# Middle Kingdom Chronology

# 11<sup>th</sup> Dynasty (starting in the middle) (at Thebes) Nebhepetre Montuhotep (II)

Seankhkare Montuhotep III

Nebtawyre Montuhotep IV

### 12<sup>th</sup> Dynasty (at Itj-tawy)

Amenemhat I (former vizier?)

Senwosret I (probable co-regency with Amenemhat I)

Amenembat II (probable co-regency with Senwosret I)

Senwosret II (probable co-regency with Amenemhat II)

Senwosret III

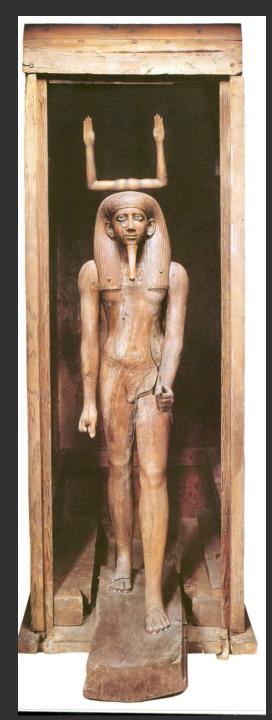
Amenembat III (probable co-regency with Senwosret III)

Amenemhat IV

Sobeknefru

## 13<sup>th</sup> Dynasty (at Itj-tawy, then Thebes)

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

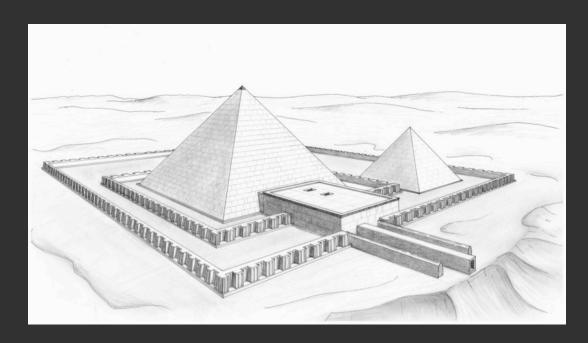


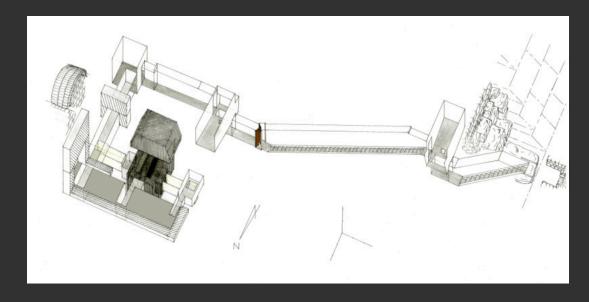
The 13<sup>th</sup> Dynasty: decline and disunity?

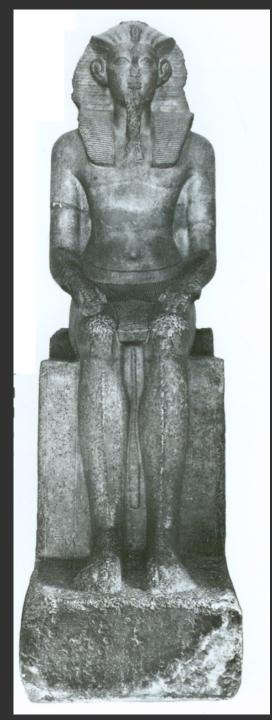
King Auibre Hor

# Khendjer Pyramid Complex, 13<sup>th</sup> Dynasty









Sobekhotep IV







Scarabs from the 13<sup>th</sup> Dynasty





# Administration and administrators tombs in the Middle Kingdom:

The royal family

Ranking elite

Private tombs as a means of accessing shifts

"Democratization"

