

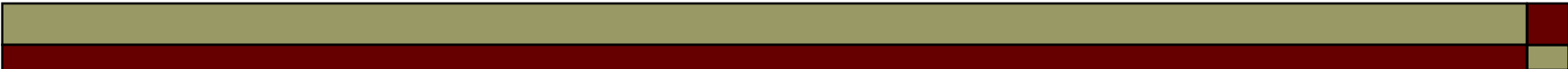
A4: Week 2, Mon

First Intermediate Period

HPAH5086/6086 - Art and Ancient Egypt 4000BC to the
2020ies: Exhibiting artistic representations

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Readings:

- ❑ Robins 80-89 (5)
- ❑ Smith 151-157 (8)
- ❑ Manassa, Colleen, 2011, El-Moalla to El-Deir. In Willeke Wendrich (ed.), UCLA Encyclopedia of Egyptology, Los Angeles.
<http://digital2.library.ucla.edu/viewItem.do?ark=21198/zz00293crv>
- ❑ [Tombs of Mo'alla \(osirisnet.net\)](http://osirisnet.net)

Your object of the day

■ MMA 2007.259



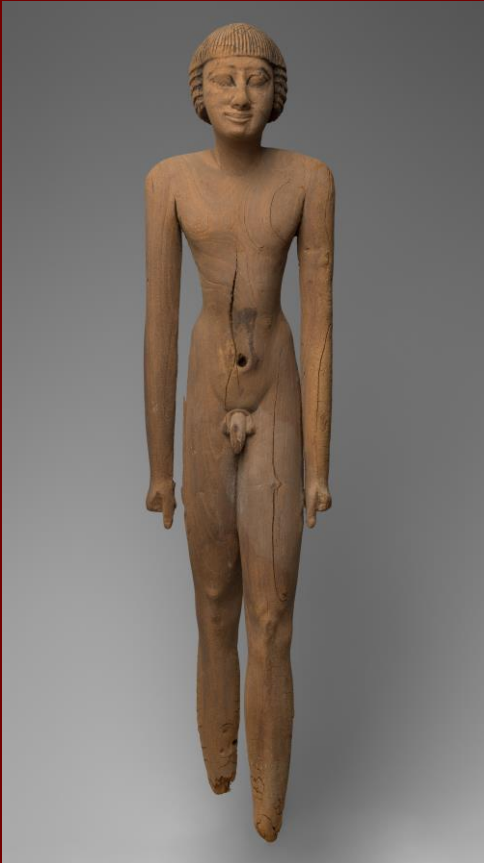
Your object of the day

- MMA 2007.259
- **Striding Man**
- **Period:** First Intermediate Period–early Middle Kingdom
- **Dynasty:** Dynasty 8–12
- **Date:** ca. 2100–1950 B.C.
- **Geography:** From Egypt
- **Medium:** arsenical copper
- **Dimensions:** H. 5 in (12.7 cm)



Your object of the day

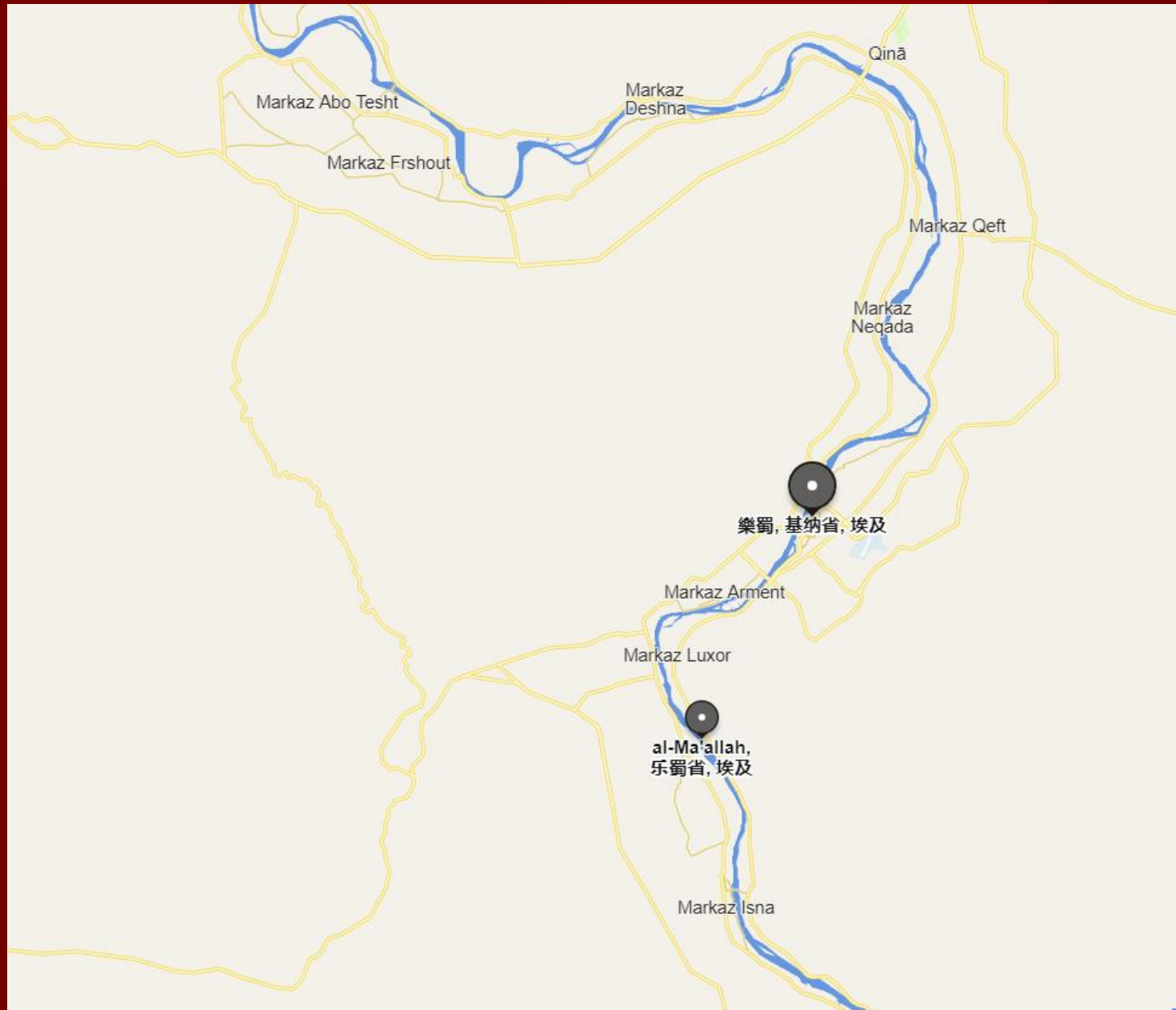
- MMA 59.50.2
- Dyn 6 (Pepi II)



