



Newsletter

of the Egyptian Ministry of Antiquities

Issue 28 * september 2018

Inaugurations

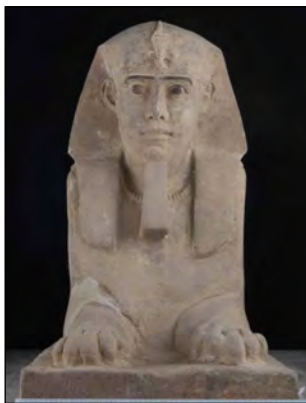
•The Minister of Antiquities has officially inaugurated the mastaba tomb of the Old Kingdom official Mehu, which has never been opened to visitors since its discovery in 1940. The tomb is considered one of the most beautiful tombs at Saqqara necropolis. The opening ceremony was attended by the Minister of Immigration, the secretary general of the Supreme Council of Antiquities and renowned Egyptologist Zahi Hawass along with a 12 foreign ambassadors to Egypt and cultural attachés, as well as officials from the Ministry of Antiquities. The tomb goes back to the reign of king Pepy I and belongs to Mehu, who held several titles, among them «Judge», «vizier», «head of royal scribes», «ruler of Upper Egypt» (8 September).



• The head of the Islamic, Coptic and Jewish antiquities Sector and the assistant of the minister of antiquities for Projects have inaugurated Anja Hanem mosque in Moharram Bek district in Alexandria (28 September).

Archaeological Discoveries

•The joint Egyptian-French archaeological mission, working at Tell al-Samara archaeological site in Daqahliya governorate, uncovered one of the oldest known villages so far in the Delta, dating back to the Neolithic era. It houses a number of silos containing a large number of animal bones and botanical remains, as well as some stone tools and pottery vessels (2 September).



•The Egyptian excavation mission working at the north-eastern side of king Senusert I's pyramid at Lisht archaeological site, discovered rock-cut tomb consisting of an open court that leads to a passageway and a rectangular hall. A small chapel is found at the west side of the hall. The second part of the tomb consists of a burial shaft (5 September).

•The Egyptian archaeological mission, working on reducing the level of subterranean water at Kom Ombo temple in Aswan, has unearthed a sandstone statuette of a sphinx, probably dating to the Ptolemaic Period (16 September).

•The Egyptian excavation mission, working near the Aga Khan mausoleum, on the west bank of Aswan, uncovered a sandstone sarcophagus with an anthropoid lid, inside it a very well preserved mummy. The sarcophagus was found inside one of the three previously uncovered tombs that are dated to the Late Period. Remains of coffins have also been discovered along with remains of some other mummies, coffins, and amulets (18 September).



•The Egyptian archaeological mission, working at Mit-Rahina archaeological site has uncovered a massive archaeological building, believed to be a part of a settlement that was once located in the area. The building is made of mud-brick covered with large limestone blocks (25 September).

Repatriated Antiquities

- In collaboration with the Customs and Security, the Archaeological Unit at the Borg al-Arab airport in Alexandria has confiscated a collection of 44 gold and silver coins from the Byzantine and Islamic periods (1 September).
- In collaboration with the Damietta port's Customs, the Archaeological Unit at the port seized two glass lanterns that were been stolen from Al-Refaie Mosque in Cairo. The lanterns are dated to the reign of Khedive Abbas Helmy II (3 September).



Meetings and Visits

- The Prime Minister has met the Minister of Antiquities to discuss the recent work achieved in the archaeological projects of the ministry and the Grand Egyptian Museum (2 September).
- The Minister of Antiquities welcomed the ministerial committee for the development of the archaeological palaces. The committee is directed by the Minister of Planning, and the membership of the ministers of antiquities, tourism, and communications, representative of the ministry of finance, as well as the director of the National Organization for Urban Harmony (6 September).
- The Minister of Antiquities met with: Ambassador of Germany and Cultural Attaché of German Embassy; Ambassador of India and his accompanying delegation; Kazakhstan's Minister of Community Development and the Ambassador of Kazakhstan; Ambassador of Australia; Ambassador of Greece; Ambassador of the Netherlands and the director of Netherlands-Flemish Institute in Cairo.
- The Minister of Antiquities and the SCA's Secretary General have visited several archaeological sites in Giza (the southern tomb of king Djoser's complex; the tomb of Tiye at Saqqara) (8 September); and Cairo (the Baron Palace) (24 September).
- The SCA's Secretary General has visited several sites: Giza (the GEM, the tombs of Mehu and Tiye in Saqqara Necropolis); and Sharqiya (Tanis).



