



ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
SUPREME COUNCIL OF ANTIQUITIES

PRESS RELEASE

Release Date: Saturday, December 17, 2010

From: Office of Dr. Zahi Hawass, Secretary General, SCA

Subject: With the Support of Egypt, Peru succeeds in repatriating 4,000 artifacts from Yale University

Contact: The SCA Press Office at: sca3press@gmail.com or +20 02-2735-3964; Also visit: http://www.sca-egypt.org/eng/MR_PR.htm

Dr. Zahi Hawass, Secretary General of the Supreme Council of Antiquities (SCA), has been recognized by the Peruvian Minister of Foreign Affairs, due to Egypt's cooperation and support in recovering 4000 artifacts that were being held in Yale University.

Ambassador Liliana Cino, Sub-Secretary of Foreign Affairs for International Cultural Policy, has expressed her appreciation and gratitude to Dr. Hawass on behalf of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Jose Antonio Garcia Belaunde, and the country of Peru, for sharing the experiences of his own work in repatriating Egyptian antiquities. Peru fostered a relationship with Dr. Hawass during the SCA's conference on the International Cooperation for the Protection and Repatriation of Cultural Heritage in April 2010.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Lima stated that Yale University would return the artifacts after Peru threatened to take legal action against the President of Yale.

In a letter to Dr. Hawass, Ambassador Cino indicated that the main pieces would be back to Peru by the end of 2011, and the rest of the objects would be returned by the end of 2012, according to arrangements between the two parties.

Peruvian President Alan Garcia Perez led a huge media campaign against Yale University during November in an attempt to pressure Yale into returning the antiquities. This campaign, along with other tactics, proved very effective in convincing Yale to return the objects.

The Peruvian Minister of Foreign Affairs has discussed many matters of the illegal antiquities trade with Dr. Hawass and both countries plan to work together in the future to fight against these crimes.