

Alfred Mansoor  
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Le 28 Juin, 2011

Monsieur Frédéric Mitterrand  
Ministre de la Culture  
Ministère de la Culture et de la Communication  
3 rue de Valois  
75001 Paris- FRANCE

The late Madame Christiane Desroches-Noblecourt  
& Amarna Louvre Statuette # 27215

Dear Monsieur Mitterrand,

The recent death of the late Madame Christiane Desroche-Noblecourt forced me to write this letter.

You are aware of the problem I am addressing. The total disregard by the staff of the Ancient Egyptian department of the Louvre, its president and that of Monsieur Philippe Béval, vis à vis the late Madame Desroches- Noblecourt's opinion regarding this artifact, is nothing but pure and simple " character assassination". The fact that there has been no determination – for almost fourteen years- regarding the fate of this artifact speaks volume about the inability of those in charge to take a decisive action to solve this matter.

I urge you to take charge and investigate it yourself. The science is there- at the laboratoires des Musées nationaux and the CNRS( ask Monsieur Bruno Laurieux)- to vindicate her opinion. A simple request, from you, to see the results of the tests performed, by the laboratoires des musées Nationaux on this artifact in 1981, will convince you that great harm is being done to the reputation of this legendary Egyptologist. I hope you will not fail her.

It is, indeed, a shame that she is no longer with us and will not be able to see that, finally, the truth has prevailed.

Sincerely,

Alfred Mansoor, for the family of  
The late M.A. Mansoor

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June 29, 2011

Monsieur Bruno Laurieux  
Directeur par intérim du département  
des Sciences humaines et sociales.  
CNRS  
3, Rue Michel-Ange  
75794 PARIS, CEDEX 16, FRANCE

Dear Monsieur Laurieux,

The late Madame Christian Desroches-Noblecourt  
& Louvre Amarna Statuette # 27215

On December 18, 2008, at the request of Dr. Guillemette Andreu-Lanoë, you wrote us regarding a Louvre statuette, which was offered as a gift to the Louvre Museum, by the Mansoor Family, to honor the memory of the late Dr. Etienne Drioton. In my response, dated January 4, 2009, I offered some supporting documents and referred you to the archives of the Louvre, which had the final documents confirming the authenticity of this artifact.

Apparently, there is some question, on the part of the director of the Ancient Egyptian Department of the Louvre, regarding the authenticity of this artifact.

The statuette was accepted, on behalf of the Louvre, by legendary Egyptologist, the late Dr. Christiane Desroches-Noblecourt, who had been familiar with the 'parent' collection of this artifact, since the 1930's. Dr. Desroches-Noblecourt's favorable opinion was supported by the laboratoires des Musées nationaux, and by Drs. Pierre Bariand and Philippe Blanc, who were both, at the time, associated with the Université Pierre et Marie Curie.

With the recent passing of the late Dr. Desroches-Noblecourt, it is imperative that this matter is brought to an honorable conclusion. Allowing the contrary opinions to stand, would be pure character assassination of the reputation of Dr. Desroches-Noblecourt.

Could you please help? Mr. Frédéric Mitterrand is investigating this matter and I am sure he would welcome your input.

Thank you for helping solve this delicate matter.

Sincerely,

Alfred Mansoor, for the family of  
The late M.A. Mansoor

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