

Egypt will **sue** following sale of \$5.97 million **Tutankhamun** statue

Egypt has said that it will **file** a **civil lawsuit** after the sale of an ancient statue at auction last week. The stone head, which resembles **Pharaoh** Tutankhamun, was sold for £4.7 million (\$5.97 million) at a London auction on July 4, despite protests from **Cairo** that the **relic** may have been stolen.

sue 控告

Tutankhamun 图坦卡蒙

file 提出

civil lawsuit 民事诉讼

Pharaoh 法老

Cairo 开罗

relic 遗迹

The National Committees for **Retrieving Antiquities** said on Monday that it would be "assigning a British law firm to take all necessary legal action to file a civil lawsuit" after the sale of the statue.

retrieve 检索; 恢复

antiquity 文物

The 11-inch statue was sold by Christie's auction house, and the identity of the buyer has not been revealed.

The sale of the **artifact** has been highly controversial, with Egyptian **authorities** demanding the auction be canceled and calling for the relic's **repatriation**.

artifact 人工制品; 文物

authorities 当局; 官方

repatriation 遣送回国

Zahi Hawass, Egypt's former Minister of State for Antiquities Affairs, told CNN he believed the piece left Egypt "illegally." On the day of the sale, Hawass said that he believed the statue was taken from Egypt's Karnak temple after 1970.

Christie's moved to **assuage** worries over the ownership of the statue, stating that "while ancient objects by their nature cannot be traced over millennia, Christie's has clearly carried out extensive **due diligence** verifying the **provenance** and legal title of this object."

Christie's 克里斯蒂拍卖行

assuage 平息; 缓和

due diligence 尽职调查

provenance 起源; 出处

"This piece has to be in a museum, not to be in a dark room of a rich man," Hawass added.