Chapter 5

EGYPT

5.1 THE NILE RIVER







Valley Civilization

• Ideal because of its resources

5000 BC- hunters & gatherers moved in

Nile River Valley

- Nile River is longest river in the world
 - 4,145 miles long
 - Stretched from central Africa to Mediterranean Sea
 - Only major river that runs from south to north.
- Nile River often called the "lifeblood", "creator of all good", or "The Gift" of Egypt.









Regions of Egypt

- Ancient Egypt includes two regions:
- Upper Egypt
 - Southern part
- Lower Egypt
 - Northern part



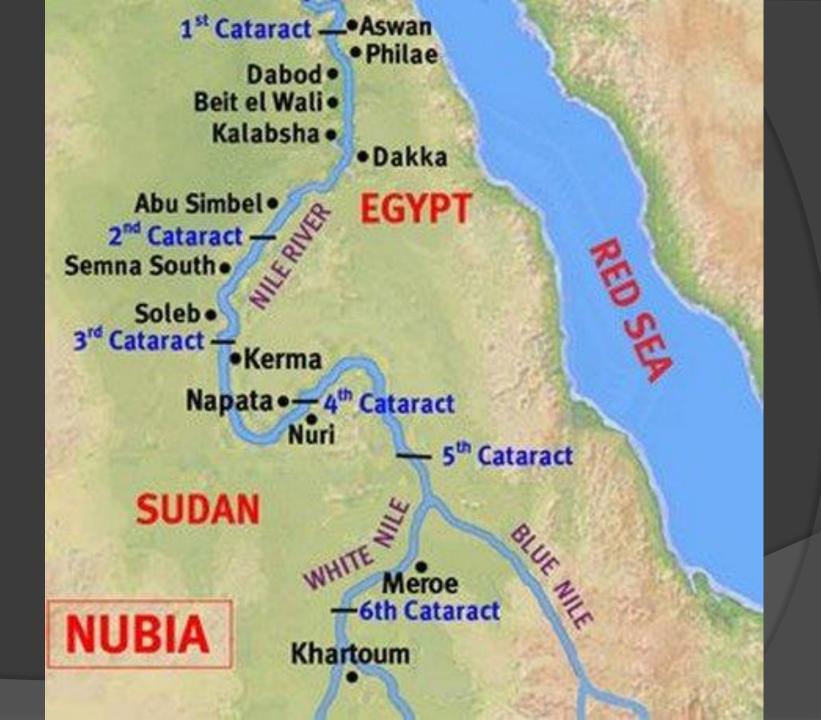
The Nile

- Is two separate rivers at its source
- Blue Nile
 - Flows out of the mountains
- White Nile

Protection

- Cataracts:
 - Prevent invasion from the South

 Rushing and swirling water was too difficult to travel.















