Following the ICOM statement regarding the Russian invasion of Ukraine, CIPEG decided to publish its own statement in support of Ukrainian colleagues and Egyptian collections in Ukraine. In addition, we now publish this special issue of the CIPEG e-News dedicated to the important cultural heritage of Egyptian collections in Ukraine with an article by Mykola Tarasenko (Kyiv). The article was originally published in Dutch translation in Jan Koek (ed.), Mehen, Essays over het oude Egypte (2021-2022).

The volume can be ordered via Stichting Mehen

CIPEG statement on the invasion of Ukraine

On 24 February 2022, military forces from the Russian Federation invaded Ukraine. CIPEG strongly condemns this violation of the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Ukraine.

CIPEG recalls the 1954 Den Haag “Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict”, which aims to protect cultural property of any kind regardless of their origin or ownership. CIPEG urges all involved parties to act strictly in accordance with this international treaty.

CIPEG commends the people of Ukraine for their courage in defending their country and own unique cultural heritage.

CIPEG is concerned about the safety and security of the Egyptian Antiquities conserved in museum and university collections at Odesa, Poltava, Dnipro, Lviv, Kyiv, and Kharkiv, which are fundamental parts of world cultural heritage and Ukrainian’s history of collections and museums, and which were already badly damaged during World War II.

CIPEG will stand in solidarity with the Ukrainian colleagues and support any action that could be taken to protect the Egyptian heritage.

CIPEG will further appeal to its members and network partners to intensify the efforts and cooperation with the Ukrainian colleagues in protecting their collections and museums.

Links

> ICOM Call for Donations to Support Museums and Museum Professionals in Ukraine, March 23, 2022
> ICOM statement concerning the Russian invasion into Ukraine, February 24, 2022
> Ukraine: ICOM recalls the role of culture and museums in building lasting peace, March 9, 2022
> Statement by the Blue Shield on the situation in Ukraine, February 25, 2022
> Icon (the Institute of Conservation) stands in solidarity with Ukraine, 28 Feb 2022, updated 8 March 2022

Fig. 1. The building of the Odesa Archaeological Museum (photo by author)
In this article I offer a review about the objects of ancient Egyptian material culture in the museum collections of Ukraine and the history of these assemblages. Unfortunately, these collections are little known in the West and are represented in the overview only in the 1998 consolidated catalogue of Oleg Berlev and Svetlana Hodjash. However, Egyptian collections exist in the museums of several cities of Ukraine, although they are not always represented in their exhibitions. My review aims to allow an assessment of the potential for Egyptological research in Ukraine, and will be of interest to both specialists and readers interested in Egyptian antiquities and museum history.

During the early 19th century, and the first half of the 20th century we saw the formation of museum collections throughout what is now Ukraine – private, university, church and municipal. Not only works of art, but also objects of material culture, obtained during archaeological excavations, dating from the second half of the 19th century, began to occupy a significant place in newly formed displays in Ukrainian lands. In addition to local archaeological artefacts, in the collections of various cities of modern Ukraine were antiquities originating from the Near East. These came in particular from Egypt, where the 19th century saw a first archaeological boom, which helped fill the world’s museums and private collections with thousands of Egyptian artefacts. In addition, ‘Egyptomania’ which manifested itself in architecture, art, music, not to mention various aspects of the occultism that was popular during this period. Ukraine was isolated from these trends, so, during the 19th century, collections of ancient Egyptian artefacts appeared in Odesa, Kyiv, Ekaterinoslav (modern Dnipro), Poltava, Lubny, Kharkiv, and in Western Ukraine – in Lviv.

Odesa Archaeological Museum of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine

Today the collection of ancient Egyptian monuments in the Odesa Archaeological Museum (OAM) is the largest in Ukraine, both in number of exhibits and diversity (Fig. 1).

