

Middle Kingdom Chronology

11th Dynasty (starting in the middle) (at Thebes)

Nebhepetre Montuhotep (II)

Seankhkare Montuhotep III

Nebtawyre Montuhotep IV

12th Dynasty (at Itj-tawy)

Amenemhat I (former vizier?)

Senwosret I (probable co-regency with Amenemhat I)

Amenemhat II (probable co-regency with Senwosret I)

Senwosret II (probable co-regency with Amenemhat II)

Senwosret III

Amenemhat III (probable co-regency with Senwosret III)

Amenemhat IV

Sobeknefru

13th Dynasty (at Itj-tawy, then Thebes)

many kings of whom Neferhotep I and Sobekhotep IV are the best attested



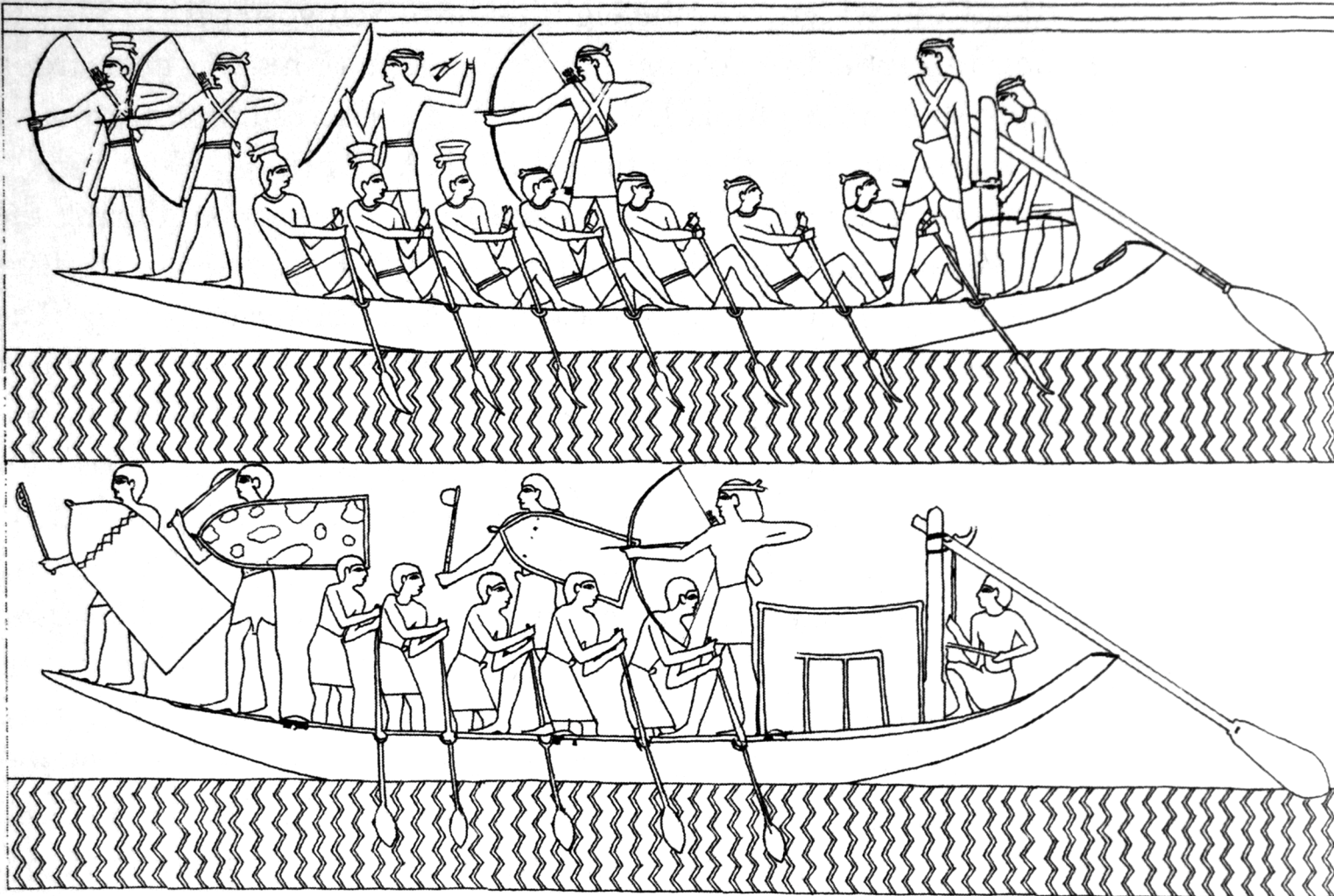
Montuhotep III and Iunyt (consort of the god Montu) from Armant