GEOGRAPHY OF EGYPT

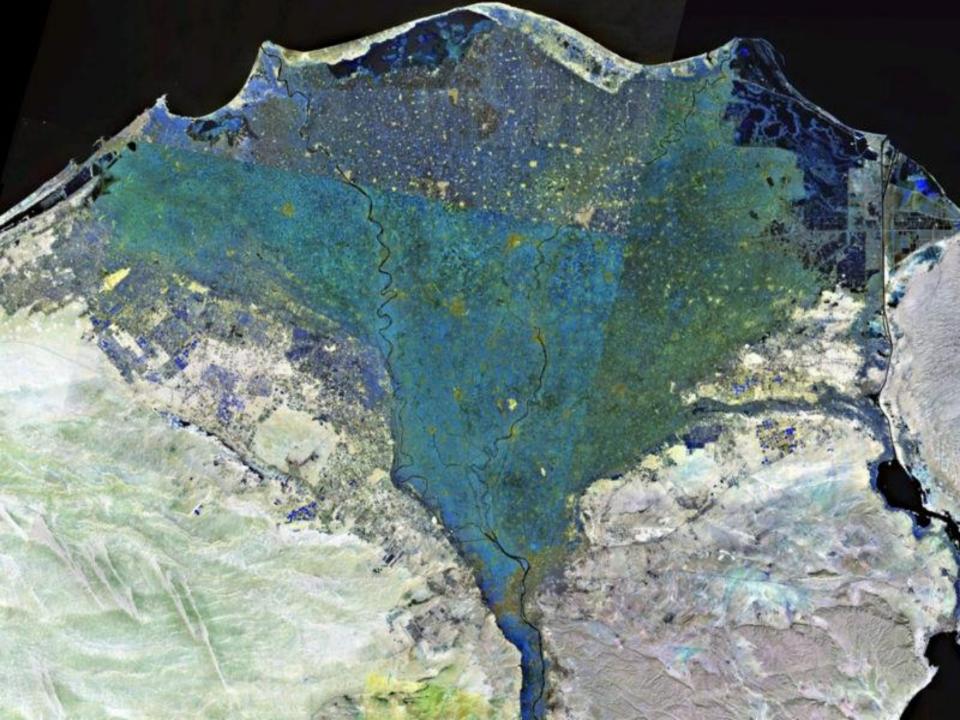
Delta

- Before Nile meets the Mediterranean Sea
 - Splits into many branches
- Form fan-shaped area of fertile land called a delta











Deserts

- Harsh deserts
 - Sahara: Largest desert in the world
 - Libyan & Eastern deserts acted as a natural <u>barrier</u> against invasions









Flooding

- Nile River flooded each year
 - Predictable
 - Narrow corridor about 12 miles wide of fertile soil
 - Land covered in <u>silt</u>; made land look black
 - Kemet: "black land"
 - Dry land called "Red Land"
 - Due to its scorching hear

FLOOD SEASON

"Inundation"

- June to September
- Time of the floods.
- During this time farmers were paid to work for the pharaohs on building projects

"Emergence"

- October to February
- Land began to emerge from the water
- Egyptians planted
- Captured as much water as possible
 - Irrigation ditches

"Drought"

- March to May
- Harvested crops
 - Wheat, barley, and more
 - Could feed themselves and the animals

Versatile Plant

- Papyrus grew along the Nile River
- Used to make:
 - Paper
 - Sandals
 - Boats
 - Ropes
 - Paintbrushes
 - And more





