osman – Fatouh Effendi

### **Joanne Rowland – Geoffrey John Tassie**

*A new funerary monument dating to the reign of Khaba: The Quesna mastaba in the context of the Early Dynastic–Old Kingdom mortuary landscape in Lower Egypt* 369

*Abstract:* King Khaba of the Third Dynasty is most closely associated with the site of Zawiyet el-Aryan due to the finding of a series of stone vessels in and around mastaba Z500 inscribed with his *serekh*. Apart from a few *serekhs* on seal impressions found in Upper Egypt at Elephantine and Hierakonpolis, he is virtually unknown outside of the Memphite region. There are also unprovenanced references to Khaba, including the seal impression UC11755. Many have assumed that the king was buried in the Layer Pyramid, or mastaba Z500, although some, including Swelim have questioned this. In 2010 a mud-brick mastaba (14.1 × 9.0 m) oriented north–south, was discovered at the central Delta site of Quesna, with the excavation of this structure completed in 2014. From one of the two burial chambers within the mastaba, a mud seal impression bearing the *serekh* of King Khaba was identified. The initial analysis of the pottery vessels from this mastaba indicated a date from Huni to Khufu, but analysis of the most recently excavated vessels may include new types, and possibly inscriptions. A small number of stone vessel fragments were also located, which appear to be of a similar stone type to those from Zawiyet el-Aryan. The exact placement of Khaba in the succession of rulers of the Third Dynasty is much debated, and so the finding of this mastaba in the Delta brings fresh data which may contribute towards this debate. Architectural comparisons between Z500 and the Quesna mastaba will also help to illuminate this little known reign.

*Keywords:* Delta – mastaba tomb – Quesna – Old Kingdom – Khaba – funerary

### **Saleh Soleiman**

*An attempt to identify the erased figures of offering bearers in some scenes of Kagemni's tomb at Saqqara* 391

*Abstract:* This study deals with the figures of nine offering bearers in the tomb of Kagemni, Teti cemetery at Saqqara. Some of these figures and all the identification texts had been for some reason erased. Detailed inspection of the erased texts leads to the conclusion that one of these representations is of Gemni, the eldest son of Kagemni and eight of the representations are of Kagemni/Gemnika, the second son of Kagemni.

The subsequent erasures of these two individuals may be the result of a dispute or power struggle between the sons of Kagemni's first marriage and the son of his marriage to the daughter of king Teti. Tetiankh, being of royal blood, would have been in a more powerful position and had the authority to carry out the erasures. Another possible explanation is that the erasures were part of the punishment of Gemni and Kagemni/Gemnika for involvement in the conspiracy to assassinate Teti.

*Keywords:* Saqqara – Teti – Kagemni – Teti cemetery – offering bearers

### **Anthony J. Spalinger**

*The trope issue of Old Kingdom war reliefs* 401

*Abstract:* A discussion of the repeated topos of the Libyan enemy in Old Kingdom royal depictions. The presence of this one common enemy of Egypt within repeated

written and pictorial sources from the Old Kingdom parallels indicates a nationalist feeling, one connected to the self-identity of the Egyptians, can be traced to a very early time in history. Of great importance is that this “theme” persists throughout Egyptian history. Libyan–Egyptian relations must be seen as not merely hostile in attitude from a primordial era but also as a theme that could be re-used over and over to magnify the kings’ military performances.

*Keywords:* persistent enemies of Egypt – Libya – Libyan family scene – Pepi I – Pepi II – Sahure – war reliefs

### **Joris van Wetering**

*The Macramallah burials, Wadi Abusir, Saqqara*

419

*Abstract:* The Macramallah burials or M burials, found by Rizkallah Macramallah (in 1936) within the lower Wadi Abusir, are for several reasons an atypical feature in the funerary landscape of Saqqara. Here, an interpretation is proposed that links these burials to the funeral of certain members of the royal family of the First Dynasty who were buried within the elite cemetery at North Saqqara. It is argued that these persons formed the household of a high ranking deceased during the period. His body was at the embalming station which was situated at the entrance to the Saqqara necropolis (lower Wadi Abusir). There, the priests took care of the body’s embalming process while the souls of the buried servants took care of the needs of the deceased’s soul. It is also argued that the M burials may be indicative of the arrival of high ranking members of the royal family in the Memphite region during the reign of *Horus Den* (or just before it) which may suggest that Memphis became the capital of the Old Kingdom polity (First Dynasty to Eighth Dynasty) during this reign (mid-First Dynasty).