Tomb of Intef at Thebes (middle 11th Dynasty)







Themes for the Middle Kingdom

Kingship:

- relations to gods, administrators, earlier kings
- co-regency
- royal burial programs
- temple building

Administration

- titles
- location and contents of private tombs
- rise of a “middle class”
- policy changes under Senwosret III?

Religion

- changes in funerary and temple practice

Lahun

- an example of Egyptian urbanism

International relations

- wars
- trade and tribute
- movements of people

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Montuhotep IV Wadi Hammamat inscriptions (year 2, second month of inundation, day 15):

“His Majesty commanded me to erect this stela for his father Min, lord of desert lands, at this august mountain...My Majesty has sent the prince, mayor of the city, vizier, chief of royal works, royal favorite, Amenemhat, with a troop of 10,000 men from the southern nomes of Upper Egypt, and from the garrisons of Thebes, in order to bring me a precious block of the pure stone of this mountain, whose excellence was made by Min, for the lord of life, who recalls eternity even more than the monuments in the temples of Upper Egypt, as a mission of the king who rules the Two Lands, so as to bring him his heart's desire from the desert lands of his father Min.”

“This wonder happened to His Majesty: that the small cattle of the deserts came down to him; there came a pregnant gazelle, going with her face towards the people before her. Her eyes looked backward, but she did not turn back until she arrived at this noble mountain at this block, it being still in its place for this lid of the sarcophagus. She gave birth upon it while this army of the king was looking. Then they cut her neck before the block and brought fire. It descended in safety.

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Montuhotep III

Montuhotep IV

12th Dynasty at Itj-tawy

Amenemhat I (former vizier?)

Senwosret I (sometimes transliterated Senusret; in Greek this is Sesostris)

