

EGYPTIAN AND EGYPTIANIZING OBJECTS  
FROM EB I-III TELL ES-SULTAN/ANCIENT JERICHO

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*I rapporti tra Egitto e Levante nel IV-III millennio a.C. sono variamente illustrati nella recente letteratura. Manca tuttavia ad oggi una presentazione dettagliata dei materiali egiziani ed egittizzanti provenienti da Tell es-Sultan, antica Gerico. Per la sua posizione strategica al centro di un importante crocevia e la sua prossimità a materie prime essenziali, Gerico assunse sin dagli inizi dell'età del Bronzo un ruolo rilevante nelle relazioni intessute dall'Egitto faraonico con il Levante meridionale. Attraverso l'analisi dei reperti egiziani ed egittizzanti rinvenuti a Gerico si delineano le dinamiche dei rapporti commerciali e culturali instauratisi tra Egitto e Palestina alla fine del IV millennio a.C., e per tutta la prima fase dell'urbanizzazione palestinese, che una parte ragguardevole ebbero nella fioritura dei primi centri urbani nella regione\*.*

Keywords: Tell es-Sultan/Jericho; Egyptian and Egyptianizing finds; Early Bronze Age; trade and cross-cultural contacts

1. INTRODUCTION

Since the beginning of Early Bronze Age (henceforth EBA)<sup>1</sup> both exotic raw materials and manufactured items (as palettes, maceheads, stone vessels, shell and stone beads, and pottery vases) were imported from Egypt in Southern Levant. In EB IA exchange was still limited and desultory, land-based, and primarily centred on some key sites (as Southern Levantine coastal settlements, Jericho in the inland, or Byblos to the north).<sup>2</sup> Nevertheless, since the EB IB, a steady network of relationships and trades was established, and supported by the presence of Egyptian outposts in Southern Palestine (as 'Ain Besor and Tell es-Sakan),<sup>3</sup> that is communities of specialists in a land still politically unorganized, with the main aim of supplying Egypt with foreign products locally not available. Concurrently, a range of Egyptian imported or local Egyptianizing goods spread in

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\* This study moves from the researches carried out by the Author within the publication of volumes ROSAPAT 01 and 05 (Nigro 2005; 2010), which include a thorough examination of EB I and EB II layers, architecture and material at Tell es-Sultan/ancient Jericho. I wish to thank Prof. L. Nigro for having allowed me to study and reassess Egyptian and Egyptianizing finds from the EBA proto-urban and urban phases at Tell es-Sultan.

<sup>1</sup> Contacts and exchanges were actually active between Egypt and Southern Levant since the Late Chalcolithic Period, i.e. the beginning of the 4<sup>th</sup> millennium BC/Naqada IB/C Period, although at first in a small scale and sporadic way: Chalcolithic inhabitants of Southern Levant controlled in fact a range of resources and raw materials (copper and agricultural products, as wine and olive oil) of interest to Egyptians. Conversely, Egyptian artefacts, like a few pottery vessels, Nilotic shell pendants, flint knives, stone palettes and maceheads, start to be intermittently attested to in the Palestinian territory: Lovell 2008; Mączyńska 2008; Braun - van den Brink 2008, 644-650; Braun 2011, 105-108.

<sup>2</sup> Davies 1981; de Miroschedji 2002, 40-41; Nigro 2007, 9-10, 32-33, 37-38; Braun - van den Brink 2008, 651-659; Braun 2011, 108-110.

<sup>3</sup> De Miroschedji *et al.* 2001; de Miroschedji 2002, 41-45; Braun - van den Brink 2008, 659-672; Braun 2011, 112-119. Egyptian presence in Southern Levant in the late 4<sup>th</sup> millennium BC is further illustrated by the discovery of a monumental *dromos* tomb at Tell el-Khuweilfeh (Levy *et al.* 2002, 424-428; Braun - van den Brink 2008, 658-659).

Southern Levant, mostly in south-western Palestine, where the phenomenon of Egyptianizing pottery became predominant (§ 2.5.), and a wealth of prestige objects started to be traded in.

Egyptian presence in Southern Levant retreated at the beginning of EB II, possibly in connection with the establishment of the Palestinian urban society and the emergence of local polities exercising a stronger territorial control, and, on the other hand, as a consequence of the intensification of royal maritime trades putting the overland route out of use.<sup>4</sup> Nevertheless, Egyptian agents supervising economic interests of Egyptian royal courts were still active in EB II Palestine,<sup>5</sup> accomplishing trade and diplomatic tasks between the Pharaonic state and the Palestinian rulers in charge of procuring stuffs that Egypt needed: oils and resins, as well as wine. The retrieval of Palestinian objects (mainly ceramic containers) in the coeval necropolises of Egypt (I-II Dynasties), points to the presence of a continuous and enduring exchange.<sup>6</sup> The direct exploitation of the Palestinian land by Egyptian colonists was thus replaced by royal Egyptian agents residing in Canaan, dealing with the Palestinian rulers, and exchanging with them luxury objects against local products required by the Pharaonic state. Palestinian elites on their own adopted and looked for valuable Egyptian artefacts as insignia of their emerging status, because of their exotic raw material, sophisticated technique of manufacturing and faraway origin.

The pattern of Egyptian-Palestinian relationships continued the same dynamics in EB III, with Egyptian emissaries in the Palestinian territory (as it has been hypothesised for Khirbet Yarmouk),<sup>7</sup> and the Palestinian urban ruling class adopting Egyptian commodities as forms of royal and elite display, in order to reinforce social hierarchies and their political governance. It is not by chance that in EB II-III prestige Egyptian items are mainly found in temple, palatial and rich tombs contexts (implying elite acquisition of such goods), where they were transmitted as well with an intrinsic heirloom value. In this phase the sea route to Byblos took indisputably the dominant role in the Egyptian-Levantine trade, and the economic relationships between Egypt and Western Asia were reorganized. Notwithstanding this, direct relationships between Egypt and Southern Levant (both overland and maritime) did not cease, neither in EB II, nor in EB III: Egyptian funerary inscriptions also suggest that commercial expeditions (and sometimes also military ventures) were sent from Egypt to Palestine during the Old Kingdom.<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> De Miroschedji 2002, 45-47. Tyre and Ashqelon are candidates as possible EB II ports, until seafarers gained experience to move farther afield up to Byblos since the late Second Dynasty.

<sup>5</sup> The presence of an Egyptian representative has been hypothesised at Khirbet Kerak, where an Egyptian jug and a local jug inscribed with an Egyptian hieroglyphic inscription were found in EB II layers: Greenberg - Eisenberg 2002, 214-221; Greenberg *et al.* 2012, 96; Sowada 2009, 36-37. Khirbet Kerak was in fact a pivotal centre for the trade in oils and resins from Northern Palestine.

<sup>6</sup> Especially Light-Faced Painted Ware ("Abydos Ware"), and Red-Polished jugs witness wine and perfumes exports from Palestine towards Egypt, as well as pattern-combed jars testify to the export of olive oil.

<sup>7</sup> Sowada 2009, 109, 127.

<sup>8</sup> Helck 1971, 16-17; de Miroschedji 2012.

## 2. THE CORPUS OF EGYPTIAN OBJECTS IN EB I-III SOUTHERN LEVANT

Imported Egyptian manufactured items attested to in EBA Southern Levant include mainly luxury objects, either traded as gifts and diplomatic exchanges, or acquired by local leaders as insignia of status for their value: prestige exotic trinkets contribute to elite differentiation at the dawn of Palestinian urbanization. Egyptian artefacts also inspired a local production of Egyptianizing objects, above all in the EB II-III urban phase, intended to satisfy a local high-level consumption related to the presence of a developing stratified society.

Three main categories of high status objects were exported during the late 4<sup>th</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> millennium BC from Egypt to Southern Levant, identified as Egyptian according to their typology/shape, raw material,<sup>9</sup> and technique of manufacture: stone palettes (§ 2.1.), stone maceheads (§ 2.2.), and stone vessels (§ 2.3.). They all belonged to a pattern of luxury gift exchange or prestige trade items between elites in antiquity. Egyptian beads and personal ornaments, primarily in carnelian, steatite, frit/faïence or Nilotic shells, are present as well, mostly in funerary contexts (§ 2.4.). Finally, a series of Egyptian and Egyptianizing ceramics from Southern Levant (§ 2.5.), among which the “lotus vase” typology present since the beginning of EB I until EB IIIB, further illustrates EBA Egyptian-Palestinian contacts. Conversely, perishable goods imported from Egypt, like textiles, basketry, wooden and bones items (as toilette articles),<sup>10</sup> are often difficult to be recorded in the archaeological evidence.<sup>11</sup> They are not quoted at Tell es-Sultan; thus they are not dealt within this paper.

### 2.1. *Palettes*

Cosmetic siltstone/greywacke palettes were a prominent feature of Egyptian material culture since the 4<sup>th</sup> millennium BC (above all in funerary contexts),<sup>12</sup> and they started decreasing towards the end of the First Dynasty. By the Naqada IIIB Period, a simpler form of square/rectangular palette with incised lines around the edge becomes prominent, while concurrently a few palettes begin to feature relief carving and to be linked to the expression of elite cultural and ceremonial values, becoming at times royal objects of display and insignia of power (as in the case of stone maceheads; § 2.2.).<sup>13</sup>

Egyptian siltstone palettes, in their commoner shapes, appear in Southern Levantine EB I-III settlements and funerary contexts, holding a prestigious character deriving from their exotic origins and craftsmanship.<sup>14</sup> They were imported in small quantities since the

<sup>9</sup> A large range of stones, i.e. geological resources, was available in ancient Egypt, such as red and white and black and white breccia, grey-green siltstone, creamy travertine, black and white diorite porphyry, mottled limestone, rock crystal and dark basalt (Klemm - Klemm 2008). Except for limestone, rock crystal and basalt, other materials were not locally available in Palestine.

