"If the Nile shines, the Earth is joyous Every stomach is full of rejoicing, Every spine is happy, Every jawbone crushes its food," --Hymn to the Nile

What is the tone of this hymn? What does "the Nile shines" refer to? Why would the Egyptians be singing a hymn to the Nile?

## Terms, People, and Places

Nile River:

Cataract:

Delta:

Dynasty:

Pharaoh:

Vizier:

Papyrus:

Hieroglyphics:

Rosetta Stone:

Mummification:

Hatshepsut:

Thutmose III:

Ramses II:

#### Lesson Objectives:

- Understand the ways in which geography helped shaped ancient Egypt.
- Analyze the achievements of the Old Kingdom, the events that brought turbulence to Egypt's Middle Kingdom, & how Egypt grew strong during the New Kingdom.
- Describe the ways in which religious beliefs shaped the lives of ancient Egyptians.
- Explain how the Egyptians organized their society.
- Outline the advances that the Egyptians made in learning, the arts, science, and literature.

#### Summary

## "Kingdom of the Nile"

Ancient Egypt heavily relied on the Nile River for its development and survival. Ancient Egyptians developed a complex way of life and beliefs that continue to affect our world today. The three periods of ancient Egyptian history were the Old Kingdom, the Middle Kingdom, and the New Kingdom. Egyptian pharaohs organized a strong, centralized state and built majestic pyramids.

Religion and learning played an important role in ancient Egyptian civilization. Egyptians worshipped many deities and believed in an afterlife. Egyptian society was organized into a hierarchy of classes, with the pharaoh at the top and farmers and slaves at the bottom.

# Aim #7: How did ancient Egypt develop?



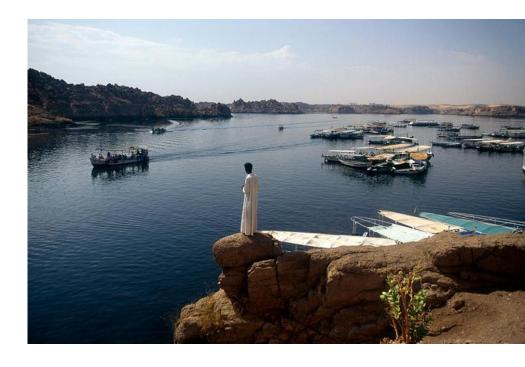


### Geography Helps Shape Egypt

- No Nile! No Egypt!
- Desert protected Egypt from invasion, but limited settlement
- Nile River rises in Central Africa & each Spring, the rains feeds the Nile
- Nile provided fresh water & silt for farming
- Gov't projects controlled floods & stored water
- Nile served as a link to unite Upper
   & Lower Egypt (3100 BCE, Menes)
- The Nile served as a highway for travel & trade w/ Africa, ME, & Mediterranean









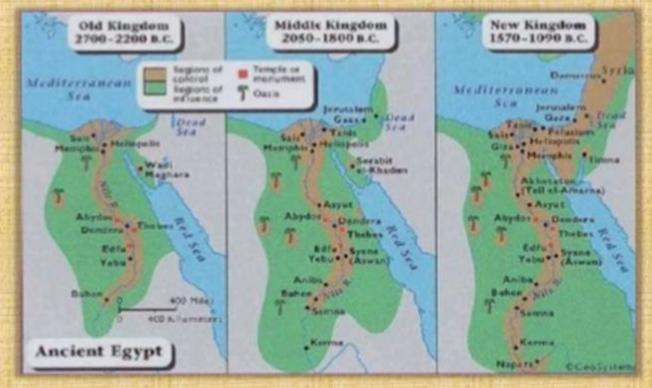
How did geography help shape ancient Egypt?





# The Egyptian Empire

Ancient Egyptian History was divided into three periods:



#### Time line

 Old Kingdom
 Middle Kingdom
 New Kingdom

 2.700 BC
 2.200 BC
 1.500 BC
 1.075 BC
 AD 1

#### The Old Kingdom Forms (2575-2130 B.C.E.)

#### **Government:**

- Pharaoh, viewed as ruler & god
- organized strong centralized state
- had absolute power & ruled through a bureaucracy
- ➤ Depended on a **vizier** to supervise gov't departments & scribes carried out vizier's instruction
- ➤ Pharaoh was landlord to local nobles
- ➤ Ptah-hotep wrote "Instruction on the Vizier of Ptah-hotep" 2450 B.C.E.

