

MEDIA ADVISORY

Embassy of Iraq in the United States

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Manhattan District Attorney to Repatriate Five Precious Iraqi Antiquities

On Tuesday, January 18, 2022, the Antiquities Trafficking Unit of the office of the Manhattan District Attorney will hand over five stolen artifacts to Iraqi Ambassador to the United States Fareed Yasseen in a ceremony in New York. Included among the antiquities are two seized from [Michael Steinhardt](#) and three others that are part of ongoing investigations.

Who: Iraqi Ambassador Fareed Yasseen; Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg; Erik Rosenblatt, Acting Special Agent in Charge, New York, U.S. Department of Homeland Security

When: 2 pm, Tuesday, January 18, 2022

Where: Manhattan District Attorney's Office, 1 Hogan Street, New York, NY 10013

How: To attend, RSVP to Will Bohlen (wbohlen@cogent-strategies.com)

Note: All in attendance will need to be fully vaccinated and bring proof of vaccination, and all must wear a mask.

About the Artifacts:

One antiquity seized from the Steinhardt Collection is a gold bowl with a scalloped flower design that was looted from Nimrud, a city in Northern Iraq that had its height in the modern Assyrian Age (911-612 B.C.E.), before being trafficked by ISIS (Daesh).

The second piece seized from the Steinhardt Collection is an ivory plaque dating between 800 and 701 B.C.E., depicting a human-headed winged sphinx that once decorated the royal furniture from the period of King Sargon I (721-725 B.C.E.) in Nimrud. The Ivory Plaque was looted in the 1990s in the aftermath of Operation Desert Storm.

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