



Things Fall Apart?

The First Intermediate Period:
kingship and society in a time
of change

Chronology

Late Old Kingdom (Memphis)

c. 2181-2160 BC

Dynasty 7

Dynasty 8

First Intermediate Period (Herakleopolis)

c. 2160-2025 BC

Dynasty 9

Dynasty 10

First Intermediate Period (Thebes)

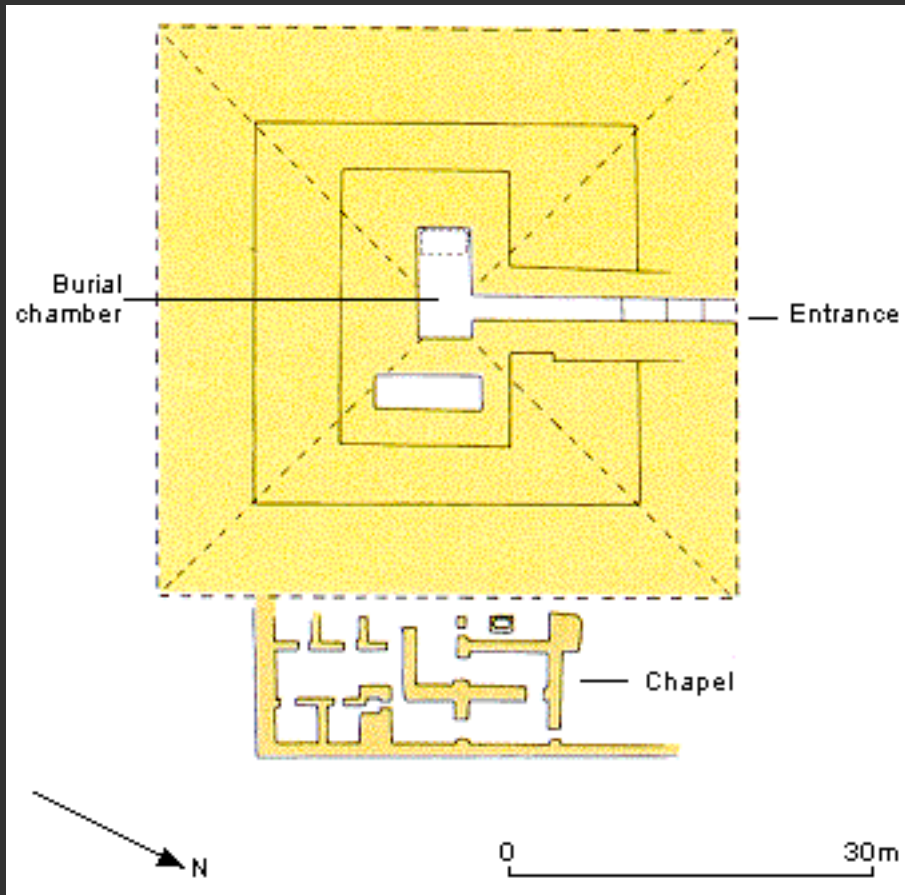
c. 2125-2004

Dynasty 11 (first half)

Relating evidence and questions in the First Intermediate Period

- Private Tombs
 - Autobiographies
 - Art
 - Coffin Texts
- Royal Decrees
- Later literature
- Rock Inscriptions
- Archaeological data
- Climate data
- When is the FIP?
- Who holds authority, how and where?
- Social structure and religious changes?
- Condition of the country?
- WHY DID IT HAPPEN?

First Intermediate Period kings: the pyramid of Ibi at South Saqqara (8th Dynasty)



From the tomb of Idi at Coptos, late 8th Dynasty:

“Neferkauhor (the king), year of the first occasion, fourth month of the *Shemu* season, day 2: setting off for Ra-henu for the second time in order to bring noble stone from...

Beginning of the speech of the officials throughout the nomes of Upper Egypt.
The god's father, beloved one of the god, *iry pat*, foster-child of the king, *haty-a*, overseer of Upper Egypt, Idi.

