History Ignites Exploration and Innovation

64th Session of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space
Aug. 31, 2021

FOR ALL MOONKIND™

www.forallmoonkind.org

For All Moonkind is a non-profit organization that seeks to **protect and preserve human history and heritage** in outer space.

Our **entirely volunteer team** of space lawyers and policymakers are working to develop reasonable and practical protocols that will balance development and preservation and include systems to select, manage and study relevant sites.

In so doing, we seek to **promote the exploration** and development and open the debate on equally pressing issues of property and resource extraction.

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History has fueled humanity's exploration and innovation. We have succeeded only by building upon the knowledge of past generations, enhancing and perfecting tools developed by and through diverse societies. This is shown by the cultural artifacts we have discovered around the globe.

The **Ishango bone** is a baboon fibula found in what is today the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The bone has the three columns of deliberate marks running its length, and is considered likely by some scholars that the tool was used for simple mathematical procedures or to construct a numeral system. It is believed to be more than **20,000 years old** (between 18,000 BC and 20,000 BC).

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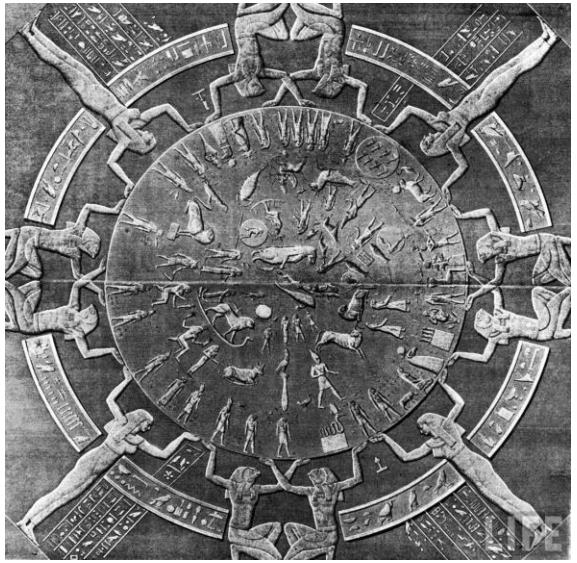

The Egyptian Calendar

~3000 BC

The Egyptian Calendar was a solar calendar that consisted of three seasons of 120 days each. Each season was divided into four months of 30 days.

Abd al-Rahman al-Sufi

~964

Al-Sufi published the *Book of Fixed Stars* in 964. The Book describes 48 constellations and the stars that they are composed of, and drafted a star chart. Also, Al-Sufi compared Greek and Arabic constellations and stars in the Book.

Sir Isaac Newton

1668

Newton completed the earliest known functional reflecting telescope in 1668. The telescope is often referred to as the Newtonian Reflector, and was unveiled 60 years after the invention of the refracting telescope.

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The Struve Geodetic Arc

The Struve Geodetic Arc is a chain of survey triangulations stretching from Hammerfest in Norway to the Black Sea, through 10 countries, including Norway, Sweden, Finland, Russia, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Belarus, Ukraine and Moldova.

The Arc represents the first accurate measuring of a long segment of a meridian. This helped to establish the exact size and shape of our planet and marked an important step in the development of earth sciences and topographic mapping.

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Our Moon alone hosts the remnants of **humanity's greatest technological achievement to date**: the first human object to reach another celestial body with Luna 2 in 1959, the first soft landing on another celestial body with Luna 9, and the first humans to walk on another celestial body with Apollo 11.

These are **human achievements**. Indeed, arguably, there is no heritage more universal than lunar landing sites on the Moon, which represent both a milestone in human evolution and development as well as the culmination of the work of humans throughout the world and throughout history. The human relationship to space is necessarily global and universal.

The artifacts and boot prints on the Moon have been **undisturbed for nearly six decades**. Preserved by the vacuum of space – and by the fact that no human, and only a handful of rovers, has returned to the Moon since 1972.

We have the unique opportunity to protect and preserve these sites as our common human heritage for future generations.

