

DIE IHR VORBEIGEHEHEN WERDET ...
WENN GRÄBER, TEMPEL UND STATUEN SPRECHEN

Gedenkschrift für Prof. Dr. Sayed Tawfik Ahmed

DEUTSCHES ARCHÄOLOGISCHES INSTITUT
ABTEILUNG KAIRO

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von
Ursula Rößler-Köhler und Tarek Tawfik (Hrsg.)



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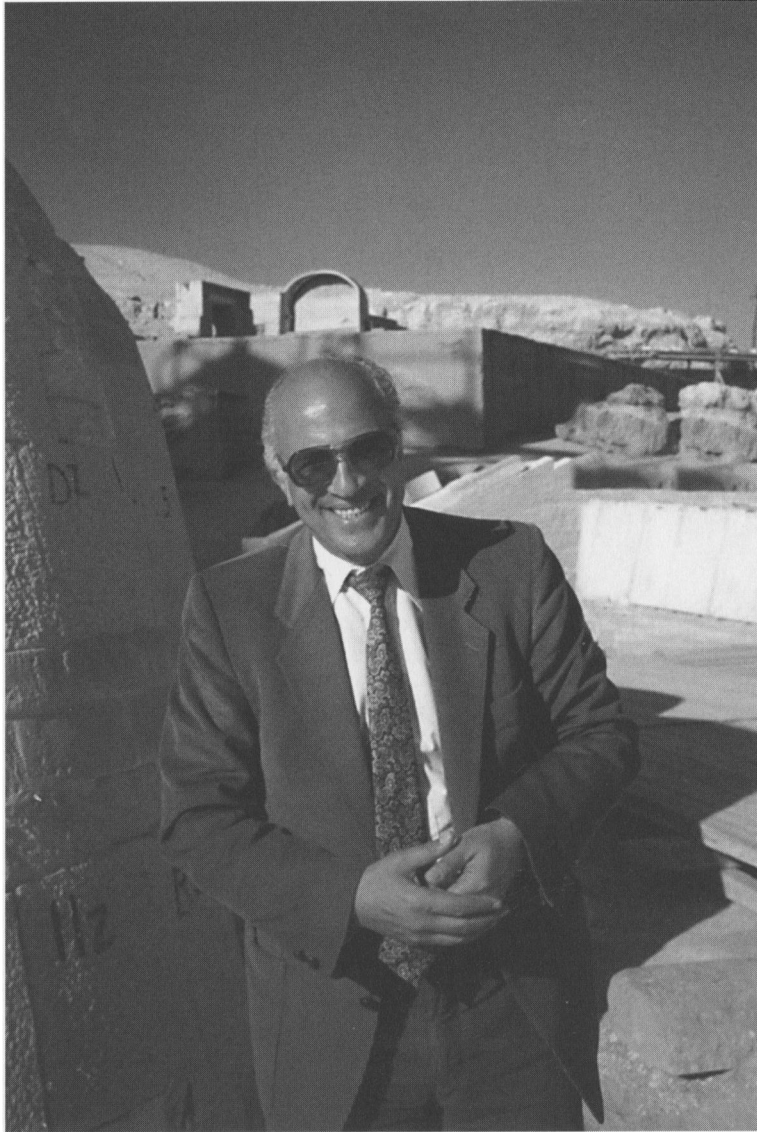
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Sayed Tawfik Ahmed (1936–1990)

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In memoriam Sayed Tawfik Ahmed

By TAREK SAYED TAWFIK

SAYED TAWFIK AHMED was one of Egypt's most dedicated Egyptologists. He enjoyed teaching and lecturing about ancient Egyptian history, culture, philology, architecture, art, and religion. He also loved his excavation work at Saqqara and with great administrative skills managed the responsibilities that were burdened on him in the Faculty of Archaeology at Cairo University and later as Head of the Egyptian Antiquities Organisation.

SAYED TAWFIK AHMED was born in Abdeen, a quarter of Cairo, on July 29, 1936. He was the third of six children born to the manufacturer of sweets TAWFIK AHMED EL-ZIR and AZIZA OSMAN EID. His father passed away while he and his brothers and sister were still quite young. It is admirable how his mother, who had never visited a school, managed to raise her six children and to put them through school. All of them later rose to high positions in their field of work. After finishing secondary school in 1955, SAYED TAWFIK joined the Department of Archaeology at the Faculty of Arts, Cairo University. The department had just been established one year earlier. He was taught by some of the great Egyptian pioneers of Egyptology like ABD EL-MOHSEN-BAKIR, ABD EL-MONEIM ABOU-BAKR, GIRGIS MATTA and AHMED FAKHRY. In May 1959 he obtained a B.A. in Egyptology. First, he worked briefly as a teacher of English language in a secondary school in the governorate of Sharkia in the north-eastern part of Egypt. In 1960 he got the *Lepsius-Stipendium*, a scholarship for doctorate studies in Germany. After studying the German language for two months at Lüneburg, he started his research at the Georg-August-University in Göttingen in 1961. His dissertation thesis was entitled: *Untersuchung zur großen Liste der Weihgeschenke Thutmosis III. für Amun in Karnak* and was supervised by Prof. Dr. S. SCHOTT and Prof. Dr. J. SPIEGEL. In April 1966 he was granted his Ph.D. in Egyptology. On returning to Egypt he joined the Akhenaten Temple Project, led by RAY SMITH. The aim of that project was to reconstruct the scenes depicted on the walls of the Akhenaten Temple at Karnak from a large number of stones, so-called *talatat*. Matching the photographs of those individual blocks was partly done by using a computer. This was the first time that the computer was used in Egyptology.

In September 1967 SAYED TAWFIK was appointed Lecturer at the Department of Egyptology at Cairo University. At the same time he continued his work as the Egyptian director of the Akhenaten Temple Project until 1972. His long participation in the project led him to write a series of articles entitled 'Aton studies'. They were published in *MDAIK* over several years.

