



CRE Napoli 2017

CURRENT RESEARCH IN EGYPTOLOGY

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PAPER AND POSTER ABSTRACTS

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Università
degli Studi di
Napoli,
"L'Orientale"

CRE 2017: NAPLES

CRE 2017: NAPLES Organizing Committee and Technical Staff would like to warmly welcome to all the participants to the eighteenth annual Current Research in Egyptology Conference hosted, for the first time in Italy, by the University of Naples, "L'Orientale" (Unior).

"L'Orientale" is the oldest school of Sinology and Oriental Studies in Europe and has a strong tradition of language, cultural and social studies, both ancient and modern, relating to Europe, Asia and the Americas. Since its origins (in 1732) the "Orientale" has focused on studying the similarities and differences between culture and identities, not least in order to gain a better knowledge and understanding of our own identity and culture.

"L'Orientale" aims to be a windows on the world, not only for its students, but also for the city in which the university is rooted. Moreover, the millennial history of Naples itself, located in the middle of the Mediterranean, clearly shows just how fruitful contact with other cultures can be, especially with Egypt. For this reason the Department of Asia Africa and Mediterraneo (DAAM), includes the teaching of Egyptology and Coptic Language and Literature, inaugurated by the late Prof. Claudio Barocas in the early Seventies.

All the Neapolitan Egyptologists nowadays come, directly or indirectly, from the school of Barocas, to whom we would like to continue to pay homage with the organization of the 2017 edition of CRE at Naples. Today at University of Naples "L'Orientale" the Chairs of Egyptology and Nubian Studies promote many archaeological investigation in Egypt and Sudan and research projects (PhD) focused on different aspects of the ancient Egyptian culture and it has also fruitful cooperation with the "Soprintendenza Archeologica della Campania" and the National Archaeological Museum of Naples (MANN).

The organising committee would like to thank the Dean of University "L'Orientale", Prof. Elda Morlicchio, the Director of the the Department of Asia Africa and Mediterraneo (DAAM), Prof. Michele Bernardini and the Director and the Technical Manager of the Interdepartmental Services Center For Archaeology of University (CISA), Prof. Bruno Genito and Dr. Andrea D'Andrea.

We wish to thank also our featured speakers - Rosanna Pirelli, Andrea Manzo and Irene Bragantini (University of Naples), Marilina Betrò (University of Pisa), Patrizia Piacentini (University of Milan), Christian Greco (Museo Egizio of Torino) and Daniela Picchi (Civic Museum of Bologna) - for their attendance and their interesting essays, and the Scerrato Museum - the University Museum - the National Archaeological Museum of Naples (MANN) and the "Soprintendenza Pompei".

A special thank goes to the CRE Permanent Committee - Solène Klein, Julia Hamiton, Wojtek Ejsmond and Maxwell Stocker.

Finally, we would like to thank all people who have supported and helped us in the organization of the conference, as the graphic designer Daniela Moxedano as Pummy (grafikummy@gmail.com), and all the participants who contribute to the success of CRE 2017.

Thank you and welcome to Naples.

The CRE 2017: NAPLES Organizing Committee and Technical Staff

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FEATURED SPEAKER ABSTRACTS

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ANCIENT PLUNDERINGS AND REUSE THROUGH THE LENS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS IN THE TOMB MIDAN.05 AT DRA ABU EL-NAGA.

During the New Kingdom and the Third Intermediate Period thefts in the tombs were a common praxis, attested by textual sources and archaeological evidence. In recent years many studies stressed the existence of a further factor of disturbance of the original context of burials: reuse of coffins and grave goods. The two elements - theft and reuse - intertwined and interacted in different ways depending on the situation, making the overall picture not always immediately obvious. These aspects also pose a significant problem: the religious attitude of the ancient Egyptians involved, especially in the case of reuse. This paper shall examine issues and problems affected by the practise in the light of the findings in shaft P3, located in the forecourt of the tomb MIDAN.05 at Dra Abu el-Naga (Theban necropolis), whose archaeological investigation was completed in 2014 by the expedition of the University of Pisa.

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THE RESEARCHES OF THE UNIOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL MISSION IN THE EASTERN DESERT OF EGYPT

The paper will present goals and first results of the Italian mission in the Eastern Desert. Main sites where we conducted our work, starting from the area of Wadi Gasus, are:

- the ‘Graeco-Roman station’ on the same wadi, probably a ‘Road station’ near a water point. Surface pottery and remains dating from different periods point to a variety of human activities on the area, religious as well as productive.
- a gold mining site: the metal was extracted in opencast trenches from the veins of quartz present in the granite formation of the area. Huts built of unworked boulders are scattered on the site, which appears to have had a short life. The dearth of pottery (late Roman) and the lack of dumped debris would point to poor conditions of life and to a low-scale operation.

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DIALOGUE BETWEEN EGYPTOLOGY AND SCIENCES: ARCHAEOOMETRY AS A TOOL, RESEARCH AS AN END

Scientific investigations are an increasingly important part of Archaeological and Egyptological research. This has resulted in a greater understanding of the museum’s collections, producing new information useful in their preservation. Many new Egyptological discoveries are the result of projects generated by the collaboration between Egyptologists and scientists. Archaeometry, indeed, gives a different but complementary image of the objects, through the characterisation and reconstruction of the object’s history, analysing the natural and artificial traces left during its lifetime.

In the Museo Egizio, many archaeometrical analyses have been undertaken on the different materials and for different purposes. An interesting example is the examination of the coffin of the TIP and Late Period. Non-invasive analyses (ultraviolet induced fluorescence, infrared false colour, radiographic investigation, X-ray fluorescence and 3D shooting) allowed the recognition of re-use and adaptation of a pre-existing coffins. In particular, targeted micro samples allowed the identification of the sequence and composition of the layers of pigments, both in an inorganic (identifying pigments and preparations with stratigraphic analysis, photomicrographs in the infrared false colour, SEM-EDS and XRD) and organic point of view (identifying binders, paints and any superimposed substance during the restoration with FT-IR analysis and GC-MS).

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EGYPT AND AFRICA: THE CONTRIBUTION OF “L’ORIENTALE”

The relation between Egypt and Africa is one of the traditional research fields of the University of Naples “L’Orientale”, not only for the personal history and interests of the scholar operating here, but also because here the course of Egyptology was established in the framework of a Department of African and Arabian Studies. Since then, the University “L’Orientale” greatly contributed to the study of this topic with ongoing research projects in Egypt and Sudan. In Egypt, investigations are conducted in collaboration with Boston University at Mersa/Wadi Gawasis, on the Red Sea coast, the harbor from where the Middle Kingdom expeditions to the land of Punt were launched. In Sudan, a team of “L’Orientale” is operating in the Kassala region, not far from the Eritrean border, showing the involvement of that area in a network touching Nubia and Egypt itself. The main achievements, recent developments and perspective of these research projects will be outlined in this presentation.

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FROM THE EGYPTIAN SCRIBES TO THE EGYPTOLOGISTS AS SCRIBES: TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF RESEARCH AT THE UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO

In 2009, the Chair of Egyptology of the University of Milan founded *EDAL, Egyptian and Egyptological Documents, Archives and Libraries*. The title itself of this annual resumes the main topics developed by the Milan research center since its creation 25 years ago.

At the beginnings of the Nineties, historical and prosopographical studies on scribes and officials whose titles were connected with writing were developed, with the aim of a deeper comprehension of their role in the Egyptian administration and society. Researches on scribal tools followed, in museums all over the world, that will end up in a comprehensive synthesis on the subject.

In the meanwhile, the University of Milan started a policy of acquisition of archives of important Egyptologists, the “modern scribes” who have written the history of the discipline over the last two centuries. The results achieved on these topics will be presented, together with the paths of investigation still open for the future generations.

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PUBLIC HERITAGE AND PRESERVATION: THE BOLOGNA CASE STUDY

A. Desvallées and F. Mairesse pointed out in *Concepts clés de muséologie* (2010) that “En muséologie, la préservation rassemble l’ensemble des fonctions liées à l’entrée d’un objet au musée, soit les opérations d’acquisition, d’inscription dans l’inventaire, de catalogage, de mise en réserve, de conservation, parfois de restauration. La préservation du patrimoine, de manière générale, induit une politique qui débute par l’établissement d’une procédure et de critères d’acquisition du patrimoine matériel et immatériel de l’humanité et son environnement, pour se poursuivre avec la gestion de ces choses devenues objets de musée, puis leur conservation. En ce sens, le concept de préservation représente l’enjeu fondamental des musées, car le développement des collections structure la mission du musée et son développement.” The history of the Bologna museums, by focusing attention on the Egyptian antiquities, can be considered an interesting case study of this fundamental function of museums.

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PAST AND PRESENT OF THE EGYPTOLOGICAL RESEARCH AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NAPLES, L’ORIENTALE

Since its foundation by Professor Claudio Barocas, in 1970, the Chair of Egyptology at *l’Orientale* has been characterized by a multidisciplinary approach and a wide range of research subjects. The origin of the Egyptian state, economy and society, history of art and iconology, “political” interpretation of literary texts were some of the main concerns of the Egyptological research, all of them being dealt with a multifaceted approach, where archeological, historical and anthropological perspectives were taken into account.

Neither the perception of Ancient Egypt by Western culture nor the valorization of the Egyptian cultural heritage were neglected by Claudio Barocas. He was indeed the promoter of the first modern project of study and exposition of the Egyptian collection of the National Archaeological Museum of Naples, thus inaugurating a fruitful collaboration of *l’Orientale* with the local cultural institutions in the field of the Egyptian antiquities.

It is in this challenging perspective, that Egyptology is still perceived at *l’Orientale*, whose current activities will be shortly presented.

PRESENTATION ABSTRACTS

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RECENT ARCHAEOLOGICAL DISCOVERIES IN ABA ISLAND – SUDAN

The area of northern part of Aba Island in the White Nile has a proven record of cultural heritage, which represents an important part of the cultural heritage of the Sudan, so, this paper aims to study the archaeological sequence in the area in addition to the cultural aspects, it is also aims to describe briefly the results of a preliminary survey conducted in the area, and to provides a list of the sites discovered. Late Neolithic pottery is present on the side and on the southern part of the site appears to be associated with Meroe ware. Other pottery-types testify to later occupation of the area prior to the emergence of the Shuluk people. On the north-western side are also traces of possible Neolithic and Meroe occupation, both of which have links to the west or north-west. The result was very important as we have discovered some aspects of the Meroitic culture such as the pottery and beads in a far area from the center of Meroe, in addition to the Neolithic pottery are well known in the area which will be a basic for the archaeological study of the area in the future.

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GODS OF THE MINERS: QUARRYING AND CULTS ON THE MARGINS OF ANCIENT EGYPT

The ancient mining sites detain a consistent presence in the Egyptian territory, being widespread all over the Western and the Eastern deserts, the Sinai peninsula and southern Palestine. The cultural and religious background linked to the procurement of raw materials is still scarcely investigated among scholars, since they were mainly interested in pulling out administrative information from inscriptions. However, a significant knowledge about cults and deities of the “marginal regions” can be deduced from the analysis of the same epigraphic data. Through these sources it is possible to track down the similarities between the cults practiced in these regions, especially in the Sinai peninsula and the Eastern desert. This analogy is rooted in the socioeconomic and geographic context shared by the two areas. The aim of the paper is to explore in which way this peculiar framework influenced the local religion and to identify the differences with the official cult in the Nile valley.

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RITUAL “KILLING” OF POTTERY – VESSELS WITH INTENTIONAL HOLES

Recent excavations in the Old Kingdom cemetery at Abusir brought to light a large number of otherwise rare vessels with intentionally made holes. In most cases, these holes were created before firing in the base or the lower part of the vessels. Although beer jars are attested as the most common among such vessels, some bread forms were also pierced. The function of such vessels with holes is a topic of on-going discussion; their use was either practical (as a “spout” used for pouring) or ritual (a symbolic “killing” of the vessel preventing subsequent reuse). In the context of our necropolis, they are most usually uncovered in the fill of burial shafts but other areas are also attested. The main aim of this paper is to examine examples

of vessels with holes from the period of the Old Kingdom, not only from Abusir, but also from the wider area of the Memphite necropolis, and to discuss spatial distribution, extent of use and the possible function of such vessels.

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THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF SITITE REGION (EASTERN SUDAN)

The National Corporation for Antiquities and Museums (NCAM) has been conducted an archaeological survey and excavation in the region endangered by the project of Sitite and Atbara Dam in eastern Sudan between 2010 and 2013. Many archaeological sites been registered going back from the prehistoric period to the Othman colonization.

Some archaeological sites been chosen for excavation, as a settlement which dated to the Neolithic period. Also some cemeteries excavated which roughly dated to late periods, some graves composed different types and burial customs, compare with the Gash culture.

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LIVELIHOOD ACTIVITIES AND FOOD TRADITION IN KUSHITE NUBIA

Archaeobotanical and osteological studies, as well as literary and iconographical documents, inform us on food tradition in Napatan-Meroitic Nubia. Archaeometrical inquiries on pottery, experimental archaeology and ethnographic comparisons have offered significant suggestions on ancient food and cooking processes as well.

The different sources have been revealing elements of a heterogeneous culinary culture: sub-Saharan customs encountered foreign influxes, especially from Egypt and Near East, that had been set during the past centuries. The introduction of bread is an emblematic case.

Livelihood activities were obviously influenced by the Nile, although the agricultural potential was lesser than Egypt. Though food production depended partly on specific natural conditions of each area, recurrent choices throughout the Kushite territories can be recognized: in addition to vegetables, more rarely eaten meat was assured by breeding rather than hunting. Following a well-set heritage of the Nubian world, sorghum was the main crop, used also for making beer, but in the Meroitic period a greater diversification became common.

