Italian-Egyptian Centre for Restoration and Archaeology

Italian Archaeology in Egypt and MENA Countries

■ Main educational programs (1976-2018):

The theoretical-practical lessons began a work-site school by prof. Giuseppe Fanfoni for the Faculty of Archaeology of Cairo University (1976-84); 1984-88, "Vocational Training in Restoration and Archaeology", program promoted by the Italian Directorate General for Co-operation to Development (DGCD); 1988-91, CIERA inauguration as "work-site-school of specialization" by executive protocol of Egyptian and Italian Governments (February 9, 1988); since 1988 until today, CIERA collaborated in the creation of courses or departments for restoration in the universities of Helwan, Qena, Alexandria, Tanta and Kafr El Sheikh; 1992-98, "Training Pilot Archaeological Project" with the contribution of the Directorate General for Cultural Cooperation DGCC; in 1995-99, Theoretical-practical program for the students of Tanta University promoted by Egyptian Ministry for International Cooperation (MIC); 1991-94, 1996-2000, CIERA's Applied Technologies for Restoration and Conservation- "Mediterranean Project: Research and Training for Third Countries". National Research Council (CNR, SMED - CFPR); 2002-08, "Program for the Professional Training for Restoration and Archaeology", promoted by the DGCD, within the restoration of the Mevlevi "takeyya" (convent) by the contribution of the Ministry of Productive Activities (law 212/92); since 2008, within Italy-Egypt MoU for the "School of Monuments Restoration", CIERA increased cultural activities, congresses and exhibitions, with the support of International Institutions, and Italian Embassy; 2018-20, "VET" project in progress, CIERA-IEDS.

■ Buildings of restorations (1978-2018).

Since 1978, all the educational programs, as a work-site school, were applied to the restoration and conservation of an area of about 10.000 m2, gradually recovering the buildings which represent today the operative center of CIERA. In particular:

1. in 1988, CIERA has accomplished the restoration of the Sama'khana, a specific architectural typology, designed for the rite of the Mevlevi Derwishes;

2. from 1998 to 2002, the recovery of the Madrasa of Sunqur Sa'di has been carried out. The restoration required archaeological excavations below sama'khana, which was built using part of the structures of the madrasa itself;

3. in 2003-2008, was accomplished the restoration of the Mevlevi Takeyya; and Mausoleum of Sunqur Sa'di, whose marble cenotaph was discovered.

4. 2018-2020, Qusun-Yashbak-Aqbardi palace.

The interventions have preserved the original techniques and form of the monuments. The museographic definition was completed by archaeological finds exhibition.

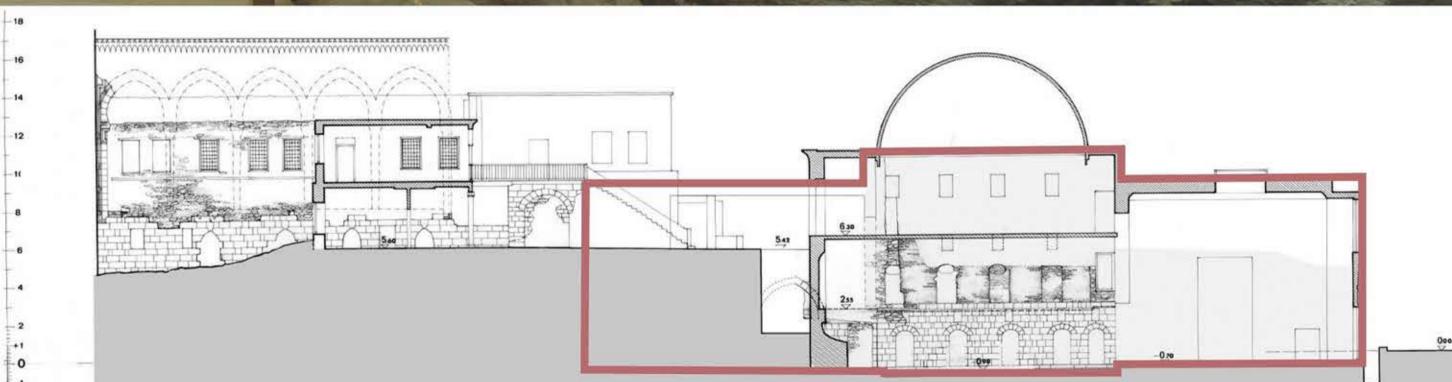
Egyptian partners: Ministry of Antiquities, Culture, Tourism, and various Egyptian Universities.

