



# The Saga Continues...

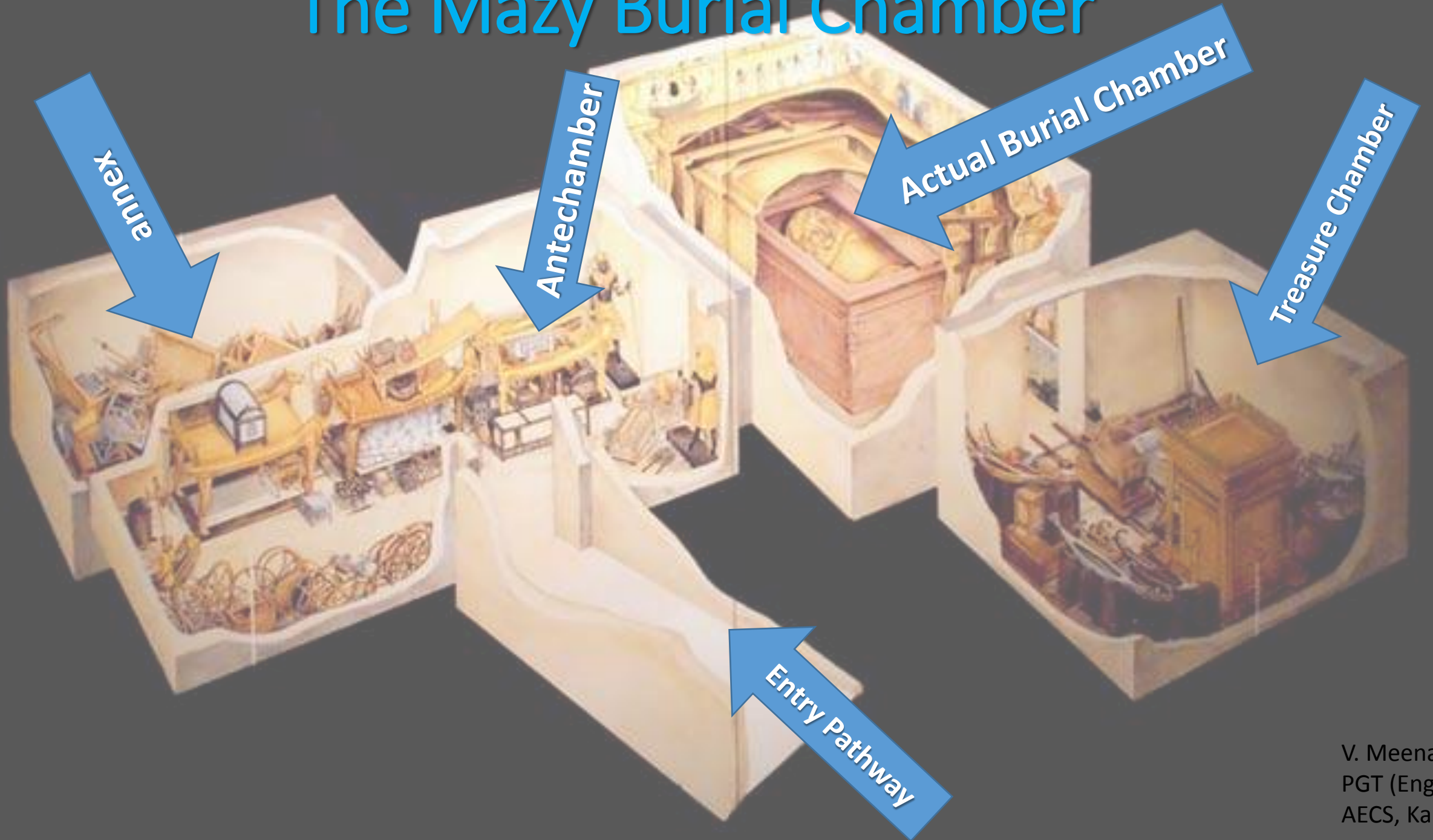
## Module- 2

# Howard Carter



- ❑ Howard Carter was British archaeologist and Egyptologist.
- ❑ This sponsored - excavation of King Tut's mummy gained him worldwide popularity.
- ❑ Several years of long research in the valley of Kings and an accidental finding of King Tut's Mummy received a wide media coverage in the year 1922.
- ❑ Carter catalogued meticulously thousands of things, 5000 to be precise, found inside the burial chamber of King Tut.
- ❑ The tomb of Tut is considered to be one of the very few pharaohic tombs that remained intact even after years.

