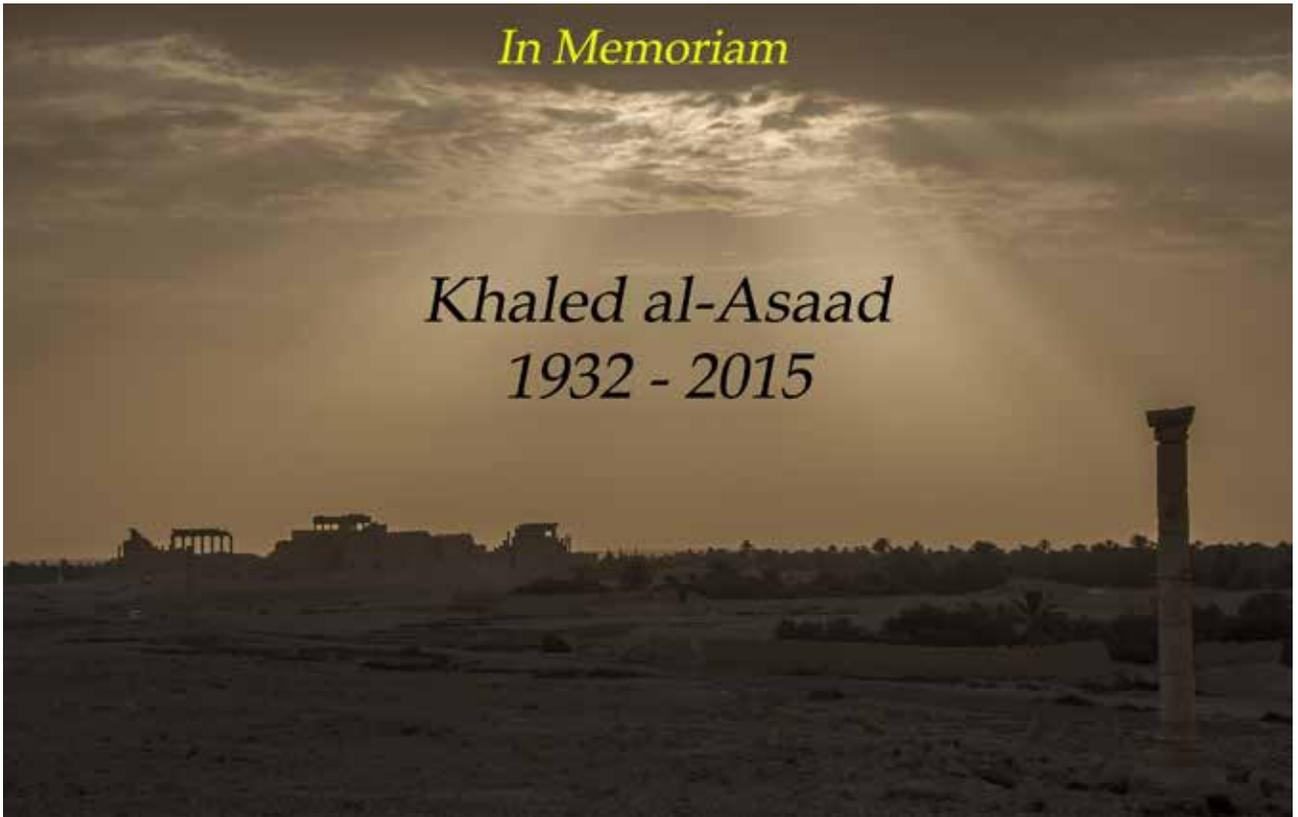


In Memoriam

Khaled al-Asaad
1932 - 2015



Khaled Mohamad al-Asaad devoted much of his life to studying and protecting the antiquities of Palmyra, the World Heritage site in Syria which UNESCO cited as “a great city that was one of the most important cultural centres of the ancient world.” Al-Asaad’s dedication and what it symbolized cost him his life, when Daesh beheaded him on 18 August of this year and hung his remains on public display. Those same merchants of death “make their faith a pretext so that they may turn men from the way of Allah. Verily evil is that which they are wont to do” (*Qur’an* 63:2). We mourn their victims, condemn their crimes against humanity, and lament the wanton destruction they have visited on sites such as Khaled al-Asaad’s Palmyra. This selection of images is a tribute to his memory.



View toward the Temple of Bel.

The theater.



The triumphal arch, now destroyed.





The Temple of Bel: (above) a model in the Palmyra Museum reconstructing its original appearance, and (below) the central cella, now destroyed.





The Temple of Bel
(from bottom to top):

The central cella, view to north adyton
(niche);

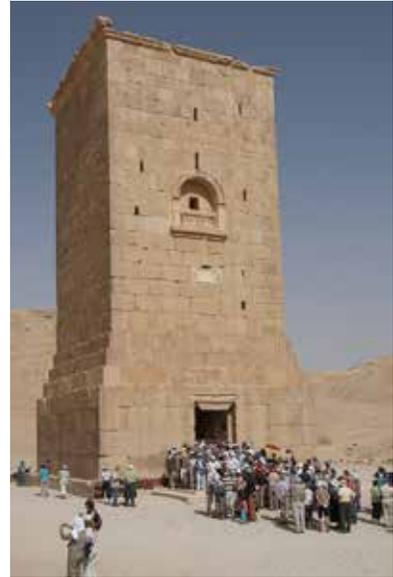
East end of north adyton lintel: one
of the Palmyrene gods (Aglibol?)
and a portion of the heavens; on the
left the tip of the wing of an eagle
representing Bel;

Monolith ceiling of the south adyton.



