

POLISH CENTRE OF MEDITERRANEAN ARCHAEOLOGY UNIVERSITY OF WARSAW



**POLISH CENTRE
OF MEDITERRANEAN
ARCHAEOLOGY**

The Polish Centre of Mediterranean Archaeology (PCMA), University of Warsaw conducts and coordinates archaeological research in the Eastern Mediterranean. The PCMA upholds a tradition of 80 years of Polish activity in this field, began with Prof. Kazimierz Michałowski's pioneer archaeological and Egyptological work in the 1930s. The research program is focused on primary archaeological research in the field, through institutional excavation projects and individual research work. It initiates and is a major partner, through its Research Center in Cairo and the Archaeological Unit in Khartoum, in comprehensive archaeological excavation and conservation projects, representing and cooperating with other archaeological research institutions in Poland and abroad. The territorial scope of the Centre's projects has been historically the Ancient Near East and Northeastern Africa (Egypt and Sudan, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Iraq and Cyprus). In recent years it broadened its scope of interest to include the Gulf and Arabia (Kuwait, Oman, United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia), Caucasus (Armenia) and, most recently, North Africa (Tunisia). Currently, each year the PCMA heads over 30 projects.



pcma.uw.edu.pl

RESEARCH:

The PCMA's projects are focused on the fields of interest of its research staff, augmented by individual grant projects carried out through the PCMA. Today, this is Pharaonic and Classical Egypt, prehistory of the Near East and the Gulf, the Classical Eastern Mediterranean and North Africa, the Red Sea and Arabia, with expert focus on pottery and material culture studies, bioarchaeology, and the archaeology of death.

PARTNERSHIPS:

The PCMA has a strong history of partnering researchers from Polish academic institutions throughout the country and a number of projects are carried out in partnership with universities and institutions abroad. The PCMA is open to participation in international archaeological salvage projects, individually and in partnership with foreign institutes. Last but not least, the PCMA is a key partner in comprehensive archeological site presentation and museum display projects, undertaken in partnership with the antiquities services of the countries in which the projects are based.

The scholarships of the *UNESCO/ Poland Co-Sponsored Fellowships Programme in Archaeology and Conservation* are awarded, on PCMA recommendation, by the Polish UNESCO Committee. The fellows get a special training programme in the fields of archaeology, heritage protection, management and conservation in partner institutions, which include the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw and the Institute of Archaeology, University of Warsaw.

PUBLICATONS:

The PCMA issues publications presenting the results of its excavation and conservation projects. Fieldwork reports appear in the journal *Polish Archaeology in the Mediterranean*, while comprehensive studies are published in monographic series: *PAM Monograph Series* and *PCMA Excavation Series*. The PCMA also publishes *Miscellanea*, comprising occasional scholarly publications connected with PCMA research, such as jubilee volumes, exhibition catalogues, etc. and *Popular publications* – books and booklets – popularizing PCMA research.

LOGO:

The logo of the PCMA, derives from the Lion of Palmyra — one of the most recognizable artifacts from PCMA excavations. The sculpture's history is linked to that of our institution. It was discovered and restored by PCMA mission, and displayed in front of the Palmyra Museum it became an internationally recognizable hallmark of this UNESCO Heritage site. The latest events – the sculpture's destruction and painstaking reconstruction by Polish conservator – underscore the fragility of the ancient heritage and the important role of such institutions as the Polish Centre of Mediterranean Archaeology, University of Warsaw, in its preservation.

