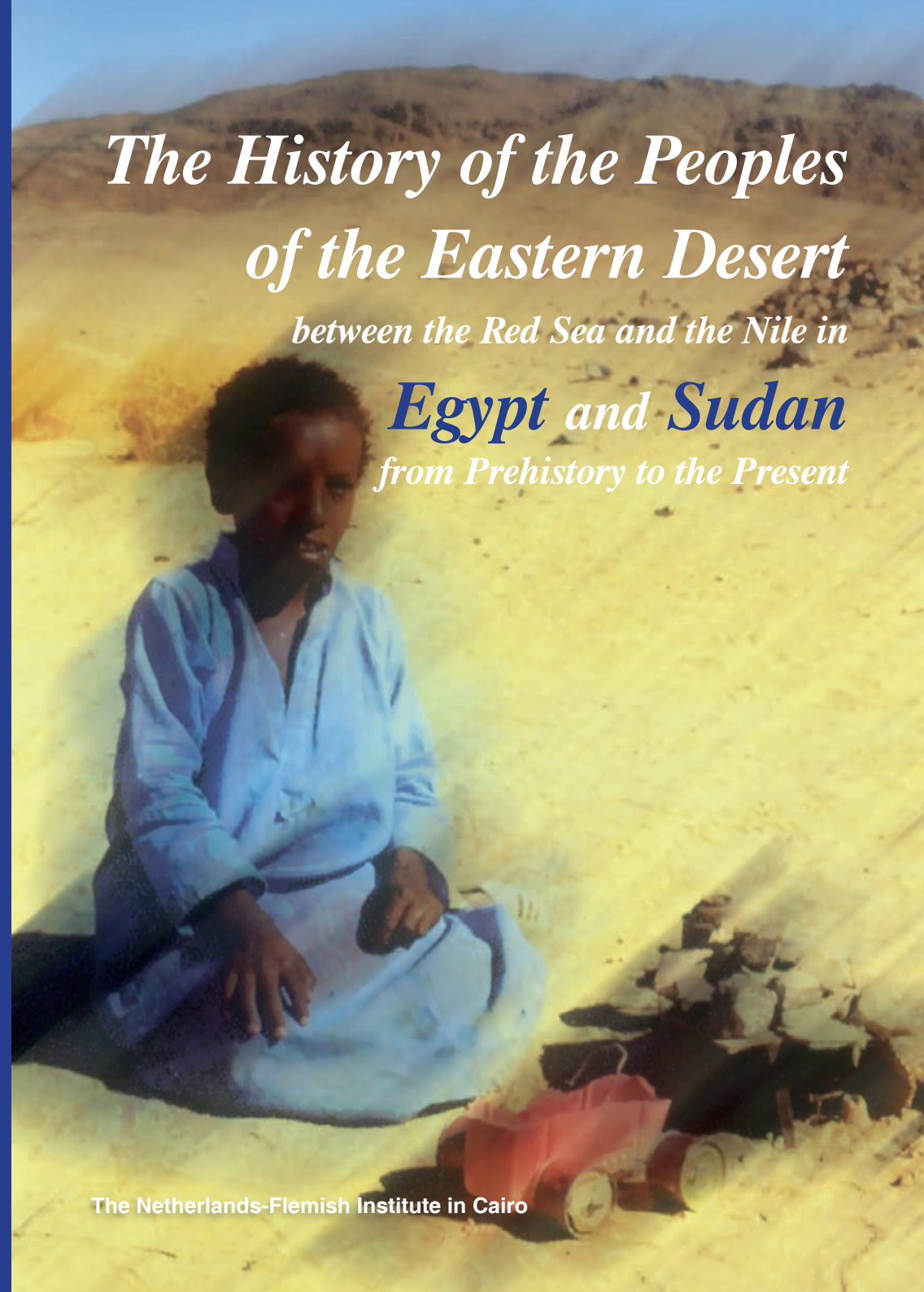


The Cleveringa Lectures are held annually in Leiden and in numerous other places in The Netherlands and around the world, wherever Leiden students and alumni are to be found. These gatherings are organized to commemorate Professor R.P. Cleveringa, Dean of the Faculty of Law, who on the 26th of November 1940 openly denounced discriminating measures by the Nazi occupants. Because of this, Cleveringa has come to be regarded as a symbol of the Praesidium Libertatis, an ideal cherished by Leiden University throughout its history. In 1994, Cairo was added to the places where each year a professor from Leiden delivers a Cleveringa Lecture.

NVIC opening hours for the public:
Sunday through Thursday from 9 am to 2 pm
New opening hours for the library:
Sunday, Monday and Wednesday from 9 am to 7 pm
Tuesday and Thursday from 9 am to 2 pm
Friday from 10 am to 3 pm.

For more information, please contact:

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The History of the Peoples of the Eastern Desert

between the Red Sea and the Nile in

Egypt and Sudan

from Prehistory to the Present

The Netherlands-Flemish Institute in Cairo

The Netherlands-Flemish Institute in Cairo has the honour to invite you to the Cairo Cleveringa Lecture 2008

The History of the Peoples in the Eastern Deserts of Egypt and Sudan

to be delivered by:

Professor Dr. J.L. Bintliff

Professor of Classical Archaeology, Leiden University

Thursday 27 November 2008 at 6 pm sharp

The lecture will be followed by a reception.

The lecture is organized in cooperation with the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

As seating is limited, you are kindly requested to confirm your attendance for the lecture.

Tel: 02/2738 2522 e-mail: info@nvic.net.eg

The region between the Red Sea and the Nile Valley in Egypt and Sudan is referred to as the Eastern Desert. The desertification of this region started with the end of the Holocene pluvial period and continues until today. The mobile hunter-herder-gatherers that left the region to settle in the Nile Valley are regarded as one of the driving forces behind the advent of Pharaonic civilization. Despite environmental degradation and scholarly neglect, the Eastern Desert has native inhabitants and a history of its own.

The mineral wealth in the Eastern Desert has attracted outsiders from early times onward, who in turn have been the focus of the attention of historians and archaeologists. The same is true for the trade routes that connected the Nile Valley with sub-Saharan Africa, Arabia Felix, India and the enigmatic Land of Punt. The study of the Eastern Desert is also hampered by the limitations of the historical sources, by the low archaeological visibility of the remains of the desert dwellers, and by ambiguous ethnographic parallels.

A conference organized by the Cotsen Institute of Archaeology (University of California, Los Angeles) at the NVIC aims to address the problems and possibilities of the study of the dwellers of the Eastern Desert, as well as to provide an overview of the current state of our knowledge. The preliminary conclusions of this conference will be presented in this Cleveringa Lecture. The region and its inhabitants, ancient and modern, also bring into focus some ethical issues, especially appropriate as this lecture was instituted to commemorate the courageous moral stance taken by Professor Cleveringa during the Nazi occupation of the Netherlands.