

ANCIENT EGYPT



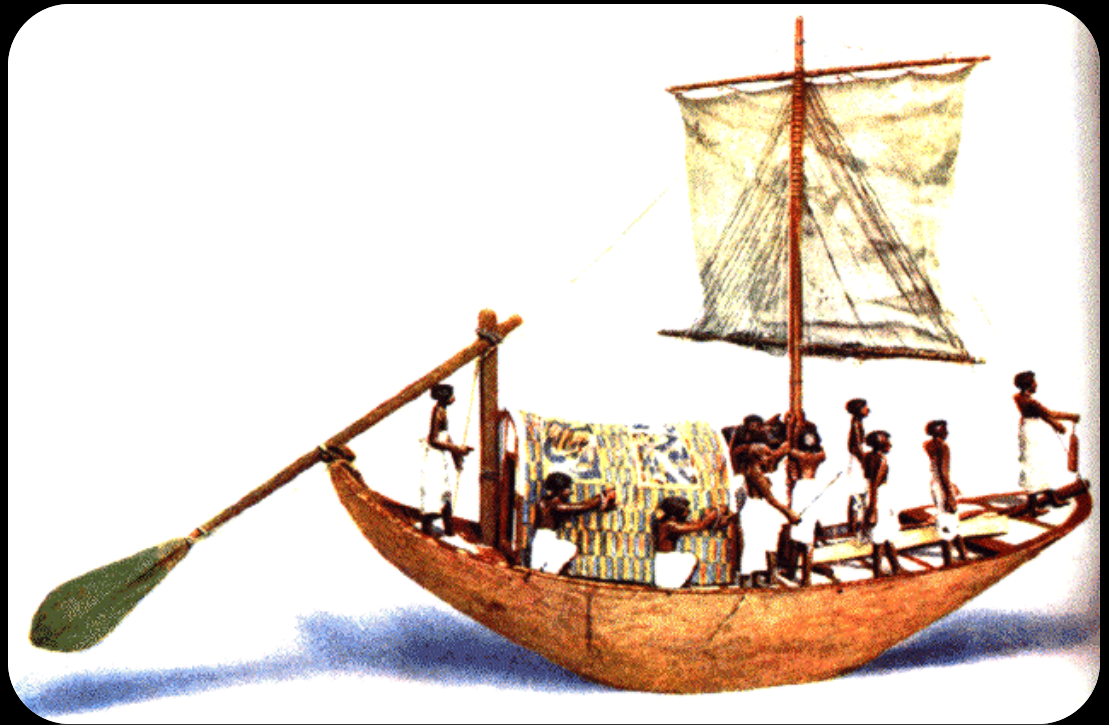
“The Nile gave life to one of the greatest civilizations...”