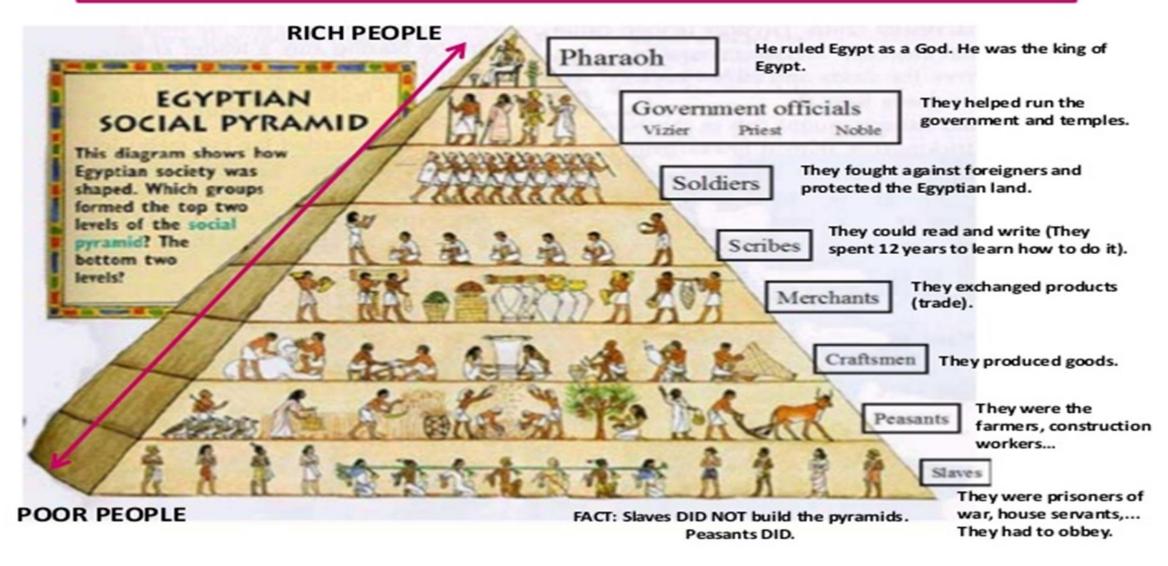


### **Great Pyramids**

- Pharaohs built necropolises that contained pyramids w/ tombs
- Were costly & took a long time (20-30 yrs)
- The Great Pyramids still stand in Giza today



#### **ANCIENT EGYPTIAN SOCIETY**



Women enjoyed rights like owning property, enter business deals, & obtain a divorce; some were professionals

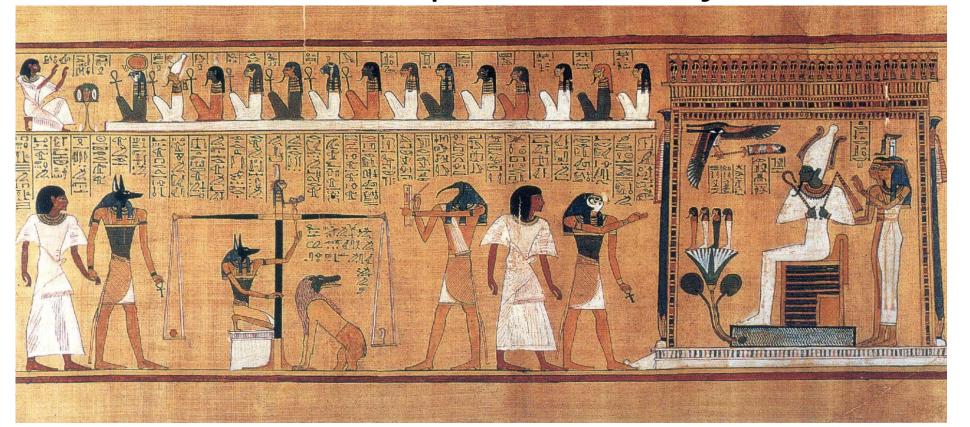
# Religion

- polytheistic; diff. gods had different functions
  - ➤ Chief god was Amon-Re, sun god
  - ➤ Osiris, god of the Nile & afterlife
- Foundation of religion was belief in afterlife
  - ➤ to get to afterlife, had to pass a test & followed the Book of the Dead
  - prepared dead for afterlife through mummification
  - recessary items
    - ❖ King Tut's tomb found in 1922 by Howard Carter
- Egyptians had to appease gods through prayer, moral actions, & offerings



