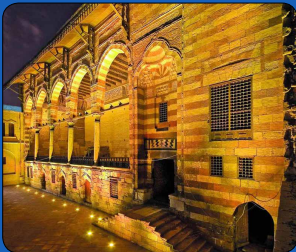




Ministry of Antiquities  
**Newsletter**  
Special Edition (2018)

**Happy New Year  
2019**

**The Inauguration of a  
Number of Monuments in  
Historic Cairo after their  
Restoration**



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**The inauguration of the  
Obelisk Open-Air Museum  
in Matariya**



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**HE. President of the  
Arab Republic of Egypt  
Inaugurated the Matrouh  
Archaeological Museum**



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**The Inauguration of Tell  
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al-Sharqiya Governorate  
and the Development  
Project of the  
Archaeological Site**



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**HE. President of the  
Arab Republic of Egypt  
Inaugurated al-Azhar  
Mosque after Restoration**

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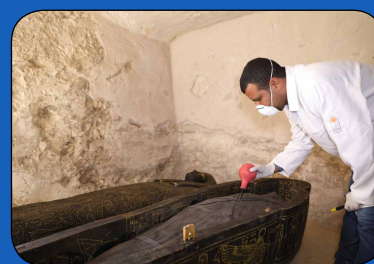
**HE. President of the  
Arab Republic of  
Egypt Inaugurated  
The Sohag National  
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**The Discovery of the  
Tomb of Hetepet  
at Giza**

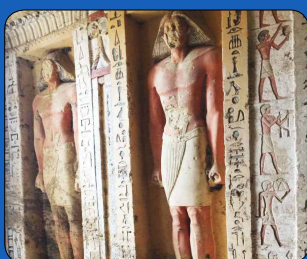
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# Inaugurations

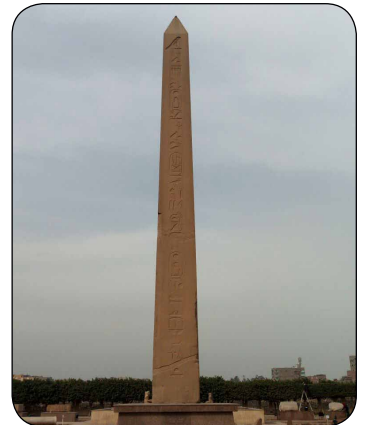
- **20 January:** The inauguration of Bab al-Wazir restoration Project. It includes three buildings: Bimaristan of Al-Mo'ayyedi, tekkeya of Taky al-Din al Bustami and Darb al-Labbanah gate.(→)



- (←)• **28 January:** The inauguration of the seat of Prince Mamay al-Sifi (known as Beit al-Qady) in Gamaleya area.



- **17 February:** The inauguration of Matariya open-air museum after the completion of a site management project to prepare the site for visit. It houses the obelisk of King Senusret I, in addition to other artifacts that were uncovered during excavations carried out in the site.(→)



- (←)• **1 March:** The President of the Arab Republic of Egypt Abdel-Fattah El-Sisi inaugurated Matrouh Antiquities Museum (via video conference). The inauguration of the museum is the result of cooperation between the MoA and the Governorate of Matrouh who provided full funding for the project.

- **1 March:** The mausoleum of Sidi Ali Zein al-Abdeen from the Fatimid Period, annexed to his mosque at al-Sayeda Zeinab district, was inaugurated after the completion of its restoration.(→)



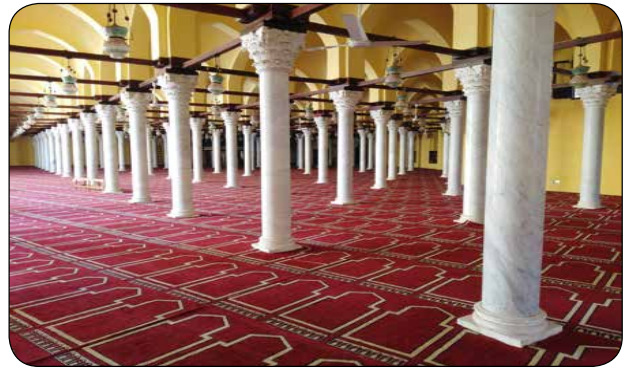
- (←)• **3 March:** The inaugurating of Tell Basta Antiquities Museum in al-Sharqiya Governorate. The museum houses 1000 objects about the history of Tell Basta, and the product of excavations in al-Sharqiya Governorate.