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ROME, THE NEW RESIDENCE OF THE PHARAOH

The paper discusses the Egyptian royal titulatures of the Roman emperors, focusing on the reference to Rome as royal residence, attested by hieroglyphic inscriptions carved on temple walls from Augustus to Domitian. The topic is closely related to the debate on the impact of the Roman conquest on the continuity of Egyptian culture, since scholars have generally seen the reference to Rome as a break with traditional kingship, imposed by the Romans. Considering the textual contexts in which this reference is inserted, and

through comparison with hieroglyphic documents from the Persian and Hellenistic periods, I argue that the mention of Rome does not constitute a deep break with the past. On the contrary, it proves to be the outcome of thoughtful considerations by the authors of the titulatures, who adapted the new political circumstances to the tradition of royal ideology: the Roman residence of the Pharaoh becomes a constitutive feature of a new, more universalistic Egyptian kingship.

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TEXTS FOR THE DIVINISATION OF THE BODY PARTS. A COMPARISON OF THE PT SPELLS WITH A NEWLY DISCOVERED LATE PERIOD TEXT FROM ABUSIR

Spells for the divinization of the body parts occur in funerary compositions since the Pyramid Texts (e.g. PT 215, PT 539) and this motive still represents one of the main topics in later compositions (e.g. CT, BD). New evidence from the Saite-Persian period tombs located in Abusir (6th cent. BC) shows a unique combination of the old spells with new elements, creating a completely new composition. In the tombs of Iufaa and Menekhibnekau, the traditional texts dealing with the divinization of the body can be found with the new composition. Both variants are located on the lid of the sarcophagi. The spatial setting of this spell, written on the surface of the inner sarcophagi and therefore very close to the body of the deceased, marks the text as pivotal in the divinization of the tomb owner's body. It is the aim of the paper to present a comparison between the PT spells and the new composition, indicating different concepts in the perception of deceased in the Late Period.

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HEALTH, HAPPINESS, AND FORTUNES: EXAMINING FOOD IN GRECO-ROMAN EGYPT

Scholars today are revealing discrepancies in the picturesque description of ancient Egypt, especially when one examines diet and nutrition and their impact on the economy and society. My overall research aims to examine the various levels of welfare in Egypt during the Graeco-Roman period. A key element in this investigation will be analyzing food and its various components, including production, consumption, and disposal. There have been specific studies carried out on certain aspects of food and welfare, but I intend to provide the first overall survey, connecting all the independent evidence. For this presentation, I will focus on archaeobotanical and zooarchaeological data collected from sites such as Thmuis, Mons Claudianus, and Dakhla Oasis. Through an examination of the archaeological data recovered, I will map out various regional dietary trends, contributing to the understanding of health and well-being.

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LUXURY VASES AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE IN THE LATE BRONZE AGE

In the New Kingdom, a change is visible in the typological evolution of Egyptian luxury vases: new forms appear, imitating foreign vessels. The paradox is that these vases, when discovered outside Egypt, are often regarded as "Egyptian", or "Egyptianized".

To understand the origins of these new forms and their role in cultural exchange between Egypt and its neighbours, it is important to investigate all the sites where such forms have been discovered, from Egypt to North Syria and from Iran to the Aegean. Comparisons made, both from a technical and a stylistic point of view, help to define cultural trends for each region.

A sociological and economical approach has been adopted to scrutinize the mechanisms of trade. This approach leads to a new balance between the principal trade mechanisms usually highlighted. Furthermore, Egypt appears as one and the actors, and not as the centre of this trade network. The cultural phenomenon, is therefore, analysed through the prism of 'transculturation'.

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BARKING DOGS SELDOM BITE. SOME REMARKS ON BEHAVIORAL PATTERNS OF DOGS IN ANCIENT EGYPT

Animal behaviour and habits are often underestimated in ancient Egyptian studies, although they are a valuable source for wide zooegyptological research. The modern development of animal psychology and ethology has created new opportunities also for Egyptology. Dog accompanies man at the earliest preserved Egyptian depictions and it appears surprisingly often throughout Egypt's history. Dogs' particular behavioral patterns may be traced mostly, but not exclusively in iconography. They are evidenced also in texts and language. However, both the natural behavior and its modifier, Egyptian aspective, must be considered. Therefore the phenomenon requires a broader study in both, Egyptology and ethology and should not be restricted to one only.

The author's work in both ancient dog material and modern ethology allows pointing out some parallels. Given ancient examples cover, among others, the author's specific material, such as dog figurines or the images from the temple of Hatshepsut.

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WHEN THE NILE DID NOT FLOOD: A CHANGING ECOLOGY AT THE END OF THE OLD KINGDOM?

Long term drought has been proposed as a significant factor behind the decline of the central government at the end of the Old Kingdom. Many studies have investigated the drought and its impact upon the land, but what would have been the impact of a drought upon the river?

What changes would have occurred if the river did not flood, if the nutrients carried within the river remained in the river and were not "lost to the land?" Changes in nutrient concentration would have affected the environmental characteristics of the river, leading to an altered biological balance within the river, transforming its ecology. How could the river's ecosystem change and what may have been the consequences?

The proposed talk will apply modern ecology-style considerations to the river in times of drought and present a model of how the river may have changed. It will suggest some environmental consequences that may have arisen due to drought. Finally, it will apply these findings to the events that occurred at the end of the Old Kingdom. Finally, it will identify tomb decoration changes to suggest that the evolution of tomb decorations may have been recording these environmental changes.

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THE GUARDIANS OF SILENCE: THE TITLE “ḥry-sgr” AND SOME RELATED EXPRESSIONS FROM ANCIENT EGYPTIAN BIOGRAPHIES

The paper discusses the title “ḥry-sgr”, variously translated as “*master of silence*” or “*he who commands silence*”, which features in only five records, all pertaining to the genre of biographical texts and funerary inscriptions. Despite its rarity, the epithet is attested from the Old to the New Kingdom, and with a remarkably wide scope of functions. The study attempts to clarify the exact nature of the title, in its functional or honorific connotations and in its different contexts.

The research is supported by the survey of expressions stating the individual's role of guaranteeing quiet in peculiar environments: several biographies deal with the theme of “*silencing mouths*”, “*noise*”, and “*the loud-voiced ones*” in the palace or before the gods –to denote, undoubtedly, a certain degree of authority and prominence. Selected quotes from the Egyptian literature will help to investigate the topic of silence not only in its usual aspect of moral virtue, but also as a token of power.

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THE VALLEY OF THE QUEENS: SOME REMARKS ON THE SOCIAL IDENTITY IN AN 18TH DYNASTY NECROPOLIS

The present paper aims at analysing a topic that has been, so far, little explored: the social identity of individuals buried in the Valley of the Queens during the 18th Dynasty. The modern toponym is evocative of a burial place designed for a specific social spectrum, however the royal wives were buried therein only during the Ramesside Period. Moreover, the architectural evidence reveals that most of the tombs were cut during the 18th Dynasty. After a brief introduction on the geography and use of the valley, I will focus the attention on the individuals buried within this necropolis during the 18th Dynasty. Taking into account the excavation reports and archaeological materials at our disposal, some remarks will be made in order to highlight the social spectrum of these individuals and their tight closeness to the pharaoh, although they were not necessarily members of the royal family.

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FROM THE GRAFFITO TO THE TOMB: ARCHAEOLOGY AND EXPLORATIONS IN THE THEBAN NECROPOLIS (2008-2016)

Since 2008 the “Butehamon Project” developed by the Egyptology and Coptic Civilization Study Centre “J.F.Champollion” of Genoa is devoted to collect new data about the royal scribe Butehamon and about the Theban necropolis organisation under the High Priests of Amun (XX-XXI Dynasties). Under the High Priests of Amun like Herihor, Piankh and Pinegem I, Butehamon was in charge as responsible of the Necropolis organisation and he acted as conservator of the royal mummies in a period of significative political and economic changes for the Egyptian Empire. The Butehamon's graffiti are the most relevant corpus of scribe's records in the Theban necropolis and they testify the management activity of this important figure for the control and the conservation of the royal tombs from the thieves and from sacking.

Since 2008, the Italian archaeological mission in Luxor has started a new program of research to investigate missing tombs and some cachette in different sectors of Theban Necropolis.

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THE MESOLITHIC IN EASTERN SUDAN: PRELIMINARY RESULTS

In 2015 the Italian Archaeological Expedition to the Eastern Sudan (IAEES) of the University of Naples "L'Orientale", directed by Andrea Manzo, conducted a systematic excavation in the area of WadiMarmareb. The main goal of this excavation was to get a better knowledge of the earliest phases in the local cultural sequence thanks to the study of ceramic material from archaeological layers. A preliminary survey in this area dates back to 2010 when the IAEES and the National Corporation for Antiquities and Museums (NCAM) investigated the area outside Kassala.

The aim of this paper is to show the first results from the excavation of UA 50 and the analysis conducted on the ceramic material. The results of radiometric analysis obtained from shell samples, as well as the comparisons with the Nile Valley, will be presented and discussed.

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THE DAWN OF EGYPTOLOGY: GEORG ZOËGA AND THE EGYPTIAN COLLECTION OF THE MUSEUM BORGIANUM

The *Museum Borgianum*, founded by Cardinal Stefano Borgia (1731-1804) at Velletri outside Rome, housed the largest assemblage of Egyptian antiquities in late 1800th century Europe. Because of an inheritance dispute between the Borgia family and the *propaganda fide* – and lack of funds – the museum was dismantled shortly after the death of the Cardinal in 1804. Today the remnants of this Egyptian collection are housed primarily in *MuseoarcheologicoNazionale di Napoli*, while the Coptic manuscripts are stored in the Vatican library. For many years the Danish scholar, Georg Zoëga (1855-1809), author of *De origineobeliscorum et usu* [On the origin and use of the obelisks], acted as curator of Borgia's Egyptian collection. Unpublished papers from the estate of Zoëga, dispersed between the Royal Library and the Thorvaldsens Museum in Copenhagen, make it possible to reconstruct the size, scope and impact of the *Museum Borgianum* at the dawn of Egyptology.

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RE-DISCOVERING GEBELEIN REGION

Research in Gebelein is an ongoing project since 2013. Since then, a field prospection re-discovered, what we can call now, the "Gebelein region", which consist of not only two hills (thanks to which the name Gebelein - 'the two hills' - was used since ancient times) but also other sites south and north from nowadays el-Gerirah village.

Until now, the project focused on the Western Hill, where a number of archeological objects were documented, including the vicinity of Iti's tomb. As the result of the research, Gebelein shows as a multi-chronological macro region, whose role rose and decreased over the millennia.

The paper's goal is to share results of the field survey done in winter 2017, when the main focus area was the Eastern Rock, where the city of Pathyris, the temple and speos of Hathor and the fortress of Menkheperre was located. Additionally a preliminary GIS-based spatial analysis, both on an intra and inter site level, will be presented to emphasize the importance of *Inerti* in the Egyptian history.

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'DRYING TEARS': ON THE USE OF THE FISHNET AS A DETERMINATIVE IN RELIGIOUS TEXTS.

The use of the fishnet as a determinative in association with tears goes back to the Pyramid texts. When employed in the word *iH/aHit* can be translated with "dry" and can be found combined with the weeping eye referred to Osiris (*IH-rmw* "The One Who Dries Tears") or to the primeval god in relation to the creation process (*IH-rmw* "Dry of Tears") as well as to the deceased in the Afterlife. Analyzing textual sources, the act of 'drying tears' seems to represent a moment of transition between death and rebirth or a way to protect from sorrow. Moreover, in all the cases the term reminds the moment following the act of weeping, when tears have been shed and wet has been dried, and the presence of a fishnet could have phonetic as well as semantic reasons. The purpose of the paper will be to investigate the net and its symbolic value, pointing out word plays and specific expressions associated with tears.

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EGYPTIAN ANIMAL WORSHIP IN THEORY AND PRAXIS: MODELLING SOURCES THROUGH PRACTICE THEORY

Traditionally, studies on Egyptian animal worship have proceeded from the perspective of Classical/Biblical literary sources or have focused on particular cases, restricted contexts and narrow philological analysis. The consequence of this "Standard model" has been a partial understanding when not a complete disregard for the phenomenon and its position within the Egyptian religious panorama.

A project actually in course under the auspices of the National Academy of Lincei aims to readdress the imbalance and to suggest how, by adopting a theoretical framework and a historical-religious perspective, animal worship can be appreciated as a historical product with its distinctive configuration(s) and diachronic articulation. Focusing on (1) religious practice (*Praxis*) and (2) *decorum* as useful heuristic tools, the paper will discuss an "Alternative model", that seems to fit better the evidence as well as to propose a more cogent explanation for its patterning and chronological distribution.

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EGYPT AND MEDITERRANEAN TRAFFICS IN THE NEW SECTION OF THE NATIONAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM OF NAPLES (MANN)

Room XXIII in the renovated Egyptian section in the Archaeological Museum of Naples comprises a section dedicated to writing, arts and crafts and a section dedicated to sites in Campania and Latium involved in Egypt's network of contacts in the Orientalizing and later the Roman periods.

This work intends to illustrate the criteria on which this display is based, present new finds from a sample of Campanian sites, and show some little-known cult objects recovered in the store rooms of the National Museum of Naples, related to the cult of Isis in Roman time.

Most of the objects of the Orientalizing period come from Campanian necropolis of the so-called "fossa-tomb" culture – Capua, Suessula, Cumae, and Calatia - and are dated between the mid-8th and the mid 7th BC. These artifacts had a funerary significance and were usually imported from Egypt or Near Eastern towns. Other objects come from Roman sites in Campania. They include Egyptian-made artifacts or artifacts showing Egyptian features but made outside of Egypt.

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THE CISA IN EGYPT: TEN YEARS OF DIGITAL RESEARCHES

In the last 10 years CISA (Centre for Archaeology) supported several missions in Egypt carried out by archaeologists of University of Naples L'Orientale. In particular, CISA provided a high technology support for the digital survey of many archaeological projects ranging from Pharaonic to Roman period. The activities started in 2006 in the site of WadiGawasis. All previous surveys were geo-referenced and different caves were acquired and documented by a laser scanner. In 2010 a new project started at Abusir. The goal was the virtual reconstruction of the solar temple of Niuserra. The activity was carried out by integrating different 3D techniques as laser scanner and image-based modelling. So far more than 150 scans have been acquired; the area of the temple, including the external fence, has been completely scanned and virtually rebuilt. In 2014 CISA supported other two missions: in Manqbad and in Eastern Desert. In both projects CISA implemented a topographic network and documented in 3D different buildings and archaeological areas.

