



Newsletter

of the Egyptian Ministry of Antiquities

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Archaeological Discoveries

- The Egyptian archaeological mission working at Salam site, 50 km east of Siwa Oasis, uncovered the facade of a Greco-Roman temple. It also discovered remains of clay vessels, coins, and a statue depicting a man with Greek facial features, as well as two limestone statues of lions, one of which is headless.
- The Egyptian-German joint mission working at Matariya, unearthed more than 4500 additional pieces of the colossal statue of king Psmatik I the remains of its torso and crown were discovered in March and October 2017.
- The Egyptian archaeological mission working south of the 10th pylon of Karnak temple discovered the architectural elements of a chapel of god «Osiris» which display scenes of King Taharqa and King Tanut-Amon from the 25th Dynasty.



- The Egyptian archaeological mission project working on decreasing the level of groundwater at Kom Ombo temple uncovered the head of a statue depicting the facial features of Emperor «Marcus Aurelius».
- Ain Shams University mission, at Arab al-Hesn Site, Matariya discovered a royal ceremonial chapel from the Ramesside Period; walls of a multi-storey building; five carved stone blocks from the reign of King Ramses II; a painting showing the high priests of the sun, Prince Neb-Maat-Re from the 20th Dynasty; a small statue of a dog as well as a heart shaped amulet with a human head and three parts of a painting showing a priest followed by his wife and his daughter. Other small pieces were also discovered such as scarabs, small amulets and head of the cobra snake of colored limestone that had once decorated one of the palace entrances.

Field work

Several archaeological missions began their work in April as follows: ARCE mission working in Abydos at Sohag and in north and middle of Saqqara; MoA-German University of Tubingen joint mission working in Saqqara; the Polish Center of Archaeology mission working in west of Saqqara as well as in Gabal al-Ba'eed and Berkat al-Sheib at Aswan; Italian University of Padova mission working in al-kom al-Ahmar at al-Beheira; The Austrian Academy of Sciences mission working in Philae temple at Aswan; the American University of Yale- the Royal Museum, Brussels joint mission working in al-Kab at Aswan; the Spanish mission of the University of Alcalá working in the Middle Kingdom necropolis at al-Deir al-Bahary at Luxor.

Temporary Exhibitions

Local Exhibitions

•The Minister of Antiquities inaugurated a temporary exhibition, entitled: «Egypt on Glass: Photographic Treasures from the Ministry of Antiquities' Archive». The exhibition shows 21 glass negatives and 6 graphic paintings that tell the history of photography in Egypt from the 18th and 19th centuries. The inauguration was attended by the Director of the British Museum, ambassadors and directors of archaeological institutes in Egypt (1 April-31 May).



•The Suez National Museum hosted a temporary exhibition, entitled: «The Icon of Beauty through the Ages». The exhibition includes 51 archaeological objects that highlight the beauty of women in ancient Egypt (4 April-10 June).

•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 300 ostraca that were recently discovered at Elephantine

Island in Aswan. The ostraca provide glimpses of the African-Egyptian relationships in the Islamic Period (11 April).

•The Minister of Antiquities inaugurated a temporary exhibition at the Egyptian Museum in Cairo displaying the work of the Dominican Republic's archaeological mission at Taposiris Magna site in Alexandria (18 April).

•The Museum of Islamic Art in cooperation with the Netherlands Embassy in Cairo organized a photographs exhibition entitled: «Hijaz and the Holy Cities...Glimpses from the Past». The exhibition included a collection of photographs that shows the heritage of the Holy city of Mecca (18 April- 18 May).

•The Museum of Islamic Art in cooperation with the Bibliotheca Alexandrina, organized a photographs exhibition entitled: «Lens». The exhibition is taking place at the Bibliotheca Archaeological Museum. It includes a collection of 64 photographs showing some of the Museum of Islamic Art collection and galleries (24 April- 24 May).

