

### **The Alexandria Project (AP)**

The Alexandria Project is a research project affiliated to the Bibliotheca Alexandrina Library Sector. It aims to serve the scholars and researchers interested in the study of the ancient library of Alexandria, ancient Alexandrian scholarship, and the intellectual life in ancient Alexandria and its contemporary world. The Project also tackles the various aspects of the historical and cultural heritage of ancient Alexandria, and their influence on the advancement of human knowledge as well as their cultural impact on humanity across the ages. Moreover, the AP highlights cutting-edge technologies used in the documentation and preservation of heritage. The Project aims to raise awareness and disseminate knowledge about its topics to both specialized researchers and the general public. The AP seeks to achieve its goals through promoting research, organizing lectures, workshops, seminars, conferences and producing various types of print and electronic publications.

### **The Alexandria Project (AP) Logo:**

The Alexandria Project logo was designed by the graphic designers of the Bibliotheca Alexandrina in 2002. The main idea of the AP logo is attributed to Prof. Dr. Mostafa El-Abbadi (RIP), formerly Prof. of Greco-Roman History and Civilization at the Alexandria University and the BA Library Sector's consultant for the Alexandria Project. The AP logo represents a graphical depiction of the Greek Ionic capital (symbolizing the ancient Greek roots of the ancient Alexandrian civilization), holding on its top a graphical depiction of a modern upright open-book (a symbol of the continuity of the impact of the intellectual and scholarly heritage of ancient Alexandrian and its library on human heritage across the ages). The capital's dual volute is represented in a manner indicating the shape of an open papyrus scroll (directed downwards), indicating the lost holdings of the ancient library of Alexandria; the scroll also symbolizes the ancient Egyptian roots of Alexandrian sciences and culture as well as Greek science & thought before Alexandria in general. The capital with its ancient papyrus scroll and modern book are surrounded by the shape of the ancient Egyptian hieroglyph 'Pr' (which was part of the ancient Egyptian word of 'Pr-ankh', meaning the 'house-of-life', used for libraries and centers of science in ancient Egypt (symbolizing the ancient Egyptian roots of the ancient Alexandrian scientific and cultural heritage as well as the Egyptian long history of libraries in the ancient world). The logo also includes another symbol of the ancient Egyptian impact on both the Greek civilization and ancient Alexandria, that is the shape of the Egyptian lotus flower depicted inside the shaft of the Greek Ionic capital and on both its sides.

Then, in 2009/2010, the Alexandria Project simplified and modified its logo, using, for its name, a font that simulates ancient texts engraved on original Greco-Roman monuments and removing the outer frame (which represents the ancient Egyptian letter 'Pr'), indicating the universality of the intellectual heritage of ancient Alexandria and the ancient library and the cosmopolitan character of the ancient Alexandrian civilization across the ages; as well, indicating the free and innovative character of the ancient Alexandrian heritage and its boundless impact on other cultures. The AP was keen to keep all the other elements of the logo that symbolize both the Egyptian and the Greek civilizations, being the dual cultural pillars of both the ancient city and library of Alexandria. Additionally, the direction of the shape of the modern book was reverted to be from right-to-left indicating the Arab/Islamic culture, which studied and benefited from the scientific



**The AP Logo  
(2002 – 2009)**



**The AP Logo  
(2010 – onwards)**

and cultural heritage of ancient Alexandria, as well as the ancient and modern Library of Alexandria. Therefore, the Alexandria Project is using this modified version of its logo from 2010 onwards.

### **The Alexandria Project's activities at a glance:**

The AP was concerned, upon its beginning in 2002, with the development of the Bibliotheca Alexandrina collection of information resources in the subjects covered by the Project. Therefore, the BA acquired the various editions of ancient Greek and Latin texts, editions of published papyri, inscriptions, writings of the early fathers of the Church (the 'Patrologia' collections) and other collections of published sources of the Greco-Roman civilization, including ancient Alexandria. Since 2004, the AP started to provide services and activities targeting both general public and specialized audience. The AP prepared the first public exhibition of the BA focused on three main themes: the 'intellectual life in the ancient library of Alexandria', 'Alexandria, the capital of ancient Egypt', and 'the Alexandrian submerged antiquities'; this was the BA contribution in the World Bank's exhibition (entitled: "Culture and Development: The Challenge and the Response") hosted by the BA in 2004/5. Since then, the AP is organizing all sorts of public events highlighting the various aspects of its subjects, such as the AP international conference, entitled "What Happened to the Ancient Library of Alexandria?" (2004), and "The Alexandria International Conference on Maritime and Underwater Archaeology" (2016) in collaboration with the Egyptian Ministry of Antiquities, celebrating the 20th anniversary of the foundation of the Central Department of Underwater Antiquities.

The AP published several scholarly publications, such as the book, entitled **What Happened to the Ancient Library of Alexandria?**, published in 2008 in English in collaboration with the international publisher Brill (Netherlands); and the Arabic book (entitled: **الفلك في الإسكندرية القديمة: جذوره وإنجازاته في القرن الثالث قبل الميلاد**) about astronomy in ancient Alexandria in the 3<sup>rd</sup> century BCE (the first book in Arabic on this scholarly topic), published by the BA in 2015. Moreover, the AP published many other publications targeting both researchers and general public readership, such as its booklet about the great ancient mathematician 'Euclid'. Since 2012, the Alexandria Project started its 'AP Cultural Program', which included among its activities the organization of many workshops about the archaeological and historical topics of the project as well as series of lectures held at the BA, delivered by top Egyptian and international scholars, historians, archaeologists, .... etc., specialized in the various subjects of the Project.

For more information about the Alexandria Project, its activities and services, please, follow the following connections:

- **Email:** [AP@bibalex.org](mailto:AP@bibalex.org)
- **Facebook:** [TheAlexandriaProject.BibliothecaAlexandrina](https://www.facebook.com/TheAlexandriaProject.BibliothecaAlexandrina)
- **Instagram:** [ba\\_the.alexandria.project](https://www.instagram.com/ba_the.alexandria.project)
- **YouTube:** [The Alexandria Project](https://www.youtube.com/TheAlexandriaProject)
- **Twitter:** [AlexandriaP\\_AP](https://twitter.com/AlexandriaP_AP)
- **LinkedIn:** [the-alexandria-project](https://www.linkedin.com/company/the-alexandria-project)