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AMERICAN CENTER OF
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AMERICAN CENTER OF ORIENTAL RESEARCH (ACOR)



The American Center of Oriental Research (ACOR) in Amman, Jordan, is a public, international, non-profit academic institution dedicated to promoting research and publications in archaeology, anthropology, history, languages, theology, and other aspects of Near Eastern studies.

ACOR was established in 1968 and acts as a liaison between Jordanian, American, and international scholars and institutions interested in working in the Arab world. The center serves as a meeting and living place for academics working on research, education, and training.

ACOR SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES

- Library and research facilities
- Field projects
- Publication series
- Conservation lab
- Logistical and technical guidance

ACOR PROGRAMS

- Fellowships
- Archaeological excavation and restoration projects
- Lecture series



PRESERVING HISTORY

Thanks to a grant from the **U.S. Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation**, ACOR and the Jordanian Department of Antiquities are engaged in a new, long-term cultural resource management initiative for the **“Temple of the Winged Lions”** complex with the **Petra Archaeological Park**. The project serves as a model for cultural preservation activities that involve the local community and generate employment.



Other collaborative projects between ACOR and Jordanian entities include:

- Excavating and restoring the **Amman Citadel**.
- Conducting the **Archaeological Survey of Greater Amman**.
- Assisting in the creation of an **Archeological Park in Aqaba**.
- Establishing rest houses and functional tourist facilities consistent with the traditional Ottoman architecture at **Umm Qeis and Pella**.
- Preserving Byzantine mosaics and other archaeological treasures at **Madaba**.

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LIBRARY AND LECTURES

- The ACOR Library is a crucial resource for Jordanian, American and international scholars. It holds 40,000 books and journals, 1,500 maps, and more than 100,000 digital images and slides of archaeological projects and sites in Jordan.
- The ACOR Library is a place where researchers and students can take advantage of JSTOR, the online database of more than a thousand international academic journals. This free access enables Jordanian professors to keep up in their fields and assists students finishing their studies.
- The lower level of the ACOR Library serves as a venue for lectures on cultural and heritage topics and training sessions.



FELLOWSHIPS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

- Through its fellowships, ACOR has enabled almost a thousand American, Jordanian, and other scholars to conduct research on Jordan and the Near East.
- ACOR promotes Cultural Heritage Studies in Jordan by providing financial and academic support to Jordanian graduate students studying cultural heritage resources in Jordanian universities.

PUBLICATIONS

- ACOR inaugurated its publication series in 1992 with Father Michele Piccirillo's *The Mosaics of Jordan*. The series continues with volumes on ACOR's projects in Amman, Madaba, and Petra, and a five volume collaborative series on the sixth century papyri found in the Petra Church, with which provides profound insights into Byzantine Petra.

CULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES



- ACOR collaborates with the **Jordanian Department of Antiquities** to excavate, interpret, and restore important archaeological sites, including Petra, Madaba, and Amman.
- In Petra, ACOR has excavated, conserved, and restored **three Byzantine churches, a Nabataean royal pavilion, and the first mosques** ever found in the area. ACOR is currently preserving the **Temple of the Winged Lions** in the center of the city.
- ACOR supports **Jordan's tourism sector** with cultural heritage management and presentation expertise.
- ACOR **trains local residents** for jobs in the tourism and cultural heritage sectors.
- ACOR conducts its own excavations and **cultural resource management projects** in Jordan and has assisted hundreds of other archaeological projects.
- **The ACOR Conservation Cooperative (ACC)** helps preserve Jordan's cultural heritage by restoring, conserving, and preparing archaeological materials and artifacts found by various archaeological projects for museum display and final publication.
- ACOR works closely with the **Jordanian Department of Antiquities and the Petra Archaeological Park** and assists American and other foreign scholars and their students to conduct archaeological research in Jordan.





The American Center of Oriental Research ("ACOR") is a non-profit tax-exempt 501(c)(3) academic institute (EIN: 23-7084091).

ACOR welcomes private support to enable us to continue our mission and benefit scholars, students, and the public in Jordan and the U.S.

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