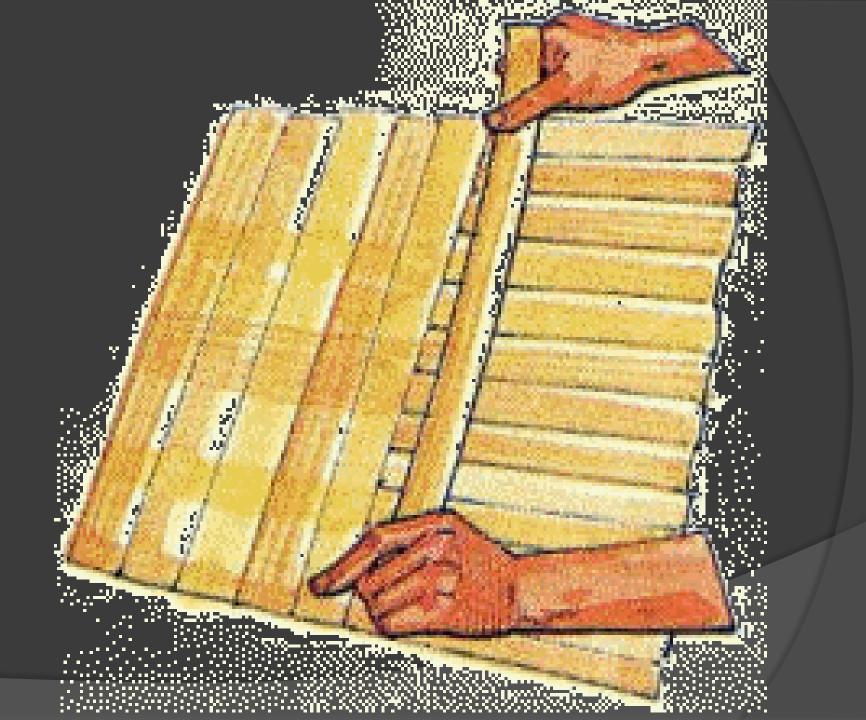


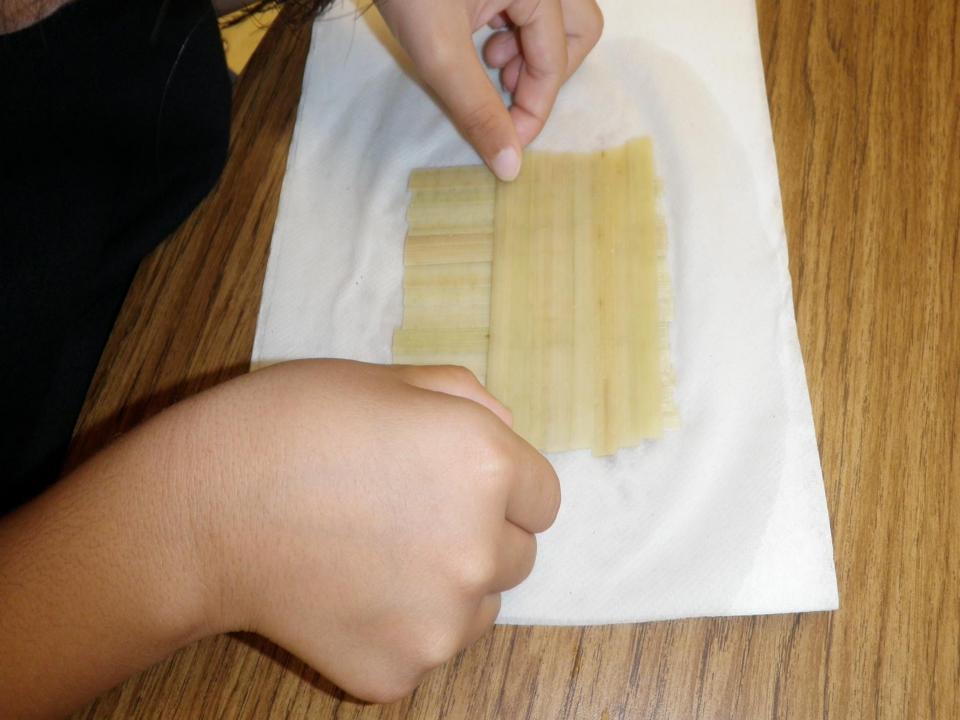
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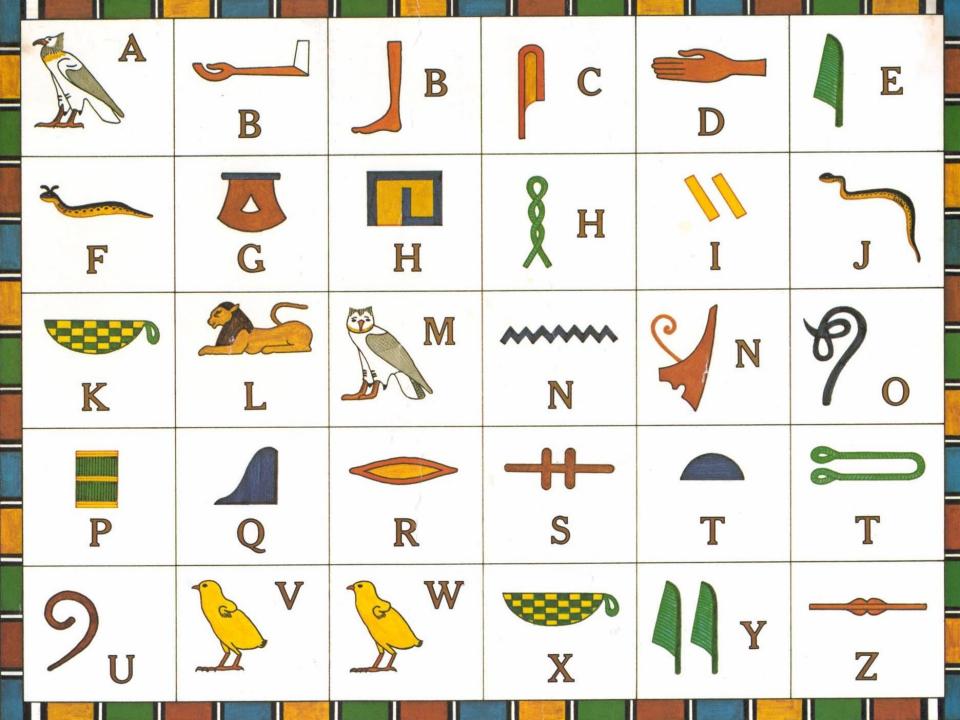


