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Chapter 1 : Ancient History: Celts and Minoans | blog.quintoapp.com - HISTORY

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This massive Arid climate makes it a strange place for a large population of people. Most of the Sahara is too harsh for people to live. The Nile Valley, coastal areas, and the rare oases plural for oasis provide the only places that can support life. An oasis is an area of natural water in a desert that allows plant life. It flows north through the Sahara creating a long oasis in the desert eventually dumping into the Mediterranean Sea. The Nile is divided into sections by cataracts. A cataract is a rocky area that creates a waterfall or rapids. There are six cataracts in the Nile river. For thousands of years the Nile has flooded when the rainy season begins in central Africa. The Nile flows over the riverbanks and after several months it soaks into the ground, evaporates, or flows into the Mediterranean. As the water level lowered, it would leave behind rich fertile soil for farmers. The flooding usually began around June and it happens every year, so it was a dependable source of water and fertilizer for farmers. Egyptians dug canals to pull water out of the flooded river, which they saved for irrigation later on. Fresh water, irrigation, fertile soil--this is why people called it the "gift" of the Nile.

Early History The oldest human fossils have been found near North Africa, but the land was very different , years ago. North Africa took its current desert form around BCE. Around BCE the climate began to change, which might explain why humans changed from hunting and gathering to farming. Before civilization, early humans came to the Nile River to hunt, fish, and gather food, but gradually as people learned to farm and domesticate animals about BCE and BCE , and therefore live in permanent settlements, areas around the Nile became more crowded. Several towns grew and eventually kingdoms developed. The change from nomadic hunter-gatherers to civilized living followed the same pattern as other places around the world: Historians call them Upper Egypt and Lower Egypt. This is recognized as the beginning of the Egyptian civilization. We know so much about the Egyptians because there are so many written resources and because their culture lasted so long with few interruptions. Mesopotamian culture was constantly changing and disrupted by war. Another reason we know so much about Egypt is because they made their architecture out of stone, which has lasted for the most part. Religion was a the center of Egyptian life. Egyptians believed in many Gods, so they were polytheistic. The Egyptian king was the absolute ruler, and owner of all the land, water, people, etc. Egyptian people believed the pharaoh was a living God, so the Egyptians developed a theocracy, or a government ruled by religious leaders. This is important to understanding why Egyptian people were so willing to give their grain to the Pharaoh and build him or her incredible temples--they thought the Pharaoh was a living God that would be with them forever in eternity. The first pharaohs established a dynasty, or family control of government, and a capital city at Memphis from which they could control the work force, agriculture, and trade routes in and out of Egypt. A total of 31 dynasties controlled Egypt during nearly years of history. Egyptians had many religious rituals and ceremonies. The most well-known ritual was mummification. Egyptians believed in life after death, and they wanted the body to look life-like. Anyone could be mummified if they had enough money. First they removed the organs. Then they removed as much moisture from the body as possible using a salt called natron to preserve the body and then wrapped it in linen cloth. The body was placed in a sarcophagus, which is similar to a coffin. Egyptians were a very advanced civilization due to their inventions and technology. Eventually, they created an alphabet from their symbols. In CE a European explorer found what is called the Rossetta Stone--a stone with the same message written in 3 different languages, which finally allowed historians to translate ancient hieroglyphs. Egyptians developed a day calendar and used a number system based on An obelisk is a tall narrow monument that becomes more narrow as it goes up. Egyptians were excellent ship builders and excelled at mathematics. They used fractions, decimals, addition, subtraction, multiplication, division and basic ideas of geometry. Egyptian art and architecture is famous and has been reused and copied by many other civilization including Greece, Rome,

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and even the United States. Egyptian life depended on what social class you were a part of. At the top of society was the Pharaoh. Below them were doctors and engineers, craftsman, and then farmers and unskilled workers at the bottom. Egyptians did use some slaves, but slavery is hardly mentioned in their writings. Most people lived in mud-brick homes. Women raised the children and men usually made an income for the family. Egyptians enjoyed music, dancing, and playing games such as Senet. When farmers were not working the fields they often worked on construction projects including temples and irrigation canals. Bread was the main food source, but they would have eaten meat during festivals. He defeated some enemies and united Upper and Lower Egypt into one civilization. A Mastaba has a flat roof, similar to the base of a pyramid without a top. The building of a Mastaba clearly led to the building of pyramids during the Old Kingdom. During this time the Egyptian kingdom was divided into states or provinces called nomes. One of the first major Pharaohs of the Old Kingdom was Djoser. His temple was one of the first pyramids Egyptians tried to build. It was a "step pyramid" and it started the tradition of building pyramids as a burial ground for Pharaohs. The more well known pyramids at Giza and the Sphinx were built for Pharaoh Khufu during this time. Old Kingdom Pharaohs had complete power and were treated as living Gods. During this time Ra became the most important Egyptian God. The pyramids were meant to honor the Pharaoh, but also keep his grave safe from robbers. The eleventh dynasty ruled from a new capital city called Thebes. A new capital city was created with the 12th dynasty. The leaders of each nome nomarch became more powerful. The Middle Kingdom was a busy time for the Egyptian military. They made several invasions into Nubia, which is south of Egypt in the modern nation of Sudan. Some smaller pyramids were built during this time, but since grave robbers were able to break into the old pyramids, these large expensive structures were ineffective. Toward the end of the Middle Kingdom Pharaohs were buried in hidden tombs, many still undiscovered. The Middle Kingdom ended when foreign armies called "hyksos" in the north and began the Second Intermediate Period. Egyptians kicked out the "hyksos" and wanted to stop foreign invaders, so they pushed their military far into Asia and battled with the Assyrians in Mesopotamia. They also invaded southern areas of the Nile often called the "Punt" where Nubian Kingdoms and Kush Kingdoms could be found. This military expansion created the largest Egyptian Empire of their history, but it would be hard to maintain. Some of the most famous Pharaohs of Egyptian history ruled in the New Kingdom, in fact it was during this time that Egyptian kings began to be called "Pharaoh". Hatshepsut was a women Pharaoh. Her tomb is an amazingly long ramp leading to a temple that has been cut out of a mountain. Pharaoh Akhenaten tried to start a new religious tradition of worshipping only one God. Worshipping one God is called monotheism. This did not sit well with the polytheistic population. During the 19th and 20th dynasty of the New Kingdom many of the Pharaohs were named Ramesses. He had an amazing tomb build in Abu Simbel with massive statues or Ramesses the Great. It took over 20 years to build this temple, which was next to the river to serve as a warning to anyone trying to invade his kingdom. A few different invasions in the north weakened the empire and used up their resources--this began the Third Intermediate Period. The amazing and mysterious civilization lasted from around BCE until about BCE before outsiders completely conquered them. Attacks from nearby civilizations especially Persia, Greece, and Roman took control of Egypt away from Egyptians. One of the greatest stories in historyâ€”the story of Cleopatraâ€”tells the tale of how Egypt was under Greek control, but still keeping most Egyptian cultural traditions. Cleopatra wants to become the Pharaoh of Egypt, so she has her brother killed and lures Julius Caesar into a relationship to help her regain power. Roman control of Egypt was the beginning of the end of Ancient Egyptian culture. They discouraged they old Egyptian culture and many Egyptians converted to Islam. Over years of foreign control of Egypt, the traditions faded away the language was forgotten, and sand covered up many of the temples.