During his studies in Germany SAYED TAWFIK had met a German lady, FRIEDERUN MÜLLER, at the university in Göttingen. In June 1969 they got married in Cairo. The couple had two children: TAREK, born in 1971, and SAFINAZ, born in 1974.

At the university he was promoted Assistant Professor of Egyptology in 1973. In July 1976 he accompanied the Egyptian delegation that was sent to participate in the celebrations of the bicentennial of the independence of the United States of America. He delivered to the late American

President Gerald Ford the explanation for the stela that was given as a present from Egypt to the people of the USA on this occasion.

He became Full Professor in 1979, and the same year he was appointed Head of the Department of Egyptology, which had become part of the Faculty of Archaeology in 1973. In 1980 he was made Vice-Dean and in October 1981 Full Dean of the Faculty. During the six years he held this position he divided his time between teaching on the one hand and all the different administrative duties for the three Departments of the Faculty on the other. Teaching always remained his love and first priority, and many of his students remember him with gratitude. He was fully dedicated to his work which earned him respect among his colleagues.

Starting from January 1984 SAYED TAWFIK headed the Cairo University excavations at Saqqara, which yielded the discovery of the huge Mastaba of Mennefer dating back to the Old Kingdom and 36 tombs from the New Kingdom. Sixteen of these tombs bore inscriptions that revealed the names and titles of high officials from the reign of king Ramesses II including the vizier Neferrenpet and the overseer of the treasury Amonemint.

At the Faculty SAYED TAWFIK was reappointed Head of the Department of Egyptology in October 1987. He left this position when he was made Chairman of the Egyptian Antiquities Organisation in December 1988, a job which he regarded as a great challenge and to which he devoted all his strength and abilities. At a time when international institutions didn't want to get engaged in any great restoration activities at the endangered Sphinx at Giza, he took the difficult task of saving the Sphinx upon himself, relying on Egyptian expertise. He had thorough scientific investigations made about the underground water, the directions and strength of the wind, the anatomy of the Sphinx, the elder restorations that had been carried out before and the best kind of stone that would be suitable for the restoration. He asked the foreign institutions and archaeological missions in Egypt to provide the Egyptian Antiquities Organisation with copies of the earliest photos available of the Sphinx to help restoring it to the state it was seen in at the beginning of the 19th century. When the Egyptian efforts started to be fruitful, the international institutions were quick to offer their help again to share in the successful restoration. Also, while Sayed Tawfik was responsible for Egypt's antiquities, the now famous cachette in the Luxor Temple was discovered in the court of king Amenhotep III on February 9, 1989. He then supervised the lifting of the statues and their transport to the Luxor Museum.

His sudden death on December 20, 1990 abruptly ended all his endeavours and came as a shock to his family and friends.

During his career SAYED TAWFIK lectured not only in Egypt but also in Arab countries like Yemen, the Sudan, Bahrain and Kuwait, in Asia, in India and Japan, in the USA and Canada, as well as in Europe in Germany, England and France.

I experienced my father as a loving, tender parent who could also be very strict at times. He had a great sense of humour and could bring tears of laughter to people's eyes. As I got older he became my tutor and friend as well whom I admired and tried to live up to. In addition to me and my sister, he always considered his students to be his children. He was very keen on authoring several books as guidelines for his students. These books are still valued today.

My decision to join the Faculty of Archaeology made my father quite happy. He was also very proud when I finished my first year of studies on top of my class. It is a pity that his sudden death deprived me of benefiting more from his great knowledge. Nevertheless, his work at Saqqara had been inspiring for my M.A. thesis.

SAYED TAWFIK, may Allah have mercy on him, will live on in the memory of his children and grandchildren. He will not be forgotten by his Egyptian and foreign colleagues and he will be remembered in honour by his students. Hopefully, generations of students to come will still benefit from his scientific work and research.

Vorwort

Mit der Herausgabe dieser Gedenkschrift möchte ich – gemeinsam mit all seinen an dieser Schrift beteiligten Freunden und Kollegen – Professor Dr. SAYED TAWFIK AHMED aus Kairo *in memoriam* ehren, meinen besten Freund in Ägypten über lange Zeit hinweg bis zu seinem plötzlichen Tod am Ende des Jahres 1990.

Wir durften viele freundschaftliche Stunden in Gespräch und froher Runde verbringen, sei es in Deutschland oder in Ägypten, dies sowohl im Kollegen- und Studentenkreis als auch mit seiner geliebten Familie.

SAYED TAWFIK hat der Ägyptologie und damit auch seinem Lande mit ganzer Kraft erfolgreich gedient, und dafür werden ihm für immer unser Dank und unsere Hochachtung gewiss sein.

Dem persönlichen Freund, der viel zu früh gehen musste, möchte ich mit diesen Zeilen noch einmal für seine unverbrüchliche freundschaftliche Treue und seine absolute Fairness danken, die er allzeit – auch in höchster Stellung – mir gegenüber bewiesen hat.

Ich verfasse diese Zeilen bewusst in deutscher Sprache, da SAYED diese Sprache sehr liebte und sie auch deshalb die Sprache unserer Freundschaft war. Zugleich verzichte ich an dieser Stelle auf die vielen Einzelheiten des Lebenslaufes von SAYED TAWFIK, die in dieser Gedenkschrift an anderer Stelle und aus berufenerer Quelle zu finden sind.

Mein Dank gebührt zusätzlich dem Deutschen Archäologischen Institut in Kairo, das uns in großzügiger Weise den Druck dieser Gedenkschrift für SAYED TAWFIK ermöglicht hat.