Training

•A number of archaeologists and conservators were trained in the fields of excavations at the Cairo and Giza training center at Saqqara and in the area of kom Bahig at Alexandria and documenting the rock inscriptions at the training center of South Sinai Governorate and the Red Sea in Sarabit al-Khadem.

•The Museums Sector of the MoA has launched a number of training courses for young museum curators entitled «From Youth to Youth». A number of museum curators who have master degree have trained their colleagues in Upper Egypt museums such as Luxor Museum, Mummification Museum at Luxor, Aswan Museum, Museum of Akhenaton in Al-Minya and Sohag National Museum.

Lectures

•Dr Heiko Riemer, A researcher of prehistoric archeology at the University of Cologne, Germany, gave a lecture entitled: «Desert Roads» at the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization (1 April).

•Dr Lousie Bertini, Director of American Research Center in Egypt, gave a lecture entitled: «What's zoology?» at the MoA in Zamalek (12 April).

Meetings and Visits

- The Minister of Antiquities accompanied by the Secretary General of the Supreme Council of Antiquities visited several projects and museums in several governorates: Cairo (Prince Taz Palace, Aydekin al-Bendekdary Dome, Takiyya Mawlawya, Gayer Anderson Museum, Ahmed Ibn Tulun Mosque, Mashyakhah al-Azhar, Egyptian Museum in Cairo, National Museum of Egyptian Civilization), Sohag (Sohag National Museum), Luxor (Avenue of Ram, Karnak Temples, Luxor temple to shed light on the statue of king Ramesses II in front of the first pylon, Luxor Museum). The Minister of Antiquities also visited the Giza pyramids plateau and the Grand Egyptian Museum at Giza governorate.
- The Minister of Antiquities received: the Ambassador of Georgia, Spanish Cultural Counselor, and the general manager of the British Museum for cooperation and future work.
- The Minister of Antiquities accompanied by MoA officials was invited to attend the American Chamber of Commerce where there was presentation about the Grand Egyptian Museum and National Museum of Egyptian Civilization and the important archaeological discoveries of 2017.
- The Head of the Museums Sector visited Sohag National Museum to follow up the work before its opening.
- The head of the Ancient Egyptian Antiquities Sector visited some archaeological sites, including: Sohag (Abydos Temple), al-Sharqiyyah (Tell Basta Archaeological site), Aswan (Kom Ombo Temple and Qubbet al-Hawa), al-Fayoum (Kiman Faris and Biyahmu), Alexandriyyah (Kom al-Shuqafa and Necropolis of Mostafa Kamel and al-Ras al-Souda Temple).
- The Head of Islamic, Coptic and Jewish Antiquities Sector visited multiple archaeological sites: Cairo (Virgin Mary Tree in al-Matariya), Aswan (al-Anany Cemetery, Fatimid Cemetery, Minaret of Belal and Aswan National Museum), Matrouh (Tatandy Mosque and Aghurmi Mosque at siwa).
- The Head of Projects sector visited multiple archaeological sites and museums: Sohag (Sohag National Museum and Abydos Archaeological site), Assuit (Deir Rifa), Alexandria (Kom al-Shuqafa), Rashid (Zaghloul and al-Mahaly Mosque), Cairo (al-Azhar Mosque and Salah al-Din Citadel).



Varia

- The Parliament approved the amendments of some articles of the antiquities protection law, the most important: establishing two independent organizations for the Grand Egyptian Museum and the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization; giving the Supreme Council of Antiquities the authority to remove any encroachment on the archaeological sites with certain rules; arranging the procedures of the touring antiquities exhibitions abroad.
- Al-Keretliya House Museum, also known as Gayer Anderson Museum, celebrated its Diamond jubilee by organizing an exhibition displaying some of the museum's treasured collection. The artifacts in the museum are dated back to the Ottoman period. The exhibition also includes handicrafts made by Egyptian housewives (3 April).
- The Giza Plateau received 49 international beauty pageant contestants (12 April).
- Egypt's world heritage sites received university and school students for free in celebration of the World Heritage Day (18 April).



