



Portfolio Guide

The Council of the Throne of Kemet, 1080 BC

Agenda: Governing Lower and Upper Egypt

Table of Contents

1. Note to Delegates	3
2. Map of Control	4
3. Herihor	5
4. Smendes I	7
5. Ramesses XI	8
6. Nodjmet	9
7. Panehesy	10
8. Piankh	12
9. Queen Tentamun	13
10. Great Chief of the Meshwesh	14
11. Second Prophet of Amun	15
12. Northern Vizier	16
13. Chief of the Libu Confederacy	17
14. Third Prophet of Amun	18
15. Admiral of the Delta Fleet	20
16. Chief Vizier of the South	21
17. Overseer of the Royal Granaries	22
18. God's Wife of Amun	24
19. Libyan General of the Delta Garrisons	25
20. Governor of Memphis	25
21. Governor of Upper Egypt	26
22. Chief Northern Steward of Amun	27
23. Chieftain of Bubastis	27
24. Overseer of Royal Treasuries	28
25. General Ahmose II	29
26. Priest of Ptah	30
27. Chieftain of Sebennytos	30
28. Fourth Prophet of Amun	31
29. Chief Royal Scribe	31

30. Chieftain of Herakleopolis	32
31. Chief of the Royal Household.....	32
32. Chief of the Medjay Garrison.....	33
33. Commander of the Palace Guard	34
34. Libyan Archer Commander.....	34
35. Governor of Thebes.....	35
36. Viceroy Of Kush.....	36
37. Overseer of Royal Building Works	36
38. Chief Goldsmith of Amun	37
39. Chieftain of Hermopolis.....	37
40. Head of the Sherden Guard	38
41. Chief Judicial Officer of Lower Egypt.....	38
42. Chief Royal Architect.....	39
43. Libyan Cavalry Commander	40
44. Governor of Pi-Ramesses.....	40
45. Chieftain of Neferusi.....	41
46. Overseer of the Royal Harem.....	41
47. Sem Chief Priest of Ptah	42

Note to Delegates

All information throughout both this document as well as the study guide should be taken as true, even if delegates are unable to verify this information through their independent research. Delegates' external research will be relevant exclusively for subjects or events that haven't been explained adequately in any documents provided by the Executive Board. Delegates must ensure their independent research doesn't contradict information provided in either the Portfolio Guide or the Study Guide. For any clarifications on the validity of information prior to this committee's freeze date (31st December 1080 BC), please reach out to us at ctk@cathedralsmun.com.

To indicate the power held by each faction in Egypt as of this committee's freeze date, and by extension to enable delegates to gauge the areas in which their allocation has the largest influence, a map of control in Egypt has been attached below.

Map of Control

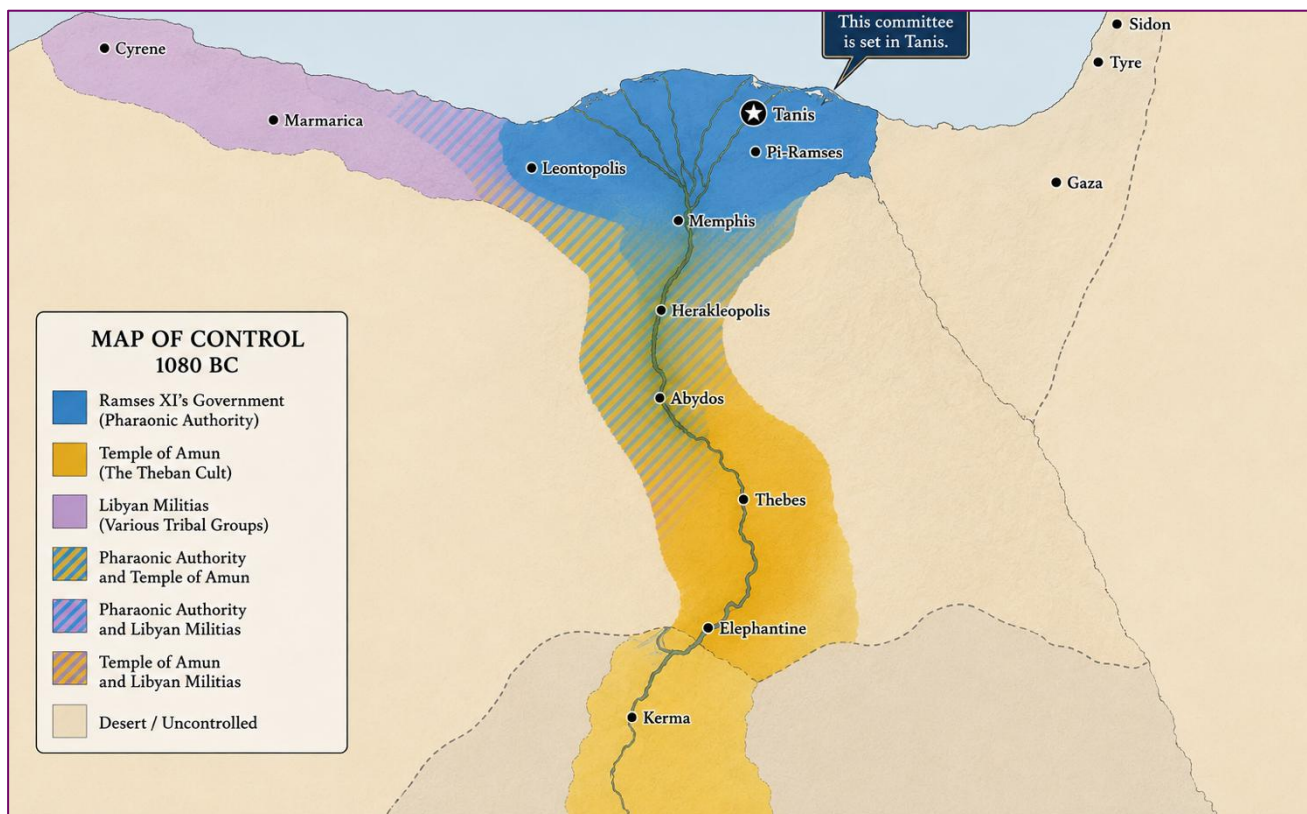


Figure 1: Map of Control

Herihor

Power and Influence

In 1082 BCE, Herihor was appointed to the position of High Priest of the Temple of Amun. This gave him a great degree of power, including:

- Interpretation of the word of the God Amun, because of being the head of councils of priests that were tasked with the comprehension of divine mandates
- Control over deciding which conflicts the southern armies that were loyal to the Temple of Amun would fight in
- Significant influence in the allocation of resources, specifically revenue collected by the Temple through donations and taxation

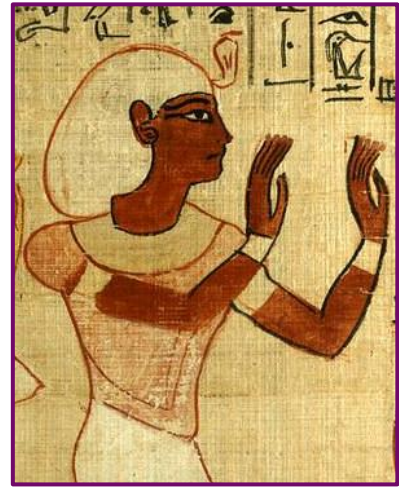


Figure 1: Herihor

Herihor's authority, however, is by no means absolute. There are multiple challenges to his power (both internal and external):

- Within the Temple of Amun, the significant increase in the Temple's wealth and political influence made the position of High Priest significantly more coveted, with multiple contenders from the faction now vying for the seat of power. While there is unity currently, there is no certainty on whether this unity will last.
- Externally, Herihor is finding it difficult to maintain his legitimacy after several failed attempts to obtain the divine mandate to rule, effectively convincing most people that Herihor doesn't have the divine connection required for kingship.
- As the size of the territories effectively controlled by the Temple of Amun increases, Herihor's grip over the Temple isn't as strong as it once was, both because individual administrators and generals are taking the opportunity to exercise significantly larger decision-making autonomy and because one man directly overseeing day-to-day decision-making across such a large area is unfeasible.

Despite the rise in the economic and military influence of the Temple of Amun, a large part of Herihor's role continues to be serving the God Amun, one of the most powerful and revered deities in Egypt.