Bonn, im Oktober des Jahres 2006

Ursula Rößler-Köhler

The Tomb of Keki: The Pyramid Builder¹

By ZAHI HAWASS

(Plates 15–16)

The late Dr. SAYED TAWFIK was a good friend of mine. Our friendship began in 1977, when I began to study Egyptology at Cairo University. When FAROUK HOSNI, Minister of Culture, wanted to choose a chairman for the Egyptian Antiquities Organization, I suggested Dr. TAWFIK. The Minister asked me to meet with Dr. TAWFIK in private, so I went to see him at his home. At first, he did not want to take the job. I spent more than an hour convincing him and finally, he agreed.

The years from 1988 to 1990, when Dr. TAWFIK was head of the Antiquities Service, were very important. Three projects from this period, all at Giza, stand out for me. In 1989, we began conservation work on the Great Sphinx. Dr. TAWFIK used to come to Giza almost every day to supervise the restoration. In 1990, I discovered the tomb of the dwarf Per-ni-ankhu in the Western Cemetery². Dr. TAWFIK, along with members of the press, was with me at the site when I took the beautiful statue of Per-ni-ankhu out of his serdab for the first time. The third project was the discovery and subsequent excavation of the tombs of the Pyramid Builders.

The day before Dr. TAWFIK's death, we were together at Saqqara and spent the whole day discussing the restoration plan for the Serapeum. That evening he died, and we lost a great man. It is to the late SAYED TAWFIK that I dedicate this article.

In 1990, the Cemetery of the Pyramid Builders of Giza was discovered to the south-east of the Sphinx, south of Heit el-Ghorab ("Wall of the Crow"). The necropolis is divided into two sections: the Lower Cemetery, for the workers who did the physical work of construction and their supervisors, and the Upper Cemetery, for artisans and higher-level construction officials (Pl. 15a). In the Lower Cemetery, tombs were built from mud brick, sometimes with added chunks of granite, basalt and limestone that were left over from the construction of the pyramid complexes³. There are superstructures of various types in the Lower Cemetery, including mastabas, chapels with vaulted ceilings, miniature step pyramids, beehive tombs, and tombs in the form of the primeval mound. A

¹ I would like to thank the team who works on my excavations at Giza for their dedication and assistance: T. EL-AWADY, M. MEGAHED, B. MYERS, and J. KAMRIN, and the archaeologists at the site: M. TAHA, M. HATEM, T. BERAKAT, G. ABD EL-RAHIEM and A. ADEL HAMID.

² Z. Hawass, *The Statue of the Dwarf Per-ni-ankhu Discovered at Giza*, in: *MDAIK* 47, 1991, pp. 157–162.

³ Z. HAWASS, *The Workmen's Community at Giza*, in: M. BIETAK (Hrsg.), *Haus und Palast im alten Ägypten*, Wien 1996, pp. 53–63.

number of them include false doors of mud brick or limestone⁴. The shafts beneath the superstructures contain only skeletons; none of the human remains had been mummified. The principal artifacts found with these skeletons are ceramic beer jars and pottery sherds. Very few statues or inscribed objects were found in this cemetery⁵.

The tombs in the Upper Cemetery were partly cut into the bedrock and partly built of quarried limestone or mud brick. Several of the tombs are fronted with a causeway; in one case, an offering table was found at the lower end of the causeway. This form is modeled on the royal pyramid complex and is also seen in the tombs at Qubbet el-Hawa⁶. There are many inscribed tombs in the Upper Cemetery⁷. Many of the unique titles found here confirm the functions of the people buried in the cemetery, such as “overseer of the side of the pyramid”, “overseer of the draftsmen”, “overseer of craftsmen”, “inspector of building tombs”, “tenant farmer”, “overseer of the harbor”, and “overseer of the workmen who drag the stones”⁸.

Study of the skeletons from the Lower Cemetery has produced important information⁹. Many of the men and women showed signs of stress on the spine, most probably a result of moving heavy stones or carrying substantial burdens. The skeletons also indicated that the workers had access to emergency medical care. For example, we found healed bone fractures that showed signs that they had been set, perhaps with wooden braces. The skeleton of one man revealed that his leg had been amputated, and that he lived for about an additional fourteen years. Remarkably, there was evidence that one person had undergone surgery for a brain tumor and lived for at least two more years¹⁰.

To the east of the necropolis, a workmen’s installation has been discovered. This is being excavated by MARK LEHNER. A number of bakeries have been found here, along with barracks where the workmen could have slept during the workweek – each able to accommodate up to 55 people, an area that was either some sort of a cafeteria or a place for salting and storing fish, and a huge administrative building with buttressed walls. LEHNER has found evidence that about 11 cows and 30 goats were slaughtered here every day¹¹. This discovery suggests that the number of workmen involved in the

⁴ Z. HAWASS/M. LEHNER, *Builders of the Pyramids*, in: *Archaeology* 50/1, 1997, pp. 31–43.

⁵ See Z. HAWASS, *A Group of Unique Statues Discovered at Giza I: Statues of the Overseers of the Pyramid Builders*, in: *Kunst des Alten Reiches*, Mainz 1995, pp. 91–95; Id., *A Group of Unique Statues Discovered at Giza II: An Unfinished Reserve Head and a Statuette of an Overseer*, in: *Kunst des Alten Reiches*, Mainz 1995, pp. 97–101.

⁶ F. W. RÖSING, *Qubbet el Hawa und Elephantine: Zur Bevölkerungsgeschichte von Ägypten*, Stuttgart/New York 1990.

⁷ Z. HAWASS, *The Tombs of the Pyramid Builders – The Tomb of the Artisan Petety and his Curse*, in: G. KNOPPERS/A. HIRSCH (eds.), *Egypt, Israel, and the Ancient Mediterranean World, Studies in Honor of Donald B. Redford*, Leiden 2004, pp. 21–39.

