

# ABOUT THE AUTHOR

## Dr. John Ward



DR. JOHN WARD is an archaeologist and anthropologist residing in Luxor, Egypt. Over the years, Dr. Ward has conducted numerous investigations of ancient Egyptian architecture and symbolism, while also carrying out research into the many mysteries surrounding medieval Templarism. In 2006, Ward was recruited by the Knights Templar of Britannia, which is a modern Templar order affiliated with and has been acknowledged by the Vatican. John's research and its results so far led the Order to actively sponsor continuous investigations that enable John to conduct several archaeological and historical surveys and expeditions. With the help of his partner, Dr. Maria Nilsson, John has managed to track the use of particular symbols through the various dynasties and the geography of ancient Egypt leading all the way into the present, with similar threads even extending into parts of Western Europe.

The symbols that John and Maria have come to recognize play a very important and integral role, based from their studies, regarding ancient Egyptian life. It is through these symbols that they are driven with the passion to continue their work, which has enabled them not only to develop a greater understanding of the various cultures they study, but also to utilise and acknowledge the importance and sanctity of the symbols. These are aspects which, John argues, still remain largely unknown to mainstream academia.

- The Egyptian temple of Medinat Habu in Thebes (Theban Necropolis) where John discovered a so far unexcavated structural foundation and explored its connecting well system and the correlation between the clear water present in one well and the green, polluted waters in the surrounding wells. This was

investigated and compared with the modern day's folklore and religious ceremonies associated with the clear water well.

- Pharaoh Amenhotep III and his palace area in Thebes (Theban Necropolis). John documented a man-made lake which shows evidence of an apocalyptic disaster in the form of flooding. This investigation also brought up evidence of a most plausible association with the Biblical story of Exodus, and can thus be seen as the essence of the later Christian myth.
- The results of the previous investigation led John to examine the descendants of Amenhotep III, including the heretic Akhenaton, which led to new insights into the factual existence of the Arc of the Covenant.
- The results of investigating the medieval map resulted in further studies of medieval Knights Templars and their churches and structures in England and France. It brought in an investigation of modern-day Freemasons and their involvement in symbolism and temple architecture. It brought him to Garway Templar Church.
- At Garway Church, John documented and analysed a series of symbols carved in the architectural elements, which seemingly did not have anything to do with the surrounding decoration. He started a still ongoing project of investigating symbolism throughout the world.

Many of Dr. Ward's projects and activities are far too numerous to include here in this biography; however, those listed herein will certainly spark interest to many, including his research into and by:

**The Sirius Project** – An International Network of Interdisciplinary Scholars all connected and engaged in researching the various attributes and connotations of symbolism, of which John is a founding trustee.

**The Western Saharan Desert Expeditions** – The mapping and exploration of the trade routes of the Western Saharan Desert in Egypt, and its associated ancient settlements which line the routes which are investigated by the team. These expeditions take place on a yearly basis and provide a wealth of information and material pertaining to the ongoing projects headed by the Sirius project.

**In The Footsteps of Howard Carter** – The mapping, documenting and recording of the trade routes, and ancient pathways of the Theban Mountains in Luxor, with all its associated inscriptions and tombs, including the discovery of various as yet undocumented Palaeolithic settlements and abundance of flint tools situated there. This

particular field of research has resulted in a publication of journal entries that follow the daily routines of the Sirius Project team members during their exploits in the Theban Mountains.

**Masons or Priests** – An ongoing classification of ancient Egyptian quarry symbols being a preparatory classification for Mason or Priest. A comprehensive study of ancient Egyptian quarry symbols. This enables the cataloging and collating of data to form a corpus of Ancient Egyptian sacred sites. It is an exhaustive project that runs parallel to the documentation and recording of ancient symbolism within Egypt's ancient sites.

**Medieval Symbolism** – An investigation that detailed and recorded the migration of Ancient Eastern symbolism and its integration within various religious, esoteric, and hermetic groups, and other associated cultures during the medieval period in Europe.

**The Mappa Mundi** – A comprehensive study of this medieval map and its comprehension within early Western philosophy in regards to Northern Africa and its landmarks, cities and tribes; also its association with the original Knights Templar Order and Garway Church in Herefordshire.

**The Blemmies** – An investigation into the rites and ceremonial practices of this ancient tribe as documented and recorded throughout medieval history and the Mappa Mudi.

**An Introduction to Luxor Temple** – His comprehensive paper dealing with the style and function of its architecture as it evolved during the Pharaonic period and its continued use as a religious centre of worship, providing a detailed timeline of religious development within mankind's history within Egypt.

His most recent project is one that not only encompasses many of the above mentioned topics, (and others not mentioned herein), and would be considered ongoing, includes a detailed study into the connections between modern (from the post exploration of Egypt by Napoleon forward), explorers, adventurers, archaeologists, Egyptologists, and visitors to Egypt, and especially those of established esoteric groups, emphasizing the SPR (Society for Psychical Research—a group of academics and laymen alike during the later half of the 19th century), the Theosophical Society and the Hermetic Brotherhood of Luxor.