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Abusir and Saqqara in the Year 2010: Volume I

LATE PERIOD AND GRAECO-ROMAN PERIOD

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Abstract: The tomb of Menekhibnekau is the third largest Late Period shaft tomb excavated at the necropolis at Abusir so far. Although it seems to be contemporary with the neighbouring structures of Udjahorresnet and Iufaa, it shows some differences in its orientation, arrangement of its subterranean layout and its decoration and texts. Judging from the tiny remnants of its superstructure (for the most part destroyed by later stone-cutting), the tomb of Menekhibnekau might have been the most magnificent structure of its kind within the entire cemetery; that corresponds to the number and importance of his titles and offices. In spite of the fact that its burial chamber had already been robbed in antiquity, several items of the original burial equipment and other artefacts have been found here.

Keywords: Abusir – Late Period – Shaft Tomb – Menekhibnekau.

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Keywords: Asia – Africa – Madagascar – Sudan – cattle – bucrania – horns – symbolism – deformation.

Mary Hartley, Alanah Buck, Susanne Binder
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Keywords: Amuletic animal mummies – Anubis – association of human and animal remains – canines – Graeco-Roman period – metric analysis of dog crania – re-use of New Kingdom structures – Teti Cemetery.

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Keywords: Late Period – shaft tombs – embalmers' cache – mummification – burial rites – Menekhibnekau – Abusir.

Zdeňka Sůvová
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bones and other zoological material such as teeth, horns etc. came from different archaeological situations (burial chambers, shafts, secondary burials, and other funeral objects) and were dated back mainly to the Old Kingdom and to the Late Period. The results of these analyses contributed to our knowledge of animal husbandry, abuse of domestic animals, burial habits and other aspects of Ancient Egyptian life, as well as to e.g. palaeoenvironmental reconstruction. The main interest of the following paper is focused on the Late Period/Greek-Roman Period burial shaft filling.

Keywords: Abusir – animal remains – burial chambers and shafts – Old Kingdom – Late Period – Greek-Roman Period.

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Keywords: Saqqara – the Unas Causeway – Late Period burial – coffin – mummy – cartonnage – Ptah-Sokar-Osiris – funerary chest – mastaba – Akhethetep – Nectanebo II.

NEW KINGDOM

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Keywords: Leiden Excavations at Saqqara – dating of tombs – New Kingdom – monumental architecture – diachrony – history.

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Keywords: Maidum graffiti – New Kingdom – research, J. Černý – B. G. Gunn – W. M. F. Petrie.

Boyo G. Ockinga
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Keywords: Teti Cemetery – Saqqara – New Kingdom – tomb chapels.

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generations. As such, it can be compared to the notion of pragmatics in linguistic theory. Such an analysis can be a useful tool to increase our awareness of the difference between the tomb-owner's original ideal and present-day archaeological reality.

Keywords: Saqqara – Meryneith – Ancient Egypt – cemetery – archaeology – pragmatics.

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Keywords: Saqqara – New Kingdom – Ptolemaic period – anthropology – stability of the Memphite population.

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Masahiro Baba, Sakuji Yoshimura
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Keywords: Dahshur North – Middle Kingdom – shaft-tomb – coffin – burial customs – funerary ritual.

Adela Oppenheim
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Keywords: Dahshur – Middle Kingdom – Senwosret III – causeway – decoration – origin of the motifs – continuity and tradition.

ARCHAIC PERIOD AND OLD KINGDOM

Tarek El Awady
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Keywords: Abusir – Old Kingdom – Sahura – pyramid complex – decoration – high officials – royal family – Seshemnefer I.

Katarína Arias Kytnarová
Fine versus rough wares – the chronological relevance of bread forms **200**
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Keywords: Abusir – Old Kingdom – pottery – rough and fine ware – social and archaeological context – bread moulds.

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Keywords: portico – innovation – serdab – scenes first attested / unpublished – Ti – Kagemni – decoration.

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to the early Sixth Dynasty. The pattern that emerged suggests decorations changed in response to some influence other than the Pyramid Texts and suggests a new time frame for this inspiration.

Keywords: Old Kingdom – Pyramid Texts – distribution – tomb decoration.

