



ASSOCIATION FOR THE PROTECTION OF AFGHAN ARCHAEOLOGY

NEWSLETTER – MARCH 2011

FUNDING TARGET

Our funding goal for 2011 is \$250,000. Every dollar is wisely allocated towards:

- Scientific excavations at Bamiyan and Mes Aynak
- Education and professional training
- Direct communication with global heritage organizations
- for the protection of Afghan archaeology
- Publications

No amount is too small and we need your support. Please contribute what you can via [PayPal](#).

NEWS

[Sign up](#) for our next newsletter which will feature:

- Mes Aynak special report
- A look at our family book "Shine a Light on Afghan Archaeology"
- Upcoming events

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A personal message from the Founder and Executive Director

APAA REFRESHES ITS WEB PRESENCE



We are delighted to announce the launch of our new web site! Some content is still being updated but the overall look and feel of the site has been completely refreshed.

Our aim is to give you interesting news and information about Afghan archaeology and heritage. The site includes links to regularly updated news articles, videos, slide shows, and guidance on how you can get involved.

Come visit our [new web site](#), sign the Mes Aynak petition (nearly 9000 signatures already!), check in with our celebrity board members and join the conversation!

Our new blog is a dynamic source of news and information on Afghan-related events.

In-house journalist, Claudia Brose, provides updates and insight in to many activities and viewpoints regarding Afghanistan's cultural heritage.

[Sign up](#) for a subscription today!

The APAA has also embraced social media. You can now find us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Google Groups](#) and [Jumo](#). Please come visit, like, follow, and share your opinions. All are welcome.





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PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDER AND DIRECTOR

I would like to start this message with my best wishes to you and your families on the occasion of the Persian New Year! Or as we say in Afghan: Nowrooz Mubarak!

APAA has been evolving since its incorporation in December of 2003. As many of you know we have been very active in either organizing or participating in international forums, projects, conferences and even movies relating to the status and welfare of the archaeological heritage of Afghanistan. National Geographic, UNESCO, KQED, San Francisco Asian Art Museum, the Silk Road Foundation, UC Berkeley, Dominican University and the Rebuild Afghanistan Summit are some of the many organizations we have worked or are still working with through the years to bring you unique information and the latest news from the field. This includes the largest scientific research effort in Afghanistan, at the site of Bamiyan, spearheaded by our president, Professor Tarzi.

This year will be a very busy one and I am proud to invite you to meet our new, dynamic and talented APAA Board Members and Advisors by visiting our redesigned website at www.apaa.info.

Indeed, several professional and committed individuals have joined our cause to help and make a much needed difference regarding a rather daunting cause: the protection of Afghanistan's archaeological heritage.

Archaeology, its science, its results, the objects and monuments that illustrate the said results, may not seem as crucial as other priorities in the rebuilding of a country. Yet the many folds of earth that an archaeologist will explore will reveal to him or her and the world the many intricate proofs of existence, passion, love, faith, victories, defeats, inventions, traditions and artistic expression of our collective ancestors.

An excavation is like a large book of earth that, at each stratigraphic layer tells a story, one that transcends into what becomes the cultural identity of a people, a nation.



www.apaa.info

<http://afghantreasures.wordpress.com>



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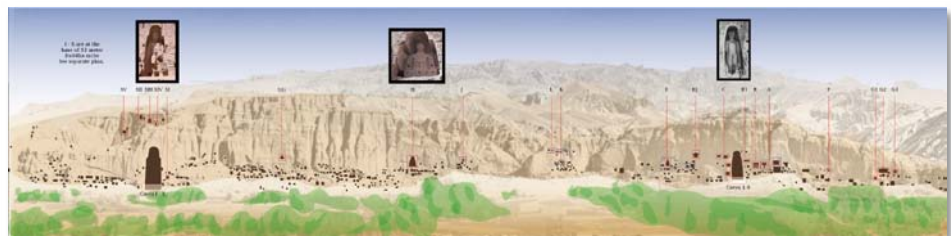


It is my belief that knowing who one is in the larger global picture, where one comes from and what artistic legacy one's ancestor has contributed helps us to ground ourselves in this ever changing world.

For a people to be educated about its origins, and gain or regain a sense of pride, is in itself a peace-building tool. In addition, that knowledge can be a contributing factor to the much needed incentive for people to be involved in halting illegal excavations and black market trafficking.

For the true value of the coveted and irreplaceable objects that leave the Afghan soil, every minute, remains in fact only when they can be seen at national museums or in situ, at preserved sites, where citizens and tourists alike can enjoy and learn about their connection to people and events of the past. Another aspect of significant importance is touristic endeavor which also brings economical life to the region as many developed countries in the world can attest to.

Afghanistan has been looted for nearly 30 years, and this continues today. Professor Tarzi has sounded the alarm over many years and on many occasions at several international conferences on Afghanistan with rarely an ear lent to his legitimate and prophetic concern. Whether the help yourself mentality of Afghanistan's treasures was a result of lobbying by collectors of antiques and coins, or merely an indifference to the Afghan problem, it is beyond time for Afghan archaeology to receive the international support and protection it deserves before all is lost.



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I thank you for the incredible support you have given us and the APAA vision through these years -- we could not have done it without you!

I am looking forward to continuing our work with all of you and to continue to bring you the latest news and insight from Professor Tarzi, who still goes to his homeland every year with the same commitment and passion he has had for the past 52 years. I invite you to come on board, discuss with our members your ideas, share your knowledge and concerns as well as help us fund our valuable projects, so we may together create an interactive repository on the archaeological heritage of Afghanistan for the many generations to come.

Kind regards

Nadia Tarzi

San Rafael, California, USA

care2 petitionsite

Assoc. for the Protection of Afghan Archaeology

Protect Afghan Archaeological Sites, the case of Mess Aynak

Michael Fox and 222 others like this. Unlike

overview petition

Target: UNESCO
Sponsored by: Assoc. for the Protection of Afghan Archaeology

After 30 years of armed conflicts, Afghanistan has suffered the loss and desecration of thousands of archeological objects and hundreds of ancient sites, such as the city of Ai Khanum and Bamiyan, which endured vandalism and irreparable destruction in 2001.

Archaeological sites are like open books, revealing to us the story of an era, a civilization, of trades and relationships between nations. These are the stories of our humanity and the roots of a nation's cultural identity. They must be preserved.

Let us ACT now for the Heritage of Afghanistan and protect Mess Aynak, an ancient and vast Buddhist monastic ensemble under threat from a proposed copper mine. While economical development is necessary through the mining of precious minerals, it cannot become an additional tool for cultural destruction.

Help protect Mess Aynak's treasures—please ask UNESCO to include Mess Aynak, Afghanistan on the List of Endangered Sites and the World Heritage List.

✓ Michael, You signed on November 23, 2010.
Your signature has been delivered to: UNESCO

we need you to help this petition succeed!

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signatures: 10,490
[sign petition](#)
- Tell Congress: Stop the War on Women!
signatures: 1,317
[sign petition](#)
- Demand Cancer Cures Today
signatures: 1,317
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Marketing and Web Development sponsored by Michael Fox at Tribal Knowledge

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