Goals

1. Consolidate power within the Cult of Amun and restore his position of absolute authority
2. Establish a source of legitimacy that will enable the Cult of Amun to directly or indirectly control the Egyptian throne
3. Restore Ma'at in Egypt by ending factional violence and instability

Smendes I

Power and Influence

Smendes I is the Governor of Lower Egypt under the pharaoh Ramses XI. While Ramses XI holds the divine mandate to govern Egypt and was the pharaoh, the Smendes I was responsible for overseeing most administrative tasks on a day-to-day basis. His power included a few aspects

- Indirect control over the Northern Armies (with all generals in Lower Egypt reporting directly to him) and control over troop deployment and overarching battlefield strategy
- Oversight over the allocation of resources (collections through taxation revenue as well as the trade of goods with other nations)
- Head of a council of advisors to the Pharaoh, consisting of top-ranking bureaucrats and administrators

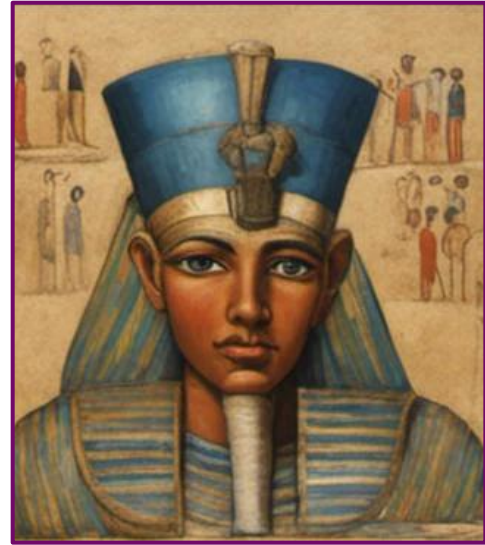


Figure 2: Smendes I

As a result of being so directly involved with on-ground operations, large numbers of Egypt's administrators, generals, scribes and contracted labourers ended up seeing much more of and interacting much more with Smendes I, causing a development in loyalty towards him instead of towards Ramses XI. As in every regime, Ramses XI and Smendes I disagree on the course of action to be followed in many instances, but there has been no explicit indication yet of an ideological divide within the Ramesside faction.

Smendes I faces a few threats to his position of authority

- Despite being the pharaoh's right-hand man, there is no formal record of the position that he holds in the current regime, exposing him to the threat of his power being diminished over time if administrators and generals under him decide to exercise more autonomy
- While multiple high-ranking bureaucrats pledge loyalty to him, he too (like Herihor) lacks the divine mandate to govern Egypt, making kingship uncertain if he were to split off from the Ramesside faction

Goals

1. Control, either directly or indirectly, the throne of the pharaoh
2. As the power of the Ramesside regime in its entirety wanes, the power that Smendes I commands also is reducing significantly. Hence, occupying the seat of power isn't enough, curbing the rising threat posed by the Temple of Amun is also important.
3. Establishing a position of authority or legitimacy for himself within the pharaoh's regime

Ramesses XI

Power and Influence

Ramesses XI (also spelt Ramses XI) is the tenth ruler of the Twentieth Dynasty of Egypt. Despite a decline in the power of the pharaoh over the past few decades, he still holds immense power in a few respects:

- Given Egypt didn't have a democratic system, and any ruler of Egypt would exercise significant authority, a legitimate source of authority was critical in ensuring the people accepted the ruler and all levels of the bureaucratic system co-operated with that ruler. Ramesses XI, as of this date, remains the only man in Egypt that has the divine backing of Horus (the God of Kingship).
- Approval required in the passing of major decisions such as major shifts in resource allocation, entrance into new conflicts etc.
- Sole authority over the approval and dismissal of officials at the highest office (namely viziers and generals) under his regime

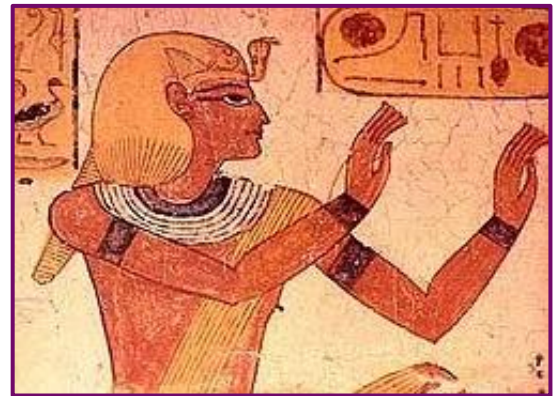


Figure 3: Ramesses XI

Despite this, he faced several threats to his power

- The increase in decision-making autonomy exercised by the viziers and generals in his regime threaten a fracturing within the Ramesside faction, with many seeing the perceived weakness of Ramses XI as a chance to accumulate power for themselves
- The rising influence of the Cult of Amun and its increasing wealth posed a direct threat to Ramses XI's power and his position as the sole figure of authority in Egypt

Goals

1. Curb the growing influence of the Cult of Amun and subsume it into his regime
2. Consolidate power within his government and the regain loyalty of officials within his government

Nodjmet

Power and Influence

Nodjmet is the wife of Herihor, and she exercises significant power within the Temple of Amun. This encompasses a few aspects:

- Indirect influence over the decisions made by Herihor in various matters including resource allocation and military strategy
- She assumes the role of Herihor in his absence, such as when he is involved in temple rituals (that often last for several months at a stretch) or gone on military campaigns. This gives her significant administrative connections and influence
- Primary control over female members of the priesthood (in the same way Herihor has control over male priests), including chantresses and priestesses that serve important roles in the priesthood
- Responsible for managing foreign relationships with leaders from kingdoms outside of Egypt (including various Libyan chieftains)

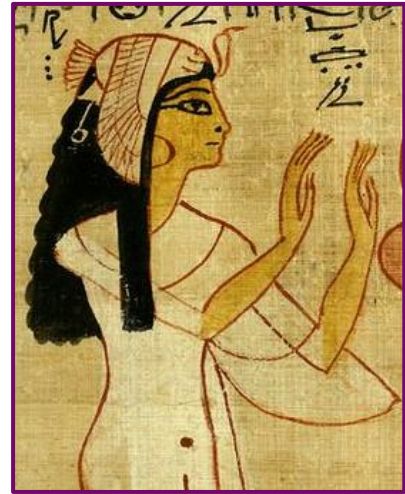


Figure 4: Nodjmet

There are, still, significant limitations on her power

- She lacks an independent military support base (in the way that Herihor has), reducing the level of power she has independent of him. A significant amount of her power and legitimacy are derived from her marriage to Herihor instead of being acknowledged in a formal title.
- Most important figures of religious authority are still male, and therefore control over female members of the priesthood is important but doesn't grant her a level of control similar to that of Herihor.

Goals

1. Increase the authority held by women in the Temple of Amun (a likely precursor to her gaining significant influence of her own)
2. Helping grow the influence of the Cult overall

Panehesy

Power and Influence

Panehesy's is the commander of the Egyptian forces in Nubia and a former viceroy of Nubia. He is also a member of Ramses XI's regime. His powers include the following

- Control over all military garrisons in Nubia and responsible for the protection of Egyptian territories in Nubia, granting him significant military autonomy. He has, in the past, mobilised his troops to fend off Nubian attacks to Egyptian establishments in the region.
- Nubian garrisons were occasionally called back into southern Egypt, with the most notable case being the suppression of unrest by supports of the Cult of Amun in Thebes in December of 1081 BC. Several confrontations have created a rivalry between Panehesy and Herihor in Upper Egypt.
 - Active combat experience, in the past, gave Panehesy's troops an advantage while crushing instability, allowing military victories with minimal civilian casualties.
- While he isn't the Viceroy of Nubia and doesn't directly control what happens to the gold found there, he has significant economic leverage as a result of being responsible for protecting the gold as it is being transported (which ultimately ends up funding both the pharaoh's regime as well as the Temple of Amun), placing Panehesy in a unique position of authority.