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THE FORGOTTEN TREASURES: A JOURNEY (RE)DISCOVERING THE AMULETS OF KERMA CULTURE IN THE STOREROOMS OF THE MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS OF BOSTON AND IN THE SUDAN NATIONAL MUSEUM OF KHARTOUM

In this paper I would like to illustrate a synthesis of the results from my PHD Research on the amulets of Kerma Culture emerged during the excavation conducted by G. Reisner. The first aim of my research is describing, in a systematic way, these materials which have only been partially studied and published until now. The study of the amulets is essential because it provides important information relating to the symbols, to their protective value, and helping us to know a still unknown pantheon that could be very complex, born about by Nubian features combined with Egyptian and southern elements. Some types of amulets found in

the storerooms are comparable to the Egyptian ones, but others seem to be distinctive of the Kerma culture. Finally the amulets can be a window onto the material culture of a civilization: give us insights into the culture's social hierarchies, religious beliefs, natural resources and technological capabilities.

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IDEAL LIFE OR DAILY LIFE? REVISITING HOUSES IN DEIR EL-MEDINA

The village of Deir el-Medina has received significant attention in recent decades due to its rich combination of material and textual evidence, which offers a glimpse into the daily life of ancient Egyptians. However, most of the investigations on daily and private life have depended upon a model of a house detailed in Bruyère's report. As an 'ideal house', this model is inconsistent with the totality of houses in the village. Furthermore, it focuses only on the internal areas of the dwellings, rather than integrating the house into the wider context of the village to show, for example, communal areas. New approaches from Household Archaeology and recent work on Deir el-Medina might help to reframe the idea of daily life in which specific gender relations are constituted. Based on this framework, I intend to discuss how gender relations would emerge within concepts of house in a planned settlement, verifying possible prescriptive attitudes on gender based on material culture.

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BURIAL PRACTICES IN ANCIENT EGYPT: ÉLITE AND COMMON PEOPLE. FUNERARY RITES IN OLD AND MIDDLE KINGDOM

The successful transition to the afterlife depended on funerary rites. Despite their abundance (especially reliefs and painting from tombs'chapels), the evidences provide information that fit a restricted group of people of Egyptian society, the élite. Therefore what we can figure out is an "idea" of funeral (the representation of which changed according to times and trends) and we do not really know if it corresponds to reality. Moreover, it is not very clear if this "idea" included the larger part of Egyptian society. Nevertheless, some clues show that also non-élite people could aspire to a future in the afterlife anyway. The aim of this paper is both to show the stages of élite's "ideal" burial rites in Old and Middle Kingdom and to try to understand what was the treatment reserved to common people and their fortune in the hereafter.

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CURRENT AND ANCIENT RESEARCHES BETWEEN TEBTYNIS AND PADOVA: FROM THE SAND TO AEROSPACE

An international team of scholars, researchers and students has recently re-examined Carlo Anti's researches at Tebtynis (1930-1936). The projects were created after the rediscovery of two archives: Carlo Anti's archive, preserved at the Istituto Veneto and the MSA (University of Padova), and Gilbert Bagnani's papers, collected between the AGO (Toronto, Canada) and the Trent University. To study the antiquities found by the Italian Mission and recorded in Anti's and Bagnani's unpublished papers, the team has created a GIS, collecting satellite images, aerial photos taken in 1934 and 1936 and the map of the temple of Soknebtynis, drawn in 1931-1932. The analysis of these documents, related to the site and its artifacts and the use of different technologies, such as the creation of virtual models, are here used to expose two case studies: the vestibule of the temple and the so-called "*insula of the papyri*", providing the opportunity to see the two buildings through a new perspective.

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19TH CENTURY COLLECTING AND ARCHIVES: THE PICCHIANTI COLLECTION RECONSIDERED

The Egyptian collection of the National Archaeological Museum of Naples comprises some 2500 artifacts acquired between 1803 and 1817 through the acquisition of different private collections. The two major cores - the prestigious eighteenth-century Borgia collection and the nineteenth-century collection of the Florentine Giuseppe Picchianti and his wife, the Venetian countess Angelica Drosso, are characteristic expressions of the prevalent cultural attitude to Egyptian antiquities in their respective formative periods. But while the history of the former was well documented and a valuable chapter in the history of Egyptological collecting in the eighteenth century, the formative history of the latter was less known and until now very poorly documented. The recent discovery of new archival documents can now better reconstruct the profile of the collecting activity of Picchianti and his wife by fixing the chronological details precisely and bringing further aspects of it to light.

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EVALUATION OF STANDARD IMAGING MODALITIES FOR THE INVESTIGATION OF CANOPIC JARS

The contents of canopic jars are a promising, but so far widely neglected, source of information to study the history of disease in ancient Egypt. Our current investigations comprise the paleopathological assessment of organ remains contained in canopic jars by histological, chemical and genetic analysis. Conventional X-ray performed with mobile digital equipment is the modality of choice to gain a first insight to the contents of canopic jars. Images taken in two projections at a 90° angle provide information about the spatial distribution of the contents, while images taken with inserted instruments indicate the location of sampling. If possible, conventional X-ray images can be complemented by computed tomography (CT)

scans and, despite the lower spatial resolution, even magnetic resonance imaging (MRI). Additional cross-sectional imaging techniques can provide important further information about structure, density and even composition of canopic jar contents.

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RECONSTRUCTING NAVIGATIONAL LANDSCAPE. INNER WATERWAYS AND EGYPTIAN ECONOMY THROUGH THE SOURCES OF III MILLENNIUM BC

Nilotic environment – resulting from annual inundations, the convex nature of the floodplain and back swamps on the outer margins of the river – created a tree network of permanent and seasonal waterways bordering the main riverbed. This paper proposes firstly a lexicographical study of different terms meaning “river”, “marshes”, “channels”, in order to apprehend how the old Egyptian society perceived his own landscape. The analysis of several place-names composed on hydric vocabulary allow to draw an image of ancient rural topography. This topography was not static; constant changes resulted from the varying levels of river flow and Nile movements. Different economic patterns were so developed, as product of human adaptation to environment. Secondly, the analysis of some textual and archaeological data shows how human interventions on the riverbed promoted the construction of artificial canals and water basins facilitating the circulation on the main line of traffic and transportation.

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PATHOGENS OR HEALERS? THE AMBIGUOUS ROLE OF THE DEAD IN THE EGYPTIAN PERCEPTION OF ILLNESS

According to the Egyptian worldview, dead people were included among the supernatural causes of disease and illness. Together with gods, goddess, demons and the malevolent magic of personal enemies, they were believed to harm the living by entering and attacking specific parts of the victim’s body, such as the head, the belly, the eyes and so forth. As a pathogen, the hostile dead recurs in most prescriptions, spells and incantations throughout the medical corpus.

In contrast, some Letters to the Dead stress a different role for the spirits of dead people. Recently dead members of the family, such as husbands, wives or parents, were believed to intervene in the afterlife to put an end to whatever might be going wrong in the relative’s life, including illness.

This discussion proposes to explore the ambiguity in the conception of the deceased, both a pathogen and a vehicle for healing, trying to comprehend the place he occupied in the system of values of old Egyptian afflicted people.

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ABU ERTEILA: DISCOVERY AND EXCAVATIONS OF A NEW MEROITIC TEMPLE

The activities of the ISMEO mission working in Abu Erteila started in 2008.

The local archaeological context appeared essentially composed by two Koms, low hills made by filling materials. Kom I, where the first excavations were performed, yielded the remains of a huge palace interpreted as structure destined to high members of the Meroitic society, perhaps the to the same royal family.

The researches performed on Kom II three years later, revealed instead the presence of many Templar architectonic elements re-employed as building materials in later dwellings and burials.

The existence of an extended temple in Abu Erteila was finally proved in 2014. Moreover excavations carried out in the course of the last two campaigns (2015-2016) allowed the discovery of its murals, hypostyle-hall and well paved naos containing an altar still *in situ*.

The sondages performed in the shrine culminated with the remarkable discovery of a bark stand presenting each face occupied by a Goddess supporting a starry sky and flanked by two lines of Egyptian hieroglyphic texts devoted to Natakamani, Amanitore and Shorkror.

Even if the researches are still in course, aim of the communication is to pass in review all such elements with the intent to promote the knowledge of this new structure.

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LITHICS IN THE GASH DELTA (VI-I MILLENNIUM BC): A TECHNOLOGICAL APPROACH.

In the last seven years, the University of Naples “L’Orientale”, has resumed its former excavations (in the 80s and 90s) in the Gash Delta, Eastern Sudan. Moreover, new sites have been surveyed and excavated in order to fix previous chronological imprecisions and improve our knowledge of this area from prehistory until the modern era. In this project the study of lithics has a great relevance. A technological and typological analysis of the material from several sites (UA53, K1/Mahal Teglinos, UA128, UA50) is ongoing. Preliminary results of my ongoing Ph.D. research on this topic will be exhibit in order to show how lithics can contribute, concurrently with other researches from the “L’Orientale” mission, to enhance the knowledge of the history, archaeology, economy and way of life of the Gash Delta inhabitants. My contribution to the CRE Conference in Naples will focus on the lithics belonging to the Neolithic, Gash Group, Jebel Mokram group period (i.e. from ca. 5000 B.C. until the late centuries of I mill. BC), focusing on technology, typology and raw materials use.

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THE HERITAGE OF THE A-GROUP

Since the last 50 years the A-Group of Lower Nubia has yielded a rich and varied field of scientific work. This nubian culture of the northern Nile Valley living south of the Naqada Culture has to be regarded as a neolithic-chalcolithic culture in the 4th and early 3rd mill. BC. In this article I want to show the so far neglected heritage of the A-group which is of fundamental importance in respect of the cultural

development of Early Dynastic Egypt. Despite the scientific work already done the nature of these contacts, the nubian A-group and the chronology are still not well-defined within the consecutive stages of the A-Group. Both cemeteries and habitation sites show a constant and in many cases a high percentage of Egyptian imports, mainly ceramic vessels, a focus is in the nubian diagnostic items. These findings are the basis for an inner chronology and show the cultural aspects of the A-group people. The settlements and cemeteries give a clear evidence of the inner structure of this culture. The importance of the nubian A-group for Pre-/Protodynastic Egypt needs further investigation.

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JEBEL BARKAL 2016 – WORK IN PROGRESS FOR THE ITALIAN ARCHEOLOGICAL MISSION

The activity of the Italian Archaeological Mission in Sudan of the University Ca' Foscari Venice, Season 2016/17, focused on two main areas:

1. The South-West side of the royal Palace of Natakamani (B1500), where some foundation's structures partially set on an earlier occupational phase have been unearthed.
2. The Southern part of the building B1800; a monumental structure, characterized by the presence of big sandstone architectural elements (column drums, capitals, fragments of architraves...), probably connected both with the royal district and the temple's area.

This paper is intended to give an update of the preliminary results of this work, which could shed a new light on Natakamani's royal area, and to speculate about possible developments for the future seasons.

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THE KERMA-NAPATAN CULTURAL CONTINUITY. REFLECTIONS FROM THE CURRENT CULTURAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS AT EL-KURU ROYAL CEMETERY

The origins of the Napatan culture, state and royal family remain in obscurity. Sometime in the 9th -10th century B.C a chiefdom emerged at El-Kurru, a village in the vicinity of Jebel Barkal in Northern Sudan, out of a dark hiatus of 600 years, amid the fall of the state of Kerma and the rise of the state of Napata. Part of the hiatus was administered by viceroys of the Egyptian new kingdom. This dark phase was indeed a political and administrative break in the sequence of events. But it was also considered cultural. Though the rise and fall of cultures cannot be measured by specific dates, as the continuity and truncation of cultural variables are not necessarily subject to the rise and fall of political powers, but rather they survive, and even thrive, long after and before.

This paper aims to trace the diagnostic cultural traits of Kerma through the time covered by hiatus attempting to offer some clarity for one of many gaps in the episodic nature of the cultural complexity of ancient Sudan. This will be done through three cultural traits: the ceramics, the burial architecture, and the mortuary practices. The southern limits of Kerma state and the extent of its culture are not fixed. Yet cultural traits attributed to Kerma culture were recovered at various localities south of Kerma. Most important is the data recovered by the ongoing investigations conducted by the University of Dongola archaeological mission at El-kurru, the cradle of Napatan State, culture and royal family.

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BACK OFF CROCODILE! SPELLS 31-42 OF THE BOOK OF THE DEAD ON QRSW COFFINS FROM THE BESENMUT FAMILY

Thematic sequences of spells from Book of the Dead are popular motive on coffins from the 25th and 26th Dynasties, but composition of spells concerning warding off dangers can be found only on 3 qrsw coffins from the "Priests of Montu group". In the case of these coffins we deal with combinations of spells from the sequence of 31-37, 39-42 Book of the Dead written and pictured on the floors. Defensive magic against dangerous forces focus on wild beasts: mythical snakes, insects, crocodiles and the main iconographical aspect is put on the physical destruction of these creatures.

In this speech I will present the iconographical analysis of spells placed on the coffin floors, focusing on relation between them and on the mummy placed in the coffin. These spells will be examined in connection to the other compositions against dangerous creatures coming from the funerary context of the period as well as with the later material associated with the Saite Redaction of the Book of the Dead.

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ARCHAOMETRIC ANALYSIS FOR COMPOSITION OF TUTANKHAMUN'S HASSOCK

A unique category of beadwork, found in the tomb of Tutankhamun, the hassock. The footstool was made of cloth filled with bran. On the cloth an elaborate pattern of beadwork, in blue, green, red, yellow and white disc beads.

The aim of our research is to describe the beading techniques from the analysis of the fabrication and pattern of beadwork and give an insight in time spent in production and effort put into this hassock.

