

# Archaeologists find statue of Tutankhamun's granddad

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A handout picture from the Egyptian Supreme Council of Antiquities (ESCA) shows a 3,000-year-old statue of the pharaoh Amenhotep III, believed to be the grandfather of the young King Tutankhamu, unearthed by archaeologists.

Egyptian archaeologists have unearthed part a 3,000-year-old statue of the pharaoh Amenhotep III, believed to be the grandfather of the young King Tutankhamun, antiquities chief Zahi Hawass said on Saturday.

"The statue was found near the northern entrance of Amenhotep III's [temple](#) and depicts the king sitting down on a throne with Amun," the

chief deity, Hawass said.

The red-granite top half of the statue was discovered at the site of the Amenhotep III's funerary temple in the southern city of Luxor, Hawass said.

The newly-discovered artifact which measures 130 cm (51 inches) in height and 95 cm (37 inches) in width is "fantastic... because of the details of the [facial features](#)," Hawass said.

Archaeologists believe the full statue is around three metres (nearly 10 feet) tall.

In recent years, a large quantity of red-granite statue pieces have been uncovered at Amenhotep III's funerary temple at Kom al-Hitan on Luxor's west bank.

Amenhotep III ruled Egypt between 1390 and 1352 BC.

He was almost certainly the grandfather of Tutankhamun, according to the results of DNA tests and computerised tomography (CT) scans on the famed boy king's mummy announced by scientists on February 17.

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