



# Ethical Dilemmas in Archaeological Excavations and Repatriation Practices in Egypt: An African Perspective

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**Published:** 13 August 2007 | **Received:** 18 March 2007 | **Accepted:** 29 June 2007

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**DOI:** [10.5281/zenodo.18856856](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18856856)

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## Abstract

Archaeological excavations in Egypt have long been a contentious issue, particularly regarding their ethical implications and the repatriation of artifacts to their countries of origin. The study employs a critical analysis of existing literature on archaeology, heritage management, and international law. It also includes interviews with scholars, museum curators, and indigenous communities affected by archaeological activities. A significant finding is the tension between the need for scientific discovery and the cultural significance attached to certain artifacts, leading to debates over their inclusion in research projects versus their return to their countries of origin. The paper concludes that a nuanced approach is required, integrating ethical considerations into archaeological practices. Recommendations include establishing clearer guidelines for artifact handling and fostering greater collaboration between researchers and local communities. Recommendations include the implementation of best-practice guidelines on artifact handling, increased transparency in research projects, and enhanced consultation with indigenous communities to ensure their voices are heard.

**Keywords:** *Culturescape, Diaspora, Heritage, Postcolonialism, Anthropology, Ethnohistory, Migration*

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