VALUE OF THE NILE

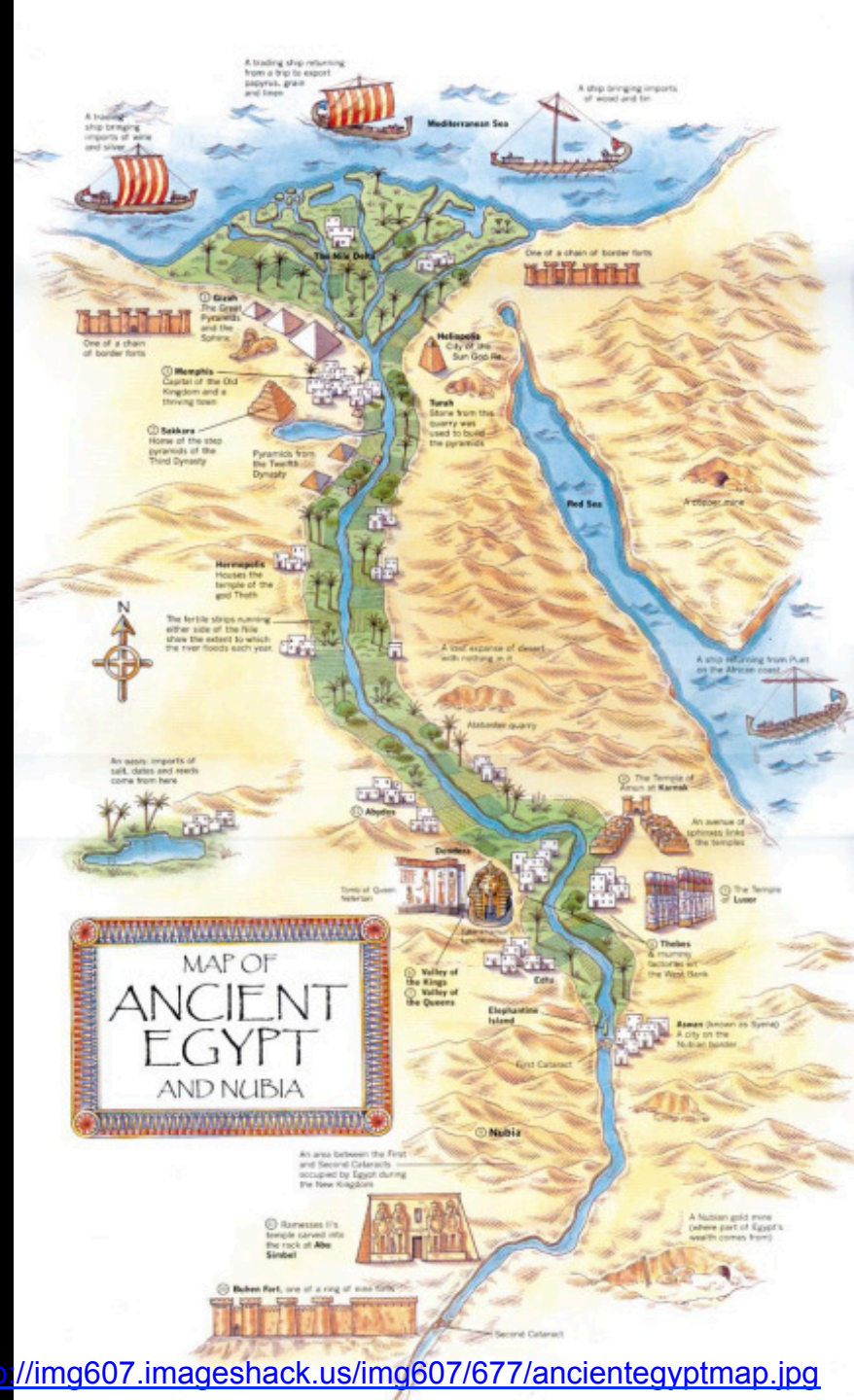
Egypt would be a vast desert if the Nile did not exist

Provides:

1. Water
2. fertile soil
3. transportation



- Egypt → Northeastern Africa
- Egypt is located along the Nile River
 - The Nile has 2 branches: White Nile and the Blue Nile
 - These rivers unite and flow north and empty into the Mediterranean Sea
 - The rich soil (silt) around the Nile was called the Black Land
 - The desert was called the Red Land



MORE ABOUT THE NILE

- World's longest river
 - 4,258 miles long
- Passes through Egypt, Uganda, Ethiopia, and Sudan
- Nile is a Greek word “Nelios” = *River Valley*



A GIFT FROM THE GODS

Very Fertile



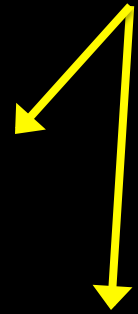
- Ancient Egyptians believed the Nile was a blessing from the gods
- Carries *silt* down the Mediterranean
 - creates rich soil for farmers

IMPORTANT TERMS

- Upper Egypt: to the south
- Lower Egypt: downstream part of the Nile (north)
- Irrigation: the watering of land by canals or pipes