- MMA 32.1.135
- mid Dyn 12
- (Amenemhet II or later)

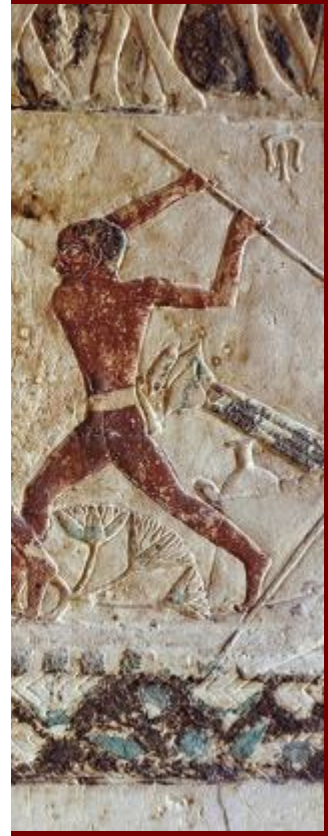
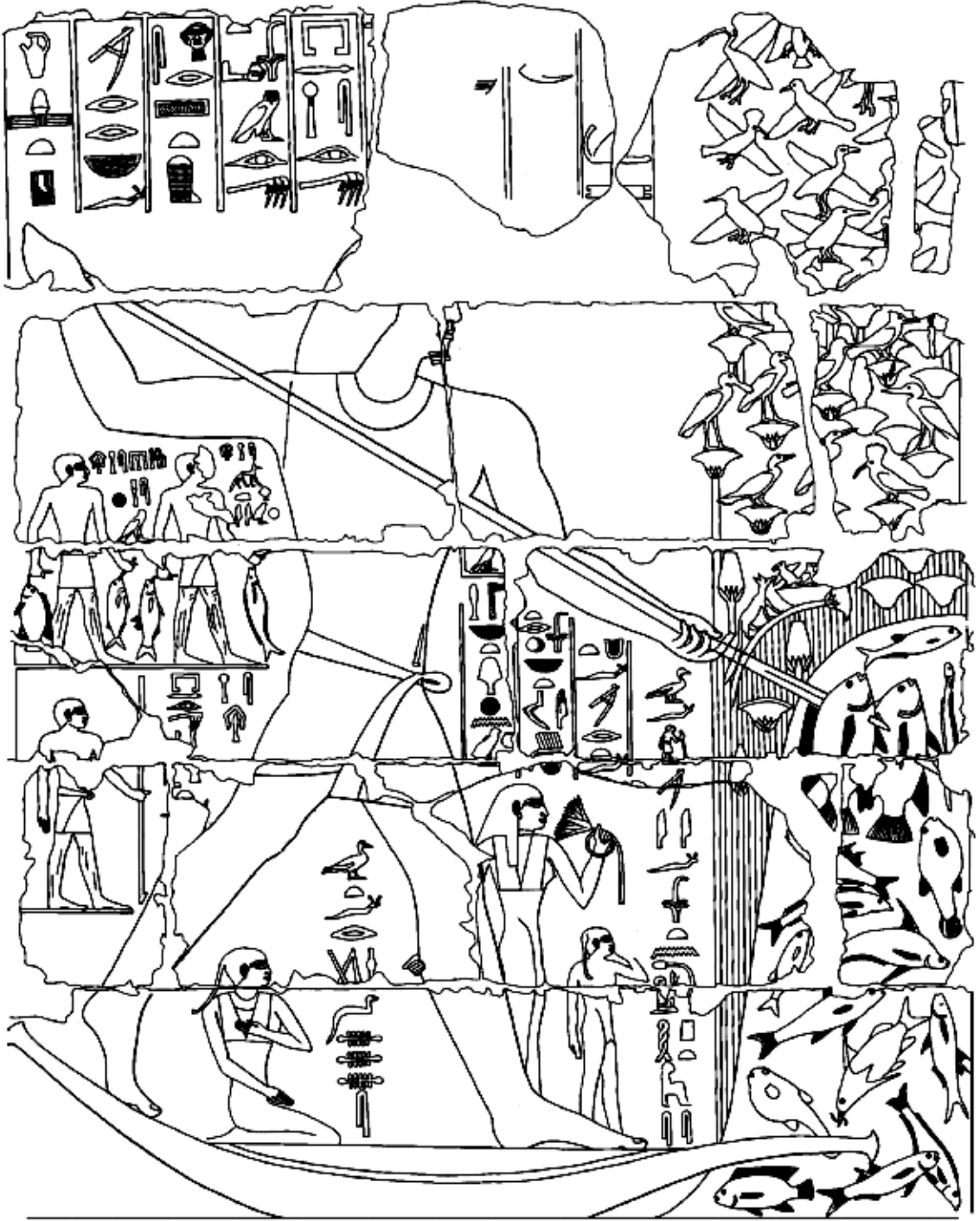
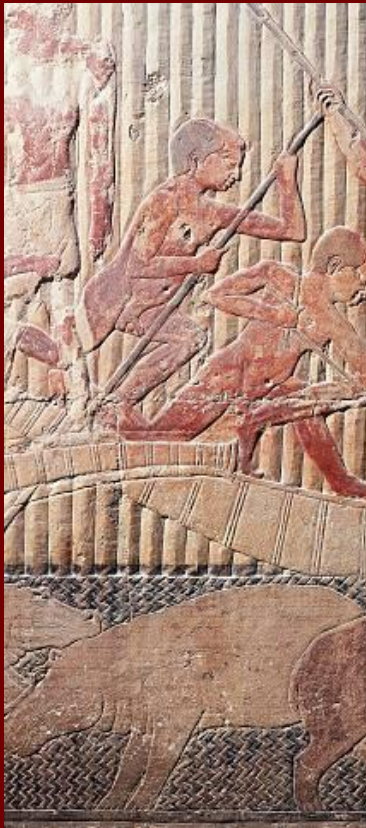