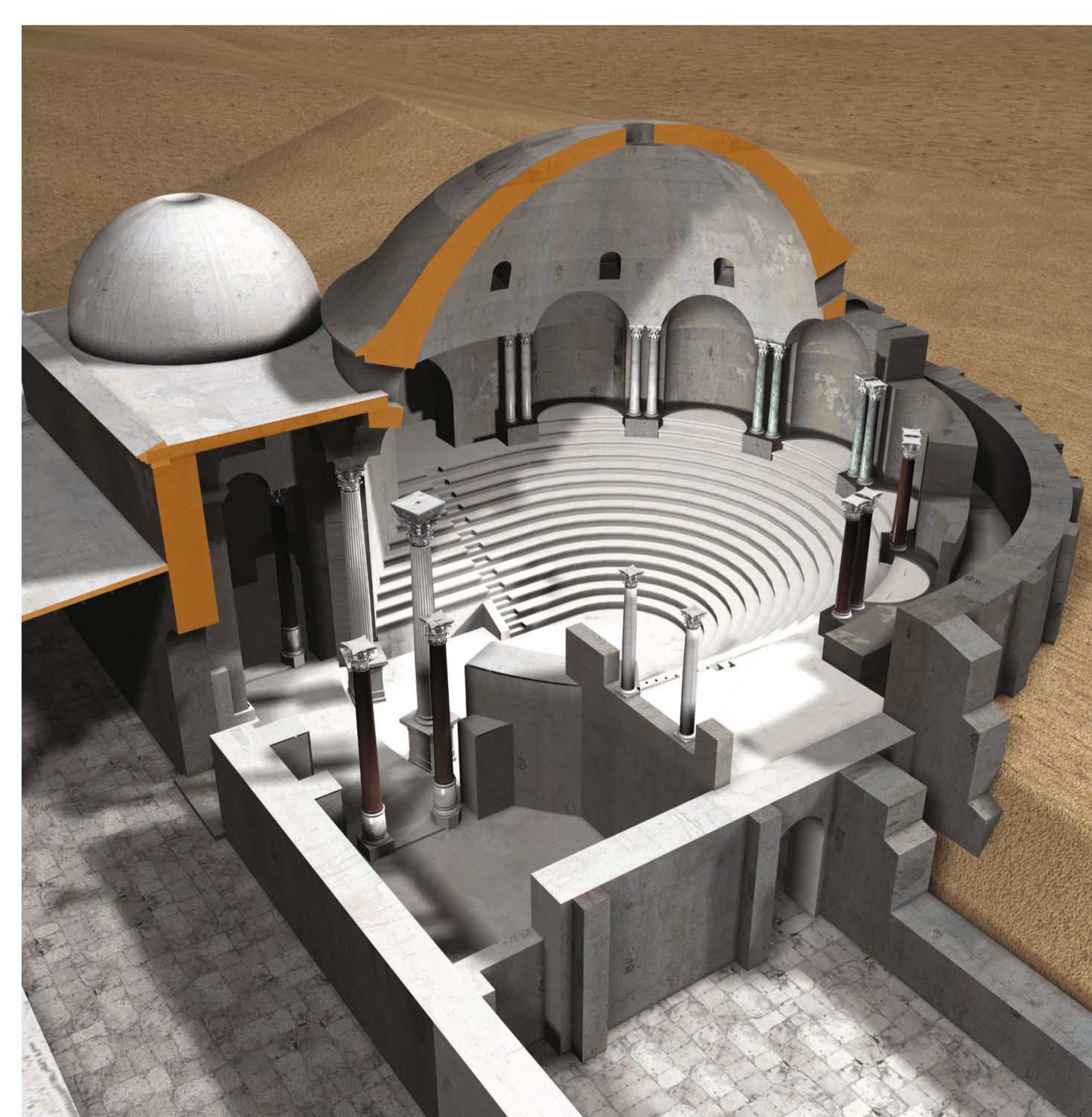


Research Center in Cairo

The PCMA runs a Research Centre in Cairo, established in 1959 by prof. Kazimierz Michałowski. Its tasks include managing and facilitating Polish archaeological and conservation missions' work in Egypt by representing the Polish scholarly community in front of Egyptian authorities. The Research Centre in Cairo also hosts and supervises holders of scholarships awarded by the Polish Ministry of Science and Higher Education to MA and PhD students.



