

Defence of the dissertation thesis

The rock art of Northeast Africa: A case study of rock paintings from the Czechoslovak concession in Lower Nubia by Lenka Suková

Present

Student: Mgr. Lenka Suková

Supervisor: Prof. Mgr. Miroslav Bárta, Dr.

Opponents: Prof. PhDr. Břetislav Vachala, CSc.

Dr. Dirk Huyge

Committee: Prof. Dr. Miroslav Verner, DrSc.

Prof. PhDr. Petr Charvát, DrSc.

Prof. MUDr. PhDr. Evžen Strouhal, DrSc.

Doc. Mgr. Jaromír Krejčí, Ph.D.

Not present

Member of committee: Doc. Dr.phil. Wolf B. Oerter, CSc.

- Verner introduced Lenka Suková and the dissertation thesis she submitted. He also presented the programme of the defence.
- Bárta presented the subject of research of Suková, and the contents of her thesis. He appreciated the way the research was done, and also mentioned the importance of the work on the so far unpublished documentation from old excavations in Nubia. Bárta pointed that Suková is well aware of available literature and is able to work scientifically with evidence using a well-built methodology. He recommended the work for the title of PhD.
- Verner asked Suková to present her work shortly.
- Suková gave a short powerpoint presentation of 9 slides, presented the targets of her dissertation thesis, explained her methodology and approach, and outlined the conclusions.
- Verner thanked Suková and gave word to Huyge. He also explained differences in the system of PhD. defence in the Czech Republic.
- Huyge congratulated Suková and appreciated her work talking about the history of rock art research and benefits of Suková's thesis. Huyge focused on the methodology of the thesis, and asked a question concerning her approach.

- Suková reacted on the comments without hesitation, and clearly defended her methodology and approach.
- Huyge asked another question concerning petroglyphs.
- Suková explained why she omitted the part of evidence.
- Huyge asked a question about “artists”.
- Suková cleared the problem of limited evidence and her view of the “artistic” significance of rock art. She also defended her dating of Sayala site.
- Huyge agreed with her approach and interpretation.
- Verner gave word to Vachala.
- Vachala appreciated Suková’s will to study the old evidence that had been for a long time neglected by researchers. He valued the analysis of the shelters and the over whole approach of the rock art.
- Verner opened a discussion and asked Suková a question.
- Suková answered briefly, explaining her attitude and both discussed several older works for a while.
- Bárta asked about the presence of mythology in rock art.
- Suková explained her view and discussed with Bárta on the topic.
- Huyge participated in the discussion on Gilf Kebir rock art and its unique themes.
- Suková concluded that the evidence awaits new interpretation.
- Strouhal asked a question on Sayala and Eastern Desert.
- Suková answered.
- Verner was curious about evidence on more complex mathematical thinking.
- Suková answered.
- Huyge added some comments on geometrics in rock art.
- Verner asked Suková about her perspectives concerning rock art research.
- Suková answered presenting her scientific plan.
- Verner asked if there are any rock art scenes in the area of Sabaloka where she does archaeological research.
- Bárta remembered the exhibition on Nubia Suková is arranging for the end of the year.
- Verner closed the discussion.
- The committee remained alone to vote.
- Verner congratulated Suková, since the committee agreed on giving her the title PhD. All the 4 members of the committee were pro.