

# EGYPTIAN CIVILIZATION

- LIFESPAN OF ANCIENT EGYPTIAN CIVILIZATION- ABOUT 5000BC- 525BC, AROSE IN AFRICA
- CONSIDERED A BRONZE AGE CIVILIZATION - USE OF BRONZE BEGAN AROUND 3000BC.
- ANCIENT RIVER VALLEY CIVILIZATIONS OF THE WORLD

CIVILIZATION	RIVER
MESOPOTAMIAN	TIGRIS-EUPHARATES
EGYPTIAN	NILE
HARAPPAN	INDUS
CHINESE	HUANG HO



# DIFFERENCE BETWEEN CULTURE AND CIVILIZATION

CULTURE	CIVILIZATION
Derived from Latin word 'cultus' meaning 'growing or cultivation and care' or from French 'colere' meaning 'to till' (as in till the ground)	Derived from Latin words 'civilis' meaning 'citizen' and 'civitas' meaning 'city'
Sum total of people, governmental, economic, socio-religious and intellectual institutions; Such institutions can be either primitive or advanced	Handed down from generation to another. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• existence of art of writing,</li><li>• material culture,</li><li>• surplus production leading to intellectual and material pursuits</li></ul>



# GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION OF EGYPTIAN CIVILIZATION

To the North

- Mediterranean Sea

To the West

- Libyan Desert

To the East

- Red Sea

To the South

- Cataract of River Nile



# **HERODOTUS CONSIDERED EGYPT 'A GIFT OF NILE'**

- **REASONS:**

- PROVIDED SAFETY

- SERVED AS LIFELINE

- ANNUAL FLOODS ADDED TO SOIL FERTILITY

- SURPLUS AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION FACILITATED URBANISATION

- POLITICAL ORGANISATION

- TRADE WITH EUROPE AND ASIA

- NATIONAL WATERWAY AND TRANSPORTATION

- MINES NEAR RIVER

- INTELLECTUAL ACTIVITY FACILITATED BY USE OF PAPYRUS

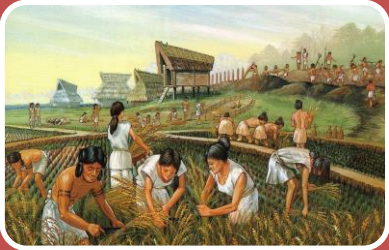
- SOFT SOIL NEAR RIVER HELPED IN BRICK BUILDING

- AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES HELPED DEVELOPMENT OF GEOMETRY AND ASTRONOMY

- FLOODING AND RECEDING MADE LIFE POSSIBLE AND CONVEYED MESSAGE OF DEATH AND REJUVENATION

# **STAGES OF EVOLUTION OF EGYPTIAN CIVILIZATION**

## **7000-5000 BC : Prehistoric Age**



- Settlement of mankind in villages began
- Agriculture practised
- Manufacture of fine stone tools and weapons
- Domestication of animals
- Art of writing not perfected

## **About 5000 BC : Historical Period I - Predynastic Period**



- Neolithic Age merging with Age of Metals at the end
- Records of history became more coherent
- Four river valley civilizations dawned, including Egyptian civilization
- Invention of writing and use of metals such as copper in Egypt (5000 BC)
- Organisation of large political units
- Agricultural surplus, trade and commerce flourished



## **3400 BC Onwards: Historical Period II – Dynastic Period**

- Evolution of 30 dynasties
- All features of a civilization

# SOURCES OF EGYPTIAN CIVILIZATION (OLD KINGDOM)

## 1. Buildings

- Pyramids
- Temples
- Tombs
- Royal Palaces
- Sphinx
- Memorials

## 2. Paintings and Engravings

## 3. Statues

## 4. Weapons

## 5. Ornaments

## 6. Other artefacts

## Archaeological

## 1. Religious and Historical texts

## 2. Literary and mathematical works

## 3. Scientific works

## 4. Letters

## 5. Accounts

## 6. Public and private works

## 7. The Old Testament

## 8. Accounts of Herodotus

## 9. Accounts of Manetho

## 8. Rosetta Stone

## Literary



### **PREDYNASTIC EGYPT (BEFORE 3400 BC)**

- Stone and copper
- Cultivation of barley began
- Linen garments
- Pottery
- Introduction of plough
- Writing
- Invention of papyrus and ink
- Animal worship
- First calendar, perhaps of the world( 4241 BC)
- Many political units merged into two – Upper(Southern) Egypt and Lower(Northern) Egypt: First Unification of Egypt

