

A) Scarabs with text containing anthroponyms

1 Seneb.ef



Date: XIIth Dynasty
reigns of Senusret II-
Senusret III/
Amenemhat III¹
Excavation Number:
S/4175/1915/SQ: 36.
Material: steatite

Description:

The smooth back displays the usual anatomical distinctions: thorax with elytra not distinguished, humeral callosities lightly outlined, prothorax clearly marked, head and clypeus present. The legs on the sides display little detail. The scarab is pierced longitudinally by a narrow channel for suspension². The base is very finely engraved, with an incised design of slightly flattened spirals encircling a text written in Egyptian hieroglyphs; a fine line near the edge of the base in turn surrounds the spirals.



hꜣꜣꜣ nfrw snb.f

Lieutenant of the new recruits Seneb.ef³.

Commentary on the profession or occupation:

This military rank appeared at the end of the Old Kingdom⁴, and seems to have been created for the purpose of taking charge of and instructing new recruits to the Egyptian armies⁵. It reappears regularly throughout the duration of the Middle Kingdom⁶.

It is of interest to discover that an officer in charge of recruiting young men for the Egyptian armies at the end of the XIIth Dynasty should find himself in Sidon. One may justifiably ask oneself whether this officer was perhaps sent on a mission to this important Levantine city in order there to enroll troops to furnish personnel for the Egyptian mining expeditions to the mines of the Red Sea and Sinai, which were of particular importance and especially numerous under these reigns⁷. It is known that these expeditions were reinforced with significant numbers of soldiers. It is, moreover, also known that it was at the end of the XIIth

Dynasty that the Egyptian pharaohs undertook profound, far-reaching reforms of the administrative system of the country, as well as taking command to a degree never before seen of the marginal lands on Egypt's borders. This, more precisely, occurred in the reigns of Senusret III and Amenemhat III⁸. It was also from these reigns at the end of this dynasty that the archaeological sites of the Levant have provided the greatest number of finds sent as diplomatic gifts to the city states to reinforce relations between states⁹. It is thus not astonishing to find that a high ranking officer of the Egyptian army came to Sidon to enroll young recruits. This also proves, again if need be, that diplomatic relations between the Levant and Egypt were good at the end of the XIIth Dynasty¹⁰.

Commentary on the scarab:

This scarab is undoubtedly Egyptian in origin. Typologically and by its script, it can be dated to the end of the XIIth Dynasty. Seneb.ef appears to be known only from this one object, previously unpublished.

2 Nefer-iu- Imen-em-hat:



Date: XIIth Dynasty
reigns of Senusret II-
Senusret III /
Amenemhat III¹¹.
Excavation Number:
S/3223/1070 (Grave 29)
Material: steatite

Description:

- The back is very similar to that of Seneb.ef, described above. It should be noted, however, that the head and the clypeus are here shaped exactly like an hourglass. The back is partly covered in concretions.
- The legs of this scarab, too, are very similar to those of the Seneb.ef scarab described above.
- The base is decorated with an inscribed design of volutes, slightly flattened like the spirals on the base of the Seneb.ef scarab above, surrounding a hieroglyphic text; this ensemble is encircled within a fine line.



'Imy-r mḏwt nfr-'iw-'imn-(m)-ḥꜣt

The person in charge of the stables Nefer-iu-Imen-(em)-hat-


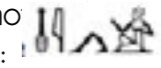
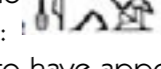
Commentary on the profession or occupation:

The position of the "person in charge of the stables" is well attested in

the Old Kingdom¹². It also occurs in the Middle Kingdom, when it is attested by a large number of references¹³ but it does not survive into the New Kingdom¹⁴. The individuals holding this position were attached to the stables of the royal palace or to those of the estates belonging to a temple. They were, in a way, managers in charge of restocking the stables and selecting livestock from the estates. They were also in charge of a large workforce.

Commentary on the anthroponym

This anthroponym does not occur in PN de Ranke. It means "Welcome Amenemhat!"; there are honourable antecedents for the first element of the name, basilophoric ones for the second¹⁵. It will be noted that the "n"¹⁶ of "imn" was omitted in the inscription. This is no doubt attributable to the small size of the scarab, hence the lack of space left to the lapidary in which to organize the engraving¹⁷. The same is true of the "m"¹⁸, which should have been inserted between "imn" and "ḥꜣt". To complete the picture, it should be mentioned that the element "ḥꜣt", too, is seen depleted of its "t"¹⁹ ending and of the short vertical stroke²⁰ which generally accompanies it.

PN. II, p. 298, 5, shows an anthroponym with the structure as that of the owner of the scarab here discussed:  Nefer-iu-Hat.hor = "Welcome Hat.hor!"²¹. This example proves that the proper name of the manager of the stables should surely be read with respect for honorific precedence and no  :n-em-hat at the beginning of the name. The anthroponym:  Nefer-iu, alone and without an extension²², seems not to have appeared before the Middle Kingdom, when it was quite common²³.

Commentary on the Scarab:

This scarab, like the one described above, is Egyptian in origin. This personage is not known from any other object.



Sobek

Date: end of the XIIth-
beginning of the XIIIth
Dynasty²⁴
Excavation number:
S/5330/6056/SQ.
36 (Grave 104)
Material: steatite

Description:


- The back of this scarab is superbly drawn. The elytra on the thorax are clearly separated from one another by three fine lines. The prothorax is also clearly dissociated from the rest of the back by a double line fine-

3 Ur-



ly incised in a very open 'V' near the head. The head and the clypeus are beautifully drawn in the shape of an hourglass.

- The legs on the sides are legible; the feathering on the forelegs is well drawn. The scarab as a whole looks naturalistic.

 Hieroglyphic inscription surrounded by a fairly simple line. The stages have been incised in distinct stages.

Wr-sbk iry 't nb im3h

Ur-Sobek²⁵, guardian of the stores, owner of Imakh.

Commentary on the profession or occupation:

This occupation is well attested in the Middle Kingdom²⁶. It is present from the Old Kingdom²⁷ and continues throughout the New Kingdom²⁸.

Commentary on the anthroponym:

This Egyptian proper name is very well attested during the Middle Kingdom. However, when confronted with this name, and according to the rule of divine honorific precedence – whether or not it is observed – one may well hesitate as to whether to transcribe it as *wr-sbk* or as *sbk-wr*, since both forms exist²⁹. This anthroponym was still in use in the New Kingdom – even, it seems, by women³⁰.

Commentary on the scarab:

This scarab – typically Egyptian in both workmanship and script – found during the excavations at Sidon, could only have belonged to an Egyptian on official duty there, or present as an emissary. The scarab, however, was unearthed in grave 104, which may or may not be that of Ur-Sobek.

B) Scarabs found in graves:



Date: MB IIB³¹
Excavation number:
S/2211/1423/SQ. 36
Material: faience

1 Grave 61

Description:

- The back displays very little detail.

Only the thorax with elytra, the prothorax and the front part of the scarab are delineated by wide, crudely incised lines. The head is shaped more like a triangle with its apex broken off than like an hour-

107

glass.

- The sides are crudely worked with no attempt at detail; the general impression is coarse.

- The base is decorated with a geometric motif enclosed within a carelessly incised line near the edge.

Commentary on the scarab:

The workmanship of this scarab is undoubtedly Levantine.

Comparisons:

O. Tufnell, 1984, Pl. XXVI: scarabs from Jericho, Fara South and Tel el-Ajjûl.

D. Ben-Tor, 2007, Pl. 38, n° 3, 18 and 19 (Class 6 C3).



2 Grave 69

Date: End of the XIIth
Dynasty-first half of
the Zizith Dynasty³².
Excavation number:
S/2934/1916/SQ. 36
Material: black steatite

Description:

- The delineation of the anatomy of the back is well executed with the elytra on the thorax, completely separated by two vertical lines, the oval prothorax indicated by a double line and the two humeral callosities, the head and the clypeus clearly visible.

- The legs on the sides are completely legible.

- The base is adorned with four helical volutes connected to one another by more or less oblique lines. Near the centre of this ensemble is a *nefer*-sign. The entire field is encircled by a fine line that runs around the edge of the base.

Commentary:

This scarab is undoubtedly Egyptian in origin or subject to Egyptian influence³³.

- *Égypte, égyptologie, égyptomanie*, 1998, p. 45, cat. n° 31, Pl. VII (without a museum number).
- Elephantine: C. von Pilgrim, 1996, p. 244, fig. 100, n° 137-180.
- Jaipur: E. Bresciani and M. Betro, 2004, p. 126, n° 51³⁴.
- Jericho: D. Ben-Tor, 2007, Pl. 75, n° 27, 29 and 31³⁵.
- Karnak. Temple of Opet, G. Charloux *et al.*, 2009, p. 34, (seal impression on clay).
- Lachish: O. Tufnell, 1958, p. 114, Pl. 30, n° 28; p. 118, Pl. 34, n° 144 (date: XVth Dynasty).
- Mirgissa (fortress): B. Gratién, 2001, p. 50, fig. 1 (without an excavation number). Seal used for part of a triple seal impres-

108

- sion.
- Mirgissa (fortress): B. Gratien, 2001, p. 50 and 54, fig. 5 (7C-103). Seal for sealing a tie.
- Mirgissa (fortress): B. Gratien, 2001, p. 67, 68, fig. 12 (7C-27).
- Semna (cemetery 500): Dunham and Jansen, 1960, p. 85, Pl. 122, n° I. 24-2-700 = S 524; see p. 74 for the dating of this scarab³⁶.
- Uronarti (fortress): B. Gratien, 2001, p. 56, 66, fig. 11 (U. 79/290).
- Tel el-Ajjûl: W. M. F. Petrie, 1932, Pl. VII, 4; O. Tufnell, 1984, Pl. VI, 1242.
- Tel el-Ajjûl: W. M. F. Petrie, 1934, Pl. VII, 156; O. Tufnell, 1984, Pl. VI, 1247.
- Tel el-Ajjûl: W. M. F. Petrie, 1934, Pl. IX, 351, 368, 369, 371, 393.
- B. Teissier, 1995, p. 110-111, fig.

2r.



- W. A. Ward, 1978, Pl. X, n° 264.

3 Grave 74

Date: Middle of the XIIIth
 Dynasty-middle of the XVth Dynasty³⁷.
 Excavation number: S/4064/1924/SQ. 36
 Material: steatite

Description:

The thorax is perfectly smooth without any demarcation of the separation of the elytra. The prothorax is indicated. The head and the clypeus are shaped like an hourglass.

The hind legs on the sides are indicated by fine lines.

The base is decorated with spirals in relief. At the centre of the base, an *ankh*-sign is incised between two *nefer*-signs. The ensemble is encircled by a line around the edge.

Commentary:

This scarab is manifestly Egyptian in origin or it was made under direct Egyptian influence.

Comparisons:

109



Date: end of the XIIth Dynasty (reign of Amenemhat III) / first half of the XIIIth Dynasty³⁸
 Excavation number: S/4156/1944/SQ. 36
 Material: white faience

- Tell el-Ajjûl: W. M. F. Petrie, 1934, Pl. V, n° 22; O. Tufnell, 1984,

Pl. VI, n° 1244 and 1245.