Photographic documentation and Digital Microscopes were used for document the beads and bran. Drawing and illustration were used to document the construction of the footstool, pattern and beading technique. Archaeopotanic study in hassock gives more details about the technology and type of bran used in footstool in this time.

Multiple analytical and examination techniques were carried out on the beads and bran, such as optical light microscope gives us more details about the thickness and characterization of glaze layer. X-Ray diffraction (XRD) and portable X-ray fluorescence spectroscopy (pXRF). pXRF is best suited to minor and trace elements for this it used to determine the elemental composition of the beads and their color. Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM) is able to distinguish the glass phase from the texture of the grains, giving information on the thickness of the glaze and of the buffer layer.

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PRELIMINARY RESULTS ABOUT PREHISTORIC SITES IN THE EAST OF EL-OBIED AREAS- NORTH KORDOFAN STATE- OCT. 2015.

Through the Archaeological and Heritage project in North Kordofan, a new season has been conducted in 2015. In this season, the archaeological survey has concentrated on the mountains that are located towards the east of El-Obied town, and in the area that is situated in the south of Khartoum-El-Obeid road. In this area, a number of 20 archaeological sites have been explored, which are dating to Neolithic in special aspect.

That with weak existence of Mesolithic features. The archaeological finds represent of pottery shards, with diversity of decorations. As well as a variety of techniques of pottery industry and the preparation of its paste. As well, stone tools and its debit age that have been found in this area. In addition to the distinctive grinding tools. All of those evidences identify the reliability of existence of human during the mid and late Holocene.

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WHAT TYPE OF WRITING WOULD WORK FOR ME? – ABNORMAL HIERATIC VS. DEMOTIC

The fragmentation of third Intermediate Period and Late Period Egypt, which lasted for centuries prior to the reunification by Psamtik I in 656 BC, had led to the development of two administrative writing systems. As such, during the 26th dynasty, two different scripts were in use simultaneously, Demotic in the north and Late Cursive or Abnormal Hieratic in the south of Egypt. This paper discusses the origin and development of Abnormal Hieratic and Demotic and describes differences and similarities between both writing systems. Particular attention will be given to the interaction between the two scripts in 6th century BC Thebes, where they existed side by side during 50 or more years after Demotic gradually made its way to the south and before Abnormal Hieratic eventually went out of use.

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TAHAI'S SECRET: A CLOSER LOOK AT THE COFFIN ENSEMBLE OF THE LADY TAHAI FROM THE MUSEUM OF ANTIQUITIES IN BASEL, SWITZERLAND

The museum of antiquities in Basel, Switzerland (Antikenmuseum Basel und Sammlung Ludwig) houses a coffin ensemble containing a cartonnage case and an anthropoid wooden coffin dating to the 22nd Dynasty. On the coffin the name of the owner, Tahai, can be read. The intact cartonnage case was x-rayed in the seventies and revealed the severely damaged mummy of a woman in her mid-thirties: Her hands and feet were cut off and placed next to her body, her head is completely missing. But not enough with this mystery – a closer look at the decoration of both, the wooden coffin and the cartonnage case, gives room for more questions. Was the ensemble manufactured for Tahai, or was it originally intended for someone else's burial?

In the present paper the iconographical details that led to the question of the original owner of the ensemble will be presented and discussed.

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FRONTIER FOODWAYS: A STUDY OF INTER-CULTURAL INTERACTIONS AND ETHNIC IDENTITY AT 12TH AND 13TH DYNASTY EGYPTIAN FORTRESSES IN NUBIA

Via the study of ancient foodways, this presentation examines the nature and extent of 12th and 13th dynasty Egyptian garrison interactions with indigenous Nubian populations. Nubian cookwares found at Egyptian

fortresses suggest a potential interest in local food culture and a limited level of inter-cultural interaction. By the early 13th dynasty, a re-organization of Egyptian fortress garrisons from rotating to permanently-stationed parallels a small increase in the number of Nubian cookwares. This suggests a minor rise in inter-cultural interactions when combined with other evidence. This time also witnessed an increasingly organized fortress ration system. From fortress texts, sealings and stelae, the official Egyptian view of ingenious Nubian populations such as the Kerma culture was one of violence and even possible fear. However, frontier relationships between the garrisons and local populations may have differed significantly from those represented in official elite texts.

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THE ANTICHAMBRE CARRÉE AND ITS COLUMNS

Since Niuserre, the *Antichambre carrée* has been an integral part of the architectural canon of the funerary temples of the Old and Middle Kingdom. In the 5th dynasty either a single palm or papyrus bud column could be erected in it. In the 6th dynasty these column types disappear in the funerary complexes and only pillars were erected. But for the *Antichambre carrée* a new column type was created, the so-called octagonal column.

The lecture is devoted to the question of why in this room no pillar could be used, but a new form of support had to be invented. For the conclusion also the surrounding room elements of the *Antichambre carrées* as well as the religious circumstances, like the increased worship of the sun-god in the 5th dynasty, are taken into consideration. The lecture will therefore span a bridge from the 5th to the 12th dynasty and not only the importance of the individual column types will be discussed, but also the importance of the *Antichambre carrée*.

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REPRESENTATION OF WOMEN IN EARLY 18TH DYNASTY THEBAN TOMB ICONOGRAPHY

This paper will draw on research from my Undergraduate and Masters degrees at the University of Oxford, which focused on the representation of multiple wives of a single tomb owner in early New Kingdom Theban tomb iconography. Using possible occurrences of polygyny as a case study, for example in the tomb of Sennefer (Theban Tomb 96), I will explore how ancient Egyptian elite women were represented in relation to each other. The conclusions will feed into a wider discussion on the potential power relations and hierarchies between different groups of women in ancient Egyptian society, and what this could mean for the possibility of polygyny, the forms it could have taken in daily life and how it was constructed in written and visual culture in funerary contexts. I plan to use specifically feminist anthropology and archaeology in this paper, making it part of the growing study of gender in Egyptology.

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FACT OR FICTION: THE REAL FEMALE ROLES OF EARLY DYNASTIC WOMEN

In 1963, as part of his philological examination of ancient Egypt's early hieroglyphs, Kaplony stated that the majority - if not all the women - buried in the subsidiary tombs of the First Dynasty kings at Abydos, were ladies of the royal Harem (Kaplony, 1963: 371). Names and titles documented on funerary stelae/slabs are the primary philological evidence of Early Dynastic women. For over 50 years, this classification of the women buried in the royal necropolis has rarely been questioned. Largely, the designations 'harem lady' and 'concubine' applied to these women has been accepted. Yet, is this classification fact or fiction? Knowledge regarding the women from this period remained on the periphery of Early Dynastic scholarship. A recent re-examination of the philology and a sociological evaluation of the women's funerary stelae reveals an androcentric bias in the interpretation masking the women's involvement in the society during this crucial period of *State Formation*.

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REPRESENTATION AND MEANING OF THE JEWELRY IN THE OLD KINGDOM

This poster offers a view into the representation and importance of the jewelry in the nonroyal tombs in the Old Kingdom. My purpose is look into comprehensive view of the status of the jewelry in the Old Kingdom. Representation and meaning is studied through the iconographic sources in the Old Kingdom nonroyal tombs namely especially on the scenes representing jewelry workshops and reliefs with the representation of the wearing jewels. Integral part are epigraphic records related to this topic. Whole topic will be contextualized with the social role of the tomb owners and culture-anthropological aspects.

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THE CEMETERY OF HELWAN – NEW PERSPECTIVES ON EARLY DYNASTIC BURIAL PRACTICES

Our project *Helwan – a Necropolis of ancient Memphis* is aimed at new approaches for the interpretation of mortuary practices of Early Dynastic Egypt. Using a theoretical framework which is based on human – object relationships, for instance the concepts of *entanglement* or *affordance*, new ideas and ways of interpretation of the local material can be developed. Especially stone vessels from this material bear marks of distinctive manipulation e.g. scratching or intentional destruction. These shall be discussed as a form of special treatment that can be related to local burial customs. Although not completely reconstructable and seldom discussed in detail, these ritual actions are a significant part of burial practice in Helwan. Considering these theoretical concepts the analysis of these objects show grave-goods not only as possession of the dead but as important markers for ritual activities of the community itself.

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FROM ADAPTATION TO SOCIAL INTERACTIONS: NON-ELITE AGENCY IN NEW KINGDOM CEMETERIES

Egyptology has traditionally focused on elite sources to apprehend society, even though a large amount of data coming from non-elite cemeteries has been excavated since the beginning of the 20th century. Non-elite data sets have been insufficiently explored, probably due to Egyptology's main concern with texts, but also a lack of understanding of non-elites' role in society. Non-elite burial patterns have been approached on the grounds of passive adaptation of objects found in richer tombs into less sophisticated versions of those objects. The paper questions those assumptions emphasizing non-elite agency and inventiveness in the creation of new entangled patterns in contexts of interaction. We present a discussion of patterns found in NK non-elite cemeteries in comparison with patterns found in other contexts. The paper proposes a discussion of non-elite material patterns towards a perspective that acknowledges the active role of non-elites in society.

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TYPES OF MATRIXES OF THE NEW KINGDOM SEALS

The most important part of every ancient Egyptian seal is a matrix with decoration that most frequently identifies its owner – a person, an institution or a product placed in the sealed container. Appearance of matrix, possible to know based on preserved seals and the most common seal impressions, can suggest a purpose of seal, a social class of its owner, and sometimes, if there is only an impression preserved, a type of seal used to make a specific property mark.

Analysis of shapes of matrixes, reliefs used to carve the main part of decoration (inscriptions and e.g. figures of gods or kings), secondary elements of decoration (frames, quiriness, signs of heaven and gold - N1 and S12 as per Gardiner's Sign List), composition and orientation of inscriptions, and other elements can ascertain what components were characteristic for specific types of seals (e.g. stamp, ring or scarab), substance was used to make a matrix and impression, and what was the destination or the time of origin.

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CONSERVING THE ANTIQUE AND THE "IDEA" OF ANTIQUE: THE PROBLEMS AND CHALLENGES OF THE EGYPTIAN COLLECTION IN THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM IN NAPLES

This paper discusses the result of the egyptological and archival study and of the conservation of two finds of the National Archaeological Museum of Naples (MANN): a glass-bell (in a typical Neapolitan style), which contains two pairs of cut feet, wrapped in a modern red tape and a fragment of an original painted Egyptian shroud, and a fake- mummy that was made in the early 1800's, created to fit inside an original and empty coffin.

These finds were thoroughly studied within the wider PhD research and restored on the occasion of the project of renewal of the exhibition of the whole Egyptian collection in the MANN, recently reopened to the public (7th October 2016).

In this occasion we want to show not only the reconstruction of the story of these finds but also the conservation problems which often required different solutions, especially because we wanted to preserve the original idea of “antique” that was intended to be communicated to the public.

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DAILY LIFE IN THE NILE DELTA SETTLEMENT DURING 3RD MILLENIUM BC. A VIEW FROM TELL EL-MURRA.

Contrary to the other known Nile Delta sites, settlement in Tell el-Murra stands out quite long occupation, which had existed from the Predynastic Period (Lower Egyptian Culture) until the 6th dynasty. During last excavation seasons settlement layers dated to the Old Kingdom and Early Dynastic periods were discovered. They consist mostly domestic architecture with storage facilities and accompanying them finds connected with food production. Based on analysis of architectural remains and pottery assemblage, we were able to distinguish few chronological phases and production areas. What they are characterized by? How architectural structures change in particular phases? What kind of activity was led there? Is it possible to define function of particular structures revealed within settlement layers? What was the nature of the Tell el-Murra settlement? Did daily life of its inhabitants differ from these known from other Nile Delta sites of similar chronology?

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APIS ORACLE AT MEMPHIS: A REALITY OR MISCONCEPTION?

The Apis bull of Memphis became famous across the Graeco-Roman world because of his oracular powers: Greek and Roman authors making references to the living Apis bulls during the Imperial period strongly emphasize their acclaimed ability to announce the god's message in various ways. Strangely, there is no surviving evidence for any kind of oracle questions addressed to the living Apis bull from any period of the ancient Egyptian history. A general lack of evidence is usually attributed to the circumstantial state of preservation. However, it seems that the confusion among the Classical writers has been related to the mistaken identity of the god associated with the living Apis bull: this divinity is thought to be Osiris, whose cult retained strong oracular function into the fourth century CE. In fact, the oracular powers of the living Apis bulls are lacking from surviving literary accounts before the Flavian Dynasty (69-96 CE). This paper aims to investigate if restricted indigenous veneration of Apis bull into acclaimed oracle via close ties with the cult of Sarapis or something else was happening.

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“THEY WERE LIKE LIONS ROARING UPON THE MOUNTAIN-CRESTS”: SOUNDSCAPES OF WAR IN NEW KINGDOM EGYPT

This paper analyzes New Kingdom archaeological, written and iconographic attestations for the use of music in the context of war, and the metaphors used to describe the battle cries of the army. Representations of military musicians and the musical instruments they used, such as trumpet (šnb), drum (kmkm) and clappers (ḥ.wj) can be found on the temple reliefs at Abydos, Deir el-Bahari, Luxor, Medinet Habu and Gebel el-Silsila among others, and in scenes in private Theban tombs. Music played an important role in military parades and preparations of the army for the campaign. It boosted the moral and created powerful soundscapes. The battle cry of the king is compared to that of a griffon and a lion, and gods such as Seth, Baal and son of Nut (Horus). His roar is described as being like that of a lion or a storm-wind and the roar of his soldiers and horses is described like that of a lion. Everything indicates that war cries were an important part of the battle soundscape.

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A FOCUS ON PRIESTHOOD AND RELIGION IN THE STATE FORMATION OF THE PRE AND EARLY DYNASTIC EGYPT

Pre and Early Dynastic Egypt is a widely debated topic and religion is an aspect mostly unclear and lacking of evidence. The author in his PhD will define a social evolutionary theory on the formation of the Egyptian state, elite's development, and the development of social complexity. In particular, he will deal with the aspect of the development of religious titles and the priesthood, as well as the importance of religion in the development of ideology, authority legitimization, and social acceptance of the ruler class. Due to the paucity of archaeological data, the understanding of this historical process will rely both on a theoretical framework, built up through the gathering of a large anthropological and sociological literature, as well as on field data, iconography and written sources coming from necropolis and settlements, mostly in the regions of Hierakonpolis, Abydos and Memphis. This paper will present the results of this study and the methodology adopted.

