



# Women's Perspectives in the Nile Valley

Warsaw, 25th-27th of June 2025

## Women's Perspectives in the Nile Valley

### Conference Programme



FACULTY  
OF ARCHAEOLOGY  
University  
of Warsaw



IMOC  
PAS

Institute of Mediterranean  
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Polish Academy of Sciences



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## Day 1 (Wednesday, 25<sup>th</sup> of June)

Faculty of Archaeology, Room 210

10:00

### Introduction

Ewa Józefowicz (Institute of Mediterranean and Oriental Cultures PAS), Marta Kaczanowicz (University of Warsaw), Filip Taterka (Institute of Mediterranean and Oriental Cultures PAS)

10:15–11:15

### Keynote lecture: Meret-Neith – A First Dynasty Queen of the Nile

Christiana Köhler (University of Vienna)

## Session 1: Bringing Women to Light

11:15–11:45

### Understanding the Women Buried Within the Western Cemetery at Giza

Jessica Coughtrey (University of Southampton)

11:45–12:15

### Meri of Deshasheh

Kathryn Bandy (University of Chicago)

12:15–12:45

Coffee break



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## Session 2: Social Roles and Female Agency

12:45–13:15      **The Menat – Wet Nurse, Teacher, Substitute Mother, All-rounder?**

Manon Y. Schutz (University of Münster)

13:15–13:45      **The Evolving Significance of *ḥkrt-nswt*: Female Titles and Shifting Power Dynamics in FIP Ancient Egypt**

Sue Kelly (Charles University, Prague)

13:45–14:15      **Reconstructing Social Reality Through Female Networks (online)**

Danijela Stefanović (University of Belgrade)

14:15–15:45      Lunch break

## Session 3: Divine Women

15:45–16:15      **“He Comes Out from Her Vagina, to Rise from the Gate of the Horizon, He Parts the Thighs of His Mother Nut, He Comes out into Existence”: Women’s Womb as the Gate of Life and the Door of Heaven**

Mennah Aly (Egyptian Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities)

16:15–16:45      **Devouring Divinity: Maternal Roles in the Pyramid Texts’ Cannibal Hymn**

Angeliki Tsiadimi (Correctional Education School, Larisa)



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16:45–17:15

## **Narrating Femininity: The Depiction and Use of Female Characters in Ancient Egyptian Fictional Stories (online)**

Nikolaos Lazaridis (California State University, Sacramento)



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## Day 2 (Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> of June)

Faculty of Archaeology, Room 210

9:30–10:30

**Keynote lecture: A 25<sup>th</sup> Dynasty Woman Is like a Tea Bag**

Koenraad Donker van Heel (Leiden University)

### Session 4: Women in Ritual and Religious Life

10:30–11:00

**Exploring Women's Piety One Woman at a Time: An Example from TT16**

Suzanne Onstine (University of Memphis)

11:00–11:30

**Lesser-Known Kushite Involvement in Egyptian Cultic Practices: The Cases of Khensa, Tabakenamun, and Takahamun**

Marta Kaczanowicz (University of Warsaw)

11:30–12:00

Coffee break



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## Session 5: Women at Court

12:00–12:30      **Between Strength and Grace: The Political Symbolism of Middle Kingdom Queens and Princesses in Leonine Iconography**

Sandra Veprauskienė (Independent Scholar)

12:30–13:00      **The Real Power behind the Throne: The System of Female Regency in Ancient Egypt and the Historiographical Challenges of Its Study (online)**

Olha Zapletniuk (Swansea University)

13:00–13:30      **Hatshepsut's Romantic Relation with Senenmut: A Re-examination**

Filip Taterka (Institute of Mediterranean and Oriental Cultures PAS)

13:30–14:00      **Metaphorical Functions of Feminine Figures in Ancient Egyptian Royal Inscriptions: Symbols of Power, Continuity, and Divine Legitimacy**

Shih-Wei Hsu (Spanish National Research Council, Madrid)

14:00–16:00      Lunch break (including an optional guided tour of the Main Campus and the museum of the University of Warsaw; the tour starts at 14:45)

## Session 6: Perceptions of Women

16:00–16:30      **Gender and Power in the Instructions of Ptahhotep**

Jacquelyn Williamson (George Mason University)



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- 16:30–17:00      **Paving the Way for Nefrusobek: The Significance of Twelfth Dynasty's Nefruptah**  
Ewa Józefowicz (Institute of Mediterranean and Oriental Cultures PAS)
- 17:30–18:00      **Women in the Streets and Women of the Streets: Gendering In-Between Space in Ancient Egyptian Towns**  
Uroš Matic (University of Innsbruck)
- 20:00              Conference dinner



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## Day 3 (Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> of June)

Faculty of Archaeology, Room 210

9:30–10:30

### **Keynote lecture: The 'Real' Women of Nubia**

Jacke Phillips (University of London)

### **Session 7: Pioneering Women**

10:30–11:00

#### **Unveiling Women's Legacies in Egyptology**

Marwa Soliman (Mansoura University)

11:00–11:30

#### **A Modern Lithuanian Woman on Ancient Egyptian Women: Marija Rudzinskaitė-Arcimavičienė and Her Booklet *The Status of Woman in Ancient Egypt* (1932)**

Tadas Rutkauskas (Vytautas Magnus University)

11:30–12:00

Coffee break

### **Session 8: Women of Ptolemaic Egypt**

12:00–12:30

#### **Breaking Stereotypes: Highlighting the Economic and Social Independence of Women from Ptolemaic Pathyris**

Mariantonietta Pascalicchio (University of Helsinki), Aneta Skalec (Institute of Mediterranean and Oriental Cultures PAS)



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- 12:30–13:00      **Women's Voices in Ptolemaic Pathyris**  
Łukasz Mikołaj Suski (University of Warsaw)
- 13:00–13:30      **Herankh also called Kludj: A Portrait of an Egyptian Elite Woman in the First Century BCE**  
Nenad Marković (Independent Scholar)
- 13:30–14:00      **Priestesses of the West Bank: Self-Sufficient Women in Ptolemaic Thebes (online)**  
Lauren Dogaer (University of Basel)
- 14:00–15:30      Lunch break

## Session 9: Women's Self-Presentation

- 15:30–16:00      **It Was Made for a Woman: Iconographic Connotations in the Stelae of Women from Abydos**  
Gehad Mohamed Ibrahim Bakr (Minia University)
- 16:30–17:00      **Adding a Feminine Touch: Figural Graffiti in the Tomb of Benia (TT 343)**  
Marina Sartori (University of Oxford)
- 17:00–17:30      **Procreation or Contraception? On the Dilemmas of Ancient Female Inhabitants of the Nile Valley**  
Małgorzata Radomska (Institute of Mediterranean and Oriental Cultures PAS)



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17:30 **Closing of the conference**

18:00 Guided tour of the Faras Gallery at the National Museum in Warsaw



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