- The Minister of Antiquities and a delegation of MoA attended the German Archaeological Institute's celebration, on the occasion of the beginning of a new archaeological season (25 September).
- The Head of the Egyptian Antiquities Sector has visited several archaeological sites in Alexandria (Kom al-Shoqafa, Tabyet al-Nahaseen magazines, the Graeco-Roman Museum excavation site), Damietta (the Archaeological Unit at Damietta Airport).
- The Head of the Projects Sector has visited several museums and archaeological sites: Kafr al-Sheikh (museum of Kafr al-Sheikh); Gharbeya (museum of Tanta); and Aswan (Aswan museum, Kom Ombo site).
- The Head of Islamic, Coptic and Jewish Antiquities Sector has inspected the work of Catherine Valley Development Project in South Sinai.

Lectures

- The Cultural Development and Community Outreach Administration, in cooperation with the Bibliotheca Alexandrina, organized a lecture entitled «Olympic Champions and their Representations in Egypt and the Ancient World». Dr Sobhy Ashour, Professor of Graeco-Roman Archaeology at the Faculty of Arts, Helwan University, gave the lecture at the al-Sennary House (5 September).
- The Antiquities Documentation Center organized a series of lectures: Dr Nagwa Abdel Zaher gave a lecture titled «The Role of Women in Explaining and Preserving Heritage in Museums»; Mr Ahmed Abdel Hamid gave a lecture titled «Glimpses from the History and Basics of Photography»; Dr Hany al-Tayeb gave a lecture entitled «Tomb of Re-Shepses at Saqqara»; Mr Ibrahim Abdel Fattah gave a lecture entitled «Modern Methodologies for the Documentation of Cultural Heritage». The lectures were held at Ahmed Pasha Kamal Hall at the ministry's headquarter in Zamalek (18 September).

Temporary Exhibitions

Local Exhibitions

the Museum of Islamic Arts and the Coptic Museum have organized an exhibition under the title «Let's Celebrate Together. Thoth and Moharram» to celebrate the Islamic and Coptic new years which are on the same day this year. It was held in both museums in an alternating manner (12 September -10 October).

International Exhibitions

The exhibition «The Golden Treasures of the Pharaohs» in Monaco will continue until 9th of September 2018. The displaying period fo «Tutankhamun: Treasures of the Golden Pharaoh» exhibition in Los Angeles will be extended until January 2019.

Cultural Events and Community Outreach



- The Egyptian Museum in Cairo celebrated the end of the summer activities for school children by organizing an exhibition showcasing the artwork made by the children throughout their summer activities at the museum (5 September).
- The Cultural Development and Community Outreach of the minister's office launched its first guided tour for special needs children as, part of the «Our Children initiative». The tour was at the Prince Mohammed Ali Palace Museum in Manial. A workshop was also held to teach the children photography using their smart phones. The tour included a speech for the parents by the initiative's nutritionist to address the proper healthy food that can be offered to children (2 September), another tour was also held at the Coptic Museum (16 September).

