

THE EIGHTH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF EGYPTOLOGISTS

February 3, 2000

Dear Colleague,

This final announcement has been delayed by the sudden change in venue for the Congress of Egyptologists. Because of an African-European Presidential meeting at the Cairo International Conference Centre, we have been obliged to move to **THE MENA HOUSE OBEROI** in Giza. All the meetings of the Congress will now take place there. The dates have not changed.

We apologize for the inconvenience that this will cause, but we are sure that the new venue will, in fact, be an enhancement. The Mena House has wonderful facilities and restaurants, expert staff and a beautiful garden (to say nothing of the surroundings).

Millennium Lectures and Debates

To celebrate the millennium, each day of the Congress will begin with a Millennium Lecture (two on the last day) on different aspects of Egyptology. The subjects of these keynote topics are: Archaeology, Site Management and Protection, Museology, Language, Literature, Religion and Art. Each lecture will be followed by a debate between invited scholars.

Papers

The response to the call for papers was very good, and we have had to limit delegates to one paper each. **The maximum time for communication is 25 minutes, including discussion. This time limit will be strictly enforced in order to keep the parallel sessions in line** Please make sure that your paper does not exceed this limit.

Limited Numbers

The availability of rooms at The Mena House has meant that the number of delegates will be limited. Those who intend to pay on arrival but have not yet registered with the Congress Office should register their names as soon as possible on the form below. We can only guarantee places for registered delegates. Only payments in cash will be accepted now (no cheques or credit cards) at the Congress Office, Documentation Centre, Zamalek, and during the Congress at The Mena House (Full \$200, Student, with proof of status, \$60).

Projectors

All rooms will be equipped with a 35mm slide projector. There will also be an overhead projector available (for transparent originals only). It is not possible to arrange for dual projection during the ordinary sessions. If you require other equipment, please inquire at the Congress Office before March 1st.

Early Registration

Delegates can register before the Congress starts at the **Documentation Centre, Zamalek** (1st floor, next to the Office of the Secretary General) on **Sunday March 26th** from 10.00am to 4.00pm and at **The Mena House Oberoi** on **Monday March 27th** from 10.00am to 4.00pm and from 8.00 to 10.00 am on **Tuesday March 28th**. The registration desk will be open throughout the Congress for late arrivals. **If you have paid by bank transfer, you must bring your bank transfer confirmation or receipt with you as proof of payment.**

Name Badges

All delegates will receive a name badge that should be worn at all times during the Congress and at official receptions, and a Congress Package containing the abstracts volume, the final lecture programme, invitations to Official and Institutional receptions and information about Cairo.

Hotels

There are a certain number of rooms available in the Mena House, and there are many other hotel in the Giza area. **Emeco Travel** has details and will make bookings upon request.

Travel

As stated in the last announcement, **Egyptair** is offering discounts to congress delegates; 25% on excursion fares and 50% on ordinary fares; up to 75% for groups of 10 or more coming from Europe or the USA when booked through the official Congress Travel Agent, **Emeco Travel**, (see details below). Please remember to bring your return tickets to the Congress Travel Desk to re-confirm your departure.

Visas

You must have a valid visa to enter Egypt. Please check with the Egyptian Consulate of your own country about requirements.

Transport in Cairo: Airport

The baggage trolleys at the airport cost LE2.00. Outside the airport, limousines are available for c.LE50-70 depending on destination (the white limousines have English-speaking drivers but the black ones are cheaper). Taxis are slightly cheaper, but may haggle about the price. Emeco Travel offers a 'meet and assist' service to meet people off the plane, to assist them with visas, passport control, customs and to take them to their destination. Do not accept assistance from unauthorized persons or drivers.

Taxis

Taxis in Cairo are black and white, cheap and plentiful. They don't use the meter as the official rate is unrealistic. A short journey within central Cairo will cost between LE3-5; longer ones proportionally more. From Zamalek to the Mena House will be about LE 25-30 and will take about 25-30 minutes via the new western ring road from Agouza/Mohandessin to Giza. The eastern ring road is now connected with Giza via the Mouneeb bridge; Maadi to Mena House takes about 30 minutes and costs about LE25-30. Hotel taxis will be more expensive.

