



FRIENDS OF THE PETRIE MUSEUM

Friends of the Petrie Museum Study Day (Virtual)

Power in ancient Egypt

Saturday, 21 November 2026 and Saturday, 28 November 2026

Two online sessions exploring power in ancient Egypt with Juan Carlos Moreno García.

What did it mean to hold power in ancient Egypt? How was authority established and maintained across a vast and changing landscape, and what was the relationship between the Egyptian monarchy and powerful individuals and communities?

This November, we invite you to a special two-part online study day exploring power, territory, and political authority in ancient Egypt, led by Dr Juan Carlos Moreno García.

Across two Saturday sessions, we will consider how Egyptian power developed beyond the royal court: from the gradual integration of deserts, wadis and marshlands into the Egyptian state, to the complex relationships between local elites and kings. The sessions will explore not only the formal structures of Egyptian government, but also the people, places, and networks through which power was exercised.

The study day is designed to encourage deeper engagement with the subject, and participants will be provided with recommended reading in advance to help prepare for each session. There will also be opportunities to ask questions and discuss the themes raised during the sessions.

Both sessions will take place online via Zoom only. Participants are welcome to attend either or both sessions. Recordings will be made available afterwards, so you can take part even if you are unable to join live.

Saturday, 21 November, 16:00 – 18:00 GMT

“Deserts, wadis, marshes... contested spaces? The slow integration of territories and peoples in the Egyptian monarchy”

How did the Egyptian monarchy extend its authority beyond the Nile Valley? This session examines the gradual incorporation of different landscapes and populations into the Egyptian state. Deserts, wadis and marshes were not simply peripheral spaces: they were places of movement, resources, interaction, and competition.

The session will explore the processes through which territories and people came to be incorporated into the Egyptian political system, and the challenges involved in exercising authority across diverse environments.

Saturday, 28 November, 16:00 – 18:00 GMT

“Local power, magnates and kings: Understanding power in ancient Egypt”

How centralised was ancient Egyptian power in practice? This session turns to the relationship between the king and powerful individuals at the local level, examining the role of provincial elites in the organisation and exercise of authority.

Rather than viewing power simply as something held by the king and imposed from the centre, the session will consider the complex networks of relationships through which political authority operated.

VENUE: Zoom; link will be sent on registration

COST:

PMF member:	£10
PMF member student:	£5
Non-Member:	£20

BOOK NOW:

Via bank transfer, email:
pmf@friendsofpetrie.org.uk

Cheque: use the form below

Or Paypal (please note the small charge to cover the cost of transaction)

Power in ancient Egypt study day



Please send me tickets for the Study Day. Please mark envelope ‘Study Day’.

I enclose a cheque payable to ‘Friends of the Petrie Museum’ for £..... and an s.a.e. (no staples please).

Name(s) Membership no.

Tel..... Email

Friends of the Petrie Museum of Egyptian Archaeology, Malet Place, London WC1E 6BT