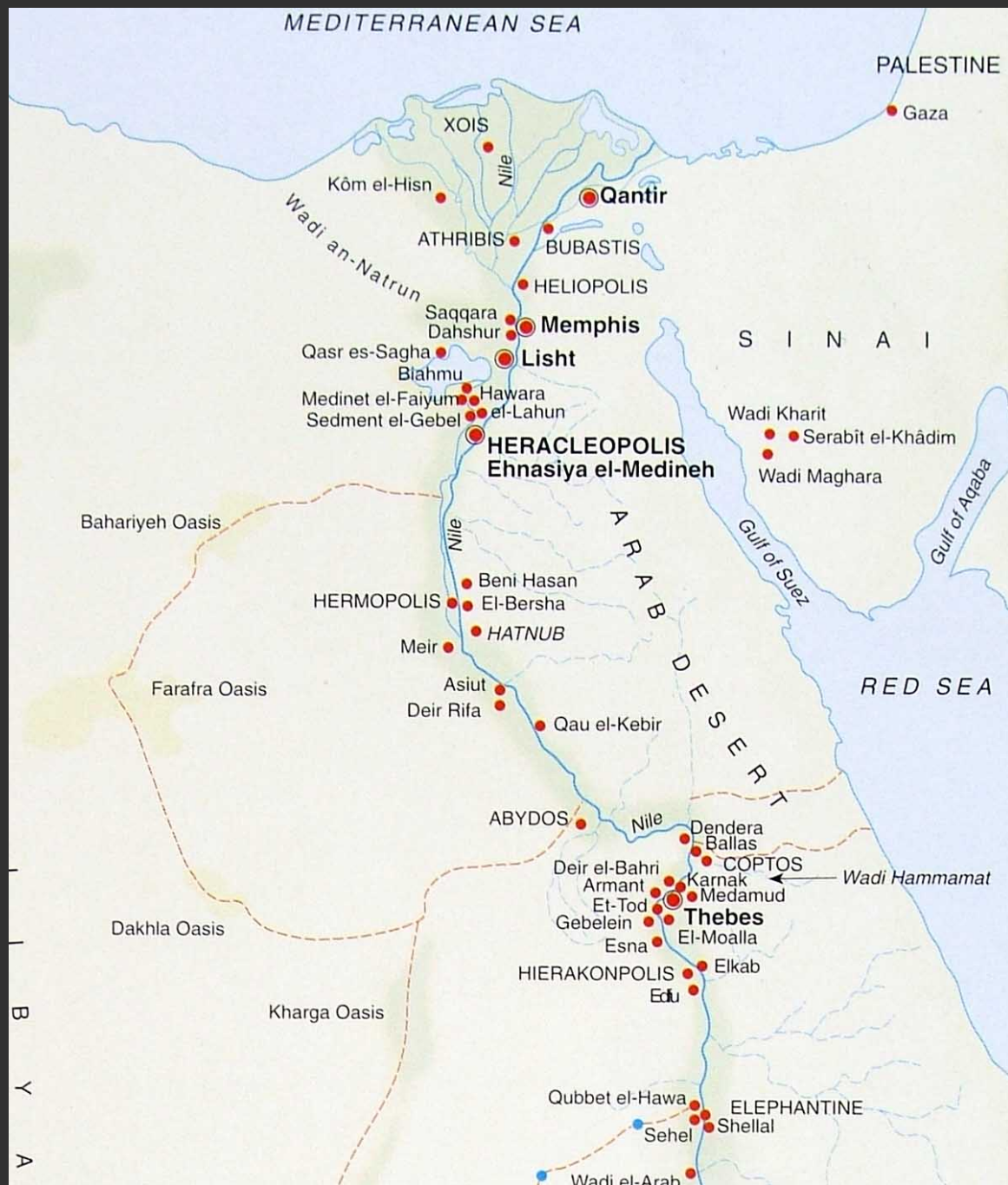
I established monuments...

And I made pleasant with incense this soul chapel of my father and my ancestors so that these soul chapels of these noble ones were like.... And I refreshed and set up the statues of these noble ones, these *iry pat*, which I found in a state of disrepair...

I never gave him (his father) a reason to be disappointed.

