

DATABASES FOR SHABTIS OF THE THIRD INTERMEDIATE PERIOD
(c. 1069-525 BC)

Ankh-ef-en-Djehuty

Ḥnh-f-n-Dḥwti



Third Intermediate Period, 22nd Dynasty

From Tehneh el-Gebel (Akoris), Tomb no. 2, southern chamber



Ankh-ef-en-Djehuty

Faience, green glaze, details added in black

Third Intermediate Period, 22nd Dynasty

From Tehneh el-Gebel (Akoris), Tomb no. 2, southern chamber

H. 14.2 cm. W. 5.0 cm. D. 4.9 cm.

Originally acquired in Cairo, 1928; ex American private collection; ex Dutch private collection

Published: Bonhams 2008, lot 454



A mummiform *shabti* wearing a plain tripartite wig with a *seshed* headband that is tied at the back with a large loop and long ties. The arms are crossed right over left above the waist and the hands hold a pair of hoes that are modelled in raised relief and painted black. A rectangular-shaped basket is painted on the back with square-hatched detail. Carrying straps extend from the upper outer corners of the basket over the shoulders but not as far as the hands. When viewed in profile the *shabti* is very thick in overall dimensions and has a sharply pronounced posterior and the rear lappet of the wig protrudes. A vertical column of inscription is painted on the front of the *shabti* with framing lines and the owner is named as Ankh-ef-en-Djehuty (He lives for Djehuty).¹ The number 306 is painted in white on the back of the feet and is presumed to be an old collection number.

Shabtis for Ankh-ef-en-Djehuty were excavated in February 1926 by Abou Seif at Tehneh el-Gebel,² site of ancient Akoris in Middle Egypt. It is dominated by a massive outcrop of rock into which are cut chapels and tombs (see Fig. 1). There are the ruins of three Graeco-Roman temples at the site.³

The *shabtis* were found in the south chamber at the bottom of a shaft in Tomb 2 (see Fig. 2). Fragments of coffins were also found together with four uninscribed canopic jars made of limestone and fragments of papyrus.⁴ A Japanese Mission excavated the site between 1981–1992 and Tomb 2 was called Chapel C.⁵

In his report, Abou Seif comments that about 400 *shabtis* were found for Ankh-ef-en-Djehuty. He describes them as being massive and of squat form.⁶ Gauthier clarifies the numbers of *shabtis* somewhat. He says that Seif counted 413 *shabtis* in total but that 11 of those were for a different owner, namely Amen-



Fig. 1. Front view of the Western Temple area at Tehneh el-Gebel with the columns of the hypostyle hall of the temple of Nero on the left and with the tomb chapels to the right (C–E).

(GJ, 2008).

em-Opet.⁷ He comments that 36 ‘overseers’ were found for Ankh-ef-en-Djehuty, so this suggests that there were 366 worker *shabtis* and when combined they made a set of 402 *shabtis*. Gauthier describes the *shabtis* in general as having a beautiful light green hue. The *shabtis* are now to be found in Cairo (JE 50009–50026 – for one, see Fig. 3).⁸ In addition to the present example, another is to be found in Leiden (RMO F 1947/2.7)⁹ and a further example was sold at auction (see Fig. 3).¹⁰

It should be noted that *shabtis* for another owner called Ankh-ef-en-Djehuty were found in the north chamber but most (?) of these give no title with the exception of some that give the title of 2nd (?) God’s Servant of Amen being written after the owner’s name. This group comprised 134 worker *shabtis* and six ‘overseers.’ These are now in Cairo (JE 49997–50008).¹¹

Shabtis for other owners were also excavated by Abou Seif in the subterranean burial chambers. These were for the God’s Father of Amen, Amen-em-Opet (from Tomb 2 – south chamber – 11 *shabtis*), the Second God’s Servant of Amen-Re, Pa-shery-en-Iset (from Tomb 2 – north chamber – 403 worker *shabtis* and 38 ‘overseers’) and the God’s Servant of Amen, Overseer of the City and Vizier, Ankh-wen-nefer (from Tomb 3 – 380 *shabtis*).¹²