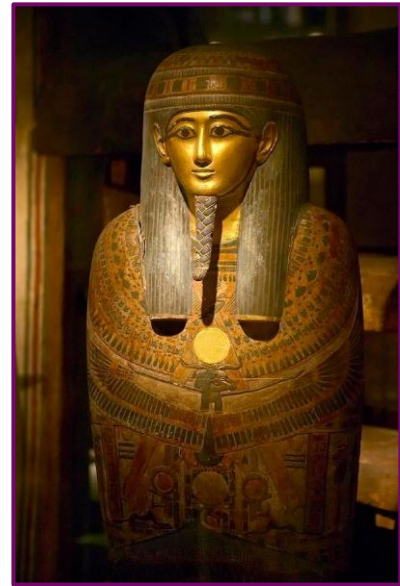


Figure 5: Panehesy

Limitations to his power

- He isn't directly involved in day-to-day decision making for most of Egypt, with his source of power being outside Egypt's main territory. As a result, he isn't involved in major governance decisions yet.
- Very dependent on exports of gold from Nubia, loss of the territories that contain gold mines or a foreign attack would cause Panehesy's power to evaporate
- In Southern Egypt, the army of the Temple of Amun now has a larger size than Panehesy's Nubian garrisons, threatening his source of military authority

Goals

1. Gain more influence in the everyday governance system of Egypt
2. Consolidate military power across all units and garrisons in Egypt under the pharaoh's regime

Piankh

Power and Influence

- He is, unofficially, Herihor's confidante and right-hand man. He accompanies Herihor on most diplomatic visits and to most meetings with high-ranking officials across Egypt. This has 2 implications on his power. First, it gives him a large degree of influence in decisions made by Herihor (giving him indirect power over the actions of the Cult). Second, it also grants him access to the deep-rooted and powerful networks that Herihor has access to, including the wealthiest donors to the Temple and its largest proponents across the empire, most of whom wield immense power from within the shadows.
- He is the commander of the armed forces of the Temple of Amun. As a result, most members of the armed forces pledge their loyalty to him, he has near-total autonomy over determining where they are deployed and what strategies are used on the battlefield. He also has a large say in the appointment or replacement of generals in the army and the pay given to soldiers and mercenaries that fight for the Temple. The army, historically, has been primarily used for defensive purposes (eg. To protect the Temple's treasuries, provide security to high-ranking priests, guard important tombs against robberies etc.). However, over the last few years, the army has been used for offensive purposes as well, in confrontations with the government of Ramses XI and independent Libyan militias across Egypt.



Figure 6: Piankh

However, there are also limits to Piankh's power

- He doesn't hold an official position within the Temple of Amun, because the military arm of the Temple is structurally independent to the rest of the Temple's command structure. Since the Temple of Amun is a religious organisation, the highest preference and degree of power is given to leaders that have religious power bases and backing, which Piankh lacks currently. In the event of that a successor to Herihor needs to be selected, Piankh is not the current frontrunner.
- Piankh, despite having significant operational autonomy, is still subservient to Herihor for major actions, and Herihor's decision would be final and binding in the instance of a conflict of opinion.

Goals

1. Develop an official and stable source of power within the Temple
2. Defend the Temple against military threats from the pharaoh's government, and wear down their military capacity

Queen Tentamun

Power and Influence

Queen Tentamun (wife of Smendes I) is an important member of the administration of Ramses XI. She had multiple sources of power

- Her alliances within the royal administration gave her one of the largest amounts of control and power given to officials in Egypt without a title. By virtue of being the daughter of Ramses XI and the wife of Smendes I, she had indirect influence in controlling decisions made by both of them.
- Her familial relationships cemented her as an integral part of the Ramesside administration who would be difficult to sideline even in the case of a leadership change, because of her connection to both the past bloodline as well as a matrimonial relationship with one of the most important men in the Ramesside administration
 - This also makes Tentamun important in determining the successor of Ramses XI, because she is his only surviving heir and therefore, per the conventional rules of succession, the primary choice for pharaohship in the event of his death
- She was also responsible for managing connections to bureaucratic and noble families across Egypt, ensuring they remained loyal to the pharaoh Ramses XI and managing patronage networks within the families

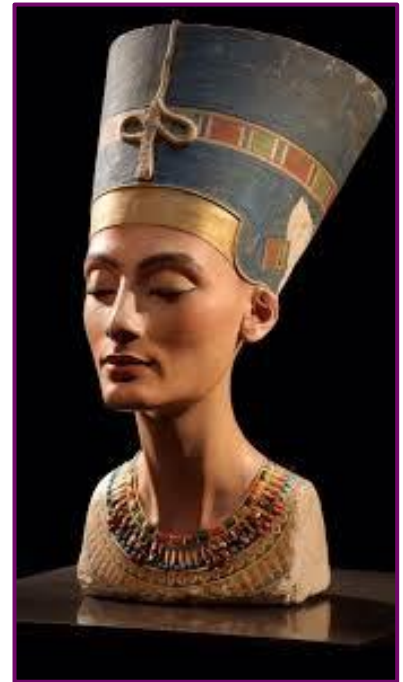


Figure 7: Queen Tentamun

Limitations on her power include

- The absence of an official title, resulting in most of her influence being exercised through informal agreements and therefore being less certain than the power held by titled officials
- She has no independent power base such as military power or a loyal cult following, most of her power is only within the political system at Tanis. As a result, she relies on the real power held by Smendes I and Ramses XI

Goals

1. Develop a position of genuine authority with a source of legitimacy that is independent of her father and her husband
2. Retain the loyalty of elite and noble families, and work to increase the soft power and influence exercised by the regime Ramses XI

Great Chief of the Meshwesh

Power and Influence

The Great Chief of the Meshwesh was the leader of the Meshwesh Tribe, a militarily powerful Libyan tribe with extensive control in Egypt at this time. The Great Chief's control was derived from a few sources:

- Large numbers of the Meshwesh people settled in Egypt after the conflict with Ramses III, and have risen up the ranks to become influential military figures in the government of Ramses XI. However, they still pledge their allegiance to the Great Chief of the Meshwesh, and he holds a significant degree of influence over their loyalty. Currently, he has allowed co-operation with the Ramesside government, both by serving at various positions of the government as well as by engaging in private military contracts with the government (as mercenaries).
- The Great Chief also commands multiple independent militias consisting up of the Meshwesh people that have control over vast swathes of mineral-rich land in the Libyan desert. While this mineral wealth hasn't been realised to its full potential yet, the Meshwesh people control around 30% of this land. These militias have the potential to disrupt stability in Egypt.
- The authority of the Great Chief of the Meshwesh, unlike most other powerful people in Egypt, is one that is derived from his family and bloodline instead of his title being an appointed one, giving him a significant amount of concentrated and long-term power over the Meshwesh people.

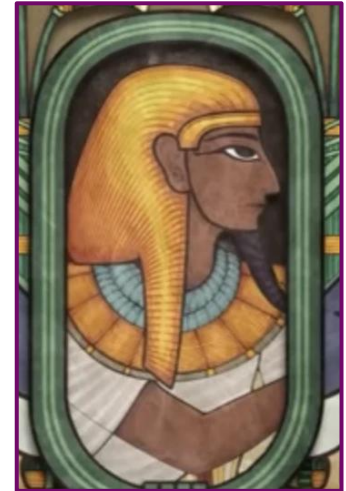


Figure 8: Great Chief of the Meshwesh

Limitations on his power include:

- No direct control over the running of Egypt, as a result of not having the legitimacy possessed by either the pharaoh or the Temple of Amun, which makes it challenging for him to get an official title in Egypt
- His power base is restricted to the Meshwesh people and some members of other Libyan tribes, but the majority of the Egyptian population doesn't recognise his authority yet
- The Meshwesh people, to an extent, are still dependent on Egyptian farmland for economic prosperity, reducing the independence of the Great Chief of the Meshwesh and making him, to an extent, dependent on co-operating with people that presently hold positions of power in Egypt

Goals

1. Develop an independent source of authority in Egypt, specifically among the Egyptian people
2. Maximise the prosperity and power of the Meshwesh people

Second Prophet of Amun

Power and Influence

The Second Prophet of Amun is one of the most important priests in the Temple of Amun. The Temple of Amun follows a hierarchical structure for the most part, with the level of power held by each official within the temple increasing the higher the rank. The second prophet of Amun, as a result, is the second most powerful male official in the Temple of Amun at this time. His power is derived from the following sources:

- He is the direct successor to Herihor, and will assume his duties in case Herihor passes away or is renounced by the Temple of Amun from his priestly duties (in exceptional circumstances including but not limited to scandals, offensive or disrespectful treatment towards Amun and incapacitation due to factors such as old age or disease)
- He is a member of the council of priests that is tasked with the comprehension of divine mandates and signals sent by the God Amun
- He manages the day-to-day operations of most economic activities carried out by the Cult of Amun. These include assigning members of the Temple to collect taxes and grain from the temple's various estates, assigning scribes and overseeing their work in maintaining a record of the total income and expenditure of the temple, and determining how much of its revenue the Temple spends and how it spends those resources. While Herihor is still at a higher position of authority, the Second Prophet of Amun has significant operational control over economic activity.