<sup>10</sup> To be mentioned, the bone comb, the dagger handle and the carved breast cones from Sanctuary A, at ‘Ai/et-Tell (Hennessy 1967, 71; Callaway 1972, 302-304).

<sup>11</sup> Sowada 2009, 237-238.

<sup>12</sup> Kroeper 1996.

<sup>13</sup> Petrie 1953, 1, pls. A-K; Wengrow 2006, 41-44, 140-142.

<sup>14</sup> Siltstone is not known from Palestine, and the closest source were the Wadi Hammamat quarries in Upper Egypt (Klemm - Klemm 2008, 307-309; Teeter [ed.] 2011, 70).

beginning of EB I, as attested by the specimens retrieved at Gaza, Azor (Tomb 4), Tell el-‘Areini,<sup>15</sup> in the Wadi Ghazzeah,<sup>16</sup> and at Jericho (§ 3.1.). An Egyptian palette was also found in a late EB IB/EB II tomb in the cemetery near ‘Ain Assawir, together with other Egyptian objects (all apparently high status imports).<sup>17</sup> Imported palettes belonged to different types, mainly animal-shaped items, among which fish was a most popular theme (like the Gaza specimen testifies);<sup>18</sup> or rectangular types bordered by one or two parallel incised lines (like the Jericho and Assawir specimens attest),<sup>19</sup> frequently with a hole drilled at the top.

The Palestinian corpus of Egyptian siltstone palettes increases in the EB II-III, primarily in the square/rectangular typology, when actually their use started decreasing in the Egyptian motherland: their diffusion in Southern Levant appears thus much later than the flourish of the type in Egypt,<sup>20</sup> as testified by the palette from Tell el-Khuweilfeh (and a handful of siltstone fragments);<sup>21</sup> the four specimens from Bab edh-Dhra<sup>22</sup> (along with Egyptianizing items made from local stones);<sup>23</sup> the fragmentary item from Numeira,<sup>24</sup> the diorite palette from ‘Ai;<sup>25</sup> and the three specimens from Khirbet Kerak.<sup>26</sup> One more siltstone palette, of a slightly different type, comes from EB II Arad,<sup>27</sup> and two from EB III Khirbet Yarmouk.<sup>28</sup> Moreover, since EB II, items imported from Egypt were more often

<sup>15</sup> Sowada 2000, 1532; de Miroschedji 1992; Ben-Tor 1975a, 28, fig. 14:1, pl. 21:2-3; Sowada 2009, 228.

<sup>16</sup> A siltstone palette was found in Chalcolithic/EB IA layers, together with two limestone maceheads and Gerzean flint blades: MacDonald - Starkey - Harding 1932, 10-11, pls. XXIII:28, XXVIII:7.

<sup>17</sup> Yannai 2002, 338, 340-341, fig. 22.1:22; Braun - van den Brink 2008, 671; Teeter (ed.) 2011, fig. 12.23:1.

<sup>18</sup> Teeter (ed.) 2011, 160, cat. n. 6; Wengrow 2006, fig. 5.4. Animal-shaped palettes spread in Egypt above all during the Naqada II Period, roughly corresponding to Palestinian EB IA.

<sup>19</sup> Teeter (ed.) 2011, 199, cat. n. 51. Egyptian palettes tend to become simpler in shape since the beginning of Naqada III/ Dynasty 0/Palestinian EB IB. Squared palettes with a border incised on one face with one to three lines appear since the end of Naqada II, and become the most commonly encountered type in Naqada III.

<sup>20</sup> Different hypotheses have been advanced to explain this chronological divergence, suggesting that they could be either heirlooms from an earlier period, products of tombs robbing, or results of long-term exchange mechanisms (Sowada 2000, 1531-1534; 2009, 243-244.)

<sup>21</sup> Jacobs 1996.

<sup>22</sup> Two from Field XVI (Reg. n. 1262 and 2924: Rast - Schaub 2003, 294, fig. 10.39:2, 400, fig. 12.6:3-4), one from Charnel Houses A21 (Rast - Schaub 1989, 343; Wilkinson 1989, 455, fig. 261:7), and one from Charnel Houses A51 (Rast - Schaub 1989, 384-385; Wilkinson 1989, 454, fig. 261:3). See also Sowada 2009, 95-97, fig. 18, pl. 13.

<sup>23</sup> Two specimens from Charnel Houses A22 (Reg. n. 1900, 3364: Sowada 2000, 1529-1530, fig. 1c, 1e), three from Charnel Houses A51 (Wilkinson 1989, 452-454, fig. 261:1-2, 4), two from Charnel Houses A41 (Wilkinson 1989, fig. 261:5-6). See also Sowada 2009, 95-97, fig. 18, pl. 13.

<sup>24</sup> Sowada 2000, 1528-1529, fig. 3b; 2009, 93-94, pl. 13.

<sup>25</sup> Marquet-Krause 1949, 60, pl. 38.482.

<sup>26</sup> Greenberg - Eisenberg 2002, 214, fig. 13.2.

<sup>27</sup> Amiran *et al.* 1978, 55, pl. 68:21.

<sup>28</sup> Sowada 2000, 1531; 2009, 104-105, fig. 19, pl. 14. Outstanding (and up to now isolated) is the fragment of the ceremonial siltstone palette with an Egyptian high-quality relief carving (a hand grasping a *was* sceptre and ‘*ankh*), found at Khirbet Kerak in an EB III context (although the excavators deem it redeposited after it was broken), next to the “Circles Building”. Prior to this discovery, examples with relief decorations were known only within Egypt itself, and their use seems to have been essentially confined to the early Egyptian elites during the Dynasty 0 period: the pictorial decoration on the Khirbet Kerak fragment is in fact consistent

placed side by side with Egyptianizing pieces locally manufactured, as specimens from Bab edh-Dhra' and Jericho clearly illustrate (§ 4.1.): the Egyptian production inspired a local tradition of palettes fabrication, almost all plain, roughly rectangular, with holes drilled in the top centre, made from regional stones and manufactured by Canaanite craftsmen for local elites members.

## 2.2. Maceheads

Maceheads are attested to in Egypt since the Chalcolithic Period. They progressively evolved from actual weapons to symbols of power and prestige of the king, and since the Naqada III Period they became purely ceremonial objects. With this purpose they spread also in the Levant since the EB I (§ 3.2.), as ritual and status-related insignia. They were realized in a variety of different stones, as marble, calcite and limestone, but the lack of detailed analyses of raw material makes often difficult to ascertain if they were either imported, Egyptian influenced or purely local artefacts, even if their accurate finish often suggests an Egyptian production. Like the palettes, also the maceheads ceased to be produced in Egypt during the 3<sup>rd</sup> millennium BC, but they spread in Southern Levant for the whole EB II-III urban period: maceheads made of travertine, marble and granite (all of them not available in Palestine) of certain Egyptian origin were found in EB II-III Charnel Houses at Bab edh-Dhra', as well as at Tell el-Far'ah North, Megiddo, Beth Shan, Tell Abu Kharaz, and Jericho (§§ 4.2., 5.2.).

## 2.3. Stone vessels

Egyptian ateliers manufactured stone vessels since the Pre-dynastic Period, as a wide variety of geological resources was available either in Egypt or in its desert periphery. They were devoted to different functions: daily use, ritual purposes as temple offerings, and funerary contexts.<sup>29</sup> A great variability of stones was use in the earliest periods (among which porphyry, diorite, breccia, serpentine, gabbro, granite, travertine, calcite, rock crystal, limestone and basalt), but during the Old Kingdom travertine, calcite and limestone became dominant, while more exotic stones were reserved for special consumers, such as the royal family and high ranking officials. Most of the Egyptian stone vessels were uninscribed; just a small percentage (found essentially in royal burials and temples) carried hieroglyphic inscriptions naming Egyptian pharaohs or members of the royal family, or, less frequently, aristocratic private individuals (the latter ones mainly associated with funerary contexts).

Egyptian stone vessels were widely traded in Eastern Mediterranean, and they are present also in Southern Levant as trade items, elite gifts exchanges or temple offerings, with a marked increase since the beginning of the 3<sup>rd</sup> millennium BC, EB II,<sup>30</sup> as specimens from Arad,<sup>31</sup> Tell el-'Areini, Tell el-Far'ah North,<sup>32</sup> 'Ain Assawir,<sup>33</sup> Khirbet Yarmouk,<sup>34</sup>

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with the prestigious Egyptian examples dating to Dynasty 0: Greenberg - Wengrow - Paz 2010; Greenberg *et al.* 2012, 96-97.

<sup>29</sup> For corpora of Egyptian stone vessels see Aston 1994; Lilyquist 1995.

<sup>30</sup> Sparks 2003, 40-48; Sowada 2009, 48-50.

<sup>31</sup> Amiran *et al.* 1978, 57, pl. 77:1-2; Sowada 2009, 45, fig. 5c.