Today, it comprises over 500 items, including coffins (Fig. 2), mummies, stelae (Fig. 3, 4), shabti-figures (Fig. 5), small statuary, scarabs, amulets, papyri fragments etc. In terms of the area that formerly comprised the Russian Empire and the Soviet Union, the Odesa collection takes the third place, following the Pushkin Museum of Fine Arts (Moscow) and the State Hermitage Museum (St. Petersburg). However, the Odesa collection is the oldest, as Odesa City Museum contained Egyptian material from its foundation in 1825.

The current collection of Egyptian antiquities in Odesa is a result of mergers and acquisitions from the collections of several museums during the 19th century.

Fig. 2. The outer coffin of Nesitaujdjatahetkhet (OAM 52976), 21st Dynasty, Bab el-Gusus Cache © Odesa Archaeological Museum

Fig. 3. Stele of Ze (OAM 52669), Second Intermediate Period, Abydos © Odesa Archaeological Museum

Fig. 4. Stele of Ptahmose (OAM 52967), 18th Dynasty, Thebes © Odesa Archaeological Museum
and first half of the 20th centuries. These begin with the aforementioned Odesa City Museum, founded in 1825, and the Museum at the Odesa Society of History and Antiquities (OSHA), founded in 1839. In 1858, they merged into the Odesa Society of History and Antiquities Museum. The collection was formed from various gifts, in particular, a significant number of antiquities donated to the OSHA Museum in 1846 by Archimandrite Porfiry Uspensky (1804-1885) (Fig. 6). He was the head of the Russian Orthodox Mission in Jerusalem for more than six years. During this time, he travelled to various regions of the Near East, including Egypt in 1850, and brought to Ukraine a significant collection of artefacts, which he later donated to several museums in Kyiv and Odesa. In particular, he donated to the OSHA Museum items that included a ‘scroll of papyrus covered with hieroglyphs’ that was subsequently lost.

The OSHA, founded in 1839, played an important role in the formation of the Odesa collection of Egyptian antiquities. This society had its own periodical and museum, as well as enjoying international scientific recognition. For example, in 1843 Antoine Clot-Bey, the French explorer and collector, who was in the service of the Egyptian viceroy, became a member of OSHA. In response, Clot-Bey sent from Cairo to Odesa a stela from Memphis, a mummy and two volumes of his book. The first description of the Egyptian collection of the OSHA Museum was made by the Russian Egyptologist Boris Turaev (1868–1920) (Fig. 7) in 1912 and included 287 items (Fig. 8).

The second largest Egyptian collection was housed in the Museum of Fine Arts and Antiquities, which was founded in 1865 at Novorosisskyi (Odesa) University. The main part of this collection comprised items donated to the museum by the Professor at the Richelieu Lyceum, Artemiy Rafalovich (1816–1851), a well-known physician who in 1846-1848 conducted a study of the sources of plague in Egypt. Among the antiquities donated by him were, in particular, fragments of a Book of the Dead papyrus. In 1894, antiquities from the so-called Second Cache of mummies in Deir al-Bahari (Bab el-Gusus), discovered in 1891 by George Daressy, came to Odesa. To improve diplomatic relations, the Egyptian government and Khedive Abbas Helmi II decided in 1893 to donate part of the artefacts from this deposit to friendly states. The Russian Empire received Lot VI, which was transported from Alexandria to Odesa. The lot was divided into ten parts and sent to various university museums in different cities of Russian Empire in 1895. One part, including the outer coffin of Nesitaudjatakhet (Fig. 2), eight shabtis, a fragment of the mummy shroud and two shabti-boxes, was transferred to the Museum of Novorossiysk University.

In the post-revolutionary period, the OSHA Museum was transformed into the Odesa Archaeological Museum.
into the Odesa State Historical and Archaeological Museum. In 1924, antiquities were transferred here from the disbanded University Museum of Fine Arts and Antiquities. Although the OAM collections were damaged during the Second World War and the Romanian occupation (1941-1944), it now has the largest and most important collection of Egyptian antiquities in Ukraine, although the display itself (Fig. 9) is in urgent need of updating and reconstruction.