Regionalism

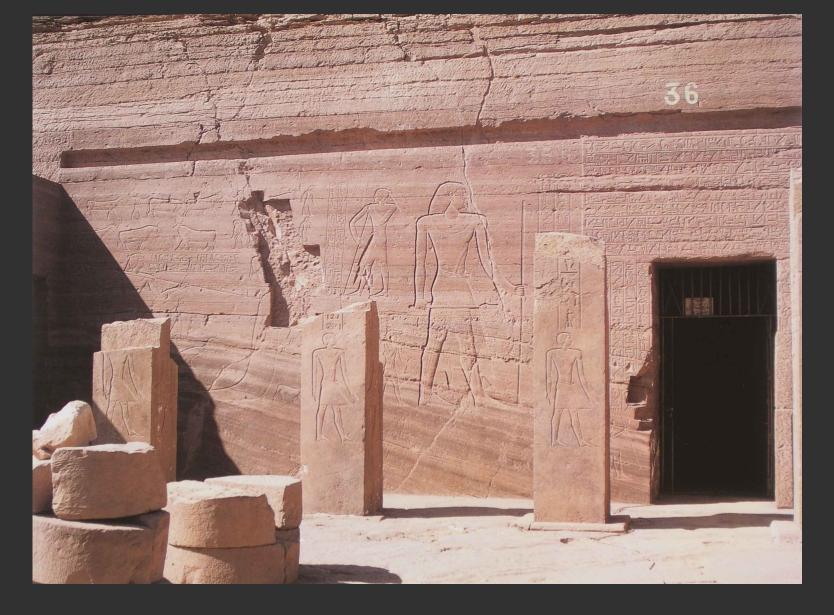
Material culture



# The Royal Family in the Middle Kingdom







Tomb of Sarenput I at Aswan

#### From the tomb of Sarenput I at Aswan:

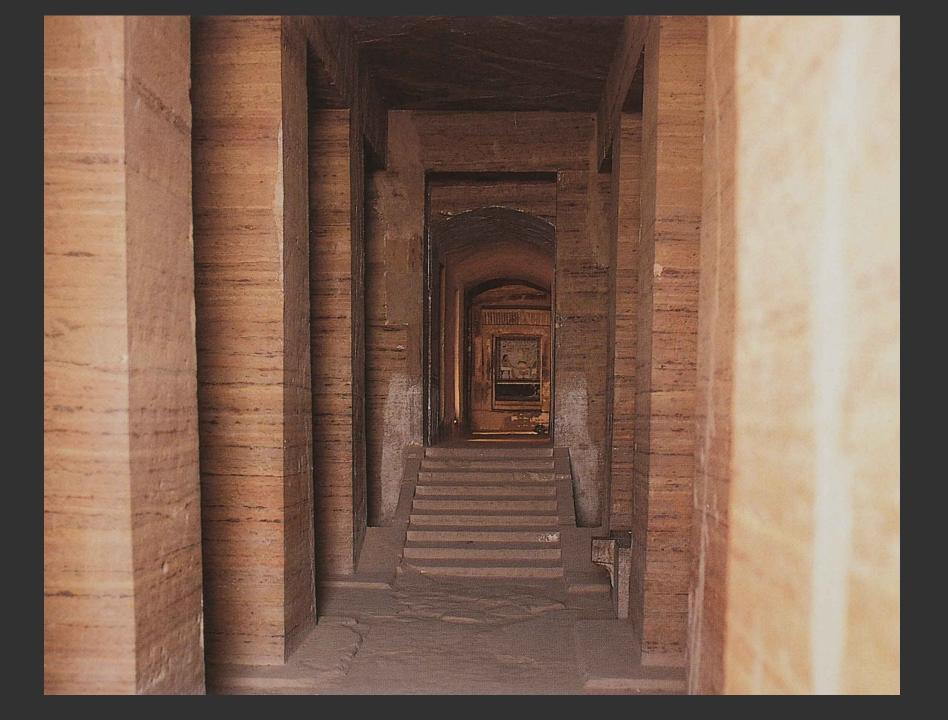
"I have built my tomb to show my gratitude to the king Kheper-Ka-Ra (Senuseret I).

His majesty made me great in the land. I have overturned very ancient rules and, it resulted that I reached the sky in an instant.

