

iii. Property Name: **ANCIENT THEBES WITH ITS NECROPOLIS**

II.1 Introduction

- a. State Party: **EGYPT**
- b. Name of the Property: *Ancient Thebes with its Necropolis.*
- c. Localisation: **Luxor City**
(Independent city according to IDSC's annual report of September 1993, p 281)
 Long. $32^{\circ} 35' - 40 E$ Lat. $25^{\circ} 42' - 45' N$
- d. Date of inscription on the World Heritage List: *26. 10. 1979*
- e.
- Organisation *Supreme Council of Antiquities (S C A),*
 - Person responsible *PROF. DR. GABALLA ALI GABALLA,*
Secretary General of SCA
 - Address *4 Dr. Fakhry Abdel-Nour Str.*
 City and post code *Abbasiya, Cairo, Egypt*
 Telephone *(202) 2838084 or 2843627*
 Fax *(202) 2831117*
 E-mail *...*
- f. Date of the report: *August 2000*
- g. Signature of behalf of the State Party:

PROF. DR. GABALLA ALI GABALLA
Secretary General of SCA

G. A. Gaballa

II.2 Statement of significance

II.2.1 Information provided at the time of inscription

- a. Justification for the inscription provided by the State Party:

The antique city of Thebes under wean important phase of development during the middle Kingdom when the pharaoh of the 11th Dynasty [2140 B.C. – 1991 B.C.] made it their capital. However, the most glorious period of the history began under the new Kingdom with 18th Dynasty [1570 B.C. – 1320 B. C.] ... etc.

(see the report of 9.3.1979, WHC Idn No.: 87)

- b. Criteria retained for the inscription: *c (i) (iii) (vi)*

- c. Observations made by the advisory body during evaluation: *That the nominated property be included on the WORLD HERITAGE LIST on the basis of criteria i, iii, vi.*

- d. Observations made by the World Heritage committee at the time of inscription: *No statement*

- Owner: *Lack of name and address,*
- Legal status: *Absence of details*
- Responsible administration: *No mailing address*
- Photographs: *To be identified in the body of the Nomination.*

II.2.2 Update of the statement of signification

- d. Does the statement of significance adequately reflect the World Heritage values of the property: *Yes*

- e. Is there cause to reconsider these values: *No*

- f. Does the delimitation of the World Heritage property seem adequate: *Yes*

Does the delimitation of the buffer zone seem adequate: Yes

- g. Is the state Party considering asking for a revision of the boundaries: *No*

- h. New Statement of significance:

- Because of its importance Luxor (old. Theben) is no longer a city of the Governorate Qena.
- Historically Thebes was the capital of Egypt during a long period, from the MK to the NK. Its temples, palaces, necropolises on the both banks of the Nile are striking test among to Egyptian civilisation.
- The archaeological, artistic, religious and political values of Thebes give the property a unique situation in the world civilisation to be described on the basis of the criteria (i) (iii) (vi).
- The archaeological sites (Luxor, Karank, Qurna, Valley of Kings, Deir el-Bahari, Assassif ...etc.) are continuously under excavation and restoration by national and international institutions.

II.3 Statement of authenticity / integrity

- a. What was the evaluation of authenticity: *The original values are fully maintained.*
- b. Have there been changes in the authenticity: *No*
Are changes in the authenticity: *No*
- c. Have the values on the basis of which the property was inscribed been maintained: *Yes*

II.4 Management

II.4.1 Legal and institutional framework

- a.
 - Ownership: *State and Region and Private*
 - Legal status: *State property*
 - Legal framework (national and Local): *National*
 - Institutional framework (Local):
Supreme Council of Antiquities (SCA),
 - Agency(ies) responsible for the management: *S C A*
Address: *see above*
- b. Actions foreseen to preserve the values for the future:
 - 3) *Transfer of the inhabitants of Qurna.*
 - 4) *Elaboration of a GIS map.*
 - 5) *Preparation of a risk map.*

II.4.2 Management and planning

- a. Under which authority is the property managed
 - The site: *SCA Local Departement.*
 - Central administration: *SCA*
- b. Registered plans relating to the property
 - Regional plan: *...*
 - Local plan: *...*
 - Conservation plan: *Periodic conservation measures*
 - Tourism development plan:
 - *Opening and Reopening of tombs for visit*
 - *Amelioration of ambiance inside the tombs*
 - *Control of the visit*

- 1) Management: 9
 - 2) Managerial staff / engineers (number, role):
15 Egyptologists, architects, engineers, conservations.
 - 3) Manpower (number, role):
145 conservator / restorer assistant
- b.
- Regular financial resources: *Budget of SCA*
 - Sources and level of financing: *Fund of Antiquities*
- c. Personnel training needs:
- Observed shortcomings: ...
 - Personnel training needs: *Highly needed*
 - Types of training desired:
Management – Conservation – Risk map

II.4.5 Additional information concerning protection and conservation

- a.
- Sources of expertise for the training in conservation and management techniques: *Training courses organized with international institutions; American research centre, Egypt ARCE*
 - Protection measures and mean of implementation: *Periodic conservation measures*
 - Existing local programmes: ...
 - Policies and programmes for the safeguard of the site (status of implementation):
SCA annual plans for conservation and restoration
 - Financing (origin, amount):
SCA Fund for Antiquities
- b.
- Technical assistance provided by the United Nations system: ...
 - Technical assistance provided by bilateral co-operation: *American Research centre, Egypt, ARCE*
 - Technical assistance provided by Others: *American University; Cairo Franco-Egyptian Centre, Karnak*

II.4.6 Scientific, technical and educational activities

- a. Scientific studies:
- Research facilities at the site: *not available*
 - Laboratories: *shortage of required technical und specified equipment*
 - Scientific equipment: *minimal*
 - Databases: *not available*
- b. Research and development programmes: ...