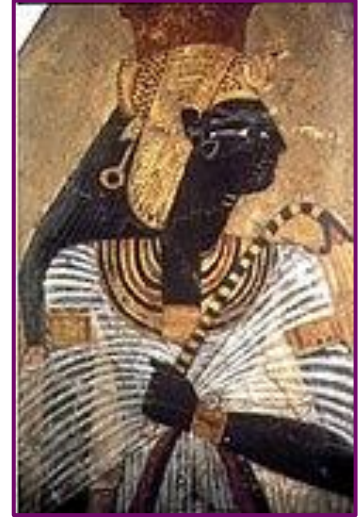


Figure 9: Second Prophet of Amun

There were, however, significant limitations to his power:

- He has no military power in the way that other prophets, specifically Herihor, command – meaning in the event of a succession battle he would have to organise his own independent fighting force
- His legitimacy is, to an extent, dependent on the Council of Priests. That is, if a supermajority of the council deemed him unfit to succeed Herihor, even if Herihor passed away there is a possibility the Second Prophet of Amun might not succeed him.
- His power is not absolute within the Temple of Amun, and he relies on major decisions being approved by Herihor

Goals

1. Develop a power base within the Temple of Amun that doesn't rely on other priests
2. Increase the influence of the Temple of Amun

Northern Vizier

Power and Influence

The Northern Vizier holds, formally, the most important administrative position in Northern (Lower) Egypt, and is the chief bureaucratic representative for the pharaoh's government in the region. His power consists of the following aspects:

- Almost complete administrative control over governing Lower Egypt. This includes having, on paper, the final say over matters relating to taxation, military strategy and judiciary decisions. His office commands a level of authority that can be overridden exclusively by the pharaoh.
- He has important connections to locals across Lower Egypt, specifically those whose families have been prosperous across generations. These families span across several professions, and include traders, craftsmen and artisans. This gives him a significant degree of support and legitimacy from the common Egyptian.
- Various regional governors across Lower Egypt report concerns in their nomes directly to the Northern Vizier, and keep him informed of all happenings in their provinces. As a result, the Northern Vizier has access to a significant degree of on-ground information, a large part of which even the pharaoh isn't informed of.

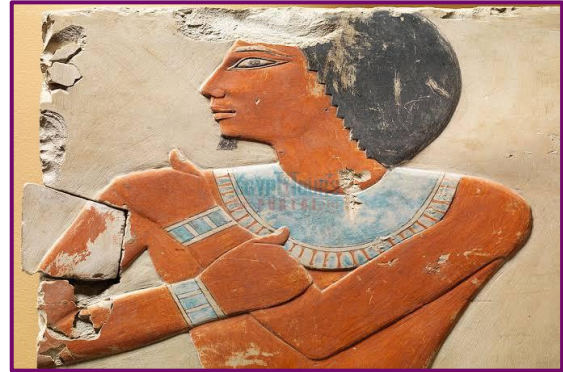


Figure 10: Northern Vizier

Limitations on his power include:

- Despite a formal title giving him a position of near-total power in Lower Egypt, in practice Smendes I exercises more power in the governance of the region. This is because the pharaoh, trusting Smendes I more, often overrides decisions made by the Northern Vizier in favour of recommendations by Smendes I. Therefore, his authority in the region frequently clashes with that of Smendes I, giving him competition even within the pharaoh's government.
 - It is important to note, however, that the Northern Vizier exercises a similar amount of authority to Smendes I over economic decisions— including the collection of taxes, managing international trade and forging new trade alliances
- His office includes purely civil administration, and he doesn't have an independent military support base of his own

Goals

1. Increase his influence within the government to be greater than that of Smendes I
2. Retain a strong grip over the provinces under his control to curb the growing influence of the Temple of Amun

Chief of the Libu Confederacy

Power and Influence

The Chief of the Libu Confederacy is a Libyan tribal head of the Libu people, a group distinct from the Meshwesh people. His power stems from multiple sources:

- Large numbers of the Libu people settled in Egypt after the conflict with Ramses III (similar to that of the Meshwesh tribe), and have risen up the ranks to become influential military figures in the government of Ramses XI. However, they still pledge their allegiance to the Chief of the Libu Confederacy, and he holds a significant degree of influence over their loyalty.
- The Great Chief also commands multiple independent militias consisting up of the Libu people that have control over vast swathes of mineral-rich land in the Libyan desert. While this mineral wealth hasn't been realised to its full potential yet, the Libu people control around 40% of this land. The amount of independent landholdings and activity that the Libu people are engaged in exceeds that of the Meshwesh tribe, while the Meshwesh tribe is more involved in positions of governmental authority than the Libu tribe.
- While the Libu people, at this moment, do not have as much representation in government as the Meshwesh tribe, Egyptian pharaohs and viziers have historically rotated between granting positions of power to members of either tribe in an attempt to prevent any one tribe for remaining in power for a long time and inserting themselves permanently into Egyptian governance. Therefore, there is a strong likelihood that a regime change in Egypt would lead to an increase in the prominence of the Libu Tribe.



Figure 11: Chief of the Libu Confederacy

Limitations on his power include:

- No direct control over the running of Egypt, as a result of not having any source of legitimacy within the country. While the mineral wealth and military expertise of the tribe is an asset, it is yet to fully break into Egyptian governance and attain a level of power that makes the Chief of the Libu Confederacy a meaningful contender for the Throne of Kemet.
- His power base is restricted to the Libu people

Goals

1. Develop an independent power base in Egypt (by leveraging his tribe's economic, geographical and military advantages)
2. Take control (either by force or through alliances) of land close to and within Egypt

Third Prophet of Amun

Power and Influence

The Third Prophet of Amun is the third most powerful religious official in the Temple of Amun. His power is derived from a few sources:

- He is an important member of the Council of Priests in the Temple, and as a result has significant influence in the interpretation of the scripture and divine signals
- He has almost exclusive power over the cultural aspects of the Temple. This includes being responsible for the organisation of important festivals such as the Opet Festival (which was Amun's ceremonial procession between the temples at Karnak and Luxor and was attended by most of Egypt's religious and political elite) and getting a lot of visibility as a result of being in the public eye during such a major festival. Other roles played by the Third Prophet of Amun include carrying out religious ceremonies at the Temple (such as rituals and procedures associated with cleansing and protecting the bodies of the dead, ordaining new pharaohs etc.) and interpreting the movements of the Bark of Amun-Ra.



Figure 12: Third Prophet of Amun

Limitations on his power include:

- The absence of hard power (such as economic or military control) that was exercised by the First and Second Prophets of Amun, instead having influence and soft power in the form of visibility and public trust. This meant that in the event of a succession crisis or a division with the Temple, the Third Prophet of Amun wouldn't have any significant means of forming his own independent faction without external economic and/or military backing.
- A loss of faith, among a growing minority of people, in his credibility in interpreting the signals of the Bark of Amun-Ra after the Temple's refusal to comment on the Bark's rejection of Herihor as the divine ruler of Egypt.

Goals

1. Develop an independent source of power within the Temple of Amun with some economic or military assets
2. Work towards rebuilding people's faith in the Temple's verdicts and interpretations of divine signals

Admiral of the Delta Fleet

Power and Influence

The Admiral of the Delta Fleet is the primary naval commander of the pharaoh's government at this time. His power is derived from the following sources:

- The 'Delta Fleet' is the pharaoh's highest-grade naval fleet that operated across the River Nile. This fleet had multiple functions. This includes playing a pivotal role in warfare by attacking enemy targets from the water which limits their ability to strike back, transporting soldiers across various parts of Egypt and moving weapons and war supplies quickly between the North and South of Egypt in times of conflict. This fleet occasionally also defends Egypt against naval attacks from European and Asian powers.
- The Delta Fleet also plays an important economic role, transporting high-value or perishable goods across the River Nile. The Fleet not only provides the infrastructure to facilitate this transportation, but also protects these goods from threats along the way such as hostile Libyan militias and bands of pirates consisting of members of various desert tribes.
- The Admiral of the Delta Fleet, by extension, has control over all of these operations, with the pharaoh, historically, rarely intervening in his job but theoretically having the ability to. The Admiral decides which ships to deploy on specific missions, how much protection to give ships, battle strategies to use in periods of conflicts etc.