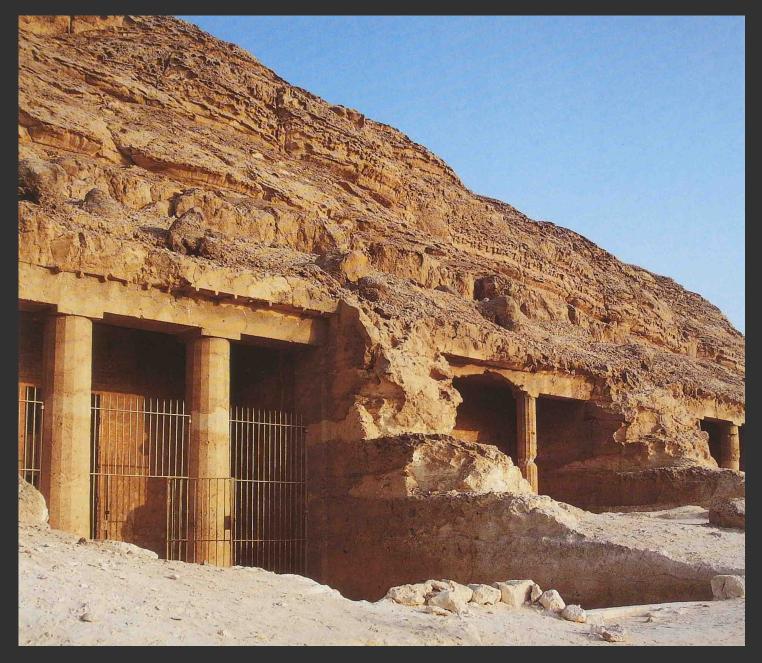
I have employed artisans to work in my tomb and his Majesty congratulated me highly and often in the presence of courtesans and the Queen.

The tomb was equipped with palace furniture, decorated with all sorts of accessories, filled with decorative parts and provided with offerings. I should not want for any necessary thing, it was at the treasure house that all this was claimed for me. His Majesty saw to it that I could have a good life. I was full of joy at having succeeded in reaching the sky, my head touched the firmament, I grazed the stars. I appeared like a star. I danced like the planets, my town celebrated and my troops were jubilant.

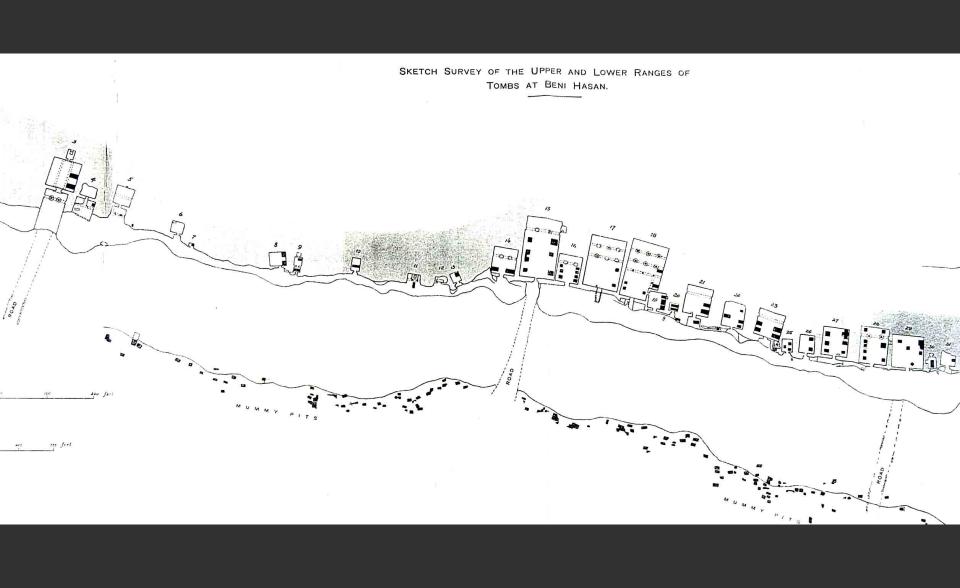
For me, the Elephantine gods extended the reign of His Majesty as king they caused His Majesty to be reborn for me in order that he might repeat millions of Sed festivals for me, they granted him eternity as king that he might install himself on the throne of Horus, just as I had wished for him."