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Chapter 2 : Before Civilization - Ancient Civilizations for Kids

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Reply You have made an interesting point that may be linked to the people who lived before the great flood, and those who did survive it, and propagated the human race thereafter. However, who exactly were these people and what did they leave behind as proof of their existence, and the proof of they being of more ancient origins than the Sumerians and Akkadians? You provided us with a list of the Slavic nations that are of modern times, but if your theory is correct, what were these people known as, specifically? Did they have a writing system? What about their religious, and spiritual beliefs? Recently, there were some massive stones that were discovered, I believe in the northern Russian mountains. Is there a possibility that this civilization of which you speak, were the amazing builders architects of this paleolithic structure? Thank you for the comment, though. Mike November 22, at Have a look by googling it. Huge artificially cut stones! And there are many theories about what they were used for. The ancient Greeks and Romans built temples on them but are not the builders of the plateau. Bert May 15, at 3: The mystery of it all; the lost answers we can merely hope for, and the wonder of passed time. If only humans had evolved with higher moral standard, our oldest histories and lessons of these lost times could potentially have been preserved. Neither side has hard proof and that is as far as it goes.. Nobody knows, and if you were to challenge anybody who thinks they do to prove it, what you would get is a bunch of idiots telling you to read the information located on their website, and a few other bunches of idiots spitting out their justifications for believing in their God of choice. Hell, I believed it all too, when I was young. I am not saying everybody is wrong, I am saying nobody is right. Royce The Great Flood!? Likely a local event projected and magnified through ignorance of the greater world. Mike Reply Check your twisted history Adolf! Mankind started and originated from Southern Africa, if you want to get right down to it. Do some more reading and studying before you make unsubstantiated claims. You even know cuz he first. First is must have babby. If no babby, then no me. Mike January 27, at 8: This was done to speed up the reproduction of the slaves and make it less cumbersome. That si what really happened and not these religious fairytales! Thfdyj August 10, at 4: I am not going to bring religion into this and just state wat science says. Science says that we evolved from other species, Apes. There are the bones of our ancestors found in the Middle East to prove it. If you want more proof look it up. Also the fact that these bones and all of the bones found were in the Middle East proves that humans originate from their. Tony June 12, at Historical evidence shows the most advanced humans with bigger brains and bigger intellect existed in South Africa. White supremacy and ignorance make people blind to reality. Even when the evidence is overwhelming you would find a way to twist it. Neanderfal existed in Europe, a sub species of humans that had to breed with Africans to survive Keith Oh, like you were there? Ghost Reply An article presented here, is what the scientific community was able to collect. Is that a fact? Were these evidences manipulated? Idk, but this data more complete, Bc of the actual hard facts. But today we discover many new evidences followed by new theories. Personally I have my own, conserning human civilization in general.

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Chapter 3 : Ancient Egypt - HISTORY

*Life During the Great Civilizations - Ancient Egypt [Jim R. Eddy] on blog.quintoapp.com *FREE* shipping on qualifying offers. About thirty thousand years ago, people arrived in the land known today as Egypt.*

Ancient Egyptian agriculture , History of ancient Egypt , History of Egypt , and Population history of Egypt
Map of ancient Egypt, showing major cities and sites of the Dynastic period c. By the late Paleolithic period, the arid climate of Northern Africa became increasingly hot and dry, forcing the populations of the area to concentrate along the river region. Predynastic period Main article: Large regions of Egypt were covered in treed savanna and traversed by herds of grazing ungulates. Foliage and fauna were far more prolific in all environs and the Nile region supported large populations of waterfowl. Hunting would have been common for Egyptians, and this is also the period when many animals were first domesticated. The largest of these early cultures in upper Southern Egypt was the Badari , which probably originated in the Western Desert; it was known for its high quality ceramics, stone tools , and its use of copper. As early as the Naqada I Period, predynastic Egyptians imported obsidian from Ethiopia , used to shape blades and other objects from flakes. They also developed a ceramic glaze known as faience , which was used well into the Roman Period to decorate cups, amulets, and figurines. The third-century BC Egyptian priest Manetho grouped the long line of pharaohs from Menes to his own time into 30 dynasties, a system still used today. He began his official history with the king named "Meni" or Menes in Greek who was believed to have united the two kingdoms of Upper and Lower Egypt. Some scholars now believe, however, that the mythical Menes may have been the king Narmer , who is depicted wearing royal regalia on the ceremonial Narmer Palette, in a symbolic act of unification. The increasing power and wealth of the kings during the early dynastic period was reflected in their elaborate mastaba tombs and mortuary cult structures at Abydos, which were used to celebrate the deified king after his death. Old Kingdom of Egypt Major advances in architecture, art, and technology were made during the Old Kingdom , fueled by the increased agricultural productivity and resulting population, made possible by a well-developed central administration. Under the direction of the vizier , state officials collected taxes, coordinated irrigation projects to improve crop yield , drafted peasants to work on construction projects, and established a justice system to maintain peace and order. Kings also made land grants to their mortuary cults and local temples, to ensure that these institutions had the resources to worship the king after his death. Scholars believe that five centuries of these practices slowly eroded the economic vitality of Egypt, and that the economy could no longer afford to support a large centralized administration. Regional governors could not rely on the king for help in times of crisis, and the ensuing food shortages and political disputes escalated into famines and small-scale civil wars. Yet despite difficult problems, local leaders, owing no tribute to the pharaoh, used their new-found independence to establish a thriving culture in the provinces. Once in control of their own resources, the provinces became economically richer—which was demonstrated by larger and better burials among all social classes. As the Intefs grew in power and expanded their control northward, a clash between the two rival dynasties became inevitable. They inaugurated a period of economic and cultural renaissance known as the Middle Kingdom. Moreover, the military reconquered territory in Nubia that was rich in quarries and gold mines, while laborers built a defensive structure in the Eastern Delta, called the " Walls-of-the-Ruler ", to defend against foreign attack. In contrast to elitist Old Kingdom attitudes towards the gods, the Middle Kingdom displayed an increase in expressions of personal piety. These ambitious building and mining activities, however, combined with severe Nile floods later in his reign, strained the economy and precipitated the slow decline into the Second Intermediate Period during the later Thirteenth and Fourteenth dynasties. During this decline, the Canaanite settlers began to assume greater control of the Delta region, eventually coming to power in Egypt as the Hyksos. The pharaoh was treated as a vassal and expected to pay tribute. They and other invaders introduced new tools of warfare into Egypt, most notably the composite bow and the horse-drawn chariot. New Kingdom of Egypt The New Kingdom pharaohs established a period of

