

### In the name of God, the most gracious, the most merciful

For more than 40 years, there has been a close sister-city connection between Minia and Hildesheim. Within the framework of this cooperation, the University of Minia, the Roemer- und Pelizaeus-Museum Hildesheim (RPM), and the University of Applied Sciences and Arts Hildesheim / Holzminden / Göttingen (HAWK) started more than 15 years ago to work together in the education and training of educated students and young professionals from Egypt and Germany in the field of restoration and conservation, later also in archaeology, Egyptology, and museology.

Now, these three organizations have decided to make this cooperation stronger and to include new research and ongoing excavations in Egypt and Germany. Because of this, an agreement has been made to help graduate conservators and archaeologists learn how to work with people from different cultures and different fields. This kind of cooperation is very important right now because Egypt and Germany both need skilled and well-trained professionals in the fields of restoration, conservation, excavation technology, and museology.

As co-founder, co-coordinator, and co-director of the German-Egyptian program of the two universities and the museum in Hildesheim, I am very

proud of what we have achieved in the last fifteen years. It has been an important part of the education and training of excellent PhD students. It has also been a great way for experienced conservators, archaeologists, and a wide range of researchers to share their knowledge and experience. The program is also a great example of how well Egyptian and German institutions can work together and how training can be done in higher education in Egypt in the future.

We did research at some archaeological sites in the Minia Governorate, and we also worked at the Museum of Antiquities in Mallawi to find out more about museum objects and show them to people. Students and researchers from both universities who worked in this museum put together an illustrated catalogue of selected antiquities. The colleagues from the universities, the museums in Mallawi and Hildesheim, and of the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities read and approved the texts.

Prof. Dr. Hussein Muhammad Ali Ibrahim

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**Opposite:** Colossus of Pharaoh Amenhotep IV / Akhenaten (Replica) set up in front of the building of the Faculty of Fine Arts, Minia University.

**Photo on p. 18:** The Brühl – one of Hildesheim's few surviving streets of the old city which escaped destruction during World War II.

**Photo on p. 19:** The Mohafza – the neoclassical building of the Minia Governorate in downtown Minia.