- **6 March:** The President of the Arab Republic of Egypt Abdel-Fattah El-Sisi inaugurated al-Azhar archaeological mosque after restoration work which was funded by a grant provided by the King of Saudi Arabia.(→)



- **15 May:** The inauguration of the western half of Zaghloul Mosque in the city of Rosetta, al-Behira Governorate.(→)



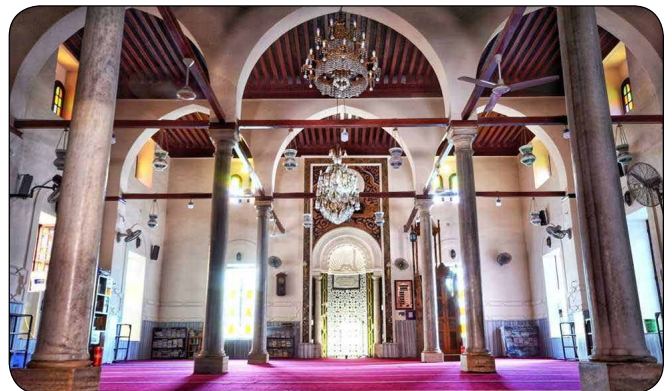
- (←) • **3 August:** The inauguration of al-Abbassi Mosque in Port Said, after its restoration.



- **12 August:** The president of the Arab Republic of Egypt Abdel-Fattah El-Sisi inaugurated Sohag National Museum. The museum features two floors, containing 950 artifacts, displayed in six halls, in addition to the main one in the upper floor, and two halls in the basement.(→)



- (←) • **8 September:** The inauguration of the mastaba tomb of the Old Kingdom official Mehu, which has never been opened for visitors since its discovery in 1940.



- **28 September:** The inauguration of Anja Hanem mosque in Moharram Bek district in Alexandria.(→)



- (←) • **5 October:** The inauguration of Tatandy Mosque at the village of Shali in Siwa Oasis, Matrouh Governorate.



- **19 November:** The inauguration of Yuya and Thuya exhibition for the first time since they were discovered in their tomb at the Valley of the Kings in 1905. The new exhibition includes 214 different and unique artifacts, some of which were kept in storage and are being displayed for the first time, such as the mummies of Yuya and Thuya; and the colorful Yuya Papyrus, which is about 20 meters long.(→)



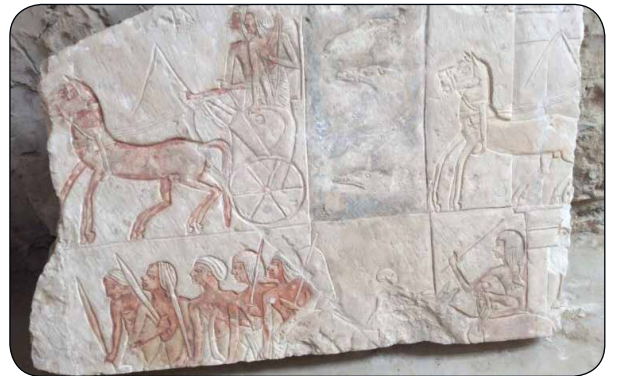
# Discoveries

- **3 February:** The Egyptian archaeological mission, discovered the tomb of a lady called «Hetepet». She was «the priestess of Goddess Hathor» in the Old Kingdom in the western cemetery of the Pyramids.(→)