Vivienne Gae Callender

Queen Neit-ikrety/Nitokris **246**

Abstract: The presence of the name of Neit-ikrety in the Turin Canon has generated a number of important discussions in the past but, in a recent re-examination of the Turin Papyrus, K. Ryholt (Ryholt 2000, 87–100) has demonstrated that Fragment 43 – which contains the name of Neit-ikrety – must be raised to a higher position than it occupies at present in Gardiner's publication of the Canon. Ryholt's repositioning has meant that the number of names on the Abydos list for the Sixth Dynasty now coincides exactly with the number of names in the Turin Canon. As a result of this move, it was possible for Ryholt to add yet another isolated fragment of the papyrus next to Fragment 43; this piece contains the phrase, *S3-Ptḥ*, the 'son of Ptah' (Ryholt 2000, 88). This result has brought Ryholt to two significant conclusions: that the names of Neit-ikrety should now be seen as *Neit-ikrety-Netjerykara-Sa-Ptah*, and that Neit-ikrety was a male king. This article revisits the various arguments, old and new, relating to this controversial identity and offers an independent assessment of the evidence.

Keywords: 6th Dynasty – Neit-ikrety – Neby – Ibi's pyramid – Abydos King List – Turin Canon – Herodotos – Old Kingdom history.

Violaine Chauvet

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Abstract: Porticoes – monumental entrances supported by columns or pillars – are among the structural innovations which mark the transformation of private tombs into elaborate multi-functional monuments from the mid-Fifth Dynasty onwards. Originating in the necropolis of Abusir, this architectural feature is selectively adopted and adapted in the Memphite area with at least eight examples at Saqqara and ten at Giza. The paper will focus on the analysis of the portico decoration, and consider the adaptation of the decorative programme within the structural setting, and the function of this architectural feature. The first theme to be discussed is public display: Which are the *icons* selected to be transferred to the outside of the tomb, and how are they adapted to external public display? Which new themes emerge in relation to porticoes, and how do they relate to the developing concept of the biographical self? The second focal point in this presentation is the analysis of the portico as a liminal space, a point of interaction between the deceased tomb owner and the living. In many

respects, the design of the portico is an embodiment of the inherent tension which existed in funerary context between restriction (the need for a protective pure environment) and accessibility (visitors). In conclusion we will see that porticoes had the potential to encapsulate all the essential conceptual aspects of the tomb superstructure as illustrated by the development of a 'portico-chapel' mastaba-type (Reisner Type 11), possibly as early as the reign of Izezi.

Keywords: Porticos – monumental tombs – Memphite necropoleis – social display – Izezi.

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Keywords: Abusir – Lake of Abusir – cemetery entrance – geology and sedimentology.

Veronika Dulíková
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Keywords: Old Kingdom – vizier – administration – administrative title – king's son – phallus-sign – Giza.

Laurel Flentye
The Development of the Giza Necropolis in the Early Fourth Dynasty **337**

Abstract: Study of the 'Giza Style' suggests that it was a complex period, in which diverse influences impacted the architecture and its decorative programs, including the incorporation of elements from the cemeteries at Meidum, Dahshur, and Saqqara under Snefru. In the royal sphere, the iconography of

Khufu's reliefs and the fragments from the queens' pyramids suggest some continuity with Snefru's decorative programs at Dahshur. Stylistically, Khufu's reliefs are characterized by the height of their low relief with rounded edges as opposed to the higher, bold style of Snefru's reliefs with edges perpendicular to the background surface. In the non-royal sphere, the use of slab stelae in the early tombs of the Western Cemetery is given as an example of Khufu's 'reductionist' policy, in which the stelae and possibly a reserve head were the only decoration. From a study of the iconographical features on the slab stelae, it is apparent that they evolved over time, with influences from Meidum, Dahshur, and Saqqara persisting as new elements in the 'Giza Style' were added.

A reassessment of royal and non-royal iconography and style during Khufu's reign indicates that certain iconography from Meidum, Dahshur, and Saqqara was assimilated by the artisans at Giza, but, stylistically, there was a distinct change from Snefru's high, bold relief to a lower relief style at Giza.

