

The ancient history of Egypt

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Project Plan

In this project you'll get a summary of The
ancient history of Egypt

Starting from Predynastic Period (c. 5000-3100
B.C.) till New Kingdom (c. 1567-1085 B.C.)

Predynastic Period (c. 5000-3100 B.C.)

The **prehistory of Egypt** spans the period from the earliest human settlement to the beginning of the Early Dynastic period around 3100 BC, starting with the first Pharaoh, Narmer for some Egyptologists, Hor-Aha for others, with the name Menes also .possibly used for one of these kings

The Predynastic period is generally divided into cultural eras, each named after the place where a certain type of Egyptian settlement was first discovered. However, the same gradual development that characterizes the Protodynastic period is present throughout the entire Predynastic period, and individual "cultures" must not be interpreted as separate entities but as largely subjective divisions used to facilitate study of the entire .period

Artifacts of Egypt from the Prehistoric period, .from 4400 to 3100 BC

First row from top left: a
Badarian ivory figurine, a
Naqada jar, a Bat figurine.

Second row:
a Diorite vase, a flint
.knife, a cosmetic palette

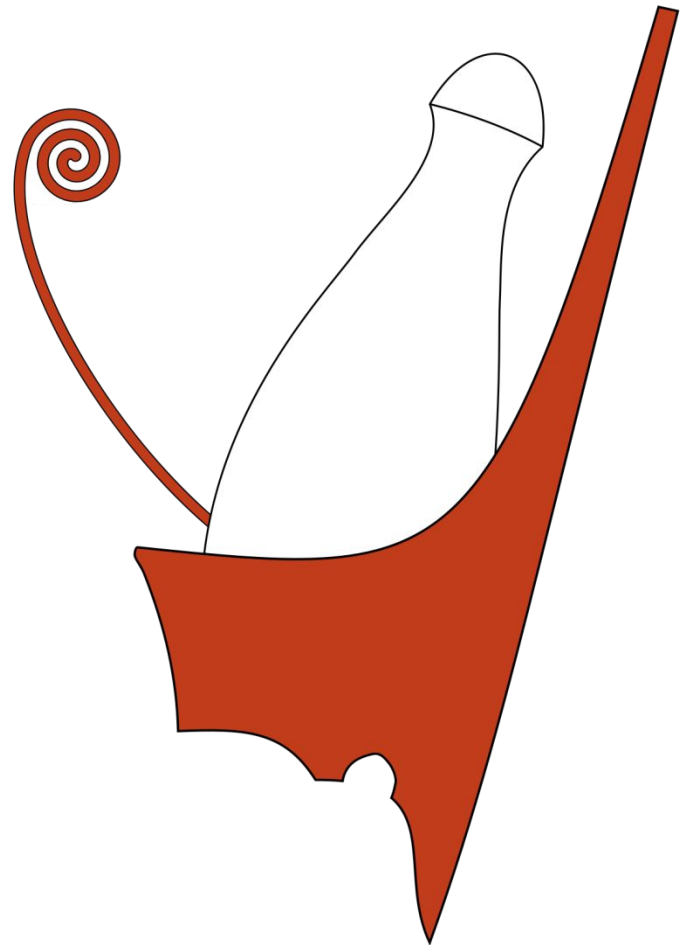


Archaic (Early Dynastic) Period (c. 3100-2686 B.C.)

The **Archaic** or **Early Dynastic Period** of Egypt (also known as **Thinite Period**, from Thinis, the supposed hometown of its rulers) is the era immediately following the unification of Upper and Lower Egypt c. 3100 BC. It is generally taken to include the First and Second Dynasties, lasting from the end of the Naqada III archaeological period until about 2686 BC, or the beginning of the Old Kingdom. With the First Dynasty, the capital moved from Thinis to Memphis with a unified Egypt ruled by an Egyptian god-king. Abydos city (one of the oldest cities of ancient Egypt, and also of the eighth Nome in Upper Egypt) remained the major holy land in the south. The hallmarks of ancient Egyptian civilization, such as art, architecture and many aspects of religion, took shape during the Early Dynastic Period

Before the unification of Egypt, the land was settled with autonomous villages. With the early dynasties, and for much of Egypt's history thereafter, the country came to be known as the Two Lands

The picture on the left shows Menes beating the king of lower Egypt after defeating him and unifying Egypt. The picture on the right shows the new crown for Egypt, which is a mix of the . crown of upper and lower Egypt



Old Kingdom: Age of the Pyramid Builders

(c. 2686-2181 B.C.)