International Participation

A number of MoA employees travelled abroad to participate in different conferences, seminars, training courses, and touring exhibition: United States of America (Elham Salah, Head of the Museums Sector, Mahmoud Mousa, Director of the southern Site in Qurna, Ashraf Sobhy, archaeologist at El-Fayoum archaeological site, Atef Nagub, Deputy Director of Islamic and Coptic Antiquities Sector, Osama Ragab, Curator at Greek Roman Museum in Alexandria, Mohamed Abd al-Aziz, archaeologist at Alexandria archaeological site, Lamia Mahmoud, conservator at Farouk Museum in Helwan, Hassan Mohamed, archaeologist at pyramids archaeological site); United kingdom (Basem Mohamed at GEM, Rana Shehata, National Museum in Alexandria); Cyprus (Shaban Abd al-Gawad, General Director of the Antiquities Retrieval); Spain (Mohamed Hassan, Director of Archaeological Documentation in Islamic and Coptic Sector); Jordan (Mohamed Abd al-fattah, Director of the International Organizations Department); Belgium (Esraa Yousry, Curator at Greco Roman Museum, Amina Zaghloul, Curator at The Art Museum, Doaa Ezat, archaeologist at Technical Office of the Head of the Museums Sector, Shimaa Saber, archaeologist at Technical Office of the Head of the Museums Sector, Heba Rabea, Curator at National Museum in Alexandria, Hamada Emam, Curator at Sohag National Museum); Kuwait (Tarek Tawfik, General Director of GEM Project); Canada (Yasser al-Sayed, General Director of the Technical Follow-up in South Sinai inspectorate); China (Sabah Abd al-Razik, General Director of the Egyptian Museum in Cairo); Italy (Dena Atwa, Museums Sector, Shimaa Saad, Microbiologist at GEM).

Projects

Grand Egyptian Museum (GEM)

- The Grand Egyptian Museum received 172 objects from the Tutankhamun's collection that were exhibited at Luxor Museum. The objects are arrows and arches and a military wheel of the king (9 April).



Historical Cairo Project

- The MoA began a research project to study the architectural and social aspects of historic Cairo, in order to find adequate solutions for developing this neighborhood. Historic Cairo is listed on the UNESCO's world heritage list. The research project is carried out in cooperation with the «al-Athar Lina» (Monument is Ours) society, the «Urban Concept» society, the Ministry of Social Solidarity, Cairo Governorate, with the support of the Ford institution.
- The MoA has launched a proceeding for conservation of selected monuments at Historical Cairo such as: Sabil of Ahmed Afandy Salim, Sabil of Youssef Bek, Dome of The Abbasid caliphs, Dome of Senger al- Mozaffar, Dome and zawiya of Aydekin al-Bendekdary, Sabil of Rouqyya Dodo, sabil of Hassan Ahga kilkilyan, sabil of Mustafa Sinan, the Façade of the bath of Bishtak, House of Gamal al-Din al-Zahaby.
- The MoA has launched a project proposal for upgrading the following areas: Gamalyya, al-Azhar and al-Ghoury, the project includes the streets and the monuments at the three sitesproject included the streets and the monuments at the three sites.



Conservation Projects

- The MoA began the implementation and execution of the conservation project of the palace of al-Shennawi at al-Mansoura City, al-Daqahliyah Governorate. The Palace is considered a distinctive architectural masterpiece built by Mohammed Bek al-Shennawi, one of the most prominent members of the House of Representatives.

Cultural Events and Community Outreach

- The Museum of Islamic Art organized a cultural event entitled: «Developments of Behavior and Skills for Arts». The event took place on the occasion of the International Autism Day (2 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 (5-7 April).