Amenemhat II

Senwosret II

Senwosret III

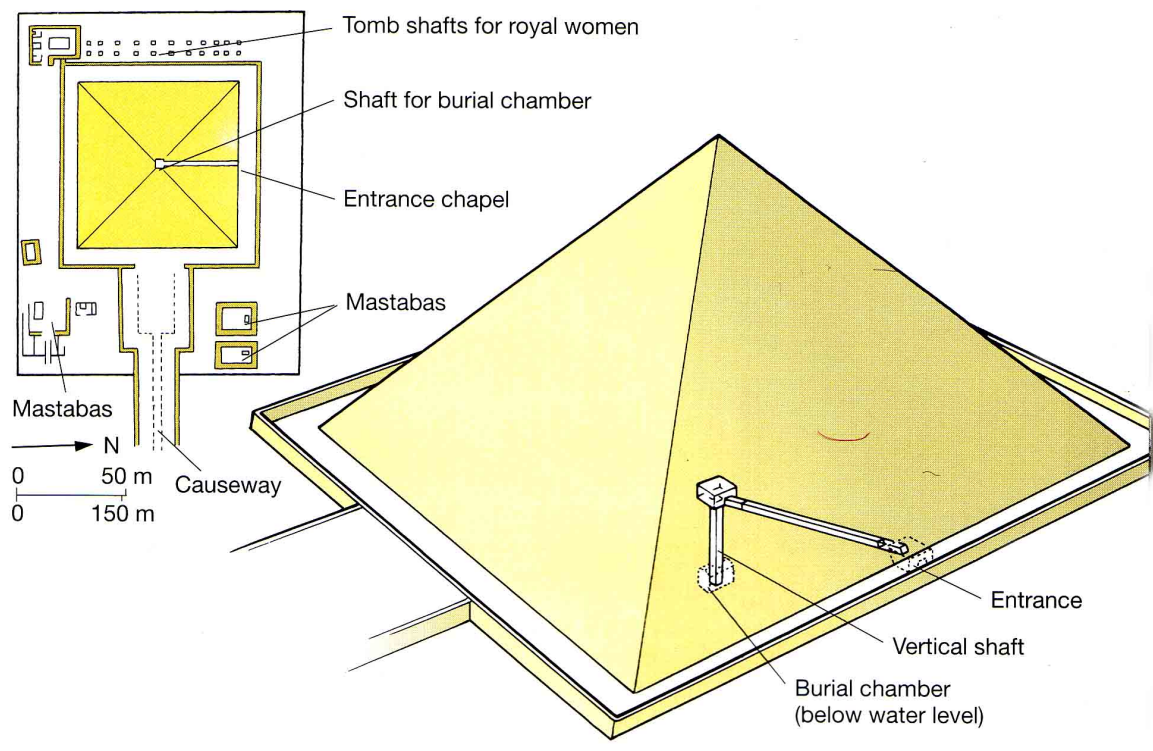
Amenemhat III

Amenemhat IV

Sobeknefru

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Pyramid Complex of Amenemhat I at Lisht, necropolis of Itj-Tawy Amenemhat



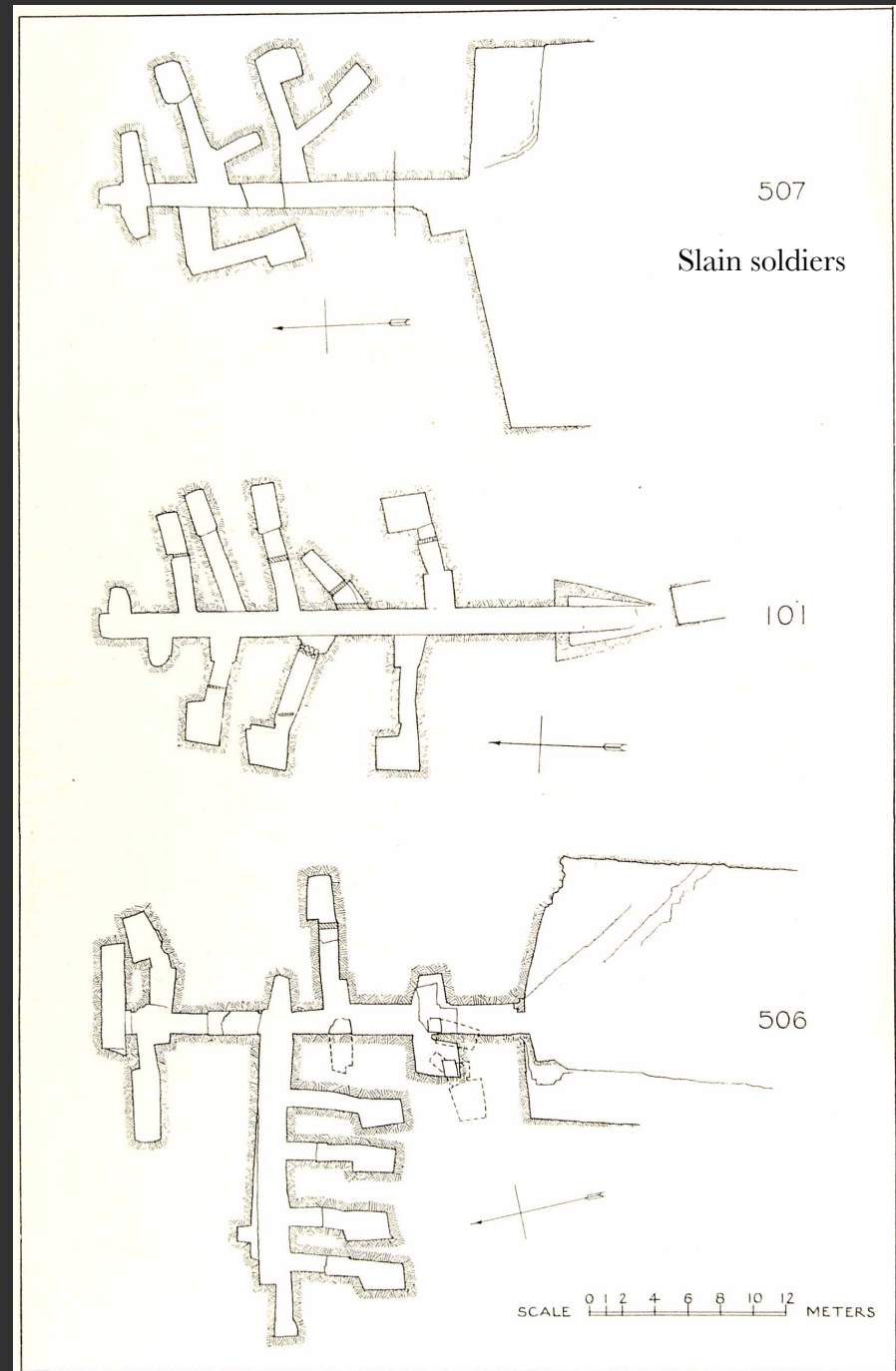
Changes in the titulary of Amenemhat I?