Climate

The weather should be mild and sunny during the day, but may still be chilly in the evening and early mornings, requiring light jackets and pullovers. For the tours, you should bring the usual sun protection – hat, sun screen, etc.

Changing Money

Most hotels have foreign exchange bureaux for the major European and North American currencies, travellers cheques and Eurocheques.

Credit Cards

American Express, Visa and MasterCard are accepted quite widely in shops and restaurants. Visa and MasterCard can be used for cash advance in some banks as well as Thomas Cook offices.

Telephones

International calling cards (ATT, Sprint, MCI, etc...) can be used at five-star hotels.

Tax Free Goods

As well as the usual duty-free allowance on entering the country, Egyptian law permits an additional duty free allowance if purchased within 24-hours of arrival. There are tax-free shops at the airport (outside customs), in Mohandessin, Maadi and the City Centre.

Electronic Goods

If you are bringing in electronic goods such as computers and videos it is wise to have them recorded in your passport on your arrival. They must then accompany you out of the country again or you may be charged tax on them.

Electricity

The electric current in Egypt is 220V AC, 50 HZ. If necessary, you should bring adapter plugs and travel size transformers, as they are difficult to obtain in Egypt.

Tipping

It is advisable to keep a good supply of small change. In hotels and restaurants it is usual to give between 10-12% of the bill. Porters and taxi drivers also expect tips.

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Provisional Outline Programme:

Sunday 26 March: 10.00am-4.00pm Early registration at the Documentation Centre, Zamalek.

Monday 27 March: 10.00am-4.00pm Early registration at The Mena House Oberoi.

Tuesday 28th March: 8.00 – 10.00am Registration at The Mena House Oberoi. 10.00am Opening Ceremony and Award-Giving followed by a reception.

12.00-5.00pm First Millennium Lecture and Debate followed by the reports of the SCA, DAI, IFAO and ARCE.

7.00-9.00pm Evening reception in the Garden of the Egyptian Museum.

29th March - 2nd April : 8.30-9.30am Millennium Lecture and Debate.

10.00am-12.30pm Papers. Lunch. 1.30-4.30pm Papers.

Sunday 2nd April: 8.00pm Gala Dinner at Giza.

3rd April: 9.00-11.15am Two Millennium Lectures and Debates followed by the Closing Ceremony and the General Meeting of the International Association of Egyptologists.

Reception at the Egyptian Museum: On the first evening (March 28th) an evening reception, hosted by the H.E.Minister of Culture, in the Garden of the Egyptian Museum will be followed by the opening of a special exhibition of recent discoveries. By special arrangement, the regular museum exhibits will also be open.

Gala Dinner: A Gala Dinner at will be held in Sphinx Square at the Pyramids on the last night (2nd April).

Details of both events will be found in the Congress Package. All delegates are invited, but in order to ascertain precise numbers, invitations to the Gala Dinner will be issued upon request at registration. Extra tickets for guests can be purchased at registration; Museum reception, LE100; Gala Dinner, LE150. Invitations must be produced for admittance to both functions

More information about the Congress can be found on the following web sites:

www.fak12.uni.muenchen.de/aegyp/IAEPage.html and

www.newton.cam.ac.uk/egypt and <http://guardians.net/hawass/>. A more detailed programme of papers will be posted on these Internet Web Sites in early March.

Post-Congress Trips:

4th April: One day trip to Luxor for the Official Opening of the Restored **Third Terrace of Hatshepsut's Temple at Deir el Bahri.**

5-6th April: Either; Overnight trip to **Bahariya Oasis** to visit the historical sites and the museum where some of the recently discovered mummies are now housed, **or** overnight trip to **Alexandria** to visit the site of the new Alexandria Library and the recently restored mosaics at Kom el-Dikka.

Please contact the Congress Travel Agent for more details, including cost:

Emeco Travel, 2 Talaat Harb Street, PO Box 1294, Cairo 11111, Egypt.

Tel: (202) 574 9360; 390 7045; Fax: 574 4212, 574 9369; e-mail:

emeco@attmail.com

**NAME AND
TITLE:**.....

AFFILIATION:.....
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**MAILING
ADDRESS:**.....

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**E-
MAIL:**.....
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**DATE OF ARRIVAL IN
CAIRO:**.....

**CONTACT/HOTEL IN
CAIRO:**.....

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