⁸ For titles, see: Z. HAWASS, *A Group of Unique Statues discovered at Giza III: The Statues of jnty-Sdw, Tomb GSE 1915*, in: N. GRIMAL, *Les critères de datation stylistiques à l’ancien empire*, BdÉ 120, Le Caire 1997, pp. 187–208; see also Z. HAWASS, *The Pyramid Builders. A Group of Unique Statues Discovered at*

Giza IV: The Statue of an Overseer of the Craftsmen and his Wife, in: C. ZIEGLER (éd.), *L’art de l’Ancien Empire égyptien*, Paris 1999, pp. 79–92.

⁹ A. SARRY EL-DIN/Z. HAWASS, *Discriminant function Analysis for sexing of Ancient Egyptian long bones*, in: *The Journal of Legal Medicine and Forensic Science* 9 (1), Jan. 1997, pp. 81–91.

¹⁰ A. SARRY EL-DIN/M. ERFAN/Z. HAWASS, *A Study of tubular canal dimension in ancient Egyptians from the Old Kingdom*, in: *Egypt Journal of Anatomy* 22/1, 1999; A. SARRY EL-DIN, *Comparative Study of Skeletal Material from Giza Old Kingdom with Sudanese Nubia*, Cairo 1995.

¹¹ See Z. HAWASS/M. LEHNER, *Builders of the Pyramids*, in: *Archaeology* 50/1, 1997, pp. 30–38; M. LEHNER, *Giza*, in: *The Oriental Institute Annual Report 1993–1994*, 1994, pp. 26–30; M. LEHNER, *Giza*, in: *The Oriental Institute Annual Report 1995–1996*, 1996, pp. 54–61; see also C. J. EYRE, *Work and the Organization of the Work in the Old Kingdom*, in: M. A. POWELL (ed.), *Labor in the Ancient Near East*, New Haven 1987, pp. 5–47.

G. S. E.

Tomb No. 1990

By : Mamdouh Taha
Tarek Barakat
Amani

A: Entrance
B: Open Court
C: Facade
D: Mastaba
E: Burial Shafts

Key :

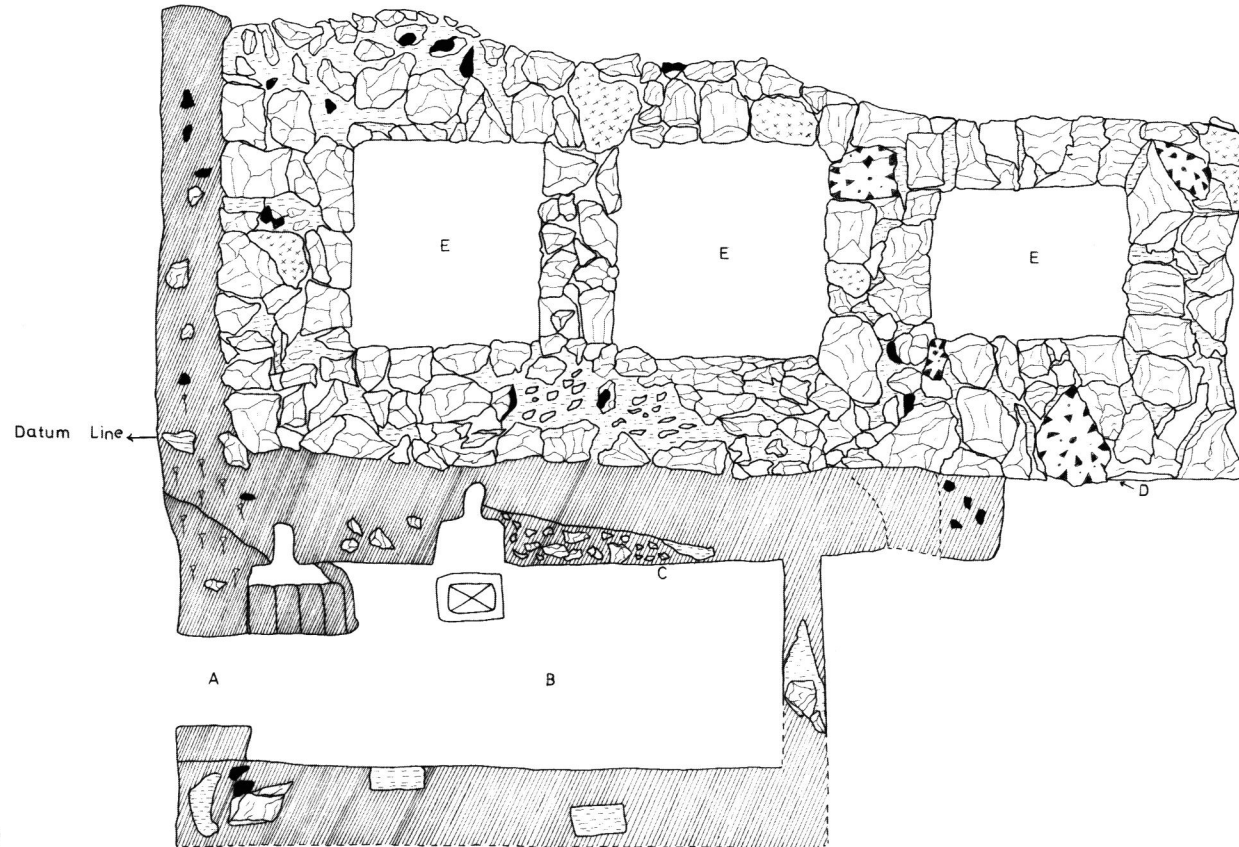
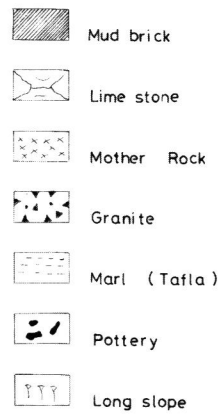


Fig. 1: The tomb of Keki (No. 1990, scale 1:40)

construction of the pyramid did not exceed 10,000, divided into permanent workers buried in the Upper Cemetery and temporary workmen who were sent by their households to work in three-month shifts before returning home.