Keywords: Giza – Khufu – Iconography – Style – Slab Stelae – Reliefs – Statuary – Royal – Non-royal.

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Keywords: Cannibalism – Pyramid Texts – Old Kingdom.

Yannis Gourdon
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Keywords: *AGÉA* database – Ranke's *PN* – Egyptian personal names – Old Kingdom – Tepiemankh (Saqqara – D11) – family.

Jiří Janák, Hana Vymazalová, Filip Coppens
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Keywords: Old Kingdom – Fifth Dynasty – sun temples – rites of renewal – kingship.

Abusír and Saqqara in the Year 2010: Volume II

Lucie Jirásková
Stone vessels of AS54 at Abusir South. Preliminary report **447**
Abstract: The 2010 spring expedition of the Czech Institute of Egyptology brought to light an assemblage of stone vessel fragments from Abusir South. All were found within or in the immediate vicinity of the northern shaft (shaft 1) of the mastaba AS 54 situated on a prominent place at Abusir South. After the fragments were glued together and examined, several classes and types of stone vessels appeared. The paper presents the collection in its archaeological context, describes its special features, deals with the classification and typology of particular shapes, and last but not least, attempts to reach a dating for the entire assemblage.
Keywords: Saqqara – Old Kingdom – Third Dynasty – Huni – AS 54 – stone vessels.

Andrea Kahlbacher – Lubica Zelenková
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Keywords: Decoration – Middle Kingdom – net – net-maker – spinning – spindle – netting – netting needle – netting table.

Naguib Kanawati
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Keywords: Old Kingdom – Saqqara – Giza – Meir – tombs – reliefs – Middle Kingdom copies.

Nozomu Kawai
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Keywords: Northwest Saqqara – New Kingdom – Ramesside Period – Isisnofret – Khaemwaset – tomb chapel – sarcophagus – archaism.

Mohamed Ismail Khaled
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Keywords: Sahura – Sekhmet Sahura – funerary domains – causeway – graffito.

Jaromír Krejčí
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Keywords: Abusir – Nyuserra – royal necropolis – pyramid complex – valley temple – causeway – archaeology – architecture – Old Kingdom – Fifth Dynasty – Nile valley – floodplain – geophysics.

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Keywords: Saqqara – Old Kingdom – funerary architecture.

Claudia M. Lacher-Raschdorff
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Keywords: Saqqara – Second Dynasty – royal tomb – Ninetjer.

Jason Livingstone-Thomas
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Keywords: Economy – elites – market-place – Old Kingdom – peasantry – Tep-em-ankh.

Michele Marcolin, Andrés Diego Espinel
The Sixth Dynasty Biographic Inscriptions of Iny: More Pieces to the Puzzle **570**
Abstract: The present paper addresses three newly identified and heretofore undocumented relief fragments belonging to biographic inscriptions of the sealbearer Iny, a recently rediscovered Egyptian officer, who lived and acted as commander of expeditionary activities toward the Levant, during the reign of Pepy I, Merenre and Pepy II. Two of these new limestone fragments join virtually break-to-break with each other and fit on top of the previously known 'large' fragment, completing it in its upper part. The third piece, an inscribed panel bearing also a representation of the owner, fits with the so-called 'minor' fragment as its lower part. The importance of the reliefs evidently lies in their inscriptional content, as they not only provide the missing parts of the previous inscriptions with new and relevant information concerning the objectives of Egyptian expeditionary activities to Byblos and the Levant during the Sixth Dynasty, but also introduce a series of new and valuable toponyms. However, by revealing further startling details on the vicissitudes of the owner, they also confirm the previously attempted interpretations of their significance.
Keywords: Old Kingdom – Sixth Dynasty – Levant – Byblos – expeditions abroad – commercial relations – Early Bronze Age.