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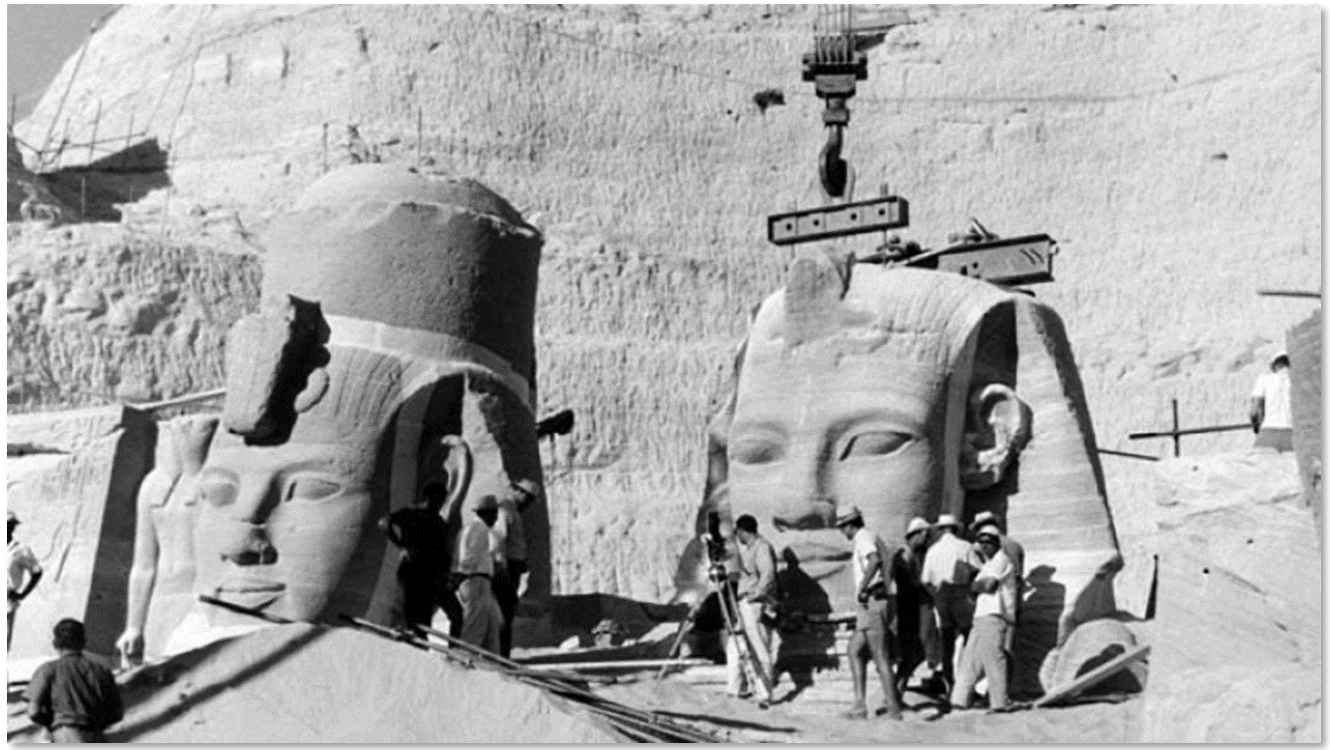

The International Rescue Nubia Campaign "will be numbered among the few major attempts made in our lifetime by the nations to assume their common responsibility towards the past so as to move forward in a spirit of kinship towards the future."

- UNESCO Director-General Amadou-Mahter M'Bow

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UNESCO's World Heritage List includes **over a thousand sites** throughout the world, selected by UNESCO for having an outstanding significance that transcends cultural boundaries and will persist down the generations into the future. The majority are cultural properties, but some are natural places and a few are recognized in both respects. To be selected, not only must a site be important but also a plan must be presented and endorsed by the relevant country for its maintenance and exploitation.

Outstanding Universal Value is value that transcends cultural boundaries and will persist indefinitely into the future. The notion of Outstanding Universal Value is fundamental in UNESCO's efforts to identify cultural sites worthy of inclusion on the World Heritage List.