The Tomb of Keki

The tomb of Keki (GSE 1990) is located in the Upper Cemetery, to the northwest of the tomb of Nesut-wesret (GSE 1983) (Pl. 15b). Keki bore the title *imy-r3 pr*, “overseer of the domain”¹², and his son Dua-Khnum bore the title *smsw pr*, “elder of the domain”¹³. It is most likely that *pr* in the titles of both father and son refers to the same institution. This was probably either an industrial unit or a domain and was most likely part of the economy of the royal funerary complex. These titles were found inscribed on an offering basin found at the entrance of the tomb (see below).

Architectural Description of the Tomb

The superstructure of the tomb was built of mud brick¹⁴, *tafla*, chunks of local limestone, and pieces of red granite were used to reinforce the walls (Fig. 1). It is in the shape of a rectangular mastaba fronted on the east by an open court. The western wall of the court, which lies against the eastern wall of the mastaba, constitutes the tomb facade. Three burial shafts descend through the mastaba superstructure and continue into the bedrock. Much of this superstructure is now destroyed.

Its overall dimensions are:

Length: 6.70 m (from north to south)

Width: 4.20 m (from east to west).

The tomb consists of the following architectural features:

I Open court

II Façade

III Mastaba

IV Burial shafts.

I Open Court

The open court spans the southern portion of the north-south length of the tomb. Its maximum length is 2.9 m (from north to south) and its maximum width is 1.0 m (from east to west). It is entered from the center of the south wall, through an opening 50 cm wide. The damaged remains of the south wall of the court, east of the entrance, stand only about 5 cm high; the south wall west of the entrance is 20 cm high. The thickness of the south wall is about 30 cm. The eastern wall averages 40 cm in thickness and stands to only 5 cm. The north wall is 25 cm thick and stands to a height of 25 cm.

¹² For bibliography and different translations of the title *imy-r3 pr*, “overseer of the domain” see D. JONES, *An Index of Ancient Egyptian Titles, Epithets and Phrases of the Old Kingdom I*, BAR International Series 866, Oxford 2000, p. 114 (§ 461).

¹³ For bibliography of the title *smsw pr*, “elder of the domain” see D. JONES, *An Index of Ancient Egyptian Titles, Epithets and Phrases of the Old Kingdom II*, BAR International Series 866, Oxford 2000, p. 901 (§ 3305).

¹⁴ See A. J. SPENCER, *Brick Architecture in Ancient Egypt*, Warminster 1979.

The floor of the courtyard was covered with a layer of mud, above which was a layer of *tafla*. To the immediate north of the court, along the eastern wall of the mastaba, is an architectural element made of mud brick that may represent an extension to the façade.

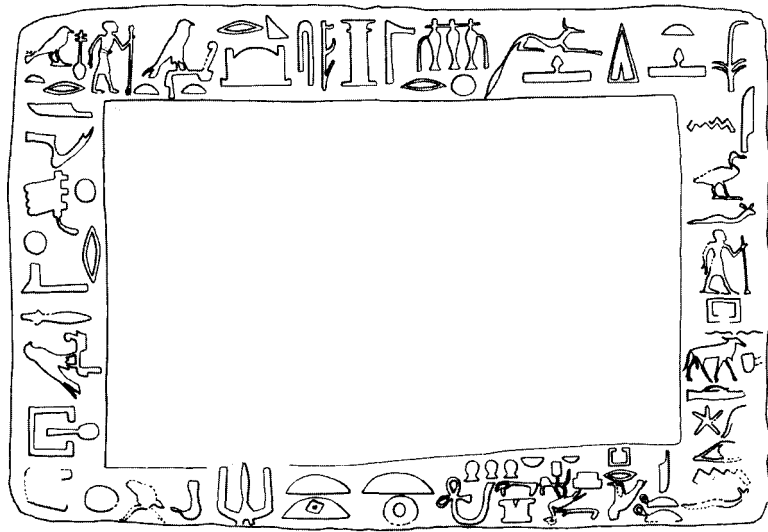


Fig. 2: Inscribed offering basin from the tomb of Keki (No. 1990)

II Façade

The façade of the tomb lies on the western side of the open court (Fig. 1) and is built against the east wall of the mastaba. It has a maximum length of 2.9 m (from north to south). The preserved height is 55 cm and the thickness is 45 cm. The builders cased the façade with clay mortar, then *tafla*, and finally gypsum mortar (plaster). The layer of gypsum mortar is preserved only on the niche and the south side of the façade.

The façade includes a false door and a niche, both made of mud brick. The niche is located 9 cm from the inside of the south wall of the court.

Dimensions of the niche:

Width: 13 cm

Depth: 26 cm

Remaining height: 45 cm

Four mud brick models, apparently of offering tables, were placed in front of the niche. The first model rests against the south wall of the court, level with the entrance; the others rest one against the next. They are identical in size, measuring 60 cm long (east-west as found), 30 cm wide, and 9 cm high.

The mud-brick false door is located about 85 cm to the north of the niche.

Dimensions of the false door:

Width: 38 cm

Depth: 22 cm

It is evident that the false door was coated with layers of mud, *tafla* and gypsum mortar, of which very little remains.

Found in front of the false door was an inscribed offering basin for the tomb owner, Keki, made of fine white limestone (Pl. 16 and Fig. 2).

Dimensions of the offering basin:

Height: 14 cm

Length: 34 cm

Width: 24 cm

Thickness of the inscribed edge: 4 cm

The basin is inscribed with an offering formula, and was dedicated to the tomb owner, Keki, by his son, Dua-Khnum¹⁵.