*Keywords:* Wadi Abusir – Macramallah burials – embalming stations – First Dynasty – Memphis – capital

### **Hana Vymazalová – Katarína Arias Kytnarová**

*The development of tomb AS 68c in Abusir South: burial place of the king’s daughter Sheretnebtj and her family*

435

*Abstract:* The article presents a brief summary of the evidence on the rock-cut tomb of princess Sheretnebtj in Abusir South, and its development over time. The archaeological evidence is complemented by the analysis of pottery finds from the chapel, burial shafts and burial chambers in this tomb.

*Keywords:* Old Kingdom – Abusir South – rock-cut tomb – burial shafts – pottery finds – Sheretnebtj

### **Hana Vymazalová – Gabriele Pieke**

*Iti and his statuette from the tomb of Princess Sheretnebtj in Abusir South*

451

*Abstract:* The paper presents a discussion concerning the identity of Iti, an official attested in the tomb of princess Sheretnebtj in Abusir South. The up-to-date available evidence is summarised and analysed in this paper, in order to present the possible explanations for Iti’s identity, as either the princess’ husband or her offspring.

*Keywords:* Old Kingdom – Abusir South – rock-cut tomb – serdab – statuette – Sheretnebtj – Iti

### **Leslie Anne Warden**

*Serdab, cult, and ‘home’: Domestic life and relationships in Old Kingdom mastabas*

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*Abstract:* Serdabs housed statues of the deceased, acting as a supplementary home for the deceased’s *ka*. They have been understood to provide a point of participation for his cult. Closer examination of the corpus of tombs with serdabs shows that the role of this architectural feature was dependent in part upon its location: in the offering

room itself, the rooms before or after the offering chamber, or external to the chapel. Distinct locational traditions dominated Saqqara vs. Giza tombs, but within that framework there was a place for individual decision making in the number and location of serdabs placed in a tomb. Different locations served different purposes, with specific statuary types correlating to specific serdab locations. When both location and statuary are considered together, the serdabs appear to mimic spheres of the home in all of its multiple levels of decorum, with the formality increasing as the serdabs were placed in conceptually more 'private' areas of the mastaba. The serdab was not a simple addition or insurance for the cult of the deceased. Serdabs, especially those located outside of the offering chamber, were rather focused on recreating the home in a conceptual (rather than architectural) manner and establishing bonds to family. The serdab and its statuary thus served as a compliment to the cultic and ideological concerns apparent in the artistic program and the architecture of the tomb.

*Keywords:* serdab – mastaba – Old Kingdom – Saqqara – Giza – Abusir – statuary – architecture – kinship

### **Ayano Yamada**

*Some remarks on the evolution of the workers organization of the pyramid construction in the Old Kingdom through the examination of the so-called Mason's mark.* 489

*Abstract:* As transforming the volume and construction method of pyramids changed, it is assumed that the number of workers and their organization also necessarily changed. Although this assumption has been discussed in previous studies, the first appearance of the workers' organization named *ꜥpr* and its formation in the Fifth–Sixth Dynasty needs further consideration. This paper then reinterprets the phased development of the workers' organization as a stage through an analysis of the ratio of the appearance of the masons' mark. In addition, the factors which strongly influenced the changes in the worker's organization are examined.

As a result of the analysis, no team marks or names of organizations had appeared in the Third Dynasty (First stage). Some phyle-signs' team marks first appeared on the north pyramid in Dahshur, in the reign of Snefer (Second stage). The *ꜥpr* team name prefixed with the King's name (crew name) also appeared in this reign, but it is incised on a copper chisel, not painted on the stone. In the Third stage, from Khufu to Menkaure, a typical style of the workers' organization was completed: the crew name – phyle-signs' team mark – a single sign that refers to the smallest workers' group. According to Roth and other studies, it has been suggested that most of the names of those workers' organizations were involved with nautical terms. However, the oldest example where the sign of *ꜥpr* with the King's name was written is a copper chisel. In other words, the crew name may not be derived from nautical terms; it seems that originally it was the name of the carpenters' group. As well as changing society, innovations and improvements to do with the construction technology of the pyramid were spectacular during the First to Third stages. Because the timing of construction innovations and the stage of each change corresponded to each other, it can be inferred that the changes in the workers' organization at that time were forced by technical and physical necessity. After the middle of the Fifth Dynasty, interesting inscriptions were written that show the names of high officials and their titles (Fourth stage). In this case, the political and economic aspects of that period, and especially "the collapse of the Old Kingdom", were affected rather than the technical factors.

