

EXCAVATING IN SUDAN: CATCH A GLIMPSE

July 26, 2013 Amesemi Day of Archaeology,Excavation British Museum, emailed, National Corporation for Antiquities, northern Sudan, Nubian people, Sudan, Web Team

Our team, from the National Corporation for Antiquities and Museums, Sudan together with the British Museum, UK have been excavating in the Berber-Abidiya region of Sudan at Dangeil since 2000. Excavations have revealed a previously unknown temple of the 1st century AD dedicated to Amun, the Nubian Kushite god of kingship. A number of surprising discoveries have been made there foremost being the find of fragments of four royal statues of the 7th century BC which were found mixed together in the destruction phase of the later Amun temple. These possibly originated in a statue cache and included a large, striding granite figure of Taharqo, who ruled Egypt as a pharaoh of the 25th Dynasty, and two of his successors Senkamanisken and possibly Aspelta who is shown here in the image.

Until very recently, it has been difficult to live broadcast/tweet/blog/etc. results of our excavations while working in the field. Electricity, mobile phones and the internet are recent arrivals to the area. Normally we excavate in the autumn when temperatures in northern Sudan are a bit cooler. To get a flavour of our work, just in time for the Day of Archaeology, and with the fantastic assistance of the Web Team at the British Museum, our project web site, the product of many 'days of archaeology', has just gone live and highlights of our recent excavations at the site can now be shared more widely:

http://www.britishmuseum.org/research/research_projects/all_current_projects/berber-abidiya_project.aspx