Megiddo,<sup>35</sup> and Jericho (§ 4.3.) testify, although their intrinsic prestige and heirloom value make difficult to fix the actual time of arrival. They were widely distributed also in EB III, from the renown collection of vessels from “Sanctuary A” at ‘Ai/et-Tell,<sup>36</sup> to the noteworthy corpus from Khirbet Yarmouk,<sup>37</sup> and scattered specimens from Megiddo,<sup>38</sup> Tell ed-Duweir,<sup>39</sup> Tell el-‘Areini,<sup>40</sup> and Bab edh-Dhra’.<sup>41</sup> They appear mainly associated with temple and palatial structures,<sup>42</sup> thus testifying the elite acquisition and valuable nature of these goods. Bowls and platters dominate the whole assemblage, indicating that such items were traded not as containers, but rather as prestige commodities in their own right, either sent as royal gift (not by chance they are often found in temple and palatial contexts), exchanged by Egyptian agents, or acquired by local elites as status objects. Unfortunately specimens from Southern Levant are all uninscribed, but Canaan had no high-quality local hard stone industry in the 3<sup>rd</sup> millennium BC, hence Egyptian imports are easily identified on the base of raw material and manufacturing technique.<sup>43</sup>

#### 2.4. *Beads and personal ornaments*

An eclectic range of stones was used in both Egypt and Southern Levant for the production of amulets and beads. Bi-conical barrel and disk-shaped beads made of amethyst, orange-red carnelian,<sup>44</sup> dark blue glazed steatite, serpentine and faience found in Palestine may be feasibly of Egyptian origins. A trade in Red Sea and Nilotic shells from Egypt also started as early as the Chalcolithic Period, and continued in the EBA.

#### 2.5. *Pottery*

The most significant instance is the widely debated case of Egyptian and Egyptianizing pottery (i.e. Palestinian locally produced ceramic in imitation of Egyptian forms) in EB IB

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<sup>32</sup> Sowada 2009, 48-49, fig. 4a-b.

<sup>33</sup> Yannai 2002, 338, fig. 22.1:22.

<sup>34</sup> De Miroschedji *et al.* 1988, 88, pl. 48:9-10; Sowada 2009, 49-50, figs. 4c, 5a.

<sup>35</sup> A fragment of an Egyptian calcite jar was found in stratum XVIII: Loud 1948, pl. 258:1; Hennessy 1967, 60-61.

<sup>36</sup> Marquet-Krause 1949, 16-21, 29; Hennessy 1967, 69-70; Amiran 1970; Callaway 1972, 299-302. Two calcite bowls were found also in the Temple on the Acropolis of Phase A (Amiran 1970, 175-179).

<sup>37</sup> Ben-Tor 1975b, 72, note 26; de Miroschedji *et al.* 1988, 88, pl. 48:11-12; Sowada 2009, 105-109, figs. 19-21, pl. 15. ‘Ai and Khirbet Yarmouk were the largest EB II-III centres in Southern Palestine. At Khirbet Yarmouk Egyptian stone vessels were found mainly in proximity of the so-called “White Building” and Palace B.

<sup>38</sup> Loud 1948, pl. 262:7.

<sup>39</sup> Tufnell 1958, 75, 253, pl. 26:10 (even if the contexts of retrieval of both fragments are not indicative).

<sup>40</sup> Sowada 2009, 103, fig. 20.

<sup>41</sup> Two small fragments of Egyptian stone vessels from the tell (Lee 2003, fig. 21.5:2-3) were found together with a pink alabaster cylinder seal (Lapp 2003, 541-543, fig. 18.16), and another cylinder seal made of chlorite (Lapp 2003, 547-550, fig. 18.21).

<sup>42</sup> Sala 2008, 17-18, 69, 235-236, 302-303; Sowada 2009, 110, 216-218.

<sup>43</sup> Egyptianizing stone vessels workshops seem to become active in the Levant only since the Late Bronze Age (Sparks 2003).

<sup>44</sup> Deposits of carnelian exist in Southern Levant, but to date no evidence of utilisation of such resources has been found (Braun - van den Brink 2008, 671).

centres of south-western Palestine,<sup>45</sup> among which the “lotus vase” category is a most notable example (§ 3.3.). The presence of Egyptian vessels in Palestine continues in occasional ways in the following EB II, as a few vessels from Arad,<sup>46</sup> Aphek,<sup>47</sup> Khirbet Kerak,<sup>48</sup> Megiddo,<sup>49</sup> and Tell Abu Kharaz<sup>50</sup> testify; and definitely decreases in the following EB III, as illustrated by an apparently isolated example from Bab edh-Dhra'.<sup>51</sup> Conversely Egyptianizing vessels continued to be manufactured in the “lotus vases” type, as attested to by the specimens retrieved in Temple of level J-4 at Megiddo,<sup>52</sup> in EB IIIB Sanctuary A at 'Ai/et-Tell,<sup>53</sup> and in EB IIIB Palace B at Khirbet al-Batrawy, which represents a relevant evidence of still active Egyptian contacts, influence or reminiscence, up to this remote easternmost EB III city of Transjordan.<sup>54</sup>

### 3. EGYPTIAN AND EGYPTIANIZING OBJECTS AT EB I TELL ES-SULTAN

EB I was a period of growing contacts between Egypt and Southern Levant. A substantial Egyptian connection is testified to at Tell es-Sultan since EB I by a conspicuous number of Egyptian and Egyptianizing finds retrieved in EB IA-B layers, both on the tell and in the nearby necropolis.<sup>55</sup>

The increasing presence of Egyptian prestige commodities from both the tell and the necropolis during mature EB IB, in the incipient urban phase of the Jerichoan settlement, along with appearing Egyptianizing items, looks a distinguished feature of Tell es-Sultan, and hints at the role played by the Egyptian connections as a factor stimulating the early urban formation in the settlement.<sup>56</sup>

#### 3.1. *Palettes*

Egyptian stone palettes are attested to at EB I Tell es-Sultan both in an elongated type, known from a specimen retrieved on the tell by Sellin and Watzinger which bears some incisions (fig. 1);<sup>57</sup> and above all in the square type bordered by two incised lines, with a perforated hole at the top, known from two specimens: one made of a black stone from a late EB IA context, retrieved by J. Garstang in the North-Eastern Trench (level VII; fig.

<sup>45</sup> Amiran - van den Brink 2001; 2002.

<sup>46</sup> Amiran *et al.* 1978, pl. 55.

<sup>47</sup> Kochavi 1981, 76.

<sup>48</sup> Greenberg - Eisenberg 2002, 214, fig. 13.3.

<sup>49</sup> Engberg - Shipton 1934, fig. 6:28E. On the *cachette* of Egyptianizing vessels from monumental Temple of level J-4/stratum XVIII see Goren - Ilan 2003; on its dating to EB II, Sala 2008, 108-113; Nigro 2010, 335-337.

<sup>50</sup> Fischer 2002, 325-326, fig. 21.1:4-5.

<sup>51</sup> Sowada 2009, 98-99.

<sup>52</sup> Joffe 2000, 170-174, figs. 8.6, 8.8; and see above note 49.

<sup>53</sup> Marquet-Krause 1949, pl. LII, 1534, 1536, 1541.

<sup>54</sup> Nigro - Sala 2012, fig. 13.

<sup>55</sup> Nigro 2007, 37-38; 2008, 649-650.

<sup>56</sup> Esse 1989, 90-93; Nigro 2005, 198-200; 2007, 37-38.

<sup>57</sup> Sellin - Watzinger 1913, fig. 107; Nigro 2005, 12, fig. 2.8.

2:1);<sup>58</sup> and another one made of siltstone from an EB IB context, retrieved by K.M. Kenyon in Trench III (phase liiia; fig. 2:2).<sup>59</sup> The two Jerichoan specimens are strictly consistent with the diffusion of the same type in Egypt between late Naqada II/early Naqada III Period, as a contemporary specimen made of siltstone from Abadyia and dating back to the Naqada IIIA clearly testifies;<sup>60</sup> and they represent the earliest attestation of this typology in Palestine, alongside with the animal-shaped palettes more common in the earlier period (as the Gaza specimen testifies), and in Egypt during the Naqada II Period (§ 2.1.).

A third EB IB palette, probably of local manufacture, was retrieved by Kenyon in Trench III (phase lxi-lxii; fig. 3).<sup>61</sup>

### 3.2. *Maceheads*

Twelve maceheads, ten from the tell and two from the necropolis, were retrieved in EB I contexts at Tell es-Sultan, in both spherical and pear-shaped typology (fig. 4).<sup>62</sup> Unfortunately, absence of detailed analyses on raw material makes difficult to ascertain if they were Egyptian imports or local artefacts, but calcite (“Egyptian alabaster”) and marble identifications reported in Kenyon’s reports might point to an Egyptian origin of most of them.<sup>63</sup>

J. Garstang found a spherical (fig. 4:1) and a pear-shaped macehead (the latter made of calcite; fig. 4:5)<sup>64</sup> from an EB IA layer (level VII) at the eastern bottom of his North-Eastern Trench, just to the east of EB I Shrine 420. A third limestone macehead was retrieved in the EB IB layer of Tomb A (fig. 4:6).<sup>65</sup> The latter find is particularly notable because it was associated to a dead (n. 24) buried in a distinguished position: the deceased in fact had been buried lying on his back with crossed legs; and in between the legs the macehead was found. The distinguished posture in the final deposition of the dead (for which a possible connection with a priestly role has been hypothesized) might be a characterization of the social role played by the deceased within the community, also emphasized by the presence of the macehead.<sup>66</sup>

<sup>58</sup> Garstang *et al.* 1936, pl. XXXVI:26; Nigro 2005, 34, fig. 3.28. I thank Dr. Giulia Tucci for redrawing of palettes illustrated in figs. 2-3.