Transliteration:

[1] *hṭp di nsw Inpw hnty-hr*¹⁶ *sh-ntr qrs(w)*¹⁷ *(m) imntt i3l(w) nfr wrt* [2] *im3hw hr ntr ʿ3* [3] *pri hrw hb nb rʿ nb w3g dḥwt (n) jmi-r pr Kkj* [4] *in z3.f smsw pr dw3-hnm iri n.f*

Translation:

[1] An offering which the king gives and Anubis, who is before the divine booth: that he may be buried in the west¹⁸ and that he may attain a very good old (age)¹⁹, [2] that he may be revered before the great god²⁰, [3] that invocation offerings²¹ might go forth on every festival, every day, the Wag-Feast, and the Festival of Thoth²² (for) the overseer of the domain Keki²³. [4] It is his son, the elder of the domain Dua-Khnum, who has made (this) for him.

It is interesting to note that there are a number of unusual spellings and reversals of signs and standard orders in this inscription (see footnotes 18 to 22). I believe that this was because Keki was of relatively low status. Like many of the pieces from the Workmen's Cemetery, his offering table was probably carved by lower-ranking artisans without the supervision of the master craftsmen.

III Mastaba

The mastaba that contains the burial shafts is built of mud brick, chunks of local limestone, pieces of granite, and *tafla*. The foundation of the mastaba is a rectangle of stone left projecting from the bedrock.

¹⁵ I am grateful to DAVID SILVERMAN for his assistance in correcting the original transliteration and translation of this basin, especially in his identification of unusual spellings and word orders and the proper translation of lines 2 and 4.

¹⁶ The addition of the *hr* in this position is evidently very unusual, cf. BARTA, *Opferformel*; LAPP, *Opferformel*.

¹⁷ The writing of *qrs(w)*, BARTA, *Opferformel*, Bitte 4, p. 9, 16–17, here is also very unusual.

¹⁸ BARTA, *Opferformel*, Bitte 4; cf. D. SILVERMAN, *An Old Kingdom Statue in the Oriental Institute Museum*, in: *JNES* 32, 1973, pp. 466–476; and LAPP, *Opferformel*, § 64.

¹⁹ BARTA, *Opferformel*, Bitte 5; cf. D. SILVERMAN, *op. cit.*; LAPP, *Opferformel*, § 341.

²⁰ Cf. LAPP, *Opferformel*, §§ 369 ff.

²¹ The determinatives here seem to be a beer jar and then a triangular loaf, which would be unusual both in the use of the triangular loaf and the order of the signs.

²² For the different feasts attested in the offering formula see: H. ALTENMÜLLER, *Feste*, in: *LÄ* II, Col. 171–191; JUNKER, *Giza* II, pp. 41–47. Note that the usual order of festivals is reversed here.

²³ For this name see: RANKE, *PN* I, p. 349; see also PM III,1, pp. 177–178 (false door of Hab and wife Merytyetes, with dedication of son Keki (Leipzig Inv. 3121); offering table of Mesedjer, inspector of builders, dedicated by son Keki (Berkeley 6.19821)). Cf. also a 6th Dynasty statue in the Louvre (N 42; A 41) bearing the name of a Keki; cf. C. ZIEGLER, *Les Statues égyptiennes de l'Ancien Empire*, Paris 1997, Cat. 30; a false door in Berkeley 6.19805, and Berlin Inscription 13466.

Dimensions of the mastaba:

Length: 6.70 m (from north to south)

Width: 2.0 m (from east to west)

Maximum thickness of the outer walls: 1.0 m (south wall)

Minimum thickness: 30 cm (west wall)

Maximum height of the walls: 9 cm (south wall)

Minimum height of the walls: 30 cm (north wall)

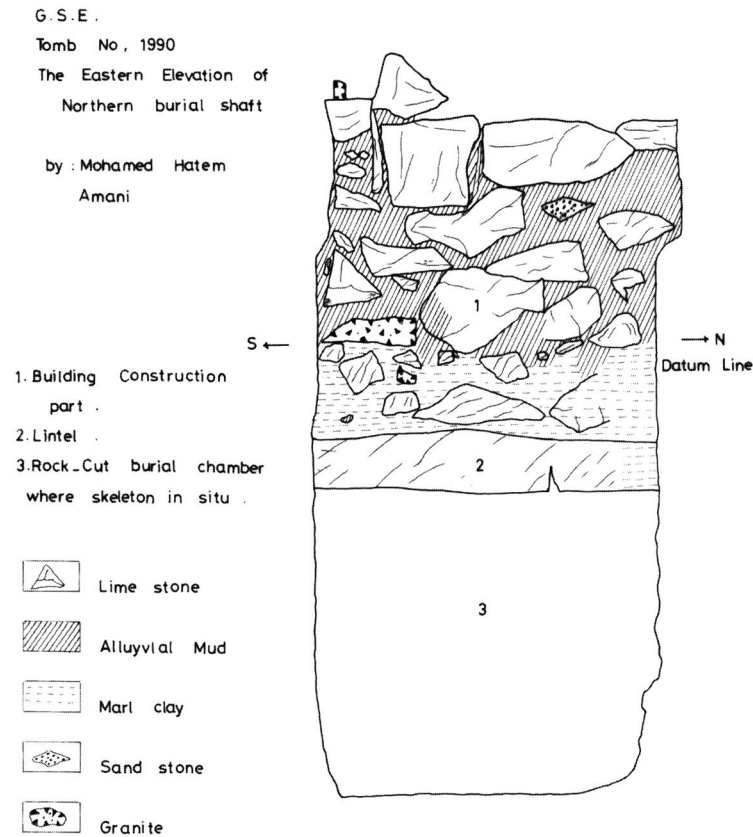


Fig. 3: Tomb of Keki (No. 1990), eastern elevation of northern burial shaft (scale 1:20)

IV Burial Shafts

There are three shafts, arranged in a north-south line within the mastaba. The upper part of each shaft is built within the core of the mastaba, and the lower part is cut into the bedrock. Burial chambers have been cut into the western walls of the first and third shafts.