- C. Mlinar, 2009, p. 37-39, fig. 7.

4 Graves 74 and 75

Description:

- The back itself is perfectly smooth, with no parts of the anatomy delineated. The head and the clypeus are in the form of an hourglass.
- The legs on the sides are clearly and meticulously delineated.
- The decoration of the base is enclosed within a line that runs around the edge. It consists of two *ankh*-signs, one on either side of two red crowns above a *noub*-sign³⁹.

Commentary on the scarab:

This scarab is manifestly Egyptian in origin or was made under direct Egyptian influence.

According to Olga Tufnell, the appearance in Palestine of the red crown of Lower Egypt could mark the beginning of Hyksos control in Egypt. She is referring, in fact, to scarabs dated to the XVth and XVIth Dynasties and found in the Levant (= MB IIB-IIC, mainly)⁴⁰. She is followed, in this dating, by I. Vodoz⁴¹.

According to C. Mlinar, these scarabs should be dated to a period between the middle of the XIIIth and the middle of the XVth Dynasties⁴².

Comparisons:

- Amrit: R. Giveon, 1985, p. 138-139, n° 4⁴³.
- Kahûn (town): O. Tufnell, 1975, p. 67-101, fig. 5 (K 256)⁴⁴; D. Ben-Tor, 2007, Pl. 8, n° 41, 45, 46, 48, 49 and 50.

110

- Mirgissa (fortress): B. Gratien, 2001, p. 50, 57, fig. 7 (5A-143)-



111

Date: MB IIB ⁴⁶
Excavation number:
S/4168/1940/SQ. 36
Material: steatite

- (seal accompanied by an illegible counterseal impression).
- Uronarti (fortress): O. Tufnell, 1975, p. 67-101, fig. 5 (U. 257/65b and 261) ⁴⁵; B. Gratien, 2001, p. 56, 66, fig. 11 (counterseal impression associated with n° U. 363/160).
- F. S. Matouk, 1977, p. 230 (XA. VII. 4); p. 412, n° 2406.

5 Grave 78

Description:

- The delineation of the back is crudely executed, the parts divided by deeply incised, very straight lines. The head and the clypeus are in the shape of an hourglass.
- The legs on the sides are barely sketched in.
- The base is carelessly engraved with a *nefer*-sign at its centre and two slightly curved bands placed vertically at each side of the surface. This ensemble is contained within a deep line running round the edge of the base, incised as carelessly as the interior.



Date: MB IIB ⁴⁷
Excavation number:
S/4169/1940/SQ. 36.
Material: steatite

Commentary:

This piece is obviously of Levantine workmanship. No parallels to this scarab were found.

6 Grave 78

Description:

- This scarab is even more crudely made than the scarab described above (n° 5), although it was found in the same grave. The incised lines

are coarse. The head and the clypeus consist of nothing more than a



112

Date: MB IIB ⁴⁸
Excavation number:
S/4166/1940/SQ. 36
Material: steatite

triangle truncated at its apex.

- The incisions on the base perhaps represent two triple-curved arcs at the sides of the scarab; three horizontal lines occupy the centre and the apices of two equilateral triangles terminate at its ends.

Commentary:

This scarab is obviously of Levantine workmanship.

Comparison:

C. Mlinar, 2009, p. 23-24, fig. 9.

7 Grave 78

Description:

- The back of this scaraboid clearly represents the back of a hedgehog.
- No legs are visible on the sides. The base is engraved with two flowers in full bloom arranged as an 'S' at the centre of the surface. This plant motif is accompanied by two very badly engraved *ouadj*-plants ⁴⁹.



Date: MB IIB ⁵¹
Excavation number:
S/4167/1940/SQ. 36
Material: steatite

Commentary:

The hedgehog motif, typically Egyptian in inspiration, appeared on this type of object during the XIIIth Dynasty in Egypt ⁵⁰. It then emigrated – and quickly – to the Levantine industries, of which this scaraboid is a result.

Comparisons:

Tell el-Ajjiûl n° 898: O. Keel, 1995, p. 70, § 155, fig. 101.

Tell el-Dab`a: C. Mlinar, 1989, n° 103.

8 Grave 78



113

Description:

- The back of this scarab, whose general appearance is coarse and crude, is incised with wide lines delineating the parts of its body.
- The legs are not indicated. The lower part of the base is engraved with a slightly concave toric sign, its concave side facing downwards, surmounted by the letter omega.

Date: MB IIB ⁵⁹
 Excavation number:
 S/4489/6012/SQ. 36
 Material: steatite

Commentary:

For scarabs of the "Omega Group" see:

- O. Keel, 1995, p. 99-101, fig. 10-15 and notes, fig. 10-15.
- D. Ben-Tor, 2007, p. 136, Pl. 58, n° 17-29, who dates these scarabs to the beginning of MB IIB.

9 Grave 83:



Description:

- The back of this scarab is smooth and only the thorax is delineated. A wavy line divides it from the head and the clypeus.
- The legs on the sides are quite well developed, with an attempt at naturalism in evidence.
- The decoration of the base consists of two *neb*-signs ⁵³ at each of the two ends of the field enclosing a *nefer*-sign ⁵⁴, itself placed between two *hem*-signs ⁵⁵.

Date: End MB IIB- MB II C ⁵⁶
 Excavation number:
 S/4511/6015/SQ. 36
 Material: steatite

Commentary:

This scarab has to date not been published. The author has thus far found no comparable material to put forward.

10 Grave 93:

Description:

- The thorax and the prothorax are not separated by the line that usually marks the suture between these two parts of the anatomy. Only the humeral callosities on either side of the back are indicated. The head and the clypeus are indicated by a shape rather like a thin, narrow hourglass. The eyes appear to have been underlined.
- The legs on the sides are feathered.

114



- The base is decorated with striped *neb*-signs (?) on either side of a motif, perhaps an attempt at a representation of an *inet*-fish ⁵⁷.

Date: MB IIB-MB IIC ⁶⁰
 Excavation number:
 S/4494/6022/SQ. 36
 Material: blue frit

Commentary:

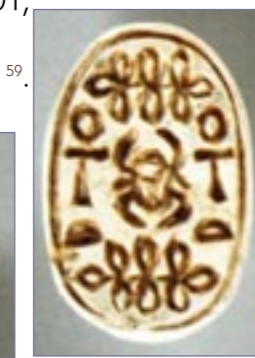
This scarab is undoubtedly Levantine in style. Nonetheless, the representation of the *Tilapia nilotica* fish, symbol of the rebirth of the dead, is borrowed directly from Ancient Egypt ⁵⁸.

Comparisons:

- Tell el-Farah: W. M. F. Petrie, 1930, Pl. XII, 141.
- Tell Ajjûl: W. M. F. Petrie, 1934, Pl. IX, 387.
- Byblos: M. Dunand, 1937, pl. CXXX, n° 1384. (here dated to the XIIth Egyptian Dynasty); *Id.* 1939, p. 94 (20).
- Tell el-Farah Sud 122: D. Price Williams, 1977, fig. 99, 1. Grave 593, Groupe 2.
- Tell el-Dab'a 7: C. Mlinar, 2001, p. 31-34. F/L-i/21, grave 37 (here dated to 1740-1710 BC) ⁵⁹.



Date: MB IIB ⁶¹
 Excavation number:
 S/4521/6033/SQ. 36
 Material: steatite



- D. Ben-Tor, 2007, Pl. 77, n° 1-11.

11 Grave 95

Description:

- This scarab is very crude in general appearance, with a notable lack of detail. The back is divided by deep lines, carelessly incised and unfinished. The head and the clypeus are indicated simply by a triangle without any subdivisions of its anatomy delineated. The thorax is divided by a deep line indicating the suture of the elytra.
- The legs on the sides are only summarily indicated.
- There is no engraving on the base.

Commentary:

This scarab is typically Levantine without any doubt.

12 Grave 99



Date: MB IIB-MB IIC⁶⁴
Excavation number:
S/4530/6033/SQ. 36
Material: steatite

Description:

- The back, smooth and without anatomical delineation, does however, display the two humeral callosities. The head and clypeus, in the form of an hourglass, are clearly marked.
- The legs on the sides are clearly perceptible and feathered.
- The engraving on the base is highly symmetrical. There are two *sa*-signs⁶² at the top and two more at the bottom. At the centre of the base is a scarab between two *ankh*-signs⁶³ and two signs, used in Egyptian script as a desinence to indicate the feminine, the infinitive of certain verbs and the dual.

Commentary:

The hieroglyphs on this scarab can in no way be regarded as a coherent text. In a Middle Eastern context, these hieroglyphs should be regarded as symbolic prophylactic signs that would have accompanied the deceased in his grave.

Comparisons:

- Lachish: O. Tufnell, 1958, Pl. 32 (93); D. Ben-Tor, 2007, Pl. 75,

115

n° 23.

- Tell ed-Duweir: A. J. Rowe, 1936, p. 42, n° 158; Pl. III, n° 158



(grave n° 157, white steatite).

Date: MB IIB, end of the XIIth Dynasty (reign of Amenemhat III), first half of the XIIIth Dynasty⁶⁷
Excavation number: S/4571/6037/SQ. 23
Material: steatite & gold

13 Grave 99

Description:

- The back is treated similarly to that of scarab n° 11 described above. Here, however, the head and the clypeus are in the form of an hourglass, perfectly well executed.
- The legs on the sides are barely indicated by deeply incised lines, with no attempt at naturalism.
- The back is engraved with three striped fish (?) separated by two plants attempting to look like lotuses in bloom. The decoration is encircled by a line that runs around the edge.

Commentary:

This scarab belongs to a type manufactured in Palestine; it may be compared to others with only one fish on their bases⁶⁵. The fish – and here there are three of them – as well as the lotus in bloom being symbols of rebirth, the author believes that this scarab reflects a religious belief linked to the consciousness of a hereafter so often found in many cultures in antiquity⁶⁶.

Comparison:

- Tell el-Ajjûl: O. Keel, 1995, p. 163, fig. 270.

14 Grave 100 (see p. 93)



Date: MB IIB⁶⁸
Excavation number: S/4604/6037/SQ. 23
Material: steatite

Description:

- The back, totally smooth, displays no anatomical features except that the humeral callosities are marked by two small, very inconspicuous nicks. The anterior part of the scarab is difficult to interpret as the head

116

and the clypeus have been damaged by a blow.

- The legs on the sides are indicated.
- The base is very finely engraved. At its centre, two red crowns of Lower Egypt face one another, perched on a *noub*-sign; this ensemble is enclosed between two *ankh*-signs to the right and left of the central motif.
- A gold band encircles the scarab and is set into the line that runs around the edge of the base.

Commentary:

Refer to n° 4 above.

