



Akhenaten Portrait Head with Attached Crown

€490.00

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When Amenophis IV ascended the throne of Egypt, the people of Ancient Egypt believed in countless deities. After a few years of his reign, the pharaoh, who was married to Nefertiti, decided to appoint a new, single god for his country. The cult of the sun god Aton was born, a manifestation of Re, who was to symbolise the solar disc as the source of all life. Amenophis IV forbade his people to believe in the old gods and henceforth called himself Akhenaten ("effective for the Aton"). For the new god Aton, the old capital Thebes was abandoned as the headquarters of the royal court and the new, glamorous residence city of Akhet-Aton was founded. In the "horizon of the Aton", today's Amarna, magnificent temples were built under open skies to receive the beneficial rays of Aton's sun. For the people of Ancient Egypt, the new religion meant abandoning their belief in life after death in the blessed land of the West. Where the sun set, Aton could not exist as the creator of life and could not raise the deceased. The loss of this important basis of belief divided the population into two groups. There was fierce unrest between followers and opponents of the new cult around the sun god Aton. Only after the death of the pharaoh did the old religion find its way back to its origins under Akhenaten's son Tutankhamun. Hardly any other pharaoh has fascinated and influenced his contemporaries and posterity as much as Akhenaten. Portrait head of the ruler with an attached crown.

Original: Museum August Kestner Hannover. 18th Dynasty, c. 1360 BC, Amarna. 2-piece reduction as polymer ars mundi museum replica, cast by hand. Height with pedestal: 23.5 cm.

Product link: <https://www.arsmundi.de/en/akhenaten-portrait-head-with-attached-crown-441417/>