

---

## ABU MANDOUR HILL IN ROSETTA THROUGH THE WRITINGS AND PAINTINGS OF EUROPEAN TRAVELERS

**Sa'eed Saa'd Rakha**

General Director of the National Museum of Rosetta  
Ministry of Antiquities, Egypt  
[kingsaeedsaad76@gmail.com](mailto:kingsaeedsaad76@gmail.com)

### Abstract

The writings of the early adventurous travelers who were able to reach Egypt in modern times were the magic factor in guiding those who followed them as adventurers and adventurers, for their passion for the history, effects, customs and traditions of this land. The earliest writings written by Western travelers to Egypt date back to the 13th century, mostly to clerics who accompanied the crusades, including a Swiss priest from Basel, Felix Fabry.

In the early 19th century, after the French campaign 1798, and the world became aware of the Pharaonic civilization and the deciphering of the Rosetta stone and the ancient Egyptian language by Champollion in 1822, the traveler's journeys that described the city of Rosetta continued in detail.

Abu Mandur Hill, located south of the city of Rosetta, includes the ruins of the Pharaonic city of Bolbitine, which continued to be built until Rosetta was established in the north. It was important that the research shed light on this important historical and historical site through the observations, writings and paintings of European travelers during the 18th and 19th centuries, who described this area accurately, And these travelers: Carsten Niebuhr, Charles Nicolas Sigisbert Sonnini de Manoncourt, Luigi Mayer, Dominique Vivant Denon, Jean-Baptiste Prosper Jollois.

Keywords: Rosetta, Abu Mandour, Pharaonic city of Bolbitine, European travelers, Carsten Niebuhr, Sonnin, Luigi Mayer, Vivant Denon, Prosper Jollois.

## 1. Introduction: Rosetta

Rosetta is one of the corners of the triangle occupied by the Delta between Cairo and Damietta [1], [2], located west of the branch named by its name, and is one of the important Egyptian ports.

Rosetta, one of the cities of Al-Buhayra Governorate, is located to the west of the Nile at the mouth of the branch of Rosetta in the Mediterranean [3], [4], and is located sixty kilometers from the city of Alexandria, and twelve kilometers above the mouth of the Nile [5], [6], [7].

In the Abbasid period, the Caliph al-Mutawakil [3], [4], Issued an order to the governor of Egypt, called 'Unbesa ibn Ishaq in 239 AH (853 AD) to build a group of arches (military installations on the seashore or inside the country) to confront the Byzantine threat to the Egyptian ports [8]. It was also the reason that Al-Mutawakil led to the establishment of the Ribat of Rosetta and many of the ligaments on the Mediterranean coast. [9].

The Islamic city was established close to the Ribat of Rosetta during the reign of Ahmed Ibn Tuloun in 256 AH (870 AD)[10], The plan of Ahmad Ibn Tuloun was clear, and a truce with the Byzantine Emperor with his keen interest in the reform of the fortresses and renewal so as not to be a truce trick followed by a surprise attack[11].

Rosetta was established as a war zone. Rabat was the nucleus of this emerging city in conditions of conflict. The war began to appear clearly in its planning, which was used as a food supplier. The Nile River was a communication factor between Rosetta and the cities of the country, and its location near the Mediterranean helped to provide access to the outside world. The city reflected the importance of immunization to protect its existence and develop its urbanization, whatever the causes of its inception, trade played a key role in it [3].

In the Fatimid and Ayyubid era, Rosetta became a civilized city, and became with Damietta important ports and trade centers. However, the importance of Rosetta increased in the Mamluk era[12], where it became an independent tower in its own right. It was built by al-Zaher Baybars and the tower of Salahuddin ibn Arram on the Nile [13], [14]by Fayrouz al-Rumi al-Arami [15]. The castle was renovated by Sultan Qaitbay in 884 AH / 1479 AD), and it is clear that this fortress is the observer of the visible Baybars and built a wall around it to protect it from raids [16].

Sultan al-Ghuri also ordered the construction of a wall along the coast and towers to save the port [32], [9], [14], [17], al-Ghuri encouraged foreigners to stay in the ports, including the port of Rosetta, especially the Venetian, after it was banned for military reasons since the Ayyubid era [18].

In the Mamluk era, however, Rosetta was merely a war hole and had no administrative function as before.

When Egypt became an Ottoman state in 923 AH (1517 AD), Rosetta became an important trade center for international maritime trade with Istanbul and the Ottoman Empire on the Aegean Sea, and the starting point for the future from Alexandria to Cairo via the Rosetta branch or directly from the sea to Cairo. The staggered to Istanbul[19] was known for its golden age until it reached (1777) the greatest degree and breadth.

