



Newsletter

of the Egyptian Ministry of Antiquities

Issue 36 * May 2019

Re-opening of mosques
in Cairo and Assiut after
restoration



p.2

Discovery of a Fifth Dynasty
family tomb at Giza Plateau



p.2

Discovery of the remains
of a Ptolemaic residential
complex in Minya



p.2

Organization of the Fifth
International Conference
of King Tutankhamun



p.3

Free entrance to museums to
citizens and foreign residents
to celebrate the International
Museums Day



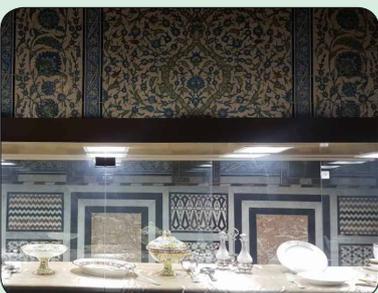
p.3

H.E. Mr.President leads two
meetings about the Grand Egyptian
Museum and Antiquities Projects



p.4

«Sofra Dayma»
exhibition at Prince
Mohammed Ali Palace
Museum in Manial



p.3

Google marks the 65th
anniversary of Khufu Boat
discovery



p.4

Minister of Antiquities met
with a number of German
officials in Berlin



p.6

Inaugurations

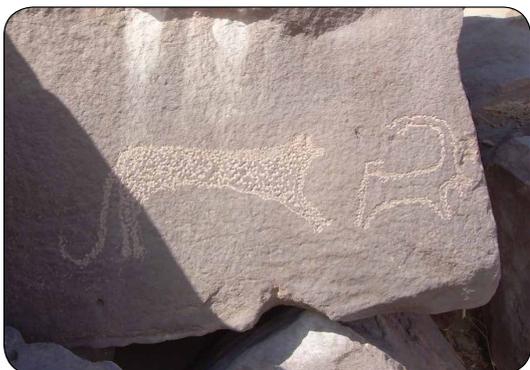
• Re-opening of the Fatma Al-Shakra mosque in Darb al-Ahmar for prayer after four years of restoration works on its minaret. The mosque was founded in 1482 AD, during the reign of Sultan al-Nasser Faraj ibn Barquq (May 2). (→)



(←)• Re-opening of the Mujahideen and Al-Kashef mosques in Assiut Governorate, after the completion of restoration and maintenance works. Al-Mujahideen Mosque was built in 1708 AD; while Al-Kashef mosque was built in 1811 AD (May 3).

Archaeological Discoveries

• The Egyptian archaeological mission uncovered parts of an ancient necropolis dating back to the Old Kingdom at the south-eastern part of the Giza Plateau. The necropolis includes many burial shafts and tombs, the oldest of which is a family cemetery dating back to the Fifth Dynasty. Built of limestone, the tomb belongs to two persons named Pehenuika and Nwi, and was later reused during the Late Period. Inside the tomb, archaeologists uncovered many wooden anthropoid coffins dating back to that same era. (May 4). (→)



(←)•The work of the Egyptian archaeological mission in Wadi Abu Subeira in the Eastern desert, northeast of Aswan, uncovered a series of rock inscriptions, dating back to the end of the Neolithic period. The inscriptions depict Egyptian royal symbols, along with many animals such as giraffes, elephants and crocodiles (May 8).



• Discovery of the remains of military fortress towers from the Twenty-sixth Dynasty during the excavations of the Egyptian mission in Tel Al-Kidwa in northern Sinai (May 13). (→)

- Discovery of the remains of a residential complex from the Ptolemaic era, during the work of the field-school of the Scientific Center for Training in its first season at the archaeological area of Tuna Al-Gabal, in middle Egypt. The mission also discovered the remains of amphorae, animal bones and four ostraca with Greek and Demotic texts, in addition to a set of silver coins.(→)



News

- The Grand Egyptian Museum organized the Fifth International Conference of King Tutankhamun, held annually, under the title "The Grand Egyptian Museum: International Tutankhamun Conference". The opening ceremony was attended by the Minister of Antiquities and a number of Egyptian and foreign Egyptologists (4-5 May).(→)

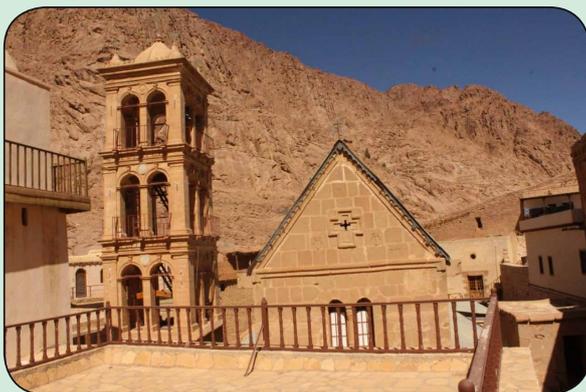


(←) • The Textile Museum at Al-Muezz street opened its doors for visitors in the evening, during Ramadan between 8:30pm and midnight

- As part of the Ministry of Antiquities celebrations of the International Museums Day, all museums in Egypt received local visitors and foreigners residing in Egypt free of charge (May 18).(→)



(←) • The first phase of the development project for the area of St. Catherine Monastery in South Sinai has been completed. The project is executed in cooperation with the Ministries of Local Development, Culture, Environment and Housing, Utilities and Urban Communities, as well as the Information and Decision Support Centre of the Cabinet. The first phase of the project included the paving of the roads leading to the Monastery of St. Catherine and Mount Moses; the implementation of a parking area for tourist buses and cars; in addition to the improvement of the efficiency of all general services in the region.