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THE CURIOUS CASE OF PRIEST IUFEE: PRELIMINARY REMARKS ON TEXTS ON THE INNER SIDE OF THE OUTER SARCOPHAGUS

The tomb of priest Iufaa at Abusir, dated to the Saite-Persian period, contains many religious texts, so far unknown and not documented elsewhere. The inner side of outer sarcophagus is extremely rich in such texts. Various Egyptian religious concepts are alluded to, e.g. the Heliopolitan and Memphite theologies, myths related to the Nile Delta or rituals and myths connected with the Egyptian new year. The layout of the texts on the sarcophagus is thematic and symmetrical, the texts and their vignettes are related to the decoration of the entire tomb, in particular to the texts of the walls of the burial chamber. Based on examples of texts from the outer sarcophagus, the conception of decoration of the inner side of the outer sarcophagus as a whole will be illustrated, including their relation to other texts in this tomb, their themes and specifics.

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BEER, SACRIFICE AND COMMEMORATION IN ANCIENT NUBIAN BURIALS OF THE CLASSIC KERMA PERIOD

The graves of the Classic Kerma elite community included specific sets of vessels. Stacked beakers were placed in communal areas of graves, as if for group use in the afterlife. Organic preservation includes woven giraffe-hair beer strainers placed near the vessels and two cases of preserved beer mash. An important source of nutrition in Nubia, as in Egypt, ancient Nubian beer is notable for containing natural tetracycline.

Communal beer and drinking vessels in elite graves demonstrates the social nature of imbibing alcohol in Classic Kerma. The beer in larger vessels was strained and served in beakers to the group. This process of consumption acted to reinforce the social relationships between the participants. In death, these relationships were manifested through the coercion of individuals to be sacrificed to accompany the primary burial. The carefully arranged beer equipment was brought into the mortuary context, ready to be tapped to commemorate these relationships in perpetuity.

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HUMAN SKELETAL REMAINS FROM THE GASH DELTA (EASTERN SUDAN): A PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS

Since 2014 field season, the Expedition to the Eastern Sudan of the University “L’Orientale”, has conducted, in addition to the pottery and lithic analysis, anthropological studies on the skeletal remains, together with paleo-botanical and geological investigations. The analysis presented is an opening contribution to a wider understanding of funerary ideologies and of a biological/populationistic overview for the cultural groups living between the Kassala region and the Gash Delta from the IV millennium B.C. to the I millennium A.D.

The osteo-dental remains came from graves excavated in several archaeological sites between the Atbara and the Gash (K 1, UA 50, UA 53, UA 126, JAG 1). Taphonomic and anthropological analysis, through which I have determined gender, age of death of the individuals, and significant morphological alterations or disease, will permit to relate communities of dead with the living societies: sure enough, osteological remains help to draw important conclusions about the community they came from, the environment they lived in and their conception of death.

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A RE-EXAMINATION OF THE THIRD INTERMEDIATE PERIOD NILE LEVEL RECORDS FROM THE KARNAK QUAY

In the late Nineteenth Century a series of inscriptions recording the levels of the annual Nile flood were found on the side of the quay at Karnak. Since their discovery these have primarily been used to try and resolve the difficult chronology of the Third Intermediate Period, rather than being examined for the possible information they can provide about the environmental conditions. Despite this the fragmented political status of the Libyan Period, along with that period's lack of monumental construction, has been suggested to be the product of environmental changes and especially low annual floods, based on climatic data from Sudan. This paper will, therefore, re-examine the records from the Karnak quay and use them, and their associated data, to locate patterns demonstrating what environmental conditions were occurring during the Third Intermediate Period.

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SURVEYING THE EASTERN DESERT: NEW ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVIDENCE FROM WADI EL-LAWI AND WADIRAS-RAS

The Egyptian Eastern Desert is far less known than the Western Desert, though travelers and scholars have described rock art locations there since the 19th century. Most research focused on the region between Wadi Hammamat in the north and Wadi Barramiya in the south and highlighted the importance of the desert wadis as trade routes connecting the Nile Valley with the Red Sea, from prehistoric to Roman times and beyond. In March 2014, a survey in the desert east of the Kom Ombo region was conducted by the Aswan Kom Ombo Archaeological Project (AKAP) with the purpose of identifying archaeological sites in Wadi el-Lawi and Wadi Ras-Ras, a southern and smaller branch of the former. The aim of this paper is to present the newly discovered sites, which include 5th millennium tumuli, Predynastic, Dynastic and later periods rock art and remains of Roman and post-Roman caravan stopping places along this secondary route across the desert. Some insights on digital technologies adopted for the archaeological documentation and the undergoing threats to the sites will be also given.

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PRELIMINARY CONSIDERATIONS ON STONE VESSELS AS SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC INDICATORS IN PREDYNASTIC AND EARLY DYNASTIC EGYPT (3750-2639 BC)

Stone vessels have always been regarded as prestige goods, representing one of the earliest attested groups of high-class materials. The difference between pottery and stone vases could indicate, since their appearance during the Naqada IIA, high-ranking individuals inside the communities. However, stone vessels' economic and social background has never been studied extensively. Moreover their occurrence in different archaeological contexts (burials, settlements), and their relationships with cultic areas and rituals should be studied deeply.

This ongoing research will explore the relationships between stone vessels and socio-economic demands and changes during the Predynastic and Early Dynastic periods, considering them as prestige goods and indicators of the processes of social differentiation, emerging elites and State formation.

The aim of this paper is, thus, to present the starting questions of the research project, the materials on which it is based and the suggested studying approach. The preliminary results, as well as the future perspectives and goals, will be shown and discussed.

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OLD KINGDOM SARCOPHAGI – THE ABUSIR CORPUS

In 1969 Maria Donadoni Roveri published her fundamental monograph on Old Kingdom stone sarcophagi together with a comprehensive catalogue (a total of 97 non-royal specimens). Later excavations have brought to light new material, e. g. from Czech excavations in Abusir – a corpus accounting for almost 40 sarcophagi. Some of them have been published by Miroslav Verner, Miroslav Bárta or Jaromír Krejčí.

The aim of this paper is to present the whole corpus. Special emphasis was laid on the differences between the sarcophagi found on the royal necropolis of Central Abusir and those installed in the tombs at Abusir South. Material, dimensions and decoration were examined, in particular in connection with the specific social status of the sarcophagus owner. A comparison with a set of sarcophagi coming from Saqqara and Giza necropolises will also be undertaken to establish a position of the Abusir corpus within the development of sarcophagi during the Old Kingdom.

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THE SUN TEMPLES OF THE FIFTH DYNASTY: PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

The sun temples of the fifth dynasty represent a still unparalleled and unique monument of Old Kingdom Egypt. Out of the six sanctuaries known from the epigraphic sources, two temples have been discovered so far, in the site of Abusir/Abu Ghurab. The monuments have been the object of past scholarship, including a number of studies carried out by the present writer. Moreover, since January 2010, an Italian archaeological expedition, led from L'Orientale University of Naples, has started working in the sun temple of Niuserre with the aim to reassess all the available archaeological information.

The present paper thus wishes to resume the main results of the last years of study and field-work, as well as to pinpoint the major research objectives and perspectives for the coming years. In fact, starting from January 2017, a wider — three-years based — research project on the sun cult and architecture in Third Millennium BC Egypt has been launched at Charles University of Prague, under the auspices of the Czech Science Foundation (GACR grant no. 17-10799S). The project, which has been made possible also thanks to a cooperation agreement signed in 2015 between L'Orientale University of Naples and Charles University of Prague, will include, among the others, a wider archaeological and topographical investigation of the site of Abu Ghurab.

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USE OF R IN EGYPTIAN ARCHAEOLOGY: A CASE STUDY OF OLD KINGDOM COPPER MODEL TOOLS

The software R is an open-source statistical data analysis solution. In contrast to expensive statistical proprietary software, it is available free of charge and can be used anywhere in the world; it should be utilised more widely also in the field of Egyptian archaeology. I would like to show the possibilities of its use on a dataset collected from Old Kingdom copper model tool kits recently discussed in my monograph *Old Kingdom Copper Tools and Model Tools*. The model tools were deposited in elite Old Kingdom burials among the items required for the Afterlife. From the archaeological point of view, they represent the production of large tool kits of a regularized size by craft specialists. The paper explores the use of R in descriptive statistics, exploratory data analysis and innovative graphic representation of data, going beyond the analyses presented in the book. The paper would like to encourage wider use of R in Egyptian archaeology.

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RELATIVE CHRONOLOGY OF TOMB CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS

My PhD project investigates the socio-economic aspect of New Kingdom tomb construction by analysing both archaeological data and textual material. In this paper I will present a critical evaluation of William C. Hayes' chronology and interpretation of the ostraca material from TT 71 (Senenmut). The relative chronology between these documents is difficult to establish when only a handful of the texts are dated. The Egyptians were remarkably good at keeping records in general, and their administrative papyri are almost consistently fitted with specific dates. This is unfortunately not the case when it comes to 'on site' work documentation on ostraca, where the year of a date is usually left out. However, by drawing on both the textual content and the archaeological/architectural context it is possible to arrange the description of events into a logical sequence and further our understanding of the tomb construction process.

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THE LIFE HISTORY OF TOMB 3504; A RE-EVALUATION OF THE SAQQARA NORTH CEMETERY

In 1953 Walter Emery excavated the First Dynasty tomb 3504 at Saqqara; the publication was quite elaborate, including the apparent restoration of the original burial chamber. Remarkably, the tomb is since mainly discussed for its size and original richness.

A re-evaluation of Emery's field notes shows that the situation found during the excavation was complex, multiple burials of all periods were found around the funeral complex.

With this information it is possible to reconstruct the life history of the tomb and its surroundings. It starts with the construction of the original structure and its ramifications; and the restoration (re-use?) shortly afterwards. More changes occurred during the Second and Third dynasties, they continued for 5000 years, til the excavation in the 1950s.

The reconstruction of the tomb's history enables a partial re-evaluation of the wider history of the Archaic cemetery at Saqqara.

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GODS AND THEIR NAMES: CRYPTOGRAPHIES OF DEITIES FROM THE ROOF CHAPELS AT DENDERA

Contrary to ancient civilizations' bias to simplify their own writing systems, Late Egyptians managed to complicate hieroglyphs further, making them an instrument apt to carry more latent meanings than ever. According to their personal theological and philosophical view, they edited every text with a mean, the Ptolemaic writing, allowing them to summarise the multiple aspects of Creation into the modular space of the signifier, which the reader – both ancient and modern – must continuously unveil and reconstruct. The originality of this system is best exemplified by the litanies genre, which needs to be extremely concise and absolutely exhaustive for its own nature. Both cryptographies of divine names and hieroglyphs representing gods from the litanies of the Roof Chapels of the Temple of Dendera will be analysed, with further examples from other Tentyrite texts and comparisons with the Litanies at Esna.

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COFFIN TEXTS SPELL 246: A DESCRIPTION OF THE MOON IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE SUN

Apart from a well-defined sequence of spells (the Book of the Moon, spells 154–160) which catalogues the successive stages of the lunar cycle, at least one other spell of the Coffin Texts also describes a specific point in the moon's journey through the sky. This is spell 246, a text that has been preserved on three coffins from Asyut. Its title, 'Spell for entering into the fire and coming forth from the fire around the sky', has obvious affinities with the designation of the invisible moon in spells 154 and 160: 'He-who-is-in-his-fire', i.e. the moon dwelling in the vicinity of the sun at the time of conjunction. As a whole, spell 246 offers yet another glimpse into the mythological associations and imagery which the Egyptians used to record and make sense of the monthly disappearance of the moon. In my presentation, I offer a fresh rendering of the text exploring its lunar connotations.

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A LION AND CAT-HEADED GODDESS WORSHIPPED IN THE NILE VALLEY

The goddess Bastet was worshipped in Egypt from the Early Dynastic Period and the Old Kingdom. She was depicted on reliefs of the royal mortuary complexes as the protector of the Lower Egyptian celestial vault and, like her counterpart Hathor, she played the role of royal nurse as well as being the protector of king and kingship. At the same time, she was the aggressive lioness, protecting her children from enemies. Therefore, the protective nature of the goddess was associated with a more combative side, which became typical of the kings, especially during the Middle and New Kingdom. But it was during the 1st millennium BC that her cult spread across the Nile valley.

The main temples dedicated to her were built in Saqqara and Tell Basta. However, many temple complexes that were sacred to her cult were located in other towns, often with enclosures where sacred animals were reared and necropolises where her hypostases were buried. The aim of this speech is to analyse these complexes through textual and archaeological sources, which shown their presence.

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MACRO-LITHIC TOOLS AND ROCK HOLLOWES IN EASTERN SUDAN: CURRENT RESULTS AND FUTURE PERSPECTIVES

In Eastern Sudan, different archaeological missions and researches were carried out from 1980 to 1995 and have been resuming from 2010, thanks to the Italian Archaeological Expedition to the Eastern Sudan (former IAMSK). Unfortunately studies on the macro-lithic implements were quite absent.

During the 2014 and 2015 expeditions, a preliminary study on this kind of implements was made, focused on the ground stone tools from Mahal Teglinos (K1), UA 53 and Jebel Abu Gamal (JAG1). Part of these tools came from archaeological strata, while the others were collected during the surveys carried out on the sites. Some of them were also associated with particular depressions and holes in the rocks (cupstones), probably related to grinding, crushing and sharpening activities. The results gave a preliminary idea of the possible shape and typology of the grinding implements and laid the foundations for different possible future analysis.

