

# **The Temple of Allat, Hatra Preliminary Conservation Activities with Remarks on Architecture**

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Nell'ambito dei progetti "Damage assessment and first aid interventions to the World Heritage Site of Hatra after DAESH occupation" (2020), "First aid intervention to the World Heritage Site of Hatra after DAESH occupation" (2021-2022), e "Urgent restoration activities and conservation plan for the WHS of Hatra" (2022-2024) finanziati dalla fondazione The International alliance for the protection of heritage (ALIPH), Ginevra, e attuati da ISMEO, Roma, questo rapporto tecnico illustra le condizioni delle rovine del Tempio di Allat di Hatra, uno degli edifici religiosi più impressionanti del santuario interno, così come si presentavano nel 2020, poco dopo la fine dell'occupazione DAESH-ISIS. Vengono riassunte le azioni di conservazione urgenti attuate per restaurare le sculture vandalizzate, illustrandone i risultati conseguiti, nonché le prime azioni protettive volte a fermare o mitigare il degrado architettonico continuo e devastante. Inoltre, vengono presentate alcune osservazioni preliminari sull'architettura del complesso templare e su alcune delle importanti modifiche che subì nel tempo, che, secondo la letteratura disponibile, sembrano collocarsi alle ultime fasi di vita della città.

In the framework of the projects "Damage assessment and first aid interventions to the World Heritage Site of Hatra after DAESH occupation" (2020), "First aid intervention to the World Heritage Site of Hatra after DAESH occupation" (2021-2022), and "Urgent restoration activities and conservation plan for the WHS of Hatra" (2022-2024) funded by The International alliance for the protection of heritage (ALIPH), Geneva, and implemented by ISMEO, Rome, this technical report illustrates the conditions of the ruins of Hatra's Temple of Allat, one of the most impressive religious buildings of the inner sanctuary, as we found it in 2020, shortly after the end of the DAESH-ISIS occupation. It summarizes the urgent conservation actions implemented to restore vandalized sculptures, their final results, and the first protective actions meant to halt or mitigate ongoing and ruinous architectural decay. Furthermore, we present some preliminary observations on the architecture of the temple complex and on some of the important modifications it underwent in time, which, according to the available literature, should date back to the city's last phases of life.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

In this paper, we report on the condition of the Temple of Allat as we found it in 2020, shortly after the end of the DAESH-ISIS occupation, and summarize the urgent conservation actions implemented to restore vandalized sculptures and to halt or mitigate ongoing architectural decay. Furthermore, we offer preliminary observations on