Shabtis for Pa-shery-en-Iset are to be found in Cairo (JE 49973–49651) and Vienna (ÄS 9351).¹³ Two more examples, an ‘overseer’ and a worker *shabti*, are to be found in the Aubert Collection.¹⁴ Another worker *shabti* is in the Rolf Wegmüller

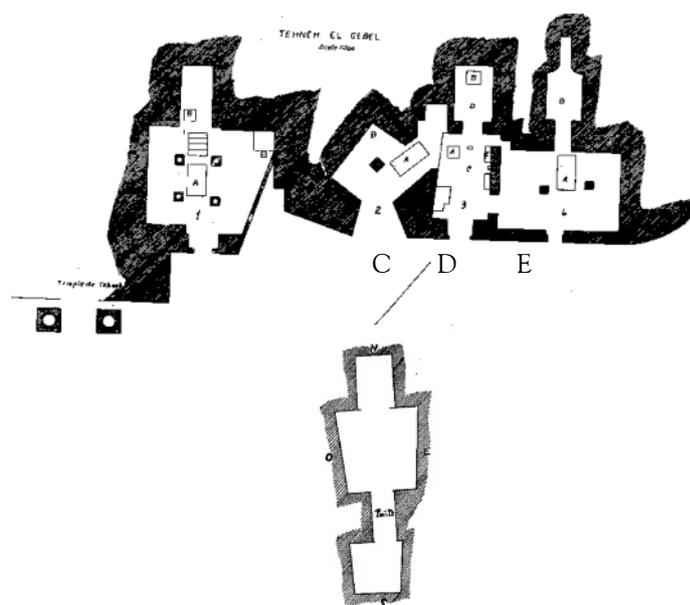


Fig. 2. A plan of the Western Temple area showing the tomb chapels [nos. 2–4 of Seif; C–E of the Japanese Mission] at Tehneh el-Gebel. Below is a plan of the subterranean chamber in tomb 2 (C) in which *shabtis* for Ankh-ef-en-Djehuty and Pa-shery-en-Iset were found. (Abou Seif, H. E., ‘Rapport sur les fouilles faites à Tehneh en Janvier et Février 1926,’ *ASAE* 26, (Cairo, 1926), pp. 33–34, figs 1 & 2).



Fig. 3. Parallel *shabtis* for Ankh-ef-en-Djehuty in Cairo, Leiden (F 1947/7/2) & Bonhams 2010, part of lot 401. (Photos: GJ 2015, 2019 & © Bonhams, London).



Fig. 4. A *shabti* for Ankh-wen-nefer (Swansea EC W660). (Photo: courtesy of the Egypt Centre, Swansea University).

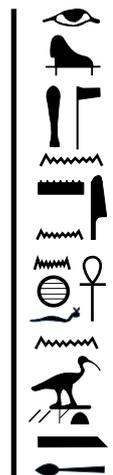
Collection in Zurich. This is a particularly fine faience *shabti* that has an olive green glaze like the rest of the group.¹⁵ Further examples have been sold at auctions.¹⁶ A set of limestone canopic jars with wooden lids were also found for Pa-shery-en-Iset (Cairo T. 1/10/27/5).¹⁷

Shabtis for Ankh-wen-nefer are to be found in Cairo (JE 49639–49651), London (BM EA 74882 – read as Ankhui – donated by Annie Trotter in 1996)¹⁸ and Swansea (EC W660 – ex Sir Henry Solomon Wellcome Collection (1853–1936) acquired at auction in 1935 – see Fig. 4).¹⁹

Shabtis for Amen-em-opet are to be found in Cairo (JE 50027–50032).²⁰

As a final comment, Gauthier writes that *shabtis* for the various owners noted above were sold or reserved by the Cairo Museum for other museums to acquire.²¹ The present author cannot recall seeing any of these particular *shabtis* on display in the Cairo Museum.

Inscription



*Wsr hm-ntr 'Imn 'nh-f-n-Djhwti
m3'-hrw*

The Osiris, the God's Servant of Amen, Ankh-ef-en-Djehuty, justified.

