

G11a (week 3, Thursday)

**Gender at home: father, mother,
children**

Case study DeM

**HPAH5013/6013 – Gendered Lives in Ancient
Egypt**

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Case Study

VILLAGE VOICES FROM DEIR EL-MEDINA

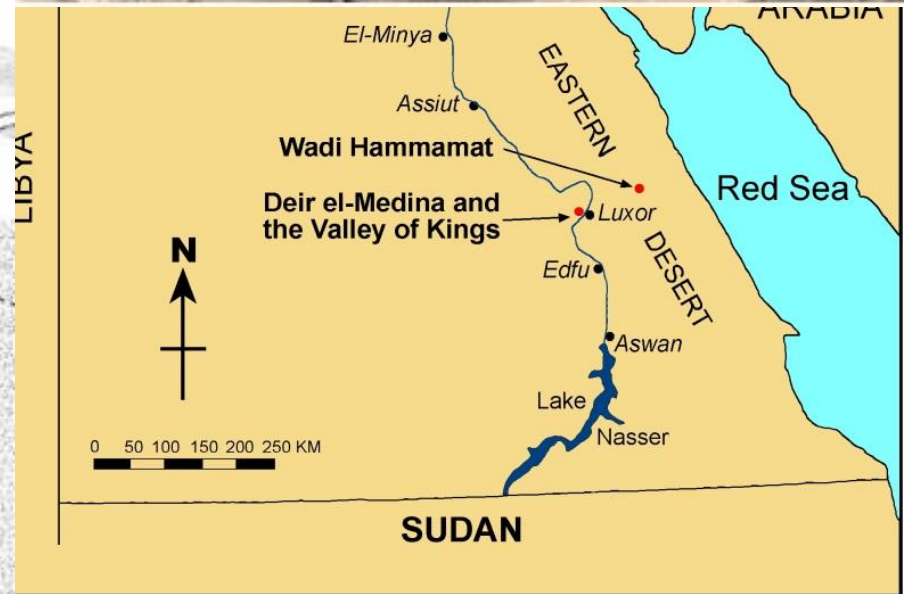
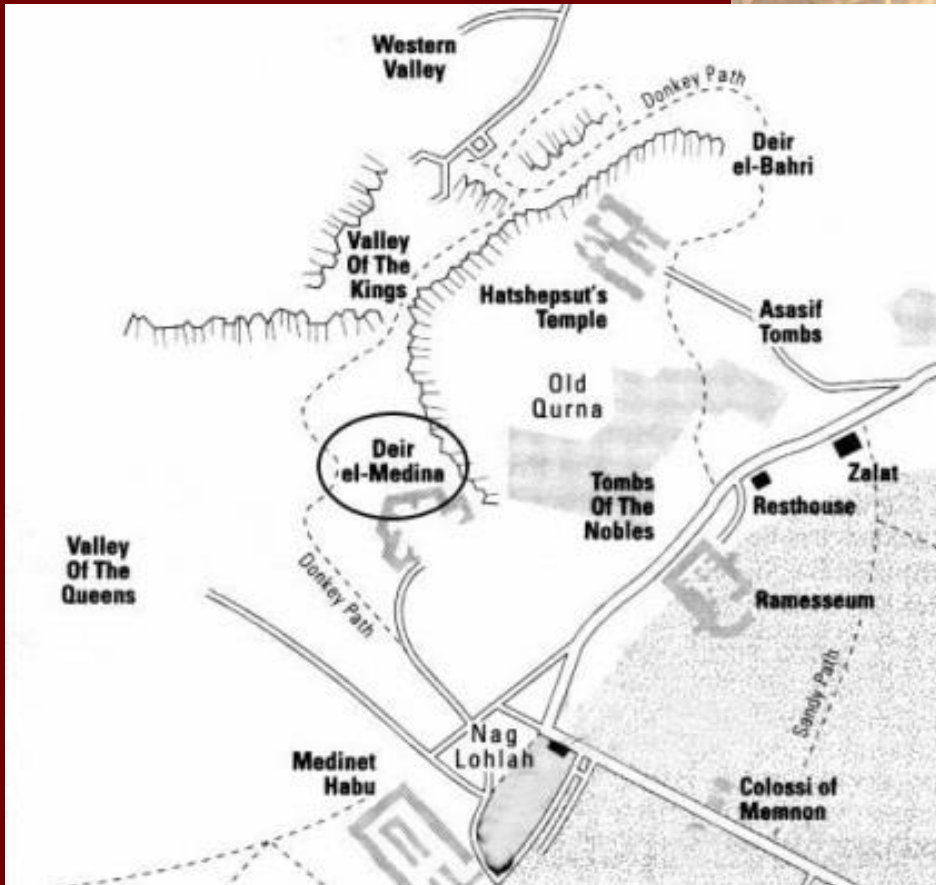
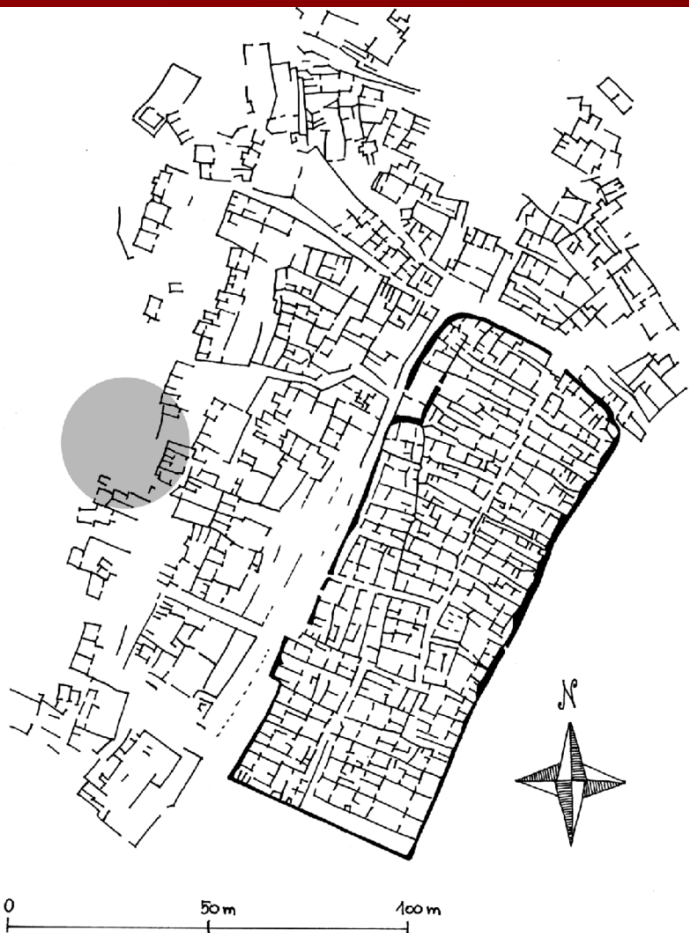
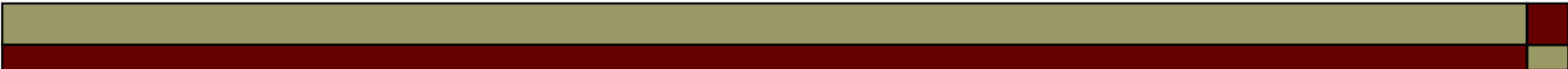