Mo'alla



FIP: Wall painting from Ankhtifi's tomb in el-Moalla





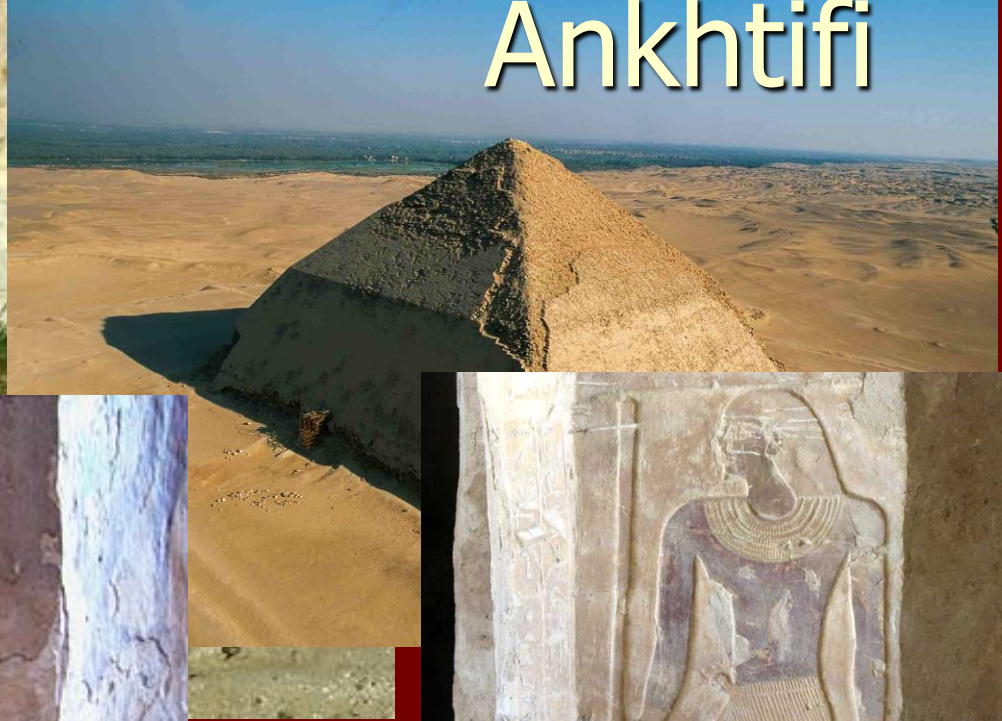
Heritage aspects and ancient Egyptian art

today

1960ies



El-Moalla Ankhtifi



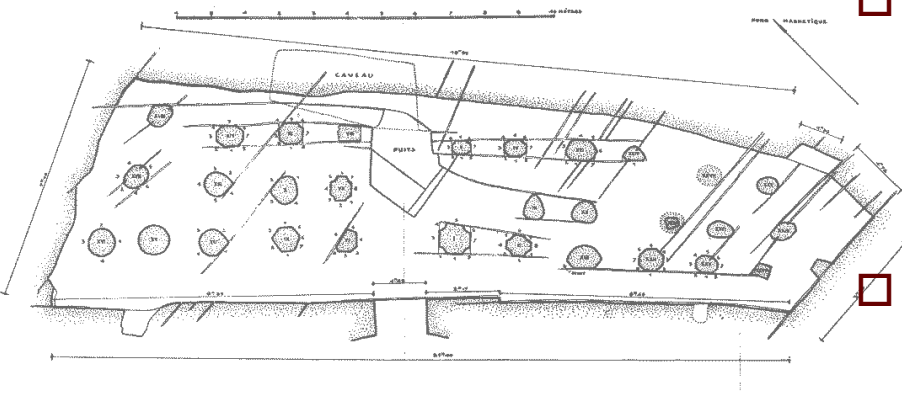
Ankhtifi of el-Moalla



- FIP – 9/10 dyn.
- Known from a small tomb, first located by French archaeologists in the 1920s (published 1950ies)
- provincial governor (nomarch) of several districts between Edfu and Armant, warlord
- held power in the region during Dynasty IX: ‘Great Overlord of the Nomes of Edfu and Hierakonpolis’, ‘Overseer of Priests’
- decorated tomb shows many interesting and important painted scenes → glimpses into complicated political events

The tomb

© Universitäts- und Landesbibliothek Bonn, v. XVIII.



□ humble rock-cut tomb – set out as pyramid burial (free-standing pyramid-shaped mountain □ normally reserved for royalty) rather rock-cut tomb

□ tomb chapel set within ceremonial courtyard, causeway (to be seen from mountain above)

□ surrounded by hundreds of tombs
→ Ankhtifi's lost city of Hefat???

□ French archaeologists in the early 20th century only excavated the entrance to the tomb-chapel itself

□ Collier and Manley: monument has all of features of a proper pyramid, although a natural one

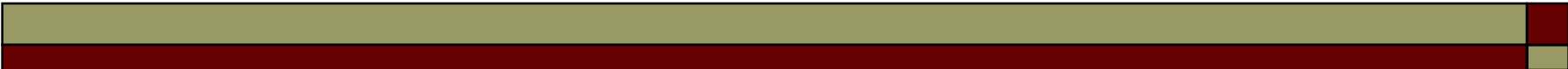


"The hereditary prince, the count, the chancellor of the king of Lower Egypt, the sole companion, the lector-priest, the leader of the army, the chief of the interpreters, the leader of the mountainous regions, the great chief of the nomes of the Throne of Horus and the rural area, Ankhtifi, says:..."



"Horus (a) brought me into the nome of the Throne of Horus for life-prosperity-health, and in order to re-establish order there. I acted (immediately). I was delighted that Horus wanted to re-establish order there, saying: 'May he send me there to restore order'. I found the domain of Khuu (b) inundated like a marsh, disregarded by the one who had the effective responsibility for it and ruined under the direction of a wretch. I made a man embrace the slayer of his father or the one that had killed his brother, in order to re-establish the order in the nome of the Throne of Horus. How happy was the day on which I found prosperity in this nome. I won't permit that the ardor of discord prevails (again) on it, now that all forms of evil which people hate have been suppressed."





The Autobiography of Ankhtifi

I was the beginning and the end of mankind, since nobody like myself existed before nor will he exist; nobody like me was ever born nor will he be born. I surpassed the feats of ancestors, and coming generations will not be able to equal me in any of my feats within this million of years.