<sup>59</sup> Holland 1982, 559, fig. 226:16, Reg. 1955.

<sup>60</sup> Teeter (ed.) 2011, 199, n. cat. 51.

<sup>61</sup> Reg. 1874; Dorrell 1983, 559, fig. 230:13.

<sup>62</sup> Both typologies are attested since EB I, while the elongated pear-shaped type appear at Tell es-Sultan only in the following EB III (*contra* the specimens retrieved in EB IB contexts at Horvat ‘Illin Tahtit and Tell Abu Kharaz, see below).

<sup>63</sup> See catalogue in § 7. Unfortunately the use of term “alabaster” in older literature is often misleading: the so-called “Egyptian alabaster”, i.e. calcite (also named calcite-alabaster) or travertine, differs in fact from general alabaster, i.e. gypsum, that is softer and whiter, and available also in Southern Levant (Aston - Harrell - Shaw 2000, 21,-22, 59-60; Klemm - Klemm 2008, 147; Shaw 2010, xv, 11-30).

<sup>64</sup> Inv. ns. 3677, 4112: respectively Garstang *et al.* 1936, pl. XXXVI:24-25; Nigro 2005, 16-18, 34, fig. 3.28; 2008, 649-650.

<sup>65</sup> Garstang 1932, pl. VII:5.

<sup>66</sup> Polcaro 2005, 59-64, fig. 3.50; Nigro 2008, 652. A comparison is offered by EB IA Tomb A65 at Bab edh-Dhra’: here, in the southern chamber, a single body was buried in primary deposition with bent legs, and a macehead was found in the nearby shaft (Rast - Schaub 1989, 83-85): the uniqueness of the primary burial,



A second specimen from Jericho necropolis was found by K.M. Kenyon in Tomb K2: the object, made of calcite, shows the compressed pear-shaped form typical of EB IB maceheads (fig. 4:8).<sup>67</sup> This type of status object (both in the spherical and pear-shaped type) has been found in several other EB I tombs, as Tomb 3 at Tell Far‘ah North,<sup>68</sup> Tomb 4 at Azor,<sup>69</sup> and in the numerous samples in the cemetery of Bab edh-Dhra‘, where in EB IA it appears a constant element of funerary equipment (in Tombs A72, A71, A76, A68, A81, A67, A65):<sup>70</sup> in Tomb A65 a calcite macehead of Egyptian origin is an indicator of the increasing trade contacts with Egypt during EB I, including the exchange of prestige commodities which reached also the Palestinian inland.

K.M. Kenyon found other eight maceheads, basically made of calcite or marble, and thus of presumable Egyptian origin, in different sector of the tell (fig. 4:3-4, 7).<sup>71</sup> Finally, a spherical macehead from Sellin and Watzinger’s excavations (of unspecified stone) must be quoted (fig. 4:2).<sup>72</sup>

In EB I other Egyptian specimens were found in coastal Southern Levantine sites, as the calcite macehead from Horvat ‘Illin Tahtit in EB IB;<sup>73</sup> at Megiddo, where an Egyptian disc-shaped black and white breccia macehead was retrieved in the EB IB temple compound (*locus* 4047) of stratum XIX (together with a local limestone specimen);<sup>74</sup> at Beth Shan, where many fragments of both spherical and pear-shaped maceheads were found in EB I layers (but the stone of fabrication is not specified);<sup>75</sup> up to the Jordan Valley, at Pella and Tell Abu Kharaz.<sup>76</sup>

### 3.3. *Egyptianizing pottery*

EB I Egyptian connections are finally testified to by the presence of two Egyptianizing “lotus vases” from EB IA layers in Kenyon’s Tomb K1 (fig. 5:2) and Tomb A114 (fig. 5:1).<sup>77</sup> Occurrence of Egyptianizing pottery is a phenomenon that affects, even massively, sites in the south-western Palestine in the last quarter of the 4<sup>th</sup> millennium BC, when during late EB IB in Palestinian centres as Tell el-‘Areini and Tel Ma’ahaz, Egyptianizing pottery comes to represent up to 80% of the ceramic repertoire.

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which spreads in the cemetery of Bab edh-Dhra‘ only in the following EB IB, might indicate in this context a special social role of the deceased, as well as the presence of the macehead points to, a possible leading role within the framework of an extended family group.

<sup>67</sup> Kenyon 1965, 8-27. The first phase of Tomb K2, dated to EB IA, also contained hundreds of necklace beads, made of different materials of possible Egyptian provenance: most of the beads is made of carnelian, but many shells beads were also present. Unfortunately, no detailed analysis of shells is provided to determine their provenance (Kenyon 1965, 8-27).

<sup>68</sup> De Vaux 1949, 108.

<sup>69</sup> Ben-Tor 1975a, 23, fig. 12:7, pl. 21:1.

<sup>70</sup> Rast - Schaub 1989, 289-294.

<sup>71</sup> Reg. 684, 685, 1827, 1959.22, 1959.30, 1959.31, 3383; Holland 1983, 804-806, fig. 365:1-2, 6.

<sup>72</sup> Sellin - Watzinger 1913, fig. 109.

<sup>73</sup> Braun *et al.* 2001, 75-76.

<sup>74</sup> Loud 1948, pl. 270:2-3.

<sup>75</sup> Braun 2004, pls. III:26-27, VI:26-27.

<sup>76</sup> Bourke *et al.* 1994, 91-93, fig. 7.1; Fischer 2002, 327-328, 330, fig. 21.2:1-2.

<sup>77</sup> Respectively, Kenyon 1960, fig. 17:23, and Kenyon 1965, fig. 12:6; Sala 2005, 178.

The presence of two Egyptianizing vessels at EB IA Jericho, before the spread of the phenomenon in Southern Palestine, combined with the discovery of an Egyptian palette and six calcite/white limestone maceheads from EB IA contexts, is thus once more meaningful of the Egyptian-Jerichoan connections since the Pre-dynastic Period, and testifies to the early establishment of relationships thanks to the centrality of the area of the Oasis, located in a strategic position in the communication and exchange system, and close to essential raw materials, such as sulfur, bitumen and salt from the Dead Sea.

#### 3.4. *Beads and personal ornaments*

The picture of Egyptian imports is completed by an amount of carnelian and frit/faïence beads of presumable Egyptian provenance from EB I tombs in the nearby necropolis.<sup>78</sup>

#### 4. EGYPTIAN AND EGYPTIANIZING OBJECTS AT EB II TELL ES-SULTAN

In EB II the presence of Egyptian material at Tell es-Sultan from both the site and the necropolis apparently decreases; but the manufacturing of local imitations (such as Egyptianizing stone palettes) progressively increases, and corroborates the existence of enduring contacts, and most probably trade relationships, between the new-born city of Jericho and Pharaonic Egypt. At the beginning of the urban period, the richest families of the city of Jericho were able to import Egyptian items (namely maceheads as status insignia); on the other hand, local craftsmen started to imitate Egyptian luxury commodities in order to satisfy an increasing high-level consumption. Thus Egyptian imports were often substituted by local replicas of Egyptian status symbols or personal ornaments.

In Kenyon's excavations, early EB II strata provided some very interesting items: three Egyptianizing stone palettes from the northern plateau on the tell, and one more palette from Tomb D12, along with a possible Egyptian barrel-shaped macehead, and two Egyptian limestone vessels from Squares EIII-IV.

##### 4.1. *Palettes*

Three Egyptianizing stone palettes were found in EB II contexts on the tell: two from Trench II (phases liv-lv and lviii; fig. 6:2),<sup>79</sup> and one from Squares EIII-IV (Phase F; fig. 6:1).<sup>80</sup> They all exhibit a plain rectangular shape with slightly rounded corners, contrasting the Pre- and Protodynastic Egyptian palettes retrieved at Jericho itself in EB I layers, which show a sharp square shape decorated by two parallel lines incised along the border, and the Egyptian siltstone palettes still attested to in EB II-III contexts at Tell el-Khuweilfeh, Khirbet Kerak, Bab edh-Dhra' and Numeira (§ 2.1.). It seems thus that EB II stone palettes from Jericho, though inspired by Egyptian prototypes, were products of local craftsmanship. They find meaningful comparisons in contemporary EB II-III specimens

<sup>78</sup> Five carnelian beads from Tomb A124 (Kenyon 1965, fig. 6:12), 163 carnelian beads from Tomb K1 (Kenyon 1965, 30-31), 506 carnelian beads from Tomb K2 (Kenyon 1965, 19-21; Talbot 1983, 794-796), and more than 100 frit/faïence beads from Tomb K1 (Talbot 1983, 794-796).

<sup>79</sup> Reg. 2630 (Dorrell 1983, 559), and Reg. 2632, roughly finished and thicker (Dorrell 1983, 559, pl. 21c).