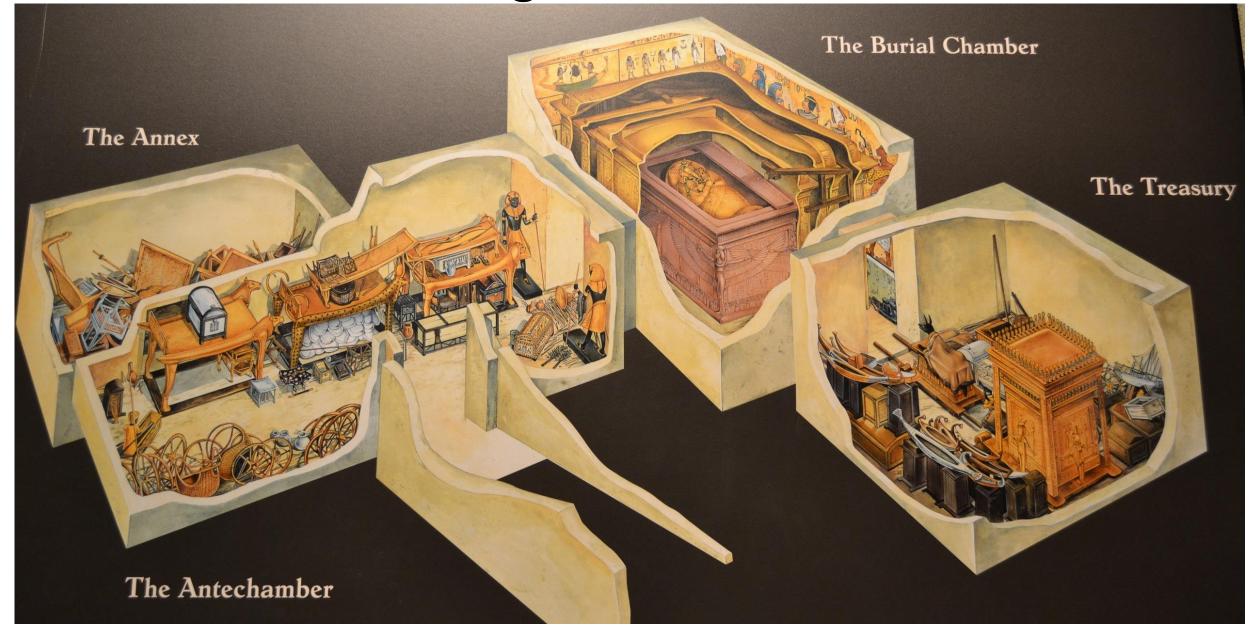


"I have caused none to feel pain. I have made [no man] to weep. I have not committed murder... I have not stolen from the orchards; nor have I trampled down the fields... I have not turned back water at its spring-tide... I am pure. I am pure. I am pure." - Book of the Dead



What sorts of crimes does the confession say one has not committed?

# King Tut's Tomb



### Fall of Old Kingdom

- Power struggles
- Crop failures
- Costly pyramids



How was Egyptian government structured during the Old Kingdom?

## The Turbulent Middle Kingdom (1938-1630 B.C.E.)

- Corruption, rebellions were common
- Nile didn't rise as often (famine)
- Hyksos conquered Lower Egypt (1700s B.C.E.) for a century & introduced horse drawn chariots
- Achievements:
  - ➤ large drainage project increased farmland
  - conquering parts of Nubia (gold)
  - more trade with Middle East& Mediterranean world







What events brought turbulence to Egypt's Middle Kingdom?

#### New Kingdom Egypt Grows Strong (1539-1075 B.C.E.)

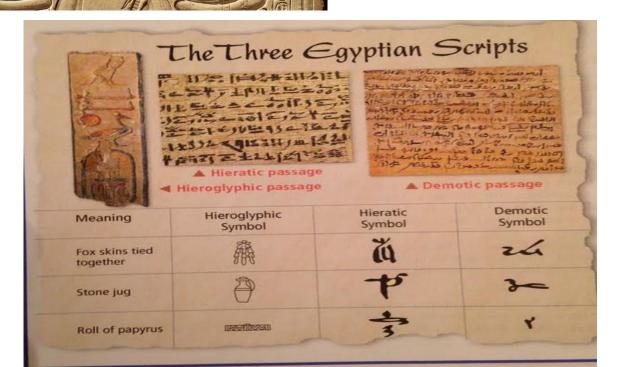
- Age of Conquest as Pharaohs continually expanded Egypt by conquering lands to north (Syria) & to south (Nubia)
- Pharaohs included:
  - ➤ Hatshepsut: first female ruler (14yr rule) & encouraged trade
  - Thutmose III: Great military general, stretched Egypt's borders to the greatest extent ever!
  - Ramses II: (66yr rule), most well-known ruler bec. he showed off his conquests on many monuments



Advances/Contributions

- learned a lot about anatomy from mummification
  - were able to diagnose illnesses, prescribe meds, & perform surgery
- Astronomers developed a calendar w/ 12 months
- developed geometry to survey
   Nile farmland & to build pyramids
- created hieroglyphics to record important info.
  - ➤ Rosetta Stone (1800s)
- Remains of art, wall paintings, statues show us Egyptian culture







### **Egypt Declines**

- 1100s B.C.E., Assyrians & Persians conquered Egypt
- 332 B.C.E., last Egyptian dynasty collapsed as Greece conquered it
- 30 B.C.E., Romans took over



How did Egypt grow strong during the New Kingdom?

#### Three Kingdoms of Ancient Egypt

OLD KINGDOM
(2575-2134 BCE)

#### MIDDLE KINGDOM (2040-1640 BCE)

NEW KINGDOM (1532-1070 BCE)

Pharaohs organized a strong central state, were absolute rulers, and were considered gods.

Khufu and others built pyramids at Giza.

Power struggles, crop failures, and cost of pyramids contributed to the collapse of the Old Kingdom.

Large drainage project created arable farmland.

Traders had contacts with Middle East and Crete.

Corruption and rebellions were common.

Hyksos invaded and occupied the delta region.

Powerful pharaohs created a large empire that reached the Euphrates River.

Hatshepsut encouraged trade.

Tutankhamen: boy-king

Ramses II expanded Egyptian rule to Syria.

Egyptian power declined.





I don't get it...



EXIT CARD

Please jot down what you have gotten from today's lesson and what you still have questions on.