Comparisons:

In addition to the references in n° 4 above:

- O. Tufnell, 1975, fig. 5, 258; D. Ben-Tor, 2007, Pl. 8, n° 43.
- O. Tufnell, 1975, fig. 5, 260; D. Ben-Tor, 2007, Pl. 8, n° 45.
- O. Tufnell, 1975, fig. 5, 261; D. Ben-Tor, 2007, Pl. 8, n° 46.
- O. Tufnell, 1975, fig. 5, 263; D. Ben-Tor, 2007, Pl. 8, n° 48.
- C. Von Pilgrim, 1996, fig. 103: 170; D. Ben-Tor, 2007, Pl. 8, n° 49.
- C. Von Pilgrim, 1996, fig. 103: 213; D. Ben-Tor, 2007, Pl. 8, n° 50.

15 Grave 100

Description:



Date: MB IIB. End of the XIIth beginning of the XIIIth Dynasties⁷⁴
Excavation number: S/4602/6037/SQ. 23
Material: steatite and gold

-The anatomy on the back of this scarab is meticulously delineated. The elytra are indicated by three finely incised lines. The thorax is separated from the prothorax by a double horizontal line as finely executed. The head is indicated by a plain, slightly rounded protruberance; no indication of the clypeus is visible.

- On the sides, the legs are rendered naturalistically.
- The surface of the base is decorated with hieroglyphs and plants. At the centre a *nefer*-sign⁶⁹ surmounted by a *khâ*-sign⁷⁰ are placed between two *ânk*-signs⁷¹; these last are in turn between two flowers in bloom⁷² whose stems appear to be drawing their life-giving substance from a *neb*-basket⁷³. This ensemble is encircled by a fine line that runs around the edge of the base.

Commentary:

This scarab is probably a Levantine product of Egyptian inspiration. The hieroglyphs here again represent the prophylactic symbol deposited next to the deceased at the time of his burial. It is one of

the group of scarabs known as "symmetrical". The *nefer*-sign placed between two *ânk*-signs is common in the iconography of this type of object. They are encountered thus arranged on pieces found as frequently in the Near East as in Egypt and Nubia.

Comparisons:

- Uronarti (fortress): B. Gratien, 2001, p. 56, 66, fig. 11; S. T. Smith, 2001, p. 187, fig. 10; p. 193, fig. 13.
- Mirgissa (fortress): B. Gratien, 2001, p. 50, 51, fig. 2.

16 Grave 100

Description:

- The anatomy of the back is perfectly well delineated. The sutures of the elytra are marked by two vertical lines. The thorax is separated from the prothorax by a single horizontal line. The head is convex, cupular in shape, but the clypeus is merely delineated by two oblique, divergent lines.
- The legs on the sides are no longer visible, concealed by the gold band that encircles the seal and would presumably have attached it to a suspension loop.
- At the centre of the base: a large double spiral in between two plants in bloom⁷⁵, the plants top to bottom and each placed on a *neb*-sign⁷⁶.

Commentary:

This type of scarab with a spiral motif⁷⁷ accompanied by vegetation is well attested in the Levant. According to Tufnell, it "hardly survives into



Date: MB IIB. End of the Zizith-beginning of the XIIIth Dynasty⁵⁶
Excavation number: S/4601/6037/SQ. 23
Material: steatite and gold

the Twelfth Dynasty"⁷⁸. According to Gubel, "this spiral motif has appeared in a very large number of variants during the course of the first half of the second millennium"⁷⁹.

Comparisons:

- E. Gubel, 1991, in Catalogue d'Exposition: "Du Nil à l'Escaut" Banque Bruxelles Lambert, du 5 avril au 9 juin 1991, Bruxelles, p. 80-83, n° 73⁸⁰.
- Aphek: R. Giveon, 1988, p. 54-55, Pl. IV; O. Keel, 1997, p. 88-89, n° 28.
- Beth Pelet: W. M. F. Petrie, 1930, Pl. XII, n° 131; O. Tufnell, 1984, Pl. VII, n° 1301.
- Beth Pelet: W. M. F. Petrie, 1932, Pl. LV, n° D/313⁸¹.
- Gaza, W. M. F. Petrie, 1934, Pl. IX, n° 305.

- Gaza: W. M. F. Petrie, 1934, Pl. X-XI, n° 410 (Group T. 1204).
- Gaza: W. M. F. Petrie, 1952, p. 8, Pl. X, n° 139; Pl. XLII (at bottom left of page, 1st row of scarabs).
- Lachish: O. Tufnell, 1958, Pl. 34-35, n° 156; A. Ben-Tor, 2007, Pl. 75, n° 26.
- Oxford: A. Grenfell, 1915, Pl. XXXII, n° 30.
- Sidon: C. Doumet-Serhal, 2003, p. 11, fig. 12; C. Mlinar, 2004, p. 63, n° 1808-1809.
- Tell el-Ajjûl: O. Keel, 1997, p. 432-433, n° 968.
- Tell el-Ajjûl: O. Tufnell, 1984, Pl. VII, n° 1305 A⁸².
- Tell el-Ajjûl: W. M. F. Petrie, 1932, Pl. VIII, n° 152 (group t. 845); O. Tufnell, 1984, Pl. VII, n° 1310⁸³.
- D. Ben-Tor, 2007, p. 157-158, Pl. 74 (43)⁸⁴; p. 159, Pl. 75 (7, 10, 11, 12, 26)⁸⁵.

17 Grave 100

Description:

- The anatomy on the back of this scarab is carefully delineated. The sutures of the elytra are indicated by three vertical lines. The thorax and the prothorax are separated by a horizontal double line. The head and the clypeus are well defined.
- The legs on the sides are concealed by a gold band that encircles the scarab, indicating its function as a seal or pendant.
- The base is meticulously engraved with an ibex or oryx *couchant* and looking to the right, facing a lotus flower in bloom. A *nefer*-sign⁸⁷ is engraved on the diagonal at the level of the animal's hindquarters.

Commentary:

The lotus flower in bloom was already regarded as a symbol of life and rebirth as early as the Vth Dynasty in Ancient Egypt⁸⁸. Images of the deceased smelling this flower as it bends over towards him are well attested during the Middle Kingdom, evoking the same symbolism⁸⁹. The ibex – which was also symbolic of life and rebirth – and the lotus in bloom were strongly associated with one another very early⁹⁰. It is therefore hardly astonishing to find them associated on the same object in a funerary context: it thus seems that the concurrence of these two symbols should be interpreted “as the triumph of life over death”⁹¹, as a symbol of regeneration.

- If this scarab is not Egyptian, it is strongly permeated with the Egyptian symbolism of the Pharaonic period. It should, however, be

Date: MB IIB. End of the XIIth beginning of the XIIIth Dynasty⁹⁶
Excavation number: S/4603/6037/SQ. 23
Material: steatite

119

noted that – in a Levantine context – the lotus flower is often replaced by a plant whose actual species it is often impossible to determine. It would appear that, when used in a Levantine context, the symbolism of the *nefer*-sign is equally obscure.

Comparisons:

The author has not found, in the specialized literature of the subject, a scarab absolutely identical to the one described above. Only approximate parallels can thus be cited for comparison:

- Aphek: R. Giveon, 1988, p. 50-51, Pl. IV; O. Keel, 1997, p. 86-87, n° 22.
- Bâle: E. Hornung and E. Staehelin, 1976, p. 393 (D 23), Pl. 118.
- Gaza: W. M. F. Petrie, 1931, p. 7; Pl. XIV, n° 86.
- Tell el-Ajjûl: O. Keel, 1997, p. 130-131, n° 80.
- Tell el-Ajjûl: O. Keel, 1997, p. 132-133, n° 82.
- Tell el-Ajjûl: O. Keel, 1997, p. 264-265, n° 477.
- Médiqet Habou: E. Teeter, 2003, p. 81-82, n° 121-122, Pl. 36, n° 121-122 (here dated to the end of the XVIIIth Dynasty, to the reign of Ay).
- Semna: D. Dunham and J. Jansen, 1960, p. 74, 90, Pl. 122, n° 21.24-3-257 (= S 552)⁹².
- Timins Collection: P. E. Newberry, 2003, p. 42, n° 16; Pl. XIV, n° 16⁹³.
- Timins Collection: P. E. Newberry, 2003, p. 42, n° 17; Pl. XIV, n° 17⁹⁴.
- P. E. Newberry, 1906, p. 194 (32), Pl. XLII, n° 32⁹⁵.

18 Grave 100

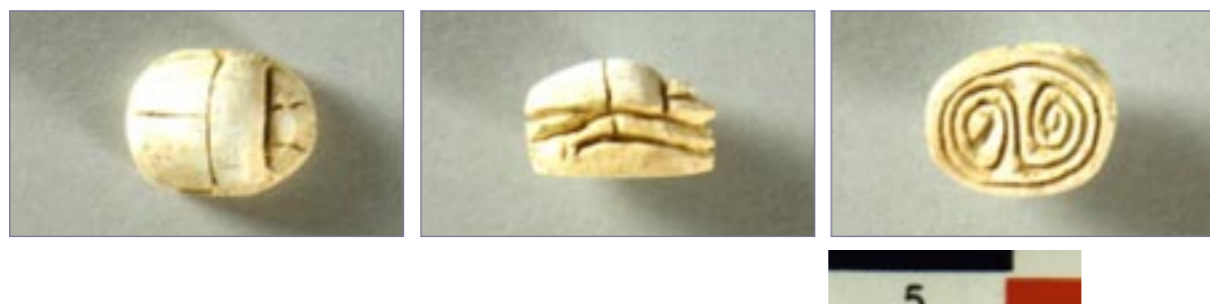
Description:

- The back includes classic anatomical features. The suture that separates the elytra is indicated by a single vertical line. The prothorax is separated from the thorax by a similar horizontal line. A mere semblance of the humeral callosities, barely sketched in on both sides of the back, is visible. The head and the clypeus are marked.
- The legs on the sides are visible and identifiable.
- The base is completely covered by a double spiral motif with two volutes, enclosed in a line that runs round the edge of the underside.

Commentary:

This spiral motif is encountered on scarabs and scaraboids of both Egyptian and Levantine origin. It seems to have appeared in Egypt at

120





Date: MB IIB-C ¹⁰¹
Excavation number:
S/4655/6037/SQ. 23
Material: rock crystal¹⁰²

the end of the XIIth Dynasty, to have disappeared during the entire Second Intermediate Period and then to have been in circulation again throughout the XVIIIth Dynasty ⁹⁷. It seems that this motif had a parallel history in the Levant, and that one can thus date the appearance of these scarabs in this region to MB IIB.

According to Keel, the symbolism of this decoration probably signifies that “as on all geometric decoration, order is established, chaos abolished, and in the Ancient Near East, this signified the triumph of the life force” ⁹⁸.