Italian partners: "State Institutions of Arts" (Roma I, Roma II, Marino and Anzio); National Research Council (CNR); Universities: Rome "La Sapienza", Naples- "L'Orientale", Venice's "I.U.A.V.", Bari Polytecnic; Central Institute for Restoration (ICR); ICCROM; and many Institutions of the Ministry of Cultural Heritage. (www.cfpr.eu)

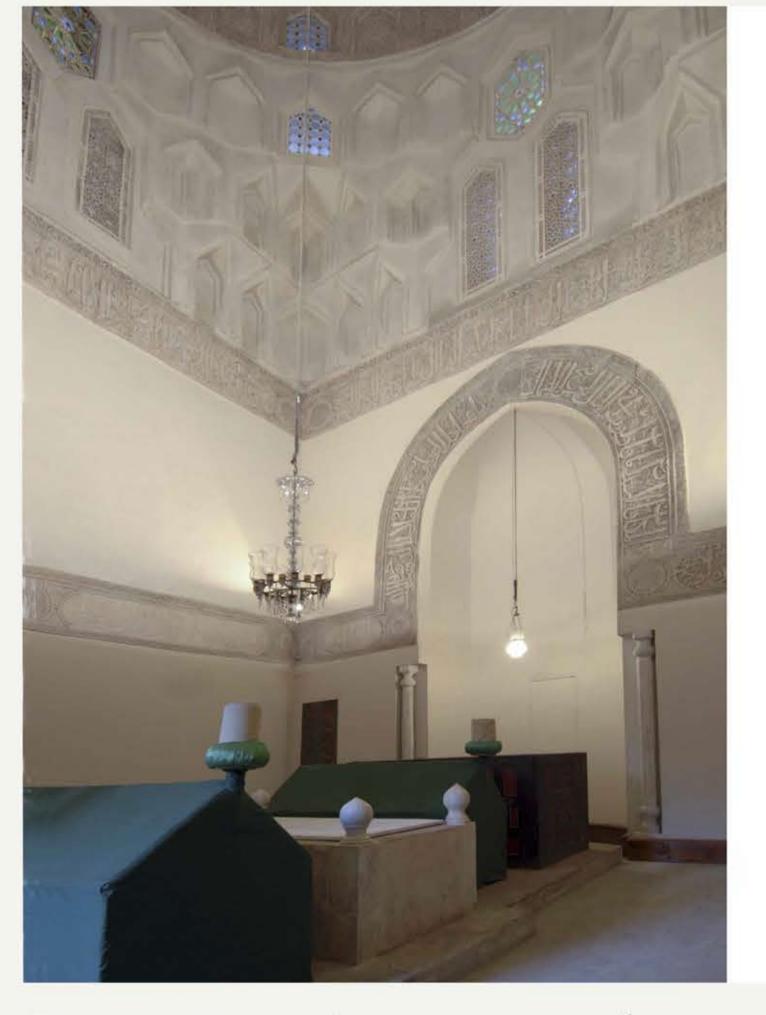


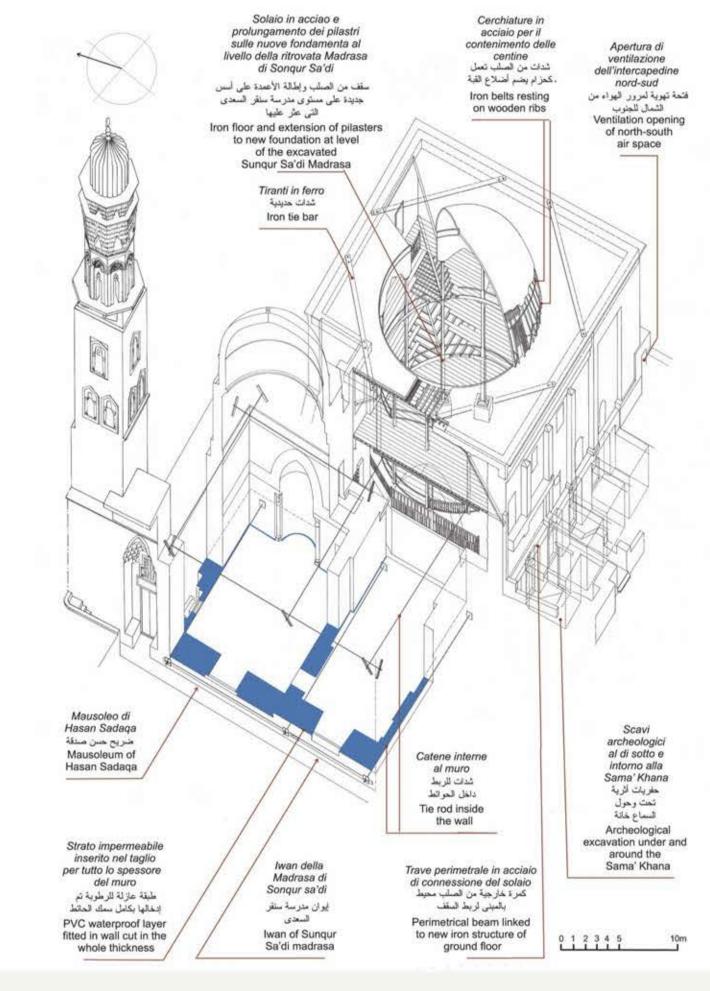
Training: awareness of the cultural heritage is acquired through the practical activities of restoration, conservation and maintenance.



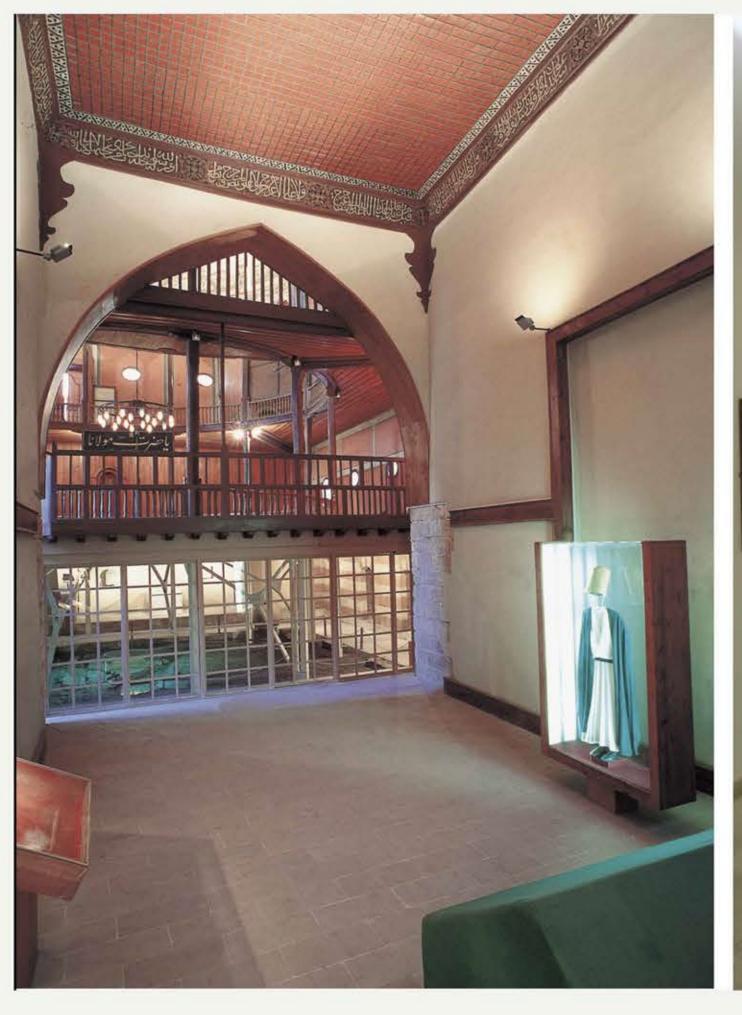


Archaeology: under sama'khana, the madrasa plant highlighted only two iwan, built on Tulunidi structures and more ancient remains.





Restoration: Anti-seismic techniques, moisture barrier and new materials have been used to support and preserve the original shape and technologies.





Museography: Mevlevi museum and the exhibition rooms in tekeyya. Where possible, visible restoration works are a museographic exhibition in themselves

Recovery of the Mevlevi Architectural Complex



The Team:

Bongrani Luisa Canova Giovanni Fanfoni Giuseppe Haggagy ibrahim and other many experts





CENTRO ARCHEOLOGICO ITALIANO