- The second phase of the development of visitor services facilities at the Egyptian Museum in Cairo has been implemented, where 244 guiding plaques have been installed, including a map of the museum and its various halls, the route of the visit, and the location of the emergency exits. (→)



(←) • The Grand Egyptian Museum received the president of the Canadian Senate. The tour included the conservation labs and the museum's construction site (May 21).

- The team of the Grand Egyptian Museum set up and installed the pillar of King Merenptah after its restoration, in its final location at the Atrium. (→)



(←) • On the occasion of the 65th anniversary of the discovery of the first Khufu boat, the global search engine Google marked the date by displaying an image of the boat on the website's homepage (May 26).

- His Excellency Mr. President met with the Prime Minister and the Ministers of Antiquities, Tourism and Finance, the Chairman of the Administrative Control Authority and the Chairman of the Engineering Authority of the Armed Forces to discuss GEM projects as well as other related to antiquities and updates on archaeological ongoing matters (May 28). (→)



(←) • The Giza Plateau received the British Minister of International Trade and the British Ambassador to Egypt (May 29).

- The Grand Egyptian Museum received 181 artifacts, from the Egyptian Museum in Cairo (May 30).

Exhibitions



(←) • Prince Mohamed Ali Palace in Manial organized a temporary exhibition titled "Sofra Dayma" on the occasion of the celebration of the holy month of Ramadan. The exhibition presents for the first time a set of tableware belonging to the prince and his family (16 May - 16 June).

- In the framework of "Artifact of the Week", the Egyptian Museum in Cairo displayed a collection of Ancient Egyptian cosmetics paraphernalia, including: vessels used for aromatic oils; spoons used for cosmetics; utensils used for kohl; mirrors; wooden combs; as well as cosmetic blades made of bronze (May 16 - 23). (→)



Meetings and Visits

• The Minister of Antiquities met with the Ambassadors of Japan (May 6), Cuba (May 16), New Zealand (May 21) and Australia (May 30) to discuss ways of enhancing joint cooperation in the field of archaeology. The Minister also met with the Minister of Housing, Utilities and Urban Communities; and the governors of Cairo and Giza (May 2; 23) as well as the Ministers of Culture, Immigration and Social Solidarity (May 7).



• During his visit to Germany, the Minister of Antiquities met with the Minister of State for Culture and Information at the German Chancellery; the President of the Prussian Heritage Foundation; the Minister of State for Cultural Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; the Director of the Egyptian Museum in Berlin; and the head of the Budget Committee of the Bundestag, in the presence of the Ambassador of Egypt in Berlin; to discuss ways of enhancing cooperation in the field of archaeology. The Minister of Antiquities also gave a lecture at the German Humboldt University about recent archaeological discoveries and ongoing national projects (14 May).



• The Minister of Antiquities attended a number of meetings, as follows:

The ministerial meeting held to follow up the development plans for projects in the areas of the Grand Egyptian Museum, the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization and the Saqqara archaeological area (May 25); Meeting with the Minister of Finance about the Grand Egyptian Museum (27 May); Meeting with the officials of "TV5" channel (29 May); Meeting with the heads of Italian Tourist Companies (May 30).

Cultural Events and Community Outreach

- Conclusion of the first training course of sign language education, organized for the employees of the Ministry of Antiquities by the Department of Cultural Development and "Ability" center for studies and training (May 5). (→)



- (←)• In the framework of the celebration of the International Day of Museums, the Egyptian Textile Museum organized a series of scientific lectures and presented a documentary film about the history and future of hand-weaving (17-18 May).

- In cooperation with the Ministry of Culture, the activities of the Cultural Nights Festival were held at the Cairo Northern Wall theater at Bab Al-Nasr, where a number of artistic and musical performances took place, along with a number of fine arts and traditional crafts exhibitions. The opening of the festival was attended by the Minister of Culture and the Head of the Islamic, Coptic and Jewish Antiquities Sector (May 15 - 28). (→)



Decrees

- Mrs. Gehane Nabil has been appointed as the supervisor of the International Relations and Visitor Services Department at the Grand Egyptian Museum.
- Mrs. Lamia Yahia Ibrahim has been appointed as the supervisor of the Department of External Cultural Relations.



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Printed by: MoA Press