Shaduf



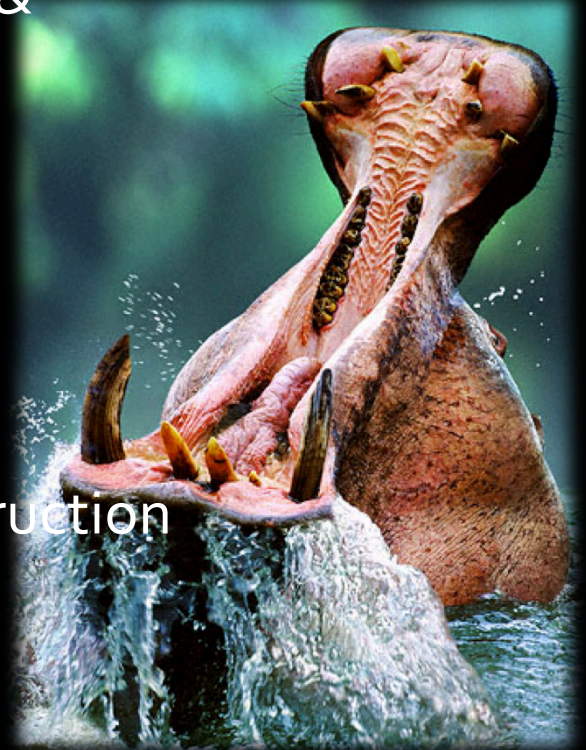
DANGERS OF THE NILE

Most **dangerous** river in Africa:

- Crocodiles
 - Blamed for the death of about 200 humans every year
 - Vicious; around 14-20 ft long
- Snakes (Black Mamba & Cobra)
- Spiders
- Hippos
- Hyena's
- Scorpions
- Mosquito bites lead to malaria
- Floods also led to destruction
- Rough waters
- Many large rocks

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-73WGQyKfGw>

<http://www.discovery.com/tv-shows/other-shows/videos/discovery-atlas-egypt-the-nile-then-and-now.htm>





UNIFICATION





Two Separate Kingdoms:

- Upper Egypt: **WHITE** crown
- Lower Egypt: **RED** crown

Menes (AKA— Narmar/ AKA— The Fighter): King of Upper Egypt

- He overthrew the king of Lower Egypt
- Wore a double crown (**RED & WHITE**) to symbolize unification of the 2 kingdoms

FIRST PHARAOH OF EGYPT

- Menes unified Egypt
 - In charge: 3407-3346 BC
 - Best known for: United Egypt under one rule and establishing the capital city of Memphis
- Period in Egypt's History--“Old Kingdom”
 - Time when early pharaohs worked to build unity in the country



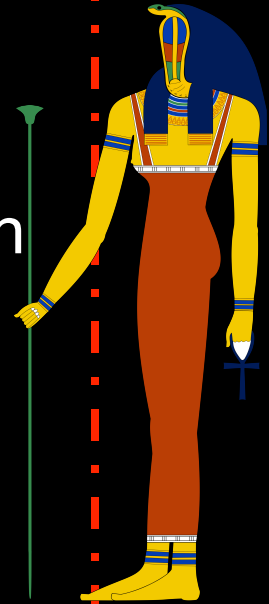
WHAT WAS A PHARAOH?

- Term to describe the supreme ruler of ancient Egypt
 - Like a king or emperor
- A Greek word= “great house”
- The Pharaoh’s wife was called “the Great Royal Wife”
- Egyptian rule was made up of dynasties
 - Power handed down through family to the next heir
 - 31 Dynasties in 3,000 years of Egyptian history



EGYPTIAN CROWN

- The Pharaohs wore a crown that had an image of the cobra goddess.
- Only the pharaoh was allowed to wear the cobra goddess.
- It was believed that she would protect them by spitting flames at their enemies.