In ancient Egyptian history, the **Old Kingdom** is the period spanning c. 2686–2181 BC. It is also known as the "Age of the Pyramids" or the "Age of the Pyramid Builders", as it encompasses the reigns of the great pyramid-builders of the Fourth Dynasty, such as King Sneferu, who perfected the art of pyramid-building, and the kings Khufu, Khafre and Menkaure, who constructed the pyramids at Giza. Egypt attained its first sustained peak of civilization during the Old Kingdom, the first of three so-called "Kingdom" periods (followed by the Middle Kingdom and New Kingdom), which mark the high points of civilization in the lower Nile Valley.

The Old Kingdom is most commonly regarded as the period from the Third Dynasty to the Sixth Dynasty (2686–2181 BC). Information from the Fourth to the Sixth Dynasties of Egypt is scarce, and historians regard the history of the era as literally "written in stone" and largely architectural in that it is through the monuments and their inscriptions that scholars have been able to construct a history

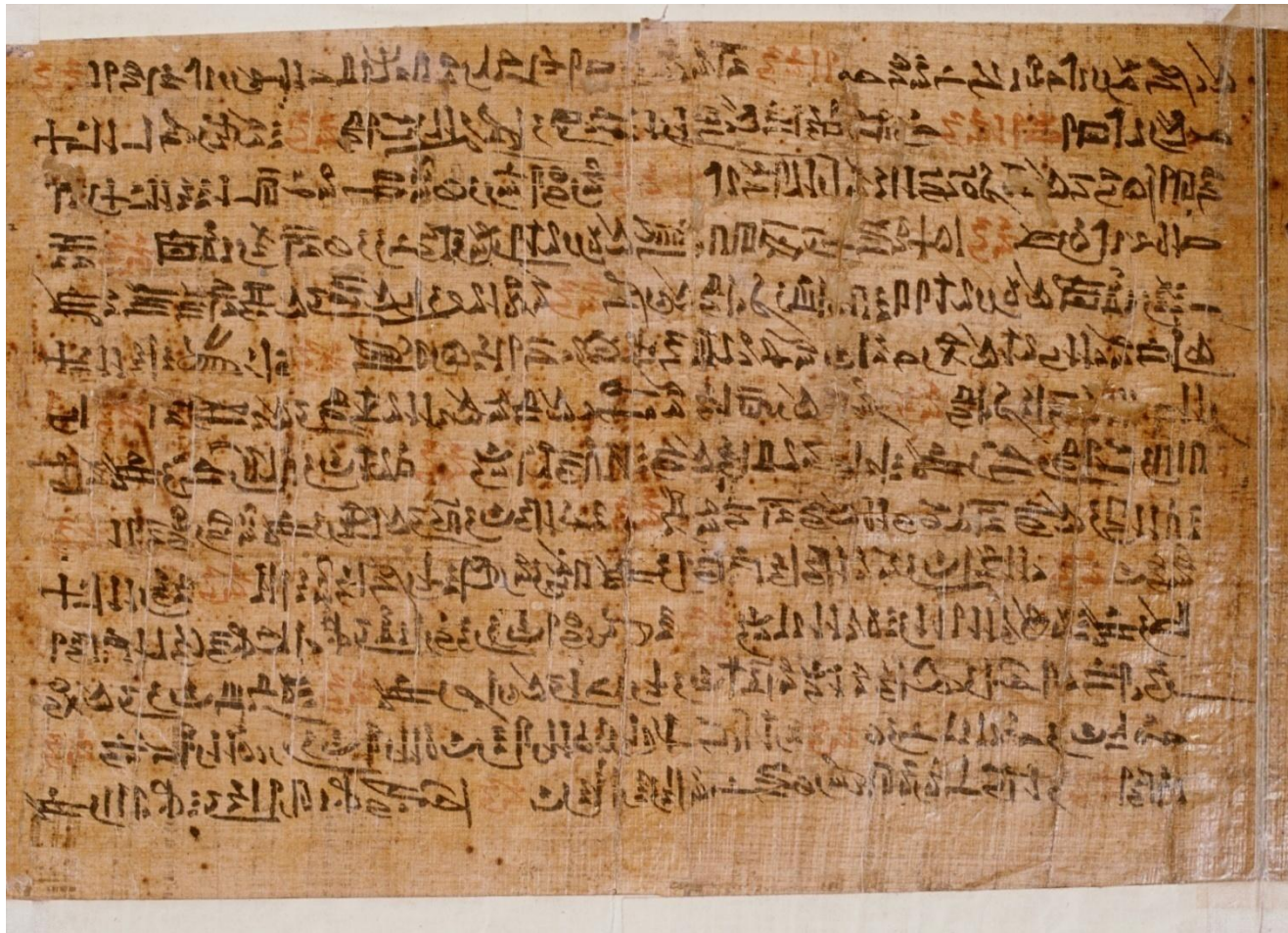
On the right are From left to right, the three largest are:-
the Pyramid of Menkaure, the Pyramid of Khafre and the Great
Pyramid of Khufu.
.-On the left is the oldest pyramid in Egypt, Saqqara Pyramid