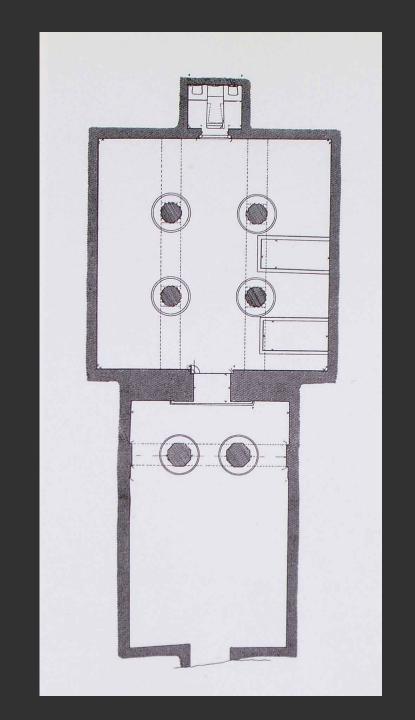


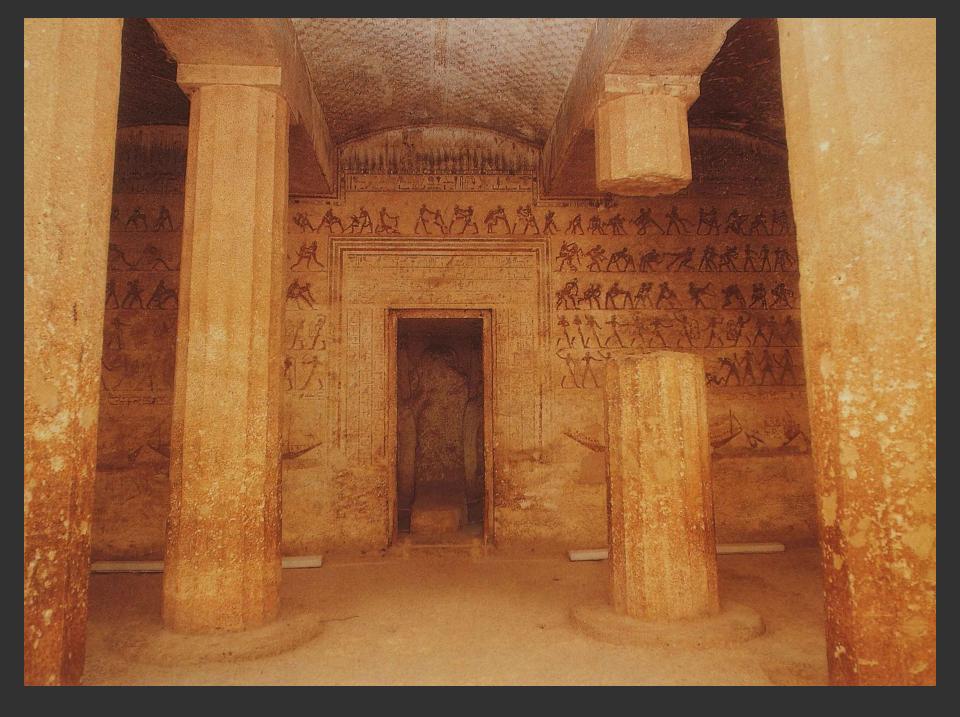


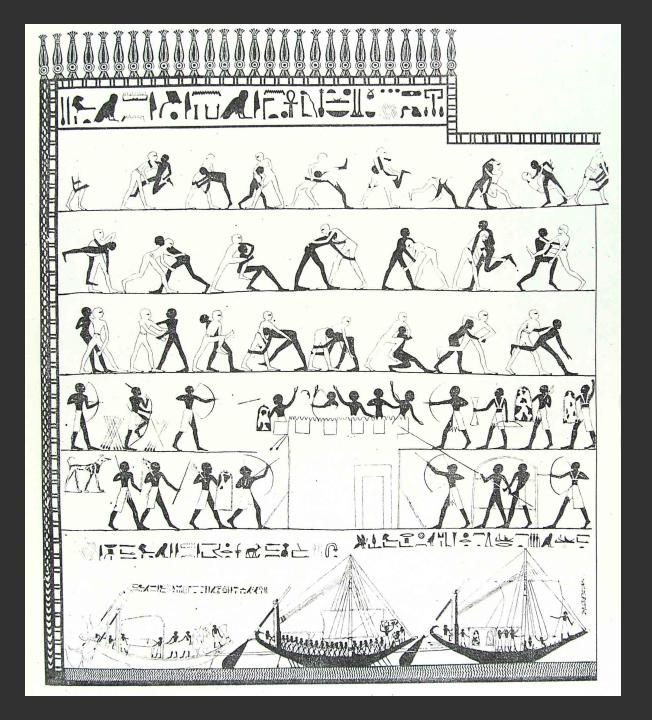


The tomb of Khnumhotep II at Beni Hasan













#### From the autobiography of Khnumhotep II at Beni Hasan:

The hereditary lord and count, royal acquaintance, one beloved of his god, overseer of the eastern desert lands, Nehri's son Khnumhotep, the vindicated, born of the daughter of a count, the house-mistress Baqet, vindicated. As his memorial he made it...

His mouth, it says: The majesty of Amenemhat II (whole titulary given) placed me as hereditary lord and count, overseer of the eastern desert lands, rober of Horus and Pakhet, to the inheritance of the father of my mother in Menat-Khufu, as he established for me a southern boundary stela and made effective the northern one like the sky, and divided the great river on its back just as was done for the father of my mother by Amenemhat I (whole titulary)...when his majesty returned after suppressing evil and appearing as Atum himself, he having brought back into order that which he found laid waste and that which a town had appropriated from its neighbor, a town no knowing its boundary with a town, bringing into order their boundary stelae like the sky, their waters being recognized according to that which was in writing and assessed according to that which was of old, inasmuch as he loved Maat.

An invocation offering of bread, beer, cattle, and fowl was ordered for me on every festival of the cemetery on the first of the year, the opening of the year, the great yearly festival, the lesser yearly festival....etc.

Another favor which was done for me: my eldest son, Nakht, born to Khety, was appointed to be ruler of Upper Egyptian Nome XVII, to the inheritance of the father of his mother.