## **2. Rosetta in the eyes of European travelers**

The writings of the early adventurous travelers, who were able to reach Egypt in the modern age, were the magic factor in guiding those who followed them, who were adventurous and adventurous, to their concern for the history, effects, customs and traditions of this land. The earliest writings written by Western travelers to Egypt date back to the 13th century, mostly to clerics who accompanied the crusades, including a Swiss priest from Basel, Felix Fabry.

Then, the traveler began to flock from the beginning of the sixteenth century AD, when he appeared from them was studying the state of the country to give their political leaders information that helps them to invade Egypt, and the likes of these travelers who can be called travelers spies, who were mostly French such as Baron de Tout, Savary and Volney, and they played a major role in the French campaign (1798).

In the early nineteenth century, after the publication of the book describing Egypt and the great change during the reign of Mohammed Ali, the number of travelers increased as a result of openness, especially after the world was aware of the Pharaonic civilization, the deconstruction of the Rosetta Stone and the ancient Egyptian language by Champollion (1822) The journey continued until the English occupation (1882), after which changed and developed in the concept of the traveler, when Cook And then his son with organized Nile flights on the back of steam boats As well as Dahabiat, to take the travelers many new names such as tourist and explorer and the world of Egyptology and orientalist, all those who are still coming to Egypt to the present time.

The French travelers took the guest of the consulate's deputies in Rosetta. Moncone went down to the consul's deputy and Kuban landed at the guesthouse of Anoure de Bremont. They confirmed that the Francs enjoyed free trade. However, customs duties were to be paid on the goods. , As well as the fact that the city is an important port and has the rich wealth of livestock and livestock [20]. The European travelers have described the city of Rosetta, its splendor, its beauty, its distinctive nature and fertile soil, as well as describing the people of Rosetta and its various walks of life. This is what we discussed in a book entitled Rosetta in the eyes of European travelers.

Not only were travelers visiting Egypt's important cities and ports, they toured small towns and villages, especially the areas near Rosetta, which Beilun described as one of the most beautiful

villages. [20] After the visit to Alexandria to Rosetta, where they take the boat to the port of Bulaq in Cairo, but after the establishment of channel Mahmudiya turned to importance and diminished the importance of Rosetta so the description of the city in the nineteenth century is different, the city is empty, But he visited its mosques, which were marked with white minarets, especially the mosque of Abu Mandur, the Sheikh Al-Mabrouk of the carp who has a talism in his grave to protect the Nile and gardens from the desert sand, and that many women They mean this tomb inside And offer vows for his miracles in the healing of infertility [21].

Most of the travelers suffered on their Nile journey to Cairo K and mentioned many stories, but what they are thinking about is to get to Cairo for what they know about their wonders and strangeness, and their journey in Cairo begins at the port of Bulaq. Where the journey ends on a boat carrying them from Rosetta to and around Cairo. Not all of those coming from France were Russians, English, and Swiss. They were mostly clerics. Some of them found studies and calls for the need to invade and occupy Egypt. Their goals were often commercial and economic, not just religious.

Among the most important travelers who visited Rosetta were:

Peri Réis (1521), Sezar Iamberth (1627), Vansleb (1672-1673), Paul Lucas (1699), Van Egmont et Heyman, Norden in 1795, Richard Pocke in 1737, Savary (1777), Sonnini, La Larme, and Ve van Denon (1798) and Jollios (1798).

### **3. The Hill of Abu Mandour through the writings and paintings of European travelers**

The historical sources mentioned the importance of this city through the ages, from the Pharaonic era to the Greek and Roman period through the Byzantine era and then the Coptic phase, the Islamic opening through the Islamic civilization up to the modern era [3], [4].

It is important to highlight this important historical and historical site through the observations, writings and paintings of European travelers during the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, who described this region accurately. An analytical study of the writings and paintings of a group of European travelers, which dealt with this important site and these travelers.

- Carsten Niebuhr (1733 - 1815)
- Charles Nicolas Sigisbert Sonnini de Manoncourt (1751-1812)
- Luigi Mayer (1755- 1803)
- .Dominique Vivant Denon (1825-1747).
- Jean-Baptiste Prosper Jollois (1776-1842)

### **1. 3. Carsten Niebuhr (1815-1733)**

An explorer, mathematician and German map scientist who worked for the Danish state, lived between 17 March 1733 and 26 April 1815 [22].