The First Shaft (north) (Fig. 3):

Dimensions of the opening:

North-south axis: 95 cm

East-west axis: 80 cm

The western wall of the shaft, within the mastaba core, is formed of chunks of local limestone, pieces of red granite, and clay. The eastern wall is made of chunks of limestone, pieces of the natu-

ral bedrock, and chunks of granite, built up to a height of 90 cm. The northern wall stands to a height of 45 cm. The shaft is cut to a depth of 1.90 m.

In the west wall of the shaft, at a depth of approximately 1 m, an entrance leads to a burial chamber. This entrance is topped with a limestone lintel (Dimensions: 90 cm north-south by 38.5 cm east-west by 15 cm high).

Dimensions of this entrance:

Maximum width: 0.88 m

Maximum height: 0.60 m

The burial chamber is 0.88 m north-south x 0.50 m east-west x 0.60 m high. Inside, we found a skeleton (81 cm long x 35 cm wide) in the fetal position, the head to the north and the face to the east²⁴.

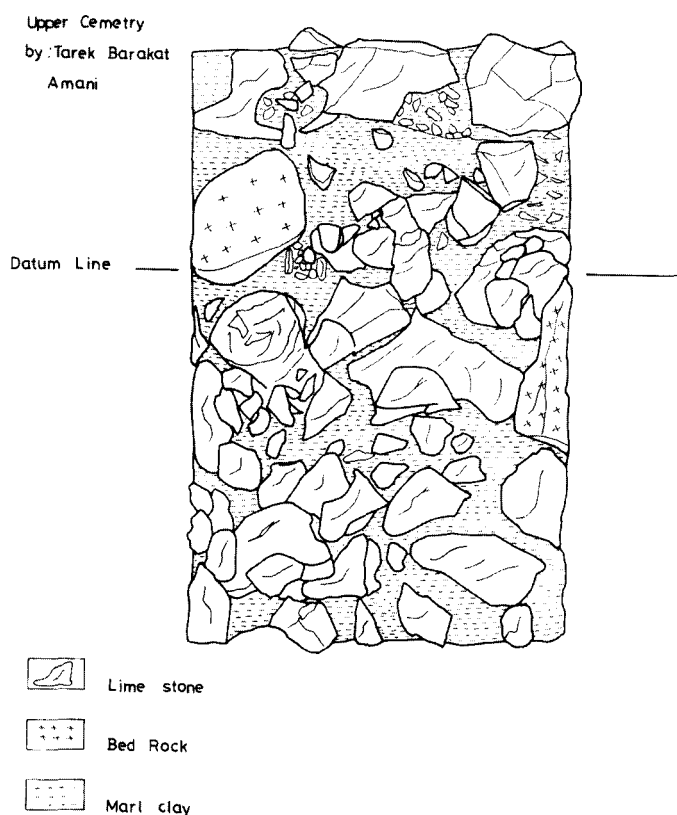


Fig. 4: Tomb of Keki (No. 1990), eastern elevation of middle burial shaft (scale 1:20)

The Second Shaft (middle) (Fig. 4):

This shaft was never finished, and there was no burial chamber. Therefore, we conclude that it was never used.

Dimensions of the opening:

North-south: 1.15 m

²⁴ This skeleton has not been studied by anthropologists yet. The results of the study of the skeletons

and human remains found in the tomb of Keki will be published in a separate article.

East-west: 1.10 m

As with the northern shaft, the upper walls are built of chunks of local limestone and natural bedrock. The western side is built up to a height of 25 cm, and the part cut into the bedrock is 1.35 m. The eastern side rises to 0.80 m and is cut 0.60 m into the bedrock.

Scattered pieces of bones were found in the debris of the shaft, suggesting that this shaft may have been used in a later period.

The Third Shaft (south) (Fig. 5):

Dimensions of the opening:

Length: 1.12 m

Width: 1.10 m

The upper part of the shaft is built of chunks of local limestone, natural bedrock and *tafla*. The lower part was cut into the bedrock. The western side descends 0.65 m through the mastaba core and then