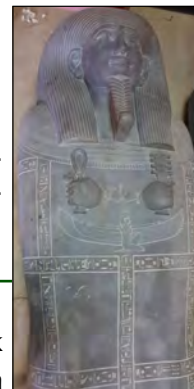
International Participation

United Kingdom: Dr Mona Abdel Salam al-Sayed - Chief Researcher at the Museum of Port Said; Mr Osama Mokhtar al-Kasbany - Inspector at the Information Center of the Islamic, Coptic Antiquities Sector; Ms Faten Mohammed Kamal-Archaeologist at the Antiquities Documentation Center; Ms Heba Khairy Abdel Tawab-Archaeologist at the Conservation Center of the GEM; Dr Nour Mohammed Abdel Hamid Mohammed - Conservation Specialist at the GEM. United States of America: Ms Marwa Helmy Abdel Hamid - First Inspector at the Antiquities Documentation Center; Mr Ahmed Mohammed Sayed Hemeida - General Director of the Aten Museum; Ms Rasha Ahmed al-Sayed - Director of the Conservation Unit at the Textiles Museum. France: Mr Sameh Mohammed Zaky Noman - General Director of Scientific Documentation at the Antiquities Documentation Center; Mr Ahmed Mohammed Mohammed Hamouda - Inspector at Mid-Delta Antiquities; Mr Badr Saad Mahmoud - Translator at the Greater Mahala Antiquities Site. Oman: Mr Gehad Salah al-Rawy - Supervisor of the International Organization Administration for Cultural Heritage and International Cooperation. Italy: Mr Ali Mahfouz Abbas - Supervisor of the Museum Magazines at tell al-Rab'; Mr Mohammed Eid Tolba - Conservation Technician at the GEM; Ms Manar Mohammed Abdel Aziz - Conservation Specialist at the GEM. Germany: Dr Dina Mohammed Mohammed Atwa - Museums Sector. Greece: Ms Wesam Mohammed Abdel Aleem - Archaeologist at the Central Administration of Giza and Cairo Antiquities. China: Ms Hoda Abdellah Hassan al-Shibany - Chief Archaeologist at Manial Museum; Mr Ashraf Mohei al-Din - Director of the Giza Pyramids Site.

Projects

Grand Egyptian Museum (GEM)

- The GEM received three obelisks divided into eleven pieces from Tanis site in Sharqiyah (12 September). The museum also received 71 artifacts from the Bahansa magazines in Minya (13 September).
- The minister of Antiquities issued a decree to form a scientific committee to review and develop the GEM displaying scenario. The committee is directed by Dr Mohammed Saleh, Dr Hassan Selim, Dr Tarek Sayed Tawfik, Dr Sobhy Ashour, Dr Regine Schulz, Dr Christian Greco, Dr Agnes Schtlfried, Dr Nevine Nizar Zakareya.



National Museum of Egyptian Civilization (NMEC)



- The NMEC received two sandstone stela dating back to King Ptolemy V discovered recently at Kom Ombo in Aswan (2 September).

Conservation Projects

- The Egyptian archaeological mission, working on reducing the level of subterranean water at Kom Ombo temple in Aswan, has restored a stone block and placed it back in its original location inside the Mammisi, after studying and matching it with the carvings on the wall (3 September).
- The Central Administration for Restoration and Conservation started a new conservation project for the mosque of Sarayet al-Gabal at the Salahdin Citadel. The project is scheduled to be completed at the end of the current year.
- The Minister of Antiquities has inspected the recent work being achieved in Tanis conservation project including the restoration and re-erection of two obelisks, two columns, and two colossal statues of Ramses II. A collection of stone slabs were also installed on site to display the different stone blocks and statues scattered on the sand of Tanis archaeological site in Sharqiya governorate in a step towards its preservation and display them in a proper manner for visitors. The minister was accompanied on this visit by the SCA's Secretary General; the Director of the Parliament's Tourism and Aviation Committee; along with several foreign ambassadors to Egypt, including: Lithuania, Brazil, Greece, Congo; and the Polish Charge de Affairs; the Vice-Ambassador of Portugal; the French Cultural Attache; and the Director of the French Archaeological Institute (15 September).