*Keywords:* workers' organization – formation – stage – factor – *ꜥpr*

### **Mohammad M. Youssef – Břetislav Vachala**

*Vier Grabplatten mit Opfertischszene aus Saqqara und Abusir*

503

*Abstract:* Four interesting funerary limestone relief slabs were discovered in the Memphite necropolis in the past, which remained yet unpublished and are so far unknown.

Two of them were discovered in 1966 in the area to the west of the Nefer tomb, near the Unas causeway in Saqqara, by Ahmed Moussa (reg. nos. 16204a, 16204b), and the third one in 1994 on the western border of the contemporary Muslim cemetery at Abusir by Mohammad M. Youssef (reg. no. 19156). The central dominant motif in the decoration of these slabs represents the offering-table scene, where the owner receives various kinds of offerings. Their names are occasionally added. The owners of the stelae are Tisatjet (m.; reg. no. 16204a), Nesptah (f.; reg. no. 16204b) and Denegneferef (m.; reg. no. 19156). One can suggest to date the slabs to the late Archaic Period (mid Second Dynasty: reg. no. 16204a; late Second Dynasty: reg. no. 19156) and the early Old Kingdom (late Third Dynasty: reg. no. 16204b). A similar limestone relief slab belonging to an unknown person was recently found in the South Abusir cemetery by the Czech mission (exc. no. 15/AS 39/2013). Its possible dating is early Fourth Dynasty.

*Keywords:* funerary relief slabs – Saqqara – Abusir – mortuary cult – funerary repast

## THE MIDDLE KINGDOM

### Jan-Michael Dahms – Elisabeth Kruck

*Ipiemsaef: a new insight into his tomb, his coffin, and his burial equipment* 513

*Abstract:* In 1906/07 J.E. Quibell excavated the tomb of Ipiemsaef and Khenu in the Teti Cemetery in Saqqara. Although it was intact little attention was paid to the burial as well as to the associated coffins. Furthermore the inscriptions of the coffin of Ipiemsaef (Sq8C) are not part of A. de Buck's edition of the Coffin Texts. The article introduces new aspects of the textual compilation of the coffin of Ipiemsaef which includes new parallels for the Nut-texts as well as for p.Gardiner II, and it presents new ideas concerning the burial arrangement and its dating.

*Keywords:* Ipiemsaef – Khenu – J. E. Quibell – Teti Cemetery – Saqqara – Sq8C

### Zahi Hawass

*The statue of Dedu-Amon* 527

*Abstract:* The article provides a detailed description of a statue of Dedu-Amon, currently in the private collection of Heide Betz (San Francisco). The serpentine statue of Dedu-Amon as a standing man, striding forward, can be dated to the Thirteenth Dynasty based on a comparison with similar statues.

*Keywords:* Middle Kingdom – Thirteenth Dynasty – statuary – private collection

### Ken Yazawa

*The late Middle Kingdom shaft tombs in Dahshur North* 531

*Abstract:* Since most of the Middle Kingdom shaft tombs in Egypt have been thoroughly plundered, until now analyses of cemeteries have relied on the patchy evidence of the remaining objects. However, the subterranean structure of the tombs was usually unaffected by robbery. It is possible to complement the lack of information and obtain an overall view of the cemeteries by analyzing these structures. This paper classifies the shaft tombs in Dahshur North by form and size, and then examines the relationship between date, social status of the owner and the result of the classification. Orientation of the shaft tombs is also investigated, and the result describes its significant relationship to the funerary landscape of the Saqqara–Dahshur region.

*Keywords:* Dahshur North – Middle Kingdom – shaft tomb – social status – funerary landscape

## THE NEW KINGDOM

**Robert Parker**

*An undisturbed minor burial in the Teti Cemetery* 545

*Abstract:* The discovery of an undisturbed burial is of importance for several reasons; it affords context to the burial assemblage which hints at the significance attached to the various objects interred by the people that performed the burial. It also provides a glimpse of possible social conditions such as wealth and status as applied to the deceased. Non-elite burials contain a wealth of information on the lower classes of Memphite society thereby representing a 'silent majority' who mainly speak to us not through biographies, monuments or inscriptions but through the nature, context and origin of their funerary assemblage.