Carsten Niebuhr was born in a village in northwestern Germany in Lower Saxony. He worked as a farmer at his farm for the first years of his life, then showed a tendency to study mathematics and received some lessons in the science of surveying and maps, and was famous for his participation in the Danish mission to the Arabian Peninsula in 1761 [22].

In 1760, one of his trainers proposed that Nippur join a scientific expedition sent by Frederick V of Denmark to Egypt, the Arabian Peninsula, and Syria. Niebuhr studied mathematics for a year and a half before the mission began, and he managed to learn some Arabic. During the mission, the mission's philosopher von Hoven died, and shortly afterwards the naturalist scientist Peter Foriskal died [22].

He continued in the mission, which extended to Bombay, and the mission painter died on the road and wounded her shortly after her arrival on land. Now Nippur is the only person of the mission who is still alive. He stayed in Bombay for 14 months and then returned home via Muscat, Bushehr, Shiraz, and Istakhr. The cuneiform versions obtained from Assattar proved to be a major turning point in the deciphering of cuneiform writing and the birth of Assyrian archeology. Nippur also visited the ruins of Babylon, and drew many sketches, along with Baghdad, Mosul and Aleppo. It seems that he also visited the engraving of Baston around 1764. After visiting Cyprus, he toured Palestine through the Taurus Mountains to Bursa, arrived in Constantinople in February 1767, and eventually arrived in Copenhagen in November [22].

Nabibor visited Egypt during his scientific trip and described the cities in his book: "Journeys to the Arab countries and other countries surrounding it". As for his description of the city of Rosetta, Nippur states in his book that the European travelers on their journey from Alexandria to Cairo, first came to Rosetta and then moved to Cairo, sailing towards the high Nile [23].

#### **The city of Rosetta in the writings of Nippur and described by Little Abu Mandour [23]:**

"The road from Alexandria to Rosetta is very dangerous in the winter," says Nippur. "Many ships sink into the mouth of the Nile. Although the water level in the river is much lower, our captain apologized, saying that the river's river often changes in this place. The Egyptians are afraid of attacking enemy ships across this river, so I think the Egyptians have left the surrounding forts to fall apart. But the fort on the West Bank of the Nile between the downstream and Rosetta remained, an old high fort, but

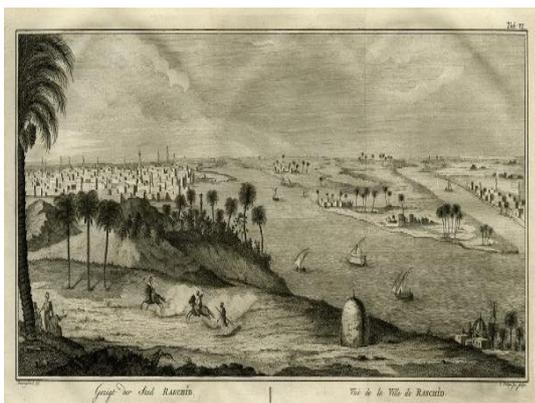
abandoned entirely, and draws attention to only some Arabic writings and some old iron guns, as we find a small fortress, unworthy of attention, on the east bank of the river.

The city of Rosetta flourished after trade in Fowa, on the Nile, went down. And turned into a store for goods that are transported from Cairo to Alexandria and Alexandria to Cairo, because the ships coming from Cairo up to Rosetta only, and the same applies to that area of Alexandria.

Rosetta is a large city located on the west bank of the Nile, and Ali is high overlooking the river on one side and its outlet on the other, and on the latitude  $31^{\circ} 24'$ . In the south is a view of the high, painted above by Mr. Bournefund view of the city dug on the sixth painting (Plate No. 1). Near this village, near the village of Abo Mandour, the Nile is clearly visible. Twenty columns of marble were discovered and moved to Cairo. The Europeans residing in Rosetta thought that they found the city of Canopus in this place. Ancient Egyptian novels say that a great helix extends from this area to the west and passes through small lakes, finally reaching the sea near Abu Qir, but this passage is completely blocked by the wind-borne sand that is abundant in this area.

The consulate of France and Venice, and some European merchants who believe in transporting their friends' goods between Cairo and Alexandria, live in Rosetta. We have been in the city with the Franciscan Fathers.

The Europeans pay tribute to the refinement and well-being of the inhabitants of this city, so we can stay there longer than we do in other Egyptian cities where the Europeans do not have the respect they need.



*Pl. 1. This painting bears the number 6 of the second volume of Carsten Niebuhr"*

### **2. 3. Charles Nicolas Sigisbert Sonnini de Manoncourt (1751-1812)**

Sonnini de Manoncourt (1751-1812) was a noble and natural French scientist. The natural world Sonnini de Manoncourt was born in 1751 in the Lorraine region of France and died in 1812. He worked as a lawyer and doctor as a naval engineer, visited America in 1772-1775 and West Africa. He took care of natural and medical history [24].

