

Sir Themistocles (Temi) Zammit

BY NICOLE CALLUS
FORM 1 CORAL

Sir Temi Zammit

He was born in Valletta in 1864 and he died in 1935 (71 years).

He was an archaeologist, a historian, a Professor of Chemistry, a medical doctor, a researcher and a writer.



Sir Temi Zammit's Academic Career

He graduated in medicine from the University of Malta.

Later he specialised in bacteriology in London and Paris.

In 1905 he was appointed Professor of Chemistry in the University of Malta.

He was Rector of the University of Malta between 1920–1926.



Brucellosis melitensis

In 1905 Sir Temi Zammit discovered how undulant fever (Maltese fever – '*Deni Irqiq*') was being transmitted.

The milk the people were drinking was contaminated with the bacteria *Brucellosis melitensis* present in the goats' blood.





In 1920 he was awarded the “Mary Kingsley Medal” by the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine.

A memorial plaque

A memorial plaque at the entrance of Palazzo Castellania, Merchant Street, Valletta (Health Department Building until 1998) commemorates Temi Zammit's discovery.



Palazzo Castellania, Valletta

Sir Temi Zammit's laboratory was found in this building. Here he carried out his research on how Brucellosis was being transmitted.



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Sir Themistocles Zammit 1864-1935
R.C.M.D., M.D., D.I.B. (Hon. C. Zammit)



Temi Zammit Was a Scientist, archaeologist, historian and writer. He was modest but had an enquiring nature. Born in Valletta, He graduated at the Malta University as a medical doctor and a year later he continued to specialise in bacteriology in London and Paris. He made a name in medical history as a doctor and bacteriologist in particular. His work as an archaeologist and historian is of a Maltese Museum was carried out with dedication. He also made great contributions



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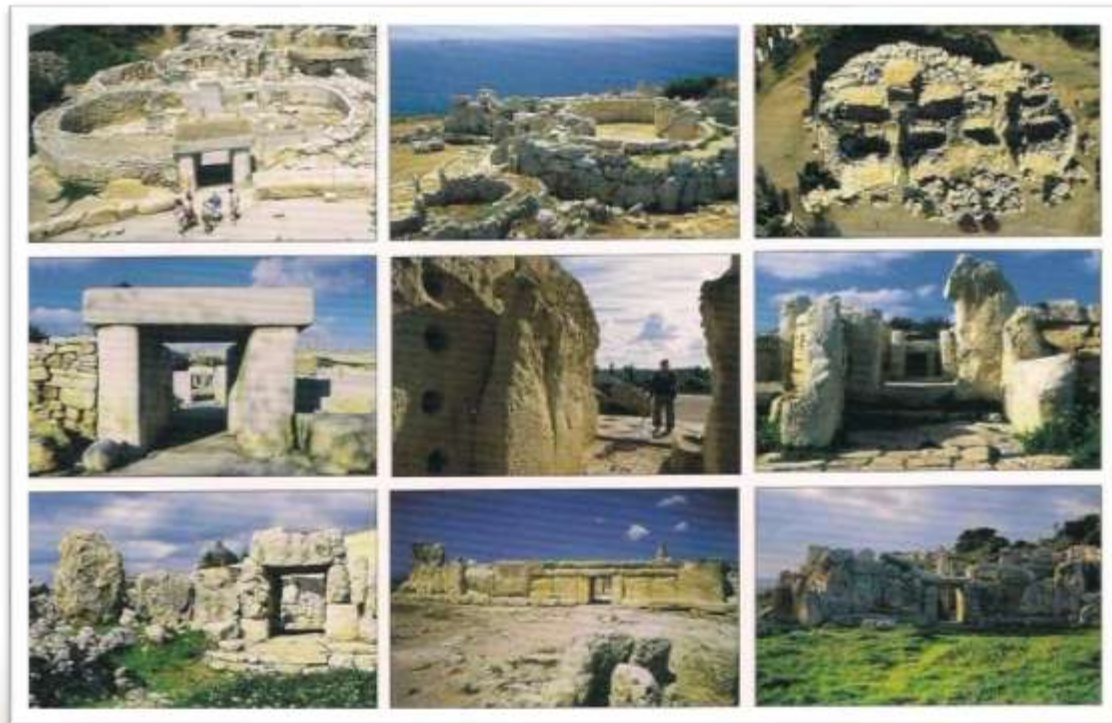
Sir Temi Zammit – Father of Maltese Archeology

He carried out archaeological excavations of prehistoric sites in the Maltese Islands such as the Ħal Saflieni Hypogeum, the megalithic Tarxien Temples, Ħaġar Qim and Imnajdra, Ta' Ħaġrat, Għajn Tuffieħa Roman Baths and numerous Phoenician-Punic tombs.



Sir Temi Zammit –Father of Maltese Archeology

He also published a history of the Maltese islands and writings about the material found on prehistoric sites.



Museum of Archeology,Valletta

He set up the first Museum of Archeology.

He was the first Director of the National Museum of Archaeology.



Museum of Archeology,Valletta

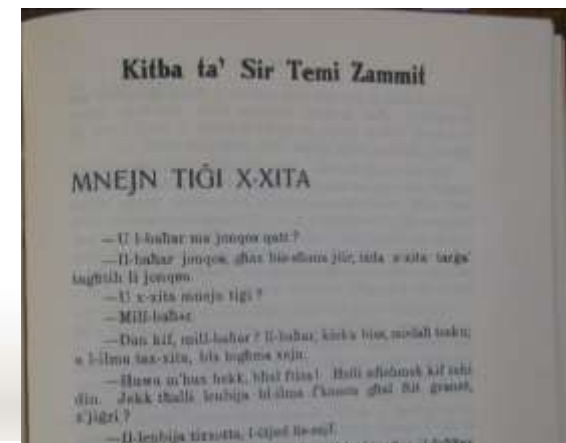
A display of some of his findings, as well as his bust, may be viewed at the National Museum of Archaeology in Valletta.



Sir Temi Zammit's achievements

He was Professor of Chemistry at the University, director of the Archaeological Museum while holding a position at the Ministry of Health.

He published works in the field of archeology, education, literature, medicine, public health and Maltese history and culture.



Places named after Sir Temi Zammit

The main Assembly Hall of the University of Malta



A hall at the Mediterranean Conference Centre

To commemorate Sir Temi Zammit

1964 – a commemorative set of two stamps was issued. One portrayed Sir David Bruce and Sir Temi Zammit with a microscope, while another featured a goat with an array of laboratory instruments.



1994 – Temi Zammit was depicted on the 14c stamp of the Europa 1994 series with the theme “Europe and the Discoveries”.



To commemorate Sir Temi Zammit

The Central Bank of Malta issued a silver proof coin under the Europa Programme 2006 'Personalities' commemorating Sir Themistocles Zammit.





The End