

EGYPTIAN IMPACT



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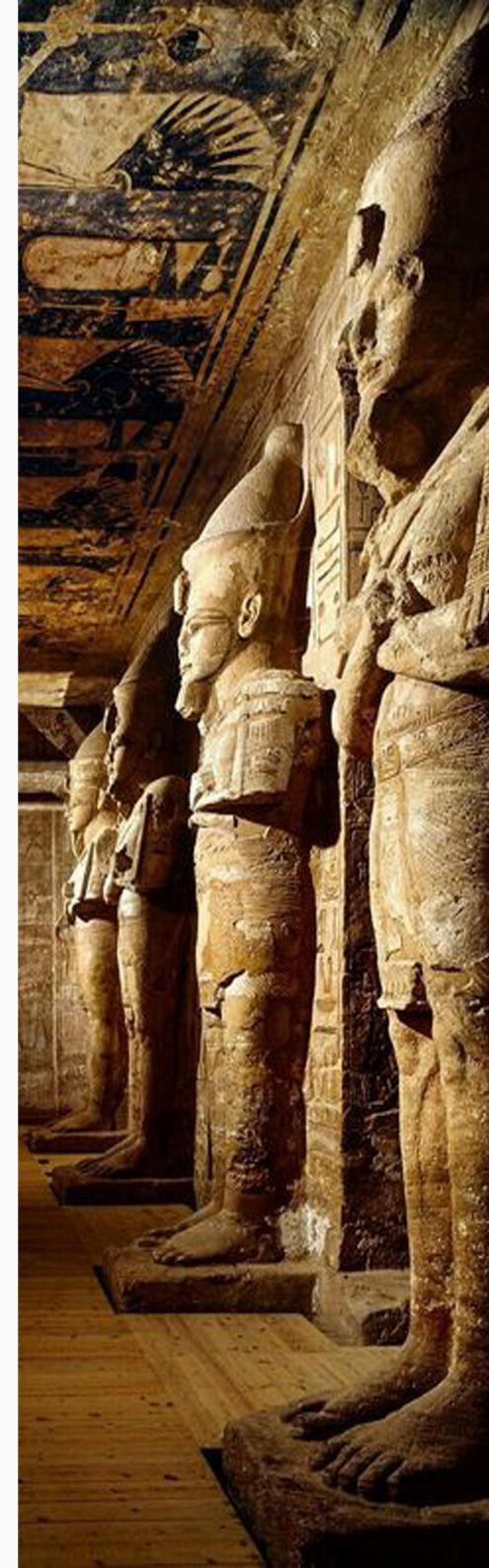
Students of group 5 discuss and analyse the changes in architecture brought by the ancient egypt

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Egypt experiences a rather tumultuous timeline throughout history. Unparalleled in the combined chapters of its prosperity and downfall through the difference in the rule over the kingdom. Even though it went through multiple changes in power, through the preservation of its culture and architecture, it is evident it withstood them all.

The past of this land can be ascertained through its primeval practices. Its characterised by pyramids, construction of which is still shrouded in uncertainty, mummification of bodies and ancient rulers called Pharaohs.

One of the most significant aspects of its past is the role the river Nile plays. Its regarded as both the architect of ancient Egypt and its doom. Earlier when the water of Nile nourished the whole civilisation of Egypt, the land was also known as 'Kemet', meaning the Black Land, referring to its fertile soil that was left over when the Nile flood receded.





What makes Egyptian history and its contribution to Architecture as fascinating as it is?

The extensive use of stone at that time under the high degree of Architectural and engineering skill, produced the most durable structures. Though forces of nature and human interference have taken their toll on them, their pre-eminence is evident through the remains scattered across the land. On the surface, pyramids are what we see but it is through inspection that we see the intricacies that embellish its grandeur. Egyptian buildings were decorated with paintings, carved stone images, hieroglyphs and three-dimensional statues. The art tells the story of the pharaohs, the gods, the common people and the natural world of plants, birds and animals. The beauty and grandeur of these sites are beyond compare. How the ancient Egyptians were able to construct these massive structures using primitive tools is still a mystery.

History of Garden of Eden and the analogy Egyptian gardens drew from it.

Egyptian tales portray Garden of 'Aten' (Akhenaton's god) to be more than a place, rather a state of bliss and peace attained by the worthy, attained by the true.

Now there is only one river in this region that passes through a garden and then divides into four branches, and that is the Nile - which runs through the valley oasis of Egypt before branching out at the Delta. And while the Nile may only have two branches nowadays, it did have four in antiquity.