**Egyptian collections in Kyiv**

Until the early 20th century, Kyiv housed several collections of ancient Egyptian antiquities. Their description and publication was carried out in the late 19th century by Boris Turaev. The first was the collection of the Church-Archaeological Museum at the Kyiv Theological Academy, founded in 1872. According to Turaev, this collection included 201 Egyptian artefacts, including a mummy, samples of small plastic, shabtis, amulets, fabrics, etc.; on the other hand, an 1897 description by the Director of institution, Mykola Petrov (1840-1921), there were more than 240 Egyptian objects. Dr Joseph Shkuratovsky in 1860. He probably brought it from Egypt in the middle of 19th century.

The next large Kyiv assemblage of Egyptian antiquities of the 19th century was the private collection of Professor Adrian Prakhov (1846-1916) (Fig. 11), a prominent art historian and archaeologist. He acquired it during his two trips to Egypt in 1881-1882 and 1886-1887. According to Turaev, this collection included 159 different artefacts, including mummies, coffins, amulets, shabtis, papyri, etc. This collection was of exceptional value and quality, because Prakhov had Egyptological experience, and in 1879 defended his Doctoral Dissertation, ‘Architecture of Ancient Egypt’, published in 1880 as a book of the same title. In 1897, Prakhov moved from Kyiv to St. Petersburg, where he headed the University Department of the History of Fine Arts, and eventually moved his collection to the capital of the Empire.

In the early 20th century, another large collection of ancient Egyptian antiquities appeared in Kyiv, housed in the Kyiv Art-Industrial and Scientific Museum (now the National Art...
Almost all the ancient Egyptian antiquities that were exhibited in it were acquired by the patron, collector and philanthropist Bohdan Khanenko (1849-1917) in the Salle de Vente of the Egyptian Museum of Antiquities in Cairo in 1903. In total, in the collection of this museum included 135 Egyptian objects. These were generally small artefacts (figurines, fragments of sculptures, shabtis, amulets, jewellery, pottery, etc.), but there were also large objects: a shabti-box, a human mummy, two lids and a trough from anthropoid coffins of the 21st Dynasty (Fig. 14), a rectangular qrsw-sarcophagus and a cartonnage.

In the post-revolutionary period, all Egyptian collections were nationalized and concentrated in the T. Shevchenko Central Historical Museum during 1935–1937. In 1938-1941, the artefacts were presented at an “Exhibition of objects of Ancient Egypt” at this museum, located at 8 Kiev-Pecherska Lavra, which functioned in Soviet times as a museum reserve. In 1943, Egyptian antiquities were taken out from Kyiv to Germany (Bavaria), and partially returned to Ukraine only in 1947. Unfortunately, part of this collection (especially small objects) has been lost, and the artefacts that have survived to our time are held by the National Kyiv-Pechersk Historical and Cultural Preserve (coffins and mummies of a woman and crocodiles), the Bohdan and Varvara Khanenko Museum of Art (cartonnage, sculptures, canopies, shabtis, pottery) and the Odesa Archaeological Museum, which received coffins and mummies from the Kyiv State Historical Museum in 1959. In addition, a small number of ancient Egyptian objects (amulets, bronze sculptures, textile fragment) are stored in the basement of the National Museum of the History of Ukraine, as well as the Institute of Manuscripts of the Vernadsky National Library of Ukraine, where fragments of a Book of the Dead papyrus from the Ptolemaic Period are stored11 (Fig. 15). To date, of all the listed museum institutions, Egyptian artefacts are presented only in display of the Bohdan and Varvara Khanenko National Museum of Art (Fig. 16).

Vasyl Krichevsky Poltava Museum of Local Lore (Fig. 17)

The collection of this museum contains more than 100 Egyptian artefacts dating from between the 4th millennium BC to the Graeco-Roman era. The display includes a profile image of a king’s head (Fig. 18), terracotta models, fragments of sculpture and relief, shabtis (Fig. 19), canopics, pottery, amulets, scarabs, earthenware necklaces, funerary cones and an offering altar.