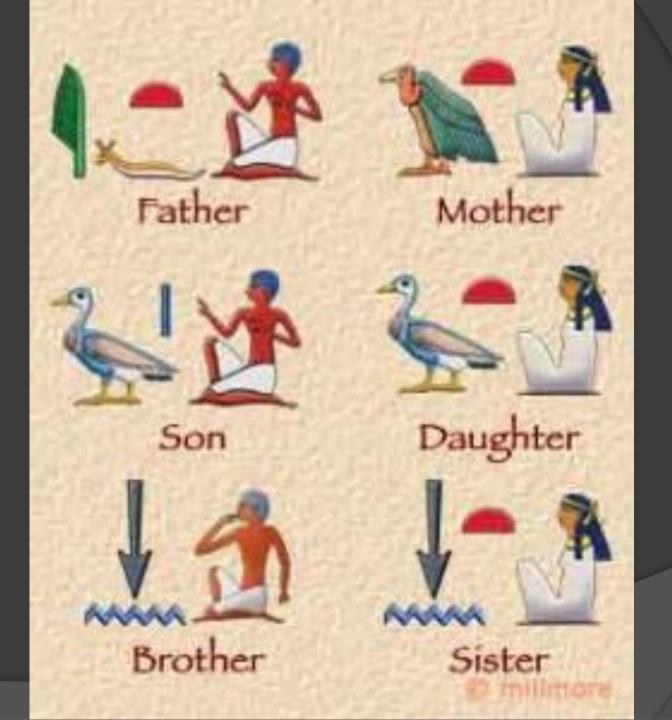


Writing System

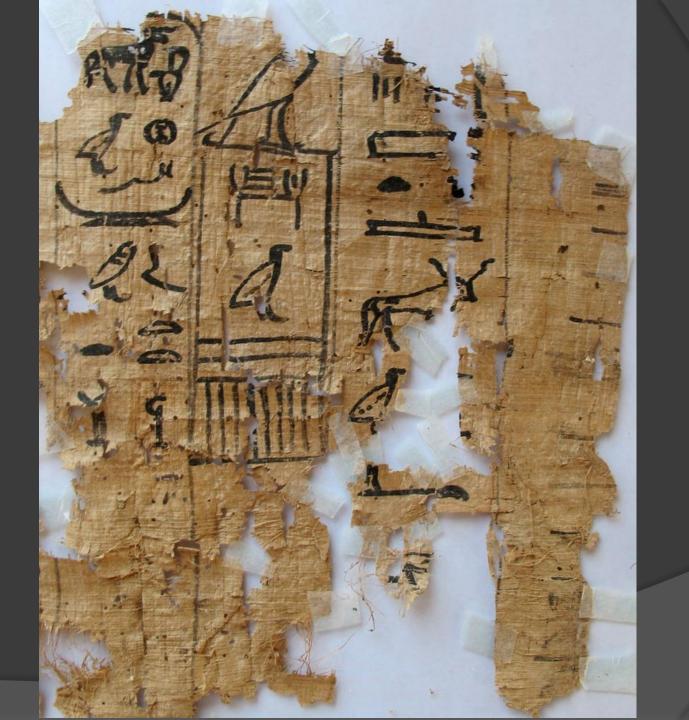
- Hieroglyphics
 - First just symbols
 - Eventually combination of pictures and sound symbols
- Scribes wrote on papyrus
 - Few could read and write hieroglyphics
 - School leads to career in government & business