Gardens have been an integral part of human civilisation and city planning, it is through Garden of Eden and its concept of tranquility have the Egyptians incorporated Gardens embellished by flora and water bodies. Having its ties with both aesthetics and utility. They were enclosed by high walls and were usually rectilinear and geometrical. It was common to find rectangular ponds in the center of the garden, that drank from the water channels supplied by the river Nile, and that were usually decorated with lotus flowers. And this is how history influenced the minds and lifestyles of people then.

Engineering Vision

Ancient Egyptian Technology was not limited in the pyramid or temple construction. From household goods to the Great pyramid, the presence of science and technology was almost everywhere.

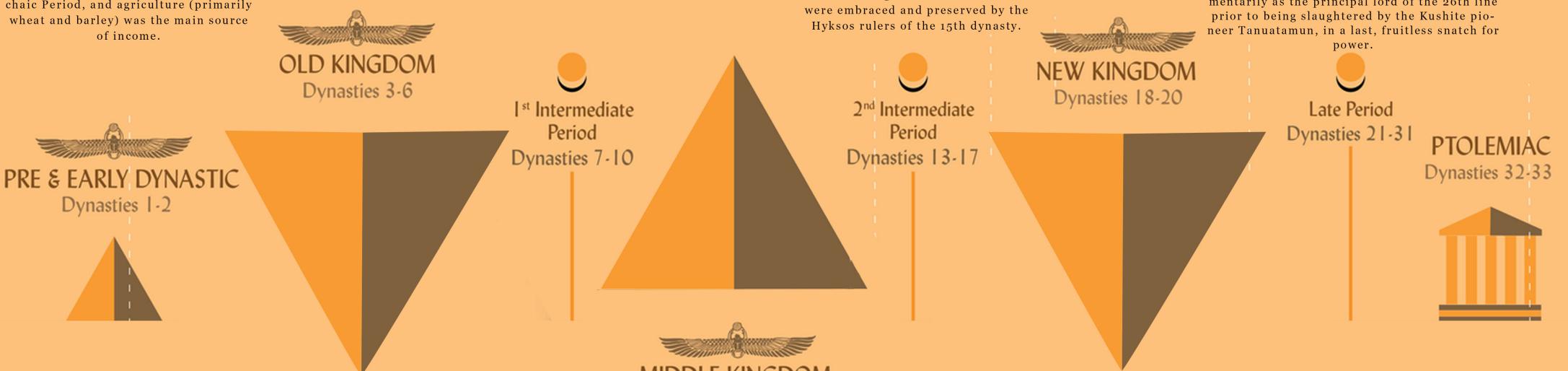


TIMELINE OF ANCIENT EGYPT

4000-30 BCE

In the north, near the apex of the Nile River delta, King Menes founded the capital of ancient Egypt at White Walls (later known as Memphis). This period saw the basis of Egyptian civilization grow. This is also when the first known hieroglyphic writing was found.

Most ancient Egyptians were farmers living in small villages during the Archaic Period, and agriculture (primarily wheat and barley) was the main source of income.



The Old Kingdom began with the third dynasty of the pharaohs. The Step-Pyramid at Saqqara, near Memphis, was designed by King Djoser of the third dynasty around 2630 B.C. It was the world's first massive stone structure. Egyptian pyramid-building reached its zenith with the construction of the Great Pyramid at Giza, on the outskirts of Cairo. The pyramid was constructed for Khufu, who ruled from 2589 to 2566 B.C., and was later considered one of the Ancient World's Seven Wonders by classical historians.

After the assassination of Mentuhotep IV, the last emperor of the 11th dynasty, the throne passed to the chief minister, who became King Amenemhet I, the father of the 12th dynasty. Although Thebes remained a major religious center, a new capital was built at It-tawy, south of Memphis. Egypt once again flourished during the Middle Kingdom, as it had during the Old Kingdom. The kings of the 12th dynasty guaranteed a smooth succession of their line by naming each successor as co-regent, a tradition that dates back to Amenemhet I.

Egypt was once again unified in the 18th dynasty. Egypt regained its influence over Nubia at that period and began military operations in Palestine. Queen Hatshepsut, for example, played a leading role in the New Empire (1503-1482 B.C.). In the Valley of the Kings, all of the New Kingdom rulers were buried in deep, rock-cut tombs. With the exception of Tutankhamen's tomb and treasure (c.1361-1352 B.C.), which was found mostly untouched in A.D. 1922, the rest of them were looted and destroyed. The majestic mortuary temple of Ramses III (c. 1187-1156 B.C.), the last great king of the 20th dynasty, was also comparatively well preserved, suggesting the continuing stability of Egypt throughout his rule. The kings who came after Ramses III had a less fruitful reign.