Comparisons:

- Byblos: M. Dunand, 1937, pl. CXXX, n° 1384; *id.* 1939, p. 94 (20) ⁹⁹; O. Tufnell, 1984, Pl. IV, n° 1116; C. Mlinar, 2009, p. 40, fig. 18, n° 4.
- Jericho: O. Tufnell, 1984, Pl. IV, n° 1131.
- Kom el-Hisn: W. A. Ward, 1978, Pl. II, n° 39 ¹⁰⁰.
- Tell el-Ajjûl: W. M. F. Petrie, 1931, Pl. XIII, n° 64; O. Tufnell, 1984, Pl. IV, n° 1149.
- Tell el-Ajjûl: W. M. F. Petrie, 1932, p. 9 and 14, Pl. VII, n° 107 (1502). Tufnell, 1984, Pl. IV, n° 1144.
- Tell el-Ajjûl: W. M. F. Petrie, 1934, p. 4, Pl. VII, n° 197/E 875 and 253/4.1011; O. Tufnell, 1984, Pl. IV, n° 1150 and 1145.
- Tell el-Ajjûl: O. Keel, 1995, p. 164-165, fig. 274-275 (XIIIth Dynasty).
- Tell el-Ajjûl: O. Keel, 1997, p. 206-207, n° 310.
- Tell el-Ajjûl: O. Keel, 1997, p. 362-363, n° 757.
- Tell el-Ajjûl: O. Keel, 1997, p. 380-381, n° 813.

19 Grave 102



Date: MB IIB-MB IIC ¹⁰⁹
Excavation number:
S/4656/6037/SQ. 23
Material: amethyst¹¹⁰

Description:

- The anatomy of this scarab is not very apparent. The back displays a wide, irregular longitudinal groove that seems to have been made to accommodate a setting for the scarab. Only the clypeus is marked by small, not very noticeable indentations. The head is not delineated.
- The legs on the sides are absent.
- The base is uninscribed.

Commentary:

Rock crystal scarabs are well attested. They seem to have first

121

appeared before the XIIth Dynasty ¹⁰³. They seem, however, to have been most commonly produced during the Hyksos period and the XVIIIth and XIXth Dynasties ¹⁰⁴.

Comparisons:

- Tell el-Ajjûl: A. J. Rowe, 1936, p. 102, n° 423; Pl. XI, n° 423 ¹⁰⁵.
- Tell el-Ajjûl: A. J. Rowe, 1936, p. 104, n° 433; Pl. XI, n° 433 ¹⁰⁶.
- Tell el-Ajjûl: A. J. Rowe, 1936, p. 104, n° 435; Pl. XI, n° 435 ¹⁰⁷.
- Ain Shems: A. J. Rowe, 1936, p. 156, n° 656; Pl. XVII, n° 656 ¹⁰⁸.

20 Grave 102

Description:

- Although this scarab is similar to scarab 19 in general appearance, the



Date: MB IIB ¹¹⁸
Excavation number:
S/5371/6056/SQ. 36
Material: steatite

- elements of the anatomy of the back are here delineated. The thorax is divided into two parts by a very fine vertical line to indicate the suture of the elytra. The prothorax is delineated by two horizontal parallel lines, also very fine. The head and the clypeus are distinguishable. It should be noted that the end of the clypeus is denticulated.
- The legs are more conjectural than truly visible.
- The base is undecorated.

Commentary:

In Egypt, amethyst was known and employed in the production of jewellery and amulets from the Ist Dynasty ¹¹¹. Amethyst does not seem to have been used in Egypt in the manufacture of scarabs, however, until some time in the XIIth Dynasty; Jacques de Morgan discovered amethyst scarabs and jewellery in the galleries of the pyramids of the daughters of Senusret III at Dahshur ¹¹². It is now accepted that amethyst was used contemporaneously in Byblos for the same purposes ¹¹³. Amethyst beads and a scarab were discovered at Byblos in Grave I dated to the reign, at the end of the XIIth Dynasty, of the Egyptian

122

Pharaoh Amenemhat III ¹¹⁴. Grave II, also at Byblos, contained two rings and a bracelet, each adorned with one amethyst, while Grave III produced a magnificent ring set with an amethyst. These last two graves were dated by Pierre Montet to the reign of Amenemhat IV at the very end of the XIIth Dynasty ¹¹⁵.

Scarabs made of amethyst are today very well known and studied. They are to be found in all museum and private collections ¹¹⁶.

Comparisons:

- Jericho: A. J. Rowe, 1936, p. 63, Pl. VII, n° 239 ¹¹⁷.
- F. Tiradritti, 2002, p. 22, cat. n° 143-145.



Date: MB IIB ¹²⁷
Material: steatite.
Excavation number:
S/5366/6056/SQ. 36

21 Grave 107

Description:

- The back, totally smooth, displays no anatomical features. The head, separated from the prothorax, is oval in shape. The clypeus is not delineated.
- The legs on the sides are not very clearly marked. Feathering is represented by a few small nicks, arranged perpendicularly to give the legs some semblance of naturalism.
- The base is decorated with a symmetrical cruciform design. Two double lines cross at the centre, through a small circle; the lines curl inwards as they terminate near the edge of the base, thus dividing the surface. There are two *wadj*-signs ¹¹⁹ between the upper and lower spirals and two *her*-signs ¹²⁰ at the sides, badly drawn it must be said.

Commentary:

If this scarab is not Egyptian in origin, its inspiration comes directly from Egypt.

Comparisons:

123



Date: New Kingdom ¹³¹
Excavation number:
S/3484/1202/SQ. 20.
Material: dark frit ¹³²

- Tell el-Ajjûl: W. M. F. Petrie, 1931, Pl. XIII, n° 42 ; Pl. XXX, n° 42; W. M. F. Petrie, 1934, Pl. XI, n° 437; O. Tufnell, 1984, Pl. XXIII, n° 2048 et 2049 ¹²¹
- Tell el-Ajjûl: O. Keel, 1997, p. 440-441, n° 999 ¹²².
- Timins Collection: P. E. Newberry, 2003, p. 50, n° 20, Pl. XVII, n° 20 ¹²³.

- Timins Collection: P. E. Newberry, 2003, p. 52, n° 35, Pl. XVIII, n° 35 ¹²⁴.
- Uronarti: O. Tufnell, 1975, fig. 7, n° U 336 ¹²⁵; D. Ben-Tor, 2007, Pl. 12, n° 37 ¹²⁶.

22 Grave 107

Description:

- The back is devoid of any anatomical delineation except for the humeral callosities marked on the sides of the back. The head and the clypeus alone are perfectly well drawn.
- The legs on the sides are carefully delineated, and enhanced with perfectly legible feathering.
- The base is engraved with striped pseudo-hieroglyphic signs which could be interpreted as follows: incised horizontally at the centre of the surface, two red crowns placed head to foot and each inverted; above and below these, two *nefer*-signs ¹²⁸ which appear to protect a bird with a striped body, and a drawing in the form of a band that we have been unable to identify. A fine line runs around the edge of the surface.

Commentary:



Date: MB IIB-MB IIC ¹³⁴
Excavation number:
S/3810/1260/SQ. 28
Material: limestone (?)

This scarab is one of the group called "symmetrical scarabs". These are absolutely dated to MB II B (or: end of the XIIth- beginning of the XIIIth Dynasties) ¹²⁹.

Comparison:

- Walters Art Gallery, Baltimore, R. Schulz and M. Seidel, 2007, p. 133, cat. n° 100, Pl. 13, n° 100 ¹³⁰.

124

C) Scarabs excavated outside the context of a grave

23

Description (see p. 313):

- Part of the lower end of the scarab is broken off. The back is mostly undefined. The head and the clypeus are barely separated from one another.
- The legs on the sides are virtually nonexistent.
- The very worn decoration on the somewhat rounded base represents the sign of the beginning of the new year in Ancient Egypt: *wpt mpt*: oupet-renpet.

Commentary:

This scarab is probably of Egyptian origin. This type of decoration is known from the XVIIIth to the XXVIth Dynasties¹³³.

Comparisons:

- G. A. Reisner, *Amulets*, CGC, Pl. XXIV, n° 12470 and 12472.
- S. Ratié, 1974, pl. X.
- S. Ratié, 1984, p. 53, n° 91.

125

24



Date: MB II B¹³⁸
Excavation number:
S/4150/1944/SQ. 36
Material: steatite

Description:

- The back is quite carefully drawn. The elytra are separated by a finely incised double line. The thorax is separated from the prothorax by a horizontal double line, also finely executed. The head and the clypeus, on the other hand, are rather crudely incised.
- No recognizable legs found.
- The surface of the base shows a lion attacking an antelope (?). This scene is enclosed within a fine line near the edge of the base.

Commentary:

The lion is shown in a natural position, walking towards the right; the antelope, however, is rampant with its back to the lion. This is clearly attributable to the small size of the available surface¹³⁵.

The scene with a lion attacking an antelope is frequently represented on Egyptian and Levantine scarabs and scaraboids. It seems to have first appeared in the Hyksos Period, and continued for some time during the beginning of the New Kingdom¹³⁶. The lion is thought to represent the king vanquishing his enemies, here symbolized by the antilopinid¹³⁷.

Comparisons:

- A. Grenfell, 1915, Pl. XXXIV, n° 20 b.
- Beth Pelet: W. M. F. Petrie, 1930, Pl. XII, n° 125/563.
- Jericho: A. J. Rowe, 1936, Pl. II, n° 69 (Inv. n° 33.1255); J. Aruz, 1995, p. 40, fig. 27.
- A. Kempinski & M. Avi-Yonah, 1979, p. 68 et fig. 11.
- On a seal in a shape of a dome in a private collection: O. Tufnell, 1971, p. 83, fig. I, n° 10; p. 85, n° 10, Pl. XXVIa; J. Aruz, 1995, p. 40, fig. 28.
- P. E. Newberry, 1906, p. 155, n° 35, Pl. XXV, n° 35 (date: end of the Middle Kingdom or beginning of the Hyksos period).

126

25



Description:

- The back is delineated by the thorax, the prothorax, the head and the clypeus. The elytra are indicated by a double line. The prothorax is separated from the thorax by a horizontal line terminating at each end in the very discreet marking of the humeral callosities.

Date MB II B- MB II C¹⁴⁷
Excavation number:
S/4218/5054/SQ. 42
Material: amethyst





The head is represented by a semicircle, round side down, with the eyes marked by two short, slightly inward curving lines at the sides of its base. An undulating crack, probably the result of a mishap during firing, runs across the back of this scarab.

- The legs are clearly indicated, nearly naturalistically.
- The base is adorned with a geometric drawing of a diamond with stripes at its centre, abutted on both sides by handles (or arcs?) somewhat reminiscent of two *neb*-signs¹³⁹. One might be tempted to wonder whether this design could not represent a clumsy – or very schematic – representation of the actual underside of *scarabaeus sacer*.



Date: MB IIB-MB IIC ¹⁴⁸
 Excavation number:
 S/4289/5067/SQ. 42
 Material: possibly
 green faience, now
 badly eroded and
 defaced

Commentary:

This type of scarab, with a symmetrical geometric design, is known from Egypt and the Levant. Sites such as Lisht or Harageh ¹⁴⁰ on the edge of the Fayum basin and Kuban in Lower Nubia have produced some examples. In the Levant, these scarabs have been found at Byblos, Tel el-Ajjûl, Tell el-Yah and Sidon. According to Mlinar, this type of scarab is of Egyptian origin and w  have  been introduced to and adopted in the Levant although th  :arab:  themselves came from Egypt ¹⁴¹.

