

## **DESCRIPTION FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC**

The aim of my project is to reconstruct the changes that have occurred in the Nile Delta settlement after the unification of the Upper and Lower Egypt into a single state in the late IV millennium BC. I would like to learn how followed the evolution of the spatial structure of individual settlements and how varied range of activities performed within them. Based on the results of regional surveys and excavations, enriched by analysis of the written sources, data on environmental as well as political, religious and economic development, I would like to identify the causes of this transformation. As a result of my research, it will be possible to determine to what extent were they results of conscious decisions of the royal administration and to what – barely a product of political, economic and social development of Egyptian civilization?

In the scope of the project the inventory of all the Early Dynastic and Old Kingdom settlement sites will be made. These will be display into set of maps presented successive stages of the settlements evolution in the area. It allows to visualize the changes that will be the subject of the subsequent analysis. In the course of the further work, I will undertake a spatial and functional analysis of the particular sites. I will take into account revealed architectural remains as well as related objects, i.e. pottery assemblage, flint tools or pieces of art. Data on the structural evolution will be compared between individual settlements in order to recognize an eventual similarities and differences. Those allow to understand a general image of the transformation. Next, I will analyse data on the environment, economy, religion, administration or political history of the Nile Delta in the interesting period. It allow me to determine to what extent changes in the structure of the Delta settlements were caused by these variables.

The reason why I decided to take up the subject of the Nile Delta settlement structure evolution is the lack of an adequate study on the issue. Simultaneously, the increasing amount of the data coming from the surveys and excavations as well as the scope of the existing studies on the environment, economy or administration of this period, allow me to analyze interesting issues on a scale that was not previously available. For this reason I decided on a completely new approach to the theme of the transformation of settlement structure in the Nile Delta as a result of conscious urban policy pursued by the Egyptian state. I believe that the wording of the research problem brings us to the interesting and significant conclusions.