<sup>80</sup> Reg. 1197: it was bigger and finely made, with a smoother, worn-down area in the centre of each face (Dorrell 1983, 559, fig. 230:12).

from the necropolis of Bab edh-Dhra', plain, rectangular and with a hole drilled in the top centre, most likely Egyptian influenced, but locally manufactured.<sup>81</sup>

A further Egyptianizing stone palette was found in Tomb D12 (fig. 6:3):<sup>82</sup> it is likewise roughly rectangular, with slightly rounded corners, and perforated by a hole at one end.

#### 4.2. *Maceheads*

A barrel-shaped macehead, made of a black stone and finely worked, was found in Squares EIII-IV (Phases K-J; fig. 7).<sup>83</sup> this kind of status symbol (icon of the leader) thus maintained its popularity in the period, and even more in the following EB III (§ 5.2.). It was most probably an Egyptian importation, because of the employed material, and the careful technique of manufacture and finish.

At Megiddo an Egyptian pear-shaped calcite macehead was retrieved in the EB II temple compound of stratum XVIII on the eastern slope;<sup>84</sup> two Egyptian well-finished calcite maceheads were found in EB II contexts at Tell Abu Kharaz, along with two local unfinished limestone items;<sup>85</sup> and an Egyptian travertine macehead was found at EB II Tell el-Far'ah North.<sup>86</sup> Finally, a pear-shaped macehead was found at Beth Shan in stratum XIII, but its stone is not specified.<sup>87</sup>

#### 4.3. *Stone vessels*

Two high-quality polished limestone bowls fragments of likely Egyptian origin were also found in EB II layers in Squares EIII-IV: the rim of a fine bowl (from Phase H; fig. 8),<sup>88</sup> and half of an inner finely polished oval bowl with lug handles (from Phase Gi).<sup>89</sup>

The two Jerichoan bowls are consistent with the appearance of this kind of Egyptian commodity (mainly bowls) in many EB II Palestinian centres, since the beginning of the 3<sup>rd</sup> millennium BC, while they seem still absent in previous EB I (§ 2.3.).

### 5. EGYPTIAN AND EGYPTIANIZING OBJECTS AT EB III TELL ES-SULTAN

At the present state of research, at EB III Jericho Egyptian objects are in essence represented by the category of maceheads, basically made of calcite and marble, and of a highly polished manufacture, nonetheless illustrated by a quite eclectic array of types. In addition, an Egyptianizing palette, and a quantity of carnelian and frit/faïence beads from EB III tombs in the nearby necropolis, can be quoted. The nature of Egyptian-Jerichoan

<sup>81</sup> Wilkinson 1989, 452-456, fig. 261:1-2, 4-6.

<sup>82</sup> Kenyon 1960, 125, fig. 40:3, Reg. 353.

<sup>83</sup> Reg. 1449. This object was considered a spindle whorl by M. Wheeler (Wheeler 1982, 630, fig. 256:2), but according to T.A. Holland it was a macehead (Holland 1983, 806).

<sup>84</sup> Loud 1948, pl. 270:4.

<sup>85</sup> Respectively, Fischer 2002, 328, 330, fig. 21.2:3, 5, and 21.2:4, 6.

<sup>86</sup> Sowada 2009, 232.

<sup>87</sup> Braun 2004, pl. VI:19.

<sup>88</sup> Reg. 1619: Dorrell 1983, 554, fig. 229:17; Sowada 2009, 49, fig. 5b.

<sup>89</sup> Reg. 1507: Dorrell 1983, 554, pl.19a; Sowada 2009, 49. From Squares EIII-IV a carnelian bead was also found (Talbot 1983, fig. 362:5), in addition to those from Tomb A127 (Kenyon 1960, 92, fig. 28), and Tomb D12 (Kenyon 1960, 125-126; Talbot 1983, 796-798).

contacts should not change, and the urban elite still purchased exotic prestige insignia and trinkets, as symbols of power and authority.

### 5.1. *Palettes*

An Egyptianizing palette, comparable in morphology to item 2632 (§ 4.1.; fig. 6:2), was found in an EB III context in Site H,<sup>90</sup> but no further indication is offered in the reports.

### 5.2. *Maceheads*

Ten maceheads from the tell,<sup>91</sup> and one from the necropolis,<sup>92</sup> were retrieved during Kenyon's excavations (fig. 9:2-10). To these, a pear-shaped macehead from Sellin and Watzinger's excavations (of unspecified stone) must be added (fig. 9:1).<sup>93</sup>

Elongated pear-shaped maceheads dominate in EB III Jericho (fig. 9:1-5), as well as in the examples from Bab edh-Dhra', where two Egyptian maceheads were retrieved in EB III Charnel Houses: one from Charnel House A21, and another one made of granite from Charnel House A51.<sup>94</sup> The Jerichoan specimens appear basically made of calcite or marble: a complete elongated pear-shaped macehead from Site H, made of a pink streaky marble, is most remarkable (figs. 9:4, 10). A quite elongated spherical item from Trench I was also found (fig. 9:8), along with two barrel-shaped maceheads from Squares EIII-IV (Phase Ci), of an unrecorded stone, but highly polished (fig. 9:6-7). Similarly, at Megiddo an Egyptian spherical marble-like macehead from Palace 3177, and two Egyptian calcite pear-shaped and barrel-shaped maceheads from Temple 4040 were found in EB III contexts (together with three limestone specimens).<sup>95</sup> Finally, two cylindrical maceheads, one made of an unrecorded black stone, were found in Kenyon's Trench I (fig. 9:9-10).

Above all in this mature EB III phase it is difficult to ascertain if maceheads were either Egyptian imported or Egyptianizing, since material is often unrecorded, and it was also possible that raw materials were imported from Egypt and locally processed. Anyhow, the sophisticated technique of manufacture and careful finish point to a probable Egyptian origin of most of them.

### 5.3. *Beads and personal ornaments*

An amount of disk and barrel-shaped carnelian and frit/faience beads from EB III Tombs F2 and F3<sup>96</sup> can be classified as EB III Egyptian imports on the basis of their raw material of production.

<sup>90</sup> Reg. 3267: Dorrell 1983, 559.

<sup>91</sup> Reg. 311, 444, 611, 710, 1048, 1116, 1593, 1781, 2922, 3194: Holland 1983, 804-806, fig. 365:3-5, 7, 10-11, 13; Wheeler 1982, 630, fig. 256:1.

<sup>92</sup> Reg. 151: Kenyon 1960, 171, fig. 66:4.

<sup>93</sup> Sellin - Watzinger 1913, fig. 110.

<sup>94</sup> Wilkinson 1989, 459-460, fig. 263:4.

<sup>95</sup> Loud 1948, pl. 270:5-10. A limestone macehead was found also at EB III Beth Shan in stratum XII (Fitzgerald 1935, 19-20, pl. X:23). Two more maceheads were found at EB III Tell el-Hesi (Bliss 1894, figs. 81-82), and a handful of maceheads was retrieved at Tell ed-Duweir (Tufnell 1958, pl. 26:1-4), but no detailed information is reported.

<sup>96</sup> Kenyon 1960, 155-156, fig. 55, 172-173, fig. 65. Many other stone beads are not identified.

## 6. CONCLUSIONS

EBA collection of Egyptian and Egyptianizing objects from Tell es-Sultan illustrates the enduring trade and cultural contacts between Egypt and the site through the whole EB I-III, and, at the same time, the evolutions and progressions of such relations within the political and socio-economic framework of the earliest Levantine urban societies.

After the peak of exchanges between Egypt and Southern Levant in the late 4<sup>th</sup> millennium BC, Canaan continued supplying Egypt with commodities during the EB II-III, even if, since the beginning of the 3<sup>rd</sup> millennium BC, previously strong links had to compete with the maritime Byblos network.

Egyptian EB II-III objects in Southern Levant are, in fact, often scantily documented, but, as the overview on the Jerichoan Egyptian and Egyptianizing items testifies, more should exist in the archaeological record. Moreover, possibly perishable Egyptian exports (like, for instance, linen textiles) might be taken into consideration, in addition to the durable stone or pottery goods. At the same time, as the Jerichoan palettes attest, EB II-III Canaanite craftsmen started also a local production of Egyptian-inspired commodities, possibly to satisfy the increasing request of emerging Palestinian urban elites within a developing stratified society.

Thus, if during the Old Kingdom Egyptian interests moved decisively to the northern Levantine coast, and the sea route towards Byblos was well-travelled, Egyptian-Palestinian contacts did not cease and, in particular, relations of elite patronage continued to be cultivated in Southern Levant until the end of EB III, as the Egyptian ceremonial maceheads from EB III Jericho still testify. During the EB II-III urban period Egyptian-Palestinian relationships became more faceted, not only commercial, but above all diplomatic. A certain concentration of Egyptian imported items can be surely noted in southern and central Palestine, at Khirbet Yarmouk, 'Ai and Jericho itself, but main urban centres to the north, like Megiddo or Khirbet Kerak, were likewise involved in these elite exchanges, the purpose of which was ensured the Egyptian state with valuable resources (as, for instance, copper from the Wadi Feinan), achieved through exchanges with the most powerful local Canaanite ruling elites. Sampling of combed ware found in Old Kingdom Egypt reveals, moreover, that containers came from Southern Levant until the Sixth Dynasty, indicating a still alive trade of stuffs and (liquid) commodities between the regions. Only the collapse of the earliest Palestinian urban society at the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> millennium BC brought to an end such prosperous and well rooted relations between these two neighbouring and harmonising countries.