His discoveries and topographical observations in the territories that were not yet known led to the creation of the channel that bears his name, on the border with Peru with Argentina.

On the orders of King Louis XVI, he embarked on an expedition to Africa with Baron de Tott, yet Sonnini stayed in Egypt and did not go further, for a tour of the city's ruins.

Sonnini came to Egypt during 1777-1780, where he stated in his book: "I traveled to Egypt commissioned by the Count Buffon to do several researches to present to Minister Bertin" that is, his trip to Egypt was official, so the Chamber of Commerce of Marseilles helped him with money. He published his book on his journey to Egypt in three volumes accompanied by drawings about Egypt and its effects and agricultural wealth, but although the book describes Egypt to the scientists of the French campaign has sunk on it, Sonnini trip is one of the most important reference literature on Egypt in the eighteenth century. His date of travel to Egypt was published almost twenty years later in 1799 [25].

#### **The city of Rosetta in the writings of Sonnini and his description of Little Abu Mandour [25].**

We left Cairo joyfully on October 20, 1771, at 1:00 pm, and we set off on the Kanja, a type of boat used on the Nile. They are stylishly built, and they are good sailing boats of which there are different sizes. In addition, they are used for transporting goods. At the same time, these vessels have a capacity of 240 passengers (passenger), plus one or more air-conditioned rooms, which will be very enjoyable if not eaten by a large number of insects that fill them. During the two days of navigation on the Nile, we suffered from the very thick fog, which did not disperse until ten o'clock in the morning, where the rain fell very soft, this fog was a sign of winter. But with this start of the winter, we will probably not hear bitter and bitter temperatures during several months of the year, which stop plant life and make men suffer in most of Europe. Frozen frosts never come here.

Winds and rain refreshed, during the three months of the winter, the sea winds and rain revive the atmosphere without cooling. Men do not need to resort to artificial heat, without the presence of vegetation, and without stopping the vegetables to beautify the countryside and accelerate the opinion. Under this warm temperature, near the soil of great freshness and green spaces, the town of Rosette

(Rosetta), where we arrived at four o'clock in the evening on the twenty-second day of October. I did not stop for a moment on our trip. I came to the French consul's deputy, Mr. De Troy, and accepted the lodging he gave me at home.

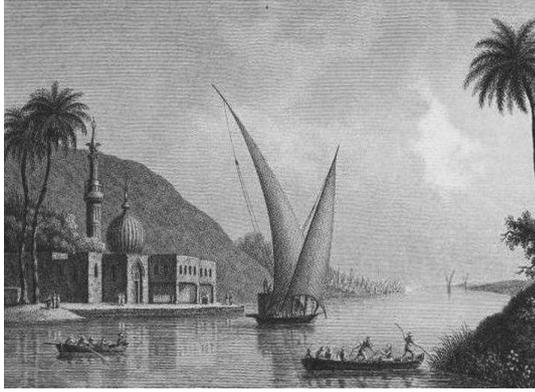
- Sonnini mentioned that some French merchants in Rosetta had lived together in the same building, which was very large and had the same shape as the French factory in Alexandria but much higher than it, which is near the Nile and like all the houses of Rosetta, it was built of bricks.

The city was named in the country "Rosetta", the Arabic name that was held at the time of the geographical Idrissi, and for the Europeans is "Rosette". It is undoubtedly the most delightful city in Egypt, its homes in general, much better than those in Cairo. Its location on the banks of the river and the delta view provide a laughable picture of the most beautiful culture, scented orchards near the city, and the fresh and healthy air that breathes there, giving it the name it deserves. Sonnini has drawn a general view of Tel Abu Mandour embracing the old mosque (pl.2). It is likely that the painter is located on the island that was facing the hill of Abu Mandour, which is revealed in (pl.3). It depicts a general view from the top of the Abu Mandour hill, It was opposite the archaeological hill, which may have been mentioned by Jollius in his writings as located south of the city of Rosetta.

The Romans named the mouth of this branch of the Nile (the Rosetta branch) as Bolbitinum. There are long streets formed by two rows of shops, where one finds all sorts of goods; the things necessary for life abound there, at a low price. But Rosetta had enough amenities for travelers without being attributed to people, which could have caused passengers to be left in some embarrassment. For example, Cornell de Bruins, who saw guest houses everywhere, and his interpreter, wrote that Rosetta was the most acceptable city in terms of the number of hostels where they were properly hosted, and that there was no precautionary measure to reach Rosetta, only It was enough to get down to the first inn (Khan / hotel).