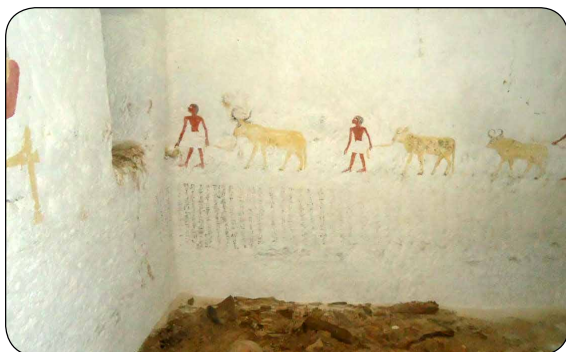
- **24 February:** The Egyptian mission at al-Gharyifa site, north of Tuna al-Gebel, in Minya discovered a Ptolemaic cemetery including large number of coffins, funerary equipments, and Ushabtis.

- **8 May:** The Faculty of Archaeology in Cairo University's archaeological mission working in Saqqara, uncovered the tomb of the chief army general during the reign of Ramses II. In addition to Several decorated blocks belonging to the tomb were also discovered.(→)



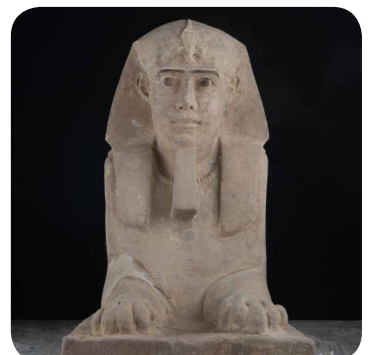
- (←)• **25 June:** The joint Egyptian-American mission working in South Asasif Conservation Project uncovered a collection of canopic jars date back to the 26th Dynasty, inside the tomb of Karabasken (TT 391) at the South Asasif cemetery on the West Bank of Luxor.

- **14 July:** The Egyptian-German joint archaeological mission of the Ministry of Antiquities and Tübingen University uncovered a shaft with multiple burial chambers containing mummies dating back to al-Sawy Period at the south of the Pyramid of Unas at Saqqara.(→)



- (←)• **1 August:** The Egyptian-Australian archaeological mission of Macquarie University, working at the site of Beni Hassan in Minya, uncovered the burial chambers of Rmu-Shenti no.72 and Baqet II no.33, who were both high officials of the court during the Middle Kingdom.

- **September:** The Egyptian archaeological mission, working on reducing the level of subterranean water at Kom Ombo temple in Aswan, has unearthed a sandstone statuette a sphinx, in addition to a large number of stela.(→)





- **1 October:** The Czech archaeological mission, working at Abusir, north of Saqqara, discovered the tomb of «Ka-ir-es», who was Overseer of the King's Works. It dates back to the fifth Dynasty.

- **25 October:** The archaeological mission of Ain Shams University in Arab al-Hesn site in Matarya discovered the chamber of ceremonies of King Ramses II, which was Used during the celebrations.(→)



(←)• **8 November:** The joint mission of IFAO and the University of Strasbourg in France, working at al-Assasif cemetery in Luxor, succeeded in finding a sandstone stela and two wooden coffins dating back to the end of the 17th dynasty and the beginning of the 18th dynasty.

- **10 November:** The Egyptian archaeological mission working at Saqqara archaeological site along the causeway of King Userkaf, succeeded in uncovering three tombs dating back to the New Kingdom which reused during the Late Period as a cats and mummified crabs cemetery, in addition to four other tombs dating back to the Old Kingdom.(→)



(←)• **24 November:** The Egyptian archaeological mission working in al-Assasif archaeological site in Luxor uncovered a tomb belongs to the head of the mummification sanctuary at the temple of Mut, and the entrance of tomb no. TT28.