Figure 1 - Map of Egypt showing the locations of Deir el-Medina, the Valley of the Kings, and Wadi Hammamat.



Deir el Medina





Voices from Deir el-Medina

- ❑ McDowell, A.G. 1999 (or any other edition). *Village Life in Ancient Egypt*. Oxford: OUP.
 - Paternity Leave
 - A case of domestic violence
 - A domestic quarrel
 - A widower cares for his children
 - A son supports his father
 - A man makes demands on his in-laws
 - A woman goes back to her parents
 - Accusations against officials (adultery)



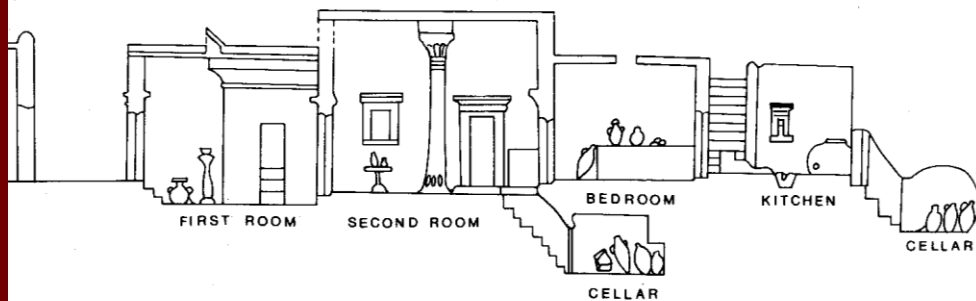


Figure 1. Plan of a typical Deir el Medina house. Drawn by Mary Winkes, after a drawing of Mrs. C. Barratt, in Morris Bierbrier, *The Tomb-builders of the Pharaohs* (London, 1982), p. 69.

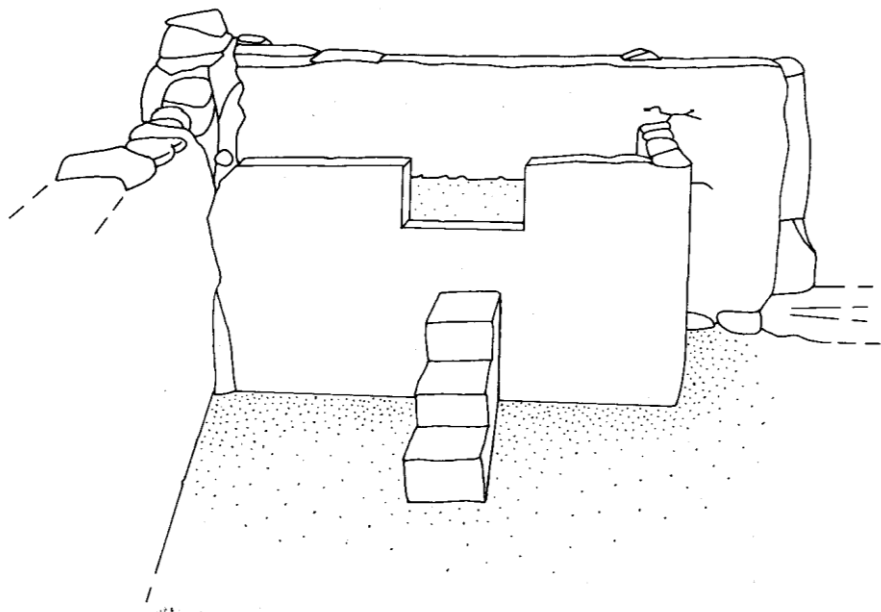
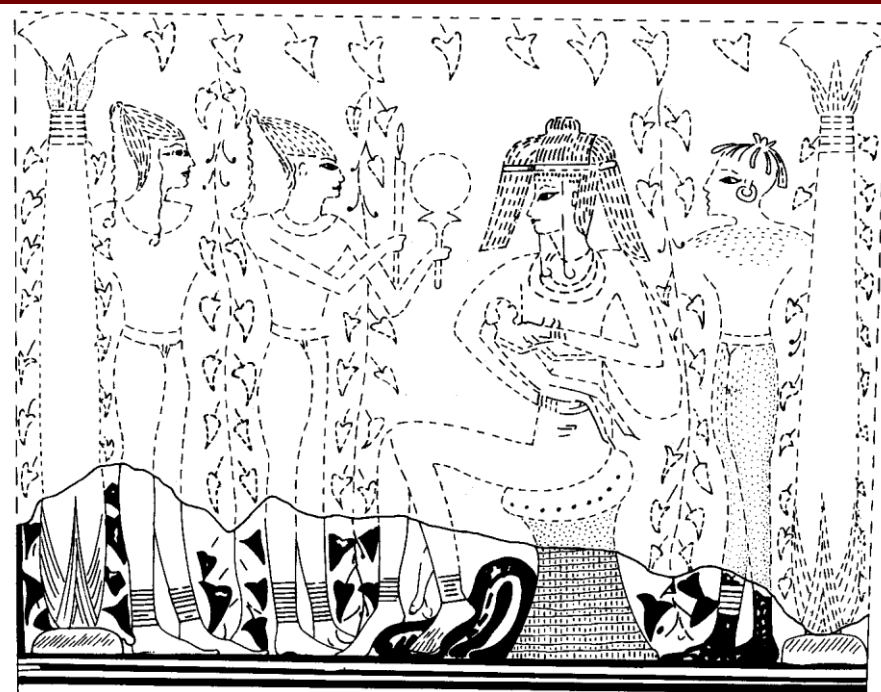