### **DYNASTIC EGYPT (3400 BC onwards)**

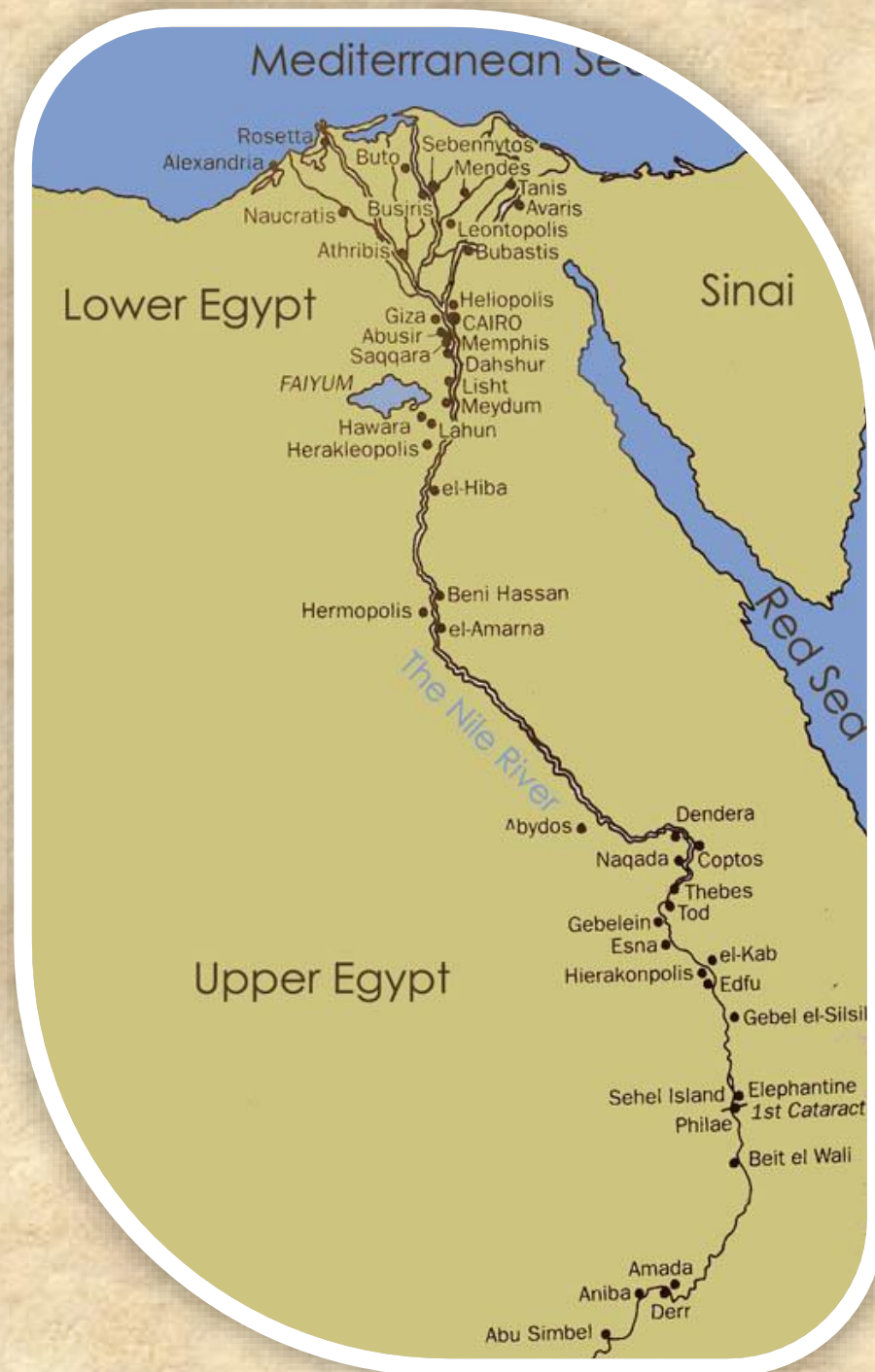
- Upper and Lower Egypt became one- Second Unification of Egypt
- 30 dynasties
- First ruler -Menes
- Copper, bronze
- Potter's wheel perfected
- Surplus production
- Trade, military expeditions, mining, art and architecture, literature
- New forms of writing
- Geometry, astronomy and organised religion