Mohamed Megahed
The Pyramid Complex of 'Djedkare's Queen' in South Saqqara. Preliminary Report 2010 **616**
Abstract: The paper provides an introduction and the preliminary results of a project that started in 2009. The project aims to gather and publish the material from the archaeological excavations of the pyramid complex of the Fifth Dynasty King Djedkare in South Saqqara. The site was explored by several Egyptian teams between the 1940s and 1980s (under the direction of Hussain, Fakhry, Razek), but the results of these excavations have never been fully published. The finds have now been recollected in several storerooms of the Supreme Council of Antiquities (SCA) and are in the process of being documented. The material will be described, analyzed and published in detail and allow for a study of the architectural layout and decoration program of Djedkare's funerary complex. In addition to that, the paper provides a preliminary report on the fieldwork, which was undertaken recently in the anonymous pyramid complex northeast of Djedkare's pyramid complex. The archaeological results, together with several finds from the previous and current excavations are presented.
Keywords: Pyramid complex – Djedkare – Saqqara – Anonymous complex – Fifth Dynasty.

Radek Mikuláš, Václav Cílek
Insect burrows (dwelling/breeding chambers and tunnels) in the archaeological context of Abusir **635**
Abstract: Several different forms of hymenopteran nesting chambers, probable beetle galleries and mammal burrows were found in masonry, plasters and surrounding (both natural and man-made) deposits in the ancient Abusir necropolis. Recognition of the makers of these structures has enabled a useful interpretation through dating (radiometric dating is possible if the tunnels are lined with organic matter) and specification of depth of burrowing/bioerosion (some insect structures show a highly specific depth below the substrate surface). Three basic colonization times were recognized: first, 2760 ± 35 BP = ca 750 B.C.; second, 645 ± 30 BP. i.e. ca 1350 A.D.; third, 225 ± 30 B.P., i.e. ca 1775 A.D.
Keywords: Insect burrows – Hymenoptera – ichnology – Abusir – bioerosion – bioturbation.

Karol Myśliwiec
Dating the tombs of Merefnebef and Nyankhnefertem in Saqqara **651**
Abstract: Two Old Kingdom tombs recently discovered and published by the Polish-Egyptian mission in Saqqara became a subject of controversy concerning their date. A detailed analysis of their diagnostic features resulted

in a general review of dating criteria, leading to the conclusion that none of these criteria is self-sufficient.

Keywords: Merefnebef – Nyankhnefertem – Userkara – Saqqara – vizier – Sixth Dynasty – dating – chronology.

Massimiliano Nuzzolo, Rosanna Pirelli
New archaeological investigation in the sun temple of Niuserra in Abu Ghurab **664**
Abstract: The sed festival depiction in Niuserra's sun temple represents the oldest known example of this kind of ritual celebration of kingship in Ancient Egypt. Although generally accepted by scholars, the reconstruction made by Kaiser in the seventies (the only one existing in this sense) is nonetheless not entirely sound and presents many doubts. Moreover, the German scholar assumed a narrative approach to the issue, emphasizing a descriptive level, where the development of the ritual was put in the focus. In this paper, on the contrary, I will not only draw attention to the depiction of the scenes and the placement in their architectural setting (trying to suggest a new 'unrolling' of the festival along the walls of the so-called chapel), but I will also stress the different readings and semantic values of the festival which, above all, seems to refer to the complex defining process of kingship during the Fifth Dynasty and, as a whole, during the Old Kingdom.

Keywords: Sun Temple – Fifth Dynasty – Kingship – Niuserra

Joanna Popielska-Grzybowska
Religious Reality Creation through Language in the Old Kingdom Religious Texts **680**
Abstract: The Pyramid Texts are very often perceived by scholars as being incoherent. The present author has been attempting to show, with reference to the contextual arguments, cohesion of these texts. In this article, the phenomenon of the performative role of language in the Egyptian religious texts as exemplified by the Pyramid Texts is scrutinised. Emphasis is laid on causative power of religious utterances and reality creation through language, through words – acts of speaking and writing. Furthermore, literary, stylistic and linguistic means of expression used by the ancient Egyptians are analysed and what appears to be an effect of using such expressions in religious discourse. Consequently, the religious style is examined.

