

# **Nekloni: Anchorite Hermitages in Fayoum\***

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## **Abstract**

Nekloni is one of the most important monasteries in Fayoum. It is easily seen from a distance, sitting upon an elevated limestone rock on the slope of Gebel el-Naqlun on the edge of the fertile plain in Qalmshah, some fifteen kilometres south of Fayoum city. This research aims to shed light on one kind of the hermit residences on the eastern group that aren't subjected to a scientific study through a descriptive and analytical study. The successive missions of the Polish Archaeology Centre in Cairo concentrated their work and publications on the complex hermitages neglecting the simple hermitages which will be the core of this research. Our study will concentrate on their plan, common architectural features and the life of the hermit inside it. We will compare this type of the hermitage in Archangel Monastery with other hermitages in different monasteries to recognize the similarities and differences.

**Key words:** Anchorite, Hermit, Hermitage, Monastery.

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