

Kingdom on the Nile

How did the Nile influence the rise of the powerful civilization of Egypt?

Lesson Objectives



23. Understand the ways in which geography helped shape ancient Egypt.
24. Analyze the achievements of the Old Kingdom in Egypt.
25. Describe the events that brought turbulence to Egypt's Middle Kingdom.
26. Explain how Egypt grew strong during the New Kingdom.

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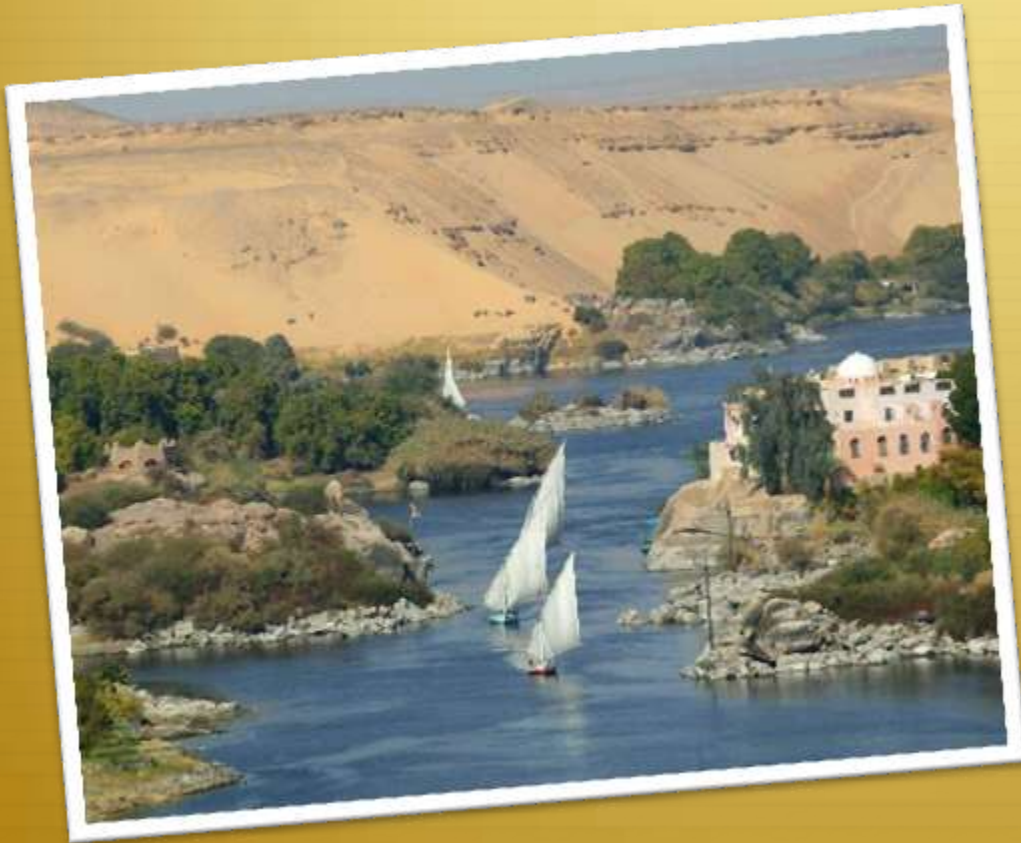


Geography Helps Shape Egypt

- ✦ “Without the Nile, Egypt would be just the barren desert that surrounds the river.
- ✦ Desert
 - ✦ Protection from invaders
 - ✦ Limited suitable land for settlement.
- ✦ “Black Land” and “Red Land”
 - ✦ Black- rich soil around the river.
 - ✦ Red- dry desert soil unsuitable for farming.



Yearly Floods Bring Benefits



- ✦ In the spring rain from the interior of the continent flows into the Nile.
- ✦ The Nile floods annually from the rains.
- ✦ Built dikes, reservoirs, and irrigation systems to channel and store water during the dry season.

Uniting Two Regions



Upper Egypt

- ✦ Located in the south of Egypt.
- ✦ Began at the first **cataract**, or waterfall and ended about 100 miles from the Mediterranean Sea.

Lower Egypt

- ✦ Located in the North of Egypt.
- ✦ Located in the area where the Nile River emptied into the Mediterranean Sea.
- ✦ This area is known as a **Delta**.

- About 3100 B.C. Menes, the king of Upper Egypt, united the two regions.
- The first capital was at Memphis, near the delta.
- The Nile River was used as a highway linking the two kingdoms.

Upper and Lower Egypt



24. Analyze the achievements of the Old Kingdom in Egypt.



The Old Kingdom Forms



- ✦ The history of Ancient Egypt is divided into three main periods.
- ✦ The Old Kingdom (about 2575 B.C. – 2130 B.C.)
- ✦ The Middle Kingdom (about 1938 B.C. – 1630 B.C.)
- ✦ The New Kingdom (about 1539 B.C. – 1075 B.C.)

A Strong Government Takes Hold



- ✦ Egyptian kings were called **pharaohs**.
- ✦ They organized a strong centralized state.
- ✦ Held **absolute power**.
- ✦ Were seen as human and **divine**
- ✦ Controlled a **bureaucracy**, a system of gov't that includes different job functions and levels of authority.
- ✦ The pharaohs depended on a **vizier**, chief minister to supervise the gov't.

The Great Pyramids are Built

- ✦ The Great Pyramids were built during the Old Kingdom in the area around Memphis known as Giza.
- ✦ Tombs where the dead would live for the rest of eternity.
- ✦ Building the pyramids took so long that pharaohs often began building their pyramid once they took power.



25. Describe the events that brought turbulence to Egypt's Middle Kingdom.



The Turbulent Middle Kingdom



- ✦ Power struggles, crop failures, and cost of building the pyramids caused the Old Kingdom to collapse.
- ✦ Corruption and rebellions were common in the Middle Kingdom.
- ✦ Egyptian armies occupied Nubia to the south.
- ✦ Invaders named the Hyskos occupied the delta region of Egypt for 100 years.
- ✦ Eventually Egyptian leaders rose up and established the New Kingdom.

The background of the slide is a collage of various postage stamps and postmarks. Visible text includes 'PAR AVION', '00293', '100.00', 'POSTAGE', 'MADRID', 'COSTA RICA', and 'CHIKAWA'. There are also some numbers and symbols like '24', '7', '19950', and '11'.

26. Explain how Egypt grew strong during the New Kingdom.



New Kingdom Egypt Grows Strong

- ✦ A number of ambitious and powerful pharaohs created a large empire..
- ✦ Reached as far north as Syria and the Euphrates River.



Powerful Rulers Control Egypt

- ✦ **Hatshepsut**- first female ruler of Egypt. She encouraged trade with other people in the Mediterranean.
- ✦ **Thutmose III**- Hatshepsut's stepson. He was a great military leader and expanded the borders of the empire.
- ✦ **Ramses II**- ruled for 66 years and expanded the empire north to Syria. The most well known of Egyptian pharaohs since he boasted of his achievements with monuments and temples.



Egypt Battles With Its Neighbors

- ✦ Egypt fought battles against the Hittites in Syria.
- ✦ Also traded and fought with Nubia, a kingdom on the Nile south of Egypt.



Egypt Declines

- ✦ After 1100 B.C. , Egyptian power slowly declined.
- ✦ Invaders often conquered the Nile region.
 - ✦ Assyrians
 - ✦ Persians
 - ✦ Greeks
 - ✦ Romans