As far as religious language is concerned it is expressing the Inexpressible. The ancient Egyptian stylisation phenomenon was very often based on the Pyramid Texts as a model. Thus, it is not perceived by the senses but within the faith. The sensibility of any language being understood in such a way might be questioned. It is easy to prove the sensibility, the deep meaning, veracity and verity of the religious utterances – ancient ones in particular – and, in contrast, also the senseless character of the texts – especially as they appear to us today. Regarding religious truths, a deeper meaning is intrinsically hidden in

apparently senseless verses. Leszek Kołakowski stated that the sensibility of a language is conditioned by the cult context and the engagement of the believers (e.g. Kołakowski 1991, 53–64). According to L. Kołakowski, religious language, namely its real meaning, is untranslatable into any other language, although words, phrases and actions necessary to be undertaken or performed may be translated. It is profoundly embodied in the language itself.

The language of the Old Kingdom religious texts is scrutinised based on inferences drawn by Teresa Dobrzyńska (Dobrzyńska 1973; 1974) and methods created by the scholarly circle of Polish ethnolinguists: Jerzy Bartmiński, Anna Pajdzińska and Ryszard Tokarski (e.g. Bartmiński 2009). Hence, the author is presenting, *via* contextual arguments, stylistic and grammatical structures, a picture of the Egyptian Beyond for the Egyptian pharaoh as expressed through language in the Old Kingdom religious texts.

Keywords: Ancient Egypt – religion – creation – religious reality – ethnolinguistics.

Ilona Regulski
Reinvestigating the Second Dynasty at Saqqara **694**
Abstract: During the excavations of the New Kingdom tombs of Maya and Meryneith to the south of the Unas causeway, the Dutch expedition at Saqqara discovered much older complexes underneath these tombs. An initial assessment of the material culture and the proximity of the royal necropolis of the early Second Dynasty just to the north, suggested an Early Dynastic date. More detailed investigations of these underground structures have recently been carried out by the Netherlands-Flemish Institute in Cairo. Two short field seasons (2007 and 2008) considerably increased our knowledge of the early phases of Saqqara's long history. Architectural peculiarities and a thorough study of the material culture showed that these subterranean complexes can be identified as the burial places of high officials or even members of the royal family of the late Second Dynasty. The present article is a follow-up on these preliminary conclusions. After an introduction to the *raison-d'être* of such an early necropolis in this area, two ink inscriptions, discovered underneath the tomb of Maya, will be discussed. The latter are of paramount importance in gaining a better understanding of the social status of the people buried in this necropolis.

Keywords: Saqqara – New Kingdom necropolis – tomb of Maya and Meryneith – Second Dynasty – royal tombs.

Teodozja Rzeuska
Meidum revisited. Remarks on the late Old Kingdom Topography of the Site **709**
Abstract: Meidum, the southernmost end of the Memphite necropolis, is generally identified as a burial ground of early Fourth Dynasty date. Almost

nothing is known about later periods at this important archaeological site. An analysis of archaeological material (mainly pottery from the cemetery), and the comparison of the latter with finds of pottery from other parts of the Memphite necropolis, notably West Saqqara, reveal an unknown page in the history of the late Old Kingdom.

Keywords: Meidum - late Old Kingdom necropolis – pyramid town – pottery.

Anthony Spalinger
The Beginning of the Civil Calendar **723**
Abstract: The present article features a discussion of the ambiguous Esna date for the celebration of *Wp rnpt* on day nine of the first Civil Month. This is seen to be the primordial one, the one of „the ancestors," as Esna designates the event. Hence, we can reconstruct the first use of the Civil Calendar to its inauguration on day one of the then first month, which had to be a lunar one. Esna also indicates that this *Wp rnpt* occurred in the month of *ḥr-ȝḫtj*. Hence, it had to have taken place during the original first lunar month, which was called *Wp rnpt*. From this analysis, the reason for the décalage of the month names (from the early lunar calendar to the later civil one) is easily seen.

Keywords: Ancient Egyptian calendar – civil year – beginning of the year – Esna.

Rainer Stadelmann
The heb-sed Temple of Senefru at Dahshur **736**
Abstract: This article examines the archaeological – iconographic and epigraphic remains from the so-called valley temple of Seneferu at Dahshur. The analysis indicates that the temple could well have been constructed in the year of Seneferu's heb-sed and functioned as a heb-sed temple.

Keywords: Dahshur – Meidum – heb-sed – Senefru – 15th year of counting.

