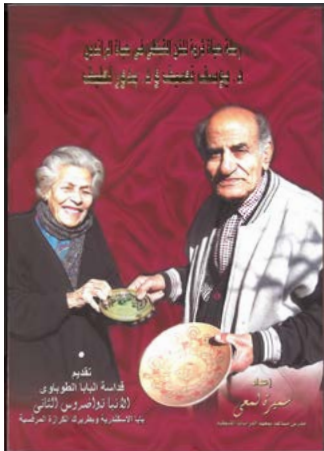


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**Journey of a Rich Life for
Coptic Art of Two Pioneers
Dr. Youssef Nassif
and Dr. Bedour Latif**

by

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Preface by H.H. Pope Tawadros II

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In light of COVID-19 the Coptic Museum of Canada was temporarily closed effective March 13, 2020, as a precautionary measure until further notice. Our top priority is the health and safety of our visitors and volunteers. Due to the rapidly changing nature of the situation, we are not announcing a re-opening date at this time and will provide updates on Facebook and on our Website. We are still available via email copticmuseumcanada@gmail.com and through Facebook www.facebook.com/CopticMuseumCanada/

CMC Cecile Barsoum Reference Library Acquisition

This long overdue testament to Bedour Latif and Youssef Nassif’s contribution to the renaissance of Coptic art in the 1950s and beyond is the product of the meticulous research Samira Lamei undertook for her Master’s thesis to record in over 350 pages the life and works of these two giants in the history of Coptic art and iconography in particular.

His Holiness Pope Tawadros II, in the preface affirms the major contribution of Bedour Latif and Youssef Nassif to Coptic art and commends the author, Samira Lamei for her truly encyclopedic research.

CHAPTER 1 titled “Features of the Pioneers” gives their separate and combined biographies.

CHAPTER 2 describes and illustrates the range of their artistic creativity: murals, woodworks, enamel works, embroidery, triptych, copper works, ceramics, and water colour paintings.

CHAPTER 3 titled “The Coptic icon of Dr. Youssef Nassif and Dr. Bedour Latif” discusses their development as iconographers, their spiritual understanding of an icon, and the methods they used to prepare and write icons.

Chapter 4 through 9 are thematically organized and discuss, interpret spiritually, and illustrate each of the selected icons.

CHAPTER 4 focuses on icons depicting Old Testament themes and prophets.

CHAPTER 5 Icons of Jesus Christ as represented in major and in minor Christian feasts, and Jesus as a servant, the miracles of Jesus, and Christ Pantocrator.

CHAPTER 6 Icons of the Virgin Mary are represented in eleven themes: the Annunciation, The Nativity, the Entry of Jesus in the Temple, the Flight to Egypt, the Wedding of Canaa, the Crucifixion, the Burial of Jesus, the Ascension, Pentecost, St. Mary the Queen, St. Mary, and the Transfiguration in Zeitoun.

CHAPTER 7 Icons the angels: Archangels Michael, Gabriel, Raphael, Surial and the Cherubim & Seraphim.

CHAPTER 8 Icons of male saints: St. Luke the Evangelist, St. Makar the Great, St. Peter & St. Bishai, St. Mina, St. Stephen the Archdeacon & first Martyr, Abba Hedra and his disciple, and St. Qozman, St. Demian, their brothers and their mother.

CHAPTER 9 Icons female saints: St. Barbara & St. Juliana, St. Juliette & her son Kiriakos. St. Demiana and the forty Virgins, St. Mary of Egypt & Zosmina the Priest, and St. Marina.

CHAPTER 10 titled “Supplements” covers a range of topics including the various churches in Egypt and abroad (including our Museum) that have icons & wall paintings of Nassif and Latif.

We await with impatience when this publication will also be translated into English.

For a full range of Bedour Latif and Youssef Nassif’s icons see forty-one icons in St. Mark’s Coptic Orthodox Church (Scarborough, ON) on the Museum website under “Explore the Museum” at www.copticmuseum-canada.org.



His Grace Bishop Bassilius, St. Samuel the Confessor Monastery (Egypt), the Berzi family and Helene Moussa. October 16, 2019



Carolyn Leland, Sami Akhnoukh (CMC Member), Helene-Anne de Freitas and Mona Bechai (CMC Board Director-Governance). January 3, 2020



Fr. Wissa (St. Philopater and St. Demiana Coptic Orthodox Church, Newmarket, Ontario) and Australian visitors Sherry Raguib and Isis Abdelmaseih. January 13, 2020



On February 25, 2020 His Grace Bishop Makar of Sharqia and the Tenth of Ramadan visited the Museum's Marguerite Nakhla exhibition and also received a set of Museum publications he kindly accepted to deliver to the recently inaugurated Central Papal Library at St. Bishoy Monastery (Egypt).



Bill Crothers (President, Friends of Markham Museum) and Morven Crothers. March 3, 2020



George Makary second year OCAD-U art and design student researching on Marguerite Nakhla in the Museum's archives and Reference Library. March 16, 2020



Prof. Elisabeth Campbell Assistant Professor of History, Daemen College Amherst and Jason Sapp. March 12, 2020

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