Macquarie University, through the Australian Centre for Egyptology under the directorship of Naguib Kanawati, found such a burial during excavations in the Teti cemetery in January, 2008. Located in the N–W sector of the cemetery this intact minor burial contained several bodies complete with almost thirty artefacts including a large amount of imported ceramics.

Analysis of the previously unpublished contents will suggest the burial to have occurred either during the reigns of Hatshepsut or more likely Thutmose III. Context and type of artefact illustrate the possible burial practices of the common man at this period of Egypt's history. Further this interment will be compared with other minor burials in the Teti cemetery in an attempt to gain a more balanced understanding of this burial type.

*Keywords:* context – Cypriote – intact – minor burial – trade

**Stéphane Pasquali**

*Les fouilles d'Auguste Mariette Saqqara (1858–1875). Les tombeaux du Nouvel Empire* 557

*Abstract:* A study about an important part of Auguste Mariette's excavations at the necropolis of Saqqara by means of archives of the time (handwritten and photographic archives of Théodule Devéria, the 'inventaire de Boulaq', etc.). The list of all inscribed objects from the New Kingdom is provided.

*Keywords:* Saqqara – Abydos – Auguste Mariette – Théodule Devéria – Boulaq Museum

**Maarten J. Raven**

*What the butler saw: the life and times of Ptahemwia, royal butler at Memphis* 583

*Abstract:* Ptahemwia was royal butler in Memphis, presumably during the reigns of Akhenaten and Tutankhamun. His tomb was found in 2007 by the joint Expedition of the Leiden Museum and Leiden University in the New Kingdom cemetery at Saqqara. It contains a number of wall-reliefs and inscriptions which, together with the architectural information and the remains of the funerary gifts, allow us to reconstruct Ptahemwia's biography. This information also helps to reconstruct the various tasks of a royal butler in general and provides further details on the political climate at Memphis during the Amarna and post-Amarna period.

*Keywords:* Memphis – Saqqara – Ptahemwia – royal butler – Amarna period – Tutankhamun

**Nico Staring**

*Toward a prosopography of New Kingdom tomb owners in the Memphite necropolis* 593

*Abstract:* This contribution takes as its point of departure the observation that the relationship between individual tombs in the New Kingdom necropolis at Saqqara is still poorly understood and that no coherent internal patterns have been established. The organisation of this vast elite necropolis and the spatial distribution of tombs therein are here studied by analysing the prosopographical data of 448 individuals:

the tomb owners. After introducing the prosopographical method and its challenges, in particular as concerning the case study of Saqqara, its research potential will be demonstrated. The distribution of tombs according to the titles (occupational, rank, and honorific) of their owners and the observable changing patterns through time provide a first, tentative indication for the rationale of their distribution. Since the location of a majority of New Kingdom tombs is today lost, knowledge of the rationale underlying tomb placement is pivotal to allow for making statements about the original appearance and development of this necropolis. This research potential is illustrated with selected case studies.

*Keywords:* New Kingdom – Prosopography – spatial analysis – tomb placement – titles

## LATE PERIOD AND BEYOND

**Renata Landgráfová – Filip Coppens – Jiří Janák – Diana Míčková**

*Myth and ritual in the burial chamber of the shaft tomb of Iufaa at Abusir: Snakes and snake-like beings* 613

*Abstract:* The shaft tomb of Iufaa at Abusir dates to the turn of the Twenty-Sixth and Twenty-Seventh dynasties and the extent of its interior decoration is unique among Late Period tombs. Only the Theban tomb of Padiamenipe (TT33) contains a similar range and extent of texts and representations. The unfinished western wall of Iufaa's burial chamber, as well as the upper part of the northern wall, contain a number of representations of snakes and snake-like creatures alongside their accompanying texts. Snakes similar to some of these creatures can be found in the 6<sup>th</sup> hour of the Amduat, that is, the deepest regions of the Underworld, whereas others have been identified on the astronomical ceiling at Esna, as well as in Papyrus Jumilhac. The northern wall of the burial chamber, which is the focus of the present paper, is almost entirely taken up by the text of the ritual of the purification of the Egyptian king, adapted for Iufaa. A comparison of the motifs in the text of the ritual indicated that the short mythological compositions and allusions to mythological events that accompany the snake-like beings hold, in fact, the myths that explain and underlie the various actions of the purification ritual.

