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CONTENTS

<i>Włodzimierz Godlewski, Adam Łajtar</i>	
Foreword	9
<i>Jean Leclant</i>	
Adresse à la XI ^e Conférence internationale des études nubiennes	11
<i>Mohamed Yussif</i>	
J. Leclant	13
Abbreviations	15
<i>William Y. Adams</i>	
Social class and local tradition in Nubia: The evidence from archaeology.	19
<i>Derek A. Welsby</i>	
Merowe Dam Archaeological Salvage Project 1996-2006	33
<i>Friederike Jesse</i>	
Time of experimentation? The 4th and 3rd millennia BC in Lower Wadi Howar, Northwestern Sudan.	49
<i>Charles Bonnet</i>	
L'occupation égyptienne au Nouvel Empire à Doukki Gel: L'apport d'archéo- logie	75
<i>Dominique Valbelle</i>	
Les temples thoutmosides de Pnoub (Doukki Gel). L'apport de l'épigraphie et de l'iconographie	85
<i>Stuart Tyson Smith</i>	
Tombos and the transition period from the New Kingdom to the Napatan Period in Upper Nubia	95
<i>Timothy Kendall</i>	
Why did Taharqa build his tomb at Nuri?	117
<i>László Török</i>	
From chiefdom to "segmentary state". Meroitic studies. A personal view.	149

<i>Catherine Berger el-Naggar</i>	
Contribution de Sedeinga à l'histoire de la Nubie	179
<i>Pamela Rose</i>	
Early settlement at Qasr Ibrim.	195
<i>Claude Rilly</i>	
Enemy brothers. Kinship and relationship between Meroites and Nubians (No- ba)	211
<i>Krzysztof Grzymski</i>	
Recent research at the palaces and temples of Meroe: A contribution to the study of Meroitic civilization	227
<i>Steffen Wenig</i>	
Ten years of excavations at Musawwarat es Sufra, 1995-2004	239
<i>Alessandro Roccati</i>	
The Italian Archaeological Expedition to Jebel Barkal/Napata.	249
<i>Włodzimierz Godlewski</i>	
Bishops and Kings. The official program of the Pachoras (Faras) Cathedrals. . . .	263
<i>Stefan Jakobielski</i>	
The Holy Trinity Monastery in Old Dongola	283
<i>Bogdan Żurawski</i>	
The churches of Banganarti, 2002-2006	303
<i>Adam Łajtar</i>	
Late Christian Nubia through visitors' inscriptions from the Upper Church at Banganarti.	321
Indices.	
Map	

To Friedrich W. Hinkel
In Memoriam



FOREWORD

The 11th International Conference for Nubian Studies took place in Warsaw exactly 34 years after the 2nd Conference which Kazimierz Michałowski organized in 1972 in conjunction with the inauguration of the Faras Gallery at the National Museum in Warsaw. It was then, in Warsaw in 1972, that the International Society for Nubian Studies took life, becoming a *spiritus movens* of international Nubian studies, confirmed once again by a conference that brought around 200 participants from several dozen scientific institutions representing Europe, the United States and Canada, as well as Sudan and Egypt, to Warsaw University between 27 August and 2 September 2006, where they were hosted by the University's Institute of Archaeology and the Polish Centre of Mediterranean Archaeology.

Growth in Nubian studies has been dynamic over the years, most recently stimulated by yet another dam construction project being carried out on the Fourth Cataract of the Nile. The building of the Great Dam on the First Cataract in Aswan in the 1960s was, as we all know, the event that prompted the development of Nubian studies in the first place. Building investment has always been a natural cause of intensified archaeological exploration, but the great hydrological projects on the Nile which are connected with the permanent inundation of extensive areas in the river valley have required, then and now, an archaeological effort on an international scale to investigate a couple hundred kilometers of the Nile Valley and to protect many monumental objects and sites. The transfer of the temples of Abu Simbel shall always remain a beacon of that international effort, as will the wall paintings from the Faras cathedral, which were discovered and saved for posterity, and can now be admired in museum galleries in Khartoum and Warsaw. The Fourth Cataract salvage effort is reported on regularly at separate meetings, which were initiated in 2004 in Gdańsk and have been continued on an annual basis successively at Berlin, Cologne and Lille.