... "the sky was clouded and the earth [...] of hunger on this sandbank of Apophis. The south came with its people and the north with its children; they brought the finest oil in exchange for the barley which was given them. My barley went upstream until it reached lower Nubia and downstream until it reached the Abydene nome. All of Upper Egypt was dying of hunger and people were eating their children, but I did not allow anyone to die of hunger in this nome.

... The whole country has become like locusts going upstream and downstream (...); but never did I allow anybody in need to go from this nome to another. I am the hero without equal.

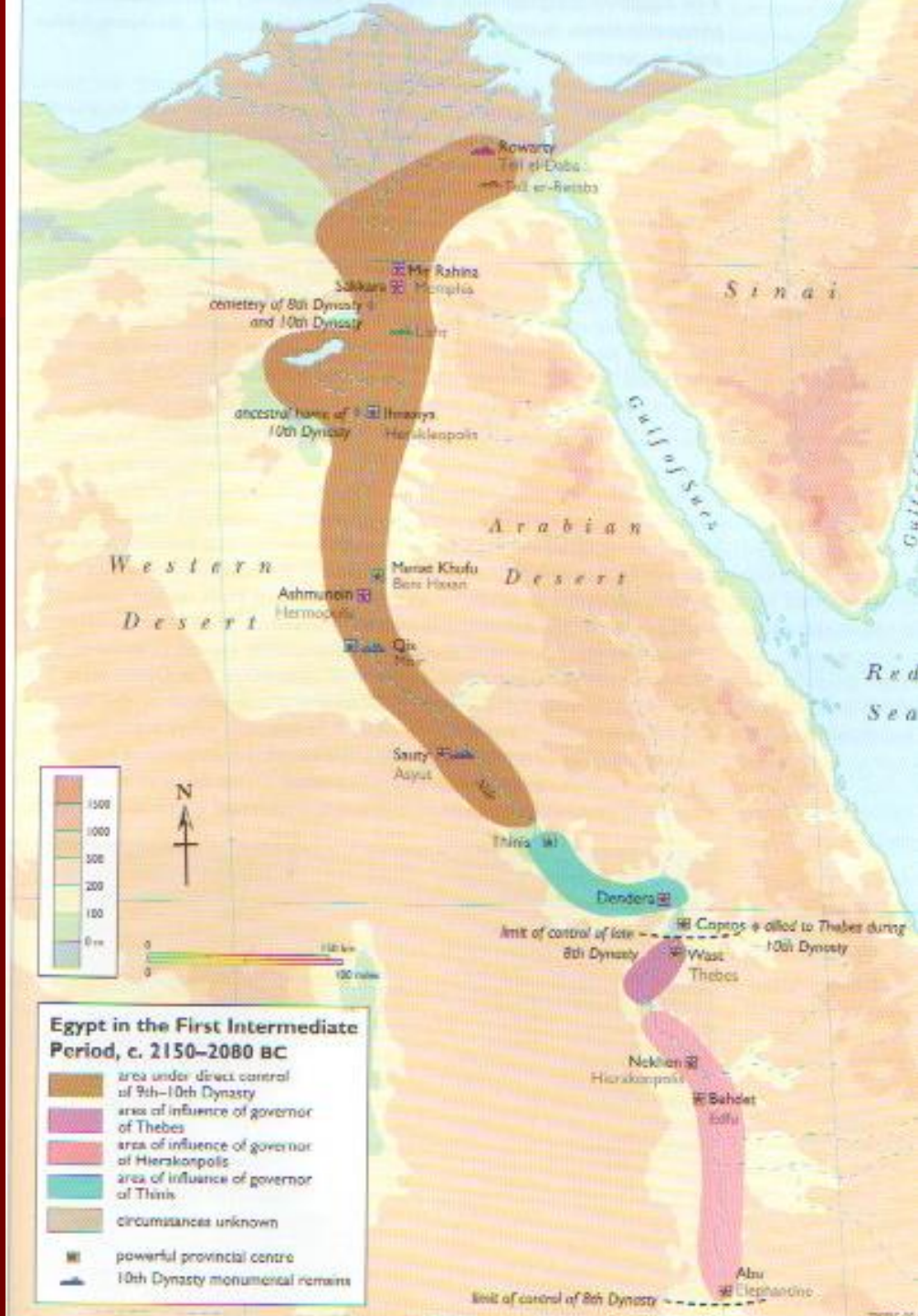
FIP (dyn 8-11)

- ❑ described as a time of political disunity, economic depression, cultural decline → too simplistic
- ❑ But: dramatic changes in the administration and no monumental building activity or other costly projects of earlier dynasties
- ❑ Shift of power from the palace to the provinces → = different nature of authority: from god-like pharaoh to locally-based officials with growing prestige
- ❑ Governors and mayors took sole credit for administration of their districts (best known Asyut in Middle Egypt), much of the country's bureaucratic authority was now in the hands of local officials

FIP

- ❑ centralised state collapsed shortly after the rule of Pepi II
- ❑ Pepi = 96 when passed away, survived many of his heirs + left a large number of people with tenuous claims to the throne → significant successional difficulties
- ❑ problems due to rise in power of noble families
- ❑ unpredictable fluctuations in the level of the inundation → caused widespread famine → instability
- ❑ temples seemed to have been pillaged, art works vandalised
- ❑ pharaonic authority declines under the pressure

