



Newsletter

of the Egyptian Ministry of Antiquities

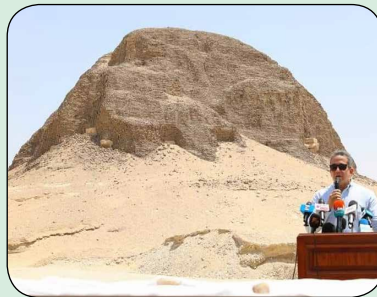
Issue 37 * June 2019

Inauguration of a special itinerary for visually impaired visitors at the Egyptian Museum in Cairo



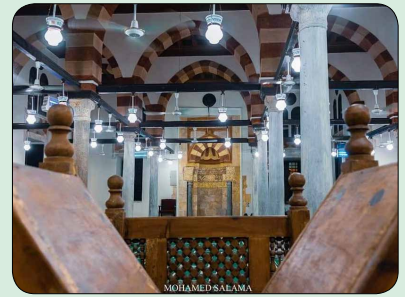
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Inauguration of the burial chamber of King Senusert II pyramid at Lahun, in the Fayoum Governorate



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Inauguration of the Khund Aslabay Mosque in the Fayoum Governorate



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Discovery of a rock-tomb at Lahun in the Fayoum Governorate



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Announcement of the securing the European Union (EU) project for the development of the Egyptian Museum in Cairo



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H.E. President of the State of Mozambique's visit to the Giza Pyramids and the archaeological sites in Luxor



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Celebration the Holy Family entry into Egypt



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The Prime Minister's visit to the first and second boats belonging to Khufu and the GEM



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Inaugurations

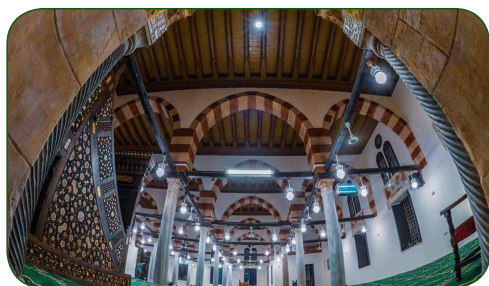
•The Minister of Antiquities inaugurated a special itinerary for visually impaired visitors at the Egyptian Museum in Cairo. The itinerary includes 12 artistic masterpieces from ancient Egyptian history. Every object in the trail is made from very hard stone such as granite that can be touched with further information provided on Braille labels as well as electronic audio devices. The opening ceremony was attended by the Minister of Tourism, the Minister of Youth and Sports, the Italian Ambassador to Cairo, and 16 foreign ambassadors to Egypt. This initiative falls within the framework of cooperation between the Egyptian Museum in Cairo, the Italian Institute of Archaeology in Cairo and the State Tactile Museum in Ancona, Italy (June 19). (→)



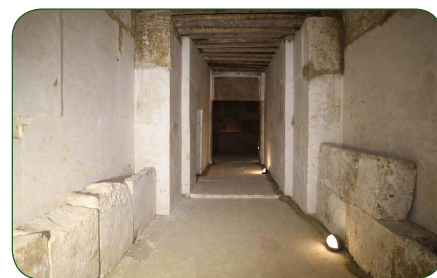
(←)• The Minister of Antiquities also inaugurated on the same day an exhibition entitled «Sports through the Ages», which showcases sports in ancient Egypt. The exhibition includes 96 artefacts that highlight ancient Egyptians' interest in sports (June 19).



• The three Ministers also visited the exhibition «The First Innovators», a furniture exhibition inspired by ancient Egypt. This exhibition was organised at the Egyptian Museum in Cairo within the framework of the Egyptian-Danish Dialogue Initiative in collaboration with the Museum. The exhibition displays 42 replicas of Egyptian furniture from the Pharaonic era that has inspired many Danish furniture designers and architects throughout the years. (June 19).



(←) •During his tour of the Fayoum Governorate, the Minister of Antiquities along with the Minister of Endowments and the Governor of Fayoum inaugurated the Khund Aslabay Mosque. Closed since 2013, the mosque was constructed by Khund Aslabay who was the wife of Sultan Qaietbay. While in the Fayoum the Minister also Inaugurated the burial chamber of King Senusert II pyramid at Lahun after its restoration (June 28). (→)



Archaeological Discoveries

•The remains of two structures were discovered, attached to a military fortress dating back to the era of Ramses II. The discovery was made during the excavations of the Egyptian Mission at the Abqain historical site in Hush 'Isa, Beheira Governorate. (June 10). (→)



(←)•A collection of pot fragments, amulets, ushabti, funerary masks, remains of wooden coffins and cartonage dating back to different ages, were unearthed, by an Egyptian mission, inside a Middle Kingdom tomb in Fayoum.



