

Title: **Research of the French archaeological mission to Palmyra**

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Abstract: In the last ten years the French mission's activity was directed at the publication of old excavations carried out during the French Mandate (1920–1943) and the development of new research. With regard to the former, we have published the Agora (in 2005) and we are now engaged on the publication of a big house located near the Bel temple; this house has been dated between the end of the 2nd century and the middle of the 3rd century AD. Many stucco fragments were found during the excavations. As for the second program, an archaeological atlas is in preparation. The most important archaeological activity, however, is centered on the excavation and study of a big monument situated in the northern part of the city, identified as a peripheral marketplace and dated to the Severan period, a peak period in the city's history when it achieved the greatest extension of its limits

Keywords: Palmyra, Agora, house, stucco, market, Severan period