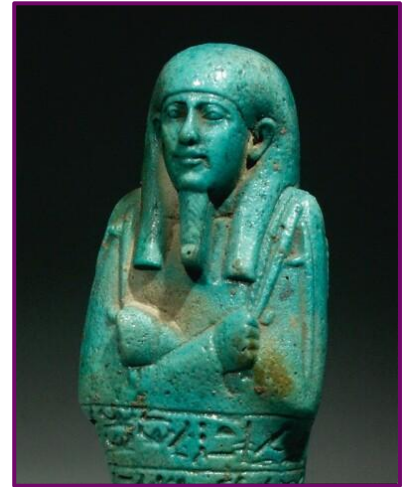


Figure 13: Admiral of the Delta Fleet

Limits to his power include:

- The manpower and military muscle power of the Delta Fleet was much lesser than land garrisons, resulting in the Admiral of the Delta Fleet having less control than generals of land units at an equivalent rank
- The Delta Fleet was very expensive to maintain and preventing decay required significant funding, thereby making the Delta Fleet's success and power conditional on the level of funding the pharaoh was willing to afford them.
- The Admiral have much influence or control over Egyptian governance and politics in the way that other military generals had

Goals

1. Developing influence and power in the governance of Egypt, extending it beyond just military command
2. Increasing the size and scale of the Delta Fleet to match the power held by land garrisons

Chief Vizier of the South

Power and Influence

The Chief Vizier of the South, also known as the Southern Vizier, is the primary representative of the pharaoh's government in Southern (Upper) Egypt. His power was derived from the following sources:



Figure 14: Chief Vizier of the South

- Almost complete administrative control over governing Upper Egypt. This includes having, the final say over matters relating to taxation, military strategy and judiciary decisions. His office commands a level of authority that can be overridden, officially, exclusively by the pharaoh.
- He has important connections to locals across Lower Egypt, specifically those whose families have been prosperous across generations. These families span across several professions, and include traders, craftsmen and artisans. This gives him a significant degree of support and legitimacy from the common Egyptian
- He has a significant degree of economic control in Upper Egypt – this includes control over trade expeditions to territories to the South of Egypt, allocating resources collected by taxing grain production on government-controlled lands and, importantly, deciding rates of taxation on the wealth owned by the Temple of Amun. Currently, the Temple of Amun, as an explicit policy agreed upon by the Chief Vizier of the South and the Pharaoh, doesn't have to pay any form of taxation on its revenue, wealth and estates. This, however, is subject to change based, in large part, on the discretion of the Chief Vizier of the South.

His power was limited in a number of ways:

- Arguably the largest threat to the power of the Southern Vizier, was the rising influence of the Temple of Amun in Upper Egypt. This drew legitimacy away from the pharaoh's government and, by extension, deprived the Vizier of the authority and popular support required to make his rule effective. Thousands of farmers worked on farmland owned by the Cult and most people relied on the Temple for a spiritual connection to their patron Gods. This competing source of authority was dangerous for the Southern Vizier.
- He didn't command the largest military in Southern Egypt, with the military power of the Temple of Amun matching, if not exceeding, the military might of the government of Ramses XI in Southern Egypt.

Goals

Crush the growing influence of the Cult of Amun and regain legitimacy as the primary source of authority in Upper Egypt

Overseer of the Royal Granaries

Power and Influence

The Overseer of the Royal Granaries is one of the most powerful civil positions within the pharaoh's regime, with several holders of this position having risen to the position of vizier in the past. This position's power was derived from the following sources:

- The Overseer of the Royal Granaries is extremely important in Egypt because most of Egypt's economy is based on grain. The Egyptian empire operates on a barter system, with wages for all individuals from temple workers to soldiers all being paid in the form of grain rations. Additionally, taxation from farms is also collected in the form of grain, and grain is handed out from the Royal Granaries in times of famine to provide relief to the Egyptian people. Therefore, the pharaoh's reserves of grain were, in effect, a large indication of his material wealth, giving the man who holds this position an indispensable role. Most economic activity in Egypt that is sponsored by the state relies on workers being paid in the form of grain, over which this allocation has a significant degree of influence.
- While other officials could technically replace the Overseer of the Royal Granaries, he has an understanding of Egypt's economic system that is unparalleled within the pharaoh's administration. He has access to information on the levels of grain production in each sector of each nome in Egypt, giving him the unique ability to make grain allocation decisions with a precision most other officials cannot match.



Figure 15: Overseer of Royal Granaries

Limitations on his power include:

- His economic power is limited to being relevant only within Egypt, because trade with foreign powers and international alliances often relied on the trade of more valuable, non-perishable materials such as copper and gold
- The rising influence of the Cult of Amun challenged the pharaoh's government's reserves of grain, with the government now only controlling 60% of grain reserves and production in Egypt, with 40% belonging primarily to the Temple of Amun along with a few other relatively minor religious cults
- His power depends largely on the quality of harvest that Egypt has – with multiple consistently poor harvests eroding his authority as a result of severe grain shortages

Goals

1. Expand his control over most if not all grain reserves and production across Egypt
2. Develop a stable and consistence support base within the pharaoh's government

God's Wife of Amun

Power and Influence

- Holds one of the most prestigious religious offices in all of Egypt, serving as the high priestess and ritual consort of Amun himself within the Theban cult. The position carries immense symbolic authority, often rivaling that of the High
- She performs key rituals believed essential to sustaining divine order (maat) and royal legitimacy, meaning her cooperation, or withholding of it, can color the perceived sanctity of any political settlement reached between Tanis and Thebes.
- Her household, often called the most lavishly endowed institution after the High Priest's own, gives her independent economic power that does not pass through the ordinary temple treasury structure.



Figure 16: God's Wife of Amun

However, there are limits to her power

- Her influence is almost entirely ceremonial and symbolic; she commands no military forces of her own and cannot directly coerce compliance from either crown or priesthood.
- Despite her formal independence, the High Priest of Amun still oversees the broader temple apparatus and can constrain her practical authority over land, appointments, and major decisions if he chooses to assert himself.
- Her position depends heavily on royal or high-priestly sponsorship for her original appointment and for the eventual adoption of her successor, leaving her vulnerable to political manoeuvring she cannot fully control.

Goals

1. Preserve the independence and wealth of her household amid the broader struggle between crown and priesthood.
2. Use her unique sacral neutrality to position herself as a stabilizing or unifying figure between Tanis and Thebes.

Libyan General of the Delta Garrisons

Power and Influence

- Commands the network of fortified garrisons across the Delta, manned overwhelmingly by Libyan settler-soldiers ("Meshwesh" and "Ma" troops) who form the practical backbone of the crown's military strength in Lower Egypt.
- He controls troop deployment, fortress provisioning, and recruitment from Libyan settler communities that have steadily militarized the region over the past century. Because the crown's native Egyptian levies are comparatively weak and unreliable, his cooperation is often more decisive to Tanis's survival than that of the formal royal army command.
- He also has informal influence over Delta chieftains, many of whom share kinship or clan ties with his own troops.



Figure 17: Libyan General of the Delta Garrisons

However, there are limits to his power

- His authority rests on personal and clan loyalty rather than institutional office; if Libyan chieftains decide their interests diverge from the crown's, his soldiers may simply not follow orders.
- He has no jurisdiction over Upper Egypt or temple-controlled territory, confining his influence geographically to the Delta.

Goals

1. Secure formal recognition and land rights for Libyan settler-soldiers.
2. Maintain the Delta garrisons as the crown's most reliable line of defense.

Governor of Memphis

Powers and Influence:

- Administers Egypt's ancient administrative capital, a city of immense symbolic and economic weight straddling the boundary between Delta and Valley.
- He oversees the city's taxation, granaries, port traffic, and the substantial estates of the Memphite temple of Ptah, giving him both fiscal leverage and a degree of religious legitimacy independent of Amun.
- Memphis's central location makes it a natural waypoint for goods, and armies moving between Tanis and Thebes, meaning he can facilitate or obstruct communication and supply between the two centres.

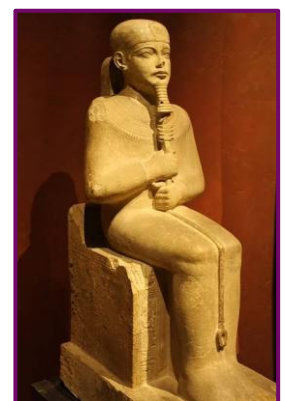


Figure 18: Governor of Memphis

However, there are limits to his power

- His office is appointed by, and formally answerable to, the crown, meaning open defiance of Tanis risks his removal.
- The Ptah priesthood operates with significant independence from his civil authority, limiting his ability to fully mobilize Memphis's religious resources.

Goals

1. Preserve Memphis's prosperity and autonomy regardless of which side prevails.
2. Position himself as an indispensable mediator between crown and priesthood.

Governor of Upper Egypt

Power and Influence

- Holds nominal administrative authority over the southern provinces on behalf of the crown, including tax collection, local militia levies, and oversight of Nile trade routes south of Thebes. This makes him the crown's primary representative outside the Delta.
- He retains personal networks among non-priestly landowners and minor officials who resent the Amun priesthood's growing encroachment on secular administration.

However, there are limits to his power

- Thebes, the seat of Amun's power, lies within his nominal jurisdiction, meaning his authority is constantly undermined and overridden by Herihor's priesthood in practice.
- Much of the land and labour in Upper Egypt is legally bound to temple estates, leaving him with a shrinking tax base and limited real resources.

Goals

1. Reassert meaningful royal administrative control in Upper Egypt.
2. Slow or reverse the transfer of royal land into temple ownership.