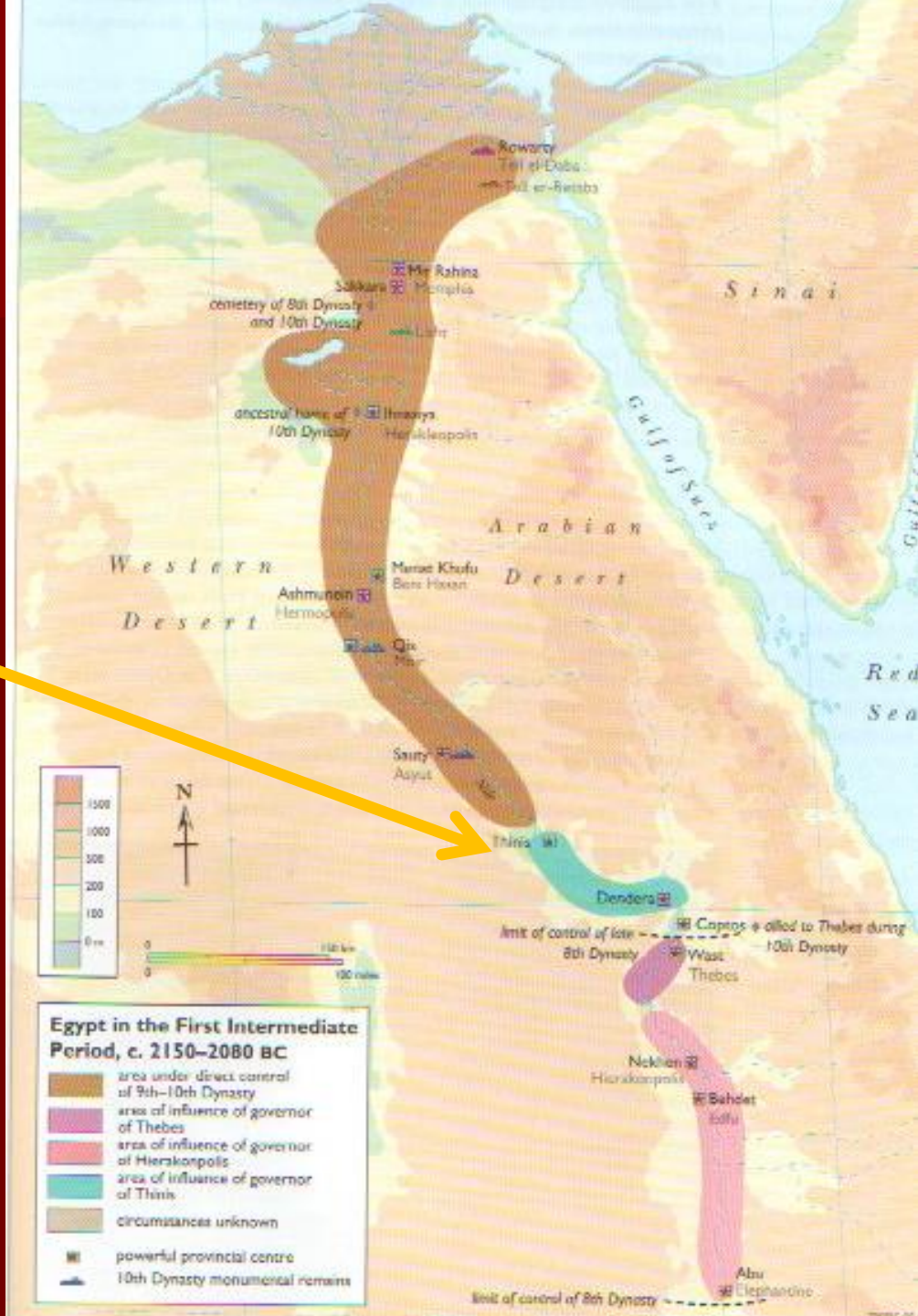
Political
activities
during FIP, led
by
confederations



FIP

- ❑ Memphis continued to retain some of its former authority Dynasty 8 → ephemeral kings, called Neferkara (imitation of Pepi II?) → sometimes counted under late OK due to Memphite residence (only one pyramid found: Qakara Iby in Sakkara, some protection degrees for temple of Min in Coptos)
- ❑ rival group of local administrators at Ihnasiyat al Madinah (Herakleopolis Magna) began to expand their control over a significant part of Egypt as Dynasties 9 and 10 (never over southern Upper Egypt) → Herakleopolitan dynasties → officially = shift of royal residence to HM, seen as historical break by Egyptians
- ❑ southern city of Thebes = rival to Ihnasiyat al Madinah in Dynasty 11 after consolidation of struggles between several local nomarchs
- ❑ Conflicts resulted in victory of Thebes and collapse of power of Ihnasiyat al Madinah

Naga ed-Deir, served Thinis



Naga-ed-Deir

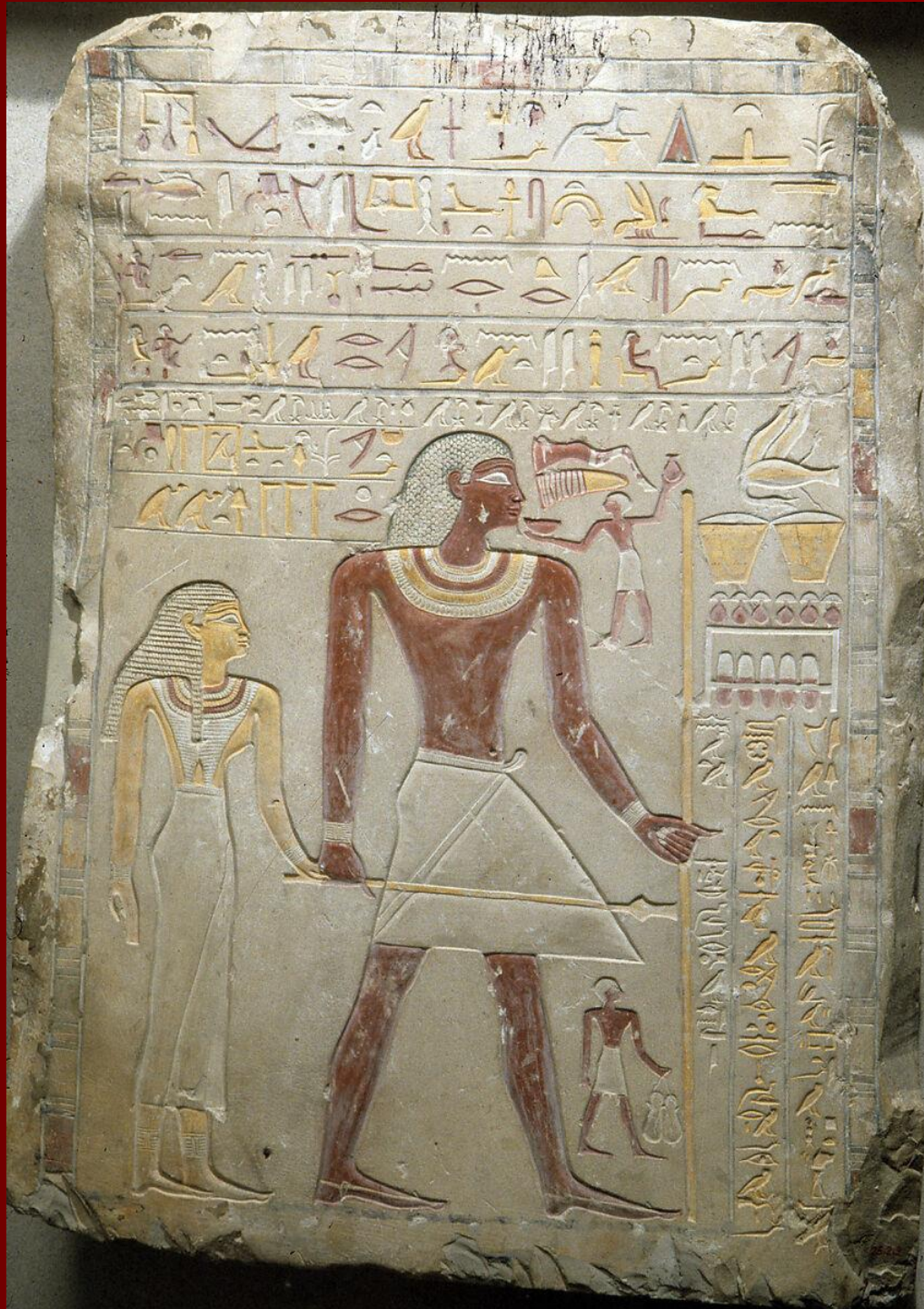
- ❑ cemeteries of Naga-ed-Deir (east bank): part of a single large necropolis of the Thinite nome
- ❑ capital Thinis (around modern Girga), on west bank
- ❑ material from Naga-ed-Deir covers FIP more completely and continuously than does that of any other Upper Egyptian site (possible exception of Dendera)
- ❑ near total absence of historical documents → difficult to write a chronology
- ❑ evidence from Naga-ed-Deir gives a minimum of 50-80 years for Ninth Dynasty → Upper Egypt in the early Heracleopolitan Period seems to have experienced a generation or two of peace and prosperity