Appointments

- The assignment of Dr Mustafa Waziry as the Secretary General of the Supreme Council of Antiquities was renewed for another year.
- The assignment of Dr Tarek Sayed Tawfik as Supervisor for the Grand Egyptian Museum Project was renewed for another year.
- Mr Ayman Said Sayed, the Minister's Assistant for the development of services at archaeological sites and museums, was assigned to supervise the Financial Resource Unit at the Minister's Office.
- Mr Mohamed Saad was appointed a Supervisor of the Technical Office of the Egyptian Antiquities Documentation Center.
- Mr. Ahmed Hasan Amin has been appointed Director of Esna Inspectorate.
- Mr. Quotb Fawzy Ali has been appointed General Director of Kafr el-Shiekh Inspectorate.
- Mr. Galak Moawad Moawad has been appointed Director of Port Saied Inspectorate.
- Mr. Mustafa Rezk Ibrahim has been appointed General Director of Monofiya Inspectorate.
- Mr. Mohamed el-Sayed Ibrahim has been appointed General Director of West Cairo Antiquities.

Decrees

- The SCA's board of directors approved the award offered by Dr Zahi Hawass, former minister of antiquities, to award an amount of LE15,000 to the best pioneer excavator and conservator under the age of 40. The award will be presented to the winners during the upcoming Archaeologist Day (January 2019). The adjustment made to the visiting hours of the Sohag National Museum were approved, to be from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm all year long.
- Approving three sponsoring offers from private companies to make showcases for the insignia, and to develop bathrooms at Prince Mohammed Ali Palace in Manial, and to develop the lighting system of the Mohammed Ali Mosque. The current offers are subjected to the procedures set forth by the decree of sponsorship.

Miscellaneous

- The Central Administration for Conservation at the ministry organized the third symposium for the achievements of the Central Administration for Conservation and Restoration of Antiquities and Museums for 2017-2018 (17 September).

- The Slovakian Minister of Foreign Affairs, and the Ambassador of Slovakia to Cairo, have visited the Giza Pyramids as part of minister's two-day visit to Egypt, accompanied by a delegation of Slovakian businessmen (23 September).

- The ministry launched the restoration project of the Tanta National Museum in Gharbeya Governorate. The project is part of the ministry's plan to restore and upgrade all museums and archaeological sites in Egypt.



- Tanta National Museum is the only antiquities museum in the governorate, and includes 8,579 objects dating to different periods of Egypt's history. The museum has been closed since the year 2000.

- Grimaldi Forum Hall tweeted on its Twitter account that the Golden Treasures of the Pharaohs' exhibition, displayed in Monaco from July until September 2018, has scored the highest ever number of visitors, reaching upwards of 80,000 visitors.

- MoA announced that it has completed the lighting project at Elephantine Island in Aswan. This project is part of the ministry's plan to prepare all archaeological sites that are open to visitors in Aswan and Nubia for the upcoming tourism season.

- MoA participated in the 14th International Conference for Nubian Studies that was held from 14 to 21 September in Paris.



Training

- The Training and Scientific Publication Administration in Archaeological Ports organized a training course titled «Uncovering Copying of Coptic Antiquities», at the National Museum of Egyptian Civilizations, in cooperation with the Center of Coptic Studies at Bibliotheca Alexandrina (3-5 September).
- The Cultural Development and Community Outreach Administration at the minister's office organized a training session entitled «Antiquities of al-Muezz Street». The training session was held at the al-Ghuri dome complex, in cooperation with the Islamic, Coptic, and Jewish Antiquities Sector, and the Historic Cairo project. The program included a series of lectures given by several professors of Islamic Antiquities (10-13 September).
- The Islamic, Coptic, and Jewish Antiquities Sector launched its first field school sessions at Tell Abu Mandour in Rashid city. The field school is held in cooperation with the Human Resources and Training Administration at the ministry (15 September -15 October).
- The Islamic, Coptic, and Jewish Sector launched a diploma of basic skills for leadership and management, in cooperation with the Human Resource and Training Organization. The classes for the diploma are taking place at the small hall of the Manasterly Palace. Twenty employees from the ministry's staff were selected from the different departments of the Islamic, Coptic, and Jewish Antiquities Sector to participate in this diploma (15 September - 15 November).
- The first Egyptian field school at the first Dynasty tombs in Saqqara trained 14 employees of the ministry's staff. The field school is organized by the Human Resources and Training Administration, the Cairo and Giza Training Center at Saqqara, in cooperation with the Egyptian Antiquities Sector (16-22 September).
- A training session was held for documenting petroglyphs and graffiti at Serabiet al-Khadem, South Sinai, where 18 of the ministry's employees were trained (16-22 September).
- The German Archaeological Institute organized a workshop to train 12 archaeologists and conservators. The workshop is titled «RemoteSensingEquipmentatExcavations» (19September). An additional 12 archaeologists and conservators were trained in another workshop, also held by the Institute under the titled «Archiving in Archaeology» (24-25 September). Ten of the ministry employees were trained in the field school of Tell Abu Mandour in Rashid (25 September – 15 November).