The following 400 years-known as the Third Intermediate Period-saw significant changes in Egyptian legislative issues, society and culture. Unified government under the 21st tradition pharaohs offered path to the resurgence of nearby authorities, while outsiders from Libya and Nubia got power for themselves and left an enduring engraving on Egypt's populace. The 22nd tradition started around 945 B.C. with King Sheshonq, a relative of Libyans who had attacked Egypt during the late twentieth tradition and settled there. Numerous neighborhood rulers were for all intents and purposes self-governing during this period and administrations 23-24 are ineffectively recorded.

In the eighth century B.C., Nubian pharaohs starting with Shabako, leader of the Nubian realm of Kush, set up their own administration the 25th-at Thebes. Under Kushite rule, Egypt conflicted with the developing Assyrian realm. In 671 B.C., the Assyrian ruler Esarhaddon drove the Kushite lord Taharka out of Memphis and obliterated the city; he at that point delegated his own rulers out of neighborhood lead representatives and authorities faithful to the Assyrians. One of them, Necho of Sais, managed momentarily as the principal lord of the 26th line prior to being slaughtered by the Kushite pioneer Tanuatamun, in a last, fruitless snatch for power.

Late Period
Dynasties 21-31
PTOLEMIAC
Dynasties 32-33

Starting with Necho's child, Psammetichus, the Saite dynasty controlled a reunified Egypt for under two centuries. Persian rulers like Darius (522-485 B.C.) administered the country to a great extent under similar terms as local Egyptian rulers: Darius upheld Egypt's strict factions and embraced the structure and rebuilding of its sanctuaries. The last leader of Ptolemaic Egypt—the legendary Cleopatra VII—gave up Egypt to the militaries of Octavian (later Augustus) in 31 B.C. Six centuries of Roman rule followed, during which Christianity turned into the authority religion of Rome and the Roman Empire's areas (counting Egypt).



A few technologies were so advanced that it even perplexes the modern scientists and engineers. It's a miracle how the transportation was done for the construction of the pyramids. Many simple but effective machines were invented in ancient Egypt and later it was used by other ancient civilizations.

So, it can be told, the technical education of ancient Egypt not only propelled this civilization to become one of the most impactful civilizations of the ancient world, but also shaped the after world.

The shape of the pyramid is a mystery in itself. It is even found to follow the 'golden ratio' in its dimensions.

Egyptians were a believer in life after death which is even evident in the design of the pyramids.

It's an engineering marvel how the pyramids manage to maintain their shape and stability despite having various chambers inside them. The technology of ancient Egypt far surpassed the technologies of other ancient civilizations.

Egyptian Culture through Temple Architecture

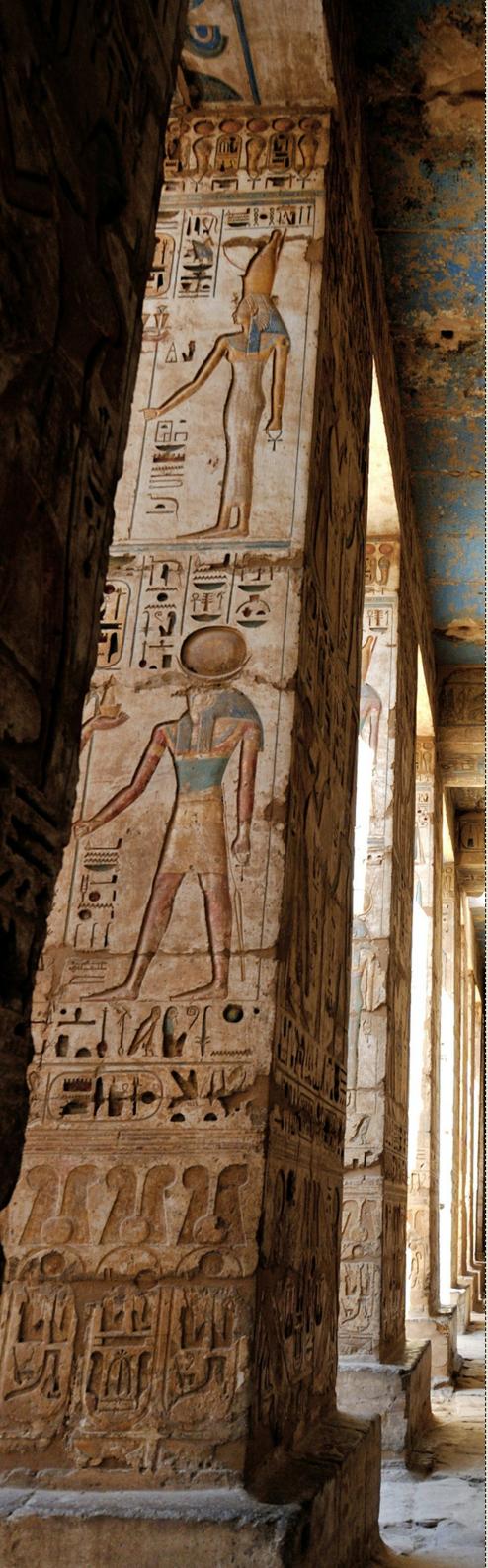
All Egyptian temples were highly exclusive areas, designed to keep divine power safe and sound.