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unprecedented prosperity by securing their borders and strengthening diplomatic ties with their neighbours, including the Mitanni Empire, Assyria, and Canaan. Military campaigns waged under Tuthmosis I and his grandson Tuthmosis III extended the influence of the pharaohs to the largest empire Egypt had ever seen. Under Merneptah the rulers of Egypt became known as pharaohs instead of kings. A stone statue of Hatshepsut Between their reigns, Hatshepsut, a queen who established herself as pharaoh, launched many building projects, including restoration of temples damaged by the Hyksos, and sent trading expeditions to Punt and the Sinai. They also constructed monuments to glorify their own achievements, both real and imagined. The Karnak temple is the largest Egyptian temple ever built. Changing his name to Akhenaten, he touted the previously obscure sun deity Aten as the supreme deity, suppressed the worship of most other deities, and moved the capital to the new city of Akhetaten modern-day Amarna. After his death, the cult of the Aten was quickly abandoned and the traditional religious order restored. Initially, the military was able to repel these invasions, but Egypt eventually lost control of its remaining territories in southern Canaan, much of it falling to the Assyrians. The effects of external threats were exacerbated by internal problems such as corruption, tomb robbery, and civil unrest. After regaining their power, the high priests at the temple of Amun in Thebes accumulated vast tracts of land and wealth, and their expanded power splintered the country during the Third Intermediate Period. The south was effectively controlled by the High Priests of Amun at Thebes, who recognized Smenknefer in name only. Shoshenq also gained control of southern Egypt by placing his family members in important priestly positions. Libyan control began to erode as a rival dynasty in the delta arose in Leontopolis, and Kushites threatened from the south. The reigns of both Taharqa and his successor, Tanutamun, were filled with constant conflict with the Assyrians, against whom Egypt enjoyed several victories. Ultimately, the Assyrians pushed the Kushites back into Nubia, occupied Memphis, and sacked the temples of Thebes. Greek influence expanded greatly as the city-state of Naukratis became the home of Greeks in the Nile Delta. Cambyses II then assumed the formal title of pharaoh, but ruled Egypt from Iran, leaving Egypt under the control of a satrapy. A few successful revolts against the Persians marked the 5th century BC, but Egypt was never able to permanently overthrow the Persians. The last of these dynasties, the Thirtieth, proved to be the last native royal house of ancient Egypt, ending with the kingship of Nectanebo II. The city showcased the power and prestige of Hellenistic rule, and became a seat of learning and culture, centered at the famous Library of Alexandria. They built new temples in Egyptian style, supported traditional cults, and portrayed themselves as pharaohs. Some traditions merged, as Greek and Egyptian gods were syncretized into composite deities, such as Serapis, and classical Greek forms of sculpture influenced traditional Egyptian motifs. Despite their efforts to appease the Egyptians, the Ptolemies were challenged by native rebellion, bitter family rivalries, and the powerful mob of Alexandria that formed after the death of Ptolemy IV. Continued Egyptian revolts, ambitious politicians, and powerful opponents from the Near East made this situation unstable, leading Rome to send forces to secure the country as a province of its empire. The Romans relied heavily on grain shipments from Egypt, and the Roman army, under the control of a prefect appointed by the Emperor, quelled rebellions, strictly enforced the collection of heavy taxes, and prevented attacks by bandits, which had become a notorious problem during the period. The former lived outside Egypt and did not perform the ceremonial functions of Egyptian kingship. Local administration became Roman in style and closed to native Egyptians. However, it was an uncompromising religion that sought to win converts from Egyptian Religion and Greco-Roman religion and threatened popular religious traditions. This led to the persecution of converts to Christianity, culminating in the great purges of Diocletian starting in 303, but eventually Christianity won out. While the native population certainly continued to speak their language, the ability to read hieroglyphic writing slowly disappeared as the role of the Egyptian temple priests and priestesses diminished. The temples themselves were sometimes converted to churches or abandoned to the desert. Government and economy Administration and commerce The pharaoh was usually depicted wearing symbols of royalty and power. The pharaoh was the absolute monarch of the country and, at least in theory, wielded complete control of the land and its resources. The king was the supreme military commander

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and head of the government, who relied on a bureaucracy of officials to manage his affairs. The temples formed the backbone of the economy. At first the coins were used as standardized pieces of precious metal rather than true money, but in the following centuries international traders came to rely on coinage. Farmers made up the bulk of the population, but agricultural produce was owned directly by the state, temple, or noble family that owned the land. Scribes and officials formed the upper class in ancient Egypt, known as the "white kilt class" in reference to the bleached linen garments that served as a mark of their rank. Below the nobility were the priests, physicians, and engineers with specialized training in their field. Slavery was known in ancient Egypt, but the extent and prevalence of its practice are unclear. Married couples could own property jointly and protect themselves from divorce by agreeing to marriage contracts, which stipulated the financial obligations of the husband to his wife and children should the marriage end. Compared with their counterparts in ancient Greece, Rome, and even more modern places around the world, ancient Egyptian women had a greater range of personal choices and opportunities for achievement. Despite these freedoms, ancient Egyptian women did not often take part in official roles in the administration, served only secondary roles in the temples, and were not as likely to be as educated as men. They assessed taxes, kept records, and were responsible for administration. Plaintiffs and defendants were expected to represent themselves and were required to swear an oath that they had told the truth. In some cases, the state took on both the role of prosecutor and judge, and it could torture the accused with beatings to obtain a confession and the names of any co-conspirators. Whether the charges were trivial or serious, court scribes documented the complaint, testimony, and verdict of the case for future reference. Serious crimes such as murder and tomb robbery were punished by execution, carried out by decapitation, drowning, or impaling the criminal on a stake. The procedure was to ask the god a "yes" or "no" question concerning the right or wrong of an issue. The god, carried by a number of priests, rendered judgment by choosing one or the other, moving forward or backward, or pointing to one of the answers written on a piece of papyrus or an ostrakon.

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Chapter 4 : 10 oldest Ancient civilizations ever existed

Ancient Egypt Life During The Great Civilizations Ancient egypt wikipedia, ancient egypt was a civilization of ancient north africa, concentrated along the lower reaches of the Nile river in the place that is now the.

Egypt is conquered by Alexander the Great The great days of Ancient Egypt fell between c. Egypt was a leading Middle Eastern power again between and BCE, and the Macedonian conqueror Alexander the Great felt the need to have himself crowned as pharaoh in BCE – which suggests that the civilization of the pharaohs still had life in it. His general, Ptolemy, on becoming independent ruler of the country in BCE, was also crowned pharaoh, and his line lasted down to the famous queen, Cleopatra, who died in 31 BCE. During this time its culture changed out of all recognition. Location Egypt is situated in the Nile Valley , in the north east of Africa. At its greatest extent, in c. Government The Ancient Egyptian civilization produced the first government to rule an entire nation. The Sumerians , who were the only other people to have a literate and urban civilization by BCE, lived in small city-states, each numbering no more than a few tens of thousand people. The unified kingdom of Egypt, on the other hand, covered an entire country thousands of square miles in size and with millions of inhabitants. The Pharaoh was the ruler of Ancient Egypt, both politically and religiously. In Egyptian eyes, the pharaoh was a god himself, who stood between heaven and earth. His personal welfare and the welfare of the entire people were bound tightly together. Pharaoh was in charge of the army, and would go to war when his lands were threatened – demanding valuable gifts from the conquered people if victory was obtained. Egypt was divided into nomes, which were administrative regions up to 42 of them , each governed by a nomarch. Pharaoh himself was surrounded in his palace by high officials, ministers and courtiers. He represented the Pharaoh in the administration of the land, treasury and legal system. The Army Soldiers of ancient Egyptian armies were armed with bows and arrows, spears, and round-topped shields made from stretched animal skin over wooden frames. Weapons and armour continued to improve after the adoption of bronze: In the New Kingdom, chariots became a standard part of the army. Pharaohs are often shown riding at the head of the army. Modern scholars tend to think this may be a propaganda device, as for a commander-in-chief to be fighting in the thick of the action alongside his troops would not necessarily have been the best place for him to be. On occasion, however, he may well have done; many commanders in subsequent history have charged into battle in person when conditions called for this kind of example. The prime duty of the army was to defend Egypt against foreign invasion. It was also at times deployed in conquering and occupying foreign possessions, in protecting mining expeditions to the Sinai and Nubia, and in garrisoning forts along important trade routes, especially in Nubia. Religion The ancient Egyptians worshipped many gods and goddesses. These included Ra, the sun god; Isis, the goddess of nature and magic; Horus, the god of war; and Osiris, the god of the dead. The pantheon of gods and goddesses gradually changed over time, as new gods became more important, and some less so. The rise and fall of gods and goddesses seems to have mirrored the political fortunes of the different temples and priesthoods. For example, when the rulers of Thebes became kings of all Egypt, and founded the New Kingdom, its local god Amun became the chief god, and was united with Ra to become Amun-Ra. Gods were worshipped in temples run by priests. These were not apparently places of public worship: Only on occasions was the god brought out and shown to the public. Small domestic statues were used by normal Egyptians to worship the gods and goddesses in their own homes. Charms and amulets were worn for protection against the forces of evil. Egyptian religious beliefs about the afterlife also changed over time. In early times, the afterlife seems to have been intimately connected to the preservation of the physical body by mummification. This always retained some force. However, the idea grew up that human beings are composed of both physical and spiritual aspects. After death, the latter lived on. The great majority of the people were peasant farmers. Because of the fertile nature of the Nile Valley, they were able to produce the large surplus which sustained the refined lifestyle of the Pharaoh and his court, his officials, the priests and all the other members of the elite. Peasants also

