

Ta-Enty

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Museum Liverpool

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Image Modality: x-ray



Figure 1. Mummy of Ta-Enty at the Liverpool World Museum (World Museum).

Country: Nubia

Site: Kostamneh

Time Period: Late or Roman

Dynasty: Unknown

Date: Unknown

Sex: Female

Age: Adult

Background:

Ta-Enty's tomb was discovered intact at Kostamneh, Nubia in 1906 by John Garstang, and the Liverpool World Museum acquired the mummy in 1907 as a gift from Theodore Davis (World Museum). The World Museum reports that Ta-Enty's mummification is estimated to have occurred between 1069 to 664 BC (World Museum). However, Wade & Nelson (2013) propose a date of 664 to 395 BC for the mummy. Her outer coffin is yellow and inscribed with the name Ta-Enty and her inner coffin is made of wood which is brightly painted (Gray & Slow, 1968). The inner coffin has undergone restoration work in the areas of the head and feet (Gray & Slow, 1968). The linen used to wrap Ta-Enty's body is thought to be repurposed from the materials that would've once been clothing and bedsheets (World Museum). There is an outer shroud wrapping the mummy as well, secured with broader bandages which is undisturbed everywhere but the in the region of the feet (Gray & Slow, 1968). There is no evidence that a

common feature of mummifications of this time period, the bead net, was possessed by this mummy (Gray & Slow, 1968). It should also be noted that this mummy has also been referred to as Liverpool 18 in some works, such as Gray & Slow (1968).

Pathological Features:

Ta-Enty has been both x-rayed and CT scanned, with the first occurring in 1967 and the latter in March of 2017 (World Museum). Both Gray & Slow (1968) and Wade & Nelson (2013) report the mummy to be that of an adult female. Ta-Enty's age-at-death has been estimated to be middle age or older due to the wear present on the crowns of her teeth. This would be in line with the average life expectancy of females during this period in time, which was 30 years of age (World Museum). The age-at-death estimate of 30 to 99 years of age provided by Wade & Nelson (2013) is also in line with this estimation.

In terms of pathologies, there is damage to Ta-Enty's skull which is uncommon and has unknown origins (World Museum). Her skull has been crushed post-mummification (World Museum) and her body has displaced teeth dispersed throughout the thorax, abdomen, and pelvis (Gray & Slow, 1968). Due to this damage, whether or not excerebration was performed is unable to be determined (Wade & Nelson, 2013). Ta-Enty also displays fracturing of the acromial end of the right clavicle and several left ribs (Gray & Slow, 1968). The thoracic and abdominal cavities are absent of packing material, as well as the viscera. However, the method of evisceration has yet to be determined (Wade & Nelson, 2013). The pelvis is also unfilled and displays no abnormalities. The only pathology noted by Gray & Slow (1968) of Ta-Enty's spinal column is the sacralisation of the fifth lumbar vertebra. However, they did also note that some of the lower costal cartilage displays calcification (Gray & Slow, 1968). In regard to Ta-Enty's limbs, her arms lie in an extended to position with her hands lying on her thighs and her fingers in semi-flexed position (Gray & Slow, 1968). Both Ta-Enty's upper arm and thighs display fractures. The fracturing occurred in the distal end of the left humerus, the central aspect of the right femur, and the distal end of the left femur (Gray & Slow, 1968). Opacity of both lateral menisci on the x-rays were also noted (Gray & Slow, 1968).

Resources

Gray, P. H. K., Slow, D. 1968. Egyptian Mummies in the City of Liverpool Museums. Liverpool Bulletin. 15: 1-74.

Human Remains; Mummy of Ta-enty. World Museum [Internet]. Available from:
<https://www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/wml/collections/antiquities/ancient-egypt/item-302980.aspx>

Wade, A. D., Nelson, A. J. 2013. Evisceration and Excerebration in the Egyptian Mummification Tradition. Journal of Archaeological Science. 40: 4198-4206.

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