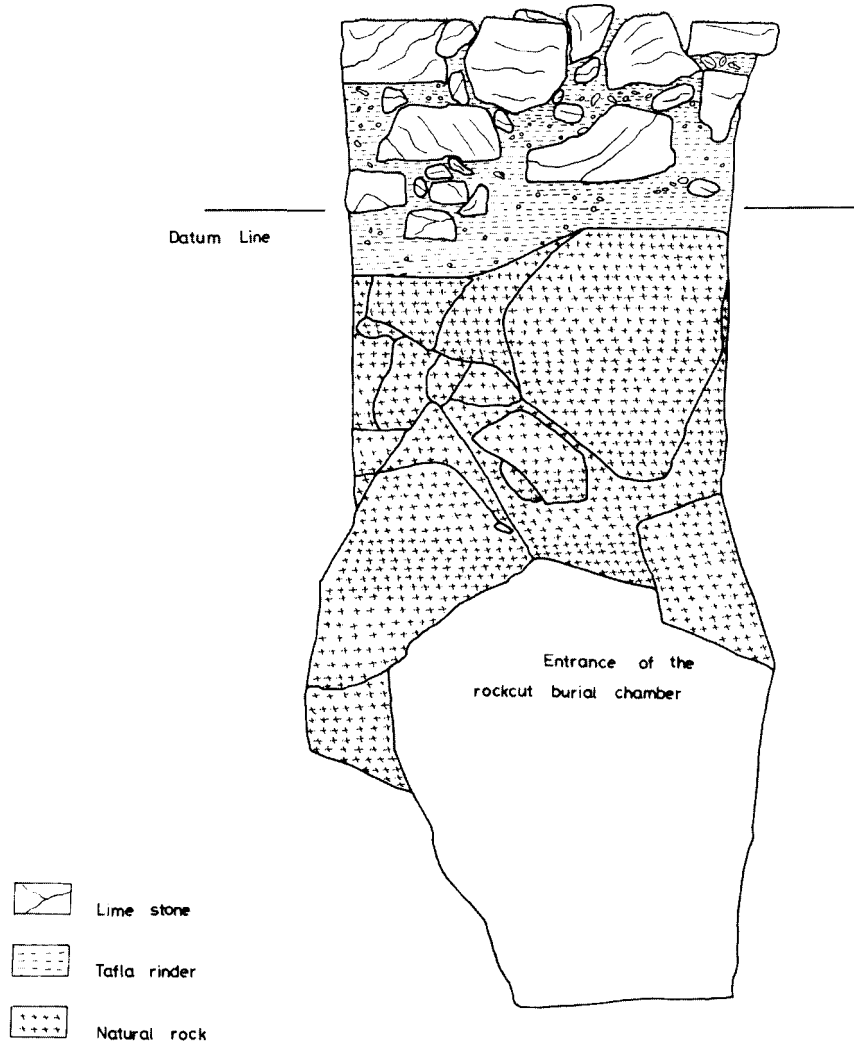


Fig. 5: Tomb of Keki (No. 1990), western elevation of southern burial shaft (scale 1:20)

0.80 m into the bedrock. The eastern side of the shaft is 0.90 m through the core and 1.30 m into the bedrock. The northern wall is 0.60 m above ground level and 1.80 m below, and the southern wall is 1.40 m within in the mastaba core and 1.15 m into the bedrock. At a depth of 1.40 m, an entrance has been cut into the western side of the shaft. This is 1.12 m high and 0.98 m wide and was blocked with mud bricks. It leads to the burial chamber, in which we found a skeleton about 90 cm long \times 50 cm wide²⁵. The skeleton is in the fetal position, face to the west and head to the north-east. This is an unusual position in this cemetery. The maximum depth of the shaft after cleaning the floor is 2.55 m.

Artifacts

In addition to the limestone offering basin found in front of the false door, we also found fragments of ordinary rough bread molds, beer jars and remains of a fine vessel in the three shafts. All the pottery fragments were of Nile silt ware, and the fabric of all except for the fine vessel contained inclusions and depressions. The bread molds seem to belong to the type that would produce a bell-shaped loaf with a rounded top and a convex bottom, flaring outward slightly in a concave curve toward the base²⁶. The beer jars were constructed by coiling. Both the bread molds and beer jars are of types that date to the late 5th Dynasty, already well attested in the necropolis (Figs. 6–8).

Based on the study of the pottery found on the site, the Cemetery of the Pyramid Builders was founded during the reign of Khufu (Dynasty 4) and used for burials through the end of Dynasty 5. It is difficult to find exact parallels to these tombs for comparison. For these reasons, and due to the badly damaged condition of its superstructure and lack of extensive finds, it is hard to date this tomb exactly. However, based on the study of the pottery, the most likely date for the tomb is the second half of Dynasty 5.

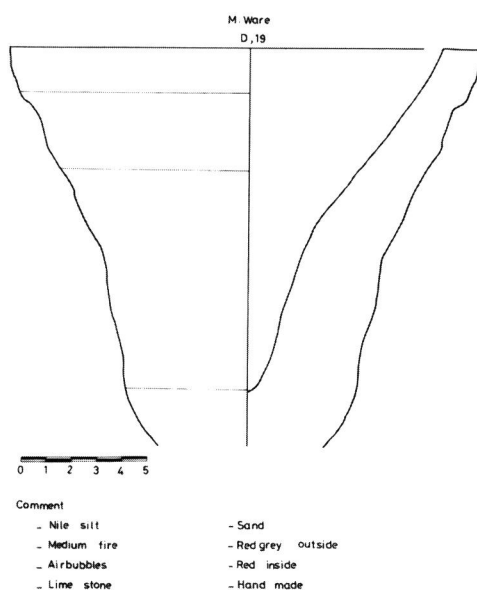


Fig. 6: Pottery from the tomb of Keki (No. 1990, scale 1:3)

²⁵ The results of the study of the skeletons and human remains found in the tomb of Keki will be published in a separate article.

²⁶ H. JACQUET-GORDON, *A tentative Typology of Egyptian Bread Moulds*, SDAIK 9, Mainz 1981, pp. 11–24.

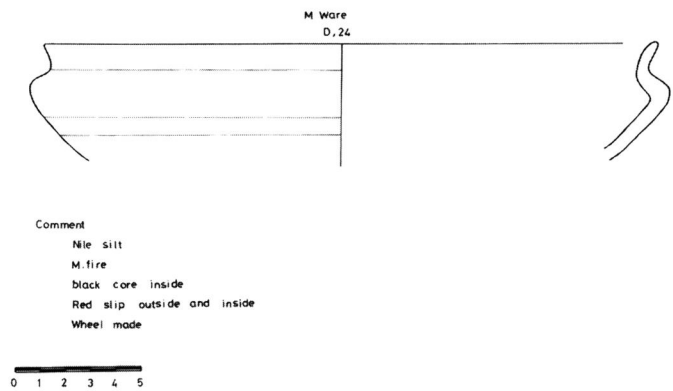


Fig. 7: Pottery from the tomb of Keki (No. 1990, scale 1:3)

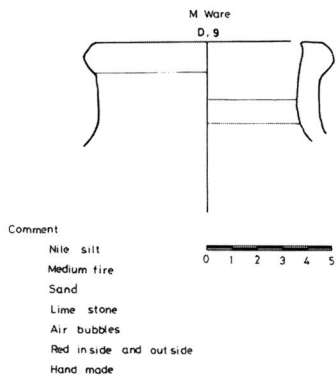


Fig. 8: Pottery from the tomb of Keki (No. 1990, scale 1:3)



15a) Cemetery of the Pyramid Builders of Giza



15b) Upper Cemetery, tomb of Keki (GSE 1990)



16) Inscribed offering basin from the tomb of Keki (No. 1990)