Center of Documentation of Egyptian Antiquities

| Service | Scientific Use | | | | |
|--|----------------------------|----------|-----------------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| | MoA Employee | Egyptian | Egyptian | Foreign Student | Foreigner |
| 100 year old photograph | EGP 10 | EGP 50 | EGP 50 | USD 5 | USD 10 |
| Less than 100 year old photograph | EGP 7 | EGP 30 | EGP 30 | USD 3.5 | USD 7 |
| Service | Commercial Use | | | | |
| | Egyptian Price/ Photograph | | Foreigners Price/Photograph | | |
| Photographs until the year 1900 | EGP 1000 | | USD 100 | | |
| Photographs between 1950-1901 | EGP 750 | | USD 80 | | |
| Photographs between -1951current times | EGP 500 | | USD 60 | | |

- The client is obliged to submit an official document detailing the purpose for the use of the photographs, and to sign a statement acknowledging such use.
- For the MoA employees, they are allowed to receive 5 photographs after the year 1900 free of charge. The employees will then be charged 5 EGP for each additional photograph.

The Coptic and the Islamic Art Museums Information Centers

| Service | Egyptians | Foreigners |
|---|-----------|------------|
| Fee/ page of a manuscript preserved on microfilm or a digital format | EGP 10 | USD 1 |
| Fee/ page of manuscript preserved on a microfilm or digital format for commercial, touristic, marketing, and promotional uses | EGP 500 | USD 100 |
| Fee/ black and white photograph of an object in the collection at the Information Center | EGP 5 | USD 1 |

- The general pricing list will be applied for printing or copying pages of the book collection preserved or contained at the Coptic/ Islamic Museums' libraries

Libraries of the Ministry of Antiquities

| Service | Egyptians | Foreigners |
|--|-----------|------------|
| Photocopy of 1 page in black and white, A4, of a book published after 1960 | EGP 1 | USD 1 |
| Photocopy of 1 page in black and white, A4, from the computer printers of books published after 1960 | EGP 1 | USD 1 |
| Photocopy of one page, A4, color, from the computer printers | EGP 5 | USD 1 |
| Printing one page form a microfilm to an A4 paper | EGP 5 | USD 5 |
| Photocopy and print in black and white on A4 paper | EGP 1 | USD 1 |

- Students who use their own digital cameras for photographing book pages are charged 5 EGP. Maximum of 30 pages can be photographed of a single book, and under the supervision of the Librarian
- The library's camera can be used by the librarian or the library's photographer on behalf of the research for only 30 pages of a single book. This service charge is 10 EGP.

Microfilm Library at the Central Informatics Administration

| Service | Egyptians | Foreigners |
|--|-----------|------------|
| Printing architectural drawings | EGP 10 | USD 10 |
| Printing from glass slides | EGP 20 | USD 5 |
| Printing archaeological reports, books, periodicals on A4 paper (research papers are only for scientific institutes) | EGP 10 | USD 10 |

- For companies, contractors, publishing, and marketing companies, the prices above will be multiplied by 10
- The Microfilm Library only print on paper, no digital copies of the collection can be given neither on CD not a USB drive

