Badisches
Landesmuseum
Karlsruhe

Badisches Landesmuseum Karlsruhe

Self-regulation and Guidance for Acquisitions and for the Acceptance of Loans of Archaeological Materials from Overseas

In the awareness that the Badisches Landesmuseum, Karlsruhe as a cultural institution can make an active contribution to the enhancement of the national and international cultural heritage (in the light of the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property - UNESCO Convention of 14th November 1970 – as also of the 'Ethical Guidelines for Museums' by ICOM) , the following principles for acquisitions and purchases and also procedures for loans are established by the directorate of the Landesmuseum.

1. The Badisches Landesmuseum acquires for its collections, whether by purchase, gift or bequest, only those objects whose legal status has been established following best knowledge and practice and whose provenance is known.
2. The Badisches Landesmuseum does not acquire objects which have been stolen, or which in contravention of international conventions or of German domestic law have been illegally exported from their country of origin and/or illegally imported into Germany.
3. Archaeological objects which have been excavated or otherwise found outside the territory of the German Bundesrepublik can be acquired only when accompanied by documentation or other credible indications which clearly substantiate that they were lawfully excavated or otherwise found, and they were lawfully exported from the country of origin and their import to Germany was legally undertaken. The foregoing principle shall not apply to those objects which have documentation which clearly substantiates that they were, before the 14th November 1970 (the date of the UNESCO Convention), already outside their country of origin or of discovery.
4. The Badisches Landesmuseum acquires no object about which there are grounds for suspicion that its discovery was the result of unauthorised activities.
5. For loans the same principles apply as for acquisitions. Objects accepted as loans in the context of special exhibitions will be as carefully examined for their origin and status as objects offered for acquisition. Archaeological finds from private collections or private museums will thus be accepted and exhibited only when their legal status is established beyond doubt.
6. This guidance will be made widely available in published form by the Badisches Landesmuseum.

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BADISCHES LANDESMUSEUM KARLSRUHE

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