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

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Stellingen  
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NECROPOLIS JOURNAL:  
DAILY RECORDS OF EVENTS IN AN  
ANCIENT EGYPTIAN ARTISANS' COMMUNITY

van  
Irene Morfini

**1-** The Necropolis or Tomb journal was not an end in itself. It was not simply used to “control people at work”.

Contra: Eyre 2009, 16 and Eyre 2013, 251-252.

**2-** Since Necropolis/Tomb journals texts must have been stored somehow and somewhere, an archive is to be expected.

**3-** There is a difference between ‘account journal’ and ‘event journal’. Both record daily notes in a mostly respected chronological order and both are journals, nonetheless they describe different aspects.

**4-** The Necropolis/Tomb journal existed as a concept in the minds of the scribes of Deir el-Medina. This does not mean that it was a fixed genre.

**5-** According to the written and iconographical tradition of the Osiris myth, his tomb was situated on an island mound planted with trees. So far, the Osireion at Abydos has been considered as the best known replica of Osiris' tomb. It should be noted however that several monumental *private* tombs at Thebes (mainly Assasif area) dating to the 25th and 26th dynasties (TT 33, TT34, TT36, TT 37, TT223, TT414 and the annex of TT109) contain specific elements of Osiris' burial place and therefore act as replicas of the god's tomb.

**6-** Adequate conservation and publication of Egyptian collections in places without curatorial expertise and financial means (e.g. the *Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes de La Habana* in Cuba and the *National Museum of Ghana* in Accra) is urgently needed, in order to prevent the loss of unprovenanced historically important objects and data.

**7-** The closest architectural parallel to the tomb of Min (TT109) in Luxor is the tomb of Puimra (TT39). Both date to time of Hatshepsut/Thutmose III and, with their columned portico and transverse hall leading to three chapels, are unique compared to the typical T-shaped tombs of the period.

**8-** The anonymous Tomb Kampp -327- in Luxor has to be considered as a Late Period reuse of the XVIII Dynasty Tomb of Min (TT109), which would have been used as the main entrance. Its architecture represents the clearest model of an Osiris Tomb in Luxor and is the only one in the area of Sheikh Abd el-Gurna.

**9-** The hypothesis raised about the connection between the natives of Canary Islands (*Guanches*) with Egypt “because they knew the art of mummification (*mirlado*), they had “pyramids”, and their ancestors probably came from North Africa”, is to be rejected.

Contra: Viera y Clavijo 1772, Jean Baptiste Bory de Saint-Vincent 1803, Elliott Smith (1924), Diego Cuscoy 1968 (*Los guanches: vida y cultura del primitivo habitante de Tenerife*. Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Museo Arqueológico, 25-26).

**10-** When people do not give food a significant role in their life and eat only to keep alive, they miss the essence of life. There is a marked difference between feeding and eating. Satisfying hunger should nourish the spirit as well as the body.