

Lecture 5: Architecture of Ancient Egypt: ca. 3,000-30 B.C.E. – Part I



Djoser's Funerary Complex, Egypt, c. 2600 BCE

ANCIENT EGYPT: 3000-30 B.C.E.

- Neolithic period, from ca. 8,000 B.C.E – growing cereals (not studied in class!)
- Pre-dynastic period: ca. 5000 – ca. 2950/3000 BCE (not studied in class!)
- 1. Early Dynastic period: ca. 2950/3000 – ca. 2575/2600 BCE**
- 2. Old Kingdom: ca. 2757/2600 – ca. 2150 BCE**
 - First Intermediate Period: ca. 2125 – ca. 1975 BCE – Civil War (not studied in class!)
 - Middle Kingdom: ca. 1975 – ca. 1640 BCE (not studied in class!)
 - Second Intermediate Period: ca. 1630 – ca. 1520 BCE
 - invasion of Hyksos people (not studied in class!)
- 3. New Kingdom: ca. 1539/1550 – ca. 1075 BCE (next time!)**
- Late Period: ca. 715 – 332 BCE – conquest of Alexander the Great (not studied in class!)
- Macedonian and Ptolemaic Periods: ca. 332 – 30 BCE (not studied in class!)

EGYPT

FUNERARY ARCHITECTURE

- *Mastabas in Abydos and Saqqara (ex. Mastaba of queen Merneith), ca. 2900 BCE
- * Imhotep (architect!), Djoser's (=Zoser's) (c. 2650-2631 B.C.E.) *Funerary Complex and Stepped Pyramid* (2667-2648 BCE), Third Dynasty, c. 2630–2575 BCE, Saqqara, Egypt
- *Sneferu's (Menetho's) bent pyramid, 4th Dynasty, c. 2550 BCE, Medium, Egypt
- *Great Pyramids – Menkaure (Mycerinus), Khafre (Chephren), and Khufu (Cheops), Fourth Dynasty, c. 2575–2450 BCE, Giza, Egypt
- *The Great Pyramid of Khufu (Cheops), Fourth Dynasty, c. 2600/2570 BCE, Giza, Egypt
- *Valley temple of Khafre, the Great Sphinx and the Pyramid of Khafre, Limestone and red granite, height of the Sphinx: ~ 65' (~20m), Old Kingdom, c. 2500 BCE, Giza, Egypt.

Building practices and techniques Egypt vs. Mesopotamia

- mud brick and stone / indented enclosing walls (walls with fluted pilasters) / columns (nature-civilized world)
- first architects known by name, training and design practices (Imhotep ca. 2500 BCE cf. Gudea ca. 2100 BCE)
- architectural drawings, measurements, standards

Terms:

Egyptian architecture
Funerary architecture
Necropolis
Serdab
Mastaba
Stepped pyramid
Bent pyramid
Pyramid
Sphinx