

Ancient Egypt and Kush

The Rise of Government

Ancient Egypt

By 4000 B.C., Egypt was made up of two large kingdoms. In the Nile delta was _____ Egypt. To the south, upriver, lay _____ Egypt.

Old Kingdom Rulers

Around 2600 B.C., the period known as the Old Kingdom began in Egypt. The Old Kingdom lasted until about 2300 B.C.

The _____ was an all-powerful ruler who guided Egypt's every activity. His word was law, and it had to be obeyed without question.

Egypt's Religion

The Egyptians believed in many _____ and goddesses and in life after death for the pharaohs. (like the Mesopotamians)

The Egyptians believed these deities controlled the forces of nature and human activities.

The main Egyptian god was the sun god _____.

Another major god was Hapi (HAH • pee), who ruled the _____ River.

The most important goddess was _____ (EYE • suhs). She represented the loyal wife and mother, and she ruled over the dead with her husband Osiris (oh • SY • ruhs).

Believed that life in the next world would be even better than life on Earth. (unlike Mesopotamians who believed life was gloomy after death)

For centuries, Egyptians believed that only the _____ and a special few people could enjoy the afterlife. They also believed that the pharaoh's spirit needed a body to make the journey to the afterlife.

To protect the pharaoh's body, the Egyptians developed a process called _____.

Egyptian Medicine

In the course of embalming the dead, the Egyptians learned much about the human body. Egyptian doctors used herbs and drugs to treat many different illnesses. They grew skilled at sewing up cuts and setting _____ bones.

Some doctors focused on treating particular parts of the body, becoming the first specialists in medicine.

Wrote the world's first medical books using scrolls of _____.

Pyramids

Gigantic structures, the size of several city blocks, protected the bodies of dead pharaohs from floods, wild animals, and grave robbers. The _____ also held supplies that the pharaoh might need in the spirit world, including clothing, furniture, jewelry, and food.

Most of the work was done by _____ during the Nile floods, when they could not tend their fields. In addition, surveyors, engineers, carpenters, and stonecutters lent their skills.

Square base, with the entrance facing _____.

Skilled _____ used copper tools to cut the stone into huge blocks. Other workers tied the blocks to wooden sleds and pulled them to the Nile over a path "paved" with logs. Next, they loaded the stones onto barges that transported them to the building site. There, workers unloaded the blocks and dragged or pushed them up ramps to be set in place.

The Great Pyramid

About 2540 B.C., the Egyptians built the largest and grandest of the pyramids known as the _____ Pyramid.

Built for King Khufu (KOO • foo), is one of three still standing in _____ (GEE • zuh) on the west bank of the Nile. It rises nearly 500 feet (153 m) above the desert, covers an area about the size of nine football fields, and contains more than 2 million stone blocks. The Great Pyramid was the tallest structure in the world for more than 4,000 years.

The Great Pyramid is truly a marvelous structure because the Egyptians built it without using beasts of burden, special tools, or even the wheel.

The Middle Kingdom

The Middle Kingdom was a _____ age of peace, prosperity, and advances in the arts and architecture.

About 2300 B.C., the pharaohs lost control of Egypt as nobles battled one another for power. Almost 200 years of confusion followed. Finally, a new dynasty of pharaohs came to _____.

They moved their _____ south from Memphis to a city called Thebes (THEEBZ). There they restored order and stability, ushering in a new period called the Middle Kingdom. The Middle Kingdom lasted from about 2050 B.C. to 1670 B.C. During this interval, Egyptians enjoyed a golden age of stability, prosperity, and achievement.

The pharaohs added more waterways and _____.

They increased the amount of land being farmed

They built a canal between the Nile River and the _____ Sea.

Arts, literature, and architecture thrived.

Sculptors created large wall carvings and statues of the pharaohs, showing them as ordinary people rather than _____ figures.

A new form of architecture was also created. Instead of building pyramids, pharaohs had their tombs cut into cliffs west of the Nile River. This area became known as the _____ of the Kings.

Middle Kingdom came to an end in 1670 B.C. A people known as the _____ (HIHK • SAHS), from western Asia, attacked Egypt.

Mighty warriors, crossed the desert in horse-drawn chariots and used weapons made of bronze and iron

The New Kingdom

During the New Kingdom, Egypt acquired new territory and reached the height of its _____.

Ahmosé's reign in Egypt began a period known as the New Kingdom. During this time, from about 1550 B.C. to 1080 B.C., Egypt became even richer and more powerful.

About 1473 B.C., a queen named _____ (hat •SHEHP• soot) came to power in Egypt.

Hatshepsut was more interested in trade than conquest.

Egyptian traders sailed across the eastern Mediterranean and south along the _____ coast of Africa.

One product Egyptians wanted to find was _____. The Nile Valley had few trees, and the Egyptians needed wood for boats and for wood cabinets that the upper class liked to have in their homes.

The search for wood took Egyptian traders to the east coast of the Mediterranean Sea where the country of Lebanon is located today. The area had many trees, and the people in the region, called the Phoenicians, were famous for their crafts. They made beautiful wooden furniture and were among the first people to learn how to make _____.

The Egyptians traded wheat as well as paper, gold, copper, and tools for Phoenician wood and furniture. The Phoenicians then traded Egyptian goods to other people. In this way, Egyptian food and goods spread across the Middle East. Egypt's trade in the eastern Mediterranean helped make the kingdom _____.