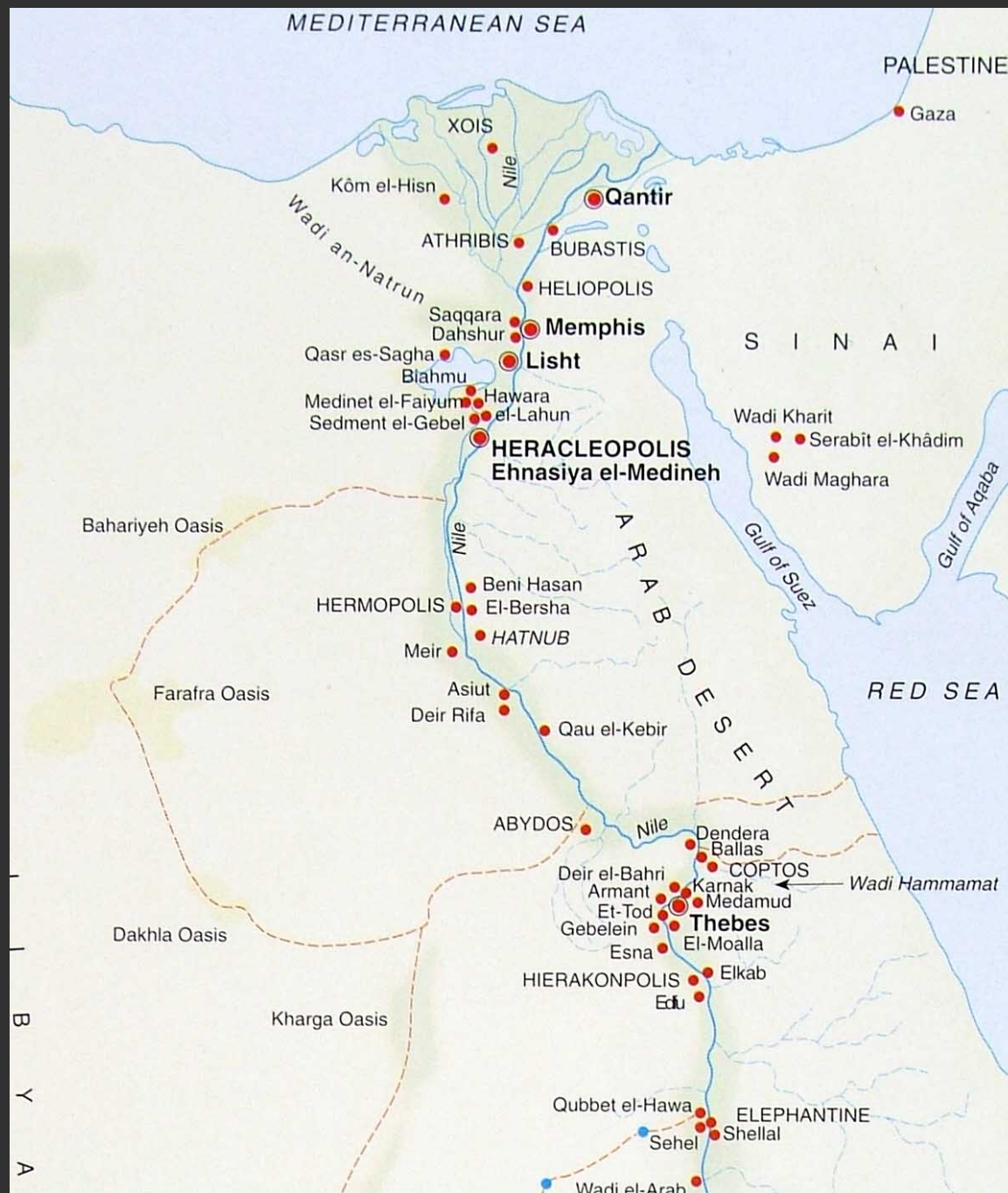
I never did anything which was distasteful to him.