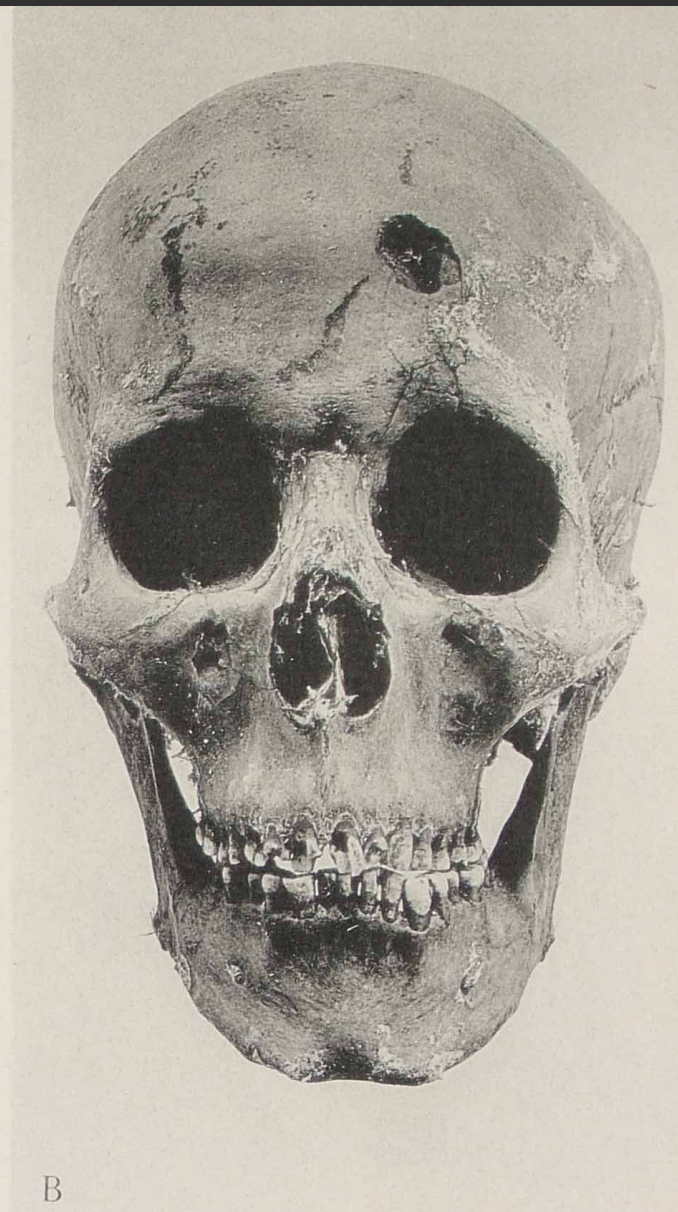
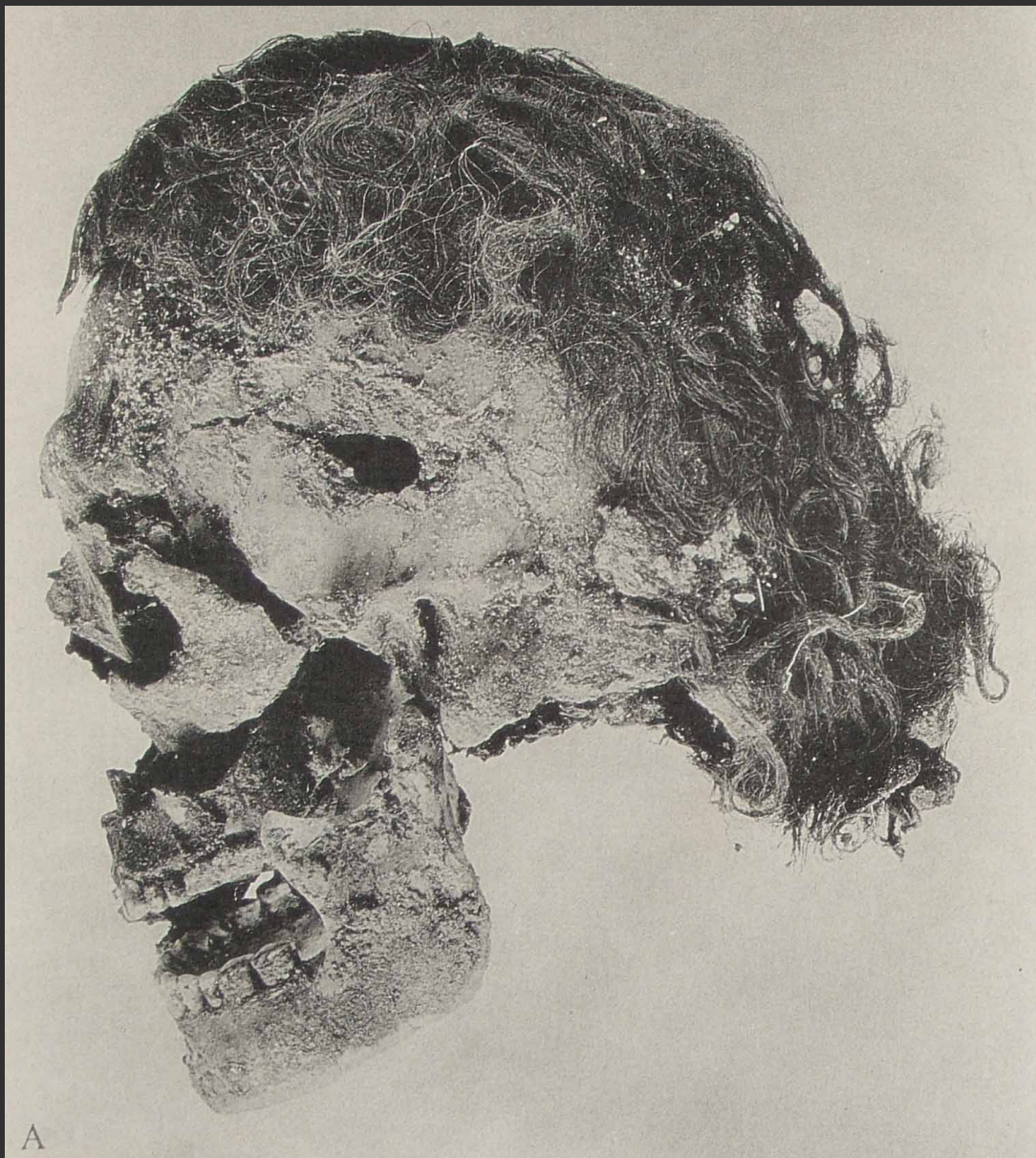
1. Horus Sehetepibtowy
2. Horus Wehem-mesut

