



Workshop

A Closer Look at Execration Figurines

Thursday 12 – Saturday 14 October 2017
Heidelberg University
Neue Universität



ABSTRACT

From the Old Kingdom to the Roman Period, from Mir-gissa to the Delta, from individuals to the priests of certain temples and the Egyptian state – execration rituals figure throughout the ancient Egyptian history in every part of the country and presumably also in many different social contexts. In the last century, numerous scholars have dedicated themselves to the study of execration figurines and execration rituals, and yet many questions still remain open. If execration figurines were indeed to be destroyed in every execration ritual as a rule, then why are so many of them still preserved, frequently even in an intact condition? How did the figurines and the ritual evolve during the long time span of its documented existence? How can we account for the fact that according to the execration texts, the ritual was directed against living foreign enemies and deceased Egyptian individuals at the same time?

The aim of this workshop is to bring together specialists in the field of ancient Egyptian execration figurines and ritual(s) in order to address these and other questions and shed light on some of the fundamental aspects of the ritual which are still in need of discussion. For this purpose, the workshop will be divided in two parts. The first part consists of lectures given by the participants, with a special focus on the material, archaeological and textual evidence of the ritual and the figurines. In the second part, we will have the opportunity to discuss certain issues on the basis of the previous lectures, such as the questions mentioned above, the adequacy of the current terminology, as well as other matters according to the wishes of the participants.

CONTACT

SFB 933, subproject A03-1: „Execration Figurines and Their Deposition“

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PROGRAMME

Thursday, 12th October 2017

14:00–14:15

Opening

14:15–15:00

Handling the Enemy – Execration Figures as Visual Symbols in a Ritual Frame

Linda Borrmann

15:00–15:45

Boxed Execration Figurines of the Egyptian Museum

Tori Lee Finlayson

15:45–16:15 Coffee Break

16:15–17:00

The Ritual Burial of an Execration Figurine

Athena Van der Perre

17:00–17:45

Killing Living Icons: Possibilities and Challenges of Interpreting Human Skeletal Remains as Evidence for Execration Rituals in Ancient Egypt

Uroš Matić

19:00 Dinner

Friday, 13th October 2017

9:30–10:15

Killing the Nubian – A Study on a Neglected Ritual Depicted in Two Theban Tombs and Its Possible Relation to Execration Rituals.

Andrés Diego Espinel

10:15–10:45 Coffee Break

10:45–11:30

Execration or Fertility Figurines? The Examination of a Special Group of Handmade Terracotta Female Figurines with Arms Bound behind the Back

Máté Petrik

11:30–12:15

Commonalities of and Differences between the Execration and Female Figurines

Vera Michel

12:15–14:00 Lunch Break

14:00–14:45

Burnt or Buried: Execration Figurines after the New Kingdom

Carina Kühne

14:45–15:30

Die Angaben des Buches vom Tempel zu Feindvernichtungsritualen

Joachim F. Quack

15:30–16:00 Coffee Break

16:00–16:45

Ächtungstexte und -figuren aus den Ausgrabungen der Universität Kairo in Saqqara 1984-1988

Mohamed Sherif Ali

17:00–18:00

Visit to the Egyptian Collection of the University of Heidelberg

19:00 Dinner

Saturday, 14th October 2017

9:30–10:30

Discussion Session 1:

How to Overcome the Enemy: Intactness, Damage and Destruction of Execration Figurines

Carina Kühne

10:30–11:00 Coffee Break

11:00–12:00

Discussion Session 2:

Localizing Execration Rituals. Where to Take the Enemy?

Linda Borrmann

12:00–13:00

Discussion Session 3:

Open Discussion

13:00–13:15

Closure