Comparisons:

A scarab of this type has also been found in earlier seasons of excavation at Sidon ¹⁴². The scarab described above, however, does not belong exactly to the same type as that previously discovered at Sidon ¹⁴³, and appears to the author to be of an earlier date ¹⁴⁴.

For other scarabs that could be compared to the one described immediately above, see the essay by Mlinar mentioned ¹⁴⁵.

Lastly, a double scarab that might be compared to the one under discussion, securely dated to the end of the Middle Kingdom, came to the fore in a paper on the objects from the tomb of Neferhotep at Dra Abu el-Naga (Thebes West) ¹⁴⁶.

26



Description:

This scaraboid is undecorated and massive. The back has not one decorative feature that might help to place it typologically. In lieu of legs, a torus completely encircles the scaraboid, which would appear to have been set in a piece of jewellery.

Date: MB IIB-MB IIC ¹⁵²
 Excavation number:
 S/4324/5067/SQ. 42
 Material: steatite

Comparisons:



- See n° 20 above.
- F. Tiradritti, 2002, p. 22 and 46, cat. n° 143-145.

27

Description:

- The back is completely smooth except for the two small nicks at the sides that mark the humeral callosities. The head is well marked, as is the clypeus, which terminates in a fan.
- On the sides, the feathering on the legs faces forwards.
- The base is covered in a design of spirals and attached volutes; at the

127

centre of these, and at their sides, two hieroglyphic signs are written connected to one another:  and  = *ka* ¹⁴⁹ and *shen* ¹⁵⁰.

Commentary:

The meaning of the signs *ka* and *shen* remains obscure. In the author's opinion this scarab should, like the vast majority of scarabs unearthed at Levantine archaeological sites that have Egyptian hieroglyphs engraved on their bases, be classed among those objects whose purpose is prophylactic and apotropaic.

Comparisons:

- A very similar scarab, unearthed in Grave H 11 (38) in Jericho,



has
t h e
same
hieroglyphic

Date: MB IIC ¹⁶¹
 Excavation number:
 S/4470/1197/SQ. 23
 Material: blue frit, very
 faded

glyphic signs engraved on its base, under a *djed-pillar* ¹⁵¹.

- Jericho, O. Tufnell, 1984, p. 269, Pl. VI, n° 1227.

28

Description:

- The back of this scarab is well delineated. The sutures of the elytra are marked by three vertical lines. The humeral callosities are clearly indicated. The thorax is separated from the prothorax by a horizontal double line. The head terminates in a fan-shaped clypeus.
- The legs on the sides are feathered.
- The base is covered with hieroglyphs arranged symmetrically within a line that runs around the edge. Reading from top to bottom: row 1: a striped Hathor symbol between two *shen*-signs ¹⁵³; occupying the space of row 2: a *ta*-sign ¹⁵⁴ that divides the surface into two superimposed fields; row 3: the red crown of Lower Egypt, also striped, between two *ankh*-signs ¹⁵⁵, placed above a *neb*-sign ¹⁵⁶.

Comparison:

The theme of the red crown of Lower Egypt is originally Egyptian. It appears at the end of the XIth Dynasty and continues throughout the XIIth

128

Dynasty, in Egypt as well as in the Near East. During the XIIIth Dynasty it is used, together with other hieroglyphic signs, such as the *nefer* or the *ankh*-sign¹⁵⁷.

- Sidon: H. Loffet, 2003, p. 29; C. Mlinar, 2004, p. 61¹⁵⁸.
- Tell el-Ajjûl: A. J. Rowe, 1936, Pl. IX, n° 333 et 358¹⁵⁹.
- Tell ed-Duweir: A. J. Rowe, 1936, Pl. IX, n° 349¹⁶⁰.

29

Description:

- The back, totally smooth, displays no anatomical features except for the very discreet marking of the humeral callosities. The head is triangular. The clypeus is not marked.
- The legs on the sides are not marked. However, two deeply incised horizontal lines, one above the other, run partly around the sides.
- The name of Amun-Ra followed by a *neb*-sign¹⁶², written from right to left, is shown on the base. The engraving is both mediocre and crude.

Commentary:

Scarabs with the name of Amun-Ra followed by a *neb*-sign – written vertically – are very numerous¹⁶³. Their first appearance seems to have been at the beginning of the XVIIIth Dynasty, that is in MB IIC in the Near East; they continued to be produced throughout the XIXth Dynasty and well thereafter.

Comparisons:

- Ain Shems: A. J. Rowe, 1936, p. 182-183, n° 764 (I.129). (date: XIXth Dynasty = end of the Bronze Age-beginning of the Iron

129

ABBREVIATIONS

- Aphek: R. Giveon, 1988, p. 50-51, Pl. IV; O. Keel, 1997, p. 86-87, n° 23. *Id.*, p. 94-95, n° 45 (date: from the middle of the XVIIIth Dynasty to the end of the XIXth Dynasty).
- Beth Pelet: W. M. F. Petrie, 1930, Pl. XII, n° 176 (date: end of the XVIIIth Dynasty).
- Beth Pelet: W. M. F. Petrie, 1932, p. 24, Pl. LIII, n° 185, n° 187¹⁶⁴ (date: end of the XVIIIth end of the XXth Dynasties)
- Beth Pelet: W. M. F. Petrie, 1932, Pl. LV, n° 324; R. Giveon, 1985, p. 48-49 (74), Pl. 4¹⁶⁵ (date: New Kingdom).
- Beth Pelet: W. M. F. Petrie, 1932, p. 25-26, Pl. LV, n° C/301 and C/306¹⁶⁶.
- Gourob: M. A. Murray, 1905, Pl. IV, n° 16 (date: New Kingdom).
- E. Hornung and E. Staehelin, 1976, p. 310, n° 600, 601, 602 and 603 = Fraser 471, Pl. 67 (formerly Collection Fraser-von Bissing, dated to the New Kingdom).

Id., 1976, p. 396-397 (MV 8), Pl. 120.

- Jerusalem: D. Ben-Tor, 1993, p. 73, n° 1 (Israel Museum n° 76.31.12134, date: New Kingdom).
- Lachish: O. Tufnell, 1958, Pl. 37-38 n° 273 and Pl. 39-40, n° 373-374 (date: middle of the XVIIIth Dynasty-beginning of the XXth Dynasty).
- Médinet Habou: E. Teeter, 2003, p. 49, n° 55, Pl. 19 (b) (date: end of the XVIIIth Dynasty; reign of Ay).
- Tell el-Ajjûl: O. Keel, 1997, p. 208-209, n° 317 (date: XVIIIth Dynasty, during and after the reign of Thutmose III).
- Tell el-Ajjûl: W. M. F. Petrie, 1934, Pl. IX, n° 299.
- Tell el-Fara: A. J. Rowe, 1936, p. 182-183, n° 765 (I.9759), (date: XIXth Dynasty = end of the Bronze Age-beginning of the Iron Age).
- Tell el-Fara: D. Ben-Tor, 1993, p. 65, n° 28, Israel Museum n° I.7047, (date: XIXth and XXth Dynasties).