Archives of the Egyptian Museum in Cairo

| Document Type | Foreigners Price/image | | Egyptians Price/ image | | Ministry employees (EGP) |
|---|---------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|--|
| | Scientific use | Commercial use | Scientific use | Commercial use | |
| Glass slides/Gelatin slides/ more than 100 year old photographic material | USD 20 | USD 100 | EGP 30 | EGP 1000 | pages is 3-1 Photocopy of 10-4 free of charge, from pages, the client will be EGP per page. If 10 charged pages, the 10 it is more than EGP 5 client will be charged per page. According the rules and regulations |
| More than 100 year old documents | USD 20 | USD 100 | EGP 30 | EGP 1000 | |
| Less than 100 year old documents | USD 10 | USD 50 | EGP 10 | EGP 500 | |
| Plans/ architectural drawings/ daily diaries of Egyptologists | USD 20 | USD 100 | EGP 30 | EGP 1000 | |
| Mummies' CT scans | USD 20 | USD 300 | EGP 50 | EGP 500 | |

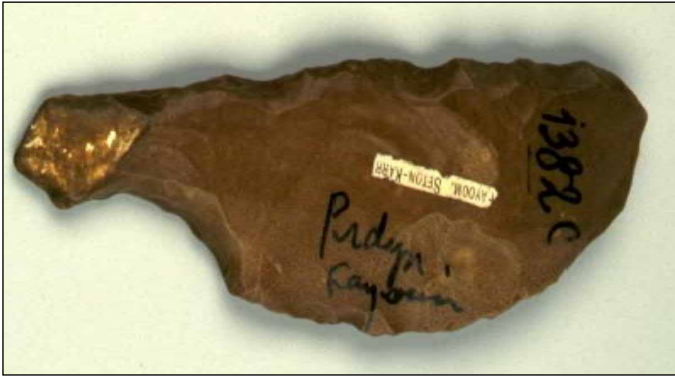
- For commercial use, the document can only be used once. In case it is used again, %25 discount is applied. The applicant should provide a request form+ ID
- Research and study requests can be sent to the Archives of the Egyptian Museum via email archivessectioneme@gmail.com/ emregistrars@gmail.com