Civil war in the reign of Amenemhat I?

(from the stela of Nesmont):

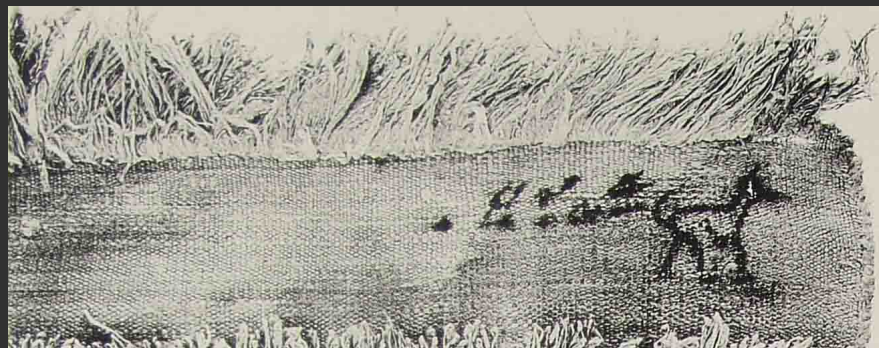
“I trained the troops in ambush and at daybreak the landing stage surrendered. When I grasped the tip of the bow, I led the battle for the two lands. I was victorious, my arms taking so much that I had to leave some on the ground. I destroyed the foes, I overthrew the enemies of my lord, and there being none other who will say the like.”



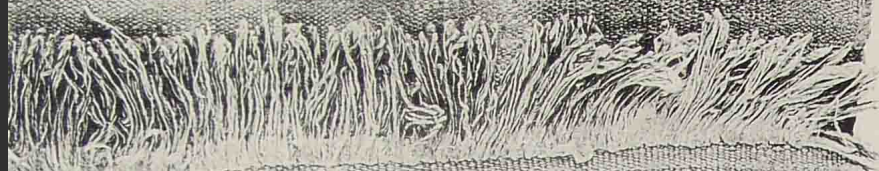


Slain Soldiers of Deir el Bahri





XVI



XVII



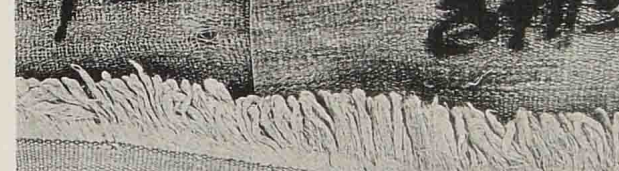
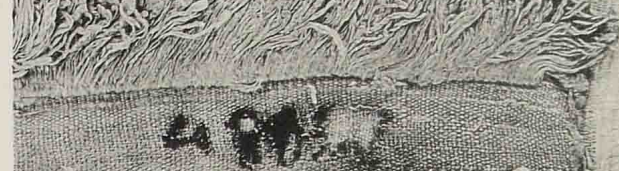
XVIII

