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Archaeologists uncover 3,000-year-old gold mask in southwest China

The remains of a gold mask are among a huge cache of 3,000-year-old artifacts found at an archaeological site in China's Sichuan province.

Weighing about 280 grams and estimated to be made from 84% gold, the ceremonial mask is one of over 500 items unearthed from six newly discovered "sacrificial pits," according to the country's National Cultural Heritage Administration.

The finds were made at Sanxingdui, a 4.6-square-mile area outside the provincial capital of Chengdu. Some experts say the items may shine further light on the ancient Shu state, a kingdom that ruled in the western Sichuan basin until it was conquered in 316 BC.

In addition to the gold mask, archaeologists uncovered bronzes, gold foils and artifacts made from ivory, jade and bone. The six pits also yielded an as-yet-unopened wooden box and a bronze vessel with owl-shaped patterning.

More than 50,000 ancient artifacts have been found at Sanxingdui since the 1920s. Discoveries made at the site date back to the 12th and 11th centuries BC.

Sanxingdui has revolutionized experts' understanding of how civilization developed in ancient China. In particular, evidence of a unique Shu

culture suggests that the kingdom developed independently of neighboring societies in the Yellow River Valley, which was traditionally considered to be the cradle of Chinese civilization.

Though not yet recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, Sanxingdui is on the organization's "tentative list" for possible future inclusion. Along with other Shu archaeological sites, it is credited by the UN agency as "an outstanding representative of the Bronze Age Civilization of China, East Asia and even the world."

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品控：大仔

审核：桃子

完成学习

2021 年 4 月 06 日

惊艳世人的三星堆遗址：实证中华文明多元一体

今日导读

“蚕丛及鱼凫，开国何茫然……”诗仙李白曾在《蜀道难》一文中如此描述古蜀国的历史久远与神秘莫测。对世人而言，古蜀国一直是个停留在传说与诗文中的神秘国度。1986 年，随着四川省三星堆遗址 1 号、2 号祭祀坑陆续被发掘，灿烂的古蜀文明终于走出了传说。35 年后，三星堆再度重启祭祀坑的考古挖掘，“上新”数百件珍贵文物，向

全世界展现了中华文明的丰富多彩。今天的这篇文章，就为我们回顾了三星堆遗址的考古成果，快和大仔老师一起来看看吧！

带着问题听讲解

在本轮考古工作中，考古人员在三星堆一共新挖掘了几个祭祀坑？

文章谈及了祭祀坑新出土的一件青铜尊，它带有哪种动物的纹饰？

三星堆现在是联合国教科文组织认定的世界遗产吗？

正文

Archaeologists uncover 3,000-year-old gold mask in southwest China

在中国西南部，考古学家掘出一张 3000 年前的黄金面具

The remains of a gold mask are among a huge cache of 3,000-year-old artifacts found at an archaeological site in China's Sichuan province.

中国四川的一处考古现场出土了一批具有 3000 年历史的文物宝藏，其中就包括一张金面具的部分残片。

Weighing about 280 grams and estimated to be made from 84% gold, the ceremonial mask is one of over 500 items unearthed from six newly discovered "sacrificial pits," according to the country's National Cultural Heritage Administration.

据中国国家文物局表示，这张祭祀面具（部分）重约 280 克，经初步估算，它由纯度约为 84% 的黄金打造而成；在六个新发现的“祭祀坑”中，与面具一并出土的文物还有 500 余件。

The finds were made at Sanxingdui, a 4.6-square-mile area outside the

provincial capital of Chengdu. Some experts say the items may shine further light on the ancient Shu state, a kingdom that ruled in the western Sichuan basin until it was conquered in 316 BC.

这些文物发现自三星堆遗址——它位于省会城市成都的周边（广汉市），占地 4.6 平方英里。一些专家表示，这些文物将进一步帮助我们了解古蜀文明。古蜀国曾一度统治川西盆地，后于公元前 316 年被灭。

In addition to the gold mask, archaeologists uncovered bronzes, gold foils and artifacts made from ivory, jade and bone. The six pits also yielded an as-yet-unopened wooden box and a bronze vessel with owl-shaped patterning.

除了这张黄金面具，考古学家还挖掘出了青铜器、金箔以及用象牙、玉石和骨头制成的工艺品。六个祭祀坑还出土了一个（当时）尚未开封的木匣，以及一件有“鸮”形纹饰的青铜尊。

More than 50,000 ancient artifacts have been found at Sanxingdui since the 1920s. Discoveries made at the site date back to the 12th and 11th centuries BC.

自 1920 年代以来，三星堆已出土超过五万件文物。该遗址的考古发现可追溯至公元前 12 和 11 世纪。

Sanxingdui has revolutionized experts' understanding of how civilization developed in ancient China. In particular, evidence of a unique Shu culture suggests that the kingdom developed independently of

neighboring societies in the Yellow River Valley, which was traditionally considered to be the cradle of Chinese civilization.