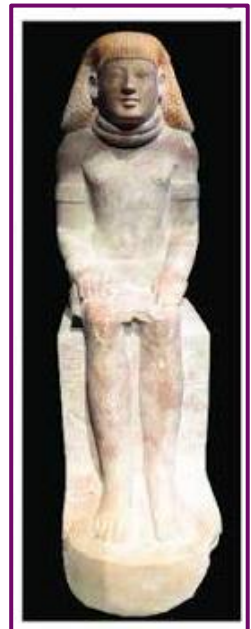


Figure 19: Governor of Upper Egypt

Chief Northern Steward of Amun

Power and Influence

- Manages Amun's substantial estates, granaries, and revenue streams in the Delta and Memphite region, representing the temple's primary economic foothold outside its Theban heartland.
- He controls the shipment of grain and goods owed to the temple from northern lands, and through this, wields significant leverage over local economies and even over some crown officials who depend on temple grain in lean years.
- His role makes him one of the few priesthood officials with regular, direct dealings in territory nominally controlled by Tanis.



Figure 20: Chief Northern Steward of Amun

However, there are limits to his power

- He operates deep within hostile or contested territory, dependent on the goodwill of local governors and Libyan chieftains for safe passage and security.
- His authority is purely economic; he has no military or judicial power to enforce the temple's claims if local officials choose to resist.

Goals

1. Maximize and protect Amun's revenue streams from the contested north.
2. Build personal alliances with northern officials to secure the temple's interests.

Chieftain of Bubastis

Power and Influence

- Leads one of the Delta's most prominent and rapidly rising Libyan-descended ruling houses, commanding sizable local levies and considerable agricultural and craft wealth from the Bubastite nome.
- His family's prestige has grown to the point that he is treated as a near-equal by some royal officials rather than a mere subordinate, and his court at Bubastis has become a hub for Libyan nobility seeking patronage.
- This growing independent standing makes him a figure all the rival chieftains and armies are extremely eager to court.

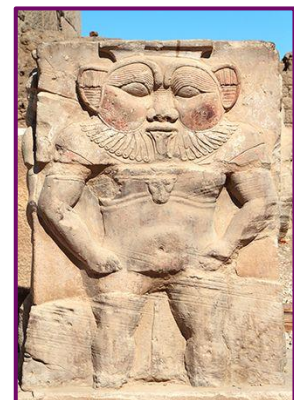


Figure 21: Chieftain of Bubastis

However, there are limits to his power

- He remains formally subordinate to the crown and lacks any legitimate claim to a higher title, restraining how openly he can act independently.
- His rise has bred jealousy among rival Delta chieftains, who may unite against him if he overreaches.

Goals

1. Strengthen Bubastis as a future center of power.
2. Maintain careful relations with both Tanis and fellow Libyan chieftains to avoid isolation.

Overseer of Royal Treasuries

Power and Influence

- Controls the pharaoh's financial reserves and the disbursement of funds for the army, administration, and palace upkeep, making his cooperation essential to financing any royal initiative, military or otherwise.
- He possesses detailed, sensitive knowledge of the crown's actual financial position relative to Amun's far wealthier temple estates, knowledge that few others in the palace are privy to.
- This gives him quiet but real power to shape royal policy by determining what the crown can or cannot afford to attempt.



Figure 22: Overseer of Royal Treasuries

However, there are limits to his power

- The treasury's chronic shortfalls (worsened by lost tax revenue from temple-controlled lands) severely constrain what he can actually offer, regardless of his formal authority.
- He answers directly to the pharaoh and senior household officials, and any attempt to act independently risks immediate dismissal from duty. Thus, he must work carefully.

Goals

1. Secure sufficient funds to keep the crown's army and administration functioning.
2. Identify untapped or alternative revenue sources to offset losses to the temple.

General Ahmose II

Power and Influence

- Commands key garrisons and field units loyal to Ramesses XI, making him one of the few senior military figures the crown can still rely upon.
- He holds influence among officers and soldiers uneasy about the priesthood's growing military independence under Piankh, and his battlefield decisions directly shape the crown's capacity to resist further encroachment.
- His personal reputation and connections among veteran soldiers give him sway beyond his official rank.

However, there are limits to his power

- His forces are smaller and less reliably paid than those of the Temple of Amun, leaving him perpetually at a material disadvantage.
- He must compete with other royal commanders and Libyan garrison leaders for scarce resources and the pharaoh's attention. This makes his strategy even more important.

Goals

1. Rebuild royal military capacity to credibly challenge Theban dominance.
2. Secure his own promotion and standing within the royal command structure.



Figure 23: General Ahmose II

Priest of Ptah

Power and Influence

- Leads the Memphite cult of Ptah, the second most prestigious religious institution in Egypt after Amun, commanding substantial temple estates, treasuries, and a body of priests with their own ritual and economic authority.
- His religious sanction carries weight that neither Tanis nor Thebes can easily dismiss, as Ptah's cult retains ancient prestige tied to coronation rites and creation theology. Both the crown and the Amun priesthood have reason to court his favour rather than risk alienating Memphis.

However, there are limits to his power

- Ptah's cult, while prestigious, commands far less material wealth and military capacity than Amun's, limiting his ability to act as more than a moral or symbolic counterweight.
- He must carefully avoid appearing to take sides, as overt alignment with either faction risks Memphis becoming a target in the conflict.

Goals

1. Preserve Ptah's religious independence from Amun's growing monopoly.
2. Elevate Memphis as a neutral but influential power center nationally.

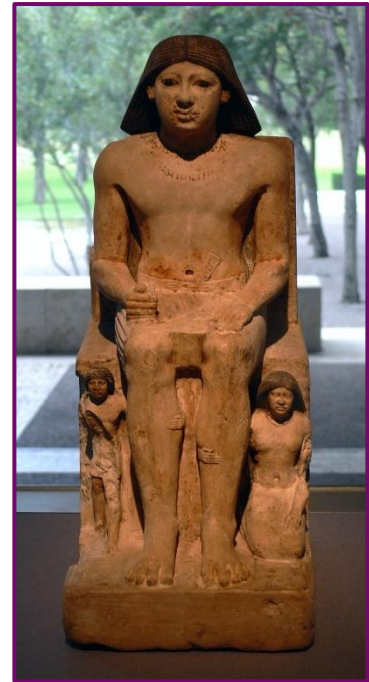


Figure 24: Priest of Ptah

Chieftain of Sebennytos

Power and Influence

- Heads another ascendant Libyan-descended house in the central Delta, commanding local troops, agricultural wealth, and growing prestige that parallels the rise of other Libyan chieftaincies.
- His control over fertile farmland and local manpower gives him real leverage in negotiations with both Tanis and neighboring chieftains, and he has begun cultivating ties that may serve future dynastic ambitions.

However, there are limits to his power

- His territory is smaller and less strategically located than rivals like Bubastis, limiting his ability to project power beyond his immediate region.
- He remains dependent on royal recognition for any formal expansion of his authority.



Figure 25: Chieftain of Sebennytos

Goals

1. Expand his territorial and economic base in the central Delta.
2. Forge alliances with fellow Libyan chieftains to strengthen his collective position.

Fourth Prophet of Amun

Power and Influence

- Holds a senior rank within the formal priestly hierarchy of Amun, participating in temple governance, ritual administration, and the oracle proceedings that grant religious sanction to the priesthood's political decisions.
- Though junior to Herihor and the higher prophets, his position gives him real influence in shaping internal consensus among the priestly college, and a path toward future advancement.

However, there are limits to his power

- He ranks well below the First and Second Prophets in both ritual seniority and practical authority, meaning his voice can be overridden in major decisions.
- His influence is confined almost entirely to internal temple politics, with little direct sway over military or civil affairs.

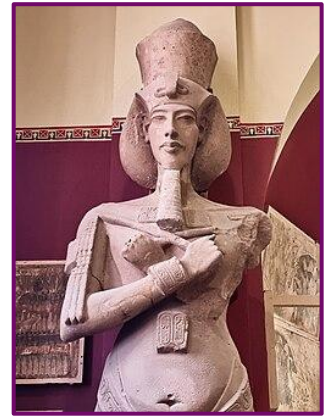


Figure 26: Fourth Prophet of Amun

Goals

1. Rise steadily through the priestly hierarchy toward greater authority.
2. Strengthen the oracle's role as the legitimizing voice behind the priesthood's actions.

Chief Royal Scribe

Power and Influence

- Manages the crown's correspondence, administrative records, and legal documentation, controlling much of the information that reaches Ramesses XI and shaping how royal decisions are communicated and implemented.
- In an administration increasingly dependent on careful diplomacy with rival power centres, his discretion over what is recorded, delayed, or emphasized gives him quiet but meaningful influence over policy.