Figure 2. A so-called box bed. Drawn by Mary Winkes, after a photograph in R. E. Freed, *Ramesses the Great* (Memphis, 1987), p. 89.



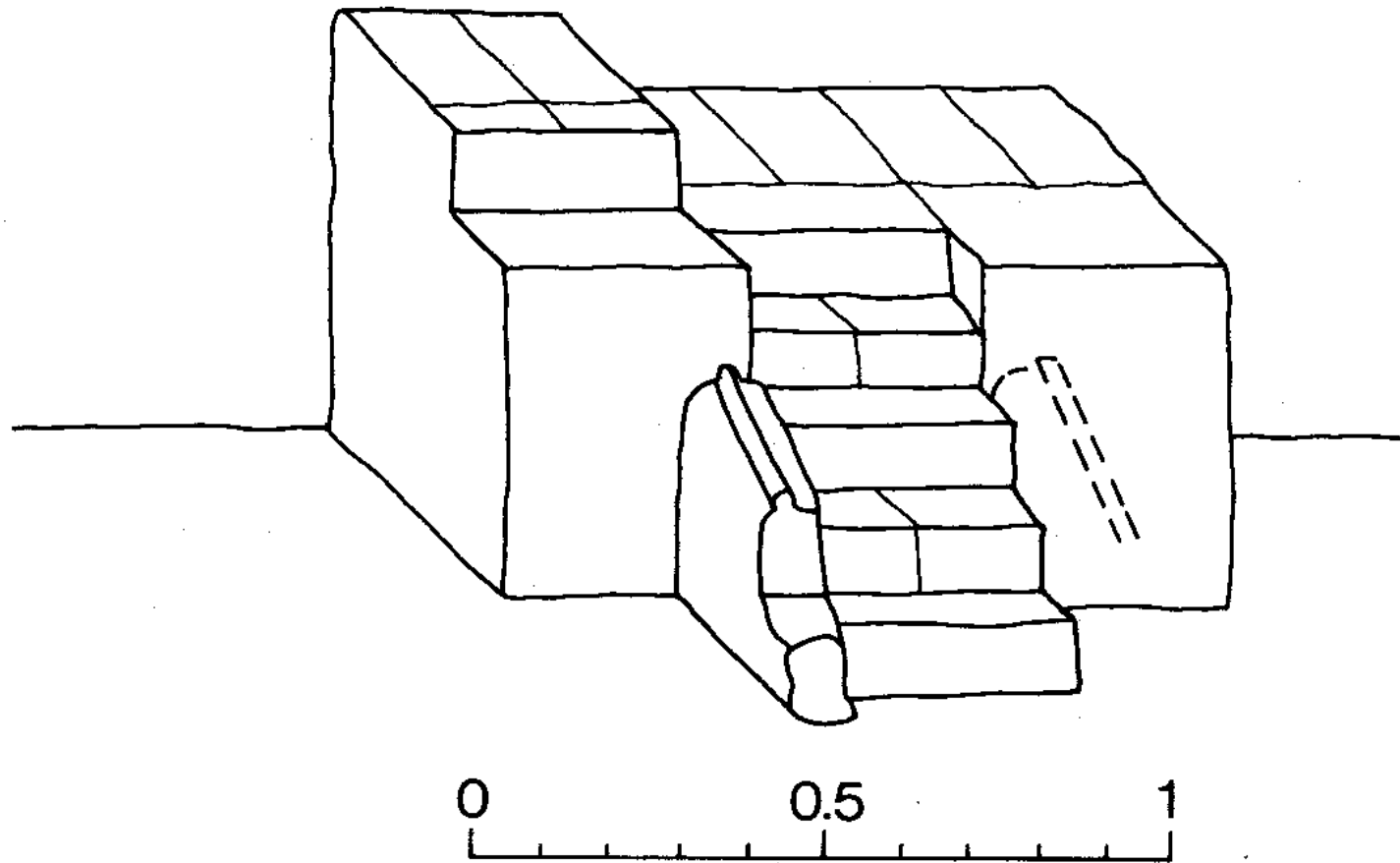
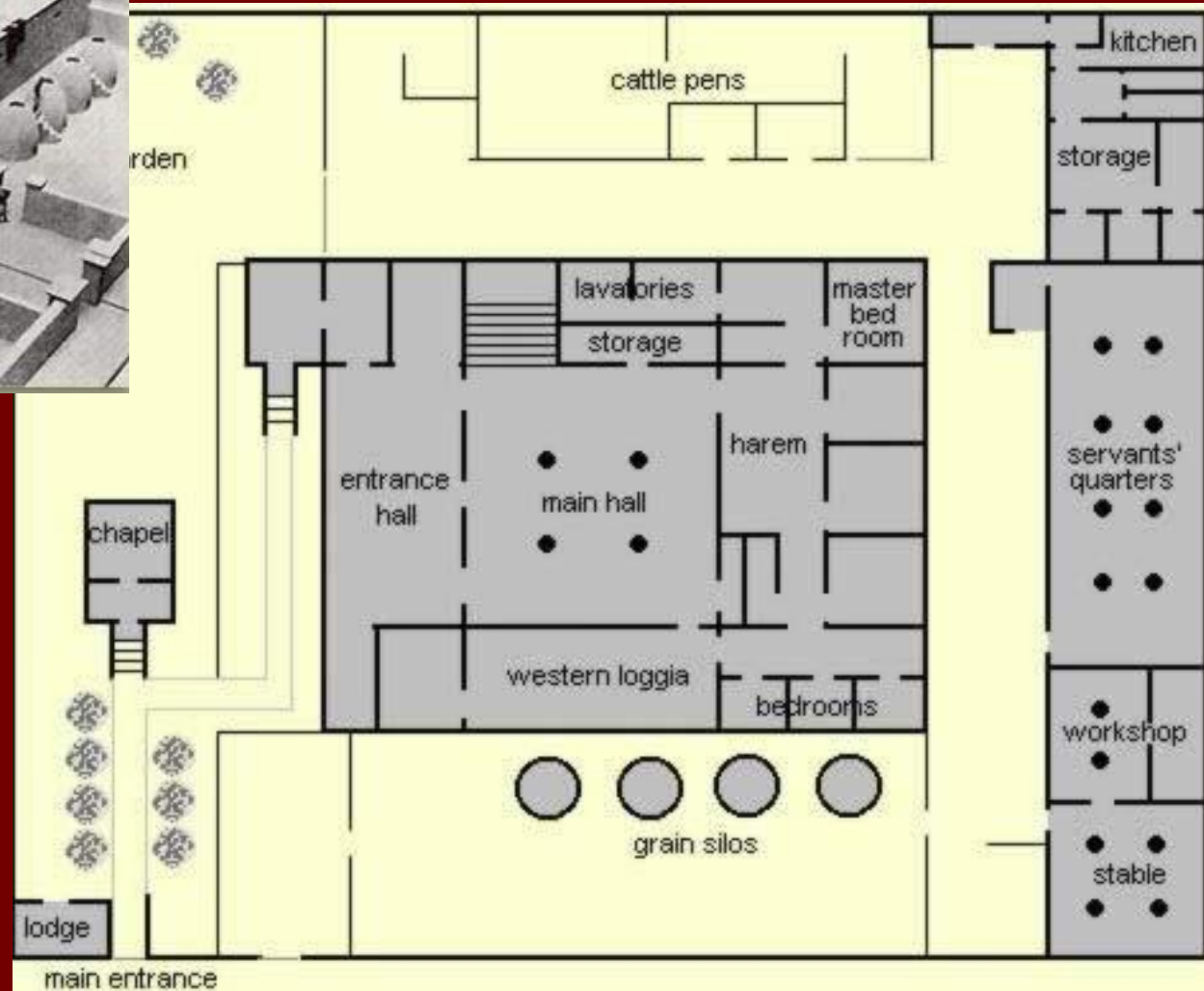