The stimulation offered by regular meetings of interested scholars organized under the auspices of the International Society for Nubian Studies has been another factor determining this intensive development. These conferences – from Essen-Villa Hügel in 1969 through Warsaw (1972), Chantilly (1975), Cambridge (1978), Heidelberg (1982), Uppsala (1986), Geneva (1990), Lille (1994), Boston (1998), Rome (2002) and Warsaw again (2006) – have always provided the time and place for broad discussion and confrontation of different views, conceiving of new ideas and rethinking old ones with regard to the rise and fall of ancient cultures in the valley of the Nile south of the first cataract from prehistoric times through the neolithic, the cultures of Kerma, Napata and Meroe, to the medieval kingdoms of Nobadia, Makuria, Alodia and the post-medieval Funj.

The contribution of the governments of Sudan and Egypt toward an effective development of fieldwork and conservation activities in this region should be remarked on with appreciation. Not the least, the Sudanese and Egyptian authorities have had their share in the development of Nubian studies through their well placed policies of building new museums and generously loaning objects of ancient Nubian culture for temporary exhibitions worldwide.

The organizers of the 11th International Conference for Nubian Studies wish to express their gratitude and appreciation to the authorities of Warsaw University, Faculty of History, Institute of Archeology and the Polish Centre of Mediterranean Archaeology for their generous and comprehensive assistance at all stages of the project. For the smooth running of the conference and the ambience we have enjoyed we should thank Iwona Zych, secretary of the conference. Dobrochna Zielińska designed all of the conference materials, as well as prepared the exhibition

Dongola: City of Kings and Bishops, which certainly added special color to our meeting. Krystyna Polaczek managed the financial side of the conference. The rest of the organizing staff: Ewa Czyżewska, Ewa Domańska, Robert Mahler, Grzegorz Ochała, and assistants: Iwona Antoniak, Grażyna Bąkowska, Cristobal Calaforra-Rzepka, Małgorzata Melon, Artur Obłuski, Marta Orylska, Tomasz Pelc, Sławomir Rzepka, Joanna Then, Anna Wodzińska, Bartosz Wojciechowski and Aleksandra Zych have earned our warm sympathy and gratitude for their dedication and efficiency throughout the course of the conference.

There can be no doubt, however, that the success of the 11th Conference for Nubian Studies is entirely dependent on the Participants, their energy and talent, and their effort to present to their colleagues the current state of Nubian researches and their views on the development of ancient civilizations in the Nile Valley, between the cataracts south of Aswan. We shall surely be speaking for all our colleagues in Nubian studies when we express our heartfelt thanks for all the heated debates, words of friendship and support, as well as criticism, that were voiced in Warsaw.

At the same time we shall keep in grateful memory colleagues who will no longer come out with us in the field and who have left us the fruits of their intellectual labors: Hanna Jędrzejewska, Francis Geus, Lech Krzyżaniak, Patrice Lenoble, Nicholas B. Millet, Osama en-Nur, Peter L. Shinnie, Bruce G. Trigger.

For the first time also Friedrich W. Hinkel was absent. He had devoted his entire adult life to the ancient monuments of Sudan, their salvaging, recording and conservation. It is to Him that we dedicate the first volume of the Warsaw conference proceedings. His momentous documentation work and achievements will remain with us in our studies.

The efficient publication of the acts of the conference has been the work of Iwona Zych and Ewa Czyżewska.

With this we would like to thank all of you once again for the pleasant and intellectually stimulating days spent together at and around Warsaw University during the late summer of 2006.

Włodzimierz Godlewski
Adam Łajtar
Warsaw University

**ADRESSE À LA XI^e CONFÉRENCE INTERNATIONALE
DES ÉTUDES NUBIENNES
SECRÉTAIRE PERPÉTUEL DE L'ACADÉMIE
DES INSCRIPTIONS ET BELLES-LETTRES**

C'est pour moi un très grand honneur et une joie très profonde que d'avoir été invité à participer à la XI^e Conférence Internationale des Études Nubiennes à Varsovie et d'avoir ainsi l'occasion, une nouvelle fois, de rendre hommage à l'oeuvre si féconde accomplie par le Professeur Kazimir Michalowski et ses disciples.