News

•The Head of Islamic and Coptic Antiquities sector representing the Ministry of Antiquities participated in an event at the Abi Sarja Coptic Church within the Religions Compound in Old Cairo. The event was held to commemorate the Holy Family's flight to Egypt (June 1). (→)



(←)•The director of the Egyptian Museum in Cairo, representing the Ministry of Antiquities, participated in the 7th International Forum for the Protection of Cultural Heritage held in Shanghai, China. She also participated in the opening of the 9th International Traditional Crafts Exhibition and the 5th International Cultural Tourism Development Conference, both held in Shanghai (5–6 June).

•The president of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) in the Middle East and Europe and his delegation visited the Khufu Second Boat Project (June 10). (→)

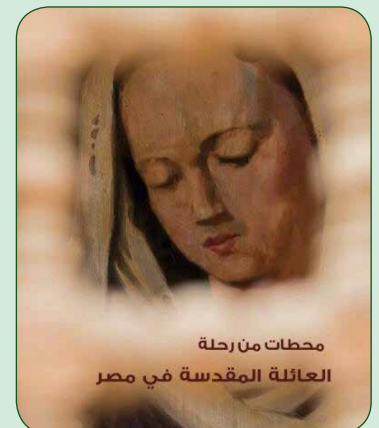


(←) •The Ministry of Antiquities launched the EU-funded project «Transforming the Egyptian Museum of Cairo», securing a grant of 3.1 million Euros for the development of the Egyptian Museum in Cairo. This project is in collaboration with five renowned European museums (the Louvre, the Turin Museum, the Leiden Museum, the Berlin Museum and the British Museum), in addition to the French Institute of Oriental

Archaeology. The launch ceremony was attended by the Minister of Antiquities, the Minister of Investment and International Cooperation, the Ambassador of the EU to Egypt, the Ambassadors of 40 countries from all continents, UNESCO representatives and members of Parliament (June 16)).

•The Gayer-Anderson Museum has completed the preparation of braille signage for visually impaired visitors in its various halls (June 18). Under the initiative “Mobsery Al Kuloub” (Those Whose Hearts Can See), the Museum of Islamic Art has completed the first phase in delivering models of museum artefacts for visually impaired visitors, as well as the implementation of the second phase of installing braille description labels next to the displayed artefacts.

•Under the title «Stations along the Journey of the Holy Family in Egypt», the Ministry of Antiquities issued a new catalogue in Arabic and English documenting the stages of the Holy Family's journey and introducing the various places they visited (June 19).



• The Grand Egyptian Museum received 155 artifacts, the most important of which belong to the Tutankhamun collection (June 20). (→)



(←) • A delegation of leaders from the African Youth Union participated in a training course for leaders at Salah El-Din Citadel. The event was organised by the Arab Republic of Egypt under the Nasser Leadership Grant, with the participation of about 100 African countries (June 21).

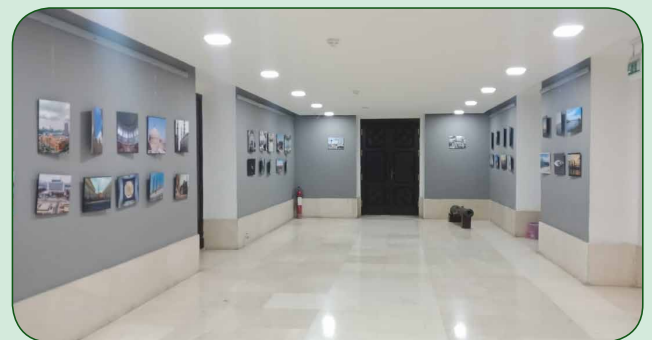
• During his visit to Egypt for the Africa Cup of Nations, the President of the State of Mozambique and his accompanying delegation visited the Pyramids (June 22) and the archaeological sites in Luxor (June 23). (→)



(←) • The Centre for the Registration of Egyptian Antiquities in cooperation with the Spanish Embassy organised a lecture entitled «Recent Discoveries in the Temple of Millions of Years of Tuthmose III in Qurna». The lecture was delivered by the Spanish archaeologist Professor Myriam Seco Álvarez (25 June).

