CHAPTER NINE


In this chapter the chronological development of the cultic character of the door jambs and the panel of the false door is determined by the same method that has been applied to the western wall. From these two parts the chronological development of the cultic character of the false door as a whole is determined. This can be linked to the same development on the western wall, not only to compare them, but also to provide information about the development of the cultic character of the whole western wall.

I. THE CHRONOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE CULTIC CHARACTER: PRELIMINARY CONSIDERATIONS

Because only the door jambs and the panel show a chronological development, this part of the present study is limited to these two parts (see table VIII.1.Ann.). From these parts the chronological development of the cultic character is discerned and by combining them, the chronological development of the cultic character of the false door as a whole can be determined.

Starting from the assumption that the false door is the cultic centre of the chapel, the working hypothesis is that every (sub)theme on the false door is directly and exclusively involved in the cult for the ka of the deceased, and, as a consequence, has a cultic character of type Ib.\

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1 The ideographic offering list was always placed in the vicinity of the tomb owner at the offering table and remained so throughout the Old Kingdom. Based on the quantities given in the list, it is a section of the inventory offering list (“Inventaropferliste”), but its place next to the offering table stresses its close connection with the cultic meal the tomb owner is having (Barta, Opferliste, 9). The ideographic offering list is placed there because of its cultic role and not to fill empty space around the table, therefore it cannot be considered as a (sub)theme with a unifying function.
I.1. The Chronological Development of the Cultic Character of the Parts of the False Door

The chronological development (the use life) of each (sub)theme of a part of the false door is determined in the curves given in diagrams VIII.1–15. Ann. Only the (sub)period(s) in which the (sub)theme is frequently employed are included. In the compilation thus made, the total type Ib cultic character of the period is determined by counting per subperiod the number of (sub)themes. The total cultic character per period is determined and compiled in a diagram.

I.1.1. The Panel of the False Door

The sequence over time of the (sub)themes on the panel is determined in the curve of diagrams VIII.8–12. Ann. and gathered in figure IX.1. A diagram is made of their chronological development (figure IX.2).

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2 The problem of the calibration of this frequency has already been discussed (chapter VII, section V).

3 The chronological development of (sub)theme 43 (the offering formula) has been left out due to its extremely low values per period.