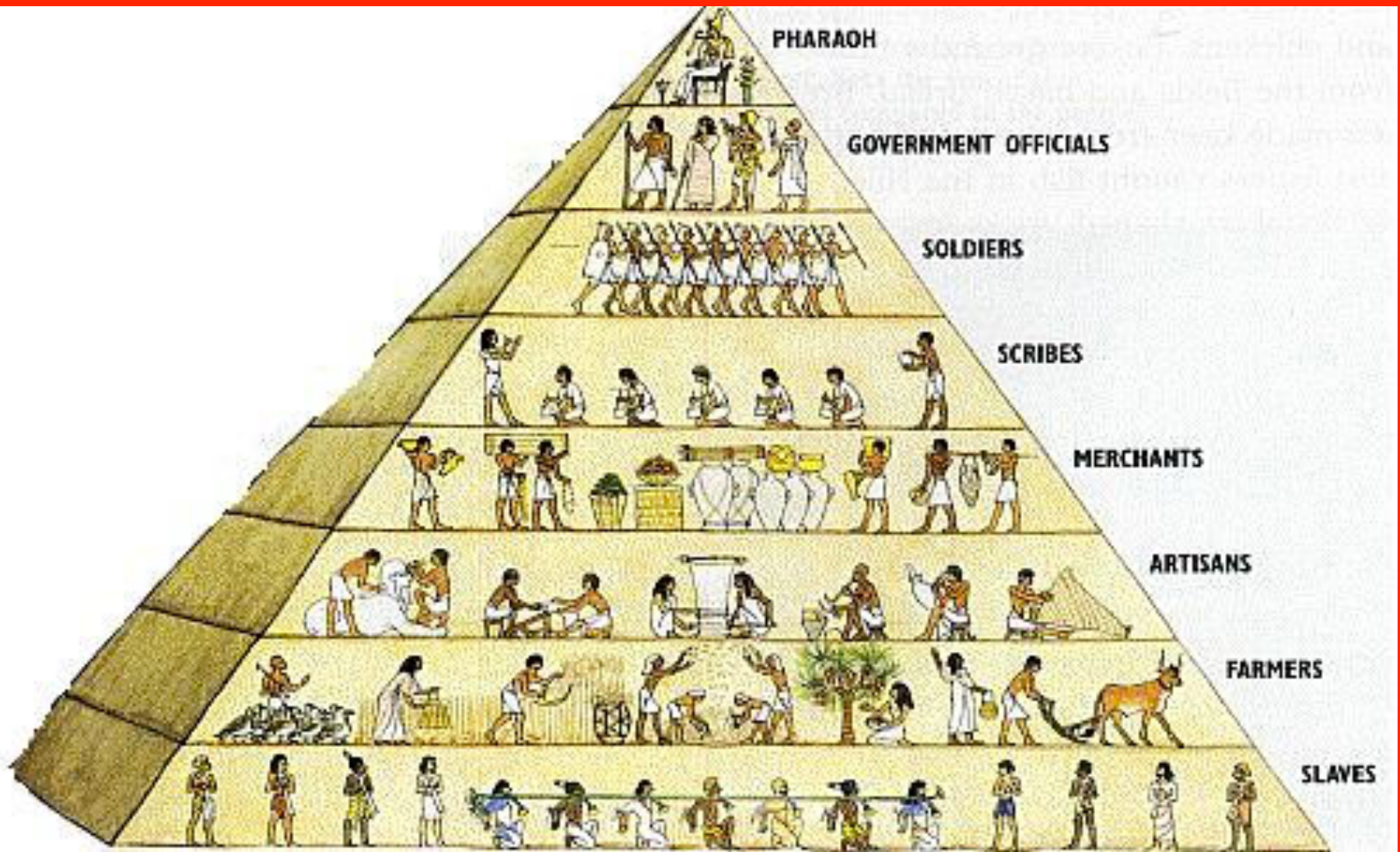


GOVERNMENT

- **Governors**
 - Most powerful local leaders
- **Responsibilities:**
 - Collected taxes
 - Local judges
 - Monitored flood water
- **Memphis**
 - Egypt's capital city



SOCIAL PYRAMID



ECONOMY



- Pharaoh collected farmers crops as taxes

- grain, meat, fruit, olive oil—to feed pharaoh's family & servants



- Taxed time

- Called on people to build canals or buildings



- Money did not exist

- Instead traded goods





RELIGION



- Egyptians believed the pharaoh was a god

Ankh



Ra (aka Amon-Re)

- Sun god
- Believed that **Ra gave life** to the Earth
- Most important of all the gods