They were intended to harness all the resources of the known world for the benefit of the gods and the harmony of the universe, as well as to manage large estates effectively for the benefit of the elite-priesthood and the king. Their gaudily painted exteriors contrasted sharply with the darkness of the interior voids, with pinpricks of colour, light and gleams of metals. The building complexes were alive with the daily bustle of offering preparation and deliveries from the temple estates, the continuous editing and copying of papyri, the endless festival rota and supplying of small altars, statues and special reliefs throughout each temple. The interior rooms came alive at set times of the day when the gods were activated with the smell of incense, sound of sistra-rattling and priests reading out the rituals or speaking the hymns. In these spaces past local traditions mingled with agricultural rituals and cosmic struggles. Egyptian temples are timeless creations, embodying one moment of absolute creation for eternity.

What did the ancient Egyptian hieroglyphs signify?

Symbols in a society have the essential function of relaying the most important ideals of the civilization to the people generation after generation, and so it was in ancient Egypt.





The peasant farmer may not have been able to read the prose, poems, or hymns that told the tales of his gods, kings, and history, but he could understand the symbols written on an obelisk or a relief on a temple wall. In ancient Egypt, symbols such as Ka and Ba pertain to religion, which was fully incorporated into people's everyday lives. In the transition from earthly existence to the eternal, the gods were present at one's birth, during one's life, and continued their concern for the soul in the afterlife of the Field of Reeds. The spiritual realm was still present in the physical world, and this understanding was represented in art, architecture, and literature through symbols.

Astronomy and the influence it had over Egyptian culture and Architecture

The Egyptians aligned their pyramids and temples by looking and observing the stars and constellations with such accuracy which seemed to be possible only in today's world. If we observe every possible small detail of the structures they created, we will find out a new relation of it with the existing and mythological universe, and the more we research about it, the more new meanings we could find.

For now, what we understood, the possible reason for aligning structures in this particular manner is that they believed their pharaohs became stars in the northern sky after they died because they believed aligning the pyramids toward the north gave the deceased pharaohs direct access to the northern sky. The exact techniques they had used to align and create one of the largest architectural phenomena is still unknown, so from all the research in this field happened in all these years, assuming some of the methods, we can say they not only had one of the greatest architects but also some of the best astronomers.

Egyptian Gods. And how people worshipped them through architecture

The divine beings and goddesses of Ancient Egypt were an essential piece of individuals' regular day to day existences. They followed Polytheism. The actual structure taken on by the different Egyptian divine beings was normally a mix of human and creature, and many were related with at least one creature animal groups. What's more, a creature could communicate a god's disposition.





At the point when a divine being was furious, she may be depicted as a savage lioness, when delicate, a feline. convention was to depict the animal gods with a human body and an animal head. The opposite convention was sometimes used for representations of a king, who might be portrayed with a human head and a lion's body, as in the case of the Sphinx. Sphinxes might also appear with other heads, particularly those of rams or falcons. The structures that were built were in regard to these deities.

The River Nile and Egyptian Boats

The Nile River played a vital role in shaping the lives and society of ancient Egypt. The Nile River flows north through Egypt and into the Mediterranean Sea. Ancient Egypt was divided into two regions, Upper Egypt and Lower Egypt. The most important thing the Nile provided to the Ancient Egyptians was fertile land. Most of Egypt is desert, but along the Nile River, the soil is rich and useful for growing crops.

The simplest type of boat used in ancient Egypt was the skiff, made from papyrus reeds tied together.

Since the reeds are filled with air pockets, they are incredibly buoyant. Skiffs were used for fishing and hunting games in the marshes or for traveling short distances.

Large wooden ships were equipped with square sails and oars. Their planks, held together with rope, expanded in the water, making the vessel watertight. Acacia wood was used in Lower. Boats also served a ceremonial purpose. They were used to move images of gods from temple to temple and to transport the mummified bodies of royals and nobles across the Nile to their tombs on the west bank. Even the sun god traveled by boat (the solar bark) on his daily journey across the sky. Today also, Egyptians still cross the Nile by boat. Egyptian people had amazing engineering skill not only in building pyramids but also in constructing boats.





Thanking you

Through this Report we were able to compile our thoughts on one of the most fascinating topics, Egyptian History. This wouldn't have been possible if not for the constant guidance and encouragement from Prof. Joy and all the TA's. Thank you for being a part of the process.

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