EGYPTIAN AND EGYPTIANIZING OBJECTS FROM TELL ES-SULTAN		
ARCHAEOLOGICAL PERIOD	FINDS	
	EGYPTIAN OBJECTS	EGYPTIANIZING OBJECTS
EB I	3 palettes 12 maceheads (10 from the tell and 2 from the necropolis)	1 palette 2 lotus vases
EB II	1 macehead 2 stone vessels	4 palettes
EB III	12 maceheads (11 from the tell and 1 from the necropolis)	1 palette

Tab. 1: Summary table of Egyptian and Egyptianizing objects from Tell es-Sultan.

## 7. CATALOGUE

## EARLY BRONZE I

Type: palette from Garstang's excavations (inv. number 3678) [fig. 2:1]  
 Dating: EB IA  
 Material: black stone (type unrecorded)  
 Context of retrieval: tell, Garstang's North-Eastern Trench, *locus* 270  
 Stratum: level VII  
 State of preservation: fragmentary  
 Dimensions: preserved length 6.7 cm × preserved width 5.5 cm × thickness 0.9 cm  
 Bibliography: Garstang *et al.* 1936, pl. XXXVI:26

Type: palette from Kenyon's excavations (inv. number 1955) [fig. 2:2]  
 Dating: EB IB  
 Material: siltstone  
 Context of retrieval: tell, Trench III  
 Stratum: XV.liia  
 State of preservation: fragmentary  
 Dimensions: preserved length 4.4 cm × preserved width 3.3 cm × thickness 0.6 cm  
 Bibliography: Holland 1982, 559, fig. 226:16

Type: palette from Kenyon's excavations (inv. number 1874) [fig. 3]  
 Dating: EB IB  
 Material: stone (type unrecorded)  
 Context of retrieval: tell, Trench III  
 Stratum: XVI.lxi-lxii  
 State of preservation: complete  
 Dimensions: length 13.5 cm × width 18.5 cm × thickness 1.5 cm  
 Bibliography: Dorrell 1983, 559, fig. 230:13

Type: palette from Sellin & Watzinger's excavations [fig. 1]  
 Dating: EB I  
 Material: stone (type unrecorded)  
 Context of retrieval: tell, northern plateau  
 Stratum: unrecorded  
 State of preservation: complete  
 Bibliography: Sellin - Watzinger 1913, fig. 107

Type: macehead from Garstang's excavations (inv. number 3677) [fig. 4:1]  
 Dating: EB IA  
 Material: stone (type unrecorded)  
 Context of retrieval: tell, Garstang's North-Eastern Trench, *locus* 270  
 Stratum: level VII  
 State of preservation: complete  
 Dimensions: length 4.6 cm × diameter 5.3 cm  
 Bibliography: Garstang *et al.* 1936, pl. XXXVI:25

Type: macehead from Garstang's excavations (inv. number 4112) [fig. 4:5]  
 Dating: EB IA  
 Material: calcite/Egyptian alabaster  
 Context of retrieval: tell, Garstang's North-Eastern Trench, *locus* 270  
 Stratum: level VII  
 State of preservation: fragmentary  
 Dimensions: preserved length 4.6 cm × diameter 4.7 cm  
 Bibliography: Garstang *et al.* 1936, pl. XXXVI:24

Type: macehead from Sellin & Watzinger's excavations [fig. 4:2]  
 Dating: EB I  
 Material: stone (type unrecorded)  
 Context of retrieval: tell, northern plateau  
 Stratum: unrecorded  
 State of preservation: complete  
 Dimensions: length 4.5 cm × diameter 5.4 cm  
 Bibliography: Sellin - Watzinger 1913, fig. 109

Type: macehead from Garstang's excavations (inv. number 567) [fig. 4:6]  
 Dating: EB IB  
 Material: white stone (type unrecorded)  
 Context of retrieval: necropolis, Tomb A  
 Stratum: layer 3/24d  
 State of preservation: complete  
 Dimensions: preserved length 5.3 cm × diameter 5 cm  
 Bibliography: Garstang 1932, pl. VII:5

Type: macehead from Kenyon's excavations (inv. number 1827) [fig. 4:4]  
 Dating: EB IB  
 Material: calcite/Egyptian alabaster  
 Context of retrieval: tell, Trench III  
 Stratum: XV.lvii  
 State of preservation: fragmentary  
 Dimensions: length 4.5 cm × diameter 5.5 cm  
 Bibliography: Holland 1983, 804, fig. 365:1

Type: macehead from Kenyon's excavations (inv. number 685) [fig. 4:7]  
 Dating: EB IB  
 Material: calcite/Egyptian alabaster  
 Context of retrieval: tell, Square MI  
 Stratum: XIX.xciv  
 State of preservation: fragmentary  
 Dimensions: length 5.3 cm × diameter 5.6 cm  
 Bibliography: Holland 1983, 804, fig. 365:2

Type: macehead from Kenyon's excavations (inv. number 684) [fig. 4:3]  
 Dating: EB IB

Material: cream-coloured banded marble  
Context of retrieval: tell, Square MI  
Stratum: XIX.xciv  
State of preservation: fragmentary  
Dimensions: length 4.3 cm × diameter 5.5 cm  
Bibliography: Holland 1983, 804, fig. 365:6

Type: macehead from Kenyon's excavations (inv. number 111) [fig. 4:8]  
Dating: EB IA

Material: calcite/Egyptian alabaster  
Context of retrieval: necropolis, Tomb K2  
Stratum: Phase I  
State of preservation: complete  
Dimensions: length 3.6 cm × diameter 3.8 cm  
Bibliography: Kenyon 1965, fig. 5:8

Type: macehead from Kenyon's excavations (inv. number 1959.22)  
Dating: EB IA

Material: white stone  
Context of retrieval: tell, Squares EIII-IV  
Stratum: Phase V-T  
State of preservation: almost complete  
Dimensions: length 6.8 cm × diameter 6.4 cm  
Bibliography: Holland 1983, 804

Type: macehead from Kenyon's excavations (inv. number 1959.31)  
Dating: EB IA  
Material: pinkish-coloured stone (type unrecorded)  
Context of retrieval: tell, Squares EIII-IV  
Stratum: Phase V  
State of preservation: almost complete  
Dimensions: length 8 cm × diameter 6.8 cm  
Bibliography: Holland 1983, 804

#### EARLY BRONZE II

Type: palette from Kenyon's excavations (inv. number 1197) [fig. 6:1]  
Dating: EB II  
Material: stone (type unrecorded)  
Context of retrieval: tell, Squares EIII-IV  
Stratum: Phase Fi  
State of preservation: complete  
Dimensions: length 16.5 cm × width 11.5 cm × thickness 1.5 cm  
Bibliography: Dorrell 1983, 559, fig. 230:12

Type: palette from Kenyon's excavations (inv. number 2630)  
Dating: EB II  
Material: stone (type unrecorded)  
Context of retrieval: tell, Trench II  
Stratum: XVI.liv-lv  
State of preservation: fragmentary

Type: macehead from Kenyon's excavations (inv. number 1959.30)

Dating: EB IA  
Material: white limestone  
Context of retrieval: tell, Squares EIII-IV  
Stratum: Phase Xi  
State of preservation: fragmentary  
Dimensions: length 3.2 cm × diameter 4.4 cm  
Bibliography: Holland 1983, 804

Type: macehead from Kenyon's excavations (inv. number 3383)  
Dating: EB IB

Material: limestone  
Context of retrieval: tell, Trench II  
Stratum: XV.lia  
State of preservation: fragmentary  
Dimensions: diameter 6.3 cm  
Bibliography: Holland 1983, 804

Type: lotus vase [fig. 5:1]  
Dating: EB IA  
Material: pottery  
Context of retrieval: necropolis, Tomb A114  
Dimensions: diameter 20 cm  
Bibliography: Kenyon 1960, fig. 17:23

Type: lotus vase [fig. 5:2]  
Dating: EB IA  
Material: pottery  
Context of retrieval: necropolis, Tomb K1  
Dimensions: diameter 10 cm  
Bibliography: Kenyon 1965, fig. 12:6

Dimensions: thickness 1.2 cm  
Bibliography: Dorrell 1983, 559

Type: palette from Kenyon's excavations (inv. number 2632) [fig. 6:2]  
Dating: EB II  
Material: stone (type unrecorded)  
Context of retrieval: tell, Trench II  
Stratum: XVI.lviii  
State of preservation: complete  
Dimensions: length 10 cm × width 6.5 cm × thickness 2 cm  
Bibliography: Dorrell 1983, 559, pl. 21:c

Type: palette from Kenyon's excavations (inv. number 353) [fig. 6:3]  
Dating: EB II  
Material: stone (type unrecorded)  
Context of retrieval: necropolis, Tomb D12

State of preservation: complete  
 Dimensions: length 14.1 cm × width 10.2 cm × thickness 0.8 cm  
 Bibliography: Kenyon 1960, 125, fig. 40:3  
 Type: macehead from Kenyon's excavations (inv. number 1449) [fig. 7]  
 Dating: EB II  
 Material: black stone (type unrecorded)  
 Context of retrieval: tell, Squares EIII-IV  
 Stratum: Phase K-J  
 State of preservation: half  
 Dimensions: diameter 5 cm × 4.5 cm  
 Bibliography: Wheeler 1982, 630, fig. 256:2  
 Type: stone vessel from Kenyon's excavations (inv. number 1619) [fig. 8]