First Intermediate Period (c. 2181-2055 B.C.)

The **First Intermediate Period**, described as a 'dark period' in ancient Egyptian history, spanned approximately one hundred and twenty-five years, from c. 2181–2055 BC, after the end of the Old Kingdom. It comprises the Seventh, Eighth, Ninth, Tenth, and part of the Eleventh Dynasties. Very little monumental evidence survives from this period, especially from the beginning of the era. The First Intermediate Period was a dynamic time where rule of Egypt was roughly equally divided between two competing power bases. One of those bases was at Heracleopolis in Lower Egypt, a city just south of the Faiyum region. The other was at Thebes in Upper Egypt. It is believed that during this time temples were pillaged and violated, artwork was vandalized, and the statues of kings were broken or destroyed as a result of the postulated political chaos. These two kingdoms would eventually come into conflict, leading to the conquest of the north by the Theban kings and the reunification of Egypt under a single ruler, Mentuhotep II, during the second part of the Eleventh Dynasty. This event marked the beginning of the Middle Kingdom of Egypt

The emergence of what is considered literature by modern standards seems to have occurred during the First Intermediate Period. A particularly important piece is the Ipuwer Papyrus, often called .the *Lamentations or Admonitions of Ipuwer*



Middle Kingdom: 12th Dynasty (c.2055-1786 B.C.)

The **Middle Kingdom of Egypt** is the period in the history of ancient Egypt following a period of political division known as the First Intermediate Period. The Middle Kingdom lasted from approximately 2050 to 1710 BC, stretching from the reunification of Egypt under the Twelfth reign of Mentuhotep II in the Eleventh Dynasty to the end of the Twelfth Dynasty. The kings of the Eleventh Dynasty ruled from Thebes and the kings of the Twelfth Dynasty ruled from el-Lisht. Mentuhotep II commanded petty campaigns south as far as the Second Cataract in Nubia, which had gained its independence during the First Intermediate Period. He also restored Egyptian hegemony over the Sinai region, which had been lost to Egypt since the end of the Old Kingdom. To consolidate his authority, he restored the cult of the ruler, depicting himself as a god in his own lifetime, wearing the headdresses of Amun and Min. He died after a reign of 51 years and passed the throne to his son, Mentuhotep III