Figure 7. Indoor altar from Tell el Amarna. Drawn by Mary Winkes, after a drawing from Ludwig Borchardt and Herbert Ricke, *Die Wohnhäuser in Tell el-Amarna* (Berlin: Gebr. Mann Verlag, 1980), p. 255, fig. 38.

Personal piety in Amarna



Personal piety in Deir el-Medina

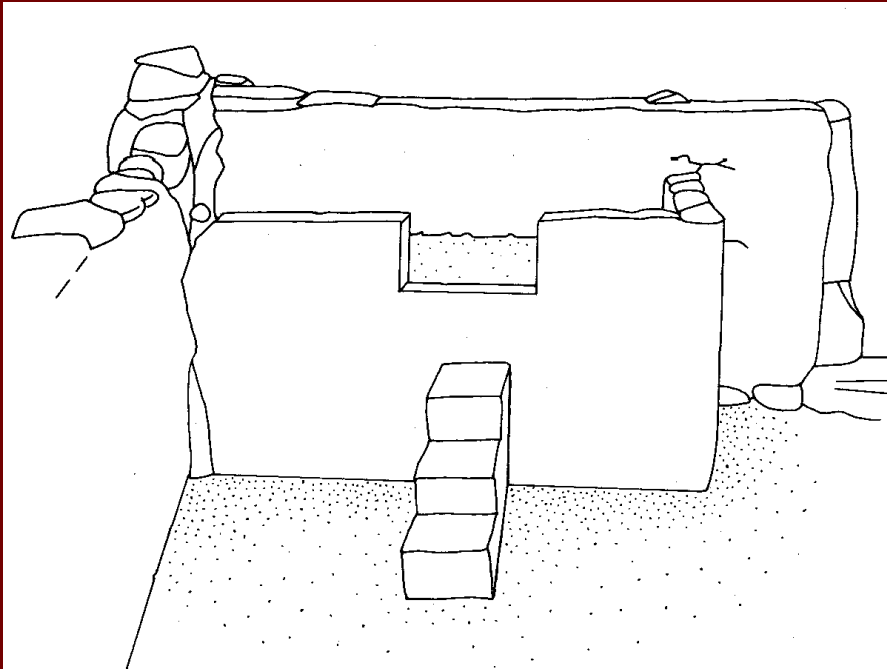


Figure 10. An ancestor bust from Deir el Medina. Courtesy of the Staatliche Museen zu Berlin—Preußischer Kulturbesitz Ägyptisches Museum und Papyrussammlung, no. 20914.

Ancestor busts



Ancestor busts

- ❑ Private ancestor worship
- ❑ 75 of 150 known from DeM
- ❑ 10-25 cm high, made of sand- or limestone
- ❑ Portable objects
- ❑ Rare traces of colour: red and yellow: gender open to question (red sometimes used for fertile figurines!)
- ❑ Most tripartite wig, *wsh* collar, painted lotus blossom around neck
- ❑ Nearly no inscriptions
- ❑ Found in DeM, fallen out of niches in 1st and 2nd room
- ❑ Represent akh-n-jkr

Akh-n-jkr stela: represents divinized ancestors

$\text{ʕ}h\text{ jkr } n\text{ R}^c$ – the able spirit of Ra

Inscriptions: short or more expansive

Some shows offerings

→ Offerings for recently deceased ones, which are maybe worshipped: gain intervention and aid

