

Coffin Set of Tauhenut (A.20)

Summary description: Inner anthropoid coffin (6–7) and mummy-cover (8), both anonymous.

Archaeological context and dating: The coffin set was found in the main gallery of Bab el-Gasus. Together with three other coffin sets (A.19, A.18 and A.24) it formed a barrier (the third of this kind) to block the way to the innermost areas of the tomb. It was found under the coffin set A.19 and perhaps for this reason it was heavily damaged on the lid.

The scheme of decoration recalls the layout from the first half of the 21st Dynasty.

The burial assemblage included a shroud and an inscribed linen cloth decorated with an effigy of Osiris.¹ The mummy was adorned with braces, a pair of linen mittens on each arm and a wax embalmer's plaque (Cairo JE 36355).² Four wax figures of the Sons of Horus were placed inside the body.³ A Book of the Amduat (Cairo JE 36464) was found between the legs while a Book of the Dead (Cairo SR VII 10270)⁴ was probably enclosed within an Osiris statue.⁵

Name and titles of the owner: The coffin set is anonymous. The inner coffin bears generic titles, such as *Mistress of the House*, *Songstress of Amun-Re* and *Great favorite*. The mummy-cover did not provide any name or title. Nevertheless, Daressy found a cloth inside the case bearing a hieratic inscription referring to the *Chantress of Amun Nesitanebisheru*.⁶ During the examination of the mummy the name 'Tauhenut' was read.⁷

1 Aston included in the burial equipment of this mummy a collection of blue faience shabtis. However, Florence N. Inv. 6167 is from the Royal Cache such as the statuettes from Cortona (N. 9,17, 28, 133, 140). See Aston 2009, 167 n. TG 693.

2 Daressy 1907, 23.

3 Daressy and Smith 1903, 155.

4 Niwiński 1989, 288 n. 99.

5 Niwiński 1989, 281 n. 80.

6 Daressy 1907, 23.

7 Daressy and Smith 1903, 155.



FIGURE 64 Coffin set (A.20)