

ANCIENT THEBES AND ITS NECROPOLIS

Following the actions taken by the Ministry of Antiquities to preserve and protect the Ancient Thebes and its Necropolis:

The East Bank:

- Some periodic restoration and conservation work of the internal walls of the Temple of Karnak.
- In Luxor Temple, there are some restorations and conservation works were completed as the lower part from southwestern wall of *Ramses III* hall and *Ramses II* Statue base from southwestern side, and some other restoration process underway like establishing a team work to restore the southwestern wall of *Ramses II* hall.
- Restoration and protection works for the holy boat eastern wall from droppings bats and cobwebs.
- Restoration and protection work for the Eastern columns of radiance hall.
- Restoration the main gate cornice of the Madamaud's Temple.
- In The Avenue of Sphinxes, there are some an ongoing works like restoration work for three Sphinxes' bases from the western grade behind Alex library.
- Beginning the excavations of the Avenue of Sphinxes in the Airport Road in March 2014.
- There are some foreign missions working in Karnak and Luxor Temples like The Egyptian French Center, American Mission of Johns Hopkins University, University of Chicago Mission and The Institut Français d'Archéologie Orientale (IFAO).

The West Bank:

- Restoration and conservation works in the Valley of The Kings tombs in Gournia Archaeological site of *Setti I*s Tomb – Tomb 41.
- Some other restoration and conservation works at the rest of the area like *Seti I* temple, temple of Deir Elmadina, Ramseum Temple and An Hir Kho Tomb.
- There Spanish project for Lighting the temples and tombs in the West Bank of Luxor in cooperation between the Spanish Government and the Ministry of Antiquities.

The Current situation for the Site:

- There are some illegal buildings contravention and the encroachment on the archaeological sites, especially in the Eastern Bank.
- Deterioration of the floor tiles of Karnak's temple outside yard.
- Harmful grass which detriment the safety of the site.
- Temple of Medamoud ground water problem.
- Exceeded building concrete pillars of the church fence to the West of the Avenue of Sphinxes which connected with the Western side of Luxor temple and issued a decision to remove the illegal construction.
- The Avenue of Sphinxes is exposed to neglect and garbage because of the project's suspension due to a funding problem.