Exhibitions

• The Museum of Islamic Art held an exhibition entitled «Oyoun Al-Kamera» (Camera Eyes), in which a collection of photographs of the museum's collections and its halls was presented by 39 Egyptian artists. The exhibition was organised in cooperation with the Port Said branch of Nadi Al-Tazawok Al Basari (Visual Art Club) (15–20 June). (→)



(←) • In cooperation with the Chinese Cultural Centre in Cairo, the Museum of Islamic Art held an exhibition that included a collection of photographs of monuments in China. The museum also organised another archaeological exhibition that included a collection of Islamic artefacts influenced by Chinese culture (June 22–30).

Meetings and Visits

•The Minister of Antiquities represented His Excellency the President of the Arab Republic of Egypt in a ceremony marking the anniversary of the entry of the Holy Family to Egypt. The event was attended by His Holiness Pope Tawadros II, Pope of Alexandria and Patriarch of the See of Saint Mark, as well as a number of Ministers, Governors and Ambassadors (June 24). (→)



(←)•The Egyptian-Japanese «The Senior Officials' High Committee»(SOHC) (June 11).

•H.E The Prime Minister paid a visit to the first and second Boats of Khufu, as well a tour of the Grand Egyptian Museum (June 15). (→)

• The Committee of Culture, Media and Antiquities at the Parliament on a visit for the historical sites of Fayoum Governorate (28–29 June).



(←)•The Minister of Antiquities received a number of officials to discuss ways of future cooperation in the field of archaeology. The Ambassador of Belgium to Egypt (regarding the Baron Empain Palace, (June 3 and 9)); the new Director of the French Institute of Oriental Archaeology (IFAO) (June 3); the Ambassador of Hungary to Egypt (June 12); the Director of the China National Museum (June 12).



(←)•The Minister of Antiquities attended a number of meetings and committees, including:
A meeting of the African Affairs Committee at the Parliament to discuss the promotion of tourism to Egypt for visitors during the Africa Cup of Nations (June 10).
A meeting with the Prime Minister, Minister of Housing, and Local Development, the Governors of Cairo and Giz, the chairman of Armed Forces Engineering Authority, regarding the development of the area surrounding the Grand Egyptian Museum and National Museum of Egyptian Civilization

(11 and 27 June).



(←→) • The Supreme Committee of the Repatriated Antiquities has called for a meeting to discuss the matter of displaying 32 Egyptian artefacts for sale in one of the auctions halls (11 June).

Meeting of the Organizing Committee of the International Conference of Egyptologists (June 12), meeting at the Egyptian-French Centre for Karnak Studies, in the presence of the Ambassador of France and the Director of the Centre (June 23).

Cultural Events and Community Outreach

• The Egyptian Museum in Cairo celebrated the Day of the African Child with children from the African community in Egypt, delivering a guided tour of the most important crafts and common industries in the continent, such as basket making, crafting glass, metal, and woodwork. (→)



Repatriated Antiquities



(←→) • The Archaeological Unit at Borg El Arab Airport in collaboration with the Ports Security Police managed to seize 24 coins that date back to the Umayyad, Abbasid, Ottoman and Sassanian Periods (June 27)

Decrees

- The board of directors of the Supreme Council of Antiquities agreed on signing a memorandum of understanding in the field of antiquities and museums with their counterparts of the Republic of Kenya.
- Engineer Hatem Al-Saeed has been appointed as supervisor for the development of archaeological sites and museums.
- Mr. Ahmed Khamis, Assistant Minister for Human Resource Development, has been assigned to the supervision of the Human Resources Development Unit.



Editor: Dr Hany El Tayeb
Co-editor: Mohamed Saad
Staff: Ashwaq Mosleh
Karim El-Ridy - Muhammad Ragab
Designer: Marwa El Shimy

Translated by Gehane Nabil
Reviewed by
Dr Jane Smythe - Dr Samira Maged
Ministry of Antiquities
3 El-Adel Abu Bakr Street, Zamalek
Cairo, Egypt
www.antiquities.gov.eg
antiquitiesnewsletter@gmail.com

Telephone numbers:
(+2-02) 237356010 - 27358761
27365645 - 27371724
Fax: (+2-02) 27357239
Ministry of Antiquities
[ministry_of_antiquities](https://www.facebook.com/ministry_of_antiquities)
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