Abstract

Burial customs are one of the factors that played a fundamental role in ancient Egyptian civilization. Although burial customs in Upper Egypt have become clear and known to some extent, they are a matter of some mystery and difficulty in Lower Egypt; due to the nature of the soil in the delta, and as a result of human activity in successive times. Excavations carried out in the civilization sites in Lower Egypt continue to provide us with many new discoveries regarding burial customs. Despite this, there is no general and specific pattern for burial customs and rituals in this part of northern Egypt.

This thesis deals with the topic of "Burial Customs in Lower Egypt during the Fourth Millennium BC", and the proposed study aims to provide, at least partially, coverage of the existing gap, which is a lack of information on early burial customs in northern Egypt during the fourth millennium BC. This study also aims to organize multiple data revolving around burial customs in Lower Egypt in the scope of funerary architecture, methods of burying the deceased, and various secondary elements that appeared in some periods that were undoubtedly linked to burial customs. It also aims to identify the religious traditions of Lower Egyptian societies and trace their typical development in certain eras, as Lower Egypt in different periods of its history combined multiple different cultures, and there were many attempts to separate those ancient elements from the modern elements that left them, leading to what is called critical expansion, through the noticeable changes in burial customs.

Keywords: Burial customs, 4th millennium BC, Lower Egypt, Funerary goods, Nile Delta, Settlements, Burial architecture, Burial rituals.