Dating: EB II  
 Material: fine polished limestone  
 Context of retrieval: tell, Squares EIII-IV  
 Stratum: Phase H  
 State of preservation: fragmentary  
 Dimensions: rim diameter 16 cm, thickness 0.3 cm  
 Bibliography: Dorrell 1983, 554, 556, fig. 229:17  
 Type: stone vessel from Kenyon's excavations (inv. number 1507)  
 Dating: EB II  
 Material: fine polished limestone  
 Context of retrieval: tell, Squares EIII-IV  
 Stratum: Phase Gi  
 State of preservation: half  
 Bibliography: Dorrell 1983, 554, 556, pl. 19a

## EARLY BRONZE III

Type: palette from Kenyon's excavations (inv. number 3267)  
 Dating: EB III  
 Material: stone (type unrecorded)  
 Context of retrieval: tell, Site H  
 Stratum: xi  
 State of preservation: fragmentary  
 Dimensions: length 7 cm × width 4 cm × thickness 2.5 cm  
 Bibliography: Dorrell 1983, 559  
 Type: macehead from Sellin & Watzinger's excavations [fig. 9:1]  
 Dating: EB III  
 Material: stone (type unrecorded)  
 Context of retrieval: tell, northern plateau  
 Stratum: unrecorded  
 State of preservation: complete  
 Dimensions: length 5.6 cm × diameter 4.4 cm  
 Bibliography: Sellin - Watzinger 1913, fig. 110  
 Type: macehead from Kenyon's excavations (inv. number 1781) [fig. 9:2]  
 Dating: EB III  
 Material: stone (type unrecorded)  
 Context of retrieval: tell, Trench II  
 Stratum: XX.lxvii-lxviii  
 State of preservation: fragmentary  
 Dimensions: preserved length 5 cm × diameter 6.2 cm  
 Bibliography: Holland 1983, 804, fig. 365:3  
 Type: macehead from Kenyon's excavations (inv. number 1048) [fig. 9:3]  
 Dating: EB III  
 Material: stone (type unrecorded)  
 Context of retrieval: tell, Trench I  
 Stratum: XXXVIII.xlvii  
 State of preservation: fragmentary

Dimensions: preserved length 7.4 cm × diameter 5.9 cm  
 Bibliography: Holland 1983, 804, fig. 365:4  
 Type: macehead from Kenyon's excavations (inv. number 2922) [figs. 9:4, 10]  
 Dating: EB III  
 Material: pink streaky marble  
 Context of retrieval: tell, Site H  
 Stratum: ix  
 State of preservation: complete  
 Dimensions: length 7 cm × diameter 6.2 cm  
 Bibliography: Holland 1983, fig. 804, 365:5  
 Type: macehead from Kenyon's excavations (inv. number 151) [fig. 9:5]  
 Dating: EB III  
 Material: calcite/Egyptian alabaster  
 Context of retrieval: necropolis, Tomb F2  
 State of preservation: complete  
 Dimensions: length 10.8 cm × diameter 9 cm  
 Bibliography: Kenyon 1960, 171, fig. 66:4  
 Type: macehead from Kenyon's excavations (inv. number 1593) [fig. 9:6]  
 Dating: EB III  
 Material: stone (type unrecorded)  
 Context of retrieval: tell, Squares EIII-IV  
 Stratum: Phase Ci  
 State of preservation: complete  
 Dimensions: length 7.2 cm × diameter 6.2 cm  
 Bibliography: Holland 1983, 806, fig. 365:10  
 Type: macehead from Kenyon's excavations (inv. number 611) [fig. 9:7]  
 Dating: EB III  
 Material: stone (type unrecorded)



- Context of retrieval: tell, Squares EIII-IV  
Stratum: Phase Ci  
State of preservation: fragmentary  
Dimensions: reconstructed length 8.6 cm × diameter 7.7 cm  
Bibliography: Holland 1983, 806, fig. 365:11  
Type: macehead from Kenyon's excavations (inv. number 311) [fig. 9:8]  
Dating: EB III  
Material: stone (type unrecorded)  
Context of retrieval: tell, Trench I  
Stratum: XXXVIII.xlviii-xlix  
State of preservation: fragmentary  
Dimensions: reconstructed length 4.3 cm × diameter 4.8 cm  
Bibliography: Holland 1983, 804, fig. 365:7  
Type: macehead from Kenyon's excavations (inv. number 1116) [fig. 9:9]  
Dating: EB III  
Material: black stone (type unrecorded)  
Context of retrieval: tell, Trench I  
Stratum: XXXVII.xlvia  
State of preservation: half  
Dimensions: 5.8 cm × diameter 5 cm  
Bibliography: Wheeler 1982, 630, fig. 256:1  
Type: macehead from Kenyon's excavations (inv. number 444) [fig. 9:10]  
Dating: EB III  
Material: stone (type unrecorded)  
Context of retrieval: tell, Trench I  
Stratum: XXXVIII.xlviii-xlix  
State of preservation: complete  
Dimensions: length 3.8 cm × diameter 4 cm  
Type: macehead from Kenyon's excavations (inv. number 3194)  
Dating: EB III  
Material: fine-grained dark grey stone (type unrecorded)  
Context of retrieval: tell, Site H  
Stratum: viiia  
State of preservation: complete  
Dimensions: diameter 6 cm  
Bibliography: Holland 1983, 806  
Type: macehead from Kenyon's excavations (inv. number 710)  
Dating: EB III  
Material: black and white mottled limestone  
Context of retrieval: tell, Square MI  
Stratum: viiia  
State of preservation: half  
Dimensions: unrecorded  
Bibliography: Holland 1983, 80

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XVI (2012) Egyptian and Egyptianizing objects from EB I-III Tell es-Sultan/ancient Jericho

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Fig. 1: EB I Egyptian palette from Sellin and Watzinger's excavations (after Sellin - Watzinger 1913, fig. 107).

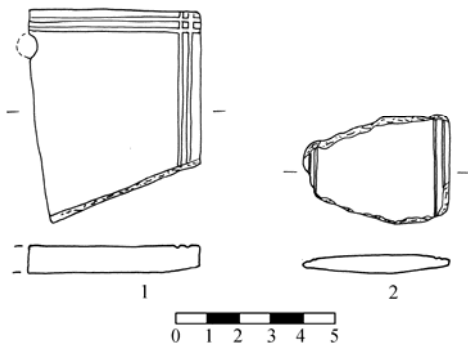


Fig. 2: Egyptian palettes from EB I contexts. 1, palette from Garstang's North-Eastern Trench (redrawn from Garstang *et al.* 1936, pl. XXXVI:26); 2, palette Kenyon's Trench III (redrawn from Holland 1982, fig. 226:16).

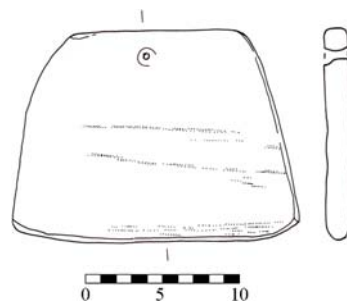


Fig. 3: EB IB Egyptianizing palette from Kenyon's Trench III (redrawn from Dorrell 1983, fig. 230:13).