130

NOTES

- 1 Whenever possible, and unless otherwise stated, the classification and typology of the scarabs described below refer to O. Tufnell, 1984, p. 28-38, fig. 12-14. The descriptions list respectively: the type of the back with the head, the legs and lastly the base. In this case: type O-A2-d12. G. T. Martin, 1971, Type I J, Pl. 2-3 and Pl. 50b (here, for the back alone).
- 2 All the scarabs and scaraboids described in this paper are pierced longitudinally by a narrow channel for suspension; this detail will therefore not be mentioned again in this essay.
- 3 On this anthroponym, which occurs frequently throughout the Middle Kingdom, see PN 1, 314, 5; R. Pirelli, 2007, p. 90. Formed from the verb *snb* (a strongly triliteral verb) augmented with the personal pronoun in the third personal singular, this proper name may be understood as: "May he remain in good health!"; G. Lefèbvre, 1995, p. 114-115, § 215-216.
- 4 R. O. Faulkner, 1953, p. 35; P.-M. Chevereau, 1987, p. 34, *id.*, 1989, p. 24 *et seq.*, (453, 454, 466, 469); D. Jones 2000, p. 722, n° 2631. The earliest attestation of this rank appears to be that found under the reign of Pepy I, at Wadi Maghara: Urk. I, 92,10,15.
- 5 This personage was directly under the orders of: *imy-r mš' nfrw*: general of new recruits; P.-M. Chevereau, 1987, p. 34 and n. 31, *id.*, 1989, p. 24 *et seq.* and n. 32.
- 6 W. A. Ward, 1982, p. 134, n° 1150. This rank is no longer attested during the New Kingdom and does not figure in the papers in Taylor, 2001 or Al-Ayedi, 2006.
- 7 Or simply mercenaries to reinforce the military stationed at the second cataract of the Nile in Lower Nubia.
- 8 P. Tallet, 2005, p. 109 *et seq.*
- 9 M. G. Scandone, 2000, p. 187 *et seq.*
- 10 Egyptian messengers of this period, sent out of Egypt as envoys, are also well represented.; M. Valloggia, 1976, p. 79-87.
- 11 O. Tufnell, 1984, Type O-A1-d6. Type I a-d; G. T. Martin, 1971, Pl. 5-11; Pl. 50 for the back.
- 12 M. A. Murray, 1908, Pl. XXII; D. Jones, 2000, p. 147, n° 573.
- 13 W. A. Ward, 1982, p. 30, n° 216.
- 14 A. Taylor, 2001 and A. R. Al-Ayedi, 2006 provide no references for this period.
- 15 For the formation of names in Ancient Egypt, see A. Erman & H. Ranke, 1952, p. 217, 218 and 219; J. Quaegebeur, 1986, p. 97-106; N. Cherpion, 1989, p. 140.
- 16 Sign N 35 in A. Gardiner's Sign-List.
- 17 On any object "the area decorated is a function of its size and its surface. Thus, in art mobilier (portable art), and even more palpably in sculpture, this area is simply more limited" than it is in parietal art or in wall paintings, for example. On this subject, see O. Keel, 1990, p. 209-210; J.-C. Goyon, 2001, p. 37, n. 59, p. 38, n. 61, p. 43, n. g; E. Gubel, 2003, p. 45; K. M. Cooney & J. Tyrrell, 2005, p. 4-5 and "Miniaturisation and abstraction", H. Loffet, 2007, p. 95, n° 140.
- 18 Sign G 17 of A. Gardiner's Sign-list.
- 19 Sign X 1 of A. Gardiner's Sign-list.
- 20 Sign Z 1 of A. Gardiner's Sign-list.
- 21 It is true that this anthroponym is here dated to the Old Kingdom.
- 22 PN. I, 194, 7.
- 23 Meaning "The one who is welcome", T. Barranco Barcena, 1997, p. 2-4 and n. 18.
- 24 Type II-D1-d9 in O. Tufnell, 1984. Types 3 f-4 and 3a. For the base with inscription in 1971, G. T. Martin, 1971, pl. 51 and 49.
- 25 The meaning of this anthroponym is clear: "Powerful is Sobek".
- 26 W. A. Ward, 1982, p. 57, n° 452.
- 27 M. A. Murray, 1908, Pl. XVII; D. Jones, 2000, p. 313, n° 1145.
- 28 J. A. Taylor, 2001, p. 63, n° 584; A. R. Al-Ayedi, 2006, p. 161, n° 550.
- 29 PN I, 303, 27; II, 274, 23; III, p. 114.
- 30 CGC 20237 g.
- 31 Class 6 C1. Type I-D4-e4.
- 32 Class 2 B 1-2. Type II-A2-d5.
- 33 C. Mlinar, 2009, p. 26.
- 34 Steatite scarab now in the collections of the Government Central Museum of Jaipur, n° 10467.
- 35 Class 2 A-B according to this author.
- 36 Scarab now in the collections of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, n° 24.1543.
- 37 Class 2 B2. Type O-A6-d6.
- 38 Class 3 B 3c. Type O-A1-d5. For this dating, see D. Ben-Tor, 2007, p. 18-19.
- 39 Sign S 12 in A. Gardiner's Sign-List.
- 40 O. Tufnell, 1958, p. 99.
- 41 I. Vodoz, 1978, p. 125.
- 42 C. Mlinar, 2009, p. 37.
- 43 Scarab dated to the Hyksôs period by R. Giveon, now in the collections of the British Museum, n° 48240.
- 44 Scarab dated to the reign of Senuwret II.
- 45 Scarab here dated to the reign of Senuwret III.
- 46 Class unknown. Type I-D8-e5.
- 47 Type I-D4-e4.
- 48 The author includes this scarab in Class 2 A.
- 49 The papyrus plant. Sign M 13 in A. Gardiner's Sign-List.
- 50 O. Keel, 1995, p. 69-70, fig. 97-101.
- 51 D. Ben-Tor Class 3 F, 2007; O. Tufnell, 1984 Type I-D8-e4.
- 52 Type: O-B4-d5.
- 53 This is sign V 30 in A. Gardiner's Sign-List.
- 54 This is sign F 35 in A. Gardiner's Sign-List.
- 55 This is sign U 36 in A. Gardiner's Sign-List.
- 56 Class 3 A3. Type O-B4-e10.
- 57 This is identified as *Tilapia nilotica*, sign K1 in A. Gardiner's Sign-list, symbol of rebirth in Ancient Egypt.
- 58 On the symbolism of this fish, see P. Vernus & J. Yoyotte, 2005, p. 283-285.
- 59 See also: A. J. Rowe, 1936. Pl. VIII, n° 302; F. S. Matouk, 1977, p. 352, n° 826-831; C. Mlinar, 2009, p. 40-41 and fig. 8, n° 10-14 and 16.
- 60 Type: I-D8-e2.
- 61 For this dating see O. Keel, 1995, p. 189; D. Ben-Tor, 2007, Class 2 A; O. Tufnell, 1984 Type O-A2-e10.
- 62 Sign V 16 in A. Gardiner's Sign-List.
- 63 Sign S 34 in A. Gardiner's Sign-List.
- 64 Class 3 A3. Type I-B2-e5.
- 65 See scarab 10 above. The authors thus do not follow C. Mlinar, 2009, p. 40 when she describes this type of decoration as "linear incised: a twisted rope".
- 66 An obvious example is the *Ichthus* in Early Christian iconography.
- 67 For this dating, see D. Ben-Tor, 2007, p. 18-19. Class 3bc. Type O-A1-d5.
- 68 Class undetermined. Type III-A1-d6.
- 69 Sign F 35 in A. Gardiner's Sign-List.
- 70 Sign N 28 in A. Gardiner's Sign-List.
- 71 Sign S 34 in A. Gardiner's Sign-List.
- 72 Perhaps lotus flowers in bloom?
- 73 Sign V 30 in A. Gardiner's Sign-List.
- 74 Class 3 A2. Type II-A3-?
- 75 Perhaps lotus flowers?
- 76 Sign V 30 in A. Gardiner's Sign-List.
- 77 R. Giveon, 1988, n° 51.
- 78 O. Tufnell, 1984, p. 117-118.
- 79 *Van Nijl tot Schelde/Du Nil à l'Escaut*, 1991, p. 80-83, n° 73.
- 80 Museum Vleeshuis, Antwerp, n° 47. 65.7/29.
- 81 Grave in Group 960.
- 82 Class 3A2.
- 83 Class 3A2 and A5 II d6.
- 84 Class 1E according to D. Ben-Tor
- 85 Class 2A according to D. Ben-Tor
- 86 Class 9. Type III-A3; D. Ben-Tor, 2007, Class 9B.
- 87 Sign F 35 in A. Gardiner's Sign-List.
- 88 Pyramid Texts, Chap. 249, § 264-266; C. Desroches-Noblecourt, 2003, p. 38-42.
- 89 H. De Meulenaere *et al.*, 1992, p. 22-25, photo B: sarcoph-

agus of the Lady Hetepi, from Asyut, XIIth Dynasty.

90 J. Quaegebeur, 1999; A. Cywie, 2006, p. 141-156.

91 E. Hornung & E. Staehelin, 1976, p. 138-140; O. Keel, 1990, p. 263-279. *Id.*, 2000, p. 38, fig. 2. *Id.* 2005, p. 52 (boxed text and photo at the bottom of the page).

92 Steatite scarab, from cemetery 500. Here dated to the XVIIIth Dynasty, now in the collections of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, n° 24.1589.

93 The plant is here placed behind the antelope couchant. Here dated to the XVIIIth Dynasty.

94 Here, the lotus flower is placed behind the running male antelope. Here dated to the XVIIIth Dynasty.

95 Personal collection of the author.

96 Class 2A. Type I-A3-d5.

97 J. Vandier, 1944, p. 155.

98 O. Keel, 1990, p. 170.

99 Dated to the XIIth Dynasty.

100 Double scaraboid made of white faience. Now in the collections of the Cairo Museum, n° JE 88 454.

101 Class undetermined. Type O-e1.

102 For the pure form of this translucent type of quartz, see A. Lucas, 1989, p. 403. *Les pierres précieuses de l'Orient ancien*, 1995, p. 34. *Pierres égyptiennes*, 2000, p. 77. *Pierre de lumière*, 2007.

103 O. Tufnell, 1984, p. 39; W. A. Ward, 1978, p. 33-36. In fact, rock crystal was used in Egypt from the Predynastic period; W. M. F. Petrie, 1920, p. 44; P. Montet, 1946, p. 157 sq., Pl. II and IV.

104 F. S. Matouk, 1977, p. 18; O. Keel, 1995, p. 142 (IV. A. 4. 4. 2. 1. 1. 1).

105 From Grave 101 (excavation number I. 10183); dated "c. Hyksos/Bronze Age".

106 Excavation number 35.4297; dated "c. Hyksos".

107 Excavation number 35.4014; dated "c. Hyksos".

108 Excavation number I. 5923 dated "c. 18-19 dyn."

109 Class undetermined. Type I-B? -e7.

110 For this semiprecious stone, a purple variety of quartz, see A. Lucas, 1989, p. 388-389. *Les pierres précieuses de l'Orient ancien*, 1995, p. 34. *Pierres égyptiennes*, 2000, p. 63, 160, 207.

111 A. Lucas, 1989, p. 388.

112 J. de Morgan, 1903, p. 62; A. Fakhry, 1952; J.-C. Goyon, 1972, p. 19, 200-202.

113 P. Montet, 1927, p. 85-92, fig. 1-2.

114 C. Virolleaud, 1922, p. 286-287.

115 P. Montet, 1923, p. 338.

116 See, for example, F. S. Matouk, 1977, p. 18; O. Tufnell, 1984, p. 39; D. Ben-Tor, 1993, p. 41; O. Keel, 1995, p. 142-143 (IV. A. 4.4.2.1.1.2).

117 Provenance: Grave 19 (Excavation number 32.1757),

dated to MB II /Hyksos period-XVIIIth Dynasty.

118 Class 5. Type O-A1-e10.

119 Sign M 13 in A. Gardiner's Sign-List.

120 Sign D 2 in A. Gardiner's Sign-List.

121 For the dating of this type of scarab, add O. Tufnell, 1984, p. 35 and 125: end of the XIIth. – beginning of the XIIIth Dynasties = MB IIB.

122 This scarab is dated by the author to the first half of the XVth Dynasty.

123 Date: end of the XIIth Dynasty.

124 Date: beginning of the XVIIIth Dynasty.

125 Class 5.

126 In pages 88-89 of this essay, Ben-Tor dates these scarabs to the end of the Middle Kingdom-Second Intermediate Period.

127 Class 3 B1d. Type O-D1-d14.

128 Sign F 35 in A. Gardiner's Sign-List.

129 O. Keel, 1995, p. 170, § 452.

130 Here dated: XIIIth-XVth Dynasties = MB II B.

131 Neither class nor type can be assigned to this scarab.

132 For the material used in the manufacture of this scarab, see O. Tufnell, 1984, p. 42; D. Ben-Tor, 1993, p. 42; O. Keel, 1995, p. 149-151.

133

133 P. E. Newberry, 2003, p. 35, n° 1, Pl. XII, no 1. *Id.*, p. 35, n° 2, Pl. XII, n° 2. These two scarabs are dated by the author to the XXVIth Dynasty.

134 Class 9 B/ 9 E. Type II-C1.

135 On this subject, see scarab 2 above, n. 17.

136 A. Grenfell, 1915, p. 225 (b). According to this author, "The lion was sacred to Horus".

137 W. M. F. Petrie, 1932, p. 24.

138 Class 6 C1. Type II-A3-d5.

139 Sign V 30 in A. Gardiner's Sign-List.

140 R. Engelbach & G. Battiscombe, 1923, p. 11, Pl. 14 and 59: grave 112; G. Miniaci and S. Quicke, 2009, p. 356, fig. 2.

141 C. Mlinar, 2009, p. 23. At the time of the Middle Kingdom/Second Intermediate Period, however, influences drawn from both cultures, and mutually accepted, could have travelled in both directions between Egypt and the Levant.

142 3607/1251, from Grave 45; C. Mlinar, 2009, p. 23, fig. 1 and p. 24, fig. 9.

143 Type, II, A3, d5.

144 C. Mlinar, 2009, p. 23, dated the specimen from Grave 45 to the beginning of the Hyksos period.

145 C. Mlinar, 2009, p. 23-24 and fig. 1 and 9.

146 G. Miniaci & S. Quicke, 2009, p. 356, fig. 12.

147 This dating is given as a

function of the archaeological context. Neither class nor type can be assigned to this scarab.