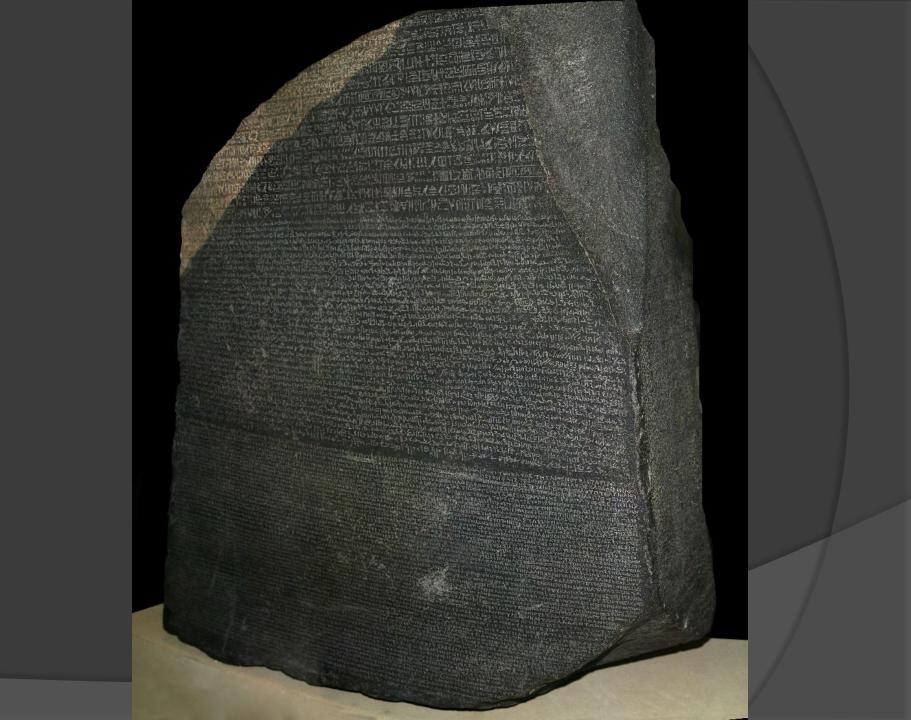


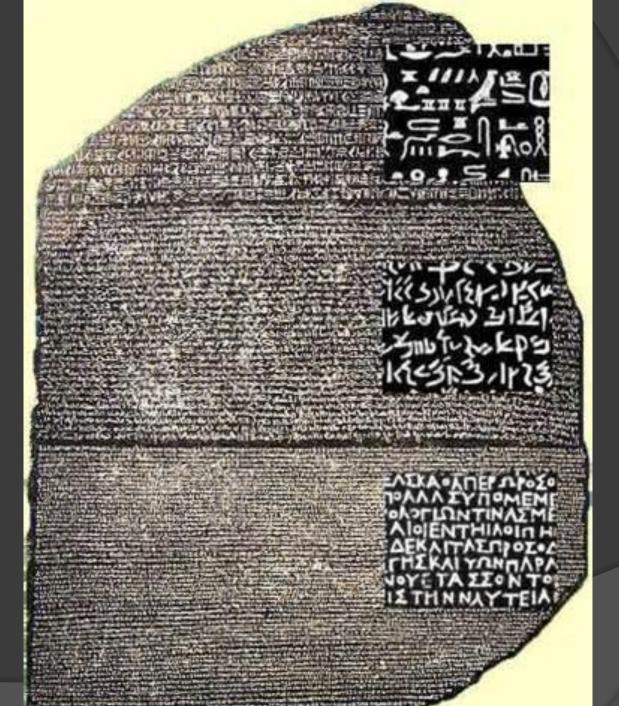












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People of the Nile

Most Egyptians were <u>farmers</u>.