*Keywords:* Abusir – Late Period – shaft tomb – Iufaa – snakes

**Hassan Nasr el-Dine**

*La répartition des cimetières saïtes à Saqqara* 627

*Abstract:* Ce travail a essayé de mieux comprendre la répartition des cimetières de Basse Époque, et l'évolution de la nécropole à travers les époques tardives, y compris l'époque ptolémaïque. Pour aborder le sujet, on a tenté de présenter les tombes dont l'emplacement bien connues, puis celles dont l'emplacement est inconnu. Ensuite, on a indiqué les parties différentes où se regroupes ces tombes: au sud de la pyramide d'Ounas, sur l'emplacement du temple bas d'Ounas, dans le secteur au nord de la chaussée d'Ounas, autour de la pyramide d'Ouserkaf, autour du complexe de Djéser et entre la monastère de St. Jérémie et l'enceinte de Sekhemkhet.

*Keywords:* Saqqara – Basse Époque – Saïte – Bakenrenef – tombe – nécropole – cimetière – emplacement connu et inconnu

**Květa Smoláriková**

*Some remarks on the architectural and religious aspects of the Late Period's shaft tombs* 641

*Abstract:* From an architectural point of view the construction of the Late Period's shaft tomb kept certain rules: its superstructure consists of a huge enclosure wall with a square plan, in front of the eastern wall could be a mortuary cult installation; but the feature most typical is a massive limestone burial chamber with vaulted roof and lavishly decorated walls, built at the foot of a huge and deep main shaft. This is

connected with the surface by narrow vertical subsidiary shaft(s) and long horizontal passage(s) starting from the bottom; and one cannot omit the embalmer's deposit strictly situated to the southern part, more precisely to the SW-corner of the funeral complex. And I would like to stress the latter feature especially, because it seems – judging from our research – that location of embalming remnants had direct connection with religious texts depicted on the southern walls of the burial chamber. Here, beside a list of offerings, a series of Spells from the Pyramid Texts mentioning resurrection were clearly identified. My central concern here is to examine these particular Spells in both religious and cultural contexts, using the background in architectural disposition.

*Keywords:* Late Period – shaft tomb – burial chamber – Pyramid Texts – Embalmer's deposit

## VARIA

### Hana Navratilova

#### *Miscellanea Graffitica I*

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*Abstract:* *Miscellanea Graffitica* fill in on different aspects of graffiti studies in the Memphite area. The paper revisits 1) aspects of graffiti research methodology and research history, 2) archived records of the texts from the temple of Userkaf including visitors' graffiti, and 3) a Ramesside figural graffito found in the pyramid complex of Senwosret III at Dahshur, which is part of an extensive graffiti corpus dating to the New Kingdom that includes both textual and figural graffiti. It is a testimony to ancient skill and craftsmanship and its unusual features resemble period ostraca produced in the communities of Western Thebes, including Deir el-Medina. The character of the drawing inspires a reading of the piece as a caricature or satirical portrait showing upturned ideals of Egyptian elites. The piece inspires hypotheses regarding not only assumed purposes (or lack of) of the drawing, but also its wider social setting. The apparent skill of the maker is also an indicator of his social position and invites speculations about the community of workmen or artists.

*Keywords:* Graffiti – visitors – draughtsmen – scribes – epigraphy – Memphis – New Kingdom

### Christian Orsenigo

#### *James E. Quibell records on Saqqara in the archives of Alexandre Varille*

675

*Abstract:* This paper provides an overview of some archival materials from James E. Quibell archive, which is preserved at the Università degli Studi di Milano (State University of Milan, Italy). This wealth of materials (more than 3500 photographic prints, notebooks, etc.) is the object of an on-going project supported by a grant from The Michela Schiff Giorgini Foundation started in 2014. The paper presents some general considerations that emerged from the analysis of the photographs and illustrates through some different case studies the importance of the discovery of this documentation as well as that of the handwritten one. Besides documenting the major discoveries made by Quibell in Saqqara, the archival materials preserved in Milan is precious not only for the archaeological research *stricto sensu*, but also for the history of antiquities collecting and provides plenty of information on how could be working in Saqqara at the beginning of the XXth Century.

*Keywords:* Egyptological Archives – Università degli Studi di Milano – James E. Quibell – Saqqara

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