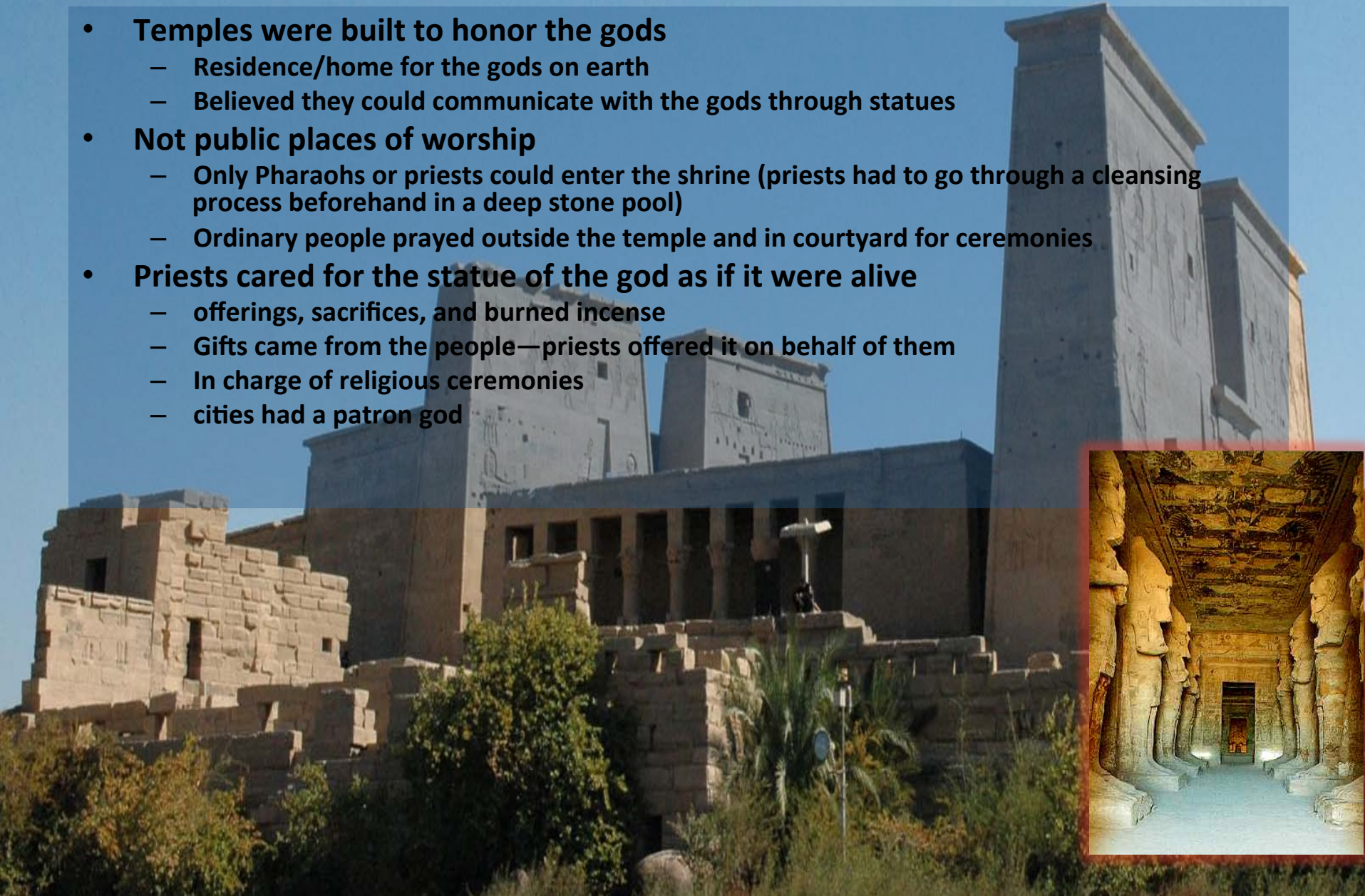
RELIGION

- Egyptians considered **earth**, **sky**, **river**, and **sun** sacred
- Gods were pictured as humans, animals, and human/animal forms
- Polytheism: Worshipped many gods (2,000 gods & goddesses)



EGYPTIAN TEMPLES

- **Temples were built to honor the gods**
 - Residence/home for the gods on earth
 - Believed they could communicate with the gods through statues
- **Not public places of worship**
 - Only Pharaohs or priests could enter the shrine (priests had to go through a cleansing process beforehand in a deep stone pool)
 - Ordinary people prayed outside the temple and in courtyard for ceremonies
- **Priests cared for the statue of the god as if it were alive**
 - offerings, sacrifices, and burned incense
 - Gifts came from the people—priests offered it on behalf of them
 - In charge of religious ceremonies
 - cities had a patron god



TEMPLES

The background image shows the interior of an ancient Egyptian temple. The walls and ceiling are covered in hieroglyphs and carved reliefs. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the textures of the stone and the intricate details of the carvings. The perspective is from a low angle, looking down a long, narrow corridor or hall.