Julie Stauder Porchet
Les autobiographies événementielles de la Ve dynastie: premier ensemble de textes continus en Egypte **747**
Abstract: As a part of a broader study of the emergence of continuous texts in ancient Egypt, the present paper discusses Fifth Dynasty non-royal funerary inscriptions, conventionally labelled 'autobiographies'. I first review some features of the Western genre that have been sometimes associated with these texts. Following a brief description of the Fifth Dynasty texts, I examine innovations in the form and content of the texts. I consider the *raison d'être* of these texts – which, it is argued, lie in presenting the relationship of the owner of the inscription to the king – as well the various modes of such presentation.

Keywords: Autobiography – Private texts – Continuous texts – King – Fifth Dynasty.

Břetislav Vachala
‚Das Vorfeld der Literatur' in den Privatgräbern des AR: ein Fall aus Abusir **767**
Abstract: Only a limited number of literary texts have survived from private tombs of the Old Kingdom. Nevertheless, even these rare examples enable us to identify several literary genres, trace their development and above all gain insight into the world image of the time. Whereas biography (being 'real' or 'idealised') deals with the earthly doings of man (stressing the ethical principles of *maat*), other literary forms, namely the shepherd's song, the song of the litter bearers and the harper's song, refer to the deceased, whose spirit dwells in the netherworld. Very interesting is the beginning of a possible love song from Abusir (the tomb of Inti). A new reconstruction of the biography of the famous official, Kaaper, from Abusir, is also included.
Keywords: Old Kingdom – Abusir – private tombs – literary texts – biographies – *maat* – songs – Kaaper.

Miroslav Verner
The 'Khentkaus-Problem' Reconsidered **778**
Abstract: The paper addresses a new, theoretically possible meaning of the unusual title „Mother of Two Kings of Upper and Lower Egypt" of Khentkaus I and Khentkaus II, and a new interpretation of historical events at the turn of the Fourth to the Fifth Dynasty.
Keywords: Khentkaus I – Khentkaus II – Giza – Abusir.

Hana Vymazalová, Filip Coppens
Statues and Rituals for Khentkaus II. A reconsideration of some papyrus fragments from the Queen's funerary complex **785**
Abstract: In the pyramid temple of Khentkaus II in Abusir an interesting inventory list came to light in the late 1970s, which was subsequently published by P. Posener-Kriéger. This fragmentary papyrus shows drawings of the cultic statues of the queen, which were kept in her pyramid temple, and the descriptions of their appearance and materials in hieratic script. The present paper wishes to take Posener-Kriéger's research a step further and offer suggestions and clues for a new interpretation of the document – despite its fragmentary state – on the basis of information contained in the contemporary papyrus archives of Abusir and its confrontation with later evidence from both royal and divine temples, which provide useful analogies that might help us to better understand Old Kingdom practices.
Keywords: Old Kingdom – Abusir – Khentkaus II – temple rituals – papyrus archives – cultic statues.

Leslie Anne Warden
The Organization and Oversight of Potters in the Old Kingdom **800**
Abstract: While the archaeological record abounds in pottery, we know very little about the actual potters themselves. It is unclear if the potters making utilitarian wares were specialists or non-specialists, controlled by the state or were operating independently. Craft production theory often distinguishes utilitarian wares as produced by independent, non-specialist potters. However, metric analysis of beer jars and bread moulds, as well as evidence from the artistic and archaeological record, suggests that utilitarian wares could be manufactured by skilled individuals, likely specialists, operating under a wide range of authorities. The industry was less monolithic than it was quite diverse.
Keywords: Ceramics – Old Kingdom Egypt – economy – specialization – standardization – beer jars – bread moulds – potters.

Mohammad Youssef
New scenes of hunting a hippopotamus from the burial chamber of Unas **820**
Abstract: The paper present a new discovery which has been made during the restoration works in the burial chamber of Unas in Saqqara. The side walls of his burial chamber were built of reused alabaster blocks which originally featured unique decoration with the king as a central motif. In all probability, these reliefs originate from an earlier pyramid complex of a Fifth Dynasty king.
Keywords: Saqqara – Fifth Dynasty – Unas – pyramid – burial chamber – decoration – hippopotamus hunt.

BIBLIOGRAPHY **823**

PLATES 1–45