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The Archaeology of the Meroitic State: new perspectives on its social and political organisation. (Cambridge Monographs in African Archaeology 38). Oxford: Tempus Reparatum. Google Scholar. Excavations at a Meroitic, post-Meroitic and medieval cemetery, central Sudan. Volume 1. Sudan Archaeological Research Society Monograph 3. London: SARS. Google Scholar. Meroe was a wealthy metropolis of the ancient kingdom of Kush in what is today the Republic of Sudan. It was the latter day capital of the Kingdom... Still, the persistence of the story of Cambyses’ expedition suggests the great fame of Meroe as a wealthy metropolis. The city was also known as the Island of Meroe as the waters flowing around it made it appear so. It is referenced in the biblical Book of Genesis (10:6) as Aethiopia, a name applied to the region south of Egypt in antiquity meaning “place of the burnt-faces”. Although there is evidence of over-grazing and over-use of the land, which caused considerable problems, Meroe thrived until it was sacked by an Aksumite king in c Such productions carried considerable social significance and are believed to be involved in mortuary rites. The long history of goods imported into the Meroitic empire and their subsequent distribution provides insight into the social and political workings of the Meroitic state. The major determinant of production was attributed to the availability of labor rather than the political power associated with land. Power was associated with control of people rather than control of territory.[6]. The Egyptian import, the water-moving wheel, the sakia, was used to move water, in conjunction with ir