However, there are limits to his power

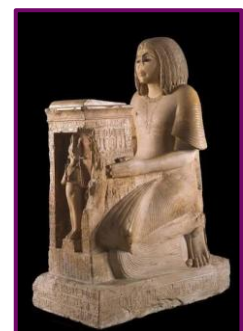


Figure 27: Chief Royal Scribe

- His role is fundamentally administrative rather than executive; he can shape information flow but cannot independently command resources or troops.
- He remains vulnerable to being bypassed if more powerful officials choose to communicate directly with the pharaoh.

Goals

1. Preserve administrative continuity and the appearance of royal legitimacy.
2. Leverage his informational access to build influence with competing factions.

Chieftain of Herakleopolis

Power and Influence

- Controls a strategically vital Middle Egyptian nome that bridges Upper and Lower Egypt, commanding local levies and benefiting from Nile trade passing through his territory.
- His position astride the corridor between Thebes and the Delta makes him a valuable, if contested, ally whose cooperation can ease or hinder movement and trade between the two rival power centers.



Figure 28: Chieftain of Herakleopolis

However, there are limits to his power

- His relatively modest military strength means he cannot resist serious pressure from either Tanis or Thebes if they choose to act against him.
- His strategic value also makes him a target, forcing him into a delicate balancing act rather than free independent action.

Goals

1. Preserve Herakleopolis's neutrality to extract concessions from both sides.
2. Expand his control and revenue from Nile trade passing through his lands.

Chief of the Royal Household

Power and Influence

- Oversees the administration of the palace itself, including its finances, staff, and protocol, and controls who may gain audience with or influence over Ramesses XI. This gatekeeping role grants him significant indirect power, as even senior officials and military commanders must often go through him to secure royal attention or approval.

However, there are limits to his power

- His authority is confined to the palace and does not extend to military command or provincial administration.
- His position depends entirely on the pharaoh's continued trust, making him vulnerable to court intrigue and rivals seeking his removal.

Goals

1. Protect the integrity and authority of the royal household.
2. Prevent further erosion of the pharaoh's personal influence and prestige.



Figure 29: Chief of the Royal Household

Chief of the Medjay Garrison

Power and Influence

- Commands the Medjay, Egypt's traditional desert security force responsible for guarding royal sites, patrolling against banditry, and protecting against the rampant tomb robbery that has plagued the Theban necropolis in this period.
- His control over internal security gives him unique leverage at a time when lawlessness threatens both crown and priesthood interests alike, and his cooperation is sought by whichever faction wishes to secure vulnerable sites.

However, there are limits to his power

- His forces are limited in number and primarily suited to policing rather than full military engagement.
- He must often coordinate with, and defer to, local temple or civil authorities in areas outside his direct jurisdiction.



Figure 30: Chief of the Medjay Garrison

Goals

1. Restore order and curb the rising wave of tomb robbery and banditry.
2. Use his security role to extract concessions and favor from both crown and priesthood.

Commander of the Palace Guard

Power and Influence

- Bears direct responsibility for the personal safety of Ramesses XI, commanding the elite troops stationed at the royal residence.
- Because the survival of the reigning pharaoh depends substantially on his loyalty and vigilance, he wields quiet but potentially decisive influence: his support, or its withdrawal, could determine the outcome of any internal succession crisis or coup attempt.



Figure 31: Commander of the Palace Guard

However, there are limits to his power

- His authority is confined strictly to the palace and its immediate environs, with no command over the wider army or garrisons.
- Any overt political ambition on his part risks being viewed as a threat by the pharaoh himself, inviting swift removal.

Goals

1. Ensure the pharaoh's physical security amid growing factional instability.
2. Leverage his unique proximity to the throne for personal advancement.

Libyan Archer Commander

Power and Influence

- Leads elite Libyan archer units that have become an increasingly indispensable component of Egyptian military forces, prized for their skill and battlefield effectiveness.
- His troops' loyalty is rooted primarily in ethnic and clan ties rather than formal allegiance to the crown, giving him substantial leverage in negotiations over pay, status, and deployment.



Figure 32: Libyan Archer Commander

However, there are limits to his power

- His units remain formally integrated into the broader royal army, limiting his ability to act entirely independently of royal command.
- His influence is largely confined to military matters, with little direct say in civil or religious affairs.

Goals

1. Secure greater pay, status, and recognition for Libyan archer units.
2. Preserve bargaining leverage by avoiding full subordination to native Egyptian command.

Governor of Thebes

Power and Influence

- Administers the civil governance of Thebes, including city infrastructure, local taxation, and policing, even as the city's true power center lies with Amun's priesthood under Herihor.
- His office preserves a vestige of secular administrative tradition in a city otherwise dominated by religious authority, giving him a unique, if constrained, vantage point on the priesthood's internal workings.

However, there are limits to his power

- Nearly all significant resources, land, and manpower in Thebes are controlled by the temple, leaving his civil administration chronically underfunded.
- He must operate carefully within the shadow of Herihor's authority, unable to challenge priestly decisions without risking removal.



Figure 33: Governor of Thebes

Goals

1. Preserve a meaningful sphere of civil authority independent of the priesthood.
2. Maintain Thebes's stability as Egypt's preeminent religious and political center.

Viceroy Of Kush

Power and Influence

- Governs Egypt's southern Nubian territories, a position that grants him control over vital gold mines, trade routes, and frontier garrisons far from direct oversight by either Tanis or Thebes.
- His remoteness affords him near-autonomous rule, and his command of Nubian gold, a resource both crown and priesthood desperately need, makes him one of the most quietly powerful figures in the entire conflict.

However, there are limits to his power

- His distance from the centers of power, while granting autonomy, also limits his ability to project direct influence over events in the Delta or Thebes.
- His garrisons, though loyal, are relatively small and stretched thin across a vast frontier, limiting his capacity for independent military action.



Figure 34: Viceroy of Kush

Goals

1. Preserve Nubian gold revenues for his own benefit and that of his chosen patron.
2. Strategically decide whether to back Tanis, Thebes, or pursue increasing independence.

Overseer of Royal Building Works

Power and Influence

- Directs royal construction projects, including fortifications, palace works, and temple maintenance, granting him control over skilled labor forces and substantial construction budgets.
- His role bridges practical military and infrastructure needs with the symbolic displays of power so central to legitimizing rule in this period, making his cooperation valuable to whichever faction seeks to project strength or prestige.

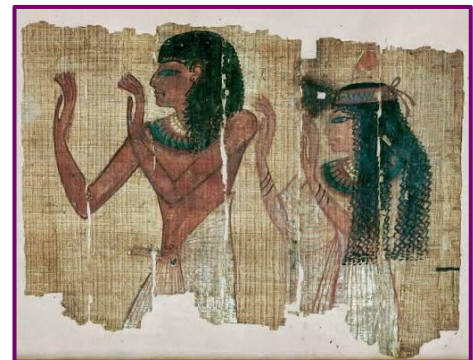


Figure 35: Overseer of Royal Building Works

However, there are limits to his power

- His budgets are entirely dependent on royal treasury allocations, which have grown increasingly unreliable.
- His authority is purely administrative and technical, with no independent military or political power of his own.

Goals

1. Secure funding to complete critical fortification and infrastructure projects.
2. Use control over labor and resources to curry favor with the eventual victor.

Chief Goldsmith of Amun

Power and Influence

- Oversees the production, storage, and management of Amun's vast gold and precious metal holdings, central to the temple's ability to fund its military campaigns and political ambitions.
- He commands skilled artisans and has intimate knowledge of the temple's true material wealth, a closely guarded secret that gives him unusual influence within the priesthood's economic apparatus.

However, there are limits to his power

- His authority is confined to craft production and treasury management, with no military or political command of his own.
- He remains answerable to senior priestly officials who ultimately control how the temple's wealth is deployed.



Figure 36: Chief Goldsmith of Amun

Goals

1. Safeguard and grow Amun's material wealth amid the upheaval of civil conflict.
2. Strengthen his own standing within the temple's economic hierarchy.

Chieftain of Hermopolis

Power and Influence

- Leads a significant Middle Egyptian nome with longstanding religious ties to the cult of Thoth, commanding local military forces and considerable economic resources from the region's fertile lands and trade.
- His position between the rival power centers of Thebes and the Delta gives him leverage as both a religious and political broker.



Figure 37: Chieftain of Hermopolis

However, there are limits to his power

- His military forces, while respectable, are insufficient to resist serious pressure from either Tanis or Thebes.
- His religious authority, tied to Thoth rather than Amun, carries less weight in negotiations than that of more prominent priesthoods.

Goals

1. Protect Hermopolis's religious and economic independence.
2. Extract favourable terms by positioning himself as a valuable but uncommitted ally.

