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Mummy removed from exhibition over 'lack of consent' – 26th October 2026

Level 4

A museum has removed parts of an Egyptian mummy from an exhibition because the person who died did not consent for its remains to be displayed. The museum is in Scotland. It took away a mummified head and other body parts. In place of the remains, a sign explained the exhibits were removed "as a mark of respect". The museum said that removing the ancient human remains from its displays showed respect to those who died.

The decision has started a lot of criticism. A politician called it "woke madness". He said museums should show history rather than hide it. A museum visitor's daughter was upset at not being able to see the exhibits. An education campaigner called the decision "the triumph of educational stupidity". He said it was impossible to get permission from someone who died thousands of years ago. The museum said it wanted to respect the "dignity of human remains".

Level 5

A museum in Scotland has removed parts of an Egyptian mummy from an exhibition because there is no evidence that it gave consent for its remains to be displayed. The museum is in Glasgow. It took away the remains of a priest named Nakht, a mummified head, and other body parts. In place of the remains, visitors found signs explaining that the exhibits had been removed "as a mark of respect". The museum said its decision "reflects contemporary museum practice". It added with no consent, removing ancient human remains from display is more respectful to the deceased.

The decision has provoked a lot of criticism. A Scottish politician called the move "woke madness". He said museums should show history rather than hide it. A museum visitor said his daughter was upset at not being able to see the exhibits. An education campaigner called the decision "the triumph of educational stupidity and ignorance". He added: "It is not possible to seek permission from those who died thousands of years ago." However, the museum defended its action. It wants to "uphold the inherent dignity of human remains".

Level 6

A museum in Scotland has removed the remains of an ancient Egyptian mummy from an exhibition because there is no documented evidence that the deceased gave consent for their remains to be displayed. Glasgow's Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum took away the remains of a priest named Nakht, a mummified male head, and other body parts. In place of the exhibits, visitors found signs explaining that the remains had been removed "as a mark of respect". The museum said the decision "reflects contemporary museum practice". It added: "In the absence of consent, we believe removing ancient Egyptian human remains from display is more respectful to the deceased individuals."

The decision has provoked widespread criticism. Scottish politician Murdo Fraser called the move "woke madness". He argued that museums should showcase history rather than hide it. A museum visitor complained that his daughter was upset at not being able to see the exhibits. An education campaigner said the decision "represents the triumph of educational stupidity and ignorance". He added: "It is not possible to seek permission from those who died thousands of years ago." However, the museum defended its action. It cited the International Council of Museums' Code of Ethics, which says museums "should uphold the inherent dignity of human remains".