- Made of stone
 - Covered with scenes that were carved
 - Brightly painted
- Gods/statues were often displayed in groups of 3, 6, 9, and 12.
 - Thought to be lucky numbers
- Temples were often destroyed/rebuilt/renovated when a new Pharaoh took over
- Many temples had a gate, series of courtyards and multiple sanctuaries
- Ceiling of a temple was viewed as the heavens

KARNAK TEMPLE

- The 2nd largest religious building ever made in ancient times (200 acres) –first Angkor Wat in Cambodia
 - 2nd most visited place in the world (after Pyramids of Giza)
 - Luxor, Egypt
 - A City of temples built 2,000 years ago
 - Honored 3 gods—place of great pilgrimage
 - The great temple at the center of Karnak is so large that St. Peter's Basilica and Notre Dame Cathedrals would fit in its walls.
 - Over 25 temples and chapels in the complex
 - Built over a series of time by 30 different pharaohs. (Ramses)





EGYPTIAN AFTERLIFE

- Central to religion
 - When you died the gods became your protectors
 - Death wasn't seen as the last stage in life—rather where you were at rest and waiting to be revived
- **Before** you made it to the “Next World”
 - had to pass through the terrifying underworld: full of monsters, dangerous animals, a lake of fire, etc.
- Believed dead could take food and objects with them
 - belongings, pets, sometimes even servants



The dead travel on a low slung boat



Anubis: Jackal-headed god that ushered souls into the afterlife

- Immortality **not** guaranteed
 - A priest performed the “Opening of the Mouth” ceremony to restore “life” to the body—series of spells said during this
 - Had to pass through 7 gates aided by magical spells eventually if they made it through the different obstacles they would reach the Hall of Judgment
 - The end ceremony was called, “weighing the heart,” in the presence of Osiris (god of the underworld)
 - This was a face to face judgment with 42 gods; heart was weighed against a feather
- If the heart was perfectly balanced you could encounter big problems—
 - lighter the heart= better the life was
 - heavier the heart= more sinful the life was
- 1. Good life: sent to paradise
- 2. Bad life: devoured by monster (crocodile, lion, hippo)— die a second death and cast into darkness

AFTERLIFE



MUMMIFICATION

Sarcophagus=
coffin



- Where does the word “mummy” come from?
 - Persian words “mum” and “mumya”
 - Type of black wax that comes from the Mumya mountain in Persia
 - This black goo/wax was used in early mummification—so people called them “mumya”
- This process preserved the bodies of dead (rich)
 - Dried & wrapped in strips of cloth
 - Believed that through mummification & funeral rites a person could be re-created

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PGxLAXP_ITc

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-MQ5dL9cQX0>

HOW MUMMIFICATION TOOK PLACE...

1. Pull brain out of nose using a hook
2. Make a cut on the left side of the body near the tummy
3. Remove all the internal organs
4. Let the internal organs dry
5. Place the lungs, intestines, stomach and liver inside canopic jars
6. Place the heart back inside the body
7. Rinse inside of the body with wine and spices
8. Cover the corpse with sale for 70 days
9. After 40 days stuff the body with linen or sand to give it a more human shape
10. After 70 days wrap the body from head to toe in bandages
11. Place in sarcophagus

CANOPIC JARS

*Jars used to hold internal organs.
Lids of canopic jars represented four gods.*



Hapy: baboon-headed god who protected the lungs.



Duamutef: the jackal-headed god who protected the stomach



Qebehsenuef: the falcon-headed god who protected the intestines.



Imsety: the human-headed god who protected the liver.