Head of the Sherden Guard

Power and Influence

- Commands the Sherden, foreign mercenary warriors long employed as elite royal bodyguards and shock troops renowned for their ferocity and distinctive horned helmets.
- Their reputation and battlefield reliability make them a critical pillar of royal military strength, and their loyalty, secured chiefly through pay rather than allegiance, gives him substantial leverage in negotiations with the crown.

However, there are limits to his power

- His mercenaries' loyalty is transactional, meaning their support could shift to a better-paying patron, including the priesthood, if the crown's finances falter.
- He has no independent political standing beyond his military command, limiting his influence to matters of security and warfare.

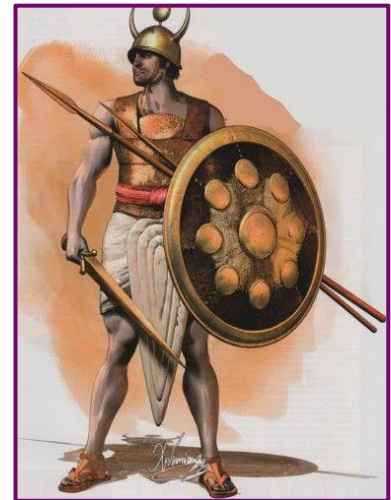


Figure 38: Head of the Sherden Guard

Goals

1. Secure continued lucrative employment and elevated status for his mercenaries.
2. Maintain leverage by ensuring his troops remain indispensable to royal security.

Chief Judicial Officer of Lower Egypt

Power and Influence

- Oversees the legal and judicial administration of the Delta, adjudicating disputes over land ownership, taxation, and criminal matters in a period when central royal authority is rapidly weakening.
- His rulings increasingly substitute for direct royal governance, giving him significant practical power over local affairs and the ability to favor or punish particular factions through legal means.

However, there are limits to his power

- His authority is confined to civil and legal matters, with no military force of his own to enforce contested rulings.
- Powerful local chieftains and officials may simply ignore his judgments if they calculate they can do so without consequence.

Goals

1. Preserve judicial order and his own authority amid administrative fragmentation.
2. Use legal rulings strategically to favour allies and weaken rivals.

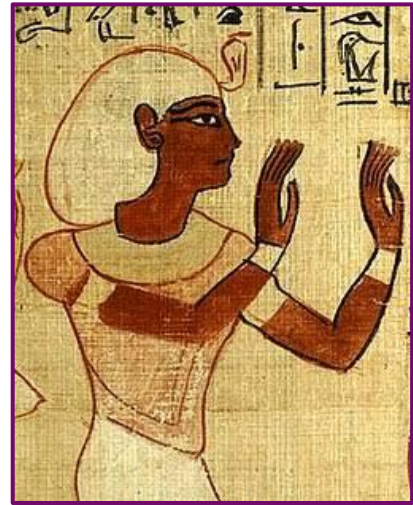


Figure 39: Chief Judicial Officer of Lower Egypt

Chief Royal Architect

Power and Influence

- Designs and supervises monumental royal and religious construction projects, commanding skilled craftsmen, engineers, and significant material resources.
- His expertise is valued by both crown and priesthood for prestige projects that reinforce political and religious legitimacy, giving him a degree of access and influence with senior figures on both sides of the divide.

However, there are limits to his power

- His role is technical and dependent on patronage; without royal or priestly funding, his projects and influence stall entirely.
- He possesses no independent military or political authority beyond his architectural expertise.



Figure 40: Chief Royal Architect

Goals

1. Secure patronage and resources to complete prestige construction projects.
2. Position himself as indispensable to whichever power ultimately prevails.

Libyan Cavalry Commander

Power and Influence

- Commands Egypt's growing and still relatively novel Libyan cavalry contingents, an increasingly vital military asset whose mobility and skill make them prized in any major campaign.
- His troops' loyalty runs primarily to Libyan clan networks rather than the crown itself, giving him significant bargaining leverage over pay, deployment, and recognition.

However, there are limits to his power

- Cavalry remains a relatively new and small component of Egypt's forces, limiting his overall military weight compared to infantry commanders.
- His authority depends on continued clan cohesion, which could fracture if rival Libyan leaders compete for the same resources.



Figure 41: Libyan Cavalry Commander

Goals

1. Expand the role and prestige of cavalry within Egypt's military structure.
2. Secure greater autonomy and reward for Libyan cavalry forces.

Governor of Pi-Ramesses

Power and Influence

- Administers the former royal residence city in the eastern Delta, a major center of trade, military logistics, and dense Libyan settlement.
- His control over the city's granaries, workshops, and supply routes makes him critical to provisioning any northern military effort, and his close ties to local Libyan communities give him additional informal influence.



Figure 42: Governor of Pi-Ramesses

However, there are limits to his power

- The city's decline in royal favor since the capital's effective shift to Tanis has reduced his prestige and resources relative to earlier eras.
- He must share influence and resources with neighboring Delta chieftains who compete for the same Libyan manpower.

Goals

1. Maintain Pi-Ramesses's prosperity and strategic relevance.
2. Strengthen ties with Libyan military leaders to ensure local stability.

Chieftain of Neferusi

Power and Influence

- Leads a smaller but strategically positioned nome in Middle Egypt, commanding local levies and benefiting from Nile trade access along the contested boundary between northern and southern spheres of influence.
- His position allows him to play a careful, calculated role between larger rival powers.

However, there are limits to his power

- His limited military and economic resources leave him highly vulnerable should either Tanis or Thebes choose to act against him directly.
- His relevance depends heavily on the broader power balance remaining unresolved; a decisive victory by either side could render his position irrelevant.



Figure 43: Chieftain of Neferusi

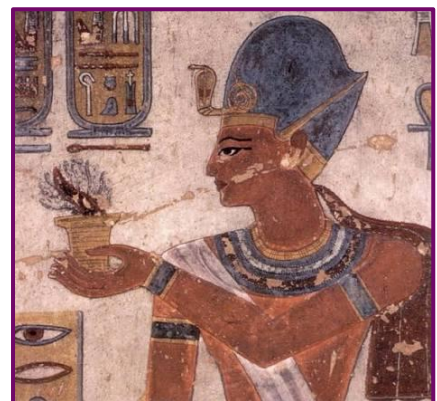
Goals

1. Avoid destruction by balancing loyalties between Tanis and Thebes.
2. Expand local influence by exploiting the power vacuum in Middle Egypt.

Overseer of the Royal Harem

Power and Influence

- Manages the administration of the royal harem, including its substantial economic estates and the network of political marriages and alliances forged through it.
- Through control of these networks, he wields subtle but real influence over succession politics and palace intrigue, areas of growing importance as the crown's authority weakens.



However, there are limits to his power

Figure 44: Overseer of the Royal Harem

- His influence operates largely behind the scenes and lacks the overt military or economic power wielded by other officials.
- The harem's estates, while valuable, remain vulnerable to confiscation or reallocation if the crown's fortunes decline further.

Goals

1. Secure advantageous marriage alliances to stabilize royal succession.
2. Protect the harem's economic estates from confiscation or division.

Sem Chief Priest of Ptah

Power and Influence

- Holds the highest ritual office within the Memphite cult of Ptah, performing the key funerary and coronation rites considered essential to confirming royal legitimacy.
- His unique sacral authority means that any claimant to power, whether from Tanis or Thebes, may seek his ritual sanction to bolster their legitimacy, giving him outsized symbolic influence relative to his modest material resources.

However, there are limits to his power

- His authority is almost entirely ceremonial and religious, with no independent military or significant economic power to back it.
- He must carefully avoid being seen as favoring one side, as his value lies precisely in his perceived neutrality.

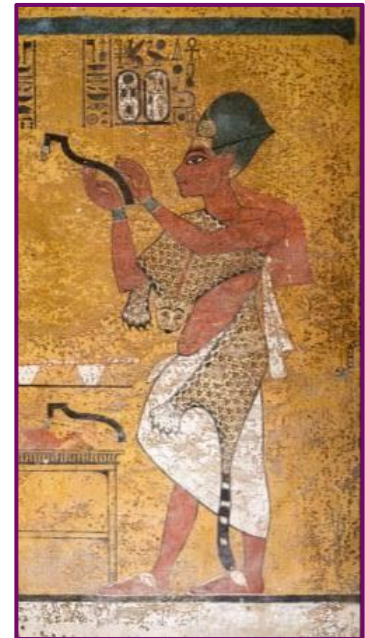


Figure 45: Sem Chief Priest of Ptah

Goals

1. Preserve Ptah's ritual primacy in legitimizing rulers.
2. Use his unique sacral authority to extract concessions from crown and priesthood alike.