

Beicht Panib's

über

die Grubung im Friedhof B.

Friday, the 13th February 1931.

It was 1/2 past 10 in the morning when I was allowed to take 20 workmen for excavating any place I should like only it ought to be a cemetery. My first work was to find the place and try it, and such an affair is not very easy; still, in the meanwhile, I left the large C-Group-Cemetery behind me and went southwards. The first place I saw and thought to be a cemetery was hidden under a rocky hill. Potsherds of red ware were scattered here and there together with pebbles and small stones. We began our digging, but after 2 hours work, I believed that we are digging in a very destroyed and ruined settlement. I did not see neither a trace of a superstructure nor that of a pit, only dust, sand and then the rocky surface of the desert beneath. 3 oval shaped and 1 circular Grindstones were picked from these ruins; when time was over I had the idea to stop the work in this place.

Saturday, the 14th of February 1931.

My failure of yesterday has moved all my enthusiasm, so, in the early morning, I was determined to do all my best for finding an unexcavated cemetery, also I was taught not to collect all my workmen in one point when I had to try new places. Thus, I left the ruined settlement and then I divided my workmen, and sent a part to the west and the other to the south. The first part climbed a low hill, and then they found before them about 30 or 40 graves, of which some are excavated before. The graves here are shallow trenches, dug in the sand in the desert, so some of these uncleaned graves were quickly excavated, and their contents were few human bones, and few potsherds. (The potsherds may be examined afterwards). The other workmen who went to the south began to try the eastern edge of the large New Empire Cemetery and there we found a shallow trench dug in the sand, in which there was placed a very destroyed wooden box; to its northside, there was a bowl of egyptian red ware, and to its west corner a large red painted jar. The box was covered and left for the moment, and in the same time we had found a small cemetery lying on the east side of the New Empire Cemetery, 35 m far of grave 1 which had been excavated by the Americans before. The graves here are dug in loose sand, the mouth of nearly every grave is shown by circular rings of small stones, while the whole is covered with a layer of sand, pebbles and small stones. To-day we picked from the sand a nice hedgehog of fayence, 2 bowls, R.P.B.T., a small greenish white jar and a pot of dark ware with its clay cover.

Monday, the 16th of February 1931.

The digging in the small B-cemetery is continued with 12 workmen and a Reis. The graves 1 and 2 were cleaned and opened. The skeletons found therein were well preserved, contracted as usual, in grave 1 on the right side, in the other on the left side. Nothing of importance was found, only in grave 1 a needle shaped pendant of bone, and in the grave 2 a large jar of red ware.

Tuesday, the 17th of February 1931.

The number of the workmen digging in the B-cemetery is the same as yesterday. 11 graves were cleaned and opened, number 3 till number 13. In most cases the skeletons are well preserved, contracted as usual, sometimes on the left, sometimes on the right side. The best found was a scarab under the left hand of the skeleton of a child in grave 12.

Wednesday, the 18th of February 1931.

To-day 5 graves were cleaned and opened. In some graves the skeletons had been placed on a layer of mud, wrapped in cloth and covered with matting of C-Group pattern. A scarab of fayence was found in grave 14 together with large cornelian beads and a scaraboid of stone in grave 18.

The work in the cemetery was finished at 10 o'clock in the morning on account of the feast of Ramadan.

Friday, the 20th of February 1931.

On account of the feast of Ramadan the 19th of February was a holiday for the workmen.

To-day the work in the B-Cemetery was begun as usual. 10 graves were cleaned. In most cases all the skeletons were nearly preserved. Cornelian and Fayence beads were found in abundance and more pottery than before. The most important founds were 2 button-seals, one in grave 22 and the other in grave 25, 2 scarabs, one in grave 20 and the other in grave 28; a large scaraboid was picked from the sand in grave 24.

Saturday, the 21th of February 1931.

The work was begun as usual and stopped at midday owing to the dismissing of the workmen. So 4 graves only were cleaned and opened from Nr. 29 till Nr. 32. Another 2 scarabs inscribed with Hieroglyphics were found in grave 28, which was not completely finished yesterday. In the same grave were found a spouted beaker with a neck having waving patterns. It was covered with 2 cups one placed in the other; all this pottery is of very fine R.P.B.T. ware. In grave 31 a string of fayence beads and small tiny shells was around the neck of the skeleton. Bracelets and anklets of bone beads were found in the same grave.

In the afternoon a photography of the whole scene of the cemetery was taken and another of the skeleton of grave 32.