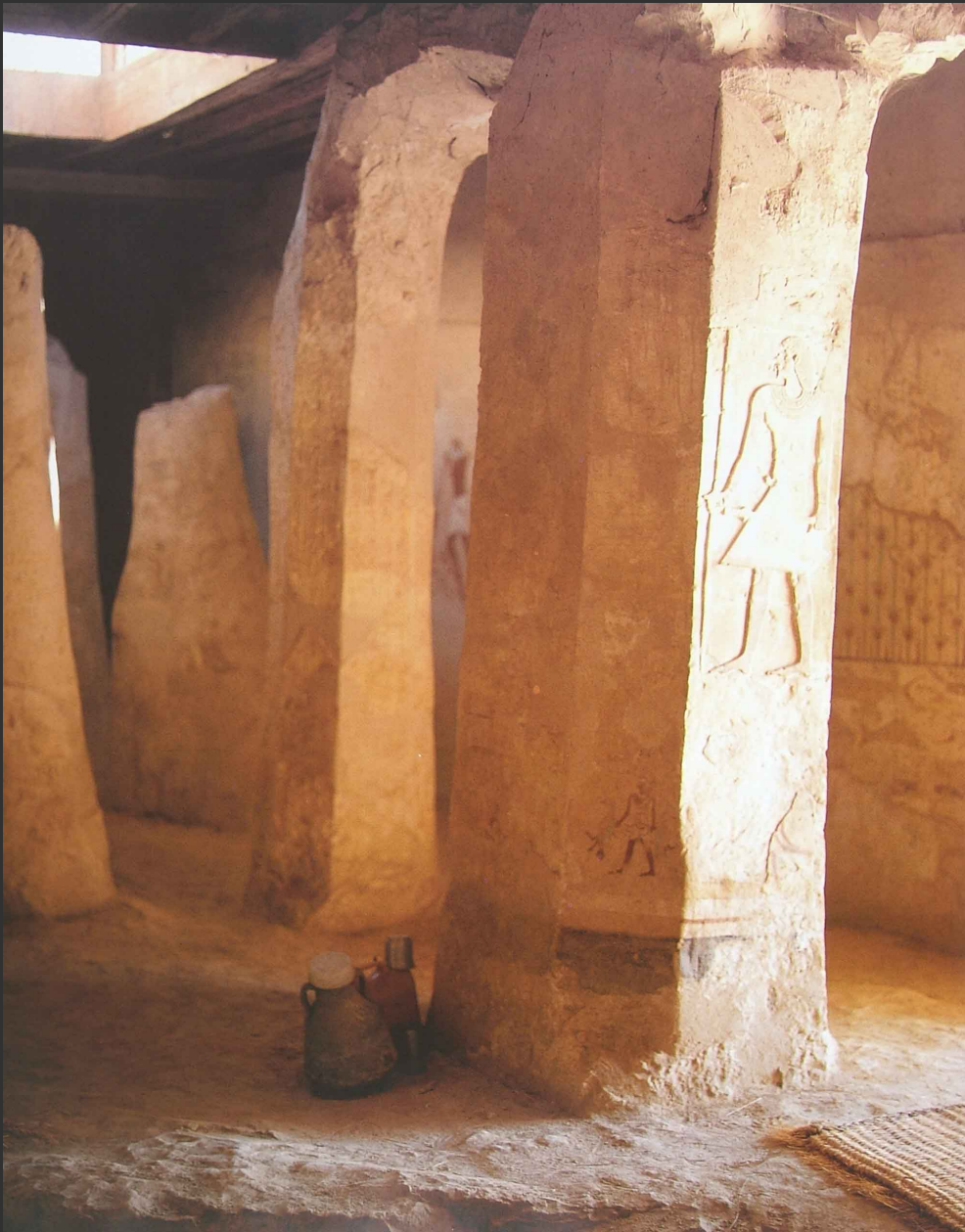
For my part, I looked for every man who had a problem with him, for he has let me know everyone among them who was in his house. I have got rid of them totally, I have dispossessed them.





Non-royal tombs of the FIP





Ankhtifi of Moalla: a nomarch of the
Herakleopolitan Period



9.K.

9.K.



9.K.

From Ankhtifi's autobiography:

Member of the elite, high official, army-overseer

Ankhtifi the forceful, who says:

Now, the army leader of Armant came to say:

“Come, you male!

The western fortresses are open.”

I went downstream via the western ones of Armant and found that the Theban and Coptite nomes both had opened the fortresses of Armant at Semekhsen's cliff, about which I had been petitioned to.