Two fragments of sculpted pediments, displayed just outside the entrance to the cella of the Temple of Bel. Fate uncertain, but likely destroyed.





Tower tombs, all now destroyed: (above, left to right) Iamliku, Atenatan, Elahbel;
(below): No. 71, and Julius Aurelius Bolma.





(above): Tomb of the Three Brothers, fate unknown.
(below): Interior of the destroyed tower tomb of Elahbel.





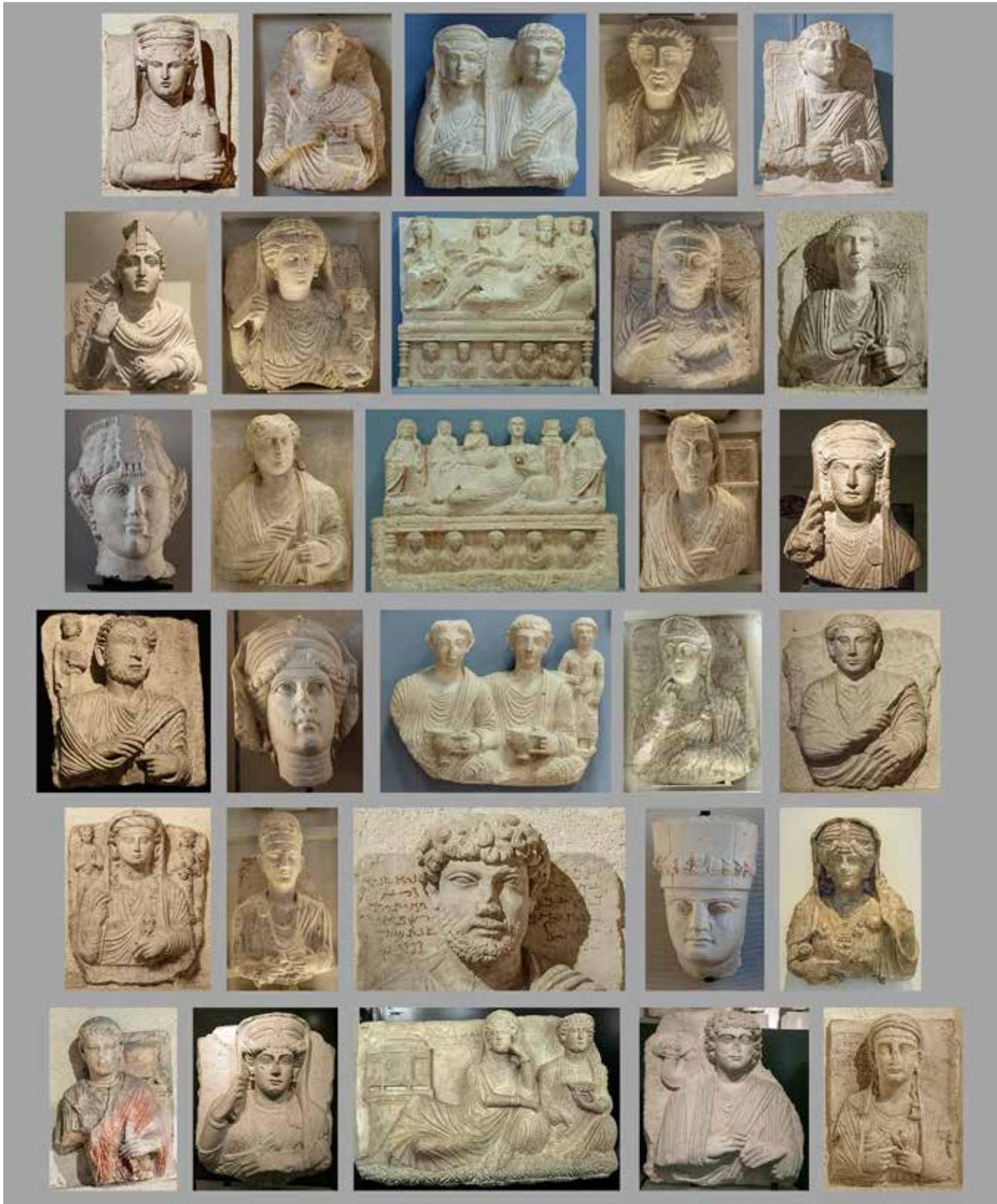
(above): Temple of Baal-Shamin, now destroyed;
(below): The Qalaat Shirkuh castle and the Temple of Baal-Shamin.





Now destroyed lion statue found at the Temple of Al-lat, displayed outside the Palmyra Museum. A copy is on display outside the National Museum in Damascus.

Note on the photographs: All of the photos on site in Palmyra were taken in October 2010 by Daniel C. Waugh. The photos from museum collections on the next page are also by Daniel C. Waugh, the museums housing the sculptures including: the Palmyra Museum, the National Museum (Damascus), the Louvre (Paris), the British Museum (London), the Ashmolean Museum (Oxford), the Altes Museum (Berlin), the Glyptoteket (Copenhagen), the Archaeological Museum (Istanbul), and the Archaeological Museum (Gaziantep).



The people of ancient Palmyra: funerary sculptures from the Palmyra tombs, now on display in various museums. The fate of those from the Palmyra Museum is uncertain, as there are conflicting reports about whether they were safely evacuated to Damascus.