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‘THE CHILDREN YOU WILL BEAR WITH ME ARE THE CO-DIVIDERS WITH MY CHILDREN’: MARRIAGE AND INHERITANCE STRATEGIES IN NON-ROYAL CONSANGUINEOUS MARRIAGES IN ANCIENT EGYPT

Non-royal consanguineous marriages are recorded in ancient Egypt from the Middle Kingdom to the Roman Period, although evidence is limited by the nature of kinship terms expressing consanguinity and affinity, and by a low number of written contracts. Consanguineous marriage is defined here as a union of individuals related as second cousins or closer. This paper assesses the potential economic advantages of consanguineous marriage in relation to marriage gifts and inheritance. Sources examined include marriage contracts and inheritance commitments in the Adler and Rylands papyri from Pathyris, trial notes of a contested will from Siut (P. BM 10591 recto), and the retention of family property in the Tebtunis archive of Philo Sarapis. This paper proposes that inheritance laws and customary exchanges at marriage make it advantageous for many families to marry consanguineously, enabling relatives to influence the timing of transfers and amounts of gifts given at marriage and in inheritance.

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MAGIC, MEDICINE, DEMONS, AND DRUGS: A RECONSIDERATION OF EGYPTIAN MEDICAL THEORY.

‘It belongs to the prehistory of the medical art, when it was devoid of reason and was not yet a true art’. Jouanna, ‘Egyptian Medicine and Greek Medicine’, in Jouanna (ed.), *Greek Medicine from Hippocrates to Galen – Selected Papers*, Leiden: 2012, 17.

Ancient Egyptian medicine is often viewed as a product of a magical belief system – for this reason, it is not considered as a precursor to later traditions (Von Staden 1989; Longrigg 1994; 1998; Nutton 2006; Jouanna 2012). Within Egyptology there is much debate on the empirical nature of the science; these studies vary in their attempts to understand the practice from considerations of their relationship with magical texts (Leitz 2002, David 2004) to establishing the efficacy of specific prescriptions, (Campbell 2007).

But how effective are these studies? Using a selection of texts from the *Ebers Papyrus* (§§188-216) as a case study, this presentation aims to highlight the theoretical components observable in certain prescriptions, demonstrating that they were not 'devoid of reason'. The study will examine Egyptian conceptions of anatomy, medical aetiology, and use of pharmacopoeia. It will re-consider the significance of the ancient tradition in a medical historical context.

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ARIANNA'S THREADS: THE DISTRIBUTION OF BEADS IN EGYPT DURING THE SECOND INTERMEDIATE PERIOD

What kind of relationships existed between different regions in Egypt during the Second Intermediate period? In that period, the country was divided politically and culturally. The Hyksos, a group of people of Levantine origins, ruled the north, while in the south, archaeological evidence suggests the presence of Nubians of the Pan-Prave Culture.

Did different regions in Egypt function more or less autonomously, or did some maintain relations with others? How did different regions influence each other? How was the culture of these regions influenced by the foreigners living there? In this paper, based on part of my ongoing PhD research, I present some preliminary answers to these questions based on an analysis of the distribution of beads. I make use of network theory and analysis, which has so far not been employed in the interpretation of the material culture of the Second Intermediate Period.

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STONE ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENTS OF THE MONASTERY AT MANQABAD AND THEIR TYPOLOGICAL CLASSIFICATION

This paper will focus on the stone architectural elements of the Monastery of Abba Nefer at Manqabad (located 7.5 km west of Asyut) and on their typological classification, made on the basis of the finds examined during the previous Italian-Egyptian campaigns. More than 180 architectural elements are kept in the storehouses of El-Ashmunein and Asyut (Shutbi) and many others are still *in situ*. The finds have been divided into four groups: A) Capitals and semi-columns; B) Lintels and elements of friezes; C) Moulded elements; D) Miscellaneous architectural elements. The typological classification has been combined with the analysis of their functions and the study of their decorative motifs, obtaining information about the site history and the contacts with other monasteries.

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CHILD BURIALS AT DOMESTIC CONTEXTS: OBSTACLES AND PERSPECTIVES OF RESEARCH

In past societies, where child mortality rates were high, the children's death was part of the daily life of most people. The ancient Egyptian society was not an exception. Every time a child died it was necessary to decide how to treat the body and how and where to bury it. Although it is known that the location of child burials was not restricted to cemeteries, it has been paid little attention to other contexts where they have been found, such as domestic environments.

Thus, the focus of this paper will be the child burials that were found at Egyptian domestic contexts, dated from the Pre-dynastic Period to the Late Period, as a relevant topic to researches about perceptions around death and childhood in Ancient Egypt. We aim to discuss the obstacles inherent to their study and the ways to overcome them, as well as to present our goals of research and the methodology that we intend to adopt to achieve them.

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THE LOOTING OF THE THEBAN NECROPOLIS IN THE TIME OF WORLD WAR II THROUGH THE EGYPTOLOGICAL ARCHIVES OF THE UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI OF MILAN. THE CASES OF THEBAN TOMBS 38, 51, AND 181

In recent years, the importance of archival studies in Egyptology has greatly increased. Improved accessibility has served to enlarge and deepen our knowledge regarding different aspects of this discipline. During the years of World War II, thirty-nine Theban Tombs were looted on various occasions. The thieves were interested in selling fragments of the wall decorations on the antiques market. These fragments were purchased by dealers in Cairo and sold to museums and private collectors throughout the world. Via the study of the archives of Alexandre Varille and Bernard V. Bothmer, preserved at the Egyptological Library of the Università degli Studi of Milan, and research through Museums and private collections, it may be possible to reconstruct the wall decoration of the Theban Tombs and understand in more depth the history of the thefts in the area in this period. In particular, three New Kingdom Theban Tombs – TT 38, 51, and 181 – were selected amongst the others as case studies.

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“ADOPTING MEDICAL PRACTICES: HOW ANCIENT EGYPTIAN EYE TREATMENTS ENDED UP IN THE EUROPEAN MEDICAL TRADITION”

A recent study of a largely unpublished medical text from the Papyrus Carlsberg Collection in the University of Copenhagen has provided new insight into the nature of knowledge transmission from Ancient Egypt. The 18th dynasty text, Papyrus Carlsberg 8, contains a series of birth prognoses and ophthalmological prescriptions, which are paralleled extensively in later medical literature, from the ancient Coptic and Greek texts, through medieval Arabic literature, to premodern European folk medicine. An analysis of the parallels illustrates that the adoption of knowledge from Egypt did not occur uncritically, but was dictated by cultural differences (primarily religious differences) and dependent on non-culture specific observations that could

be accepted across cultural boundaries. PC 8 is unique in illustrating how Egyptian knowledge was adopted and adapted cross-culturally, and thus significant in our understanding of Egyptian sciences and their influence on the surrounding world.

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“...INTO EVERY WRITING OF THE PRIESTS...”: OFFICIALS IN THE TIME OF HATSHEPSUT AND THEIR DISCOURSES OF THE PAST.

It has long been recognized that the early 18th dynasty showed a certain orientation to-towards the Old and Middle Kingdom. However, the concentration on the role of the kings and queens in this process often obscured the notion that the officials of that time developed agendas towards the past on their own. Hatshepsut is especially revealing in this respect, since a concentration on narratives like the Punt-expedition or the “Senenmut-affair” often prevented a broader view on the multitude of discourses during her time.

I will argue that the officials in the time of Hatshepsut used archaisms, comments, visitor inscriptions and other acts of veneration to form discourses of the past. To do so, I will give a commented summary on the individual phenomena and present them under the framework of *Cultural Memory*. This approach allows me to use an already existing and well-defined terminology to merge and describe seemingly different instances of mnemonic acts and activities.

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THE ZAGREB MUMMY AND THE LIBER LINTEUS ZAGRABIENSIS: THE LONGEST ETRUSCAN TEXT AS ITS WRAPPINGS

The 19th century was a busy time for antiques dealers and the distribution of ancient artefacts. Egyptian objects were one of the most wanted considering the fascination that surrounded this ancient civilization. Furthermore, ancient Egyptian mummies represented some of the center pieces of almost each collection that formed. In such a manner, an ancient Egyptian mummy was donated to the Archaeological Museum in Zagreb in 1862 and it still attracts a lot of attention. The reason for this was discovered 30 years after she came to the Museum.

Upon arrival, the curator noticed strange markings on its wrappings, but thought they were hieroglyphs. However, several decades later, after several decades of unsuccessful deciphering attempts, it was discovered that it represented the Etruscan script, the longest text found still today. So why was the, an Egyptian, wrapped in an Etruscan text? Some theories and possible explanation of this unique mummy and its wrappings will be presented.

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EGYPTIAN FLINT ARTIFACTS FROM TEL ERANI DISCOVERED DURING THE POLISH-ISRAELI PROJECT TRONE

During the 3 - year excavation campaign Polish - Israeli project "Trade Routes of the Near East" discovered so far a lot of evidence of the presence of the Egyptian population on the investigated site – Tel Erani, eg. in the form of architecture or imported ceramics. The site is located in Israel in a place, where the eastern part of the coastal plain meets the northern edge of the Negev. The chronology of the excavated areas during the project at the site is determined as belonging to the Early Bronze Ib2 (Naqada IIIB-C1 in Upper Egypt). In my presentation I will show flint artefacts of Egyptian origin separated during analysis of lithic assemblage from the site. During the analysis, separated several specific types of objects made on Egyptian and local raw material. Furthermore, noted the use of so-called Canaanean blades to the production of tools in the Egyptian style, which may indicate that the relationship is not confined to trade in goods but also techniques. The presence of these elements in the flint inventory from the Southern Levant provide a rare opportunity to understand the relationship between these two regions from this perspective.

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EGYPTIAN INSPIRATION: A POSSIBLE INFLUENCE OF EGYPTIAN FORTIFICATIONS ON ROMAN MILITARY ARCHITECTURE.

When the Roman soldiers entered Egypt, they found there numerous fortifications from the pharaonic era. A few of the pharaonic fortifications were reused by the Roman army or where in the area where the Roman soldiers were stationed. However the influence of ancient Egyptian architecture on the Roman military architecture is almost never consider. Due to my research about both ancient Egyptian fortifications and Roman fortifications, I think there was a large influence from pharaonic fortification to the Roman military architecture. In this paper I would like to present the hypothetical impact of two pharaonic building on the Roman military architecture: fortlet in Wadi al-Hudi and the Aswan wall.

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SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC LIFE IN THE PTOLEMAIC MILITARY CAMP OF PATHYRIS: TACKLING COMPLEXITY BY MEANS OF FORMAL NETWORK ANALYSIS

Attempts to reconstruct socio-economic life often equal striving to tackle social and economic complexity. Crucial to their success, is a methodological approach enabling systematic examination of large and diverse data sets, allowing the researcher to maintain the overview.

At least since the 1970s, network analytical methods have gained some recognition within historical fields. Ancient Egypt represents a particularly well-suited case study for network approaches. Still, formal network analysis has only by exception been applied to material and texts from ancient Egypt.

The current talk aims to critically discuss the applicability - and usability- of 'Social Network Analysis' within the field of Egyptology. In doing so, the author introduces her PhD-project, 'Socio-Economic Relations in Ptolemaic Pathyris: A Network Analytical Approach to a Bicultural Community'. Demonstrations and visualizations are generated from preserved Greek and Demotic textual sources from the site.

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THE MONUMENTAL TOMBS OF THE ASASIF FROM THE 25TH-26TH DYNASTIES, BETWEEN «CULTURAL ARCHIVE» AND PLACE OF WORSHIP

The monumental tombs, or *Grabpalasten*, of the Asasif valley, Thebes, from the 25th-26th Dynasties show selected excerpts of ancient funerary texts, from the *Pyramid Texts* to the *Amduat*. These texts and their associated scenes were not merely copied but also edited and they are repeated in several of these tombs. The editing of these texts, especially of the *Book of the Dead*, reveals the use of *Musterbücher*, arguably from temple archive, and also of the direct copy. This is evident, for example, in the case of the two-faced Anubis and of the *Pyramid Texts* selections in the pillared hall of Pabasa TT279 that are clearly inspired to the programme of Harwa TT37.

Furthermore, the function of the *Grabpalasten* as «cultural archive» is probably bear out by the invitation to copy the texts inscribed in Padiamenope TT 33.

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HATSHEPSUT'S PUNT RELIEFS: THEIR STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION

While describing Hatshepsut's Punt reliefs, the odd position of some scenes has long been observed, although not satisfactorily explained by the scholars. Thanks to the author's involvement in the new publication of the Punt Portico, it is now possible to suggest a new way of reading the Punt reliefs, which not only presents the scenes as a sequence of carefully chosen episodes of a broader narration, but also explains the atypical position of portico's final scenes. The paper will also discuss the structural features of the Punt reliefs in order to demonstrate that the emplacement of particular scenes within the portico was by no means accidental for it reflected geographical reality while at the same time it was supposed to refer to the decorative programmes of the royal mortuary complexes of the Old and Middle Kingdoms. The paper will also discuss the ideological background of Hatshepsut's decision of dedicating a whole portico of her temple to the Punt expedition.

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GLAZED TERRACOTTA DECORATIONS FROM THE PALACE OF NATAKAMANI (B1500) AT NAPATA: A TYPOLOGICAL AND ICONOGRAPHICAL ANALYSIS. ITALIAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL MISSION IN SUDAN AT JEBEL BARKAL (UNIVERSITÀ CA' FOSCARI, VENICE)

One of the aims of the Italian Mission at Jebel Barkal in 2014 was the study of finds of previous excavations in the Meroitic palace of Natakamani (1st cent. CE). Among them, the glazed terracotta tiles are peculiar for type, placing and iconography, with no parallels neither in pharaonic Egypt nor in former Napatan-Meroitic phase in Nubia. In fact, similar objects are found only in the water sanctuary of Meroe (so-called *Royal baths*), shortly before the palace of Natakamani in Napata, and are actually an innovation in Kushite art. Here, these tiles decorated the external perimetral wall of the royal building (rounded and figure-shaped tiles in high relief) and the inner peristyle (square tiles in low relief). In keeping with the astonishing eclectic culture of Meroitic kingdom, we find the indigenous lion-god Apedemak beside the Egyptian protection *sc*

symbol and Hellenistic Dionisyan figures, along with minor themes, which are motifs directly linked to the Meroitic divine kingship.