Brooklyn
Museum
3442: Stela
of Maaty and
Dedwi from
Naga ed-Deir



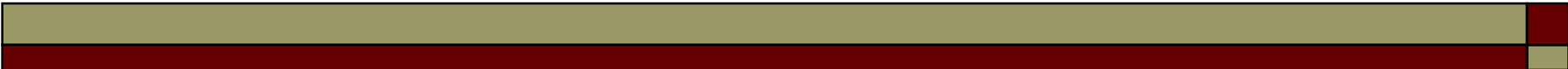
MMA 25.2.3

Funerary Stela of the
Royal Sealer Indi and His
Wife, the Priestess of
Hathor Mutmuti of Thinis



Consequences

- ❑ Shift of power from court to community echoed in geography of death
- ❑ No large cemeteries close to royal burial anymore (like Giza), but highest officials chose to be buried in the home nome or town
- ❑ King followed, needed company of the officials who would keep up his cult and maintained palace
- ❑ Influence on artistic expressions



Art and Architecture

- ❑ First Intermediate Period art and architecture are often referred to as provincial in style.
- ❑ The characteristics of the various provincial styles were the result of two factors:
 - the absence of any central authority to train artists and establish or maintain stylistic standards
 - and the inability of provincial administrations to acquire raw materials beyond the borders of their own administrative district

With the decline of the royal ateliers at Memphis, the art that was produced during the 1st Intermediate Period seems "crude" to our eyes, as shown by this funerary relief from Dendara.



Location Dendara, Tomb of Merra, VIIth Dynasty.



Dendara

- ❑ When Egypt was split in half between 2 major power centers (northern = Heracleopolis Magna (Ehnasya el-Medina) – just south of Fayum entrance and southern center at Thebes, Dendara was in the middle of both centres and their gained allegiance of neighboring regions entities
- ❑ border fluctuating to the south and north of Abydos with Dendera in the region and evinces shifting allegiances
- ❑ Specific style

Lintel of Overseer of Priests and Keeper of the sacred Cattle Mereri, Describing His Exemplary Life (MMA 98.4.2f, Eastern tomb facade)



- Titles: importance in cult of Hathor of Dendera (clothing of cult image)
- Built very large mud brick mastaba: entrance with inscribed architrave, decorated passage into a long rectangular room with thirteen niches with stelae
- false door in inner offering room
- north side mastaba: entrance to burial chamber via vaulted tunnel

Lintel of Overseer of Priests and Keeper of the sacred Cattle Mereri, Describing His Exemplary Life (MMA 98.4.2f, Eastern tomb facade)



- fragment depicts Mereri himself holding staff and scepter
- Maybe from passage leading into first chamber, probably belonging with two registers of cattle being led into the tomb

part of architrave: Mereri states that he has behaved properly and also been active on behalf of his lord: "I appointed a person according to how proper he was. I was one who acted for his lord in the form of an excellent heir. I overthrew his enemies in reality: this is not an empty [gravestone] boast!"



Stela (early 11th dyn.): Thebes, so-called Intef cemetery, found by Petrie



Stela (early 11th dyn.): Thebes,
so-called Intef cemetery, found by
Petrie (mentioning king Wahankh
Intef)