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provided the mass labour which built the pyramids and temples along the Nile Valley. Agriculture Farming in Egypt was dependent completely on the Nile River. Just a few miles away from the river, on both sides, was bone dry desert. Satellite Image of the Nile River <https://www.google.com/maps/@26.8426329,30.7173261,15z>: As much as the flood water as possible was stored in tanks and ponds. After the flood waters had receded, the growing season lasted from October to February. Egypt receives very little rainfall, so farmers irrigated their fields with river water from the reservoirs, and from the river itself. Ditches and canals carried the water to the fields. Trade Trade inside Egypt would have been greatly aided by the presence of the River Nile, and by the fact that no part of the country lay more than a few miles from this great waterway. Until modern times, for anything longer than very small distances, water transport has always been much less expensive than land transport. Numerous towns dotted the river bank, centres of local administration, and of local markets. Egypt has often been regarded as a civilization without cities. This is not true. Unlike the Sumerians, Egyptian cities were not independent states; however, there were numerous urban settlements in the Nile Valley, and Memphis was one of the largest cities in the world, if not at times the largest. The Egyptians were ideally situated to take full advantage of this. Trading expeditions ranged far south into the present-day Sudan and the Red Sea in search of exotic goods such as ivory, gold, ostrich feathers and black slaves. Mineral resources Egypt is rich in mineral resources, and these were well exploited in ancient times. Limestone and granite quarries occurred along the Nile valley. In the eastern desert was mined porphyry, alabaster, carnelian and emeralds. There were extensive gold mines in Nubia. Copper smelted from malachite ore mined in the Sinai. Iron deposits found in upper Egypt were utilized in the Late Period. Many of these minerals were to be found in distant, inhospitable locations in the eastern and the Sinai deserts. They required large expeditions to get at them. These were organized by the government, and often had to be protected by troops. However, these natural resources allowed the ancient Egyptians to build monuments, sculpt statues of all sizes, manufacture metal tools and fashion jewellery. Society As in all societies of the ancient world, peasant farmers made up the bulk of the population. However, the land was owned by the Pharaoh, or by one of the temples, which were immensely wealthy, or by a noble family. Peasants were also subject to a labour tax, and were at times required to work on public projects such as irrigation or construction works. Craftsmen seem to have had a higher status than farmers. Most of these probably worked for temples or the state. Scribes and officials were of high rank in ancient Egyptian society. Within this elite group were also priests, physicians and engineers; and from them were drawn the leading priests, ministers and courtiers. At the very top was the royal family, below which was a powerful class of hereditary landowners nobles. Slavery was known in ancient Egypt, but its extent is unclear. Most slaves seem to have been used as domestic servants in wealthy households rather than as agricultural workers. By law, slaves were able to buy and sell, like other people, or work their way to freedom. Women seem to have had a comparatively high status in Egyptian society. Like men, they could own and sell property, make contracts, marry and divorce, receive inheritance, and pursue legal disputes in court. Married couples could own property jointly. Some women enjoyed huge status as high priestesses. On the other hand, as in virtually all ancient societies, public office was almost always reserved for men. Writing and literature The first hieroglyphic writing that has come down to us dates from c. 3250 BCE. A hieroglyph can represent a word, a sound, or a silent determinative; and the same symbol can serve different purposes in different contexts. Egyptian hieroglyphic writing is composed of hundreds of symbols, which could be read in rows or columns, and in either direction though in the majority of cases, written from right to left. An example of cursive hieroglyphic writing: Egyptian Book of the Dead <https://www.britannica.com/illustration/Egyptian-Book-of-the-Dead>: In their daily work, scribes used another kind of writing, called hieratic. This uses a cursive script that is, joined-up writing which was far quicker and easier to use than hieroglyphics. Hieratic writing was always written from right to left, usually in horizontal rows. Later, around 600 BCE, and therefore towards the end of Ancient Egyptian civilization, a new form of writing, Demotic, came into widespread use. This was a phonetic, semi-alphabetical script, which began life as the transcription of everyday spoken language, but over time developed into the language of literature, high culture and religion. Literature Egyptian hieroglyphic literature is found on public monuments, and the walls of temples and tombs,

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and consists of records of the deeds of gods and men, as well as poetry. Love poetry, hymns, proverbs, spells and curses, instructional and medical texts, and myths and legends, are found in hieratic, and later demotic scripts. The Story of Sinuhe is probably the best known work of Egyptian literature that has come down to us. Another popular tale is the Story of Wenamun, which gives an insight into Egypt in its declining phase. Art Much of the art which has come down to us is funerary art – art designed for the tomb.

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Chapter 5 : Ancient Egypt was located in the Nile Valley, famous for Great Pyramids

