



National Museum of Egyptian Civilization

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The Long Awaited National Museum of Egyptian Civilization is Inaugurated By President Abdel Fattah El Sisi



President Abdel Fattah El Sisi inaugurated on April 3rd the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization (NMEC) in Cairo. President Abdel Fattah El Sisi was received by H.E. Dr khaled El Anany & welcomed by UNESCO Director-General; Ms. Audrey Azoulay, and Mr Zurab Pololikashvili, Secretary-General of the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO).

Mr. President has later received the "Royal Golden Parade", where 22 royal mummies from the 17th to the 20th dynasties of ancient Egypt – were transferred from their decades-long residency at the Egyptian Museum in Cairo's Tahrir Square, to be put on display at the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization (NMEC) in Old Cairo's Fustat district. It is worth-mentioning that NMEC is one of the largest international museums, as well as the only museum of its kind in Egypt, the Arab world, the Middle East and Africa, as it includes all the manifestations of the richness and diversity embraced by the Egyptian civilization during various eras. To enhance the visitor's experience and their interaction with the museum's collections as well as to expose the visitors to in-depth information, NMEC provides in its halls the latest technology such as digital display screens. NMEC also provides its visitors integrated services, leisure activities ,and infrastructural facilities so that visitors can enjoy a rich and comfortable experience at the musem, during their visit.

Visitors with free entry permits are welcomed during weekdays with an exception of weekends (Fridays & Saturdays), and Public Holidays

Tickets' prices	
Foreign visitor	200
Foreign student	100
Photography (For personal use)	50
Camera Holder	20

NMEC is open everyday during the week, including public holidays, from 9:00 AM till 5:00 PM and on Fridays from 9:00 AM till 5:00 PM, and from 6:00 AM till 9:00 PM

Welcome Note by Dr. Ahmed Farouk Ghoniem Managing Executive Director of NMEC

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of the largest international museums, as well as the only museum of its kind in Egypt, the Arab world, the Middle East and Africa, as it includes all the manifestations of the richness and diversity embraced by the Egyptian civilization during various eras starting from pre-historic periods to the present time, including the Egyptian, Greek, Roman, Coptic and Islamic periods, along with Modern and Contemporary Egypt. NMEC outstandingly exhibits around 1,600 pieces, selected on scientific basis to ensure the quality of a museum display scenario befitting the greatness of our tangible and intangible cultural heritage. To enhance the visitor’s experience and their interaction with the museum’s collections as well as to expose the visitors to in-depth information, NMEC provides in its halls the latest technology such as digital display screens. NMEC also provides its visitors integrated services, leisure activities and infrastructural facilities so that visitors could live a rich and comfortable experience at the museum, for a whole day.

Minister Khaled El Anani tours NMEC with school students



In an initiative that is the first of its kind, the Minister of Tourism and Antiquities, Dr. Khaled El-Anani, accompanied a group of school students on a guided tour inside NMEC in Fustat, to introduce them to the size of this huge cultural achievement, and the archaeological holdings that embody the tangible and intangible legacy of the Egyptian civilization. It is worth mentioning that the tour was filmed and broadcasted on our educational channel, where it was attended by the participating school students and the public from the museum and heritage sectors as well as the tourism and cultural institutions in the country, with a number of views that exceeded one million. This initiative comes within the framework of the cooperation protocol between The Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, and the Ministry of Education, which in turn aims to spread cultural awareness and instill tourism ethics. The protocol also aims to raise tourism and archaeological awareness among school students.

The “Fustat Gardens” project embraces NMEC with an area of 500 acres

According to the official page of the spokesman of the Presidency; Ambassador Bassam Radi, a promotional video shared the largest national project in the Middle East; “Fustat Gardens”. Located at the heart of historic Cairo, “Fustat Gardens” are built in an area of 500 acres as one of the largest urban outlets in the heart of the historic capital. The national project seeks to revive the first Islamic capital in Africa, achieve a qualitative cultural and environmental shift in the archaeological area of Fustat, and work to make it an open-air museum national and international visitors.

The project comes in light of the vision of President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, and within the efforts of the Egyptian state to create a comprehensive tourism product, which in turn encourages citizens and tourists to enjoy a unique experience in the streets of historic Cairo.