The assemblage originates from the collection of the Natural Science Museum.
of the Poltava Zemstvo (i.e. regional assembly), founded in 1891. The Egyptian collection of this museum was formed by the efforts of its Director, the biologist and local historian Mykhailo Olekhovsky (1855-1909) and Colonel Pavlo Bobrovsky (1860-1944?). Like the above-mentioned Kyiv collector and philanthropist Bohdan Khanenko, they made purchases of the artefacts in the Salle de Vente of the Cairo Museum of Antiquities in 1894, 1900, and 1903. In 1907 the Poltava collection numbered 95, and in 1914 contained 248 Egyptian artefacts. Unfortunately, during the Second World War and the German occupation, part of collection was lost and only 114 survive today. In addition, in the Poltava region more than two dozens ancient Egyptian artefacts were in the collection of the private Lubny Museum of Local Lore, founded by Countess Catherina Skarzhinska (Raiser) (1853-1932). Most of them were donated to this private museum by above-mentioned Professor Adrian Prakhov, who had a large private collection of Egyptian and Coptic artefacts in Kyiv. In 1906, the Lubny collection was transferred to the Natural Science Museum of the Poltava Zemstvo, and is now a part of the collection of the Vasyl Krychevsky Poltava Museum of Local Lore.

Dmytro Yavornytsky Dnipropetrovsk National Historical Museum (Fig. 20)

This museum holds 90 Egyptian artefacts: mummies of humans and a crocodile, a statue of Ramses VI (usurped from Ramses V) (Fig. 21), bronze sculptures, amulets, shabtis, canopics, scarabs and a fragment of the cartonnage of the Late Period. Unfortunately, these objects are not part of the permanent display, and are exhibited only at temporary exhibitions, both in the Dnipro and in other cities of Ukraine.

Fig. 17. The building of Vasyl Krychevsky Poltava Museum of Local Lore (former Natural Science Museum of the Poltava Zemstvo)

Fig. 18. Profile image of the pharaoh's head, Late Period (inv.no. A.149/65) © Vasyl Krychevsky Poltava Museum of Local Lore

Fig. 19. Shabti of Panefernefer, 21st Dynasty, Thebes (inv.no. A.149/1) © Vasyl Krychevsky Poltava Museum of Local Lore
The formation of the Dnipro assemblage dates back to the former collection of Andriy Fabre (1789-1863), who was the Governor of Ekaterinoslav (the old name for the city of Dnipro) during 1847-1857 and the founder and member of the Odesa Society of History and Antiquities. In 1849, together with the Director of the Schools of the Ekaterinoslav province, Yakov Grakhov, he organized the Ekaterinoslav Public Museum in the city, which, among other things, exhibited certain ‘ancient Egyptian objects’. The antiquities were exhibited first in the premises of the Noble Assembly (so-called Potemkin Palace), and later in the Ekaterinoslav Men’s Classical Gymnasium. Another part of the local antiquity collection comes from the private collection of the prominent local public figure Alexander Paul (1832-1890), who bought a large number of different artefacts and works of art at auctions in Paris. In particular, it is likely that it was at such an auction that Paul bought the statue of Ramses VI (Fig. 21). In 1906, after the death of Alexander Paul, part of his collection was transferred to the Ekaterinoslav City Museum (later named after him), which had since 1902 been headed by another prominent historian, Dmytro Yavornytsky (1855-1940) (Fig. 22). Artefacts from the Ekaterinoslav Gymnasium also became part of this museum. In 1910, Yavornytsky himself made a trip to Egypt, from which he brought a number of antiquities, which he added to the museum collection. Interestingly, the scheme for a new museum, which began construction in 1912, was, according to Yavornytsky, to be based on a reduced architectural copy of the Egyptian Museum in Cairo; however, the beginning of the First World War did not allow the full implementation of the project. The collection was later supplemented with items from other private donors, as well as artefacts found during archaeological excavations in the northern Black Sea coast.