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Classical Greece entered the Hellenistic period with the rise of Macedon and the conquests of Alexander the Great. Greek became the lingua franca far beyond Greece itself, and Hellenistic culture interacted with the cultures of Persia, Kingdom of Israel and Kingdom of Judah, Central Asia and Egypt. Significant advances were made in the sciences geography, astronomy, mathematics etc. During the half millennium of the Republic, Rome rose from a regional power of the Latium to the dominant force in Italy and beyond. The unification of Italy under Roman hegemony was a gradual process, brought about in a series of conflicts of the 4th and 3rd centuries, the Samnite Wars, Latin War, and Pyrrhic War. The early Julio-Claudian "Emperors" maintained that the res publica still existed, albeit under the protection of their extraordinary powers, and would eventually return to its full Republican form. The Roman state continued to call itself a res publica as long as it continued to use Latin as its official language. Culturally, the Roman Empire was significantly hellenized, but also saw the rise of syncretic "eastern" traditions, such as Mithraism, Gnosticism, and most notably Christianity. The empire began to decline in the crisis of the third century. While sometimes compared with classical Greece, classical Rome had vast differences within their family life. Fathers had great power over their children, and husbands over their wives, and these acts were commonly compared with slave-owners and slaves. In fact the word family, "famiglia" in Italian, actually referred to those who were under authority of a male head of household. This included non-related members such as slaves and servants. Somewhat contradictory, marriage was viewed as something where both man and woman were loyal to one another and shared little things such as interests, and more intense as properties. Divorce was first allowed starting in the first century BC and could be done by either man or woman. Successive invasions of Germanic tribes finalized the decline of the Western Roman Empire in the 5th century, while the Eastern Roman Empire persisted throughout the Middle Ages, in a state called the Roman Empire by its citizens, and labelled the Byzantine Empire by later historians. Hellenistic philosophy was succeeded by continued developments in Platonism and Epicureanism, with Neoplatonism in due course influencing the theology of the Church Fathers. The overthrow of Maurice by his mutinying Danube army under Phocas resulted in the Slavic invasion of the Balkans and the decline of Balkan and Greek urban culture leading to the flight of Balkan Latin speakers to the mountains, see Origin of the Romanians, and also provoked the Byzantine-Sasanian War of 602-628 in which all the great eastern cities except Constantinople were lost. The resulting turmoil did not end until the Muslim conquests of the 7th century finalized the irreversible loss of all the largest Eastern Roman imperial cities besides the capital itself. The emperor Heraclius in Constantinople, who emerged during this period, conducted his court in Greek, not Latin, though Greek had always been an administrative language of the eastern Roman regions. Eastern-Western links weakened with the ending of the Byzantine Papacy. Over the next millennium the Roman culture of that city would slowly change, leading modern historians to refer to it by a new name, Byzantine, though many classical books, sculptures, and technologies survived there along with classical Roman cuisine and scholarly traditions, well into the Middle Ages, when much of it was "rediscovered" by visiting Western crusaders. Indeed, the inhabitants of Constantinople continued to refer to themselves as Romans, as did their eventual conquerors in the 15th century, the Ottomans. The classical scholarship and culture that was still preserved in Constantinople was brought by refugees fleeing its conquest in 1453 and helped to spark the Renaissance, see Greek scholars in the Renaissance. Ultimately, it was a slow, complex, and graduated change in the socioeconomic structure in European history that led to the changeover between Classical Antiquity and Medieval society and no specific date can truly exemplify that. Carolingian Renaissance, Ottonian Renaissance, Renaissance, Classicism, and Legacy of the Roman Empire In politics,

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the late Roman conception of the Empire as a universal state, headed by one supreme divinely-appointed ruler, united with Christianity as a universal religion likewise headed by a supreme patriarch, proved very influential, even after the disappearance of imperial authority in the west. This tendency reached its peak when Charlemagne was crowned "Roman Emperor" in the year 800, an act which led to the formation of the Holy Roman Empire. The notion that an emperor is a monarch who outranks a mere king dates from this period. In this political ideal, there would always be a Roman Empire, a state whose jurisdiction extended to the entire civilized world. That model continued to exist in Constantinople for the entirety of the Middle Ages; the Byzantine Emperor was considered the sovereign of the entire Christian world. The Greek-speaking Byzantines and their descendants continued to call themselves "Romans" until the creation of a new Greek state in 1832. After the fall of Constantinople in 1453, the Russian Czars a title derived from Caesar claimed the Byzantine mantle as the champion of Orthodoxy; Moscow was described as the "Third Rome" and the Czars ruled as divinely-appointed Emperors into the 20th century. Despite the fact that the Western Roman secular authority disappeared entirely in Europe, it still left traces. The Papacy and the Catholic Church in particular maintained Latin language, culture and literacy for centuries; to this day the popes are called Pontifex Maximus which in the classical period was a title belonging to the Emperor, and the ideal of Christendom carried on the legacy of a united European civilisation even after its political unity had disappeared. The Renaissance idea that the classical Roman virtues had been lost under medievalism was especially powerful in European politics of the 18th and 19th centuries. Reverence for Roman republicanism was strong among the Founding Fathers of the United States and the Latin American revolutionaries; the Americans described their new government as a republic from *res publica* and gave it a Senate and a President another Latin term, rather than make use of available English terms like commonwealth or parliament. During the revolution France itself followed the transition from kingdom to republic to dictatorship to Empire complete with Imperial Eagles that Rome had undergone centuries earlier. Cultural Legacy of Classical Antiquity[edit] Main articles: Classicism and Classical studies Respect for the ancients of Greece and Rome affected politics, philosophy, sculpture, literature, theater, education, architecture, and even sexuality. Classical antiquity is a broad term for a long period of cultural history. Such a wide sampling of history and territory covers many rather disparate cultures and periods. Respect for the ancients of Greece and Rome affected politics, philosophy, sculpture, literature, theatre, education, and even architecture and sexuality. Epic poetry in Latin continued to be written and circulated well into the 19th century. John Milton and even Arthur Rimbaud received their first poetic educations in Latin. Genres like epic poetry, pastoral verse, and the endless use of characters and themes from Greek mythology left a deep mark on Western literature. In architecture, there have been several Greek Revivals, though while apparently more inspired in retrospect by Roman architecture than Greek. In philosophy, the efforts of St Thomas Aquinas were derived largely from the thought of Aristotle, despite the intervening change in religion from Hellenic Polytheism to Christianity. The desire to dance like a latter-day vision of how the ancient Greeks did it moved Isadora Duncan to create her brand of ballet. In architecture, there have been several Greek Revivals, which seem more inspired in retrospect by Roman architecture than Greek.

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Chapter 6 : Ancient Civilizations Summary: Mesopotamia and Egypt Information

The characters are great, they're interesting, they're funny, they will make you laugh. Trust me, at a point this e-book will hit you where you live.

The first groups settle in Crete, probably coming from Anatolia. Growth and expansion of trade in Crete with countries in the Middle East and Egypt. Their economy transformed from agricultural to a higher-level of organization because of trade with foreign countries. The pottery wheel is introduced and they begin bronze metallurgy. The principal characteristics of this period are: Trade was strongly developed and the concept of private property was created. The economy was based in the cultivation of wheat, vines, olives, and livestock. New cities were founded and new, more majestic palaces were constructed on the ruins of the old ones. There is improvement and development of communications over land and sea through construction of roads and ports, which allowed merchant ships to trade agricultural and artistic products for raw materials. In the 7th century BC, all of the Neopalatial centers are destroyed due to the eruption of the volcano of Santorini Minoan Eruption. Palaces were reconstructed and a great period of growth begins in the civilization. Construction of the legendary palace of the mythological king Idomeneo. Marked with a tendency towards architecture and stylization. This is the period of the famous poems of Homer, the Iliad and the Odyssey. Mycenaeans They get their name from the village of Mycenae in Peloponnese. It is believed to be the world described by Homer in the Iliad and the Odyssey. Its position was fixed during the Bronze Age of the Aegean world. The translation of the Linear B tablets shows that the improperly called Mycenaeans are really Greeks. The cultural characteristics of the Mycenaean civilization were built in this period. The Mycenaean palaces are destroyed. Only the archeological site of Knossos is reconstructed to show a Mycenaean who invaded Crete and took power. This period built the peak of the Mycenaean civilization. The civilization was expanded. The Ancient Greeks are considered a seminal culture that served as the basis for western civilization. Their culture had a powerful influence over the Roman Empire, who disseminated into many European territories. The Greek culture gave rise to the renaissance of the 15th and 16th centuries in Western Europe and the neoclassical movements in Europe and America in the 18th and 19th centuries. After the Mycenaean and Minoan civilizations, in the dark centuries between the 13th and 12th centuries BC the existing fragmentation in the Hellas will make a framework through which small, organized, political centers will develop into cities. The Polis were the true political unit, with their institutions, customs, and laws. They were constituted as the identifying element of an era. Greece would give Alexander the Great a path to construct an empire, overtaking the Archaemenids and Egyptians. Signs of geometric designs on pottery. No written texts survived from this era. There is very little archaeological evidence. In the beginning, the people were illiterate. They created the Greek alphabet based on the Phoenician alphabet. They created a style that was later considered exemplary. The Parthenon was constructed during this period. This is when the culture and power of Greece extended through the Middle East and the Near East and started with the death of Alexander the Great. Since the Roman conquest until the establishment of the city of Byzantium renamed Constantinople in AD , modern-day Istanbul. This is usually symbolized by the closing of the Academy of Athens by Justinian I, as well as the prohibition of all religions other than Christianity. There is an invasion of the Germanic and Slavic people. They were established in the mountains and were Hellenized. It should be noted that, until its fall, Greece developed an excellent fleet of which the Dromon is the ship that stood out the most. It was armed with a weapon that was used exclusively by the Greeks, the Greek Fire. It was shot from a canon of bronze like a flamethrower. From the moment of its legendary founding in BC until the end of the monarchy in BC, it paved the way for the Roman Republic. The origin of the city of Rome can be placed especially close to Palatine Hill, next to the Tiber river, in a point in which a natural ford permitted crossing. It was also navigable from the sea located 25km downstream uniquely from this position; it was also an intersection of interest in the commercial routes from Central Lazio, and in between Etruria and Campania. These factors