The First Spanish Delegation visits NMEC & praises its Safety Protocols



NMEC in Fustat welcomed the Spanish group who arrived to Luxor on Saturday 31st of July, 2021. The tourists have arrived to Egypt through the first charter flights from Spain to Luxor since the resumption of the tourism movement to Egypt since July 1st, 2020. After their visit to Luxor and Aswan, the Spanish group has traveled to Cairo to visit NMEC, and observed the museum's exquisite collection at the Core Exhibition Hall as well as the Royal Mummies Hall, especially after the grand parade that was held in April, earlier this year. During their visit, the 114 Spanish members were divided into six smaller groups in order to comply with NMEC's comprehensive approach to handle the COVID-19 pandemic. The Spanish tourists praised NMEC's efforts in abiding by the safety protocols to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

NMEC Receives a Russian Media Delegation



NMEC has received a media delegation from Russia, which first arrived in Hurghada, after the resumption of the tourism movement between Russia and the Egyptian tourist cities. After their visit to Hurghada, the Russian delegation have traveled to Cairo to visit NMEC to observe the museum exquisite collections. Accompanied by Ms. Fayrouz Fekry, the Deputy Director for Management and Operation at NMEC, the Russian guests have toured the museum's spacious galleries such as the Core Exhibition Hall, and the Royal Mummies Hall to get acquainted with its distinguished artifacts and breathtaking archeological treasures. The visiting officials praised NMEC's efforts in abiding by the safety protocols to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. The visitors have concluded their trip at NMEC by taking photographs to mark their memorable trip to the museum.

Arab Bloggers & Influencers visit NMEC

NMEC in Fustat welcomed a delegation of Arab bloggers and social media influencers who paid a visit to a number of Egyptian governorates such as Cairo, Alexandria and the Red Sea to promote Egypt as a travel destination. During their tour in Cairo, the influencers were keen on visiting NMEC to perceive the museum's exquisite collection



as well as the Royal Mummies Hall, especially after the grand parade that was held in April, earlier this year. The delegation was received by Dr. Ahmed Ghoneim, Managing Executive Director of NMEC, accompanied by Mr. Ahmed Youssef, the CEO of the Egyptian Tourism Promotion Board, where they toured the museum halls such as the Core Exhibition Hall, and the Royal Mummies Hall to get acquainted with its distinguished artifacts. Our guests have expressed their delightfulness with their overall experience at NMEC, highlighting their admiration towards the uniqueness of Egypt's Civilization that is well-expressed through the museum's rich collections.

Issuance of commemorative coins and stamps in memory of the "Pharaohs' Golden Parade"

In commemoration of the "Pharaohs' Golden Parade" where twenty-two royal mummies of Kings and Queens were transferred from the Egyptian Museum in Tahrir to NMEC in Fustat, on April 3rd, 2021, the Ministry of Finance issued a commemorative silver coin for 100 L.E carrying the ceremony's official logo in both English and Arabic. Moreover, the Ministry issued tradable 1 L.E and 50 piasters coins carrying the same logo as the silver coins. In addition, The National Postal Authority, in cooperation with NMEC, issued a set of commemorative postage stamps with QR Coding technology in order to document this exceptional event. Such agreements were announced in accordance with the Prime Minister's Decree No. 20 of the year 2021. It is worth-mentioning that the transferred royal mummies belong to the Kings and Queens from the Seventeenth to Twenty-Second Dynasties, including the mummies of King Seqenenre Tao, Amenhotep II, Thutmose II, Thutmose III, Seti I and Queen Hatshepsut.



Dr. Ahmed Ghoneim indicated that the temporary exhibition hall will soon to be inaugurated, and that the number of visitors are expected to increase

Dr. Ahmed Ghoneim emphasized that NMEC is an evident of Egypt's strengths in both past and present. He added that "NMEC's halls are provided with exceptional interactive touch screens that facilitates the visitors' experience and answers their inquiries". Dr. Ghoneim highlighted that NMEC is an artistic and cultural beacon for all forms of tangible and intangible arts and heritage.

