



**Research Centre in Cairo
Polish Centre of Mediterranean Archaeology
University of Warsaw**

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BERENIKE PROJECT

“Imperial” Berenike and its Antecedents on the Red Sea Coast

Seminar, 23 March 2016, Cairo-Zamalek

The Ministry of State for Antiquities and the Research Centre in Cairo of the Polish Centre of Mediterranean Archaeology University of Warsaw are organizing a one-day seminar to be held on 23 March 2016 in the Ahmad Basha Kamal Lecture Hall of the Ministry of State for Antiquities in Zamalek-Cairo under the kind auspices of the Ministry of Antiquities of Egypt and the Embassy of the Republic of Poland in Cairo. The conference will be inaugurated by the Minister of Antiquities of Egypt Dr. Mamdouh El-Damaty and the Ambassador of the Republic of Poland in Cairo His Excellency Michał Murkociński.

The theme of the seminar centers on the archaeology of the Red Sea coast, the aim being to present the current state of excavations and research on this region, in Egypt in particular but also in neighboring countries, and to provide a forum for an appraisal of new data emerging from a number of international projects and researchers that have been working in the area regularly for the past few years.

The focus is on the harbor of Berenike, which has been excavated by a Polish–American team from the PCMA and the University of Delaware since 2008, and its place in the Roman Imperial network of trade and exchange on the Red Sea of the first centuries AD. We invite contributions that will place the Berenike port of this period in the broader perspective of the Ptolemaic and Roman commercial networks operating the global trade that passed through the Red Sea from the 3rd century BC through the 4th–5th century AD. This includes the coast as well as the Eastern Desert of Egypt.

Recent discoveries at Berenike have also provided unexpected evidence for the origin of the Roman harbor perhaps even in Pharaonic times. This brings into focus the antecedents of Berenike in the region. Again, we invite contributions that will discuss the current state of the evidence for the historic development of the Red Sea coast from the Pharaonic times onward.

Papers are to be 20 minutes long.

Abstracts of approximately 200–300 words should be sent to the Seminar Coordinator for acceptance. Selected papers are expected to be published in Polish Archaeology in the Mediterranean, Special Studies volume 25 / 2 on Red Sea archaeology to be published by the end of 2016.

There is no registration fee.

For further details please contact the seminar coordinators:

Seminar Coordinator on behalf of PCMA: Joanna Rądkowska j.radkowska@uw.edu.pl