- The Egyptian Museum in Cairo held a workshop titled «The Art of Decopage from a Pharaonic Perspective». This workshop allows the participants to look at the collections of the museum and the ancient Egyptian civilization from a different perspective. The workshop delivers a lecture weekly (8 April- 6 May).
- Prince Muhammad Aly Palace Museum in Manial hosted a celebration to celebrate spring entitled «flowers and onion» (14 April).

- The Coptic Museum organized a celebration on the occasion of its 108th anniversary (15-17 April).

- Under the motto «Unified with Heritage», The Ministry of Antiquities celebrated the World Heritage Day by organizing several events at different world heritage sites in Egypt. In collaboration with the UNESCO Regional Office in Cairo the ministry of antiquities published a collection of coloring books for children that contain pictures of different world heritage sites in Egypt (15-18 April).



- For World Heritage Day, the Cultural Development and Community Outreach Department organized a tour to several archaeological sites in Cairo for Special Needs (19 April).

- The Egyptian Museum in Cairo organized in collaboration with the University of Padova, Italy, and the German mission in Atrybs, an exhibition displaying a collection of objects and photos of Athribis site.

Appointments

- Dr Hisham al-Leithy: Supervisor of the Center of Documentation.
- Mr Hamdy Hamam: Head of the Central Administration of Archaeological Units in Egyptian Ports.
- Dr Sharif Abd al-Moneim: Renewal to work as the Minister's assistant for the management of archaeological collections.
- Dr Bassem Gehad: Renewal to work as the Minister's assistant for Development of Human Resources.
- Mrs Iman Zidan: Renewal to work as the Minister's assistant for Development of Financial Resources.
- Mrs Ashwaq Musleh: Scientific office of the Minister.
- Dr Ail Ahmed Ali: Minister's official speaker.
- Dr Gamal Mostafa: Director of Islamic and Coptic Antiquities Sector.
- Mr Abd al-Rahem Ali Almadawy: General Director of Archaeological Documentation at Giza.
- Mr Khalid Abd al-Ghani: General Director of al- Behira archaeological site.
- Mr Malak Abo al-Lef: General Director of Archaeological Documentation at Aswan archaeological site.
- Dr Mohamed Abd al-Rafea Fadel: Deputy Director of Egyptian Antiquities Sector of Middle, upper Egypt Antiquities.
- Mr Abd al-Fatah Eid: Deputy Director of Egyptian Antiquities Sector of Lower Egypt, Cairo and Giza monuments.

Decrees

The most important decisions reached at the SCA Board of Directors' meetings and the meetings of the Permanent Committees:

- Registered Helwan sulphuric springs as a Coptic and Islamic site.
- Registered the collections owned by Dr Henry Amin Awad, currently located at Sakakini Palace, on Egypt Heritage List.
- Approved the project of Restoration the Church of the Virgin Mary at Jabal al-Tayr in Samalout.
- Approving the launch of a replica exhibition in Bulgaria for three months.

I. Filming

«Cinematography, Television and Photography at Archaeological Sites and Museums»

Type of Photography and Filming	Egyptians	Foreigners	Notes
Filming for Archaeological Discoveries and Excavation Work per day	EGP 5000	EGP 10000	
Talk Show Programs and Interviews During Official Working Hours	EGP 600	EGP 1500	+ EGP 150 for employees fund per day. In case of opening the site or museum after official working hours, an additional fee of EGP 10000 will be charged
Shooting Cinematic Commercial Films at all Archaeological Sites and Museums Open to Visitors	EGP 5000 for day EGP 20000 for week EGP 30000 for 2 weeks EGP 50000 for month	EGP 15000 for day EGP 60000 for week EGP 90000 for 2 weeks EGP 150000 for month	In case of filming in the desert areas around archaeological sites, a discount of 50% is granted from the prescribed fees for photography. In case of filming after official working hours, an extra fee of EGP 5000 will be charged for opening the site / museum.
Filming Documentaries at all Archaeological Sites and Museums Open to Visitors During Official Working Hours	EGP 500 for day EGP 2000 for week EGP 3000 for 2 weeks EGP 5000 for month	EGP 5000 for day EGP 20000 for week EGP 30000 for 2 weeks EGP 50000 for month	
Filming Documentaries in Tombs Open to Visitors During Official Working Hours for one day	EGP 1000	EGP 3000	
Filming Documentaries in Tombs Non-Opened to Visitors During Official Working Hours for one day	EGP 2000	EGP 5000	
Filming Documentaries in Tombs of Nefertary, Seti I and Tutankhamun During Official Working Hours for one tomb per hour	EGP 5000	EGP 10000	After approval of competent authority
Shooting Advertisements for Products Services at all Archaeological Sites and Museums Open to Visitors During Official Working Hours	EGP 10000	EGP 15000	After approval of competent authority for the type of advertisements