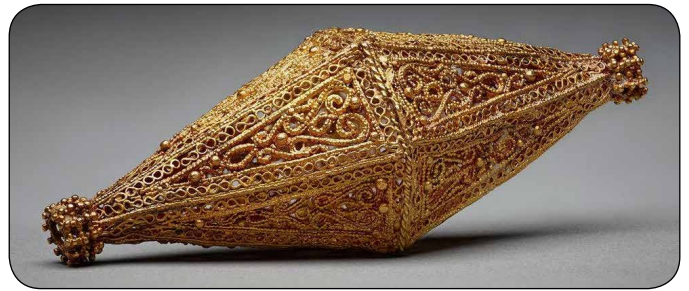
- **15 December:** Discovering The tomb of Wah-ty, the royal purification priest in Saqqara archaeological site, the tomb dates back to the 5th dynasty of the reign of King Nefir-er-ka-Ra. The tomb is in a good condition of reservation and its walls are decorated with colourful inscriptions. The tomb contains statues of the owner and his family.



## Temporary Exhibitions

### International Exhibitions:

• **11 March:** Opening of «The World of the Fatimid» exhibition at the Agakhan Museum in Toronto, Canada. The exhibition includes a collection of antiquities from the Fatimid Period.(→)



• **21 March:** Opening of «Sunken Cities: Egypt's Lost Worlds» exhibition in Saint Louis, USA.



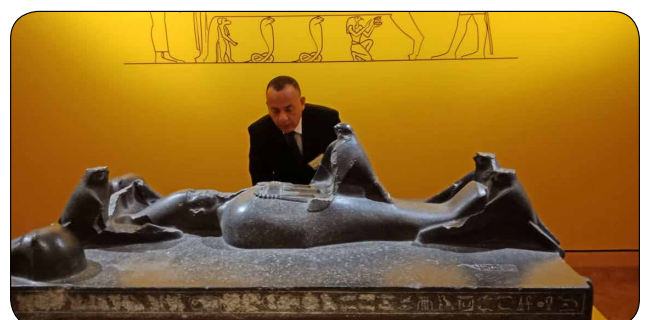
(↔) • **23 March:** Opening of «The Golden Pharaoh » exhibition to display a collection of King Tutankhamun's holdings at the California Institute of Sciences in Los Angeles, USA.

• **30 June:** The Ministry of Antiquities, in collaboration with the Italian Charity Foundation, organized an exhibition of 250 pieces of archaeological replicas representing different periods of the Egyptian civilization, it was held in the Italian city Viterbo.(→)



(↔) • **7 July:** Opening of «Golden Treasures of the Pharaohs» exhibition in Monaco. The exhibition includes 149 objects from the Egyptian Museum in Cairo.

• **29 October:** Opening of «Sunken Cities: The Magical World of Egypt» exhibition in Minneapolis city, USA.(→)





## National Exhibitions:

• **15 March:** opening of «Life in Death: Middle Kingdom in Deir al-Bersha» exhibition which was organized in collaboration with the Dutch- Flemish Institute in Cairo, Leuven University in Belgium, and Mainz University in Germany. The exhibition coincides with the 120th anniversary of the archaeological mission at Deir al-Bersha in Minya.(→)



(←)• **11 April:** The Ministry of Antiquities, in cooperation with the German Archaeological Institute in Cairo organized a temporary exhibition entitled: «A Monkey for Four Dinars», at Aswan National Museum. The exhibition shows collection of ostraca.



• **5 August:** The Minister of Antiquities, and the Italian Minister of Foreign Affairs, inaugurated a temporary exhibition that displays the recent findings of the various Italian archaeological missions working in Egypt. The exhibition is currently being held at the Egyptian Museum, and it includes 180 objects among them are on displayed for the first time.(→)



(←)• **28 October:** Art d'Égypte Organization held a photos exhibition titled «Nothing Vanishes, Everything Transforms» at Prince Mohammed Ali Palace at Manyal. The exhibition aims to make a comparison between ancient and modern arts.

