


TUTANKHAMUN:

EGYPT'S MOST FAMOUS PHARAOH

BILL PRICE
new title

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SALES POINTS:

- The 'Tutankhamun and the Golden Age of the Pharaohs' exhibition will be opening in the Dome in London in November 2007
- The ancient Egyptian galleries are by far the most popular rooms in the whole of the British Museum
- Over 1.7 million people visited the 'Treasures of Tutankhamun' exhibition in London in 1972 - a whole new generation has yet to see them.
- Ancient Egyptian history and mythology still has a powerful fascination for a wide cross-section and is a staple area of study for all schoolchildren.

MARKET:

History, ancient history, Egypt

DESCRIPTION:

In 1922 Howard Carter uncovered what is still regarded as the most spectacular archaeological discovery ever made. Tutankhamun's tomb had remained hidden in the Valley of the Kings for more than 3000 years and its discovery caused a media sensation, elevating the previously little-known Egyptian Pharaoh into the position of an international celebrity. The contents of the tomb were found almost entirely intact, including the Pharaoh's mummified body, still wearing its solid gold funeral mask.

Tutankhamun lived in an era when the Egyptian Empire, centred on the royal city of Thebes, was at its pinnacle and when the wealth and power of its Pharaoh was at its greatest. This was also a period of enormous religious upheaval. Akenaten, the heretical Pharaoh and, more than likely, Tutankhamun's father, had introduced a new religion, exclusively worshipping the sun god Aten. Under Tutankhamun, the old religion, with its many gods and goddesses, was restored, putting an end to the heresy.

In recent years research has shed new light on Tutankhamun's life and, in particular, on his death. A new exhibition, *Tutankhamun and the Golden Age of the Pharaohs*, has toured America and is coming to London in November 2007. Public interest in the boy king is as strong as ever and our knowledge of the sophisticated and complex society over which he reigned continues to grow.

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY:

Bill Price grew up on a farm in Herefordshire, not far from Hay-on-Wye. He worked in the book trade in Hay and London for almost twenty years and is now a freelance writer, with a particular interest in archaeology and ancient history. This