

ملخص البحث الثاني- بحث مشترك

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The Scenes of Goldsmiths during the Old Kingdom, Applied to the Private Tombs in Giza and Saqqara	
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Abstract

The scenes of goldsmiths are among the most important scenes that appeared during the Old Kingdom, where they showed ingenuity that reached the point of miraculous accuracy and artistic taste, and they were generously rewarded by the rulers. The sites of Saqqara and Giza were chosen to be the subject of study during the Old Kingdom, as the scenes of goldsmiths abounded in the tombs of individuals there. The study adopts the analytical descriptive approach as it gives a clear vision of the research community and its characteristics. The goldsmiths enjoyed great importance during the Old Kingdom and bore many titles that indicate their position as they were dealing with a precious metal with special sanctity used in daily life. The scenes and inscriptions depicted the tools of goldsmiths, the types of jewelry they made, the conditions of the goldsmiths during each stage of the gold industry, which includes four stages: weighing gold, smelting gold, hammering of molten gold, and finally manufacturing or crafting. The scenes of those stages appear in the tombs of the Old Kingdom in Saqqara and Giza. There was often a clerk recording the weighted gold and then melting it in the stove, and around it stand a number of men blowing into long tubes to increase the flame of the fire and then pouring the molten gold from the smelting mold into large-sized pots. After that the molten gold is hammered and finally the gold pieces are formed. This last stage usually prevails in all the scenes that appeared in Saqqara and Giza where



dwarves were the main goldsmiths, while dwarves and ordinary individuals participated in crafting gold in Mereruka tomb in Saqqara.

Keywords: Goldsmiths, Saqqara, dwarves, Giza, Private Tombs.