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THE GOD HEH AND THE CONCEPTION OF ENDLESSNESS FROM THE OLD KINGDOM TO THE GREEK-ROMAN PERIOD

The conception of infinity can be considered as a fundamental theological theme of the Ancient Egyptian religion. Undoubtedly the god Heh plays a role of relevant consideration as regards to this topic, becoming a real personification of endlessness and regeneration.

My research aims at highlighting the essential theological, cosmological, and teleological aspects of this peculiar deification since the Old Kingdom and during all Egyptian history.

The methodology that will be used is based on a plurality of documentary sources: the analysis of the hieroglyphic textual corpus, the study of iconographies and epithets, and an examination of the topographic distribution of the evidence.

The main purpose of my research project is to provide a detailed and updated work on the god Heh, his theological development, the rituals connected to him and his relation with the remaining Egyptian pantheon.

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“PIGEON POTS” FROM TELL EL-RETABA, EGYPT

The paper is a presentation of a specific pot type known from excavations conducted at the site of Tell el-Retaba in the eastern Delta. The so called „pigeon pots” were common in the Third Intermediate Period but can be found throughout Late Period up to the Roman Period and are known even in present days.

This paper will present mostly unpublished source material from excavations of the Polish-Slovak Archaeological Mission at Tell el-Retaba. It will be a base of further analysis of chronological and territorial distribution of “pigeon pots”. At the end I will attempt to answer the most important question: if the name commonly used in the literature truly reflects the purpose of “pigeon pots” as sort of bird nests.

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GUARDIANS OF THE BORDERS: AN INSIGHT ON OLD-MIDDLE KINGDOM ADMINISTRATIVE TITLES.

«Borders are nothing other than lines drawn to demarcate states’ sovereignty [...] they have to be agreed upon by each of the states whose borders they are» (Giddens 1985). The national border of Egypt belongs more to the defences of the state, and, as such, it is strictly connected with kingship and occupies a prominent place in the vocabulary of official compositions. Within a blurred and peculiar system of boundaries, already in the Old Kingdom some officials had supervision duties specifically intended at the borders of the country (i.e. “Head of the Western Door”); in the Middle Kingdom we find titles such as “Bolt of the door to foreign countries”, while a “commander of the garrison of the frontier of the Southern

Lands” is mentioned in the tomb of Sarenput II. By analyzing administrative titles in connection with the borders, and thus the related defensive, security and exchange activities, this paper will explore the nature of the Egyptian system in the maintenance of the state.

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ONCE UPON A TIME IN HEMAMIEH: A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE EXCAVATIONS OF THE MISSIONE ARCHEOLOGICA ITALIANA (MUSEO EGIZIO, TURIN)

The *Missione Archeologica Italiana* (MAI), led by Ernesto Schiaparelli, conducted two archaeological campaigns on the site of Hemamieh, between 1905 and 1906.

Here he discovered a Predynastic necropolis, that confirmed the ancient origin of the site. Despite having unearthed and obtained for his Museum more than 300 artefacts, the results and records of these excavations have never been extensively published.

The author’s study of all the available documentation (conducted through an integrated analysis of artefacts and archives) sheds new light on the archaeological topography of the site and the unearthed materials, and places the Italian contribution to the study of Hemamieh into better focus.

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PRISONERS OF WAR AS A MEANS OF SELF-REPRESENTATION: DOCUMENTAL EVIDENCE FROM PRIVATE SOURCES OF THE NEW KINGDOM

Several monuments celebrate the numerous military successes obtained by Egypt during the New Kingdom, through texts and images that feature the pharaoh in the act of capturing or deporting enemies. Depicting the "triumphant pharaoh" had a strong ideological and symbolic value and a celebratory purpose; however, in practice these victories had also great effects on the economy and the administration of the country, since large amounts of prisoners and raw materials entered the country and had to be managed. By analysing six biographical texts from private tombs of the XVIIIth dynasty, this paper will track not only the propaganda aspects of the pharaoh’s celebration, but most importantly details of the capturing of prisoners and their management as workers employed by the Temple of Amun-Re at Karnak. Moreover, this investigation will show that privates used prisoners as a means to prove their own personal achievements, representing themselves as loyal and efficient public officials.

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‘THE CHARACTER OF A MAN IS IN HIS FAMILY’ – CLOSING THE GAP BETWEEN EGYPTOLOGY AND HISTORICAL DEMOGRAPHY.

Despite researchers’ best efforts, Egyptology still has painfully little knowledge of family life in ancient Egypt. Egyptian marriage practices have been studied mostly from a legalistic standpoint, or in a vacuum, while Egyptian household formation and family systems have received only sparse attention in the literature. At the same time, historical demography, in the form of ‘Family History Studies’ has in recent decades exploded - garnering new insights into how pre-modern families and households functioned. This paper explores the possibilities of using these insights in order to better interpret the Egyptian source material, and understand how Egyptian families worked.

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EGYPTIAN METRICS: A MORPHOLOGICAL APPROACH

Egyptian metrics has always been considered as accentuative. This classification, exclusively based on Coptic’s stress-timed nature, should be revised on the basis of a morphologic analysis on sentence structure and distribution of roots in poetic passages of middle Egyptian literature. After having discussed the previous theories and the problems they leave unsolved, I analyze a section of the *Dialogue of a Man with his Ba*, whence several clues emerge that 1) middle Egyptian is a mora-timed language; 2) Egyptian metrics, like Japanese one, is based on a constant amount of morae per verse; 3) however, like Sanskrit and Aeolian one, it takes the syllables into account; but 4) it has also some particularities which are not findable elsewhere and whose presence make Egyptian metricology a very promising field of research, deserving of more attention than has hitherto been paid to it.

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HOW MUCH EGYPTIAN ARE CYPRIOT TEMPLE BOYS?

Influences of Egyptian culture of neighbouring peoples should not be underestimated. They also could be a key to understand the issue of Cypriot Temple-boy figurines. They are presentation of sitting boys exposing genitals and holding in hand small animals, birds fruits or other objects. Many details of their presentation indicates Egyptian origins like the method of curving the eye or pendants in shape of head of Bes. This southern-origin hypothesis of explanation together with symbolic meaning of kept by them items allows to interpreted them as a votive offering presentation of heirs of Cypriot thrones to ensure them protection and well-being.

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THE DUTIES OF THE OVERSEER OF WORKS IN EIGHTEENTH DYNASTY EGYPT

The office of the Overseer of works was a crucial position in the Egyptian administration, as holders of that office were in charge of managing projects for the king or religious institutions, mostly relating to construction work. They are known to have managed the quarrying and erection of obelisks, but also the development and expansion of temples. They were thus converting the construction requirements of the state into tangible structures and they represented the intangible link between royal commands and their implementation. This paper presents the titles held by these officials and the projects with which they were associated. They are then analysed in the larger context of the building programmes and ideologies of Eighteenth Dynasty rulers, and despite the near-absence of information from Memphis and its necropolis, some conclusions are put forth based on the overall number of officials known for this period, with evidence coming mostly from the areas of Thebes and Aswan.

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A CAUSAL RELATION BETWEEN MASONS' MARKS AND CONSTRUCTION WORKS IN THE SIXTH DYNASTY

This paper aims to argue for a causal relation between Masons' marks and construction works in the Sixth Dynasty. The number of Masons' marks multiplies in this period, for example, as can be seen from the pyramid of Pepy I, in which 1500 marks have been discovered, and from the mortuary temple of Pepy II, where more than 300 marks have been reported. However, the background to these phenomena has not been elucidated satisfactorily.

It was undoubtedly relevant to implement some change in the construction works of this period. Although the workers' organization has been discussed specifically with regard to pyramid construction in previous studies, the construction work that the government had to manage was not a single job because many local temples of a similar plan had been built during this Dynasty. This is why it was necessary to consider the pyramid construction as one project among the many royal construction activities. This point of view will figure in the beginning issue

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND ICONOGRAPHIC APPROACHES TO PERSONAL ADORNMENTS IN THE MIDDLE KINGDOM: ITS REGIONAL VARIABILITY AND STATE CONTROL

In the Middle Kingdom, various personal adornments were used as grave goods. This paper concentrates on the regional variability of those adornments by analyzing approximately four hundred tombs located in Egypt, which is still not clarified. In addition, "ideal" assemblage and colors of personal adornments for burials will be examined through the iconography such as wall paintings, mummy masks, anthropoid coffins and *frised'objets*. The results show that during the late Middle Kingdom, people were buried with broad collars exclusively in the Memphite region, while single string necklaces, bracelets or anklets were used everywhere. Moreover, royal broad collars resembled ones you can see in some iconography, but non-royal broad collars were quite different in color. Finally, this paper provides evidence that selection of personal adornments in

the Middle Kingdom was not performed quite freely but under state control to some extent, which was one of the causes for regional variability.

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DISRUPTIVE ELEMENTS IN ANCIENT EGYPTIAN LITERATURE – A STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS

It is beyond dispute that the amount of written documents from Ancient Egypt is abundant. Many were the methods used to analyse these texts; nevertheless, the ones categorised as “literary”, although being known and translated since the beginning of Egyptology, were used solely as illustrations and examples for other types of studies. Recently, they started to be the main object of Egyptological researches and numerous methods and theories can now be adopted.

This paper aims to present the results of the structuralist analysis for this PHD research based on the works of Tzvetan Todorov used in the *Tale of Two Brothers* and *King Kheops and the Magicians*. The main purpose of this investigation was to pinpoint the disruptive elements of these tales, in other words, the characters responsible for unbalancing the story. We will try to define, through the charts proposed by the method, whose characters were chosen to be chaotic elements in these narratives and why.

POSTER ABSTRACTS

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HAPY IN GEBEL EL- SILSILAH

Gebel el-Silsilah situated about 65 Km north of Aswan, and the ancient Egyptian name of the site was Kheny. It was one of the most important sacred region in ancient Egypt whereas it associated with Nile and its inundation.

Hapy is the Nile –god but it is the spirit of the Nile who dwelled in it and pushed its flood, in whose honour special festivals were held at Gebel el-Silsilah, and the kings participated in it.

These festivals were mentioned on the stelae of Sethos I, Ramses II, Merenptah and Ramses III at Gebel el-Silsilah, and the text of it prescribed the offerings and its quantities to be presented to the river during the celebrations.

There are many rituals were performed during these festivals which I will explain it in detail in the paper such as: recitation some hymns to the river it so-called Hymn to the Nile, as it was recorded on the stelae of Gebel el-Silsilah. As well as throwing of the book and the small statues of Hapy, and the female statues of Rpat into the Nile.

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WHOSE GRAIN? THE SUPPLIERS AND SUPPLIED BETWEEN THE OLD AND THE MIDDLE KINGDOM

Grain storage practices enable us to estimate better the shifting limits of state power. Furthermore, any grain management tended to reproduce the power asymmetries and economic inequalities, even though, it must have necessarily involve the sharing as well. Therefore, it is essential to pay attention to who was *contributing to* and *withdrawing from* different types of granaries – how the grain was collected, who had the access to it and how it was reallocated (Tate Paulette, 2015). These are exactly the questions I would like to focus in my paper. My research concerns the period between the Old and the Middle Kingdom and it is based on published written sources recording the persons related to the grain flow. Besides determining who was involved in grain transaction, I also pay attention to the diachronic trends, as well as to the variety of contexts in which *contributing* and *withdrawing* persons appear.

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MS. OR MR. MUMMY? WHAT TO DO WHEN YOUR MUMMY IS CHANGING SEX FOR THE THIRD TIME

Warsaw Mummy Project – a complex research program, has been initiated in 2015. It aims at a comprehensive and innovative analysis of all human and animal mummies at the National Museum in Warsaw. The collection has never been studied before in detail and in the course of the recent examination, has yielded some surprising discoveries. An instance is a case of the first authentic mummy which entered the collection, now kept at the National Museum.

The specimen came to Warsaw in 1826 and was called ‘a mummy of a lady’. However, a name written on the sarcophagus was translated in 1930’s and it appeared that it belonged to Hor-djehuti who was a male

priest at Thebes in the 1st century BC. Then again, our recent Computer Tomography and X-raying of the specimen proved that the body belonged to a woman, whose body might be even older than the sarcophagus in which it came from Egypt. The aim of the poster is to present this curious case in the context of 19th century antiquity market.

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REDISCOVERING SCULPTURES FROM TEBTYNIS: A COMBINED ANALYSIS OF STYLISTIC FEATURES AND ARCHIVAL DOCUMENTATION

In 1931 several sculptural fragments were discovered at Tebtynis by the Italian Mission in Egypt directed by Carlo Anti, professor of the University of Padova. Some of them were sent to Italy and are now held in the Turin Egyptian Museum.

These sculptural fragments are now being studied thanks to the combined analysis of the sculptures themselves and of Carlo Anti's documents held in his archive, such as notes, photographs and also a movie. The analysis is the result of the fruitful cooperation between the Turin Egyptian Museum, the Scuola Normale Superiore and the University of Padova.

This paper presents the results of the archaeological, archival and stylistic study of two of these sculptures coming from the same area of the temple of Soknebtynis: a poorly preserved statue of a pharaoh and a non-royal sculpture. The whereabouts of the last in particular have since remained unknown and only a recent investigation in the Turin Egyptian Museum allowed its identification.

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TOMB ARRANGEMENT AND THE MORTUARY EQUIPMENT FOUND AT TT 362

The Theban Tomb 362 is one of the five later tombs constructed in the courtyard of the tomb of Neferhotep (TT49) at Khokha. It dates to the Late 19th/20th Dynasty and its owner was Paemwaset, wab priest of Amun. The tomb provides an interesting setting for understanding different reuses of the mortuary spaces across the Theban history. Different architectural rearrangements took place within the tomb. Tombs at Khokha were usually reorganised after the New Kingdom, though TT362 presents some unusual features. Different object types have been found associated with changes in architectural configuration, indicating different time periods. This paper addresses the different (ancient) historical phases at TT362 while approaching the mortuary equipment found in association with changes in tomb composition.

