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Akhmîm – Egypt's forgotten city

For the Mîn-Panos-projekt and the Staatliche Museen zu Berlin edited by Rafeed El-Sayed, Konstantin C. Lakomy and Elisabeth Ehler, Cäcilia Fluck, Anne Herzberg-Beiersdorf and Olivia Zorn

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With its more than 6,000 years of history, Akhmîm is one of the oldest cities in Egypt. Today, only a few archaeological remains of the once large temples and extensive necropoleis bear witness to the long period of settlement in antiquity. The true treasure trove of statues, reliefs, everyday objects, cult implements, coffins, burial objects and written testimonies is scattered in museums around the world, a significant part at the Staatliche Museen zu Berlin.

The idea for the exhibition and accompanying publication arose from a cooperation with the Mîn Panos project at the University of Göttingen, which is dedicated to the material culture of Akhmîm and its surroundings. For the first time, selected objects from this region from around the world are brought together and illuminated from various aspects. The cultural and political role of the city, its influence as a religious centre, its importance as the birthplace of famous historical figures in Egyptian history and its long tradition in craftsmanship are traced and rounded off by an overview of the history of research up to the present day.

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