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Necropolis journal: daily records of events in an ancient Egyptian artisans' community

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6. The study of the journals

See separate Appendix

In this chapter/appendix, the relevant documents, both on papyri and ostraca, belonging to the first part of the list (documents dated with certainty), will be investigated. Photos (when available) or facsimiles, together with a transcription from hieratic to hieroglyphic and a translation in English will be provided. The purpose of the present work is not a philological study and therefore no transliterations or notes to the translations are provided. The aim is to create a workable and searchable tool as an indispensable service to the reader, so he/she can quickly check any query or text passage without having to load his/her desk with a pile of publications.

Much effort was invested in the production of this comprehensive chapter, even if previous publications, including commentary and translations, offered mainly by Allam 1973, Kitchen (*Ramesside Inscriptions Translated & Annotated: Translations* = RITA and *Ramesside Inscriptions Translated & Annotated: Notes & Comments* = RITANC), and Helck 2002 were often available. In order to have easy access to the various texts to be analyzed, we needed to be able to consult the documents - photos, transcriptions and translations - quickly. Constantly looking for the different translations in publications was not convenient. Many existing translations of texts are in fact often fragmentary or selective (only the recto or the verso of the document, or only some columns, considered useful for the purpose of the author). It was necessary to make transcriptions (in VisualGlyph) and translations in order to be able to appreciate the material in its entirety. Also, some of the texts were hitherto completely unpublished.

The Deir el-Medina database is definitely a much appreciated tool, which allows to search according to preferred keywords, nonetheless these do not cover all possible search terms that one might want and of course in the end one always has to refer to and consult a publication.

For each document in the appendix (listed in chronological order) is indicated:

- Name of document
- Date written in the document
- Photo or facsimile (when available)
- A clear transcription (made in VisualGlyph 2.0)
- A translation
- The indication of the provenance
- The principal bibliography