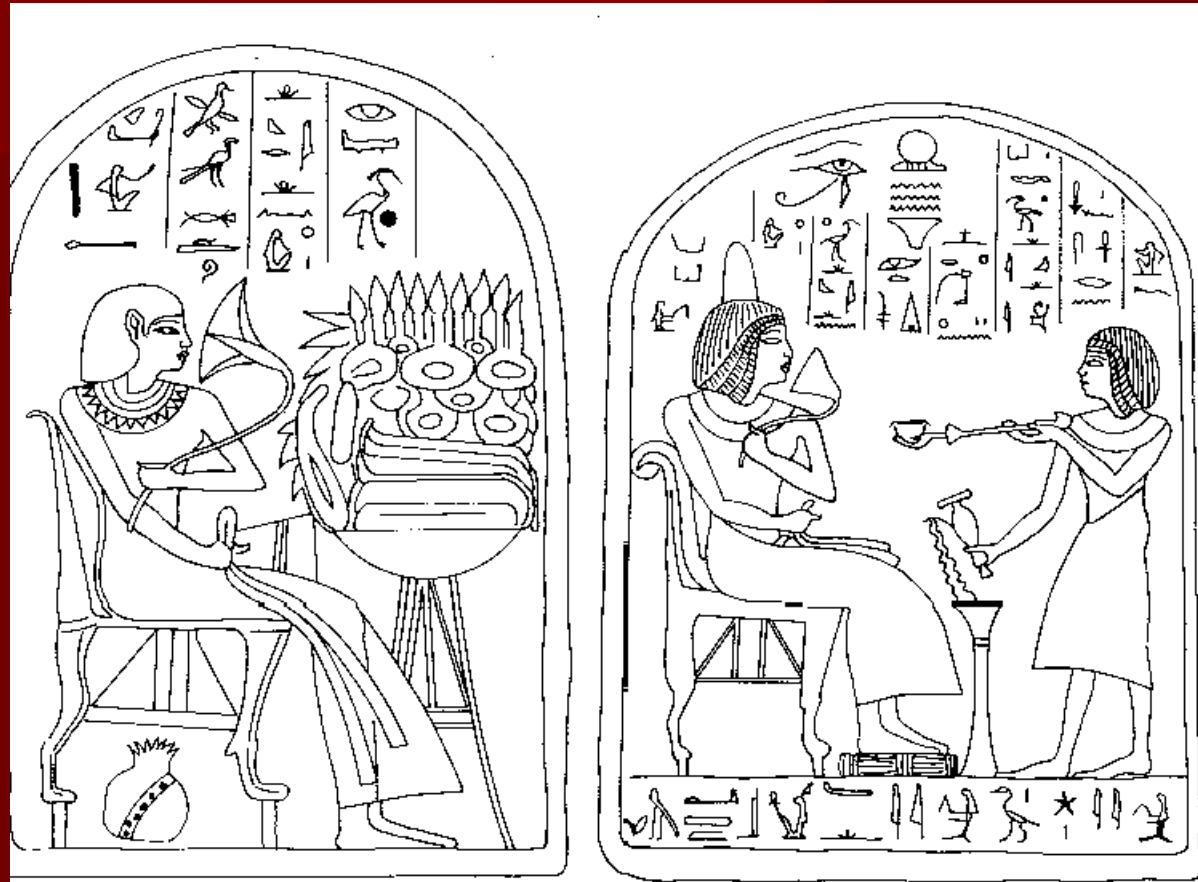


Figure 8. $\text{ʕ}h\text{ ikr } n\text{ R}^c$ stela from Deir el Medina. Drawn by Mary Winkes, after a drawing from R. J. Demarée, *The $\text{ʕ}h\text{ ikr } n\text{ R}^c$ Stelae* (Leiden, 1983), pl. VI, A17.

Figure 9. $\text{ʕ}h\text{ ikr } n\text{ R}^c$ stela from Deir el Medina. Drawn by Mary Winkes, after a drawing from R. J. Demarée, *The $\text{ʕ}h\text{ ikr } n\text{ R}^c$ Stelae* (Leiden, 1983), pl. XII, A49.

Akh-n-jkr stela: represents divinized ancestors

- ❑ Range of discovery places (cemeteries, Osiris temple Abydos, palace of Merenptah Memphis, household DeM)
- ❑ 2 found near small wall niches (first and second room)
- ❑ Found together with limestone tables also with inscription akh-n-jkr → suggest domestic cult activity
- ❑ Depiction: seated man, sometimes offerings