# DYNASTIC PERIOD

- Dynasties I-XXX divided as follows:-

- ❖ Early Dynastic Period : Dynasties I (3100-2890 BC) and II (2890-2686 BC)
- ❖ Dynastic Period- Dynasties III to XXX
- ❖ Old Kingdom or Age of Pyramids : Dynasties III to VI (2686-2181 BC) ?
- ❖ Transitional Period or Feudal Age : Dynasties VII to X
- ❖ Middle Kingdom or Classical Age : Dynasties XI and XII (at times, dynasty XIII included too)
- ❖ Rule of Hyksos: 1780-1580 BC
- ❖ New Kingdom or The Imperial Age : Dynasties XVIII to XX
- ❖ Third Intermediate Phase : Dynasties XXI to XXV
- ❖ Late Period : Dynasty XXVI to XXX followed by dynasty XXXI
- \*525 BC- First Persian Conquest. Nevertheless Egyptian culture continued
- \*343 BC- Egypt annexed by Persian Empire
- \*332 BC- Alexander the Great conquered Egypt
- \*30 BC – Romans conquered Egypt

# **DYNASTIC PERIOD BEGAN WITH UNIFICATION OF UPPER AND LOWER EGYPT**



# <sup>1</sup>Three Kingdoms of Ancient Egypt

OLD KINGDOM	MIDDLE KINGDOM	NEW KINGDOM
<p><b>Pharaohs</b> organized a strong central state, were absolute rulers, and were considered gods.</p> <p>Egyptians built <b>pyramids</b> at Giza.</p> <p>Power struggles, crop failures, and cost of pyramids contributed to the collapse of the Old Kingdom.</p>	<p>Large drainage project created arable farmland.</p> <p>Traders had contacts with Middle East and Crete.</p> <p>Corruption and rebellions were common.</p> <p>Hyksos invaded and occupied the delta region.</p>	<p>Powerful pharaohs created a large empire that reached the Euphrates River.</p> <p>Hatshepsut encouraged trade.</p> <p>Ramses II expanded Egyptian rule to Syria.</p> <p>Egyptian power declined.</p>

# BRONZE AGES IN ANCIENT EGYPT

- Old Kingdom- Early Bronze Age
- Middle Kingdom – Middle Bronze Age
- New Kingdom – Late Bronze Age



# Ancient Egyptian Timeline



Archaic Era  
6000 bc

Egypt was a grassland. Nomads traveled in search of food

Early Dynastic  
3200 bc - 2780 bc

King Menes united Upper & Lower Egypt. Established capital at Memphis.

Old Kingdom  
2780 bc - 2258 bc

Age of Pyramids. First man made mummies

Middle Kingdom  
2134 bc - 1786 bc

Rise of the Middle Class – trade becomes the center of the economy.

New Kingdom  
1570 bc - 1085 bc

Major trading expeditions. Akhenaten and Queen Hatshepsut

Ptolemaic Dynasty  
304 bc - 30 bc

Alexander the Great conquers Egypt. Cleopatra is the last Pharaoh

Roman Period  
30 bc - 640 ad

Romans take control of Egypt. Egypt never rises to greatness again.

# SUMMARY

- Egyptian civilization : 5000 BC-525 BC
- Egypt: Bronze Age River Valley civilization
- Egypt: A Gift of Nile
- Egyptian civilization divided into Predynastic and Dynastic Periods
- Dynastic Period- Three kingdoms(Old, Middle and New) with Intermediate Periods and 30 dynasties in all
- Old Kingdom/Age of Pyramids(2686BC- 2181 BC ?)

All elements of Egyptian civilization found genesis in the Old Kingdom of Egyptian civilization.

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