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were what largely contributed to the success and the strength of the city. Romulo was the first king. This was the year 0 in the Roman calendar. He reformed the calendar, adjusting it for the solar and years, adding also the months of January and February to complete the month calendar. The first census in the world is attributed to him. Roman Republic The Roman Republic was a period of Roman history characterized by the Republican regime as a form of government. This was in practice since BC when the monarchy was put to an end with the expulsion of the last king, Lucio Tarquino the arrogant, until 27 AD, the date in which Rome became an empire. The new position of Consul was created, assigned explicitly to two senators. Initially, the Consuls possessed all the powers of the king, but shared between the two of them. Their mandates were annual and each Consul could veto the actions or decisions of the other. The Romans wanted to consolidate their power in Lazio. The decisive battle ended next to the Regilo Lake with a Roman victory. Rome and its allies, the Samnites, defeated the Latin tribes and the people of Campania in the battle of Vesuvius. With this victory, the Latin tribes evacuated Campania until they were integrated into the Roman Republic. The main cause was the domination of commercial interests in the Mediterranean Sea. In the battle of Actium, Octavius defeated Mark Antony and Cleopatra who killed themselves soon after. Thus, Octavius was given the title of Augustus and became the first emperor of Rome. Roman Empire The Roman Empire was characterized by an autocratic form of government absolute power of one single person. They reached their greatest extension with Trajan, ranging from the Atlantic Ocean in the west to the shores of the Caspian sea, Red sea, and Persian Gulf in the east and from the Sahara Desert in the south to the coasts of the Rhine and Danube rivers and the frontiers of Caledonia Ancient Scotland in the north. After his death, Octavius was consecrated as a son of Divus divine Julius Cesar, which would turn him, in death, into a god. The successors of Augustus demonstrated the weaknesses of a hereditary dynastic system. He burned Jerusalem whose temple was destroyed. He also completed the Flavian Amphitheater, commonly known as the Colosseum. Thanks to a new system of succession based on the appointment of the successor instead of depending on the next-of-kin. It also ensured a good sequence of leaders until Marcus Aurelius broke the rule, designating his son, Comodo, a decision that would be disastrous. At the end of the Severan dynasty, the third anarchy began and from this, several emperors come to power thanks to having risen from military command by merits without necessarily being from a noble family. The first emperor of this new era is Maximinus the Thracian, son of peasants and from modern-day Bulgaria. The two Augustus named the two Caesars simultaneously: Galerius and Constantius Chlorus, who supported the two Augustus and replaced them in the case of incapacity to lead or death. Diocletian behaved as though he held superior power for being the last Augustus. Given that this situation was not the case for the second tetrarchy and since there were already problems of supremacy being generated, the territorial division between the four leaders was completed in the second tetrarchy. It was determined that the Augustuses should step down after 20 years of governing, leaving the two Caesars the task of selecting new ones. There, Pope Leon I met in secret with him, and after this, Attila ordered the withdrawal of his troops without explanation. To this day, no one knows what happened between them, though it is probable that Attila withdrew his troops due to the hunger and sickness that his military was suffering through and that would impede his ability to maintain a siege against Rome. After this emperor was defeated by a barbarian leader named Odoacro, the Western Roman Empire disappeared and gave way to the middle ages. Roman Empire, direct translation of the name in Latin, Imperium Romanorum. The capital of this Christian Empire was in Constantinople Istanbul. Its ancient name, Byzantium, inspired the term Byzantine Empire by the illustrated erudition of the 17th and 18th centuries. While it is a continuation of the Eastern Roman Empire, its transformation into a separate cultural entity can be seen as a process that started when Emperor Constantine I moved the capital to ancient Byzantium which was then renamed New Rome ; he continued with the definitive splitting of the Roman Empire into two parts after the death of Theodosius I in AD and the subsequent disappearance in AD of the Western Roman Empire. Macedonian Empire Ancient Macedonia Timeline This kingdom was consolidated during the 5th century BC and experienced an important increase in power during the 4th century BC with the government of Philip II, who changed Macedonia into the main power in Greece.

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His son, Alexander the Great conquered most of the known world, inaugurating the Hellenistic Period of Greek history. Macedonia was divided into two large regions, Higher and Lower Macedonia. It had reduced coastlines. With the arrival of Phillip II they achieved great success. He expanded the territory to Lake Ohrid. In he took the Athenian colony of Amphipolis which controlled the gold mines. Unstable peace was negotiated that allowed Rome to concentrate its energy on defeated Carthage. The king of Macedonia was defeated and forced to sign a peace treaty that abandoned their claims on Greece. Perseus won and offered the Romans a peace treaty that was rejected. Charlemagne reestablished the balance in power between emperor and the pope.

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Chapter 7 : Ancient Egypt - Wikipedia

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Grave Robbers Ancient Civilizations Summary The first civilizations sprung up along the banks of great rivers. This was no coincidence, as mankind had sought out these places that had such good prospects for development since the earliest times. Fertile valleys and alluvial plains were as a result the ideal spaces for populations to grow. The most important advantages of rivers for human settlements were: The waters allowed for the development of agriculture. It was easier to transport goods by river as roads were almost non-existent. Rivers ensured constant a constant supply of fish. Fish was fundamental in the diets of ancient peoples. The first cultures developed next to rivers or near the sea, taking advantage of what nature had to offer.

Characteristics of a Civilization The development of a civilization, with all the complexities that it involved, was characterized by: They had a great influence on Greco-Roman culture and had a critical role in the formation of Western culture. The lands of the Near East were inhabited by various peoples. In addition to the Mesopotamians and Egyptians, there were the Phoenicians and Hebrews, who were less numerous, but no less important. The Phoenicians were notable for their commercial developments, and the Hebrews for their spiritual contributions. Before BC, this region was rather well populated and the different peoples who lived there had developed a way of life mainly based on agriculture.