# The Mazy Burial Chamber



# Artefacts found inside Tut's burial chamber

- ✓ Precious collars,
- ✓ Inlaid necklaces and bracelets,
- ✓ Rings,
- ✓ Amulets,
- ✓ A ceremonial apron,
- ✓ Sandals,
- ✓ Sheaths for his fingers and toes, and
- ✓ The iconic inner coffin and mask

- ✓ Three nested coffins containing
- ✓ A shroud adorned with garlands of willow and olive leaves, wild celery, lotus petals, and cornflowers
- ✓ Board games
- ✓ A bronze razor
- ✓ Linen undergarments
- ✓ Cases of food and wine

# Howard Carter's Research

A black and white photograph of Howard Carter, an archaeologist, leaning over an ancient Egyptian mummy in a tomb. He is wearing a light-colored shirt and a dark apron, and is using a tool to work on the mummy. The mummy is lying in a wooden coffin, and the background shows the interior of the tomb with some stone structures.

- **Carter first recorded the list of funerary articles found in Tut's tomb.**
- **The ritualistic resins applied to the mummy had solidified, cementing it to the gold coffin.**
- **He tried to separate the mummy from the gold coffin, but in vain.**
- **He tried applying force, he even exposed the mummy to the desert heat of about 149° Fahrenheit.**
- **As nothing could happen, Carter resorted to chiseling the bones which resulted in mutilation of the age old Mummy.**

# Mutilated Mummy

- Neither force nor heat could budge the carter and his men resorted to chiseling to remove Tut's body from the coffin.
- In the attempt, they nearly severed every major joint including the skull.
- The body was later reassembled in a wooden box, after padding the skeletal remains to conceal the damage.
- Carter's focus was majorly on unravelling the treasure.

# Findings- Carter

- **Carter's findings paved way to a renewed interest in Egyptian antiquities.**
- **Royals lived an affluent life. Carter's finding of a treasure trove of sheer gold and things were proof enough for that.**
- **It was one of the tombs that was not ransacked by tomb robbers.**
- **Egyptians' belief in after life was reiterated.**
- **The burial of Tutankhamun would have taken place in March or April (owing to the presence of the seasonal flowers in Coffin 1).**

# Next Phase- Research in 1968

- In the year 1968, R. G. Harrison, a professor of anatomy, x-rayed Tut's Mummy using an a portable machine to determine age and cause of death etc.,
- It was found that the breast bone and most parts of frontal ribs were missing.
- There was a bulge in the back head and a curvature in the backbone.
- Harrison believed they might have been removed because they were badly damaged before his death due to an accident.



# Findings - R. G. Harrison

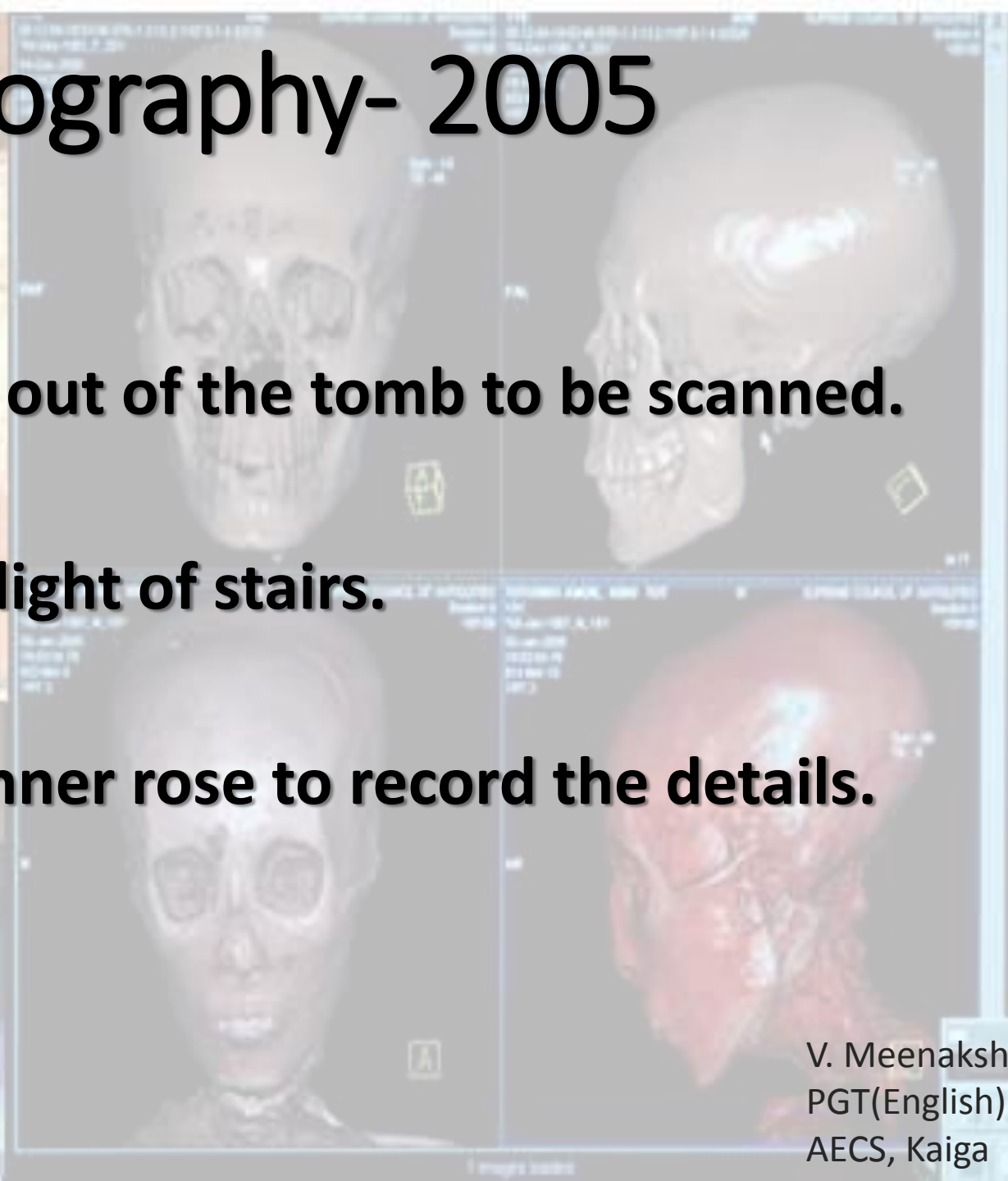
- **Tut's death may be incidental or accidental than natural.**
- **The curvature in the backbone would have been due to embalming.**
- **This theory of death being incidental or accidental was discredited after further research.**