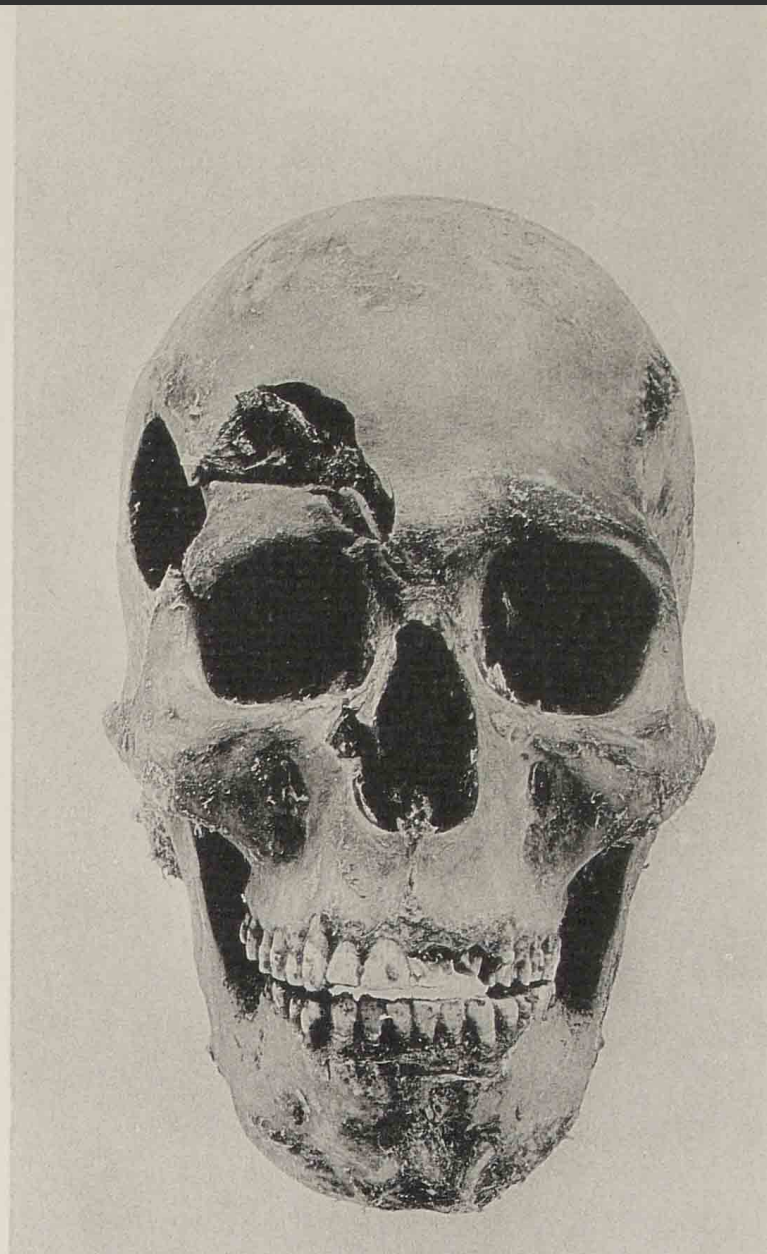


XIX

