

The Amarna Research Foundation

Please complete & mail this membership form to:

The Amarna Research Foundation, Inc.
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- * A semi-annual newsletter of the progress of projects at Akhetaten as well as current research on the Amarna Period. Additional bulletins will be provided as available.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

YES! I would like to join

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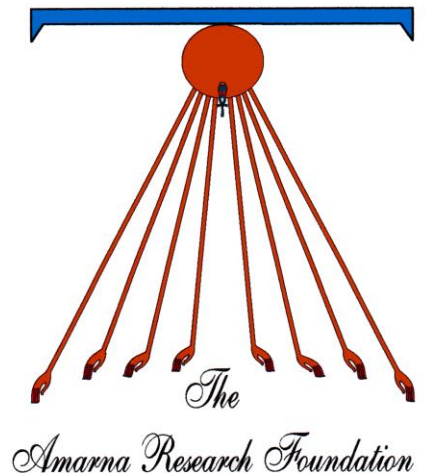
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The Amarna Research Foundation

The Amarna Research Foundation is the only tax-exempt organization within the United States dedicated exclusively to the advancement of interest and research in the Amarna Period. Funds contributed through memberships and grants will be used to promote archaeological excavation, conservation, research and publication of this period of Egyptian history.

Significant work is currently being done in the excavation and preservation of Tell el-Amarna, and in the planning of an on-site visitors center. Financial grants will be awarded by the Foundation to promote these and other worthy projects dealing with the Amarna period.

The Amarna Period

The Amarna period of Egyptian history began during the reign of the pharaoh Amenhotep III nearly 3,400 years ago. This was a period of tremendous artistic and architectural achievement. The famous Colossi of Memnon were built, wonderful additions were made to the temples at Luxor and Karnak, and seeds were sown for a monotheistic religion.

Upon the death of Amenhotep III, his son Amenhotep IV became pharaoh of Egypt. This "heretic king" changed his name to Akhenaten, quickly abandoned the pantheon of Egyptian gods and declared the sun-god, Aten, to be the only god. He and his queen, Nefertiti, built a new city, known as Akhetaten (Horizon of the Aten) at the present site of Tell el-Amarna. From there he ruled all Egypt and directed the worship of his one god, Aten.

Following the death of Akhenaten, Tutankhamun (who was born Tutankh-aten, and is believed by a great many Egyptologists to have been Akhenaten's son), returned the religious capital of Egypt to Thebes. The monuments of the "heretic king" were destroyed and the memory of his reign was erased. But the eighteen year reign of Akhenaten had touched upon a religious philosophy and an artistic style that still echoes today.

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