Arab Ministers and Ambassadors visit the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization

The National Museum of Egyptian Civilization continues to receive a number of international dignitaries, government officials and public figures from Egypt and the world since its grandopening in April this year. NMEC witnesses a number of visits and events, including the celebration that was organized for participants in the 8th Ministerial Conference of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation on Women, hosted by Egypt .



In a first-of-its-kind initiative in Egyptian Museums, a virtual tour is held at NMEC

In a unique initiative, NMEC in Fustat organized the first virtual tour at the museum halls. The tour took place at the request of a delegation from the World Bank, which came on the sidelines of the Bank's Executive Board meetings. The tour was attended by almost 100 members of the World Bank's leaders in the American capital, Washington DC, through their smart phones and computers. Dr. Ahmed Ghoneim, Managing Executive Director of NMEC, emphasized that the participating delegation have praised the museum's acquisitions, as well as the appropriately applied procedures of lighting employed at NMEC's in glass-door cabinets, as they meet the requirements of museum lighting.

EVENTS

“Being Free” A World Premier Documentary Discussed At NMEC

NMEC hosted a 27-minute documentary film “Being Free”, for Egyptian director Sherif Fathy and starring ceramicists; Heba Helmy. The event was attended by a number of visual artists, and those interested in ceramic art. During the symposium that followed the show, director Sherif Fathy expressed his keen interest in producing a series of films that discusses the cultural and heritage perspectives of Egypt, and illustrates the creative and artistic contributions of people working in such industries. In which will eventually contribute in preserving the tangible and intangible cultural heritage of Egypt, especially in rapid globalization, that poses serious threats to cultural heritage and identity



Pharaonic Harp awes the audience at NMEC's open-air Roman Theater

NMEC hosted at its open-air Roman Theater on the evening of Tuesday 13th July, musician Manal Mohy El Din, where she awed NMEC's audience by playing solos on her unique harp. The playlist included a number of folk and traditional Egyptian music as well as some new tracks composed by the artist herself. Mohy El Din is famous for creatively



combining and fusing traditional Arabic music with international musical masterpieces, leaving her audience completely enchanted. The event was sponsored by Misr Bank and Raya Holding.

Drawing and Coloring the Charcters of Egypt's Iconic Puppet Show

NMEC celebrated the works of the Egyptian puppetry pioneer; Nagy Shaker. The celebration embraced Shaker's most prominent contributions in the fields of cinema, theater, design and décor. In addition, the celebration included Egypt's most famed puppet show *"El-Leila El-Kebira"* or "The Grand Night", created by Puppeteer Nagy Shaker, where



the songs were written by Salah Jahin and composed by Sayed Mekawy. The ceremony was well-received by NMEC's visitors from different age groups, mainly children, as NMEC's Department of Museum Education offered simple, tailored activities for children to introduce them to the folkloric show, its characters, and most importantly, to their country's cultural heritage. It is worth-mentioning that such events are conducted as part of NMEC's strategy to enrich its offered creative and cultural programs, and to educate Egyptian youth about their tangible and intangible heritage.

"Celebration of El-Leila El-Kebira" at NMEC

The celebration witnessed a large turnout from the museum's visitors, who were keen to attend and participate in it with the children. The art exhibition included several sketches of the The Grand Night's characters, created by the renowned artist Dr Nagy Shaker, as well as pictures from other works he presented other than puppetry, including classical films such as Shafiq and Metwally, who Nagy has designed its scenery and decoration.



NMEC conducts a seminar for Galal el Missry

NMEC continues its series of cultural heritage events and outreach activities. For instance, NMEC conducted a seminar for author and photographer; Galal el Missry, on his most recent publication "*Al Bilad Al Gamila*". In his book, El Missary has successfully illustrated the splendor and beauty of Nubia, throughout a great number of photographs he himself has captured during his many visits to Nubia.

El Missary's collection of photographs have expressed the social, cultural, and aesthetical aspects of Nubia, in which they collectively represent the richness and beauty of Egypt's cultural heritage. On the other hand, Dr. Maha Swailem, NMEC's Training Department's supervisor has emphasized that NMEC's management is keen on diversifying the museum's offered activities in order to appeal to NMEC's diverse audience and their interests. Swailem has added that such event comes as a practical.



