

BACK COVER

As the main center of the medieval Nubian Kingdom of Makuria, Dongola was the residence of powerful kings with ambitions to equal the splendor of mainstream Byzantine culture and art. Matching the rulers in their aspirations were the princes of the Nubian Church – the bishops of Dongola. From the 6th to the 14th century, together they set the foundations for a dynamic and creative society that left many fine and important monuments.

The vestiges of ancient Dongola are slowly being uncovered from under the blanketing sand. Archaeologists and restorers from the Polish Centre of Mediterranean Archaeology of Warsaw University have been working on the site uninterruptedly since 1964. The presentation gives a comprehensive overview of the results of more than forty years of excavations on the site, written on the basis of his own experience and research by a long-time member of the Centre's archaeological expeditions.

The emerging diachronic picture of the city gives an idea of the different sacral, secular and sepulchral aspects of urban life in Medieval Nubia, richly illustrated with near to 100 original photographs, documentation drawings and plans, and supplemented with some well researched architectural rendering and animation projects.