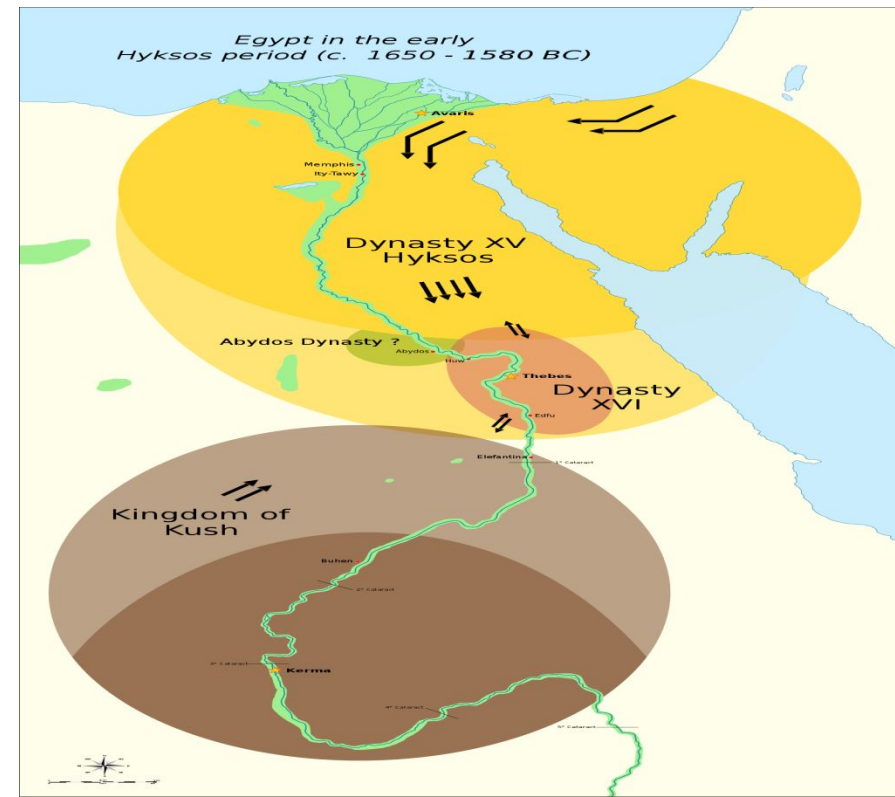
A painted relief depicting pharaoh Mentuhotep II, from his mortuary temple at Deir el-Bahari



Second Intermediate Period (c. 1786-1567 B.C.)

Egypt fell The **Second Intermediate Period** marks a period when ancient Egypt fell into disarray for a second time, between the end of the Middle Kingdom and the start of the New Kingdom. It is best known as the period when the Hyksos people of West Asia made their appearance in Egypt and whose reign comprised the 15th Dynasty founded by Salitis

The map during that period



New Kingdom (c. 1567-1085 B.C.)

The **New Kingdom**, also referred to as the **Egyptian Empire**, is the period in ancient Egyptian history between the sixteenth century BC and the eleventh century BC, covering the Eighteenth, Nineteenth and Twentieth dynasties of Egypt. Possibly as a result of the foreign rule of the Hyksos during the Second Intermediate Period, the New Kingdom saw Egypt attempt to create a buffer between the Levant and Egypt extent. proper, and during this time Egypt attained its greatest territorial Similarly, in response to very successful seventeenth-century BC attacks during the Second Intermediate Period by the powerful Kushites, the rulers of the New Kingdom felt compelled to expand far south into Nubia and to hold wide territories in the Near East. In the north, Egyptian armies fought Hittite armies for control of .modern-day Syria

New Kingdom at its maximum territorial extent in the 15th century BC



Conclusion

.The ancient Egyptian history is filled with great events and mysteries
Throughout its reign it had always been a global superpower and a
land of knowledge and science in addition to being the oldest
.civilization known to man

Sources are Wikipedia and History.com