25th of March 2025

Artur Obłuski President on behalf of the Board of the International Society for Nubian Studies

Her Excellency
Ilham I.M. Ahmed
Ambassadress of Sudan
to Germany
His Excellency Khalid Ali Aleisir
Minister of Culture and Information
Sudan

Subject: Strengthening Collaboration in Heritage Preservation in Sudan

Dear Honorable Khalid Ali Aleisir,

The International Society for Nubian Studies (ISNS) was established in 1972 as a scholarly platform dedicated to promoting the history and culture of Sudan and fostering collaboration with Sudanese scholars and institutions. Throughout our history, ISNS has consistently supported Sudanese authorities during critical periods, notably during the Merowe Dam Archaeological Salvage Project, aimed at documenting and preserving the heritage of communities around the Fourth Cataract.

We are now at another crucial juncture for safeguarding Sudanese and global heritage and an opportunity to revitalise museums, enhance heritage management, and protect archaeological sites throughout Sudan.

In recent meetings with Deputy Ministers Mr Graham Abdel Qader and Ms Soumiya al-Hadi Ahmed in Port Sudan, we identified the urgent necessity to assess and address damages resulting from recent conflicts and environmental challenges. ISNS wishes to reiterate its readiness to collaborate closely with the Ministry of Culture and Information and the National Corporation of Antiquities and Museums. Upon the Sudanese Government's approval, we stand prepared to offer our assistance and expertise to tackle post-conflict heritage issues effectively.

Moreover, the ISNS Board proposes the establishment of an International Board of Experts, similar to the collaborative framework that proved successful during the Nubian Campaign of the 1960s. Such a committee could significantly aid in damage assessment, international dissemination of information, and facilitation of fundraising activities.

We firmly believe enhanced cooperation will greatly benefit the preservation and revitalisation of Sudan's extraordinary heritage. We await your response and remain eager to support the Ministry's and NCAM's important endeavours during this critical period.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter. We await your guidance on potential next steps and remain committed to protecting Sudan's cultural heritage in every way possible.

Yours sincerely,

The Board of the International Society for Nubian Studies (ISNS)

Julie Anderson, Bristish Museum, UK

Angelika Lohwasser University of Münster, Germany

Maria Carmela Gatto, Polish Academy of Sciences, Poland

Ghalia Gar el-Nabi, National Corporation of Antiquities and Museums, Sudan

Claude Rilly, French National Centre for Scientific Research, France

Marc Elie Lucien Maillot, University of Chicago, USA

Adam Łajtar, University of Warsaw, Poland

Andrea Manzo, University of Naples l'Orientale, Italy

Abdelhay Abdelsawy, National Corporation of Antiquities and Museums, Sudan

Ossama Abdel Maguid, Children's Museum, Egypt

Geoff Emberling, University of Michigan, USA

Artur Obłuski, University of Warsaw, Poland

On behalf of the Board

Artur Obłuski, President of the International Society for Nubian Studies