## Repatriated Antiquities

• **March:** The Egyptian Consulate in USA received three archaeological pieces (head and hands of a mummy) in preparation for the return to Egypt, the pieces had stolen from the Valley of the Kings in Luxor and smuggled abroad in 1927.(→)



(←)• **June:** The Ministry of Antiquities received 21,660 coins and 230 artifacts from Napoli, Italy.

• **September:** Repatriation of a limestone fragment bearing the cartouche of Amenhotep I. The fragment had been previously lost from Karnak Temple in 1991, and was auctioned off at one of London's auction houses.(→)

(←)• **October:** The Ministry of Antiquities received a wooden coffin lid, painted and decorated. The coffin was confiscated by the Kuwaiti Customs in March 2018.



• **November:** The Egyptian embassy in Switzerland received 26 small ancient artifacts that had been offered for sale on one of the websites.

## Sponsorship

Several companies, institutions and banks sponsored the ministry of antiquities' events, celebrations and announcements of discoveries at archaeological sites and museums:

- **January:** Helm Institution sponsored an initiative called "Intalek" to make the Karnak and Luxor temples as well as the Luxor Museum accessible for the elderly and special needs (the sponsorship is valued at 840,000 EGP). (→)

- **March:** The Red Sea Group sponsored the preparation of the Abydos Visitor Center by providing a fund worth 20,000 EGP.

- **May:** The National Bank of Egypt received the right to develop the facilities in Giza Plateau, Karnak, Philae and Abu Simbel Temples for one year worth (8 millions EGP).

- **September:** Philips Egypt sponsored a project to upgrade the lighting system at the Mohammed Ali Palace Museum in Manial (sponsorship worth 90,000 Euros).

- **September:** sponsoring a project to upgrade the sanitation system of the Mohammed Ali Palace Museum in Manial with products of Duravite Egypt (worth 114,000 EGP).

- **September-November:** Orascom Investments sponsored four events: the Solar Alignment at Temple of Ramses II at Abu Simbel which coincide with the 50th anniversary of the Abu Simbel Temples Salvage Operation; Celebrating the 116th anniversary of the Egyptian Museum in Cairo; the announcement of a tomb discovery at Saqqara; the announcement of a tomb discovery at Assassif in Luxor. (→)

- **October:** Marie Louis Fashion Company sponsored the design and manufacture of the official uniforms of the Egyptian Museum's employees (worth 203,000 EGP).

- **November:** Ms. Sahar Talaat Mustafa, Member of Parliament, sponsored the production of three documentaries about the Egyptian Museum in Cairo and the ministry's discoveries and inaugurations.

- **December:** Falcon Company sponsored the announcement of a tomb discovery at Saqqara.



## Amendments to the Antiquities Protection Law

- **June:** HE. President of the Arab Republic of Egypt issued the decree number 91 for the year 2018 to amend some articles of the Antiquities Protection Law number 117 for the year 1983.

- **December:** Publication of the new executive regulation for the Antiquities Protection Law.



## Public Figures and Foreign Ambassadors on Their Visits to Archaeological Sites and Museums



(↔) • **5 October:** The Minister of Antiquities accompanied several foreign ambassadors and cultural Attachés to Egypt during the inauguration of Tatandy Mosque at the village of Shali in Siwa Oasis, Matrouh Governorate.



• **6 October:** The Minister of Antiquities and the Minister of Tourism welcomed Mrs Melania Trump, the First Lady of the United States of America, who visited to the Giza Pyramids.(→)



(↔) • **15 October:** The Minister of Antiquities welcomed the President of Tatarstan and his accompanying delegation at the Egyptian Museum in Cairo.



• **18-19 October:** The Minister of Antiquities accompanied several foreign ambassadors and cultural Attachés to Egypt on a tour at the Monastery of Saint Catherine.(→)



(↔) • **21-22 October:** The Minister of Antiquities attended the celebration of the solar alignment at the Temple of Abu Simbel, accompanied by several ministers, ambassadors, cultural attachés, and directors of foreign archaeological institutions.