Rules and Regulations

1. It is prohibited to borrow any book or manuscript or document from the library.
2. To Photocopy a document or a book or a manuscript the applicant or the student should submit his/ her identification card and current home address through filling a study application form. He/she should also send a photocopy of his/ her national ID (for Egyptians), the passport (for foreigners), and the data of the required document he/ she wish to photocopy.
3. Master's degree and PhD's students as well as those who are affiliating scientific institutions should submit an official approval from the institution his/ she is affiliating. The letter is only for one topic or request and it has to include the followings: the number of photocopies requested and an approval that the name of the Ministry of Antiquities should be mentioned in the research as the source of the scientific information obtained. An official letter has to be sent to the General Director of the institute/ library that hosts the document of interest. The letter should. have the logo of the scientific body he/she is affiliated with, and should include a short summary of the purpose of the request and the numbers of the archival materials needed to be copied.(need the Arabic)
4. Smoking, eating, drinking, and chewing gum are strictly prohibited. Using cell phones is also prohibited except of emergencies.
5. The researcher's visit to the archive will be under the supervision of an employee from the archive administration department.
6. Taking photographs or photocopies from the original versions of the manuscripts, documents, and rare books, especially those that have any other published editions are strictly prohibited. Printing is the only allowed form and it must be from microfilms and digital copies.
In case of the unavailability of microfilm or digital copies of the requested document, a photo of the document can be taken only by the Central Administration for Information. In such cases, the administration holding the collection in question should carry out an inventory for all its manuscripts and books and notify the Central Administration to continue the digitization process.
7. If the researcher would like to bring his/her own documents to the study area, for comparison purposes, he/she should bring an approval in advance from the director of the administration holding the collection.
8. The researcher should not leave the study area before handing in all the documents and manuscripts in good condition.
9. Breaking the rules and the regulations or damaging the documents would cause the researcher to be escorted out of the study area, and this is up to the administration employee to decide.
10. In all previous cases, the number of requested copies should be specified, and the assigned employee would calculate the total amount. The applicant would then be transferred to the nearest cashier to pay the calculated total amount using the application form "33-AH" 11.It is prohibited to transfer or exchange the photos, the digital files, or the photographic materials with any other parties unless obtaining a written approval from the general director of the concerned museum..
12. The researcher must submit five copies of his published article, or one copy of his book, or send a PDF of his research. In case the researcher does not send his research to the administration within a maximum period of one year from the date of publishing, the concerned museum will prohibit any future interaction with the researcher.
13. In case a photocopy request of the required document is approved, the researcher will have the right to publish the photo of the archival material within a maximum period of three years from the date of the copy acquisition. After that period, the researcher will lose his right to publish the photo. He/ she will have to re-contact the concerned museum, and receive a new written approval, unless he/she submits a convincing excuse for the delay.
14. For movie and documentary shooting of the archive and its collection, for Egyptian or Arab channels, the price list for commercial shooting would be applied, depending on the category of the use.
15. Foreigners should pay either in US dollars or its equivalent in Egyptian pounds.
16. For the Department of Archives at the Egyptian Museum in Cairo:
 - All the photographs in the archive are the property of the Egyptian Museum in Cairo, and the Ministry of Antiquities and its copyrights are reserved for the museum and the Ministry. The logo of the museum's copyright should be included when publishing the photos.
 - Any requests to publish the materials or photos should be addressed to the administration / the Department of Archive/ the Registrar's Office. The details of the documents that were studied by the researcher will be entered into the online database of the collection. These entries are considered as general notifications of all ongoing researches related to the collection.
 - Photography is carried out only through the Department of Archives and by the curators, after receiving due approval from the department's director. The researcher is not allowed to take photos of the archived documents him/herself.
 - In case that the photography's request is approved, the researcher has the right to publish the photos of the document within a maximum period of three years from the date of photo acquisition. After that period, the researcher loses his right to publish those photos, unless he re-contacted the museum, and receive a new written approval. Exceptions can be made if the researcher submits a valid excuse for the delay.

Object of the Month

Lithic tools in prehistoric periods



Prehistoric or Stone ages, the era preceding the ancient Egyptians have developed their way to write, is considered the beginning of the ancient Egyptian civilization. In that time, the ancient Egyptians have settled in many settlements that extended over the eastern and western deserts. In search for water resources, they moved to the Nile valley and its delta, where they learned and developed agricultural activities. Because they guaranteed renewable water resources and agricultural activities, the ancient Egyptian did not have any reasons to move again and established many settlements, villages, and cities along the valley which have been united to form ancient Egypt.

One of these villages has been recently discovered in the modern village of "Tell Al-Asmara" in Dakahliya governorate. The village was established since the Neolithic time and includes many houses, ceramics, and lithic tools were found. Lithic tools are considered among the most informative and important objects that could be discovered in a Prehistoric settlement. Ancient people have used the available materials in their environment to produce their tools. Therefore, stones like flint, granite, quartzite, basalt, and lime were the main material for tools production.

Lithic tools production was developed over the span of time and their designs were developed. Therefore, the designs of the tool referring to its date. For example, the Paleolithic or Old Stone Age is known with its rough tools, while the Mesolithic or Middle Stone Age is known by its better treated tools, and the Neolithic or New Stone Age is known with its polished tools.

Tools varied according to its function. Among them the axe, which was one of the main tools, has a base fitting the hand and sharp edge. Meanwhile, the most useful one is the gimlet. It is a small stone tool with sharp pointed tip to make holes in leather. Although other tools were developed to carve stones, the most important was the knife that was made of a long, thin, and sharp piece of flint. It was used to do what a modern metal knife is doing nowadays. The important tool for the agricultural activities was the sickle has a similar shape of the modern sickle and serve the same purpose. Ancient Egyptians have also used stones to grain wheat by developing grinders consisting of two big stones, one on top of the other.

Stone was the material from which weapons were fabricated during that ages as people have developed arrowheads to hunt and to defend themselves.



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