Filming (Cinematography, Television and Video) in the Mummies Room in the Egyptian Museum During Official Working Hours	EGP 5000	EGP 8000	Per hour, After approval of competent authority
II. Commercial photography at Archaeological Sites and Museums			
Photography of Archaeological Discoveries and Excavation During Official Working Hours for one day	EGP 1000	EGP 2000	
Commercial photography in Tombs of Nefertary, Seti I and Tutankhamun During Official Working Hours for one tomb per hour	EGP 5000	EGP 5000	In addition to the ticket fees, after approval of competent authority without using flash
Commercial photography of Objects in Museums During Official Working Hours for one tomb per hour	EGP 250	EGP 500	Without opening of vitrine
	EGP 500	EGP 1000	With opening of vitrine
		EGP 500	Photography with Tutankhamun's mask for foreigners per photo
III. Photography and Filming of Sunken Monuments			
Filming (Cinematography, Television and Video)	EGP 15000 Above surface of water		For one site per day
	EGP 30000 Under surface of water		
Commercial Photography	EGP 5000 Above surface of water		
	EGP 10000 Under surface of water		
Exclusive Documentary Filming for Archaeological Discoveries	Egyptian news agencies and channels EGP 500 000 at minimum	Arab and Foreign news agencies and channels EGP 1000 000 at minimum	Charges are determined by the sponsorship committee

Monument of the Month

Gayer Anderson Museum

The al-Keretliya House, also known as the Gayer Anderson Museum, is considered a living example of Ottoman houses in the 16th and 17th centuries. Its interior decorations were made with great care, while the exterior areas are undecorated, except for the main entrances, and the wooden, mashrabeya (Wood Work).

The museum is located in the Sayeda Zeynab neighborhood, and consists of two houses. One is the al-Keretliya House, which was built by Mohamed, son of Haj Salem bin Gelmam al-Gazzar, who was one of Cairo's wealthy people. It was built in 1631AD/ 1041H. Several wealthy families lived at the house. A woman from Crete has once lived there and since then it has been known as the al-Keretliya House.

The second house was built by Abdel Kader Haddad in the year 1540 AD/ 947H. It was known as the house of Amna bint Salem, named after the last person who owned the house. A passageway leading to the eastern gate of the mosque of Ibn Tulun separates the two houses. They are connected with a bridge.

The museum was named after the physician Gayer Anderson, who used to work in the English army and was highly interested in antiquities dating to different historical periods, especially those dating to the Islamic Period. He requested the al-Keretliya House to be given to him so he could display his archaeological collection. The Committee of Arab Antiquities Preservation approved his request and gave him both houses. The houses were first restored and given to him in return for leaving his collection as a gift to Egypt after his death. When the two houses and the collection were returned to the possession of the Antiquities Service, both houses were converted into a museum and named it after the late physician.



The museum collection and furniture date back to different historical ages from different locations across Egypt, the Levant, Asia Minor, Iran, and Caucasian lands. Some also came from the Far-East, especially China, in addition to a European collection in the gallery of the English Queen, Anne Stewart. This year, the Ministry of Antiquities held a celebration for the museum's Diamond Anniversary on 3 April.





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