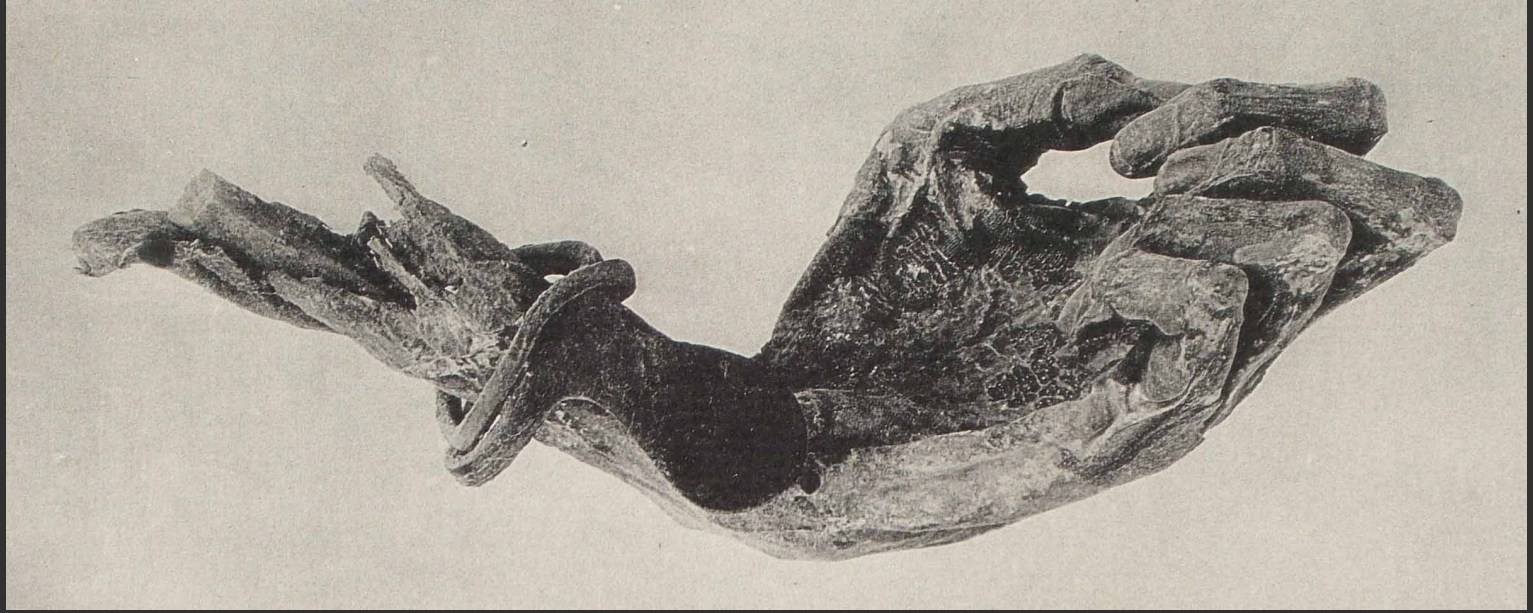
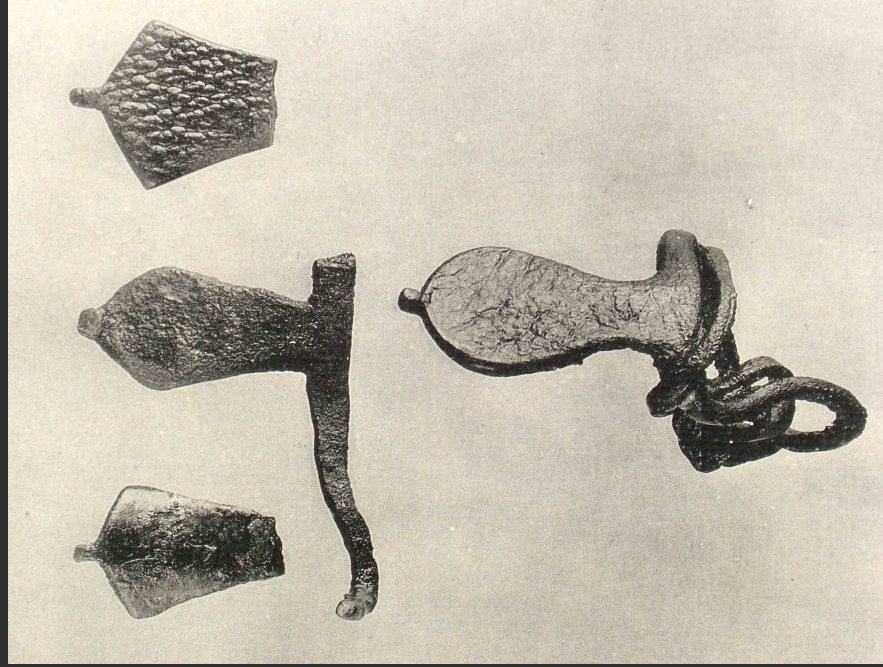