Mesopotamia Ancient Mesopotamian Civilizations The Greeks called the fertile land between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers Mesopotamia "meaning between two rivers. They run parallel to each other, crossing a flood plain that has been formed with their floods. They are born in the Armenian mountains, crossing the country from north to south and flowing into the Persian Gulf. Mesopotamia is divided into two geographical areas: Upper Mesopotamia, to the north; and Lower Mesopotamia, to the south. In the upper part, the rivers are rapid, while in the south the waters run slowly and facilitate agriculture. Over the centuries, different peoples settled there. The most important peoples who inhabited Mesopotamia were: Thanks to their artwork, we have a very good idea of how they looked: They were farmers and ranchers, they built canals and roads, worked metals, weaved wool and had used the rivers for transport.

Cuneiform Writing The great Sumerian invention was cuneiform writing, which made it possible to share their thoughts and the events that affected them with future generations. It was a complex system, and had signs or pictographs. First, they were ideographic symbols and then phonetic sounds. By using a stylus or a graver, the characters were imprinted on damp clay tablets; once the clay dried, the words were set. This is proven by the fact that their tablets can still be read. The most interesting epic poem in this style, with almost all of it intact, is the epic of Gilgamesh, a hero who fought off monsters and was a tireless traveler.

Research and Development The Sumerians were the first astronomers and astrologers. They studied and plotted the movements of the Moon, invented the twelve signs of the zodiac and specified that a year lasted days and six hours, divided into 12 lunar months. In mathematics, they developed the sexagesimal division of the circle and created a system of weights and measures. They also invented the brick, artificial irrigation, the plow and the wheel. Struggles between these cities for political hegemony made it easier for them to be conquered by foreign peoples.

The Akkadians The history of the Sumerians is linked to that of the Akkadians. They were a Semitic people who inhabited in the area north of the Sumerians, and they went on to conquer and unify all of Mesopotamia. The Akkadians retained their language and even imposed it on the ancient Sumerians; however, the old language of Sumer remained as a holy language and continued to be used by priests. In the great ages of Babylon and Assyria, Sumerian still was used in religious ceremonies. The most prominent Amorite was Hammurabi, who rose to power in around BC and transformed the city of Babylon into the center of a new Mesopotamian empire. Hammurabi conquered the other cities and unified the whole plain under his rule. Art and commerce flourished during his reign. The king wrote an orderly series of laws that aimed to guide the lives of the inhabitants of Mesopotamia. This work is known as the Code of

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Hammurabi and is a remarkable testimony to the level of civilization reached in ancient times. Its laws relate to civil, criminal and administrative affairs, without there being any radical distinction between them. Most of the writing is on laws on property, sales, exchanges and expropriation. The articles that make up the first example of the so-called *lex talionis* are famous: The code was also seen as a literary work; scribe schools taught it until the first millennium. The Assyrians The fertile Mesopotamian plain was the battlefield of the fights between the surrounding peoples who sought to settle in the rich valley, whether they were from the mountains or the desert. An Indo-European people called the Hittites from the mountains of Anatolia modern-day Asian Turkey tried to conquer it; as did the Mitanni, another Indo-European people who eventually settled by other great rivers in India: Later, the Assyrians and Babylonians fought for power with alternate success. Violence The Assyrians are considered the most violent people in ancient history, and their army became the most formidable in the East. Cavalry was critical to them, due to the great maneuverability of their horse archers in all terrains; they were also ruthless warriors and savage looters. On the other hand, they had a good level of cultural development. Standing out among their works is the Royal Library of Ashurbanipal, whose dominion spanned from the Nile to the Caucasus. This empire, founded on violence and terror, collapsed when they were defeated in around BC and their capital Nineveh was destroyed. The Babylonians regained their importance and embarked on a new period, the Neo-Babylonian Empire, which reached its zenith under Nebuchadnezzar II. No city in the East has left as powerful a memory as Babylon. It became the largest and most magnificent city of all, and its Hanging Gardens, positioned on palace terraces, were one of the seven wonders of the world. Not just the Bible, but also classical Greek writers, gushed with admiration for this city, which they considered the capital of Asia. Cyrus, King of the Persians, seized the region and annexed it into his great empire. Socio-Political Organization In Mesopotamian society, there were three very separate social groups: The aristocracy was made up of a number of rich and powerful families, whose members held the highest positions like priests, royal advisers, military chiefs, and ambassadors. There were state and private slaves. In addition to prisoners of war, they included indebted free citizens who could sell themselves and their entire families. At the head of society was the King, whose absolute power came from the creator god. As his representative on Earth, he was the high priest, chief of the army and in charge of the administrative apparatus; he had a large staff to carry out these functions. Free citizens could also own land. The economy was based on agriculture and trade. The main agricultural products grown were barley, wheat, legumes, olive trees, palm trees and grapevines. Agriculture generated surplus crops and there was plenty of leftover wool from livestock, which was traded with other regions for products not found in the area, such as wood and metals. Worship and Magic Mesopotamian religion was polytheistic. Assyrians and Babylonians absorbed the religion of the Sumerians, but they also kept their own gods and tried to incorporate them into the new religion. The great gods are associated with trinities, their chief deities were Anu, the supreme god, who ruled the universe with the help of Enlil, god of earth and air and ruler of men, and Ea, who had the body of a fish, the god of water, and was attributed with the creation of man. Each city had its own gods and when one managed to impose their supremacy over the others, the god evolved from a local to a national god. Thus, the gods of the successive capitals were in turn promoted to first place above the supreme trinity. For example, Marduk, the god of Babylon, eclipsed Enlil and Anu when their respective cities were conquered as vassals. Ancient Mesopotamian civilizations Priests and Seers Magic was another highly important to the Mesopotamians. Priests were seers who predicted the future, acted as oracles, explained dreams, and offered sacrifices. They also observed the stars as they believed that they guided their lives. By studying the sky so diligently, Mesopotamian magi made important scientific discoveries over the years, making important advances in astronomy. Places of worship were made of tall towers with stairways, called ziggurats or stepped pyramids. Each floor was dedicated to a star and painted with the color attributed to it, and officiants climbed to the top to be closer to the sky; they were true observatories. Mud was used in adobes or bricks as a basic material. They developed rich decorative art, where glazed pottery was used. It was protected by natural obstacles and was able to retain its individuality for more than three millennia. Egyptian

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civilization was one of the most remarkable phenomena in ancient times due to how long it survived. The River Nile was the center of Egyptian life. The boundaries of the country were: A Fertile Oasis The Nile is one of the longest rivers in the world – it measures at 6, kilometers long and is born in the heart of Africa. Egypt is located in a desert climatic zone where there is almost no rainfall and crops are only possible thanks to annual floods. Every year, between June and October, the water level rises due to the heavy tropical rains in the African plateaus in Sudan and snow melting in the mountains of central Africa. The river then overflows and the water deposits fertilizing mud called silt on the river banks, which acts a natural fertilizer. In ancient times, increases in water levels also caused many problems in settlements, although the Egyptians got rid of them through the construction of dyke systems and irrigation canals. In this way, they transformed their country into a vast and fertile oasis. Ancient Egypt Egypt is geographically made up of two very different areas: The only link between the two regions was the Nile and its system of rivers. The river and its floods are natural phenomena; Egypt, on the other hand, is a human creation.

