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A Supplement to Lech Krzyżaniak's Research

In Lech Krzyżaniak's paper on sites from the East Delta he depicts several artefacts purportedly coming from Husaniya (1989: Fig. 3; Fig. 4). As part of my ongoing research into Predynastic and Early Dynastic sites in the Delta I came upon an inconsistency between the East Delta register and the Heriya Museum register. On consulting staff members of the Tell Basta Magazine and Said Museum I can now correct a clerical error (Table 1) that led Dr Krzyzaniak to wrongly identify objects as coming from Husaniya.

The site of Husaniya (aka Tell Fara'on - Imet) is located in the East Delta along the course of the old Pelusian Branch (see van Wetering and Tassie 2007: Fig. 4). It was excavated by members of the then Egyptian Antiquities Organisation, now called the Supreme Council of Antiquities. The initial excavations at the site were begun by M. I. Kamal in 1962, and were continued under the direction of M. el-Mosalamy in the 1970s and concluded by I. A. Mustafa in the 1980s.¹ This brief note is not about the site itself (see for instance Mustafa 1986; 1988a; 1988b; 1988c), but about a clerical error that was made in the Heriya Museum (Ahmed Orabi Museum) register, Zagazig, and has worked its way into the Egyptological literature.

All these objects listed in Table 1 actually come from the site of Beni Amir, also located in the East Delta further up river from Husaniya near to where the

¹ This information comes from the annual excavation reports on the site held by the SCA at Zagazig and Abbasiya by the respective directors.

Table 1. The numbers of the objects			
Krzyżaniak1989 Figure No.	Object No.	East Delta Register No.	New Heriya Museum No.
Figure 3	8	2700	948
Figure 4	1	2701	52
Figure 4	13	2704	74
Figure 4	14	2705	75
Figure 4	15	2715	76

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Tanitic Branch splits from the Pelusiac Branch. The site of Beni Amir seems to be an important settlement in the political hierarchy of the East Delta (van Wetering and Tassie 2003) during the Protodynastic and Early Dynastic; the cemetery contained many large mud-brick lined graves that were well stocked with grave goods (abd el-Hagg Ragab 1992; abd el-Monein 1996a; 1996b).

The importance of correcting this information is largely due to the dating of the site of Husaniya, for the objects (Krzyżaniak 1989: Fig. 4.13-15) give the impression that the site dates to Naqada IIC-D, whereas without these objects the earliest date for the site is Naqada IIIC. Another small point is that the objects (Krzyżaniak 1989: Fig. 3.12-13, and Fig. 4.2-11) come from the excavations of El-Mosalamy in 1970, not those of Mustafa in the 1980's.

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