



POPE SHENOUDA MUSEUM

(Abridged from article by Sanaa' Farouk. *Watani International*, 26 August, 2012: page 2)

August 15, 2012 marked the opening of the Pope Shenouda III Museum in the Coptic Culture Centre, Coptic Patriarchate, Cairo. The theme of the exhibit is titled "So as not to forget." The Museum showcases the 140 books published about Pope Shenouda during his lifetime after his passing; photographs of His Holiness at special events such as ordaining monks and nuns and visiting the 4th century archaeological site of Saint Menas (Maryutt) among other artefacts. Handwritten notes, letters and greeting cards by the Pope form an interesting historical collection reflecting his papacy. On display are also gifts that were offered to His Holiness, such as a wooden cross he received from the Ethiopian Orthodox Church on one of his visits to Ethiopia and a 12th century Armenian manuscript of the Holy Bible offered to him on the occasion of his 40th anniversary by the Armenian Patriarch His Holiness Catholicos Aram I of the Holy See of Cilicia. Also on display are awards Pope Shenouda received, such as the 2000 UNESCO Madenjant Singh Prize for the Promotion of Tolerance and Non-Violence. One of the exhibits that evokes a lot of interest is a model of the desert cave in which Pope Shenouda lived as a hermit at Wadi al-Natrun before he became pope. The model houses several of his possessions while he lived in the cave: a kerosene cooker and lamp, his teapot, two water pitchers, a big wooden cross, a Bible, a collection of pictures of the Holy Virgin Mary and saints, and a small wooden bench with his name engraved on it: "The Monk Antonius al-Suriani".



*Entrance of Coptic Cultural Centre,
Coptic Patriarchate, Cairo*

Tenth International Coptic Studies Congress, Rome, Italy (September 17-20, 2012)

Every four years the International Association for Coptic Studies organizes a Congress gathering scholars and students of Coptic Studies. The 10th International Congress for Coptic Studies was hosted by the Sapienza University (Rome) Department of History, Culture and Religion, the Rector of Sapienza University, St. Augustine Patristic Institute and The Vatican Apostolic Library.

Three hundred participants from the following countries attended the congress: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada (4), Czech, Denmark, Egypt (61, the largest), Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Netherland, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Russia, Spain, Switzerland, Abu Dhabi, United Kingdom, and the USA.

Two hundred and thirty-two papers were presented at eleven plenary and five parallel

sessions (three times daily) throughout the week. This congress marked not only a significant increase in number of papers but more importantly the expansion of the range of Coptic Studies disciplines and areas of study. For example, Coptic Literature, Egyptian Monasticism, Coptic Bible, Coptic Art; Shenoutean Studies; Coptic Archaeology; Gnosticism and Manichaeism; Documentary Papyrology; Coptic Linguistics; Coptic Codiology and Paleography; Coptic Liturgy; Aspects of Islamic Egypt; History and Hagiography; Hagiology. For the first time a full day was devoted "Coptic Religious Life in Contemporary Egypt: Recent Scholarly Developments" as compared to one paper at the 2004 Congress on the Marguerite Nakhla's paintings at St. Mark's Coptic Museum.

Traditionally plenary reports are devoted to an analysis of publications/research in the preceding four years – in this case since the last congress which was held in Cairo in 2008. Similarly to previous congresses a full bibliographic list of publications is available to all members and participants. Print copies of these reports/bibliographies are now available at St. Mark's Coptic Museum's Cecile Barsoum Reference Library. A copy of the Congress programme and abstracts is also available in the Museum's Reference Library. The Eleventh Congress for Coptic Studies will be hosted by Claremont College Department of Religious Studies and the St. Shenouda the Archimandrite Coptic Society in Los Angeles, California. It will likely be held in June or July 2016.

ART WORKSHOPS IN THE MUSEUM

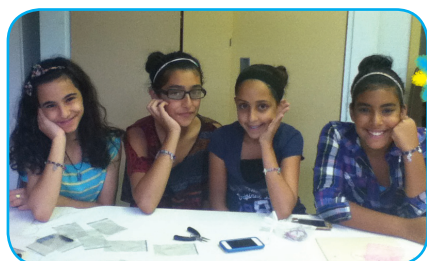
Summer Workshops



The Adult Portrait Mosaic workshop started on May 24, 2012 at the instructors Akram Gabra and Fadia Sadek's Glass Mosaic Canada Studio. Participants are Viola Henein who is working on a portrait of Pope Shenouda III, Helene Moussa is working on a portrait of her granddaughter and Irene Yancheva.

Irene Yancheva working on a mosaic of Bulgarian Orthodox Saint Zlata, the Great Martyr of Maglen, ca 1795 commemorated in Bulgaria on 18 October.

1) Mosaic Class for 7-13 year old children with their instructor Akram Gabra, July 11, 2012



2) Proudly photo-opting their charm bracelet creations! Jewellery-making workshop August 15, 2012



FALL EVENTS

Exhibition

Cover Thy Head: Headdresses and Identities

October 28, 2012 – August 31, 2013

An exhibition hosted by The Morris and Sally Justein Museum at the Baycrest Center (Toronto). The exhibit of headdresses is organized into themes including religious leadership, special milestones, professional and social groups, and diversity in Canada. St. Mark's Coptic Museum has loaned a Coptic liturgical headdress (*Taylassan*) in its collection and two coronets worn by the bride and groom during the Coptic marriage ceremony. For more information: <http://www.baycrest.org/exhibit>

Lecture

From Thebes to Constantinople: The Emergence of Egyptian Christianity

November 26, 2012 7pm, 4 Bancroft Avenue, Room 323 (Toronto)

A lecture sponsored by The Canadian Society for Coptic Studies. Lecturer: Dr. Vince Tobin. Emeritus Professor of St. Mary's University, Halifax, has taught for forty years at St. Mary's University. He has published numerous articles on ancient Egypt, particularly on myth and religion. See Museum website for abstract. www.copticmuseum-canada.com

Jewellery-making Workshops

Saturdays December 8 & 15, 2012

Two three hour workshops. The first to create single strand necklaces & the second to create matching ear rings. Registration open from 13 years of age to seniors.