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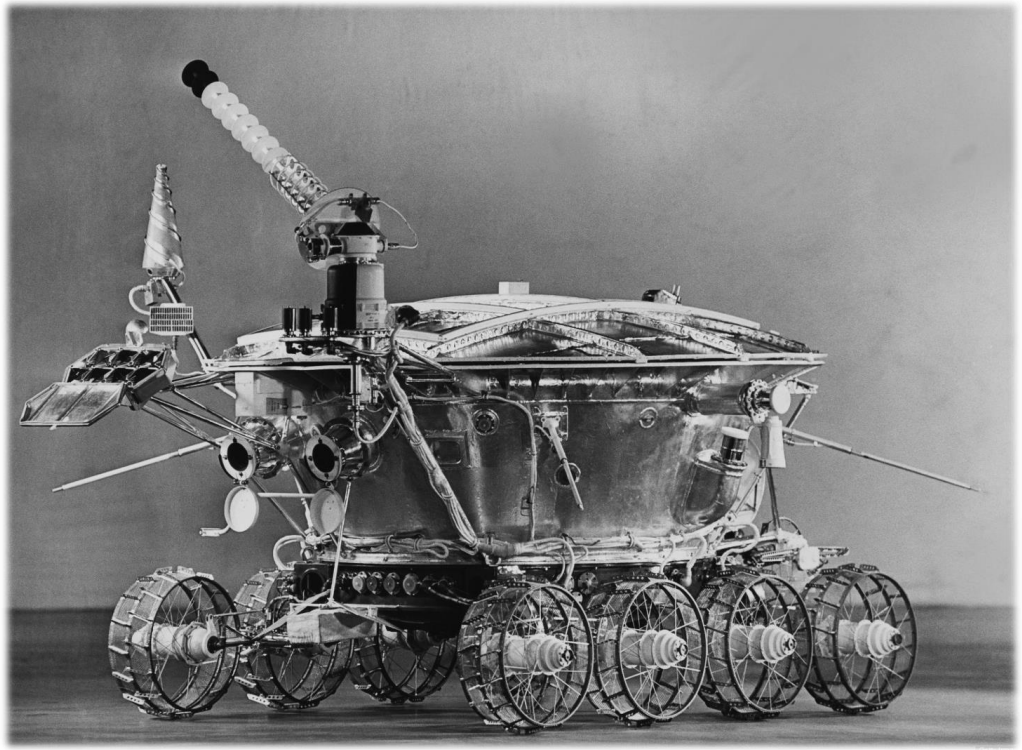
Unfortunately, the World Heritage Convention cannot be applied to outer space. The Convention relies upon States to nominate heritage sites within their territories. And of course, it is one of the precepts of international space law that States may not claim territory in outer space by sovereignty or any other means. Thus, we can borrow from the World Heritage Convention, but cannot follow its nominating scheme.



"In view of the development of space exploration and in particular the renewed interest in the Moon as a first stage of exploration, there is a need for a fresh approach to the idea of protecting designated areas of such bodies of the solar system, either because of their historical, cultural and environmental significance (such as the Apollo, Surveyors and Lunakhod landing sites on the Moon) or because there are good reasons for wanting to protect certain areas of scientific interest.

This concept could also be applied to certain parts of outer space itself such as the Lagrange points (sometimes called libration points) in the Earth-Moon or the Sun- Earth system."

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One Small Step To Protect Human Heritage in Space Law:

The lunar landing sites of the **Apollo 11** spacecraft, **the robotic spacecraft that preceded** the Apollo 11 mission, and **the crewed and robotic spacecraft that followed**, are of outstanding universal value to humanity.

Such landing sites—

- provide evidence of the first achievements of humankind in the realm of space travel and exploration; and
- contain artifacts and other evidence of human exploration activities that remain a potential source of cultural, historical, archaeological, anthropological, scientific, and engineering knowledge.

Importantly, the Act also recognizes that protecting these sites also **memorializes** the work of humans throughout our history.

