

Dr. TAREK SAYED TAWFIK AHMED

Four year plan for the activity and development of the International Association of Egyptologists

Dear colleagues,

It is with profound love to our passion Egyptology and the will to serve the international community of Egyptologists that I present to you my view of the future development of the Association and a four year plan for the activity of the Association.

All through its lifespan the Association has thanks to the efforts of great unremunerated honorary colleagues established a solid Organization with clear statutes and has been steadily developing and with very few exceptions the Congress (ICE) of the Association has been held regularly every four years further the OEB has become a fruitful project of the IAE.

The Aims of the Association as stated in the statutes provide the base for any upcoming work but have to live up to the changes in the higher educational systems around the world and the new technical possibilities at our disposal, so one of the important tasks would be to discuss on an international level the new trends in teaching Egyptology and the archaeology of ancient Sudan, including and consulting student members of the Association to modernize our curricula and to keep up with the aim to promote the study of Egyptology in all its aspects on an international basis (Aim 2.1).

As the Ministry of Antiquities in Egypt is doing great efforts to preserve Egypt's heritage and has in the last few years regularly been announcing new exciting discoveries, there is need more than ever and there are great opportunities to realize (Aims 2.2 & 2.3) actively supporting documentation projects as are of importance to the scientific development of Egyptology and the international collaboration among its professionals. Being an Egyptian Egyptologist based in Egypt teaching at the Cairo University and having worked at the Ministry of Antiquities for four and a half years as Director General of the Grand Egyptian Museum Project I have the experience and the connections to have the Association actively assume its role as an intermediary in providing funding and personnel for such documentation projects and to facilitate the collection and distribution of information concerning new discoveries, scientific work on progress and work completed. Further I will work on improving the communication of international scholars and archeological Institutions with the Ministry of Antiquities and facilitating their research and work in Egypt.

I would like to immediately create a new internet forum to be administrated mainly by young student members of the IAE from around the world to share the information about fellowships, scholarships, etc. in Egyptology and to encourage established members to provide help to younger members which will facilitate for them the

application process for fellowships, scholarships, etc. in Egyptology through workshops and sharing of Experiences. The Association shall assume, via this internet forum but also through traditional means of communication, its role to encourage collaboration between scholars and existing professional associations (Aim 4.4). In this regard video and Skype conferences etc. will be encouraged, especially to well prepare the ICE. I also plan to have additional an annual workshop or Symposium dealing with one special or urgent topic of Egyptology inviting the main specialists on the subject to participate as well as interested student members (Aim 2.5).

The site of the Association will with the help and creative ideas of the members, especially the young ones be modernized, more interactive and better linked to promote a wider understanding and appreciation of Egyptology on the part of the general public and cover the events of the IAE in an attractive way to help establishing contact and maintaining relations with amateur societies and other relevant institutions (Aim 2.6).

I will maintain regular and constructive contact with H. E. the Minister of Antiquities in Egypt, the General secretary of the Supreme Council of Antiquities in Egypt and the Head of the Sudanese Antiquities Organization to encourage in the name of the Association the preservation of the cultural and historic heritage of the ancient inhabitants of the Nile Valley and to discuss means of support by the IAE especially through providing expertise and mediating with international scientific and funding institution (Aim 2.7).

Concerning Organization the council shall assume an active role and I propose that each country or group of countries shall appoint an active young member as secretary who would be often present on the new IAE Internet Forum and assume the duties of collecting the annual fees or assisting members travelling to the respective countries for research or to attend workshops or conferences.

I will early on encourage the members in general to propose candidates for the honorary membership to resume this tradition of honoring our outstanding colleagues.

I'm concentrating and counting on the upcoming generation of young Egyptologists. I will encourage them and actively involve them to give our Association new impulses and fresh energy making use of modern technology and social media as well as continuing to up-date the OEB, together with the invaluable experience and the guidance of the distinguished and established members I'm sure that the next term with a president based in Egypt will open for the IAE new horizons, produce some interesting online publications of workshops and facilitate our international Egyptological work and cooperation.

2019/2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chairing the 12th International Congress of Egyptologists and preparing according to the outcomes a policy paper with recommendations, proposals and concerns to be presented to the Ministry of Antiquities. - Establishing a new Internet Forum administrated by young student members. - A Symposium about salvage Archaeology in Egypt (countries willing to host please get in contact). An online publication of the main results and contributions shall follow shortly. - Creating a young committee to continue updating the EOB.
2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An online workshop about fellowships and scholarships in Egyptology and tips for the application process - A Symposium about documentation: modern means and the challenge of sustainability (countries willing to host please get in contact). An online publication of the main results and contributions shall follow shortly. - Invite the members to propose candidates for the honorary membership
2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A Symposium about 100 years Tutankhamun new approaches (to be held in Egypt). An online publication of the main results and contributions shall follow shortly. - Appearing strongly in the international Media on this occasion to establishing contact and maintaining relations with amateur societies and other relevant institutions
2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Finish online publications - Actively participate in the organization of 13th International Congress of Egyptologists