As for trade in the city, Sonnini said that Rosetta is the store of commerce between Cairo and Alexandria, it spreads life, movement and ease of trade. It also has some branches of trade such as cotton yarn dyed red, which is drawn from the neighboring provinces, and combing linen plates, and silk dye for Oriental clothes, and others.

On the cultivation and export of rice, he said: "When I arrived at the end of October, they were busy drying these precious grains, a healthy and acceptable food for a large number of nations. It was spread on the terraces of houses, and in public squares".



*pl. 2. General view of Tel Abu Mandour embracing the old mosque*



*pl. 3. The hill of Abu Mandour*

### **3. 3. Luigi Mayer [1755- 1803)**

Luigi Mayer is an Italian-German artist and one of the oldest European painters of the late 18th century in the Ottoman Empire. [26]

Mayer was a close friend of Sir Robert Ainsley, a British ambassador to Turkey between 1776 and 1792, and most of his paintings and drawings were commissioned during this period by Ainsley.

He traveled extensively through the Ottoman Empire between 1776 and 1794, and became famous for his paintings and drawings of the panoramic landscape of ancient sites from the Balkans to the Greek islands, Turkey and Egypt, particularly the ancient antiquities and the Nile. [27]

Many works were collected in Ainsley's collection, which was later presented to the British Museum, which gives us valuable information about the Middle East at that time. Mayer not only painted ancient monuments, but also added fascinating details of everyday life and local fashion and expression of social life [27].

Meyer's works became very common and were widely printed and widely circulated in successive editions from 1801 onwards. These editions, which were gradually completed, included paintings by Meyer representing various subjects, as well as comments in three languages (English, French and German). Luigi Mayer painted a painting depicting the Abu Mandour Mosque in Rosetta from his series in Egypt in 1802. This painting is almost identical to what is mentioned in the Sennini plate from the corner of the lung and the location of the painting on the opposite side of the hill. In the details, it is clear that there is the Abu Mandour fortress at the top of the hill, (pl. 4).



*pl. 4. Abu Mandour fortress at the top of the hill*

#### **4. 3. Jean-Baptiste Prosper Jollois (1776-1842)**

A French architect of the French campaign on Egypt, presented with the French campaign to Cairo in 1798 and left for Upper Egypt the following year in a team of mining engineers and road engineers to study social activities, including trade and agriculture, as well as natural history, archeology and irrigation system in the area south of the first waterfall of the river Nile, where he first noticed the presence of the Western Valley in the Valley of the Kings, and then was able to locate the tomb of Amenhotep III with the help of Edward de Villier de Terraj, one of the engineers who were sent within the same team. Jollois has contributed to the writing of the huge encyclopedic work of the French campaign known as the description of Egypt.

In his brief study of the city of Rosetta, Jollois described the city in great detail.

#### **Rosetta in the writings of Jollois and described Abu Mandour hill:**

Jollois describes the city of Rosetta in his book saying: The branch of the Nile that passes in front of this city was named after its name. In the ancient era, this branch had the name of the Bolivian branch, in comparison to the town of Boulbitine, which is located on the same branch. It is possible to believe that the site of Boulbitine was located to the south of Rosetta, not far from the fortress of Abu Mandour, which we will talk about. In fact, at the bottom of this fortress is a small semi-circular bay that seems to have been used in it has become a port, and these days the sand of the desert is becoming



more prevalent, not long ago, excavations were carried out in this place. Great columns of granite were found. This is a new reason to believe in the opinion we have just presented about the probable location of the ancient city of Boulbitine, and to reach the fortress of Abu Mandour, we walked in the shoe of the left side of the Nile. Is very suitable and in the end we tested three pieces of granite columns, two of which represent the remains of similar columns were erected on the shores of the river, but perhaps these pieces that we found were a bit far from the original location, and we saw also within a distance of these pieces another trunk column was People take advantage of it in the making of the moor, and these The ancient monuments that we found in this place, which we mentioned earlier, are intended to support the more likely that this place is the geographical location of the city that gave its name in the ancient era of the Bolivian branch [29].

The fortress of Abu Mindur rises on one of the highlands to the south, which touches the small bay that we talked about. It is square shaped and appears to have been built in the time of the Arabs and is cracked to its foundations. It foreshadows a near collapse. Around it, the sand that is driven by the winds of the desert accumulates, so that it reaches the middle of its height and is surrounded by tombs [29].