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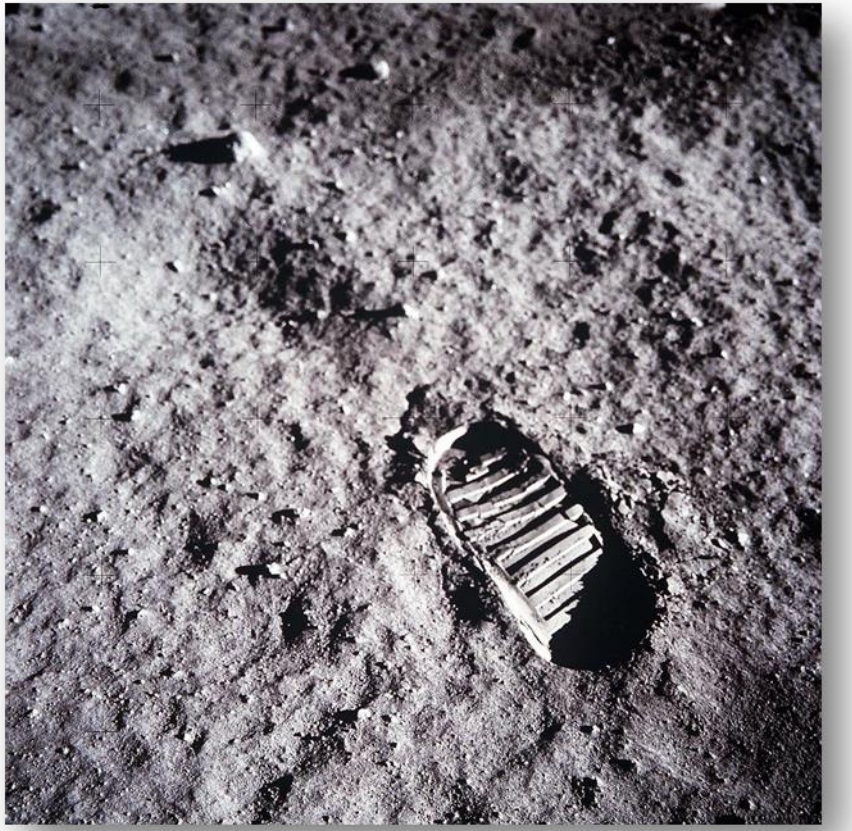

While we believe that the only way to truly protect our history is with a formal convention, we also note and applaud growing support for the protection of heritage in instruments like the Artemis Accords.

We are heartened that Australia, Brazil, Canada, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, New Zealand, the Republic of Korea, Ukraine, the UAE, and the UK have joined the United States in formally recognizing the importance of preserving human heritage in space through Section 9 of the Artemis Accords.

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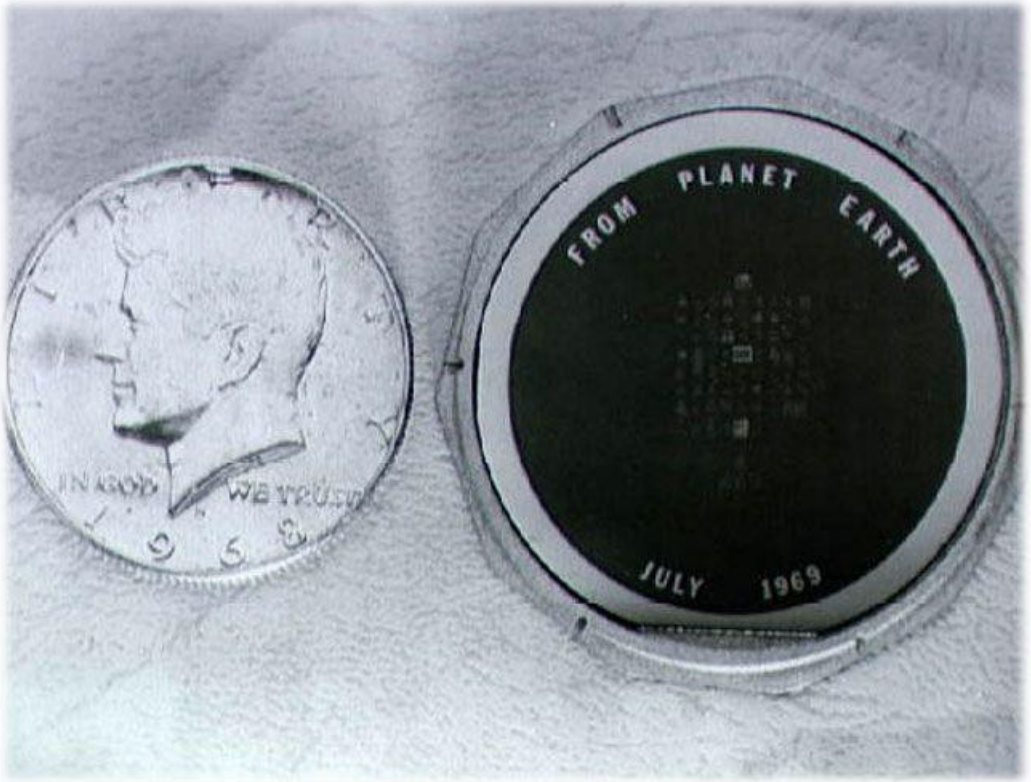