148 The author places this scarab within class 2, with grave reservations, however. Type O-A1-d14.

149 Sign D 28 in A. Gardiner's Sign-List.

150 Sign V 7 in A. Gardiner's Sign-List.

151 In the collections of the Jordan Archaeological Museum, Amman, n° J, 5846. See *La Voie royale*, 1987, p. 79, n° 99.

152 Classe 3 B3b-c. Type III-A1-d14.

153 Sign V 7 in A. Gardiner's Sign-List.

154 Sign N 17 in A. Gardiner's Sign-List.

155 Sign S 34 in A. Gardiner's Sign-List.

156 Sign V 30 in A. Gardiner's Sign-List.

157 W. A. Ward, 1978, p. 55-56, Pl. XII (here dated to the XIIIth Dynasty); O. Tufnell, 1984, p. 118-119, Pl. XI (here dated: XIIth Dynasty: Class 3B3 a); C. Mlinar, 2004, p. 61.

158 Includes references and parallels.

159 Here dated to the Hyksos period.

160 Here dated to the Hyksos period.

161 Class undetermined. Type O-D8-e4

162 Sign V 30 in A. Gardiner's Sign-List.

163 It should be noted that the name of Amun-Ra followed by a *neb*-sign is also found written from left to right on scarabs of this type.

164 Grave from group 934.

165 Tell el-Fara, grave 562.

166 Grave from group 960, here dated XIXth-XXth Dynasties.

134

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- I. Vodoz, 1978, p. 76, n° 40 and Doc. Photo 40 (Musée d'Art et d'Histoire, Geneva n° 17791), (date: XVIIIth Dynasty).

Ä&L = *Ägypten und Levante*, Wien.

AHL = *Archaeology & History in Lebanon*, London-Beirut.

ASAE = *Annales du Service des Antiquités de l'Égypte*, Le Caire.

BAAL= *Bulletin d'Archéologie et*

d'Architecture Libanaises, Beyrouth.

BAR - IS = *British Archaeological Reports - International Series*, Oxford.

BdE = *Bibliothèque d'Études de l'Institut Français d'Archéologie Orientale*, Le Caire.

BIFAO = *Bulletin de l'Institut Français d'Archéologie Orientale*, Le Caire.

BiOr = *Bibliotheca Orientalis, Nederlands Instituut voor het Nabije Oosten*, Leyde.

BSFE = *Bulletin de la Société Française d'Égyptologie*, Paris-Louvain.

Ä&L= *Ägypten und Levante*, Wien.

IFAO = *Institut Français d'Archéologie*

Orientale, Le Caire.

Cat. Expo. = *Catalogue d'Exposition*.

CDME = R. O. Faulkner, *A Concise Dictionary of Middle Egyptian*, Oxford.

JEA = *Journal of Egyptian Archaeology*, London.

LÄ = *Lexikon der Ägyptologie*, Wiesbaden, 1972-1992.

MDAIK = *Mitteilungen des Deutschen Archäologischen Institut Abt. Kairo*, Mayence.

OBO = *Orbis Biblicus et Orientalis*, Freiburg-Göttingen.

PN = H. Ranke, *Die ägyptischen Personennamen*, Glückstadt-Hamburg.

RdE = *Revue d'Égyptologie*, Paris-Louvain.

TP. = *Textes des Pyramides*.

Urk. = *Urkunden des ägyptischen Altertums*, Leipzig-Berlin.

Wb. = A. Erman & H. Grapow, 1982, *Wörterbuch der Ägyptischen Sprache*, Vol. I-V, Akademie Verlag, Berlin, edition.

ZÄS = *Zeitschrift für Ägyptische Sprache und Altertumskunde*, Leipzig-Berlin.

A. R. Al-Ayedi, 2006, *Index of Egyptian Administrative, Religious and Military Titles of the New Kingdom*, Ismailia: Obelisk.

J. Aruz, 1995, "Imagery and Interconnections", *Ä&L* 5.

S. Aufrère, *Égypte et Provence: Civilisation, survivances et "cabinets de curiosités"*, exh. cat. by M.-P. Foissy-Aufrère et al., Musée Calvet, Avignon: Fondation du Musée Calvet, 1985.

T. Barranco Barcena, 1997, "La stèle familiale de Sésostris-Ankh", *Bulletin des Musées et Monuments Lyonnais* 4.

D. Ben-Tor, 1993, *The Scarab: A Reflection of Ancient Egypt*, Jerusalem: The Israel Museum.

D. Ben-Tor, 2007, *Scarabs, Chronology, and Interconnections: Egypt and Palestine in the Second Intermediate Period*, OBO SA 27, Fribourg and Göttingen.

J. F. Borghouts, 1978, *Ancient Egyptian Magical Texts* translated by J. F. Borghouts, Nisaba 9, Leiden: Brill.

E. Bresciani and M. Betro, 2004, *Egypt in India: Egyptian Antiquities in Indian Museums*, Pisa: Edizioni Plus.

G. Charloux et al., 2009, "Karnak sous le temple d'Opet", in *Archéologia*, n° 463, février, p. 28-39.

C. Guillaume et al., 2009, "Karnak. Sous le temple d'Opet", *Archéologia*, n° 463.

N. Cherpion, 1989, *Mastabas et hypogées d'Ancien Empire: Le Problème de la datation*, Brussels:

Connaissance de l'Égypte ancienne.

P.-M. Chevereau, 1987 "Contribution à la prosopographie des cadres militaires de l'Ancien Empire et de la Première Période Intermédiaire A", *RdE* 38.

P.-M. Chevereau, 1989 "Contribution à la prosopographie des cadres militaires de l'Ancien Empire et de la Première Période Intermédiaire B", *RdE* 40.

A. Cywie, 2006, "Le bouquetin et la gazelle: deux alliés du désert du défunt dans sa renaissance en Égypte ancienne", *Acta Orientalia Belgica* XIX, Brussels.

K. M. Cooney and J. Tyrrel, 2005, "Scarabs in the LACMA. Part I", *Egyptology* 4/1, p. 4-5, §: "Miniaturisation and abstraction".

C. Desroches-Noblecourt, 2003, *Lorsque la nature parlait aux égyptiens*, Paris: Philippe Ret.

Égypte, égyptologie, égyptomanie: un musée et ses collectionneurs, exh. cat., Château-Musée de Dieppe, 1998-1999.

C. Doumet-Serhal, 2003, "Sidon: British Museum Excavations 1998-2003", *AHL*, 18, p. 2-19.

M. Dunand, 1937, *Fouilles de Byblos*, i, 1926-1932: Atlas, Études et documents d'archéologie i, Paris: Geuthner.

M. Dunand, 1939, *Fouilles de Byblos*, i, 1926-1932: Texte, Études et documents d'archéologie, i, Paris: Geuthner.

D. Dunham and J. Jansen, M.A., 1960, *Semna Kumma Excavated by George Andrew Reisner*, (Second Cataract Forts, i), Boston, Museum of Fine Arts.

R. Engelbach and G. Battiscombe,

1923, *Harageh*, BSAE 28, London: Quaritch.

A. Erman and H. Ranke, 1952, *La Civilisation égyptienne*, Paris: Payot.

A. Fakhry, 1952, *The Inscriptions of the Amethyst Quarries at Wadi El Hudi*, Egyptian Desert, Cairo: Government Press.

R. O. Faulkner, 1953, "Egyptian Military Organization", *JEA* 39.

R. Giveon, 1985, *Egyptian Scarabs from Western Asia from the Collection of the British Museum*, OBO SA 3, Fribourg and Göttingen.

R. Giveon, 1988, *Scarabs from Recent Excavations in Israel*, OBO 83, Fribourg and Göttingen.

J.-C. Goyon, 1972, "Les inscriptions des carrières et des mines", in *Textes et langages de l'Égypte pharaonique: Cent cinquante années de recherches 1822-1972: Hommage à Jean-François Champollion*, ii, Part 5, La connaissance des textes, BdE 44, 2, Cairo.

J.-C. Goyon, 2001, *Une curieuse histoire de cercueil*, Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle de Dijon 169 and stele 37.1384E, Wilbour Fund, Brooklyn Museum, in *Kyphi* 3.

B. Gratien, 2001, "Scellements et contrescellements au Moyen Empire en Nubie. L'apport de Mirgissa", *CRIPÉL* 22, Lille.

A. Grenfell, 1915, "The Scarab Collection of Queen's College, Oxford", *JEA* 2.

E. Gubel, 1991, in *Catalogue d'Exposition, Van Nijl tot Schelde/Du Nil à l'Escaut*, Banque Bruxelles Lambert, du 5 avril au 9 juin.

E. Gubel, 2003, "A propos d'un

sceau phénicien épigraphe représentant le dieu Bès”, *Bulletin des Musées Royaux d’Art et d’Histoire Parc du Cinquantenaire Bruxelles* 74.

E. Homung and E. Staehelin, eds., 1976, *Skarabäen und andere Siegelamulette aus Basler Sammlungen*, Mainz: P. von Zabern.

D. Jones, 2000, *An Index of Ancient Egyptian Titles, Epithets and Phrases of the Old Kingdom* i and ii, BAR, I.S., 866: 1-2, Oxford.

O. Keel, 1990, “Nachträge zu ‘Der Bogen als Herrschaftssymbol’, in *Studien zu den Stempelsiegeln aus Palästina/Israel*, iii: *Die Frühe Eisenzeit: Ein Workshop*, OBO 100, Fribourg and Göttingen.

O. Keel, 1990, “Ptah auf Siegelamuletten aus Palästina/Israel: Einige Gesetzmäßigkeiten bei der Übernahme von Motiven Grosskunst auf Miniaturbildträger”, in *Genres in Visual Representations*, Proceedings of a Conference Held in 1986 by Invitation of Werner-Reiners-Stiftung, Bad Homburg, Leiden: Brill.

O. Keel, 1995 “Stamp Seals: The Problem of Palestinian Workshops in the Second Millennium and Some Remarks on the Preceding and Succeeding Periods”, in *Seals and Sealing in the Ancient Near East*, Proceedings of the Symposium Held on September 2, 1993, Jerusalem: Bible Lands Museum Jerusalem Publications 1.

O. Keel, 1995, *Corpus der Stempelsiegel-Amulette aus Palästina/Israel: von den Anfängen bis zur Perserzeit*, OBO SA 10, Fribourg and Göttingen.

O. Keel, 1997, *Corpus der Stempelsiegel-Amulette aus Palästina/Israel*, OBO SA 13,

Fribourg and Göttingen.

O. Keel, 2000, “Le Cantique des cantiques: Parallèles littéraires”, *Le Monde de la Bible* 128 juillet-août 2000.

O. Keel, 2005, “Les belles images du monde oriental éclairent le texte biblique”, interview with Othmar Keel by Sophie Laurant *Le Monde de la Bible* 167 (septembre-octobre 2005).

A. Kempinski and M. Avi-Yonah, 1979, *Syrie-Palestine I: De l’Âge du Bronze Moyen à la fin du monde classique (2200 av. J.-C., 324 apr. J.-C.)*, *Archaeologia Mundi*, Geneva, Paris and Munich: Nagel.