# Egyptian Mummy Project

- Egyptian Mummy Project was an ardent effort to invent the non-royal mummies in Egypt.
- About 600 mummies have been recovered so far.
- This project was envisioned and executed by Zahi Hawas, the archaeologist and Egyptologist who was working under the aegis of Supreme Council of Antiquities.
- He began working on an inventory in the late 2003, of scanning and recording details about mummies.
- To execute this project, a portable CT scan machine was donated by National Geographic Society and Siemens, the manufacturer, jointly.
- King Tut was one of the first mummies to be scanned in that project.
- The project has analyzed the mummies forensically using modern techniques.

# Computer Tomography- 2005

- The body of King Tut was brought out of the tomb to be scanned.
- It was carried onto a ramp and a flight of stairs.
- A hydraulic lift fitted with the scanner rose to record the details.



# Findings – Zahi Hawas

- ❖ **1,700 digital X-ray images in cross section were created through CT scan.**
- ❖ **Tut's head and other parts of the body were scanned in 0.62 millimetre slices to register its intricate structures With Tut's entire body in the presence of a team of specialists in radiology, forensics and anatomy.**
- ❖ **Due to this study, we could have precise findings coming into picture.**
- ❖ **King Tut was found to be 19 at the time of death based on the bone density.**
- ❖ **There was no proof established on congenital diseases through this study.**
- ❖ **The structure of his body underwent an extensive analysis in comparison to the fellow mummies.**
- ❖ **The supposed face of King Tut based on its structure was reconstructed.**

# Changing Faces of archaeology

- ❖ **The archeological research has evolved.**
- ❖ **From chiseling to X-raying to Computer Tomography to DNA fingerprinting, everyday the intricate details of Tut's life and death come to light.**
- ❖ **The new research in archeological finger printing has brought to light King Tut's lineage, his parents being siblings, and he inherited the large hip bones and certain other effeminate qualities from his ancestors like Amenhotep III.**
- ❖ **The new techniques of archaeology claims that King Tut died of a combination of congenital diseases and malaria and so on.**

# Pharaoh's Curse

- **The stopping of fans during scanning makes a workman comment that it was Pharaoh's curse.**
- **The curse of the pharaohs or the mummy's curse is a jinx said to be cast upon anyone who disturbs the mummy, especially a pharaoh.**
- **This curse is said to cause bad luck, illness, or death.**
- **A series of deaths of people who were involved directly and indirectly were said to be subjected to this curse.**
- **Ever since the death of the first death of Lord Carnarvon, as soon as King's Tut's chamber was opened, many argue that the curse is due to the exposure to harmful bacteria and heavy radiation inside a desert chamber kept closed for a long time.**

# The Writer – A.R. Williams

- **Ann Williams is a former senior writer for National Geographic magazine and online news, for almost three decades.**
- **She has specialized in Eastern and West Asian archaeology, Egyptology and Akkadian cuneiform.**
- **She has been writing featured essays about the antiquities of the world.**
- **Her writings feature the most recent archeological discoveries.**

• Source: <https://www.nationalgeographic.com/contributors/w/a-r--williams/>

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