Dendara

UC 14296



UC
14318
(unprovenanced,
probably
from
Koptos)
Stela of
nADt



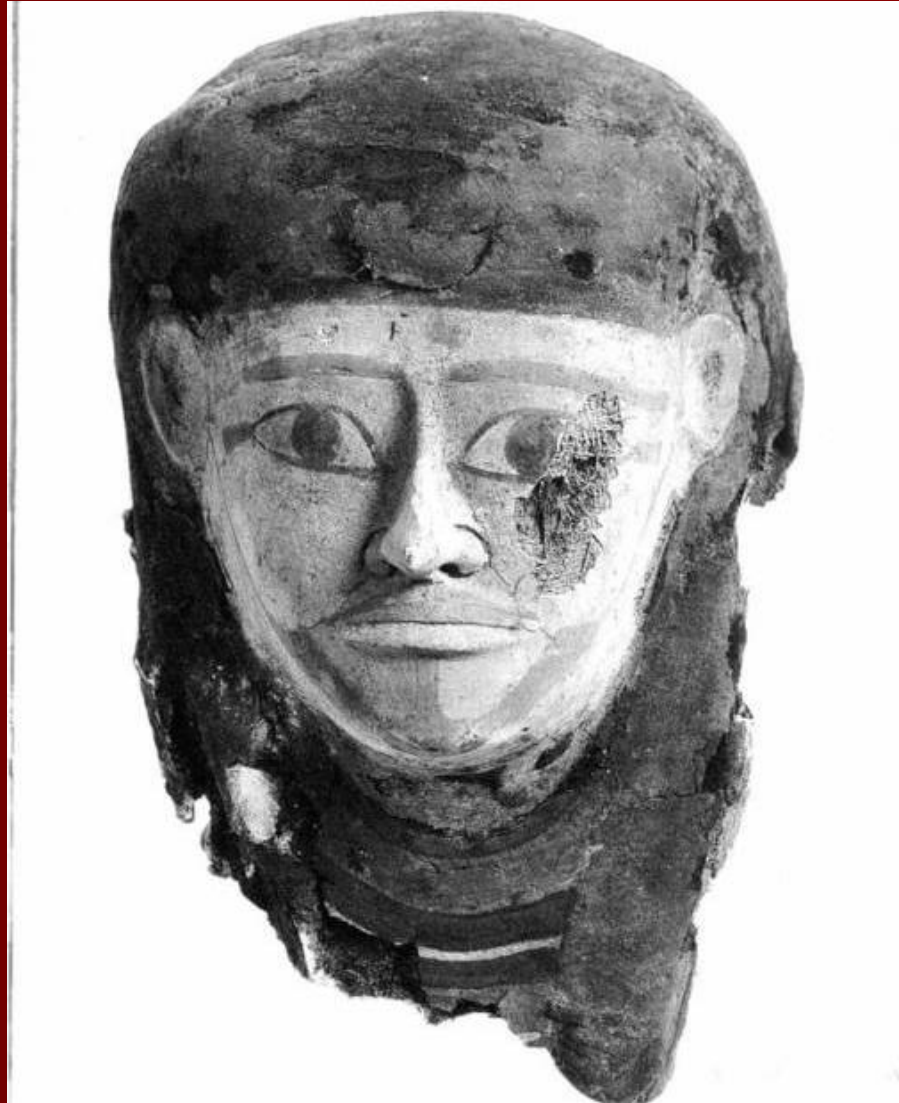
UC 14318
(unprovenanced,
probably from Koptos)
Stela of nADt



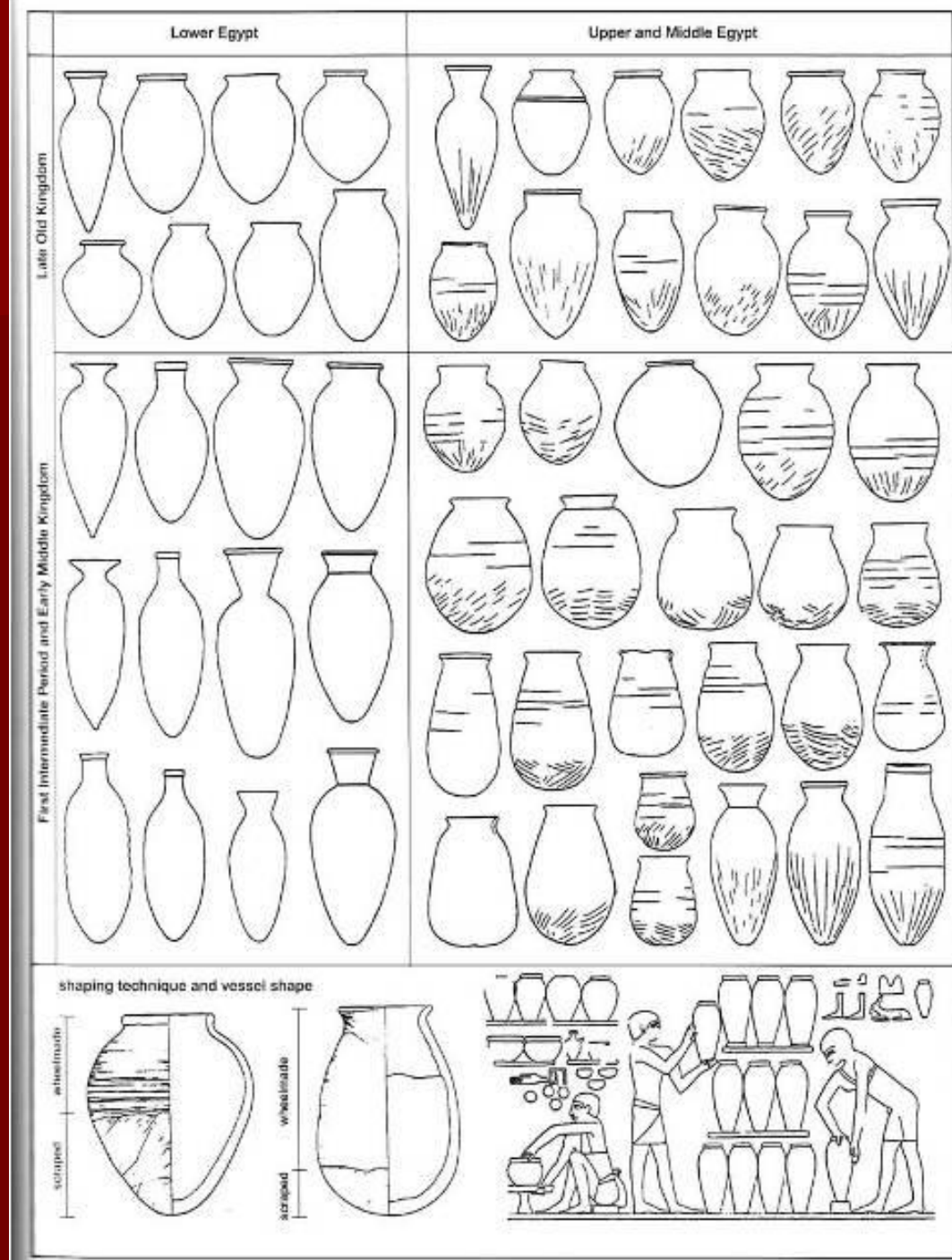
UC 14317
(unprovenanced)