G. Lefebvre, 1955, *Grammaire de l’Égyptien Classique*, xii, 2nd edn., BdE, Cairo: IFAO.

H. C. Loffet, 2003, “Examination of Several Scarabs from Sidon 2002 Season of Excavation”, *AHL*, 18, p. 26–30.

H. C. Loffet, 2007, *Collections égyptiennes du Museum Emmanuel Liais de Cherbourg Octeville*, Paris: Cybèle.

A. Lucas, 1989, *Ancient Egyptian Materials and Industries*, 4th edn. rev. J.R. Harris, London: Histories & Mysteries of Man.

E. Macdonald, J. L. Starkey and M. Lankester, 1932, *Beth Pelet II: Prehistoric Fara and Beth-Pelet Cemetery*, BSAE 52, London: Quaritch.

G. T. Martin, 1971, *Egyptian Administrative and Private-Name Seals*, Oxford: Griffith Institute.

F. S. Matouk, 1977, *Corpus du scarabée égyptien*, ii, *Analyse thématique*, Beirut.

H. de Meulenaere et al., 1992,

Écritures de l’Égypte Ancienne, Guides du Département Égyptien 7, Musées Royaux d’Art et d’Histoire, Brussels.

C. Mlinar, 1989, *Die Skarabäen von Tell el-Dab’a*, unpublished manuscript, Vienna.

C. Mlinar, 2001, *Die Skarabäen von Tell el-Dab’a: Eine chronologische und typologische Untersuchung der Skarabäen von Tell el-Dab’a aus der 13th-15th Dynastie*, 4 vols, unpublished Ph.D. diss., University of Vienna.

C. Mlinar, 2004, “Sidon. Scarabs from the 2001 Season of Excavation: Additional Notes”, *AHL* 20.

C. Mlinar, 2009, “Scarabs from Sidon”, *AHL*, 29, p. 23-45.

G. Miniaci and S. Quirke, 2009, “Reconceiving the Tomb in the Late Middle Kingdom: The Burial of the Accountant of the Main Enclosure Neferhotep at Dra Abu al-Naga”, *BIFAO* 109.

P. Montet, 1923, “Les fouilles de Byblos en 1923”, *Syria* 4.

P. Montet, 1927, “Un Égyptien, roi de Byblos, sous la XII^e dynastie: Étude de deux scarabées de la collection De Clercq”, *Syria* 8.

P. Montet, 1928-1929, *Byblos et l’Égypte: Quatre campagnes de fouilles à Gebeil: 1921, 1922, 1923, 1934*, Paris: Geuthner.

P. Montet, 1946, “Tombeaux de la I^{re} et de la IV^e dynasties à Abou-Roach. Deuxième partie: Inventaire des objets”, *Kêmi* 8.

J. de Morgan, 1903, *Fouilles à Dahchour en 1894-1895*, Vienna: Holzhausen.

M. A. Murray, 1905, *Saqqara Mastabas*, Part I, BSAE 10, London: Quaritch.

M. A. Murray, 1908, *Index of Names and Titles of the Old Kingdom*, BSAE 1, London: Quaritch.

P. E. Newberry, 1906, *Egyptian Antiquities. Scarabs: an Introduction to the Study of Egyptian Seals and Signet Rings*, London: Constable.

P. E. Newberry, 2003, *Ancient Egyptian Scarabs and Cylinder Seals: the Timins Collection*, London: Constable, 1907; facs. edn., Library of Ancient Egypt, London, New York and Bahrain, 2003: Kegan Paul.

Pierre de lumière: Le cristal de roche dans l’art et l’archéologie, exh. cat. J. Toussaint (ed.), Musée Municipal des arts anciens du Namurois, Namur, 2007.

Pierres égyptiennes...: Chefs-d’œuvre pour l’éternité, exh. cat. ed. C. Karlshausen and T. de Putter, Mons, Faculté Poly-technique, 2000.

Les pierres précieuses de l’Orient ancien: des Sumériens aux Sassanides, exh. cat. by F. Tallon et al., Paris, Louvre, 1995.

W. M. F. Petrie, 1920, *Prehistoric Egypt*, BSAE 31, London: Quaritch.

—1930, *Beth Pelet I (Tell Fara)*, BSAE 48, London: Quaritch.

—1931, *Ancient Gaza I, Tell el-Ajjul*, BSAE 53, London: Quaritch.

—1932, *Ancient Gaza II, Tell el-Ajjul*, BSAE 54, London: Quaritch.

—1933, *Ancient Gaza III, Tell el-Ajjul*, BSAE 55, London: Quaritch.

—1934, *Ancient Gaza IV, Tell el-Ajjul*, BSAE 56, London: Quaritch.

—1952, *City of Shepherd Kings*

and *Ancient Gaza V*, BSAE 64, London: Quaritch.

C. von Pilgrim, 1996, *Elephantine XVIII: Untersuchungen in der Stadt des Mittleren Reiches und der Zweiten Zwischenzeit*, *Archäologische Veröffentlichungen* 91, Mainz.

R. Pirelli, 2007, “Two new stealae from Mersa Gawasis”, *RdE* 58.

D. Price Williams, 1977, *The Tombs of the Middle Bronze Age II Period from the “500” Cemetery at Tell Fara South*, London: University of London, Institute of Archaeology Occasional Publications 1.

J. Quaegebeur, 1986, “Amenophis, nom royal et nom divin. Questions méthodologiques”, *RdE* 37.

J. Quaegebeur, 1999, *La Naine et le bouquetin ou l’énigme de la barque en albâtre de Toutankhamon*, Leuven: Peeters.

H. Ranke, 1935, *Die ägyptischen Personennamen*, i, J. J. Augustins (ed.), Glückstadt and Hamburg.

H. Ranke, 1952, *Die ägyptischen Personennamen*, ii, J. J. Augustins (ed.), Glückstadt and Hamburg.

S. Ratié, 1974, “La Collection égyptienne du Musée d’Annecy”, *Revue Savoissienne* 114.

S. Ratié, 1984, Annecy, musée-château. Chambéry, musées d’art et d’histoire. Aix-les-Bains, musée archéologique. *Collections égyptiennes: Direction des musées de France. Inventaire des collections publiques françaises* 28, Ministère de la Culture, Paris: Editions de la Réunion des Musées Nationaux.

G. A. Reisner, 1907, *Amulets n^{os} 5218-6000 and 12001-12527*, i, CGC, Cairo: IFAO.

A. J. Rowe, 1936, *A Catalogue of Egyptian Scarabs, Scaraboids, Seals and Amulets in the Palestine Archaeological Museum*, Cairo: IFAO.

M. G. Scadone, 2000, “Art et politique: les images de Pharaon à l’étranger”, *Ä&L* 10.

R. Schulz and M. Seidel, 2007, *Khepereru-Scarabs: Scarabs, Scaraboids, and Plaques from Egypt and The Ancient Near East in the Walters Art Museum Baltimore*, Oakville, CT: HALGO.

K. Sethe, 1903, *Urkunden des alten Teichs*, i and ii, URK Leipzig and Berlin: Hinrichs’sche Buch-handlung.

S. T. Smith, 2001, “Sealing Practice, Literacy and Administration in the Middle Kingdom”, *CRIPEL*, 22.

P. Tallet, 2005, *Sésostris III et la fin de la XII^e dynastie*, Les Grands Pharaons, Paris: Pygmalion.

J. A. Taylor, 2001, *An Index of Male Non-Royal Egyptian Titles, Epithets & Phrases of the 18th Dynasty*, London: Museum Bookshop Publications.

E. Teeter, 2003, *Scarabs, Scaraboids, Seals, and Seal Impressions from Medinet Habu*, The Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago, Oriental Institute Publications 118.

B. Teissier, 1995, *Egyptian Iconography on Syro-Palestinian Cylinder Seals of the Middle Bronze Age*, OBO SA 11, Fribourg and Göttingen.

F. Tiradritti, 2002, *La collezione di scarabei siro-palestinesi delle Civiche Raccolte Archeologiche di Milano*, Milano: Comune di Milano.

O. Tufnell, 1958, *Lachish IV (Tell*



TELL EL-YAHUDIEH WARE IN SIDON

ARCHAEOLOGY & HISTORY
IN THE LEBANON ISSUE
THIRTY FOUR-THIRTY FIVE:
WINTER/SPRING 2011/12.
PP. 139-153.

CLAUDE DOUMET-
SERHAL

I would like to express my gratitude to Karin Kopetzky for the fruitful discussions we had in Sidon and for all her help and advice on the material as well as in making all the Tell el-Dab'a publications available to me. My thanks also go to D. A. Aston for forwarding the manuscript of his new book on Tell el-Yahudieh ware while the book was still in press. I am indebted to Ramy Yassine who worked very hard on the drawings and Tony Farraj for taking the photos used in this article.

Tell el-Yahudieh ware, first recognized in Egypt by Petrie ¹ is characterized by a distinctive geometric and figurative decoration of incised lines and punctured dots filled with chalky paste. The origin of the production of this ware (Lebanon/northern Palestine ², Syria ³ or Egypt) has been the subject of numerous articles ⁴. The discussion on whether it was first produced in Egypt or in the Levant and then introduced by one or the other into the respective areas before spreading across the Eastern Mediterranean in the MB IIA/B but mainly in the MB IIB is also still controversial, despite the undertaking of many chemical analyses. Aston ⁵ compiled a list of the suggested classification of this ware, based on geography ⁶, with the so-called earlier "el Lisht ware" in Egypt ⁷ or Bietak's regional styles ⁸ and divisions accordingly, as well as with Kaplan's ⁹ typology relating to shapes. In his article, Aston examines older and newer publications summarizing all the discussions on the topic while advocating in favour of a combination of features including decorative styles together with techniques in order for it to be more relevant¹⁰. A more recent comprehensive study on Tell el-Yahudieh ware from Tell el-Dab'a¹¹ favours the Levant as the place where this style developed first.

The Tell el-Yahudieh ware from Sidon was found at the beginning of MB IIB from level 5 onwards¹² mostly in burials with the exception of wares number S/4213, S/5445, S/88833, S/1787-S/1846, S/41793, S/41102 (fig. 1, 10-13, 17, 18) found outside around the graves and S/50273 (fig. 14), a large jug found in the Middle Bronze Age temple. Handles, preserved in 7 cases (fig. 2, 4-7, 9, 15) are all double strand handles stretching from the shoulder to the neck just under the rim except for a miniature juglet (fig. 7). The body is ovoid ¹³, (fig. 2, 4, 5) becoming piriform later in the MB IIB/C ¹⁴ examples (fig. 8, 9) with shoulders more strongly marked. Jug fig. 15, S/2170-3940, has a tendency towards a more squat shape. Juglet S/4687 (fig. 2) with a stepped rim¹⁵ is typical of the northern Levant and very popular in Sidon's level 5. Other rims are plain everted (S/4588, fig. 5) and the kettle rim is found in the later MB IIB/C (S/3722, fig. 9). The button base (S/4588, fig. 5) of the earlier