Lviv collections of Egyptian antiquities

During the 19th century the territory of Western Ukraine was part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. As in many other European countries, the first collections of Egyptian artefacts appeared here as private collections. In Lviv, this process was directly related to one of the richest aristocratic Polish families – the family of the Princes of Lubomirski, who gathered a very representative collection of antiquities, works of art and weapons. Its founder was the collector and philanthropist Prince Henryk Lubomirski (1777-1850). In 1823, he founded the museum as part of the so-called ‘Public Institution’ on the Ossolinski estate, where he exhibited part of his collection of works of art and antiquities. Since 1873, this collection was called the ‘People’s Museum’. In 1887, Prince Andrzej Lubomirski (1862-1953) (Fig. 23) travelled to India. On the way, he made long stops in the Near East, particularly in Palestine, Turkey and Egypt. Here he purchased antiquities that made up the main core of the ancient eastern collection of the Lubomirski Museum. During the late 19th and early 20th
In 1973, the Lviv State Museum of the History of Religion (LMHR) was founded, whence part of the Egyptian collection of the History Museum was transferred. These items are still exhibited today in the gallery of Religions of Ancient Egypt, Greece and Rome (Fig. 24) but, until recently, they have not been published or investigated. The LMHR collection contains more than 20 Egyptian artefacts. Among them are small bronze objects, a jade figurine of a lion, terracottas (including an ankh and a Bes figurine), mummies of a cat and a falcon, pottery, scarabs, fragments of a mummy board (21st Dynasty)\(^1\) (Fig. 25) and a cartonnage (Late Period)\(^14\).

Another part of the Lviv Egyptian collection of the Princes Lubomirski is displayed in the Museum of Oriental Art in Zolochiv Castle (Fig. 26). Here on display are the head of a mummy, a mummy of falcon, faience amulets, shabtis,\(^15\) bronze figurines of Isis-and-Horus, and a fragment of the coffin of Mutewia (Rameside Period)\(^16\) (Fig. 27).

In addition to these institutions, Egyptian artefacts are also present in the museum collections of Kharkiv (Museum of Archaeology at the V. Karazin Kharkiv National University),\(^17\) Mykolaiv (Mykolaiv Museum of Local Lore) and Crimea (museums in Simferopol, Sevastopol, Bakhchisarai, and Kerch). However, these are mainly small items of faience (scarabs and amulets) that were discovered during archaeological excavations in the Northern Black Sea Region, both in Greek settlements (Olbia, Tira, Panticapaeum, Chersonesos, etc.) and in the burials of Scythian-Sarmatian tribes of the early Iron Age. All these artefacts are examples of Egyptian imports (in particular, from Naukratis), which became widespread in the Hellenistic era.

To summarize, we note that ancient Egyptian artefacts are presented in...
a number of museums in various regions of Ukraine. In many cases, these antiquities are in reserve collections, but at present Egyptian antiquities can be seen in current displays in Odesa (Odesa Archaeological Museum), Kyiv (Bohdan and Varvara Khanenko Museum of Art), Poltava (Vasyl Krichenky Poltava Museum of Local Lore), Lviv (State Museum of the History of Religion) and Zolochiv (Museum of Oriental Art). These artefacts are little known to the Western Egyptological community, and therefore their study is very important.

Fig. 27. Fragment of the coffin of Mutewia, 19th/20th Dynasty, Thebes (inv. no. LIM A–3182/2) – © Museum of Oriental Art in Zolochiv Castle


6 Петров Н. И. Указатель Церковно-археологического музея при Киевской Духовной Академии. Киев, 1897, pp. 3–6 [Petrov N. I. Uказатель Церковно-археологического музея при Киевской Духовной Академии. Kiev, 1897, pp. 3–6 (in Russian)].

7 Ibid, pp. 191–198.


10 Прахов А. В. Зодчество Древнего Египта. Санкт-Петербург, 1880 [Prahov A. V. Zodchestvo Drevnego Egipta. Sankt-Peterburg, 1880 (in Russian)].


17 The museum archaeological collection of Kharkiv University, in which there were a coffin and shabtis from the Bab el-Gasus, was completely destroyed during the Second World War in 1941.