II.4.3 Management and plan of the site and statement of objectives

a.

- Does functional management plan exist: *YES (the annual plan prepared by SCA)*
- Is a management plan being prepared or updated: ...
- Has the local community been consulted and informed about the management plan: *No*
- Does the management plan take into account the actual financial resources: ...
- Does the management plan include aspects of personnel training: *No*
- Does the management plan include zoning and multiple uses of the site: ...
- Does the management plan take account of a delimited buffer zone: ...
- Does the management plan include regular monitoring actions of the site: *No*

b.

- Implementation of the management plan:
Governmental institution: *SCA*
- Involvement of the local community in the implementation of the management plan: *... Local personnel belonging to SCA*
- Evolution of the management plan: *Periodicity*
- Revision scheduled every ...years *every year*

c.

- Financial support for the implementation of the management plan: *Financing guaranteed, National financing and Bilateral financing (for excavation and conservation of known sites by international missions / institutions).*
- Obstacles to the implementation of the management plan: *Lack of trained personal*
- Date of implementation of the management plan: *Annually at the beginning of July*
- Person responsible for the property:
Name: *Prof. Dr. GABALLA ALI GABALLA*
Function: *Secretary General of SCA*
Address: *see above*

II.4.4 Capacities in human and financial resources at site level

a. Human resources

- Level of staff

- c. New management techniques:
 - Availability of computer equipment: *require*
 - Possible access to the Internet: *No*
 - Operational access to the Internet: *No*
 - Use of the E-mail: *No*
 - Is there a Geographical Information System for the site: *planned*
- d. Educational activities
 - Does the site receive schools' visits: *Hundreds per day*
 - Are there educational programmes aimed at schools: *No*
 - Is there an environmental education policy: *No*
- e. How are general public information activities organised:
 (*See "Islamic-Cairo" II.4.6*)
 How are the World Heritage values transmitted to residents and visitors? *The World Heritage as policy of defending the archaeological sites and its values are at very limited level recognized.*

II.4.7 Diverse elements

- e.
 - World Heritage logo plaque: *planned*
 - Site museum: *Karnak*
- f.
 - Is it necessary to revise the legislative texts governing the property:
...
 - Is it necessary to revise significantly the administrative texts governing the property: *Yes*

II.5 Factors affecting the property

II.5.1 Degree to which the property is threatened

- a. Development pressures:
 - Visual integrity:
Buildings, Private properties of local inhabitants
 - Structural integrity:
Tourist impact, inadequate conditions of tombs for intensive visits.
- b. ...
- c. Natural threats and catastrophes concerning the site: *Heavy rainfalls at Qurna (west bank of the Nil)*
- d. Tourism and its consequences:
 - Yearly visitor : *2-3 millions native and worldwide tourists*
 - Accessibility of the site : *650 km, Paved roads, Airports*

Circulation within the site: *for vehicles*

e. Relations with the neighbouring residents of the site:

Local inhabitants occupied the archaeological area specially at the west side of the Nil in Qurna generations ago;

Indicate steps taken to counteract these threats:
planned to be moved to the south of Qurna.

II.5.2 Prevention of threats and natural and human pressures:

a. Methods of counteracting threats and pressures:

- Floods: *Measures at the entrance of the tombs to avoid flooding.*
- Tourism: *Planned to control the tourism per site*

II.6 Monitoring

a. Is there regular monitoring of the site: *No*

b. Key indicators for measuring the state of conservation: *not available*

c. Evolution of the monitoring methodology: *not available*

d. Dates of the previous monitoring exercises: ...

II.7 Conclusions and recommended actions

- a. Main conclusions concerning the Statement of significance of the site as a World Heritage property:

Thebes, with its archaeological diversity, is of a great cultural, architectural, artistic and historical values and importance as an ancient Egyptian site as well as a world heritage site.

- Main conclusions concerning the Statement of authenticity:

The original values are maintained.

- b. Main conclusions concerning the management of the property:

Annual Conservation and restorations of some tombs and temples are taking place. Shortage at the scientific and technical aspects is required.

- Main conclusions concerning the factors affecting the property:

Tourism, pollution, environmental factors are the main causes of damage.

- c. Proposed future action(s):

Databases, inventory of the site and its sub-regions; archaeological maps, risk-maps and GIS are being prepared.

- d. Responsible agency:

*SUPREME COUNCIL OF ANTIQUITIES (SCA),
Prof. Dr. GABALLA ALI GABALLA,
Secretary General of SCA, (See above)*

- e. Timetable for implementation

...

- f. Needs for international assistance: *Yes*

Type of assistance desired:

Training in Conservation, risk-map, management, specified informatics-technology (computer facilities and training).

- g. Resource persons or organisations who could be involved in monitoring:

ICCROM, Getty Institut

- h. ...

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