New developments: cartonage masks



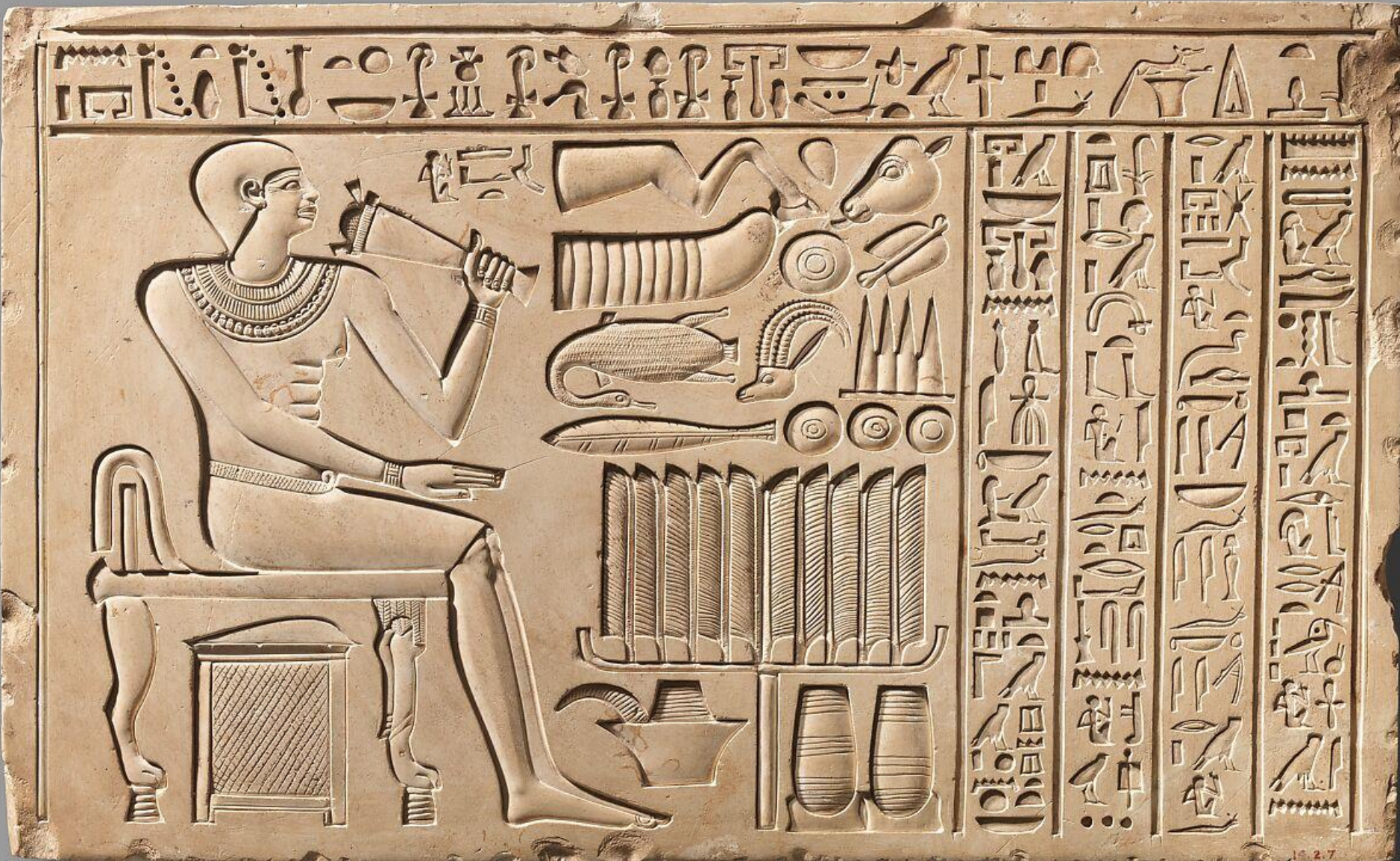
Regional variability and increases in material culture



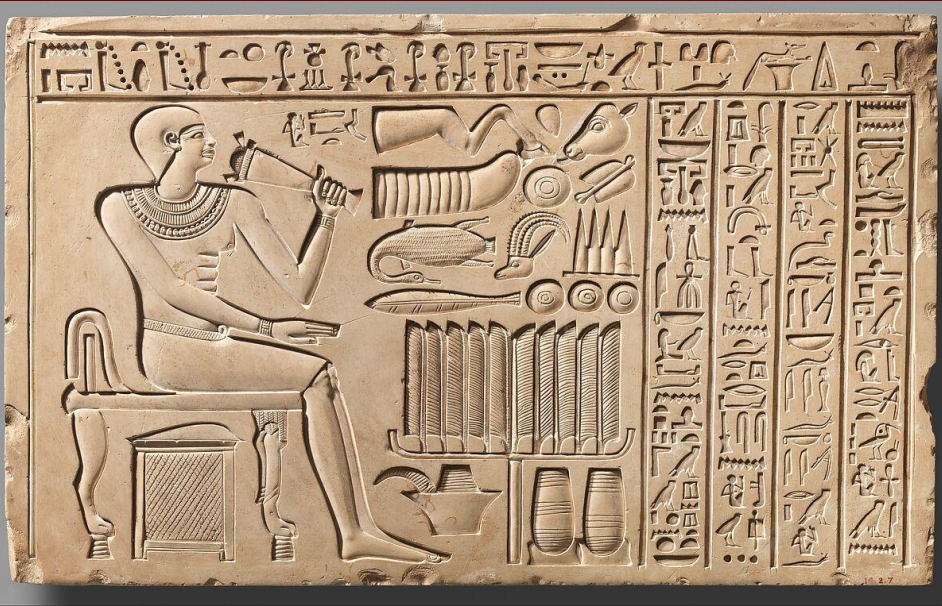
Grain grinding funerary model



FIP → MK – Thebes in the 11th dyn.



MMA 14.2.7: Stela of the Gatekeeper Maati



early Middle Kingdom, first half of
reign Mentuhotep Nebhepetre (MII)

- Maati seated on offering table – jar with sacred oil in his left hand
- Inscription: offering formula and references to other prominent figures including his overseer – treasurer Bebi (later became a vizier), and an ancestor of the ruling family called Intef "the Great." → close ties rulers and followers in Thebes

FIP

- ❑ The reunification of the country took place under Mentuhetep II.
- ❑ Later recognized as the beginning of the Middle Kingdom.
- ❑ First 4 kings 11th dyn = FIP, last 4 = MK