Wig: often worn to special events

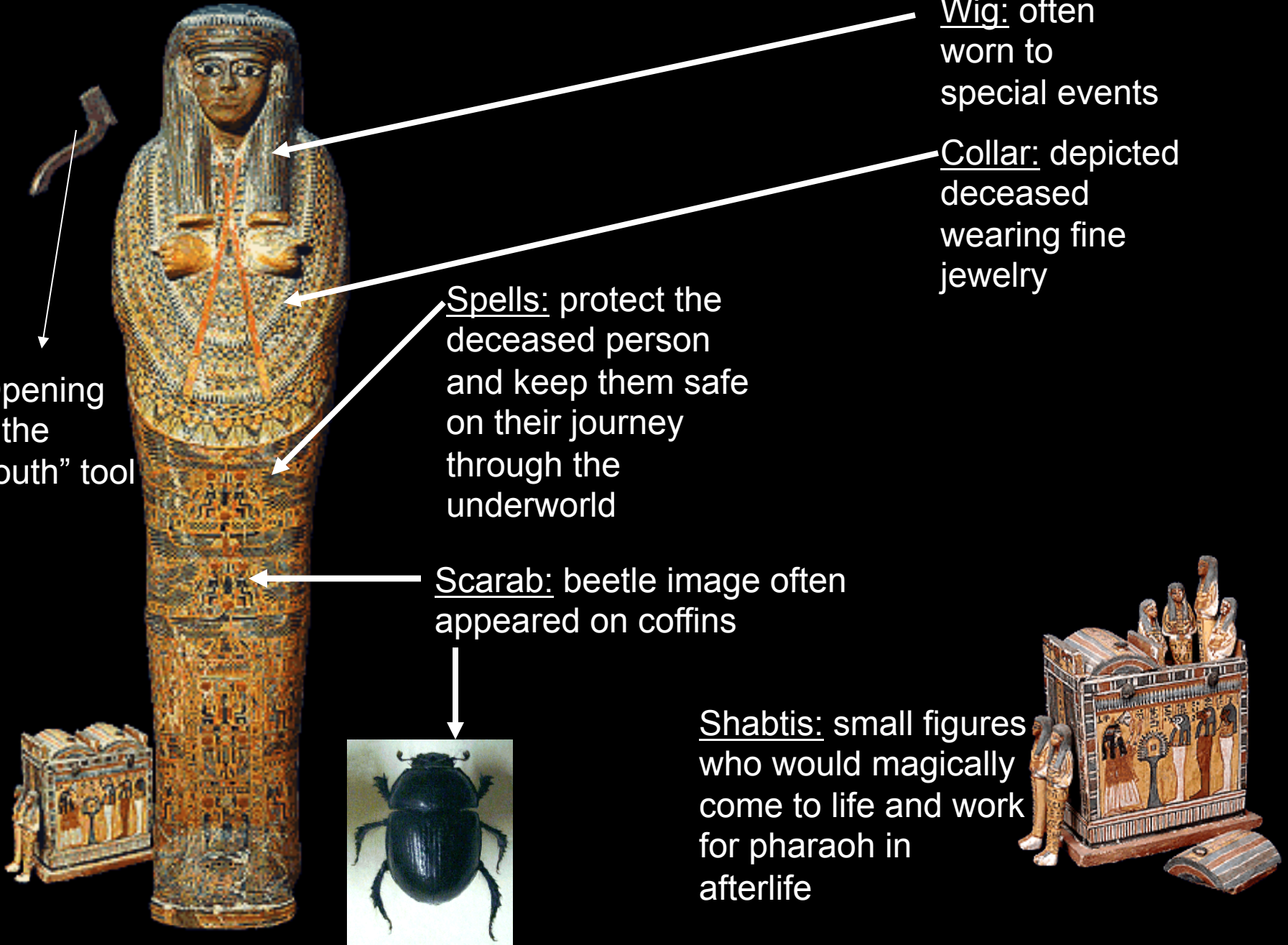
Collar: depicted deceased wearing fine jewelry

Spells: protect the deceased person and keep them safe on their journey through the underworld

Scarab: beetle image often appeared on coffins

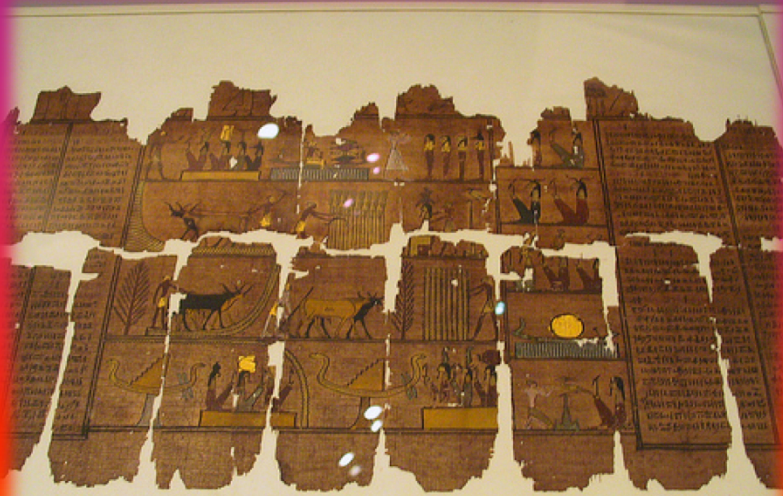
Shabtis: small figures who would magically come to life and work for pharaoh in afterlife