When one looks to the east, he sees under his eyes the great Nile of Egypt, swimming in the form of attractive boats, and the delights of the delta, where the rice fields, the palm trees and the evergreen vineyards are magnificent and everything on this side shows a lively vitality. And everything in it is filled with life, there see buffalo buffs eat grass or dip its body in the river, The farmer is preoccupied with the work of the field without allowing himself to catch his breath and runs an irrigation machine to irrigate his fields, and grow rice crop and exudes, The rural areas of the North Delta are less rich or less fertile, nor less harvested, and the countryside is cut and infiltrated by thousands of canals and small canals that distribute everywhere the water of the river, whether it comes naturally to the water or was brought to it by hydraulic machines of those used in this country, the sea forms the background of this painting [29].

Throughout our stay in Rosetta we used to follow our tours out of the city and across the pasture which lies to the north of the city towards the sea and these pastures tell the narrow channels that are attracted by the water - at a time when these channels are not filled normally - drivers will talk about them in a little detail and we could not We have long resisted our desire to visit the island of Varsi, under the city of Rosetta. It was a pleasant sight that inspired us to visit the village its appearance indicates misery. Its houses are poor, circular huts topped by pigeons and the roof of this type of huts is made of palm trees. The logs all that is covered by the mud is the mullet. The whole island is covered with ripe greenery, as well as the large sycamore trees, in which travelers find refuge from the heat of the sun and find a charming scene[29].

It has attracted the orchards of Rosetta and is always admired by our attention and has often been the target of our excursions[29]

### **5. 3. Vivant Denon (1747-1825)**

Is a French sculptor, painter, writer, diplomat and archaeologist, he was appointed by Bonaparte as director of the Louvre Museum between 1802 and 1815 in the wake of the French campaign against Egypt. During this period, he was able to develop the museum's collection of monuments that he collected during Napoleon's various campaigns [30].

Dennon, a leading figure in the artistic world of the First Empire, was born on January 4, 1747, in Geoffrey, near Châlons-sur-Saône in Franche Comté (region of France) [27].

At the age of eighteen went to Paris not only to study the law (his parents wanted to be an investigating judge) but also drawing and engraving [30].

Denon was introduced to Napoleon Bonaparte by Josephine, who frequented the Salon de Denon. He began with Bonaparte in Toulon in order to prepare for the Egyptian mission, where he took Napoleon preparing for this famous campaign 1798, which represents a difference in the history of Egypt, and was part of the composition of the scientific group, which included more than one hundred of the greatest scientists and artists of France, He was appointed as a founding member of the Institute of Egypt. He was accompanied by Desykes in Upper Egypt and was one of the few members of the Egyptian Institute. In the campaign that L Paris with Bonaparte in 1799 [31].

The book "Le Description de l'Egypt" was one of the masterpieces of French literature and a starting point for a new science: Egyptology. It is a giant survey of Egypt at the time of the Bonaparte invasions between 1798 and 1799, and the work is divided into 13 volumes of inscriptions, which make up 892 paintings, of which 72 colors. In addition to presenting the magnificence of Egypt Pharaohs in 9 volumes.

Other volumes discuss natural history and present a fascinating picture of Coptic and Islamic Egypt as seen by the armies of East Bonaparte [32].

The Egyptian campaign reveals the "Napoleon Campaign" through the work of "Describing Egypt" for its great scientific success, thanks to a few 167 educated members of the Institute's Science and Arts Committee from Egypt who followed Napoleon's army [32].

The original edition, dubbed "Imperial," was published in Egypt in four large forms. A press was specifically created to print it, spread over 20 years between 1809 and 1829.

The realization of this monument of knowledge owes much to Baron Dominique Vivant Denon, the painter, diplomat, collector and later director of the Napoleon Museum in the Louvre, who accompanied Napoleon in Egypt with many other researchers but decided alone to enter the south of the country. Cairo area. The fictional drawings reported by Denon during his trip to Bonaparte gave the idea of sending other members of the Institute and then drawing a complete and honest picture of the region [32].

In 1802, Dinon published his book "Voyage dans la Basse et Haute-Egypte", which was the result of his research during the Egyptian mission. Dinon completed three hundred and twenty-five drawings of the total of nine hundred drawings and photographs included in the book "Le Description de l'Egypt" Not colored.

Dinon visited Rosetta in many of his paintings, as he mentioned in his book on his visit to Egypt.

