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Anthropological and human remains from the necropolis of Thebes-

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With 10 figures and 3 tables

Summary: During several recent excavations in the necropolis of Gurna, Thebes-West, Upper Egypt, three "Tombs of the Nobles" totalling at least 273 individuals (skeletons and mummy residues) had been built in the New Kingdom (up to 330 BC). All samples were investigated by endoscopic and radiological methods. The at least 273 individuals covered a wide age range with a main age of death between 20 and 40 years, which was at 20.2 % of all individuals and 54.5 % of the adults.

In this population a fairly high prevalence of dental lesions generally were poor with a high prevalence of dental lesions (affecting between 10 and 30 % of the population). A significant number of dental abscesses and a considerable number of individuals had carious lesions in the burial place (mean 15.8 %). Inflammation was present to variable extent, in some cases leading to hyperostosis. In addition, we noted several cases of hyperostosis (15.4 % of cases), mild periosteal new bone formation (9.5 %). The data support the notion of a high number of individuals. The rate of spondylosis was variable depending on the burial place. The rate of spondylosis showed a high prevalence in the physical activities of subpopulation. The rate of spondylosis showed a high prevalence in the vertebral bodies.

In general, our analysis provides evidence for an Egyptian population of one of the poorest and quite poor. This is somewhat in contrast to the socially higher population of the ca. 18th Dynasty.

Key words: Paleopathology, "Tombs of the Nobles", Egypt.

Publication frequency

4 issues of the "Anthropologischer Anzeiger" forming 1 volume are usually published annually.

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