**Table of Contents**

**Preface**  
11

**Acknowledgements**  
13

**Introduction**  
15

1. Goals  
15

2. Chronological range  
19

3. Territorial range  
21

4. Methodology  
23

**PART I – THE NILE DELTA AND THE SOUTHERN LEVANT IN THE 5TH AND IN THE FIRST PART OF 4TH MILLENNIA BC**

Chapter 1 – Key issues in and the current state of research  
31

1. Overview of issues in and the state of research on the Predynastic period and the Lower Egyptian culture  
31

2. Overview of issues in and the state of research on the relations between the Lower Egyptian and Southern Levantine communities  
33

2.1. Relations between Egypt and the Southern Levant  
33

2.2. Relations between Egypt and Sinai  
42

2.3. Relations between Egypt and Syria/Mesopotamia  
45

3. Summary  
47

Chapter 2 – The Nile Delta in the Predynastic period  
48

1. Background  
48

2. Neolithisation process in Egypt  
49

3. Predynastic period  
53

3.1. Terminology  
53

3.2. Periodization of the Predynastic period  
54

3.2.1. Naqada culture  
54

3.2.2. Early Predynastic cultures of Lower Egypt  
58

4. Lower Egyptian cultures  
58

4.1. Faiyumian culture  
58

4.2. Merimde culture  
61

4.3. El-Omari culture  
64

Chapter 3 – Southern Levant in the Chalcolithic and the Early Bronze Age I  
67

1. Chalcolithic period (4500-3650 BC)  
67

2. Early Bronze Age I (3650-3000 BC)  
73

**PART II – LOWER EGYPTIAN CULTURE**

Chapter 4 – Lower Egyptian settlement system  
79

1. Settlements  
79

1.1. Buto – Tell el-Fara’in  
80

1.2. Maadi  
80
1.3. Sais – Sa el-Hagar
1.4. Tell el-Farkha
1.5. Tell el-Iswid
1.6. Tell el-Masha’la
1.7. Tell Ibrahim Awad
2. Cemeteries
    2.1. Heliopolis
    2.2. Kom el-Khilgan
    2.3. Maadi
    2.4. Minshat Abu Omar
    2.5. Wadi Digla
3. Summary

Chapter 5 – Lower Egyptian economy and social system
1. Economy
    1.1. Farming
    1.2. Animal breeding
    1.3. Hunting, gathering and fishing
    1.4. Summary
2. Social system

Chapter 6 – The Lower Egyptian ceramic assemblages
1. Pottery classification systems
    1.1. Buto – Tell el-Fara’in, Ezbet el-Qerdahi
    1.2. Heliopolis
    1.3. Kom el-Khilgan
    1.4. Maadi, Wadi Digla
    1.5. Minshat Abu Omar
    1.6. Tell el-Farkha
    1.7. Tell el-Iswid, Tell Ibrahim Awad
    1.8. Other sites
    1.9. Summary
2. Technology
    2.1. Raw materials
    2.2. Vessel making process
3. Wares and forms
    3.1. Wares
    3.2. Vessel forms
    3.3. Miniature vessels
    3.4. Special forms
    3.5. Miscellanea
4. Decoration
5. Vessel functions
6. Social aspects of pottery production
7. Summary
Chapter 7 – Other assemblages of the Lower Egyptian culture
1. Flint assemblages
   1.1. Buto – Tell el-Fara’in
   1.2. Ezbet el-Qerdahi
   1.3. Heliopolis
   1.4. Maadi – settlement
   1.5. Maadi, Wadi Digla – cemeteries
   1.6. Minshat Abu Omar
   1.7. Tell el-Farkha
   1.8. Tell el-Iswid, Tell Ibrahim Awad
   1.9. Chaîne opératoire of the Lower Egyptian culture
2. Clay items
   2.1. Buto – Tell el-Fara’in
   2.2. Ezbet el-Qerdahi
   2.3. Maadi – settlement
   2.4. Tell el-Farkha
   2.5. Tell el-Iswid, Tell Ibrahim Awad
3. Stone items
   3.1. Buto – Tell el-Fara’in
   3.2. Giza
   3.3. Heliopolis
   3.4. Maadi – settlement
   3.5. Minshat Abu Omar
   3.6. Tell el-Farkha
   3.7. Wadi Digla
4. Metal products
   4.1. Buto – Tell el-Fara’in
   4.2. Heliopolis
   4.3. Maadi – settlement
   4.4. Minshat Abu Omar
   4.5. Tell el-Farkha
   4.6. Wadi Digla
5. Products of organic materials
   5.1. Buto – Tell el-Fara’in
   5.2. Heliopolis
   5.3. Maadi – settlement
   5.4. Maadi, Wadi Digla – cemeteries
   5.5. Minshat Abu Omar
   5.6. Tell el-Farkha
   5.7. Tell el-Iswid, Tell Ibrahim Awad
6. Pigments
   6.1. Heliopolis
   6.2. Maadi – settlement
   6.3. Minshat Abu Omar
   6.4. Wadi Digla
7. Summary
PART III – IMPORTS IN THE NILE DELTA AND THE SOUTHERN LEVANT

Chapter 8 – Southern Levantine imports and their imitations in the Lower Egyptian culture

1. Buto – Tell el-Fara'in
2. Heliopolis
3. Maadi – settlement
4. Maadi, Wadi Digla – cemeteries
5. Minshat Abu Omar
6. Tell el-Farkha
7. Tell Ibrahim Awad, Tell el-Iswid
8. Summary

Chapter 9 – Egyptian imports at the Chalcolithic and the Early Bronze Age I sites in the Southern Levant

1. Pottery
2. Stone and flint items
3. Miscellanea
4. Summary

Chapter 10 – Lower Egyptian communities and their interactions with Southern Levant in the 4th millennium BC. Summary

References

Plates

List of tables
List of figures
List of plates