

Научно-исследовательская работа

Иностранный язык

**Is the Discovery of King Tutankhamun's Tomb the Greatest Archaeological  
Discovery in Egypt?**

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## **Introduction**

Tutankhamun's tomb is the best-preserved royal tomb ever discovered. It is located in the Valley of the Kings, Egypt. The tomb, which was thought to be left intact, was robbed twice. Even though this tomb revealed treasure beyond our imagination, it was modestly furnished compared to the pharaohs before and after Tutankhamun's time.

### **The aim of the research is**

to discuss if the discovery of King Tutankhamun's tomb is the greatest archaeological discovery in Egypt.

### **The tasks of the research are:**

to study who Tutankhamun was;

to explore how and when his tomb was discovered in the Valley of the Kings;

to study the main relics from the tomb.

## **Main Part**

### **1. Who was King Tutankhamun?**

Tutankhamun was only the age of nine when he became king of Egypt during the 18th dynasty of the New Kingdom (1332–1323 B.C.). He died at the young age of eighteen and his story would have been lost to history if it were not for the discovery of his tomb in 1922 by the archaeologist Howard Carter in the Valley of the Kings.

### **2. How and when was the tomb discovered in the Valley of the Kings, Egypt?**

During the early twentieth century, Howard Carter, a British Egyptologist, excavated for many years in the Valley of the Kings located on the west bank of the ancient city of Thebes. He was running out of money to support his archaeological digs when he again asked for funding for one more season from his financial backer, Lord Carnarvon. Lord Carnarvon granted him one more year—and what a year it was!

At the beginning of November 1922, Carter came upon the first of twelve steps of the entrance that led to the tomb of Tutankhamun. He quickly recovered the steps and sent a telegram to Carnarvon in England so they could open the tomb together. Carnarvon departed for Egypt immediately and on November 26, 1922 year they entered the tomb.

### **3. What was inside the tomb?**

The entry to King Tut's tomb is through the first doorway. This leads down a corridor to a second door, which leads into the antechamber that was filled with golden chariots and other beautiful artifacts. One of the treasures found in this room was a golden throne with a depiction of the king and his wife Ankhesenamun.

To the right of the antechamber is the burial chamber. Tutankhamun's sarcophagus held not one but three coffins in which to hold the body of the king. The outer two coffins were crafted in wood and covered in gold. The inner coffin, however, was made of solid gold.

The death mask is considered one of the masterpieces of Egyptian art. It originally rested directly on the shoulders of the mummy inside the inner gold coffin. It is constructed of two sheets of gold that were hammered together and weighs over 10 kg. Tutankhamen is depicted wearing a striped headdress.

Beyond the burial chamber is the treasury, though plenty of treasure had already been discovered by the time this room was breached. It contained wine jars, a large golden Canopic chest, the mummies of what may have been stillborn babies of the king, and even more golden relics.

The task of cataloguing the finds was the great deal for the team. Carter spent many years recording the finds and having them photographed.

### **Conclusion**

The tombs of the pharaohs of Ancient Egypt were found both before and after Carter's discovery. But no one of them have as many treasures and historical artifacts as King Tut's tomb.

The Discovery of the Tomb of Tutankhamun is one of the greatest archaeological finds in history, because it helped to reconstruct the real historical truth of the end of 18th dynasty. Having an even partially intact treasures to the modern era is an extreme rarity, thus making King Tut's tomb a quite special place.

## Sources of the information

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