Autour de lui d'amicaux entretiens s'étaient déroulés au Caire, à Khartoum, réunissant en particulier T. Säve-Söderbergh, J. M. Plumley, J. Vercoutter et moi-même; ces échanges de vue entre les savants qui avaient pris part à l'exploration de la Nubie vouée à l'ensevelissement sous les eaux du Haut barrage d'Assouan s'intensifièrent à la suite d'une exposition et d'un colloque consacrés à la Nubie chrétienne tenu à Essen en 1969. En juin 1972 ce fut à Varsovie même, dans le Musée qui devait recevoir les magnifiques fresques de Faras, au cours du Premier Colloque Nubiologique International, la constitution officielle de la Société Internationale des Études Nubiennes. Depuis, nous avons eu le plaisir et l'intérêt de nous retrouver à Chantilly (près de Paris), à Cambridge, à La Haye, à Heidelberg, à Uppsala, à Genève, à Lille, à Boston, à Rome – et maintenant de nouveau à Varsovie.

Parties de la découverte d'une région demeurée jusqu'alors quasi-inconnue : la Nubie, ces rencontres n'ont cessé de fournir une documentation exemplaire et de susciter des réflexions qui attestent l'intérêt exceptionnel de cette région d'Afrique. Ces apports sans cesse renouvelés ont mis en évidence tant l'importance du domaine méroïtique que la place de la Nubie dans l'archéologie chrétienne.

Puisse la présente réunion, si bien organisée par nos collègues et amis polonais avec le concours des autorités archéologiques soudanaises et égyptiennes, être le jalon fructueux d'une tradition à qui nous souhaitons longue vie et succès.

Varsovie, 28 Août 2006.

*Jean Leclant
Secrétaire perpétuel
de l'Académie des inscriptions
et belles-lettres*

ADDRESS TO THE 11TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR NUBIAN STUDIES

Mr President of the International Society of Nubian Studies,
Distinguished scholars, Members of the Nubian Society,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure to me to address you on this occasion of convening the opening session of the 11th Conference of the International Society for Nubian Studies; and I would like to take this opportunity to express, in the name of the Government and people of the Sudan, our gratitude and deep indebtedness to all of you for having devoted most of your time to the study and conservation of the archaeological heritage of the country. I know that some of you have been engaged in Sudanese studies for more than 40 years; some have received important decorations from the President of the Republic for their remarkable contributions to the cultural heritage of the Sudan. I wish to those who are still active in this field a long and healthy life and we should mention the scholarly contributions of those who have recently left us: Professor Lech Krzyżaniak, the former director of the Museum of Poznań (Poland) and Professor Francis Geus, the former Director of the French Archaeological Unit of the Sudanese National Corporation for Antiquities and Museums.

I am very happy to attend this conference in Warsaw, the town that witnessed the birth of the International Society for Nubian Studies 34 years ago. In this respect, I like to address my thanks to the Polish scholars for the initiative and the remarkable contribution that led to the foundation of the society.

As you know, Sudan is experiencing a rapid economic and social change. Vast development projects are being executed in different parts of the country and these projects constitute a serious threat to the archaeological sites. So your assistance is highly needed to help in executing the national policy of preserving the past of the country, which is, at large, a part of the cultural history of mankind. Here I would like to thank those who are contributing to the (Merowe Dam Archaeological Salvage Project). It is amazing to see in this hall the leaders of the Nubian-UNESCO campaign of the 60s of the last century, together with those executing the actual rescue operation. I congratulate all of you on behalf of the people of the Sudan for the outstanding achievements, challenges arising therein.

I would like to affirm that we will do our best to facilitate your work in the country. All the departments of our Ministry and in particular the National Corporation for Antiquities and Museums will be at your disposal for any assistance.

Finally, I like to thank the Polish archaeologists for their involvement on many research concessions, their organization of this conference and their kind invitation to a big Sudanese delegation to attend this important occasion. I wish this conference every success and to all of you glorious scientific results in the various field of your researches.

*Mohamed Yousif
Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports
Republic of Sudan*