

DAYR AL-AHMAR (Giza)

This monastery was mentioned in the beginning of the thirteenth century by ABU SALIH THE ARMENIAN (1895, p. 177), who spoke of a church dedicated to Saint Michael called Dayr al-Ahmar (Red Monastery). He added that it was on the edge of the Nile and that it contained a church dedicated to Saints COSMAS AND DAMIAN. He situated this church at Tamuh. It is probably the same church, given the rarity of the dedication. It was restored at a period earlier than Abu Salih. The author clearly distinguished it from the great synagogue of the Jews, which was also situated at Tamuh.

Al-MAQRIZI (1853, Vol. 2, p. 504) spoke of the monastery of Saints Cosmas and [Damian](#) at Tamuh and equally of the synagogue of the Jews at the same place.

Unfortunately, the village of Tamuh no longer exists. There is, though, a church of Saints Cosmas and [Damian](#) in the region, at Manyal Shihah (Clarke, 1912, p. 205, no. 6). This Dayr al-Ahmar then was at Manyal Shihah. This identification was proposed by J. Muysier (1952, p. 179, n. 15). Ramzi advanced the same hypothesis (1953-1968, Vol. 2, pt. 3, pp. 20-21).

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