Egyptian Marimba Player Nesma Abdel-Aziz Performes at NMEC's Roman Theater

The Roman Theater at NMEC hosted a musical event for the famous Marimba player Nesma Abdel Aziz, as part of the cultural and artistic programs offered at the museum. Dr. Ahmed Farouk Ghoneim, Managing Executive Director of NMEC, expressed his delightfulness with the concert's great success and the audience's positive interactions, which confirms NMEC as a cultural and artistic venue of outstanding importance, The event was sponsored by El Ahli Bank.



Conservation Laboratories



The Conservation and Restoration Center was established at NMEC and it consists of conservation laboratories, scientific central labs as well as specialized workshops built on an area of approximately 3200 m², that also includes central laboratories for conserving organic and inorganic artifacts. Laboratories were divided into dry cleaning areas and wet cleaning areas, that are fully equipped with suction devices for fumes and gases. It has a suction power control to preserve the artifacts and their sustainability, as well as airtight preservation places, especially for preserving restoration materials. It is equipped with an internal suction system for the rising fumes.

How do we receive NMEC's Acquired Pieces?

Once NMEC receives an object, a consistent framework is implemented by NMEC's Antiquities Receiving Unit - which is located on an area of approximately 1500 m² - to investigate the piece's condition, provide useful information about it and increase the institution's understanding of what is in its collection. The process begins by examining and preparing condition reports for the received pieces, then, NMEC's experts continue the process by applying the best techniques of handling, packaging and safely transporting the objects to the museum's labs in order to prevent damage or occasional accidents to the museum's properties or its staff.



A Training Program for Students in the field of Antiquities & Restoration at NMEC

NMEC organized a training program for students of the Faculties of Tourism, and Archeology. Started on August 11th, 2021, NMEC's curators have prepared and delivered several lectures that covered a number of major themes in the field of museology and archeology, including, but not limited to; navigating the concept of museum and its historical development, discussing the significance of the displayed Egyptian artifacts at international museums, emphasizing the important role played by digital documentation in preserving NMEC's collection. Moreover, NMEC's restoration specialists delivered a number of lectures on the study of human remains and the methods of identifying them, the methods of preserving, treating and maintaining manuscripts, papyruses, leathers and baskets, as well as the best methods of storing and displaying them. The lectures have offered a theoretical and practical approaches, and were delivered at NMEC's Core Exhibition Hall and inside its various laboratories. It is worth-noting that the training program will resume until the first week of October.

The Statue of “Khonsu”

“Khonsu”, the son of both “Amun-Re” and the consort goddess “Mut”, as they are together considered as the “Triad of Thebes”. “Khonsu” is one of the deities represented in a human form, with the vitality and freshness of youth, notably personified the moon.

In his exhibited statue, “Khonsu” is depicted standing steadily, with features similar to King Tutankhamun. Khonsu’s statue is remarked by several significant features, mainly, his sidelock of hair that indicates his youthfulness, the Cobra centering his forehead, the distinctive “Menat” necklace around his neck and hangs on his chest, and both his hands fisted to his chest, holding the prominent royal regalia of ancient Egyptian symbols for power, authority, steadfastness and stability; the crook “Heka” and flail “Nekhakha”.



THE STOLE



Beside their religious role, liturgical vestments and priestly garbs in the Coptic Church resemble the spiritual role performed by the clergy during their sermons. Interestingly, NMEC exhibits a Coptic liturgical vestment, a “stole”, basically a stole worn by both bishops and priests. The batrashil is a long embroidered stole that pulled over the head and hangs down the front, usually layered over a Tunic. Our exhibited “stole” is made of fine red atlas, embroidered with silver threads and has the figures as well as the names of the twelve apostles. Besides the neckline, two crosses are embroidered along with an inscription that says “It was accomplished under the decree of St. Mary’s Church in Ḥārat al-Rūm, “Render unto them a recompense, O LORD, who has torments in your kingdom”, Year of the Martyrs 1489, i.e. about 1773 AD.

NEWSLETTER TEAM

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Egyptian Civilization



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