### **Rosetta in the writings of Dinon and his description of Little Abu Mandour [32]**

Rosetta, which he called the Franks, is Rosette or Rosetta, on the banks of the Nile where it was built on the Nile branch and near the mouth of Boulbitine, near the ruins of a town by that name,

To be located at the bend of the river, where there is the hill of Abu Mandour (pl. 5), half a ridge of Rosetta, and what can support this view, is the highlands that dominate this hill, which must have been formed by sediments, there are some columns and other monuments that were found, about twenty years ago, some of them on this hill.

According to Leo the African: Rosetta was built by the ruler of Egypt under the rule of the Muslim caliphs, but did not mention the name of the Caliph and the time of establishment.

Rosetta does not offer any intriguing effect, and her old position indicates that she was bigger than she is now. Its first boundaries are recognized by the sand hills that are covered from west to south, which were formed only from the walls and towers that are today the nucleus of these sediments. As in Alexandria, the population of this city is constantly decreasing.

There are few buildings, and only the old brick buildings that are in ruins for the lack of population and repairs. However, the houses, which are generally better built than those in Alexandria, are still so poor that if they are not immune to the climate that destroys anything, there will be no homes in Rosetta soon.

Floors (floors of houses), which always advance one on the other, eventually almost touching each other.

Houses along the Nile are not inconvenient and often belong to foreign merchants. This part of the city will be easy to decorate, but it is only necessary to build a wharf on the banks of the river, crowding and alternately covering houses.

Besides taking advantage of the presence of navigation, there is still a laughing side of the banks of the delta, an island is a wide garden. This island first became our property, our promenade, and finally the park where we gave ourselves the pleasure of fishing. Which was compounded by our curiosity, because every bird we killed was a new knowledge.

I noticed that the inhabitants of the Nile's left bank, the Delta, were more moderate and more social, and I think we should go back to the abundance of resources and the absence of Arab nomads who never cross the river and leave them in peace.

Vivan Denon mentions that Rosetta Castle is a large fortified square with four large towers on it. The ground floor was filled with weapons, such as swords, arrows and swords. The castle had been neglected since the 18th century and many of them fell.



pl. 5. The hill of Abu Mandour

## Conclusions

- By studying the information received, whether written information or painted drawings for these travelers, some important points can be drawn.
- Where it is clear through the painting of Logi Mayer site of Abu Mandour Hill that the artist took this corner to paint the painting from the opposite of the Abu Mandour hill, which was an island, mentioned by Jollios on behalf of the island of Warsi south of the city of Rosetta, and described the beauty and splendor of that island, Which is confirmed by the painting contained in the book of Nippur, where it is clear the existence of an island off the hill, but these islands have joined the eastern coast of the Nile at the present time, which explains why the graves of the population of the area above the hill of Abu Mandour, in addition to the religious conscience, there is an

environmental and geological motive, where these people were found that the location of their island between the low-flooded area on the eastern side of the island, while the West Bank was overlooking the high hill, which was the best choice and the best for the process of burying their dead.

- The same painting is repeated in Sonny's painting, where the painting is drawn from the same corner of the island of Versa, but it is less in detail. The Logi Mayer panel shows the presence of the fortress of Abu Mandour, which Jollios described as a fortified square, It appears in the special painting of Meyer, and Meyer's painting features more details of the old Abbey Mandour Mosque, which was rebuilt during the reign of Khedive Abbas Helmi II, 1312 AH / 1884 AD.
- It is noted that the old mosque was larger in the area, with the presence of units on the upper floor in the facade overlooking the Nile, perhaps it was our residence or rest for the imam of the mosque because of the dimension of the mosque.
- Another painting of Sonny at a different angle, perhaps drawn from the highest fortress of Abu Mandour, confirms - without a doubt - what Jollios said when he described the hill of Abu Mandour, where it is clear the existence of an island with the same details mentioned above the hill of Abu Mandour, Another important painting in the Nippur book illustrates the general view of the city of Rosetta from the top of the fortress of Abu Mandour, south of the city of Rosetta and off the hill there is an island with a group of small villages and cultivated areas, which Jollios called it "Island of Warsi".
- This is also evident in a painting by Denon's work that clearly illustrates the existence of this island off the hill and the old Abo Mendour Mosque.

## References

- [1] Kamel, Wahib (1947). *Diodore in Egypt*, Cairo, pp. 67-68.
- [2] Kamel, Wahib (1953). *Strabon in Egypt*, Cairo, p. 48.
- [3] Darwish, Mahmoud Ahmed (1989). *Monuments of Rosetta and its Wooden Antiques in the Ottoman Period*, Manuscript of Master Thesis, Faculty of Archeology, Cairo University, p. 21.
- [4] Darwish, Mahmoud Ahmed (2017). *Encyclopedia of Rosetta*, Cairo: The Arab Nation Foundation for Publishing and Distribution, 1, pp. 63-50-54-61-66, 2, pp. 66-78-88:84.
- [5] Khafaja, Mohamed Saqr (1966). *Herodotus speaks of Egypt*, Cairo, pp. 88-89.
- [6] Encyclopedia Britannica, *Rosette*.