A great favor on the part of the king: another official was appointed as sole companion, greatest among the companions, one great in respect to tribute in the palace...the gateway of the desert lands, Nehri's son Khnumhotep's son Khnumhotep born to the mistress of the house Khety...

My primary distinction consisted of making for myself this rock-cut tomb chapel.





Member of the elite, high official, royal sealer, unique associate, worthy of love, chief steward Khnumhotep, you shall emerge in the northern doorway and stand in it as a great one... Speaking by the overseer of an expedition of sailors....

[What was done was] to reach [Retjenu in order to] get cedar of the harbor...

What the overseer of an expedition of sailors did [was to enter the house of the ruler] of Byblos, the malku...

A [royal] offering of Ptah: an invocation-offering of bread, beer, cattle, and fowl for the ka of the member of the elite, high official, royal sealer, unique associate, king's trusted one in repelling Asia and trampling the Asiatic bedouin, chief steward Khnumhotep, possessor of honor...

The overseer of an expedition of sailors said to him, "Now, when the elder god, the Dual King Sehetepibre, justified, took possession of the Two Banks, every foreign land worked for him, and the *malku* of Byblos let us moor at Byblos...

Ullaza...all you can do to not let those ships return to the harbor of Byblos...

What was done was to ... to Lebanon. They found the son of that ruler of Byblos with those 100 Asiatics in Ullaza, and they made a plan for fighting with that ruler of Ullaza...

To Lebanon...Ullaza, along with...there in order to cross the canal, set foot on the Asiatic's land, and be on the battlefield...