Messages of Peace

It has been said that **"what we do in space and how we do it reflects our values and not just our technologies."** When Apollo 11 made its historic landing on the Moon, it left behind a disc containing messages of peace from the leaders of 74 nations. Every single one of those messages held out the hope that this great achievement – reaching the Moon – would signal "hope for better days for all [hu]mankind" (Costa Rica) and become "a glorious milestone along the road of all [hu]mankind towards the achievement of peace, freedom and justice" (Italy).

We urge delegations to work together to protect human heritage of "outstanding universal value" in space so that we can preserve our shared history for future generations. We have the opportunity to develop a collaborative human presence in space where "[hu]mankind will live in a universe in which peace, self-expression, and the chance of dangerous adventure are available to all." (Australia).

Because those are the values that we should reflect.

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We wouldn't do it down here. Why would we do it up there?
Commercial exploration could desecrate six pristine Apollo Lunar landing sites. Unless you help us protect them. Now.
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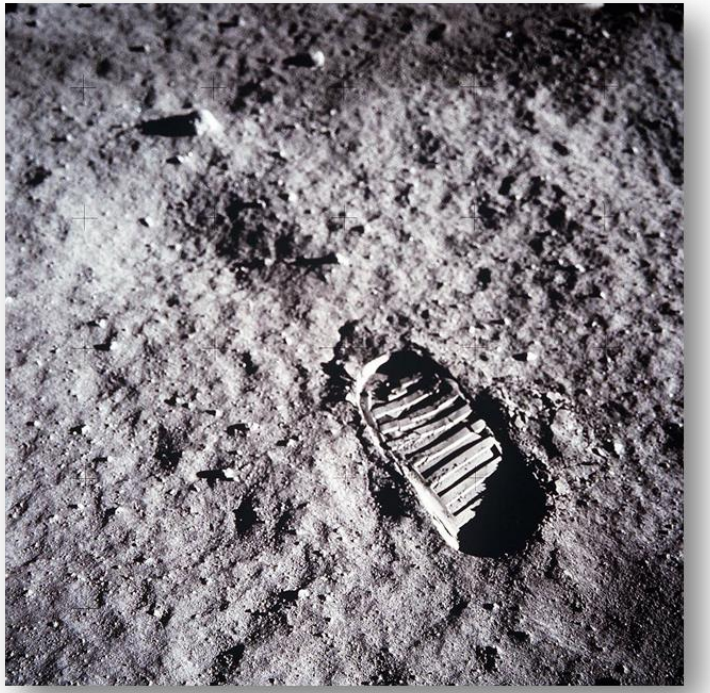

This is our Nubia moment.

Let us come together to assume common responsibility towards the past as we move forward in a spirit of kinship towards the future.

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Thank you

https://www.forallmoonkind.org

Michelle Hanlon // Co-Founder
Michelle@forallmoonkind.org

Bailey Cunningham // Project Manager: Space Law
Bailey@forallmoonkind.org

Judith Beck // Head of Marketing
Judith@forallmoonkind.org

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