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AN ANCIENT EGYPTIAN PRIEST IN AN ARGENTINIAN MUSEUM

The Museum of La Plata, in Argentina, houses a collection of Egyptian plaster casts acquired between 1890s-1910s. After being neglected for a long time, they have been recently restored and displayed in the permanent exhibition.

One of the plaster casts is a stela which had belonged to Nebwawy, a High Priest of Osiris during the reign of Thutmose III and Amenhotep II. The original piece, discovered in Abydos, is currently preserved in Cairo Museum. Since it illustrates the favors a priest received from the pharaoh, this stela is a relevant source for the study of Osiris priesthood during the New Kingdom. Because of a successful career Nebwawy is rewarded with a king's statue, lands and other good things.

It is our interest to reflect on the pharaonic rewarding practice and its insertion in the transition to the next world. In addition, we would like to introduce to the academic community this Egyptian plaster casts collection.

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TRADITION AND INNOVATION IN THE NEW KINGDOM "ASSAULT SCENES"

Assaults on fortified towns are one of the central motifs of the war relief production of the New Kingdom. The scenes depicting assaults share a common iconography and are a trend especially within the Amon-Ra temples in Karnak and Luxor. Indeed, Ramesside rulers used this well-established iconography as a powerful communication media for their political propaganda.

Although the most outstanding examples are dated to the XIXth and XXth Dynasties, the roots of these images can be traced to the Vth Dynasty. Its earliest appearance can be found in two private burials dating to the reign of Djedkara Isesi and the same iconography becomes a popular theme in the tombs at Beni Hasan (First Intermediate Period – Middle Kingdom).

By recording each occurrence it is possible to outline the motif development through time, and see to what extent the New Kingdom "assault scenes" recall the tradition and in what elements, instead, they substantially differ from the past.

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THE MORE STALLIONS THE BETTER: TO WHAT EXTENT ARE DEPICTIONS OF HORSES IN FRONT OF CHARIOTS REALISTIC?

As soon as the horse made its appearance in Ancient Egypt, they were also represented in royal as well as private context. My hypothesis is that horse in private context show a greater sense of realism while stallions in royal context serve as an icon of power. I will discuss the realism of *what we see* and how this relates to the knowledge of the horse in Ancient Egypt. Horses in private context show that Egyptians were very aware of the display of different genders of horser, but the ones in royal context seem to be mostly uncastrated males. Putting two stallions in front of a chariot is a rather dangerous affair, and can be solved easily...but did the Egyptians know how to? I will look at two-dimensional as well as textual evidence to see whether

the Egyptians castrated their horses and where their knowledge came from in order to investigate the realism in these particular iconographic themes.

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FROM LOSS OF EXISTENCE, CONSERVATION OF ANTHROPOID COFFIN OF AMENEMHÂT (12 DYNASTY)

This study focuses on one of the early examples of using the human shape. An ancient Egyptian anthropoid wooden coffin belonging to the Egyptian prince Amenemhât from the Middle Kingdom, 12th Dynasty - was found in Deir El Bersha - Egypt in separate parts and reconstructed after 16 year of its excavation in 1900.was noted as a coffin of Military General (Sipi).

This coffin is the holder of mummy founded inside two rectangle coffins. Rectangular coffins displayed in museum and the anthropoid one stored in basement. For 100 years, it still inside basement.

The feasibility, effectiveness, and overall value of Portable X-ray Radiography were proven while studying the coffin. It helped identify the structure of the coffin and the previous. Samples were studied under Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM).Two swaps were investigated by Microbiological Investigation.

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THE POTTERY ASSEMBLAGE FROM “MONASTERY OF ABBA NEFER THE HERMIT” IN MANQABAD (ASYUT)

The Italian-Egyptian project started in 2012 has been focused on the data collection about the pottery assemblage from the Manqabad site, which is formed by 245 items, according to the inventories of the el-Minya Inspectorate. During last seasons the pottery vessels stored in the el-Ashmunein stores have been documented, analysed and reproduced in order to be included in a digital database for the typological and stylistic study. The preliminary results of the comparison between the Manqabad wares and similar material deriving from other better known monastic sites or assemblages of Coptic pottery have underlined a substantial commonality of types, especially regarding some parallels found among the Kellia deposits, dated from the late 4th to the mid. 8th century A.D., but also with ApaJeremia Monastery at Saqqara and Esna assemblages, which have added more evidence of the existence of a similar pottery style for this period. As for the decorated wares, instead, remarkable elements seem to belong specifically to Manqabad assemblage, underling their impressive artistic quality and no close parallels to other assemblages analysed so far.

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RETENU UNDER SIEGE: THE EGYPTIAN CONQUEST OF THE PALESTINIAN TERRITORY DURING THE REIGN OF PHARAOH AHMOSE, XVIII DYNASTY.

Poster illustrate the campaigns of conquest undertaken by the Pharaoh Ahmose (1550 BC) in the current Palestinian territory. The topics will be: the Egyptian army's evolution and its equipment with the introduction of the war chariot, the logistical management of the 'army and control of conquered territory. Will be analyzed the archaeological traces documenting the passage of the Pharaoh in the conquest of important cities such as Tel el-'Ajjul (identified with the ancient Hyksos fortress of Sharuhen) in relation to epigraphic sources of the soldiers and officers who laid the foundations for achieving the political and military apex of Egypt in the New Kingdom.

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LOCAL CORE AND SATELLITE RELATIONSHIP IN PREDYNASTIC MORTUARY CONTEXT: RECONSIDERING THE BURIAL DIFFERENCE AMONG 3 CEMETERIES AT NAQADA

Predynastic core settlement played an important role towards the emergence of the Early State, though its details are still vague due to the insufficient publications of major excavation till the mid of 20th century. In order to understand this role, the contrastive study of the local relationship of social groups between core and satellite is necessary. This paper aims to compare and clarify the core and satellite relationship from mortuary custom in the 3 cemeteries at Naqada which belonged to the different communities or social stratum and located ca. 2 km in diameter. The main source for analysis is unpublished records by Petrie. The comparative analysis will focus on the burial characteristics, especially number of body, detail of interred goods, and burial type. Naqada area includes one of the several Predynastic cores, and other areas where this discussion enables are scarce. Hence, this paper will contribute to the dynamics to the state formation from empirical aspects.

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THE MUT TEMPLE AT GEBEL BARKAL IN THE LIGHT OF RECENT RESTORATION WORKS

Since the end of 2013 the ISCR in agreement with NCAM of Sudan has carried on four campaigns of study and work in the Gebel Barkal site in the Sudanese Nubia aimed at the conservation of the Temple of Mut. The temple, scheduled by Reisner as B300, partly cut into the rock of the Gebel, consists of three chambers preceded by a vestibule disposed at the right angles to the main axis and a pillared hall marked by two rows of four columns in the front (hypostyle hall). The goals of the project include: the restoration of the wall paintings still kept indoors, allowing the recovery of the original colours ; the reinforcement of the static conditions of the monument with the construction of temporary provisional works and the new permanent shelter proposal aimed both to conservation and to facilitate the fruition. The investigation that preceded and accompanied the interventions revealed some interesting data that shed new light on the building phases of the temple at the time of Pharaoh Taharqa, who dedicated the temple during his kingdom. In addition,

the restoration of the wall paintings, so far performed in the main chamber, offers additional technical and stylistic data

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ENTANGLED TEMPORALITIES: READDRESSING PAST AND PRESENT AT TT 187

The 20th Dynasty tomb of Pakhikhet (TT187) was constructed in the earlier courtyard of TT49 at Khokha. This later tomb was constructed in the 19th Dynasty for an unknown person. The results of the 2013-15 excavations offer a few clues to the tomb's original setting. If compared with neighbouring tombs, TT187 provides few ancient finds. However, stratigraphy and final deposition contexts within the tomb offer insights into the complex relationships between different use phases. Those phases include a multiplicity of agents responsible for the current condition of archaeological contexts within the tomb. Accepting the fact that ancient objects are part of the present world, modern agents re-enact the past and put themselves between archaeologists and ancient Egyptians in final deposition contexts within the tomb. This paper addresses the entanglement of past and present in the materiality of TT187, putting together ancient and modern agents as part of the biography of the site.

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SIBLING RIVALRY, THE SIMILARITIES BETWEEN QUEEN MUTNODJMET'S CRANIUM AND THE SUSPECTED NEFERTITI MUMMIES

The figure of Queen Mutnodjmet (c. 1300 BCE), the Great Royal Wife of Pharaoh Horemheb, has been the focus of considerable attention lately within the world of Egyptology due to the fact she is believed to be the sibling of the elusive Queen Nefertiti. In 2008, archaeologist Eugen Strouhal released photographs of fragmentary remains (which included the dome of a skull and a mandible) that he believed belonged to Mutnodjmet. In the subsequent years these bones were lost and all attempts to locate them have proved fruitless. Using Strouhal's photographic evidence, I will analyze the remains of Mutnodjmet's cranium and mandible, and determine whether they bear any physical similarities to the two mummies suspected to be Nefertiti. These mummies include the Younger Lady from KV35 who was uncovered by Victor Loret and the mummy referred to as KV21B who was discovered by Giovanni Belzoni.

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EGYPTIAN BRONZE SITULAE: AN OVERVIEW FROM ITALIAN COLLECTIONS

This paper is a brief extract from my (still unpublished) PhD research concerning Egyptian bronze *situlae*. Up to now, a comprehensive catalogue and study of this class of objects is lacking.

An analysis of some case studies from the *corpus* of samples stored in Italian collections will be useful to allow a more stimulating speculation from both technological and iconographical point of view. By the individuation of two couple of vases identical in shape and decoration, it could be identified two proofs of the use by Egyptian craftsmen of indirect casting method, already known for bronze statuary. In other cases, the whole decoration is the result of the same multiple registers *assemblage*, with just small variations. It could be possible for these vases, to postulate the provenance from the same workshop (unfortunately still unknown).

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INTERLINEAR GLOSSING OF PAPYRUS WESTCAR

This poster presents work on project whose main aim is to work out English translation of the main canonical works of Egyptian literature of the Middle Kingdom and supply the texts with interlinear glossing according to the Leipzig glossing rules, as adapted for Egyptian by the team of HU Berlin (Di Biase-Dyson, Kammerzell&Werning 2009, 343-366). This glossing system compels scholars to make really careful translation and helps them to find different possibilities of translations and new interpretations. It also makes the grammatical structure of ancient Egyptian texts accessible to linguists without knowledge of Middle Egyptian, which can thus be used in comparative studies. We present some examples of new translations of particular sentences or phrases of papyrus Westcar.

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TATTOOS IN ANCIENT EGYPT. NEW RESEARCH PERSPECTIVES

Tattoos are permanent methods of decorating human body. Because of that in traditional society they are determining social group or status. Tattoos can have also significant ritual or religious meaning. Their preservation is unfortunately poor. Mummies from ancient Egypt are one of few examples when thanks to good body preservation we can observe them.

We do not know exactly when tattoos appear in ancient Egypt. We know only three examples of tattooed mummies. They all come from Middle Kingdom. But based on iconography first tattoo could appear in Predynastic Period. It seems that in ancient Egypt tattoos was reserved for women. Tattoos were connected with fertility and childbirth.

Thanks to development of researching technics there are new possibility to investigate ancient tattoos. One of them is making the photos using special light (UV, infrared), that can show us invisible in normal condition marks and changes. Also, technic of skin testing can give us an answer about type of pigment and method of applying it.

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THE GEBELEIN SPEOSOF HATSHEPSUT

The region of modern Gebelein, ancient Inerty - 28km south from Thebes - was home to multiple deities. One of the earliest evidence attributes it to Anubis and later, at the end of the First Intermediate Period the cult of Hathor was established in a small chapel on the top of its Eastern Hill. The cult was initially dedicated to Hathor of Dendera but very soon the goddess became known as Hathor or Inerty, the main deity of the region.

In 2015/16 a project of the University of Warsaw charted the hitherto undescribed rock-cut chapel of Hathor, which was hewn at the bottom of the Eastern Hill, directly below the former temple area. After careful examination it was assumed that the speos was commissioned by King/Queen Hatshepsut of the 18th dynasty. The paper would like to focus on the reasons behind the establishment of this monument since many aspects; its location, ground plan and decoration suggest that it was created for a special reason pertaining to Hatshepsut's personal agenda.

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THE MASTABA OF PTAHSHEPSES: A RE-EVALUATION OF THE PILLAR AND COLUMN COMBINATION

Ptahshepses' Fifth Dynasty mastaba in Abusir features some of the most impressive architectural components from non-royal mortuary structures. Of particular interest is the mixture of lotiform columns and pillars, which is the only occurrence of this combination within a single mortuary complex from the Old Kingdom. Whilst both architectural forms within the mastaba have been examined, the importance of such a unique combination has yet to be addressed. This paper will highlight this architectural anomaly through analysis in both the royal and non-royal context.

Additionally, it is necessary to supplement this evaluation within the context of the social and economic changes during this period. These include aspects such as the expansion of Ptahshepses' mastaba, the adaptation of royal motifs, and the growing power of the elite. By taking these perspectives into consideration, the unique combination of columns and pillars in Ptahshepses' mastaba can be more comprehensively understood.

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TEXTILES FROM THE ROYAL NECROPOLIS AT ABUSIR IN EGYPT

During the last almost 56 years scholars of Czech Institute of Egyptology (Faculty of Arts, Charles University in Prague) have been excavating the pyramid necropolis at Abusir. At this important site, where the monumental tombs of kings of the Fifth Dynasty are located, many textile fragments were discovered. Interesting examples are these from the recently discovered tomb of queen Khentkaus III and two contiguous tombs of unknown high officials. In mortuary complex of king Raneferef, more than 40 pieces of linen of very different quality has been unearthed in its mortuary temple. Other textiles dated to the Old Kingdom were found in tombs located in king Djedkare's family cemetery and some others tombs of high officials. There are also linen pieces from secondary burials unearthed in the Old Kingdom tombs but dated to the Third Intermediate and the Late Period.