1. Ranke, H., *Die Ägyptischen Personennamen I* (Glückstadt, 1935), p. 417 (9).
2. Abou Seif, H. E., 'Rapport sur les fouilles faites à Tehneh en Janvier et Février 1926,' *ASAE* 26 (Cairo, 1926), p. 35; Aston, D. A., *Burial Assemblages of Dynasty 21–25; Chronology – Typology – Developments* (Vienna, 2009), p. 112 [TG 273].
3. *PMIV*, pp. 127–131.
4. Abou Seif, H. E., 'Rapport sur les fouilles faites à Tehneh en Janvier et Février 1926,' *ASAE* 26 (Cairo, 1926), pp. 34–35; Aston, D. A., *Burial Assemblages of Dynasty 21–25; Chronology – Typology – Developments* (Vienna, 2009), p. 112.
5. Hiroyuki, K. et al., *Akoris. Report of the Excavations at Akoris in Middle Egypt, 1981–1992*. Two volumes, text and plates (Kyoto, 1995), pp. 34–37. For plans, see Abou Seif 1926, pp. 34–34 Figs. 1 & 2; Hiroyuki, K. et al., *Akoris. Report of the Excavations at Akoris in Middle Egypt, 1981–1992*. Two volumes, text and plates (Kyoto, 1995), p. 18, 35, Figs. 11 & 26. See also *ibid.*, pl. 18 where the shaft leading to the chambers below the tomb chapel can be seen (upper photo, on the left).
6. Abou Seif, H. E., 'Rapport sur les fouilles faites à Tehneh en Janvier et Février 1926,' *ASAE* 26 (Cairo, 1926), p. 35.
7. Gauthier, H., 'Note sur les statuettes funéraires trouvées dans les tombes de Tehneh,' *ASAE* 26, (Cairo, 1926), pp. 41–43.
8. Abou Seif, H. E., 'Rapport sur les fouilles faites à Tehneh en Janvier et Février 1926,' *ASAE* 26 (Cairo, 1926), pp. 34–35; Gauthier, H., 'Note sur les statuettes funéraires trouvées dans les tombes de Tehneh,' *ASAE* 26, (Cairo, 1926), pp. 41–42; Ranke, H., *Die Ägyptischen Personennamen I* (Glückstadt, 1935), p. 417 (9) where the *shabtis* are dated as being New Kingdom; Guemur, I., *Les cultes d'Amon hors de Thèbes: Recherches de géographie religieuse* (Turnhout, Belgium, 2005), p. 395; Aston, D. A., *Burial Assemblages of Dynasty 21–25; Chronology – Typology – Developments* (Vienna, 2009), p. 112 [TG 273]; Jansen-Winkel, K., *Inscriben der Spätzeit vol. 2 Die 22. – 24. Dynastie* (Wiesbaden, 2007), p. 232 [no. 31]; Meffre, R., 'Les ouchebtis Memphites d'époque Libyenne: Caractéristiques typologiques locales', *RdE* 65 (Paris, 2014), p. 95 footnote 54.
9. Schneider 1977, vol. 2 p. 124, pl. 115, vol. 3 pl. 49 [no. 4.3.1.14 as for Ankh-ef-en-Khonsu?].
10. Bonhams 2010, part of lot 401.
11. Gauthier, H., 'Note sur les statuettes funéraires trouvées dans les tombes de Tehneh,' *ASAE* 26, (Cairo, 1926), p. 42; Aston, D. A., *Burial Assemblages of Dynasty 21–25; Chronology – Typology – Developments* (Vienna, 2009), p. 112 [TG 274 as Ankh-ef-en-Khons for some reason?]; Jansen-Winkel, K., *Inscriben der Spätzeit vol. 2 Die 22. – 24. Dynastie* (Wiesbaden, 2007), p. 232 [no. 30]; Meffre, R., 'Les ouchebtis Memphites d'époque Libyenne: Caractéristiques typologiques locales', *RdE* 65 (Paris, 2014), p. 95 footnote 54.