XIII









Foreign wars of Amenemhat I:

Abu Handal, Lower Nubia rock inscriptions:

“In year 29 of Sehetepibre (Amenemhat I) we came to vanquish Wawat”

“Then the Nubians of the entire remaining part of Wawat were slaughtered. Thereupon I sailed victoriously upstream, slaughtering the Nubians on the riverbanks and then I sailed downstream plucking grain and cutting down their remaining trees. I set fire to their houses, as one has to act against him who has rebelled against the king.”

Evidence for the end of the reign of Amenemhat I:

Date: king list confusion (Manetho 16 years, Turin 2[9] years)
latest known contemporary dated document is year 30

Coregency: handful of double-dated attestations
stela of official Intef dated year 30 Amenemhat, year 10 Senwosret

Means: assassination?

(from the Instruction of Amenemhat for Senwosret)

“When you lie down at night, let your own heart be watchful over you, for no man has any to defend him on the day of anguish. I was generous to the pauper, I sustained the orphan, I caused him who had nothing to become at length like a man of means. But it was one who ate my bread who conspired, one to whom I had given my support devised dread deeds thereby, those clad in my fine linen behaved towards me like worthless louts, and those anointed with my myrrh made my way slippery before me...

It was after supper when darkness had fallen, and I had decided to take an hour of relaxation. I was lying on my bed, for I was tired, and I started to drift off to sleep. Weapons (intended for) my protection were raised against me...

If I could have quickly taken weapons in my hand, I would have made the cowards retreat in turmoil. But no one is strong at night, and none can fight by himself; no successful result can come about without an ally. And so ruin occurred when I was without you, when the courtiers had not yet heard that I would hand over to you, when I had not yet sat down with you so as to confirm your succession.”