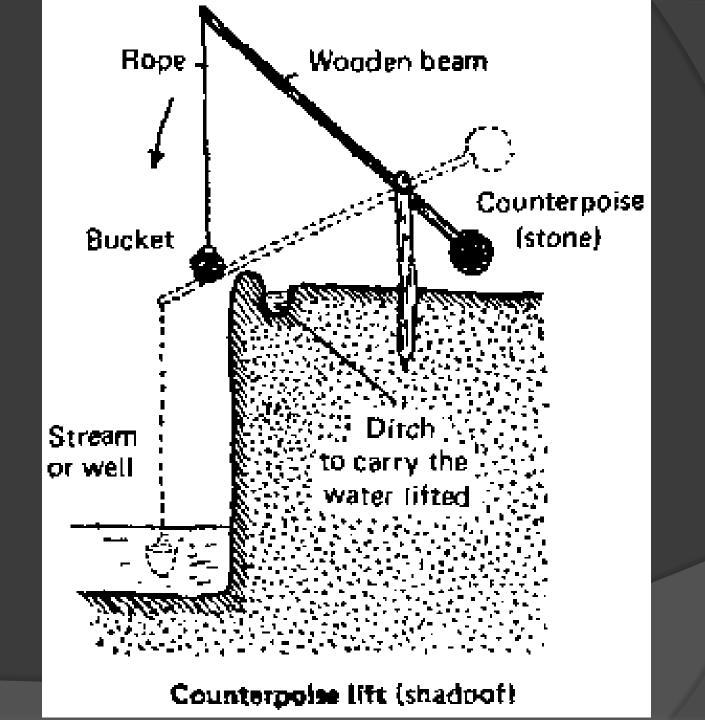
• Lived in mud-brick one story houses on small rented plots of land.

Advances

- Canals
 - Dug from the Nile for irrigation

- Shadoof
 - Bucket attached to a long pole to get water from the river.













FORMING KINGDOMS

- Extra food meant other jobs
 - Artisans, merchants, traders
- Villages started popping up
- Caravans started to sell goods
 - Nubia: south Mesopotamia: northeast
- Learned different ways of life

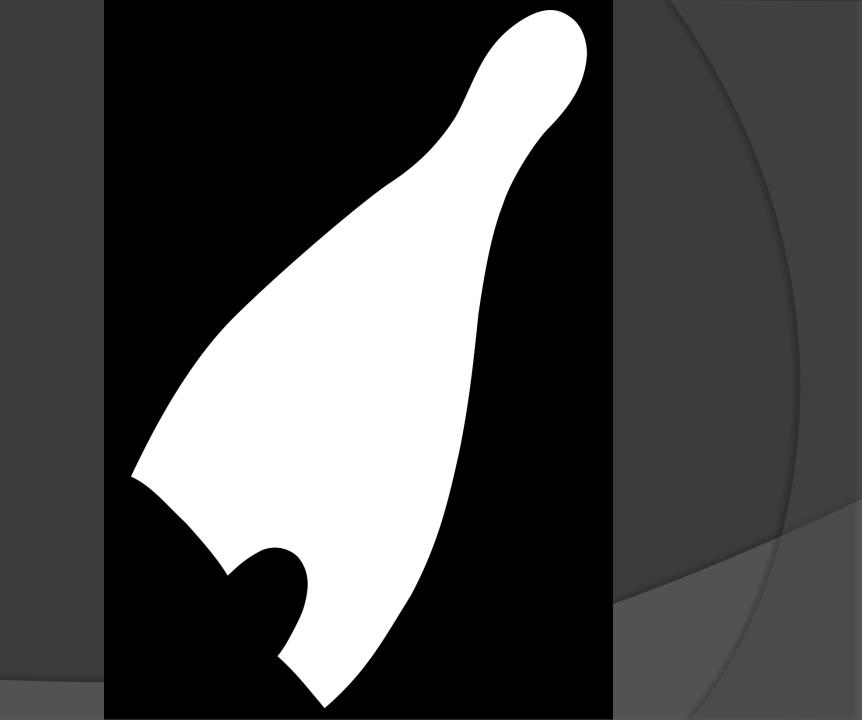
- Farming & Trade made for an organized government
 - Oversee construction: irrigation and ditches
 - Storing & distributing grain during famines
 - Settled land conflicts
- Villages formed small kingdoms
- By 4000 BCE: 2 large kingdoms existed