12. Abou Seif, H. E., 'Rapport sur les fouilles faites à Tehneh en Janvier et Février 1926,' *ASAE* 26 (Cairo, 1926), pp. 35–37; Gauthier, H., 'Note sur les statuettes funéraires trouvées dans les tombes de Tehneh,' *ASAE* 26, Cairo, 1926), pp. 41–43; Guemeur, I., *Les cultes d'Amon hors de Thèbes: Recherches de géographie religieuse* (Turnhout, Belgium, 2005), pp. 395–396; Aston, D. A., *Burial Assemblages of Dynasty 21–25; Chronology – Typology – Developments* (Vienna, 2009), p. 112 [TG 273–277]; Jansen–Winkeln, K., *Inscripfen der Spätzeit vol. 2 Die 22. – 24. Dynastie* (Wiesbaden, 2007), p. 232 [nos. 28–31]; Meffre, R., 'Les ouchebtis Memphites d'époque Libyenne: Caractéristiques typologiques locales', *RdE* 65 (Paris, 2014), p. 95 footnote 54.
13. *ibid.*, p. 95, footnote 54.
14. Aubert, J.-F. & Aubert, L., *Statuettes Égyptiennes – Chaouabtis, Ouchebtis* (Paris, 1974), p. 177, 295–296, pls. 52 & 53 [nos. 124–127].
15. Schlögl, H. & Meeves–Schlögl, C., *Uschebti – Arbeiter im Ägyptischen Totenreich* (Wiesbaden, 1993), pp. 34–34 [no. 12].
16. Artcurial 2019, lot 141 – ex Bouvier Collection; Bergé 2017, lot 61; Christie's 1977, lot 340 – ex Ernest Brummer Collection and John F. Keane Collection; Christie's 2015, lot 141.
17. Abou Seif, H. E., 'Rapport sur les fouilles faites à Tehneh en Janvier et Février 1926,' *ASAE* 26 (Cairo, 1926), p. 35; Gauthier, H., 'Note sur les statuettes funéraires trouvées dans les tombes de Tehneh,' *ASAE* 26, (Cairo, 1926), p. 43; Aston, D. A., *Burial Assemblages of Dynasty 21–25; Chronology – Typology – Developments* (Vienna, 2009), p. 112 [TG 275]; Jansen–Winkeln, K., *Inscripfen der Spätzeit vol. 2 Die 22. – 24. Dynastie* (Wiesbaden, 2007), p. 232 [no. 29].
18. See the website of the British Museum: <https://www.britishmuseum.org/>
19. See the website of the Egypt Centre, Swansea University: <https://egyptcentre.abasetcollections.com/>
20. Gauthier, H., 'Note sur les statuettes funéraires trouvées dans les tombes de Tehneh,' *ASAE* 26, (Cairo, 1926), p. 41; Guemeur, I., *Les cultes d'Amon hors de Thèbes: Recherches de géographie religieuse* (Turnhout, Belgium, 2005), pp. 395–396; Jansen–Winkeln, K., *Inscripfen der Spätzeit vol. 2 Die 22. – 24. Dynastie* (Wiesbaden, 2007), p. 232 [no. 31]; Meffre, R., 'Les ouchebtis Memphites d'époque Libyenne: Caractéristiques typologiques locales', *RdE* 65 (Paris, 2014), p. 95 footnote 54.
21. Gauthier, H., 'Note sur les statuettes funéraires trouvées dans les tombes de Tehneh,' *ASAE* 26, (Cairo, 1926), p. 43.

Abbreviations

ÄS	Ägyptische Sammlungen (Vienna).
ASAE	Annales du Service des antiquités de l'Égypte (Cairo).
BM	The British Museum (London).
EC	Egypt Centre (University of Swansea).
JE	Journal d'entrée du musée du Caire.
PMIV	Porter, Bertha and Rosalind. L. B. Moss (1934) <i>Topographical Bibliography of Ancient Egyptian Hieroglyphic Texts, Reliefs, and Paintings, Volume IV: Lower and Middle Egypt (Delta and Cairo to Asyût)</i> . Oxford: Clarendon Press.
RdE	<i>Revue d'Égyptologie</i> (Paris).
RMO	Rijksmuseum van Oudheden (Leiden).

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