

**SAINT MARK FOUNDATION FOR COPTIC HISTORY STUDIES**

It is a significant scientific institution of the Coptic Church. It was founded in 1998 by Fawzy Estafanous, former Chairman, Division of Anesthesiology and Critical Care Medicine, Cleveland Ohio, who is known for having built one of the foremost cardiac anesthesiology departments in the USA. The main task of the St. Mark Foundation is to write an up-to-date [history](#) of Christianity and monasticism in Egypt.

It organizes every other year an international symposium on Christianity and monasticism in one region that is followed by a publication such as a volume on "*Christianity and Monasticism in the Fayoum Oasis*," and another on "*Christianity and Monasticism in Upper Egypt. Volume 1: Akhmim and Sohag*," Cairo: American University Press, 2005, 2008.

One of the foundation's important goals is to promote an awareness of the Coptic heritage in Egypt and all over the world as well. A number of books in Arabic on the [history](#) of Christianity and its [monuments](#) in several Coptic dioceses appeared such as "*Christianity and Its [Monuments](#) in Aswan and [Nubia](#)*," Cairo, 2003. Moreover, it plays an instrumental role in the ongoing project "The Coptic Cultural Center" of the Coptic [Orthodox](#) Patriarchate at **Anba Ruwais**. The foundation cooperates with **Shenouda the Archimandrite Coptic Society** in many cultural activities.

**GAWDAT GABRA**Tags: [Groups](#)