

CAT. 3.: Mummy of Khonsuemma'a(kherut)

IMPACT ID: IMP00096

Institution: Leiden Museum

Designation: 3

Invoice Number: L.XIII.I

Date of Acquisition: 1826

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Image Modality: CT

Country: Egypt

Site: Thebes

Time Period: Third Intermediate Period

Dynasty: middle/late Dynasty 22

Date: 850-712 BC

Sex: Male

Age: 30-44 years

Background:

The Leiden Museum acquired this mummy in 1826 from G.B. de Lescluze and it is associated with one painted wooden coffin inscribed for a man named Khonsuemma'a[kheru]. Although the cartonnage and coffin display a certain similarity with a tomb group dated to early Dynasty 22, a date of mid-late Dynasty 22 is suggested as the decorations of the cartonnage seem to have come from a painter from that specific date.

Pathological Features:

The mummy is an adult male, and the final assessed age interval is 30-44 years. The mummy is wrapped with natural linen and the shroud has some water stains. The shroud is held together by straps of double linen. There are 2 braces crossed over the chest and there are

thirteen transverse straps along the mummy. The straps around the legs have knots and the straps surrounding the torso fragment quite easily.

The skin of the head is covered with a thin layer of resin, while the thorax is covered with one or two layers of resin. There has been damage to the spine and thoracic cage, thus leaving the wrappings undistinguishable from the filling material of the body cavities.

Close to the cervical spine within the wrappings, there are three artifacts including a scarab and two other flat objects of metal density. There is also another flat metal artefact in the thoracic apertura and a second scarab is present in the wrappings on the abdominal surface.

There is a fracture of the occiput in the skull bones. Brain removal seems to have taken place via the left nostril and both nostrils contain small linen plugs. The orbits of the eyes are filled with rolls of linen soaked in resin. The jaws are not fully closed and have some overbite and the mouth is filled with rolls of linen soaked in resin. The teeth reflect that of an adult and have signs of attrition.

There is significant destruction (fractures) of the vertebral column, probably post-mortem. There are no signs of degenerative disease. The vertebral canal is also filled with similar material as the body cavities; however, both seem to be connected due to the destruction stated above. The pelvic bone also demonstrates a number of fractures in the superior pubic bones. The intrathoracic and abdominal filling consist of granular and medium-dense material such as sand and mud, however, the upper thorax is filled with a package of linen with a resin coat.

There is also significant destruction of the bones of the thoracic cage including fractures and luxation of the ribs, sternum, and clavicles. Due to the post-mortem changes, the anatomical details are not recognizable and the differentiation between exterior wrappings and interior filling material is difficult. No body organs are detectable but a penis is present.

Resources

Raven, M. J., Taconis, W. K., & Maat, G. J. 2005. Egyptian mummies: Radiological Atlas of the Collections in the National Museum of Antiquities at Leiden. Turnhout, Belgium: Brepols.