

Museum Structure

The museums consist of:

1. The National Museum in Damascus
2. The National Museum in Aleppo
3. Regional museums in the governorates
4. Site museums
5. Folk tradition museums in the governorates
6. Specialized museums

The **National Museum in Damascus** preserves artifacts representing the successive historical civilizations of Syria. It consists of five museums:

1. Prehistoric Museum
2. Ancient Orient Museum, which includes:
 - Department of Ancient Artifacts
 - Department of Ancient Scripts and Seals
3. Classical Museum, which includes:
 - Department of Hellenistic and Roman Artifacts
 - Department of Byzantine Artifacts
4. Arab-Islamic Museum, which includes:
 - Department of Pre-Islamic Arab Artifacts
 - Department of Islamic Artifacts
5. Museum of Modern Art, which includes:
 - Department of Pre-Islamic Arab Artifacts
 - Department of Islamic Artifacts

The **National Museum in Aleppo** preserves some artifacts deposited from other governorates before establishing local museums, as well as artifacts discovered in Aleppo. It also consists of five museums:

1. Prehistoric Museum
2. Ancient Orient Museum
3. Classical Museum
4. Arab-Islamic Museum
5. Museum of Modern Art

Regional museums exist in the following governorates: Rif Dimashq (Deir Atiyah), Homs, Hama, Idlib, Raqqa, Deir ez-Zor, Al-Hasakah, Daraa, As-Suwayda, Tartus, Latakia, Palmyra, and Quneitra. They preserve the artifacts of their respective regions.

Folk tradition museums consist of:

1. Museum of Folk Traditions and Handicrafts in Damascus
2. Museum of Folk Traditions in Aleppo
3. Folk tradition museums in Homs, Hama, Idlib, Raqqa, Deir ez-Zor, Al-Hasakah, Daraa, As-Suwayda, Tartus, Latakia, Quneitra, Palmyra, and Bosra

Site museums preserve artifacts discovered at archaeological sites, including: Qalaat Ja'bar, Arwad Castle, Ma'arra, Apamea, Bosra, Shahba, and Ras Shamra.

Specialized museums:

1. Historical Museum of Damascus: preserves everything related to the city of Damascus, including historical and geographical documents, art pieces, architecture, etc.
2. Museum of Medicine and Sciences among Arabs in Damascus (Al-Bimaristan Al-Nuri)
3. Arabic Calligraphy Museum in Damascus (Al-Jaqmaqiyya School)

Duties of the Museum Curator:

1. Preserve and classify artifacts in the museum according to scientific standards

2. Display artifacts that deserve exhibition using modern artistic and scientific methods
3. Take measures to protect artifacts from damage and environmental effects
4. Promote cultural and museum awareness to the public through lectures and illustrative publications linking the past and present
5. Prepare and update a museum guide according to the museum's developments and exhibited artifacts
6. Supervise museum guidance activities and expand the use of scientific methods to explain the historical context of the artifacts

The curators of the main national museums in Damascus and Aleppo, and the curators in other governorates, perform administrative tasks in addition to their primary museum duties. The main curator may be relieved of administrative tasks if necessary.

Administrative duties in the museum include:

1. Ensuring the connection between the museum and the General Directorate or relevant administration
2. Maintaining staff management, attendance, uniforms, guards, and proper functioning of security
3. Supervising museum visits, monitoring visitors, collecting fees, transferring them to the central treasury, and notifying the Directorate
4. Organizing necessary statistics, recording incoming artifacts, and submitting monthly reports
5. Training museum staff and providing guidance programs
6. Ensuring absolute security against theft, fire, or other risks
7. Bearing responsibility for artifacts under their care

Source: Internal Regulations of the General Directorate of Antiquities and Museums