



Cairo University
Faculty of Archaeology
Egyptology Department



**Publish and Study a Group of Hieratic Ostraca from the
Egyptian Museum of Cairo
(Deir el-Bahri and Deir el-Medina)**

A dissertation submitted to the Faculty of Archaeology-Cairo University for
fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor in Egyptology.

By

Khaled Hassan Abd el-Aziz Metwaly

Assistant Lecturer, Faculty of Archaeology,
Cairo University, Egyptology Department.

Supervised by

Prof. Dr. Soad Abd el-Âal

Professor of Ancient Egyptian
language.
Faculty of Archaeology, Cairo
University.

**Prof. Dr. Ursula Verhoeven Van
Elsbergen**

Professor of Ancient Egyptian language.
Institute for Ancient Studies, Egyptology.
Johannes Gutenberg University, Mainz.

Cairo-2014

Summary:

The current thesis is dealing with publishing and studying a group of hieratic ostraca kept in the basement of the Egyptian Museum in Cairo. Most of these ostraca was found by H. Winlock through his excavation at Deir el-Bahri between 1911-1931. The whole texts were written in black ink except the ostrakon 488 and the verso of ostrakon 308 were inscribed in red ink. The methodology of this study started by measuring the ostraca i.e. the length and width, in addition to the thickness of the potsherds, making a classification to the texts according to their chronological division. A further internal division according to topic has been done as well. Each ostrakon was preceded by its number, material, colour, measurements, provenance, and the date with a short description. This was followed by the hieroglyphic transcription, transliteration, and translation. The palaeographical remarks are used for each ostrakon to highlight the problems in reading or to compare with other parallel texts that could help in dating. The texts were also accompanied by a commentary on their cultural and linguistic aspects. The facsimile of the whole group of ostraca has been done by the scholar on the photos not on the ostraca, and embedded with the plates at the end of the study.

Table of Contents

Acknowledgments.....	IV
Textual signs.....	V
Bibliographical Abbreviations.....	VII-XXXI
Ostraca listed by genre	XXXII-XXXIII
Introduction.....	XXXIV- XXXVIII
Chapter one: Administrative ostraca.....	1-136
Chapter two: Letters.....	137-170
Chapter three: Literary ostraca.....	171-209
Chapter four: Religious/ Cultic ostraca.....	210-235
Tables of Palaeography	236-252
Conclusion	253-263
Indices.....	264-273
Index of Personal Names.....	264-267
Index of Royal Names	267
Index of titles.....	267-269
Index of Gods.....	269-270
General Index of Egyptian words.....	270-275
Plates.....	