Terracotta votive mask from Jiyeh in Lebanon. Photo A. Oleksiak



Digital reconstruction of the theater in Alexandria. By D. Tarara



El-Zuma in Sudan. Tumuli grave from a bird's eye view. Photo T. Wojtczak



Archaeological Unit in Khartoum

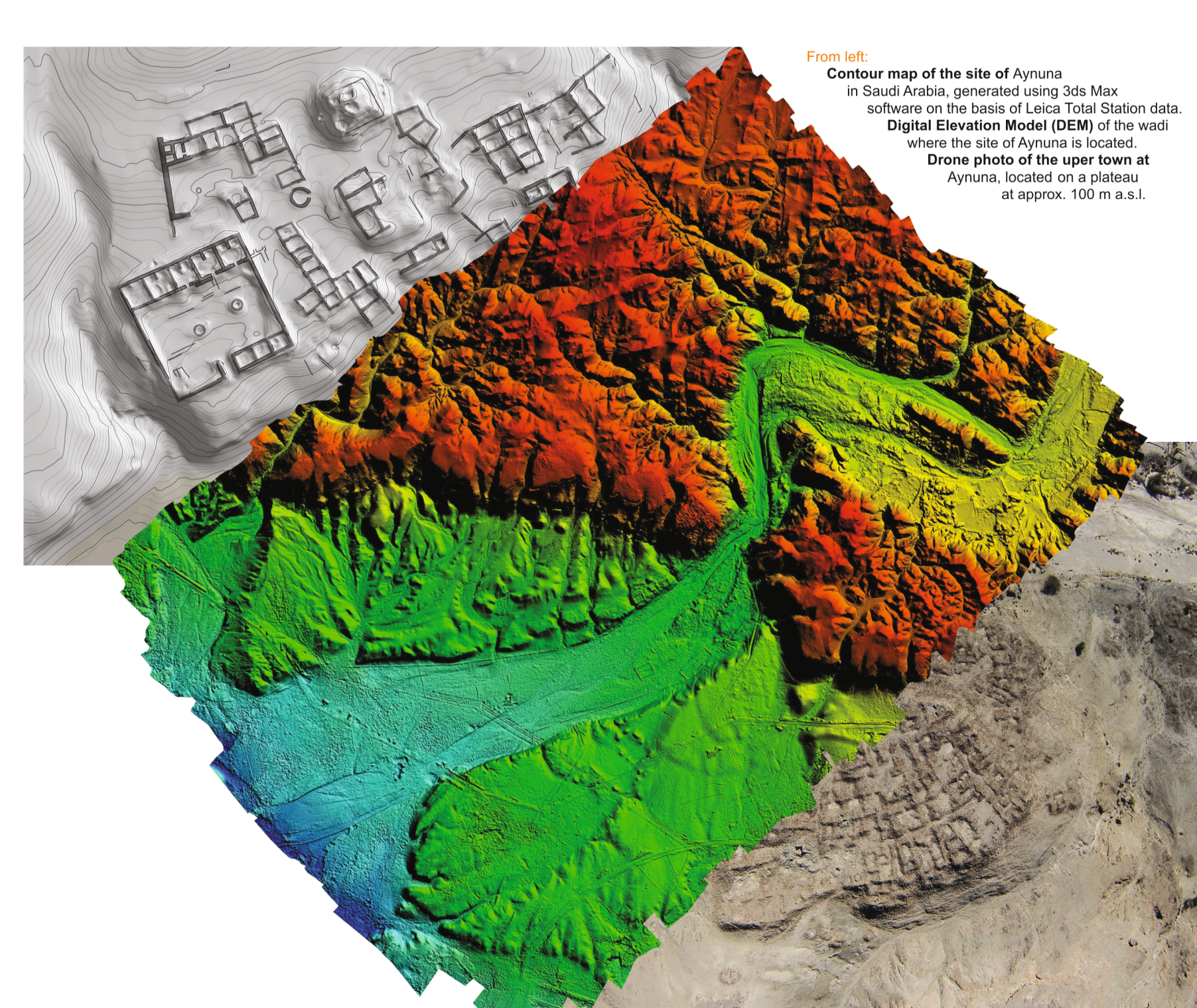
Archaeological Unit in Khartoum, the PCMA branch, was opened in February 2018 to serve multiple projects carried out in Sudan. The history of Polish archaeological research in Sudan goes back to the 1960s, to the UNESCO-coordinated effort to save monuments endangered by the building of the Aswan Dam. It was then that Prof. Kazimierz Michałowski discovered the renowned Faras cathedral. The Polish mission transferred its wall paintings to museums in Khartoum and Warsaw, saving them from flooding by Nile waters. Nowadays, about 100 Polish scholars and students work in Sudan each year. Within several projects, they study sites from different periods, working also on the conservation and presentation of the excavated monuments.



Beit Ras, ancient Capitollas (Jordan). Roman-age theater. Photo J. Mlynarczyk



The portrait of Hatshepsut in white khat headress from her temple at Deir el-Bahari. Photo M. Jawornicki



The excavation project at Aynuna in Saudi Arabia proposed to use a broad range of modern documentation techniques. By J. Kaniszewski, M. Truszkowski, K. Juchniewicz