“Opening of the mouth” tool

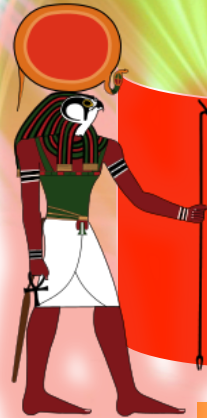


BOOK OF THE DEAD

- Funeral texts: spells, charms, passwords, numbers, magical formulas—help the deceased in afterlife
 - Written over a period of 1,000 years by priests
 - Guided the dead through dangerous trials they would encounter/battle before they reached the underworld for judgment



The gods of Egypt



Ra: sun god
"Creator of all"

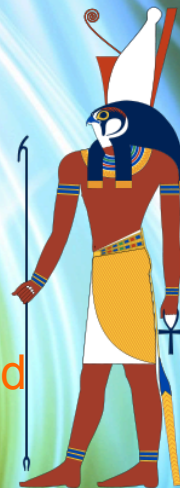
Ra's grandkids



Seth
god of chaos
Wicked brother of Osiris
Killed Osiris

Isis
goddess of magic & life
Sister of Osiris & Seth
Wife of Osiris

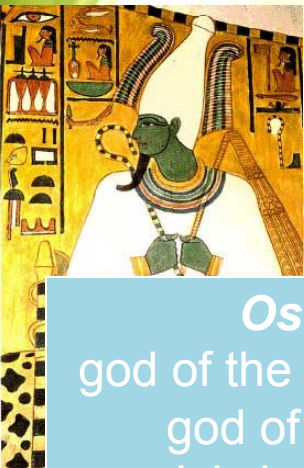
son



Horus
King of the gods
God of the sky
Pharaoh embodied this god



Osiris
god of the underworld
god of fertility
Isis husband



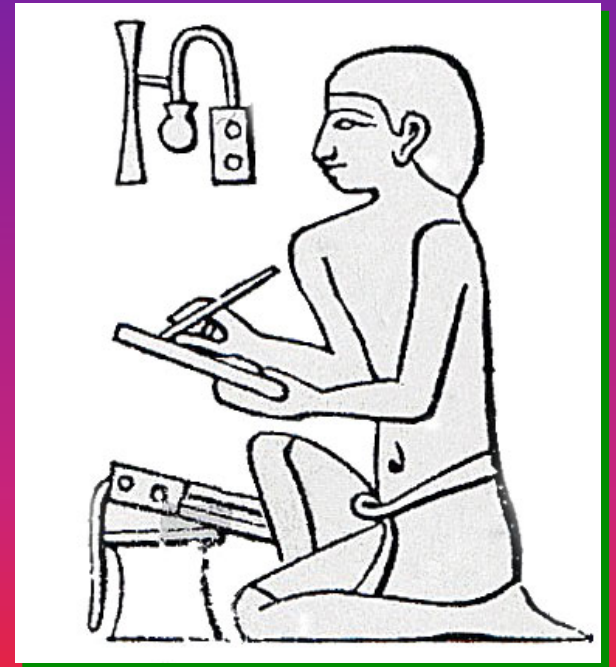
PAPYRUS

- Reed plant that grows near Nile
 - Used to make paper
 - Also sharpened reeds to make pens (would dip into red/black ink)



LIFE OF A SCRIBE































- Scribe: writer
 - Kept records for Pharaoh
- Highly respected
 - good at math/good penmanship
- Process
 - Only boys: began training at 10 yrs
 - Hours chanting and writing
 - Broken pottery was scrap paper



Writing

- Hieroglyphics
 - made up of about 800 picture-signs
 - symbols
- stood for objects or sounds



 A	 B	 B	 C	 D	 E
 F	 G	 H	 H	 I	 J
 K	 L	 M	 N	 N	 O
 P	 Q	 R	 S	 T	 T
 U	 V	 W	 X	 Y	 Z

ROSETTA STONE

- Hieroglyphics stopped using: circa 400 A.D.
 - Meaning was lost
 - 1799, Archaeologists found piece of stone in an Egyptian town— Rosetta
 - 3 languages on stone
 - hieroglyphs, demotic, greek