- [7] Lezine A. et Abdul Tawab, A. R. (1972). *Introduction a l'etude des maisons ancienne de Rosette*, IFAO, I, du Caire, p. 150.
- [8] Al-Bakri (1911). *Morocco in the Countries of Africa and Morocco*, Paris, p. 37.
- [9] Al-Maqrizi (1854). *Preaching and consideration of plans and effects*, 1, Cairo, pp. 72-73-74-214.
- [10] Forster (1922). *Alexandria, a history and a guide*, Alex. pp. 185-186.
- [11] Mahmoud, Hassan Ahmed (1960). *Islamic Civilization of Egypt*, Cairo, pp. 89-90.
- [12] Al-Qalqashandi (1914). *Sobh Al-A'shi in Al-Ansha Industry*, 4, Cairo, p. 390.
- [34] Al-Zaheri (1894). *Butter revealed the kingdoms and the statement of roads and routes*, published by Paul Roiss, Paris, p. 108.
- [13] Al-Maqrizi (1956). *Behavior to Know the Kings' States*, S 2/1, Investigation of Muhammad Mustafa Ziadeh, Cairo, 3, p. 512, 4, pp.72-74-129- 228-765.
- [14] Ibn Duqmaq (1893). *Victory for the means of holding the Umayyad*, 5, I 1, Cairo, p. 114.
- [15] Al-Sakhawi (1896). *The Founding Trower at the Foot of Behavior*, Cairo, pp. 323-324-349.
- [16] Ibn Iyas (1893). *Bada'id al-Zohour in the Chronicles of the Dawn*, Cairo, 3, pp. 155-156, 5, p. 114.
- [17] Ibn al-Jayan (1898). *The Sunni masterpiece by the names of the Egyptian countries*, published by Mortz, Cairo, p. 138.
- [18] Wasfi, Na'eem Zaki (1965). *Trade routes and stations between East and West in the late middle Ages*, Cairo, p. 91.
- [19] Sarhanak, Isma'il (1897). *News Facts and Sea States*, 2, Cairo, p. 80.
- [20] Mamoun, Jihan Mamdouh. *Rosetta City of History*, Series of Egyptian Cities, p.45.
- [21] Al Ittihad newspaper (19 October 2015). *European travelers are spies and scientists*.
- [22] Wikipedia (30 December 2018). *Garsten Niebuhr*, Date of citation: 21 January 2019.  
<https://ar.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=%D9%83%D8%A7%D8%B1%D8%B3%D8%AA%D9%86%D9%8A%D8%A8%D9%88%D8%B1&oldid=32399132>
- [23] Niebuhr, Carsten (2007). *A Journey to the Arabian Peninsula and to Other Neighboring Countries*,

- 1, 'Abeer Al-Mundhir, Beirut, Lebanon: Arab Propagation, pp. 52-53-54.
- [24] SONNINI DE MANONCOURT, [eng.travelogues.gr](http://eng.travelogues.gr)
- [25] Sonnini, C. S. (1799). Voyage dans la Haut et basse Egypt, fait par ordre de L'ancien government, et contenant des observations de tous genres Paris, Cheze. Buisson, Imprimeur-Libraire, rue Hnutefcuilie 3 n°. 2o. an 7 de la république.
- [26] Diane Fortenberry, Souvenirs and New Ideas travel and collecting in Egypt and the near east, Oxbow books oxford UK.
- [27] George Long, Esq. Egyptian Antiquities in the British Museum, monuments, Obelisk, Temples, Sphinxes, Sculpture, Statues, Paintings, Pyramids, Mummies, Papyrus, and the Rosetta stone, p.203.
- [28] Hilmy, Ibrahim (1885). The Literature of Egypt and the Soudan from the earliest times to the year inclusive, p.26.
- [29] Jollios (1993). Rosetta City, Encyclopedia of the Description of Egypt, tr. Zuhair Chaib, 3, pp. 14-15-16-17-18-22-23-24.
- [30] Denon, Dominique Vivant - [napoleon.org](http://napoleon.org)
- [31] Dominique-Vivant Denon- [oxfordreference.com](http://oxfordreference.com)
- [33] Denon, Par Vivant (1807). Voyages dans la basse et la haute Egypte pendant les campagnes de Bonaparte en 1798 et 1799, A Londres.