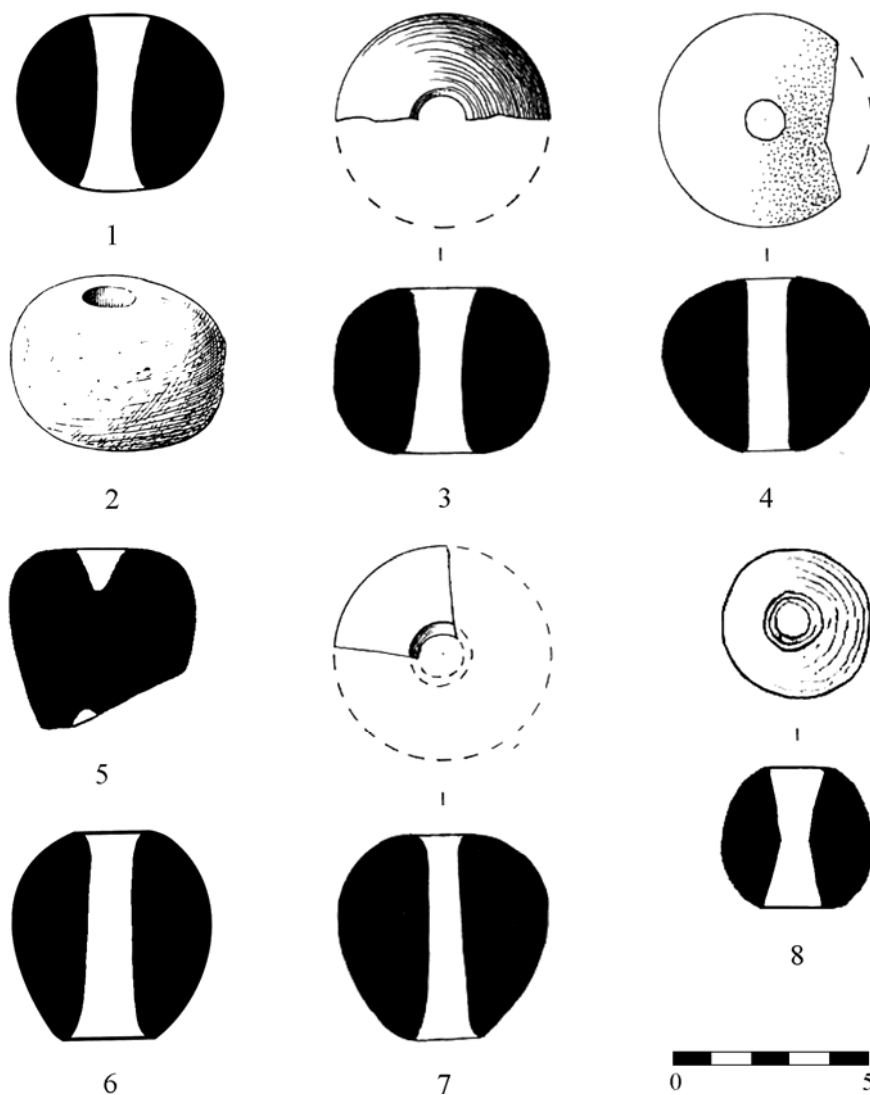


Fig. 4: Maceheads from EB I contexts. 1, macehead from Garstang's North-Eastern Trench (after Garstang *et al.* 1936, pl. XXXVI:25); 2, macehead from Sellin and Watzinger's excavation's (after Sellin - Watzinger 1913, fig. 109); 3, macehead from Kenyon's Square MI (after Holland 1983, 804, fig. 365:6); 4, macehead from Kenyon's Trench III (after Holland 1983, 804, fig. 365:1); 5, macehead from Garstang's North-Eastern Trench (after Garstang *et al.* 1936, pl. XXXVI:24); 6, macehead from Garstang's Tomb A (after Garstang 1932, pl. VII:5); 7, macehead from Kenyon's Square MI (after Holland 1983, 804, fig. 365:2); 8, macehead from Kenyon's Tomb K2 (after Kenyon 1965, fig. 5:8).

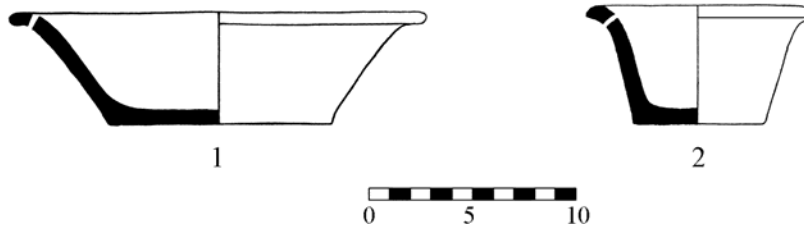


Fig. 5: EB IA lotus vases from Jericho necropolis, Tomb A114 (after Kenyon 1960, fig. 17:23) and Tomb K1 (after Kenyon 1965, fig. 12:6).

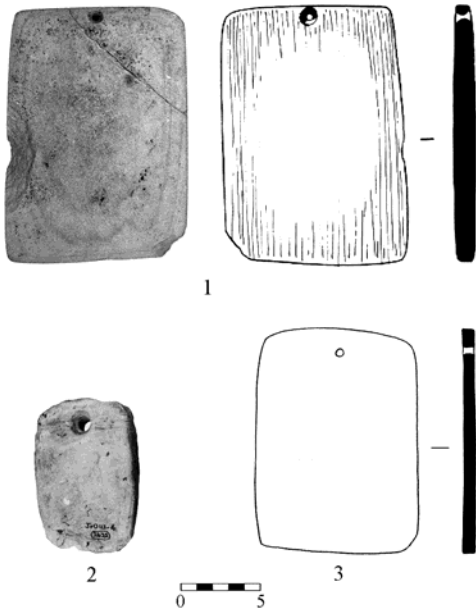


Fig. 6: EB II Egyptianizing palettes. 1, palette from Kenyon's Squares EIII-IV (after Dorrell 1983, fig. 230:12); 2, palette from Kenyon's Trench II (after Dorrell 1983, 559, pl. 21:c); 3, palette from Kenyon's Tomb D12 (after Kenyon 1960, fig. 40:3).

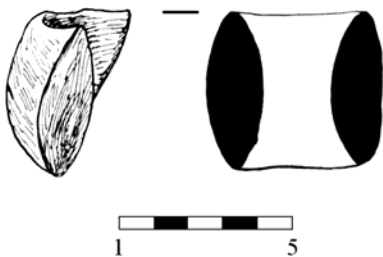


Fig. 7: Macehead from EB II context in Kenyon's Squares EIII-IV (after Wheeler 1982, fig. 256:2).

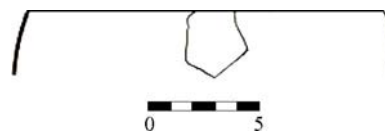


Fig. 8: Stone vessel from EB II context in Kenyon's Squares EIII-IV (after Dorrell 1983, fig. 229:17).

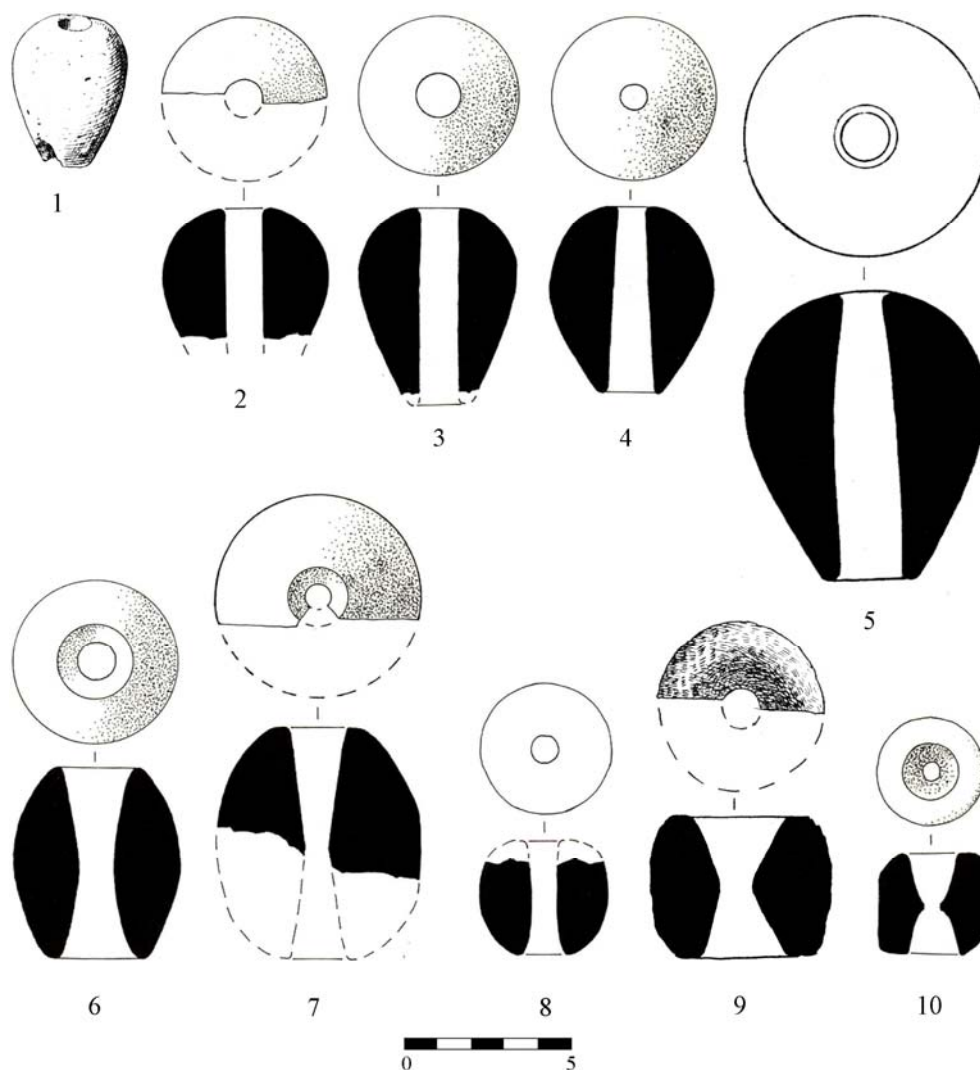


Fig. 9: Maceheads from EB III contexts. 1, macehead from Sellin and Watzinger's excavation (after Sellin - Watzinger 1913, fig. 110); 2, macehead from Kenyon's Trench II (after Holland 1983, fig. 365:3); 3, macehead from Kenyon's Trench I (after Holland 1983, fig. 365:4); 4, macehead from Kenyon's Site H (after Holland 1983, fig. 365:5); 5, macehead from Kenyon's Tomb F2 (after Kenyon 1960, 171, fig. 66:4); 6, macehead from Kenyon's Squares EIII-IV (after Holland 1983, fig. 365:10); 7, macehead from Kenyon's Squares EIII-IV (after Holland 1983, fig. 365:11); 8, macehead from Kenyon's Trench I (after Holland 1983, fig. 365:7); 9, macehead from Kenyon's Trench I (after Wheeler 1982, fig. 256:1); 10, macehead from Kenyon's Trench I (after Holland 1983, fig. 365:13).



Fig. 10. Pink marble macehead 2922 from Kenyon's Site H.