• **25 October:** The Minister accompanied His Royal Highness Prince Sultan Ibn Salman, President of the Saudi Authority for Tourism and National Heritage, during his visit to Luxor.(→)



• **26 October:** The tour of the Minister of Antiquities, accompanied by 30 ambassadors and cultural attachés from 17 foreign and Arab countries to archaeological sites, and the Kharga Museum in the New Valley Governorate.(→)



(←)• **27 October:** The Minister of Antiquities and the Minister of Tourism accompanied the Vice-President of China on his visit to the Giza Pyramids.

• **10 November:** The Minister of Antiquities announced the discovery of tombs at Saqqara along the causeway of King Userkaf in the presence of a large number of ambassadors from Arab and foreign countries.(→)



(←)• **19 November:** In the midst of international and local media coverage, the Egyptian Museum in Cairo celebrated its 116th anniversary. In attendance were 30 current and former ministers, the Chairman of the Parliament's Committee of Antiquities and Culture, and the Chairman of the Parliament's Committee on Tourism and Aviation as well as a number of Members of Parliament, more than 50 ambassadors and cultural attachés, and a number of public figures.

• **15 December:** Amid international and local media coverage, a large number of Arab and foreign ambassadors, cultural attaché to Egypt as well as directors of archaeological institutes and members of the parliament committees of Culture, Media and Antiquities; Tourism and Aviation have attended the event announcing the discovery of the tomb of the Purification Priest in Saqqara.(→)





# Grand Egyptian Museum



- Over 80% of the total construction works have been completed.
- **10 June:** announcing the launch of the pre-qualification process to select the company/consortium for the museum's facilities management.
- **26 September:** opening the bidding envelopes submitted by the companies and consortiums applying for the museum's facilities management.
- **4 December:** Announcing the short-listed companies and consortiums qualified for the museum's facilities management. The short-listed candidates are an Egyptian-Italian consortium, an Egyptian-American consortium, an Egyptian-French consortium, an Egyptian-British consortium, and an Emirati company.

## Objects Transferred

- The total number of objects transferred to the GEM 45045 objects.
- **25 January:** The Grand Egyptian Museum witnessed the transfer of the colossus of King Ramses II from its current location at the museum premises to its permanent location at the atrium.



## Restored Objects

- The total number of restored objects is (41897).
- The total number of conserved objects of king Tutankhamun collection is (4223).





## Community Outreach



• **21-23 January:** The Department of Cultural Development launched a new awareness program, titled «The Bimaristan in the Past and Present». The program includes a number of activities and workshops in Bab al-Wazeer site, which will last three days. The program was launched on the occasion of HE Minister of Antiquities' inauguration of the Bab al-Wazeer neighborhood for the public, after its renovations.

(←) • **February 3:** The MoA organized a guided tour for 100 disabled children at pyramids and Sphinx in Giza.

• **5-7 April:** The MoA organized several events and activities to celebrate the National Orphan's Day. The Textiles Museum, in Moaz Street, held a celebration entitled «Make them Happy». While, the Museum of Islamic Art organized another celebration entitled «We are Together with you». Malawi Museum also held several events for children.(→)



(←) • **18 May:** The Minister of Antiquities, accompanied by the ambassadors of Greece and Cyprus and the Secretary General of the Supreme Council of Antiquities, took 60 students from the Greek School on a tour inside the Egyptian Museum in Cairo. The tour is part of the «Back to the Roots» Egyptian-Greek-Cypriot initiative that was launched by the Ministry of Immigration.

• **3 June:** The Administration for Cultural Development and Community Outreach has organized a cultural day for young children. The day's theme was «The Drum's Ramadan Tradition». The day was held at the Heliopolis Foundation for Culture and Community Development.(→)



(←) • **15 December:** The Coptic Museum organized the celebration «A Tree's Tale» in time for Christmas. The celebration included art workshops for children to decorate a Christmas tree, and the children were presented with gifts. The workshop was followed by a theatrical performance and a guided tour of the museum.

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