三星堆遗址彻底改变了专家对于中国古代文明演化史的认知。尤其是，彰显着独特蜀文化的考古证据表明，古蜀国的发展独立于相邻的黄河流域社会，而后者一向被认为是中华文明的摇篮。

Though not yet recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, Sanxingdui is on the organization's "tentative list" for possible future inclusion. Along with other Shu archaeological sites, it is credited by the UN agency as "an outstanding representative of the Bronze Age Civilization of China, East Asia and even the world."

虽然三星堆遗址尚未被联合国教科文组织《世界遗产名录》收录，但它已位列教科文组织的申遗“预备名录”，未来有望被正式收录。三星堆遗址同其他蜀文化遗址一道，被联合国教科文组织誉为“中国、东亚乃至世界青铜时代文化的杰出代表”。

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重点词汇

archaeologist

/ˌɑːr.kiˈɑː.lə.dʒɪst/

n. 考古学家

拓展拼写：archeologist

相关词汇: archaeology (n. 考古学)

相关词汇: archaeological (adj. 考古学的, 考古的)

uncover

/ʌn'kʌv.ə/

v. 发现; 揭露

相关词汇: cover (v. 遮盖)

词根词缀: un- (表相反)

搭配短语: to uncover evidence

搭配短语: to uncover the truth

remains

/rɪ'meɪnz/

n. 剩余物, 残留物; 遗迹, 遗址 (只有复数形式)

词性拓展: remain (v. 遗留)

搭配短语: the remains of lunch

搭配短语: the remains of an ancient city

cache

/kæʃ/

n. 贮藏物; 贮藏处; 后台缓存

搭配短语: an arms cache

搭配短语: a cache of explosives

搭配短语: to clear the application cache (清理应用中的缓存)

artifact

/'ɑ:r.tə.fækt/

n. 文物；人工制品

拓展拼写：artefact

ceremonial

/,ser.ɪ'moʊ.ni.əl/

adj. 仪式的；正式的

相关词汇：ceremony (n. 仪式)

unearth

/ʌn'ɜ:θ/

v. 发掘；发现

相关词汇：earth (n. 土壤)

词根词缀：un- (表相反)

搭配短语：to unearth talents

搭配短语：to unearth secrets

find

/faɪnd/

n. 有价值的发现；被发现的人才

词性拓展：find (v. 寻找，发现)

例句：This old camera is a lucky find.

例句：She is a real find.

搭配短语：an important archaeological find

to shine (a/some/more/...) light on something

（通过提供新信息）让.....更清楚，更好理解

英文释义： to provide new information that helps you understand something

同义短语： to shed / cast / throw light on sth

例句： New findings may shed light on why the UK variant of Covid-19 is more infectious.

basin

/'beɪ.sən/

n. 盆地； 水盆

conquer

/'kɒŋ.kə/

v. 征服； 克服， 战胜

搭配短语： to conquer the enemy

搭配短语： to conquer the fear

搭配短语： to conquer the Covid-19 pandemic

bronze

/brɒ:nz/

n. 青铜器； 青铜

foil

/fɔɪl/

n. 箔

yield

/ji:ld/

v. 产出，生产

例句：Favourable weather yielded a good crop.

例句：The research has yielded new insights into genetics.

例句：The industry yielded millions in taxes.

as yet

直到某个时间点；直到现在

vessel

/'ves.əl/

n. 容器；船只；导管

搭配短语：a fishing vessel（渔船）

搭配短语：a cargo vessel（货船）

搭配短语：blood vessel（血管）

date back to

追溯至.....

例句：The tradition of giving pocket money for the New Year dates back to the Han Dynasty.

相关短语：date back（追溯至）

例句：The tradition of giving pocket money for the New Year dates back thousands of years.

revolutionize

/,rev.ə'lu:ʃən.aɪz/

v. 彻底改变，使发生革命性巨变

相关词汇：revolution (n. 革命)

例句：Plastics have revolutionized the way we live over the past decades.

cradle

/'kreɪ.dəl/

n. 发源地；摇篮

搭配短语：from the cradle to the grave (一生)

例句：He had never left the mountain from the cradle to the grave.

相关词汇：cradle-to-grave (adj. 一辈子的)

例句：State firms can provide cradle-to-grave welfare support.

例句：Ancient Greece is often known as the cradle of western civilization.

tentative

/'ten.tə.tɪv/

adj. 初步的，暂定的

反义词：definite (adj. 绝对的，肯定不变的)

英文释义：not definite or certain, but have been made as a first step

例句：Political leaders have reached a tentative agreement. (领导人达成初步共识)

inclusion

/ɪn'kluː.ʒən/

n. 包括

相关词汇：include (v. 包括)

credit

/'kred.ɪt/

v. 认可

词性拓展：credit (n. 表扬，赞扬)

例句：At least give him credit for trying his best.

例句：The Wright brothers were credited as the inventors of the plane.

拓展阅读

三星堆考古新发现或将改写中华文明史

本视频由 South China Morning Post 制作，转自 YouTube 平台，由流利说®阅读团队修改编辑。

1986 年出土于三星堆遗址的青铜神树

本视频由 CGTN 制作，转自 YouTube 平台，由流利说®阅读团队修改编辑。

单词训练

英语水平的提升离不开词汇的积累哦～

开始练习

课后练习立即测试

完成学习