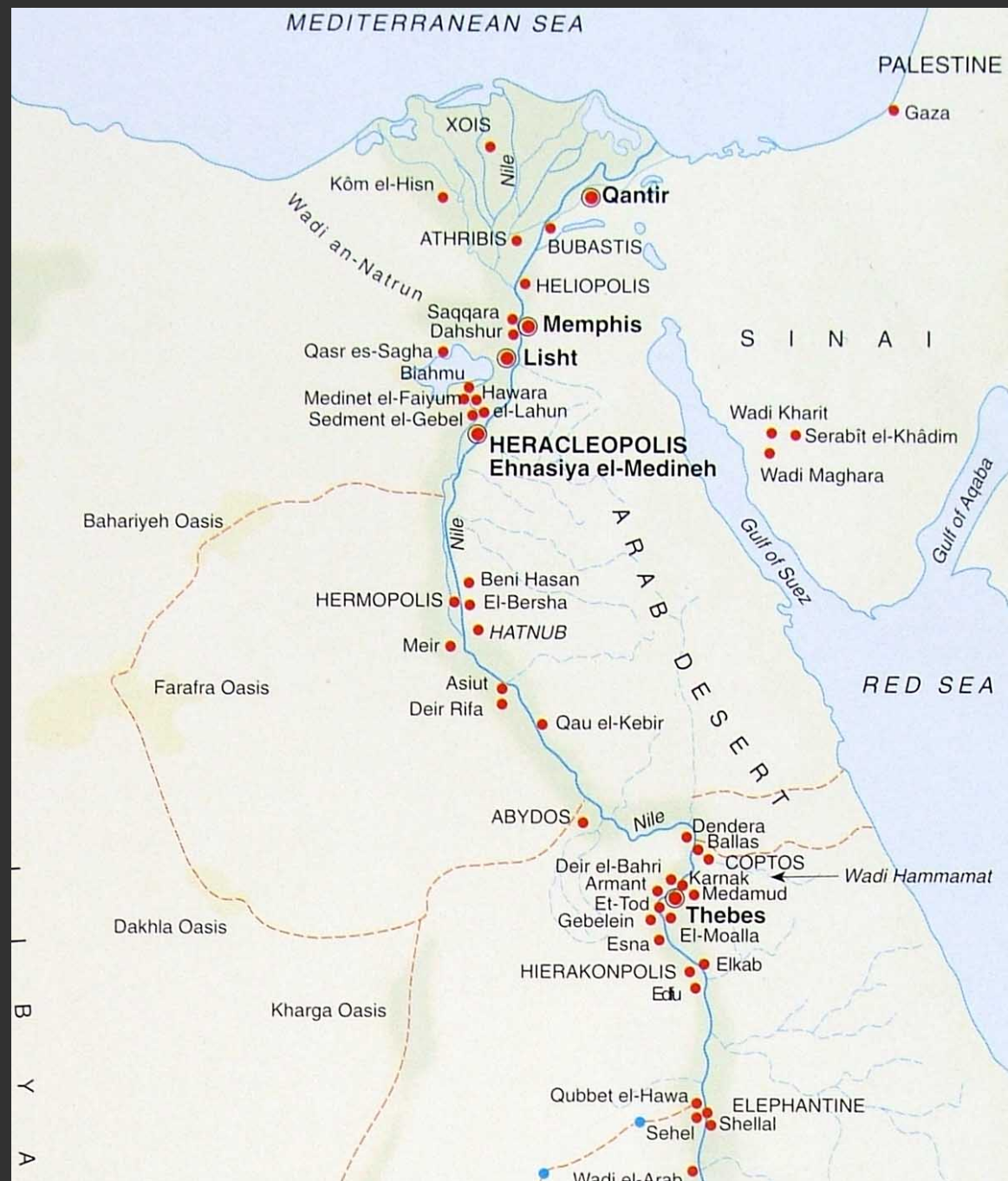
Then I was brave with my arms against them there, like a harpoon on the nose of a hippopotamus who has fled, having gone upstream to topple their fortresses with the forceful troop of Moalla.
Such am I, an unequaled male.

High official, army-overseer of the Hierakonpolite
nome Ankhtifi the forceful, who says:
I went downstream with a forceful battalion of
Trustworthiness and moored on the western side of the Theban nome,
with the flotilla's fore at Semekhsen's cliff
and the flotilla's rear at the suburb of Tjemy,
and the battalion of trustworthiness was seeking
battle throughout the western side of the Theban nome
but no one came out, for fear of it.

I went downstream
and moored on the eastern side of the Theban nome,
with the flotilla's rear at Imby's tomb
and the flotilla's fore at the cultivation of Segal.
Its walls were besieged,
for it had bolted its doorbolts before it, for
fear of this forceful battalion of trustworthiness.
This battalion of trustworthiness started patrolling
throughout the western side and throughout
the eastern side of the Theban nome, seeking
Battle, but no one came out, for fear of it.



Stela of a Nubian soldier from Gebelein



The Theban kings of the First Intermediate Period

Dynasty 11 (first half)

(Mentuhotep aa (the great))

Intef I

Intef II

Intef III

Nebeheptre Montuhotep