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Visit Website Neolithic late Stone Age communities in northeastern Africa exchanged hunting for agriculture and made early advances that paved the way for the later development of Egyptian arts and crafts, technology, politics and religion including a great reverence for the dead and possibly a belief in life after death. Visit Website Around B. A southern king, Scorpion, made the first attempts to conquer the northern kingdom around B. A century later, King Menes would subdue the north and unify the country, becoming the first king of the first dynasty. Archaic Early Dynastic Period c. King Menes founded the capital of ancient Egypt at White Walls later known as Memphis , in the north, near the apex of the Nile River delta. The capital would grow into a great metropolis that dominated Egyptian society during the Old Kingdom period. The Archaic Period saw the development of the foundations of Egyptian society, including the all-important ideology of kingship. To the ancient Egyptians, the king was a godlike being, closely identified with the all-powerful god Horus. The earliest known hieroglyphic writing also dates to this period. In the Archaic Period, as in all other periods, most ancient Egyptians were farmers living in small villages, and agriculture largely wheat and barley formed the economic base of the Egyptian state. The annual flooding of the great Nile River provided the necessary irrigation and fertilization each year; farmers sowed the wheat after the flooding receded and harvested it before the season of high temperatures and drought returned. Age of the Pyramid Builders c. The Old Kingdom began with the third dynasty of pharaohs. Pyramid-building reached its zenith with the construction of the Great Pyramid at Giza, on the outskirts of Cairo. Built for Khufu or Cheops, in Greek , who ruled from to B. C and Menkaura B. During the third and fourth dynasties, Egypt enjoyed a golden age of peace and prosperity. The pharaohs held absolute power and provided a stable central government; the kingdom faced no serious threats from abroad; and successful military campaigns in foreign countries like Nubia and Libya added to its considerable economic prosperity. First Intermediate Period c. This chaotic situation was intensified by Bedouin invasions and accompanied by famine and disease. From this era of conflict emerged two different kingdoms: A line of 17 rulers dynasties nine and 10 based in Heracleopolis ruled Middle Egypt between Memphis and Thebes, while another family of rulers arose in Thebes to challenge Heracleopolitan power. After the last ruler of the 11th dynasty, Mentuhotep IV, was assassinated, the throne passed to his vizier, or chief minister, who became King Amenemhet I, founder of dynasty A new capital was established at It-towy, south of Memphis, while Thebes remained a great religious center. The 12th dynasty kings ensured the smooth succession of their line by making each successor co-regent, a custom that began with Amenemhet I. Middle-Kingdom Egypt pursued an aggressive foreign policy, colonizing Nubia with its rich supply of gold, ebony, ivory and other resources and repelling the Bedouins who had infiltrated Egypt during the First Intermediate Period. The kingdom also built diplomatic and trade relations with Syria , Palestine and other countries; undertook building projects including military fortresses and mining quarries; and returned to pyramid-building in the tradition of the Old Kingdom. Second Intermediate Period c. The 13th dynasty marked the beginning of another unsettled period in Egyptian history, during which a rapid succession of kings failed to consolidate power. As a consequence, during the Second Intermediate Period Egypt was divided into several spheres of influence. The official royal court and seat of government was relocated to Thebes, while a rival dynasty the 14th , centered on the city of Xoïs in the Nile delta, seems to have existed at the same time as the 13th. The Hyksos rulers of the 15th dynasty adopted and continued many of the existing Egyptian traditions in government as well as culture. They ruled concurrently with the line of native Theban rulers of the 17th dynasty, who retained control over most of southern Egypt despite having to pay taxes to the Hyksos. The 16th dynasty is variously believed to be Theban or Hyksos rulers. Conflict eventually flared

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between the two groups, and the Thebans launched a war against the Hyksos around B. Under Ahmose I, the first king of the 18th dynasty, Egypt was once again reunited. During the 18th dynasty, Egypt restored its control over Nubia and began military campaigns in Palestine, clashing with other powers in the area such as the Mitannians and the Hittites. In addition to powerful kings such as Amenhotep I B. The controversial Amenhotep IV c. The 19th and 20th dynasties, known as the Ramesside period for the line of kings named Ramses saw the restoration of the weakened Egyptian empire and an impressive amount of building, including great temples and cities. All of the New Kingdom rulers with the exception of Akhenaton were laid to rest in deep, rock-cut tombs not pyramids in the Valley of the Kings, a burial site on the west bank of the Nile opposite Thebes. Most of them were raided and destroyed, with the exception of the tomb and treasure of Tutankhamen c. The splendid mortuary temple of the last great king of the 20th dynasty, Ramses III c. The kings who followed Ramses III were less successful: Egypt lost its provinces in Palestine and Syria for good and suffered from foreign invasions notably by the Libyans , while its wealth was being steadily but inevitably depleted. Third Intermediate Period c. The next yearsâ€™ known as the Third Intermediate Periodâ€™ saw important changes in Egyptian politics, society and culture. The 22nd dynasty began around B. Many local rulers were virtually autonomous during this period and dynasties are poorly documented. In the eighth century B. Under Kushite rule, Egypt clashed with the growing Assyrian empire. One of them, Necho of Sais, ruled briefly as the first king of the 26th dynasty before being killed by the Kushite leader Tanuatamun, in a final, unsuccessful grab for power. Persian rulers such as Darius B. The tyrannical rule of Xerxes B. One of these rebellions triumphed in B. In the mid-fourth century B. Barely a decade later, in B. Six centuries of Roman rule followed, during which Christianity became the official religion of Rome and its provinces including Egypt. The conquest of Egypt by the Arabs in the seventh century A.

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Chapter 9 : Ancient Egypt - Ancient Civilizations for Kids

There were ancient civilizations before the won or Yuga of Dwapar as this City became famous because of God KRISHNA 's birth, life & death @ Dwaraka City & Civilization & Peoples @ Dwapar Yug or Eon @ life business.

Ancient Egypt The tomb of King Tutankhamun was found almost entirely intact in This headdress, placed over the mummified head of the deceased king in B. The sands of the Nile River Valley hold many clues about one of the most mysterious, progressive, and artistic ancient civilizations. A great deal of evidence survives about how the ancient Egyptians lived, but questions remain. Even the wise sphinx would have trouble answering some of them. How were the pyramids built? Who came up with the idea for mummies and why? What was a typical day like for a pharaoh? The country was mostly covered by desert. But along the Nile River was a fertile swath that proved to be and still proves to be a life source for many Egyptians. The Nile is the longest river in the world; it flows northward for nearly 4,000 miles. In ancient times, crops could be grown only along a narrow, mile stretch of land that borders the river. Early Egyptians grew crops such as beans, wheat, and cotton. Despite the lack of many natural resources, such as forests or an abundance of land for farming, a great society emerged. Egyptians artisans smelted copper and gold for artistic, architectural, and even military purposes. The Book of the Dead was written using special cursive pictograms that link hieroglyphics to the hieratic form used in later Egyptian religious writings. The remains that have been uncovered date back to about 6,000 B.C. The road to civilization required more organization and increased efficiency. Farmers began producing surplus crops that allowed others not only to concentrate on farming but also to pursue other trades, such as mercantilism or skilled craftwork. Egyptian artisans created copper tools such as chisels and needles to make all new inventions which allowed them to fabricate ornamental jewelry. Artisans also discovered how to make bronze by mixing copper and tin, which marked the beginning of the Bronze Age. This tool made it easier to create pots and jars for storage, cooking, religious needs, and decoration. Pharaohs and the Legacy of Ancient Egypt The pharaohs who ruled Egypt for about 3,000 years were by and large capable administrators, strong military leaders, sophisticated traders, and overseers of great building projects.