UNITING EGYPT

Upper and Lower Egypt not united

Upper Egypt: white cone-shaped crown

Lower Egypt: red cone-shaped crown



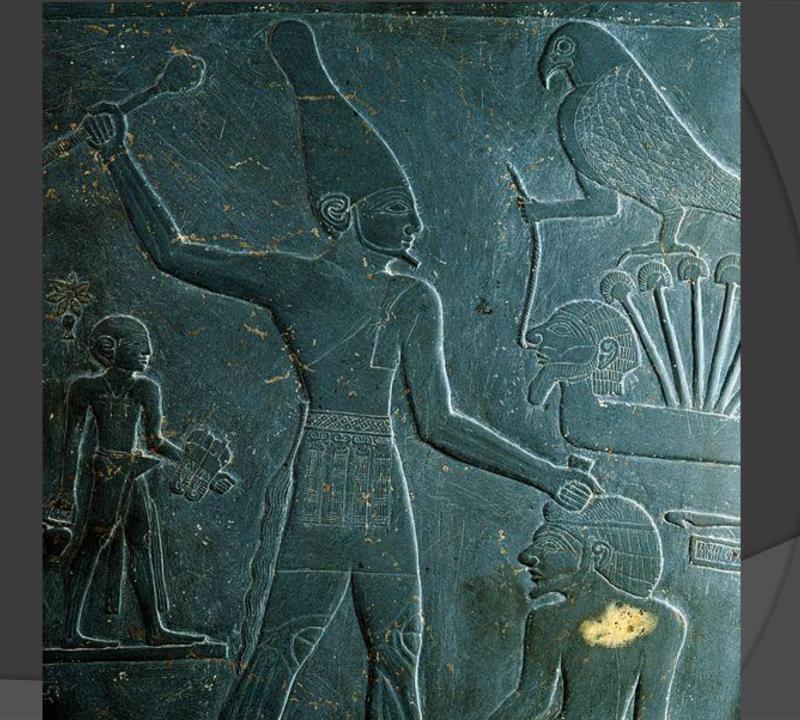


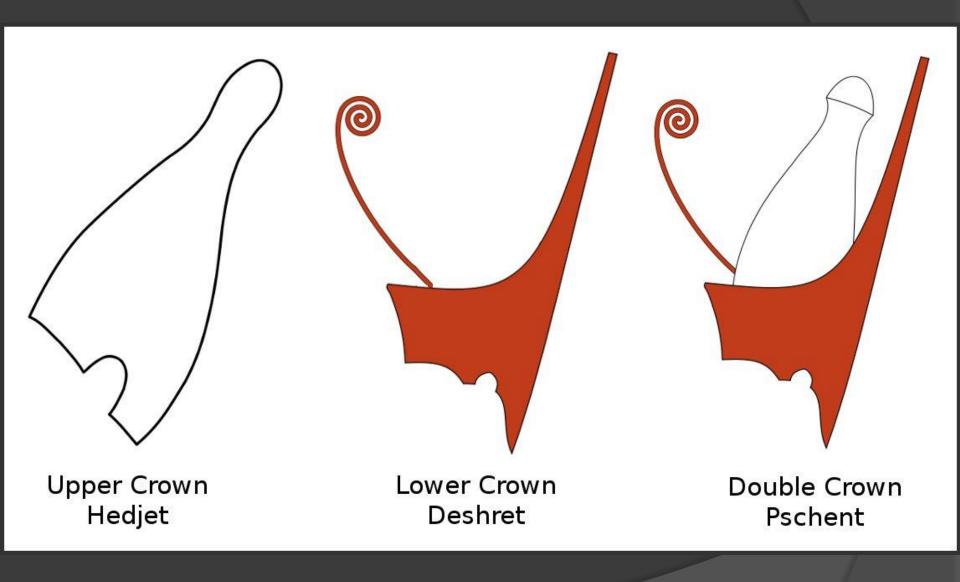


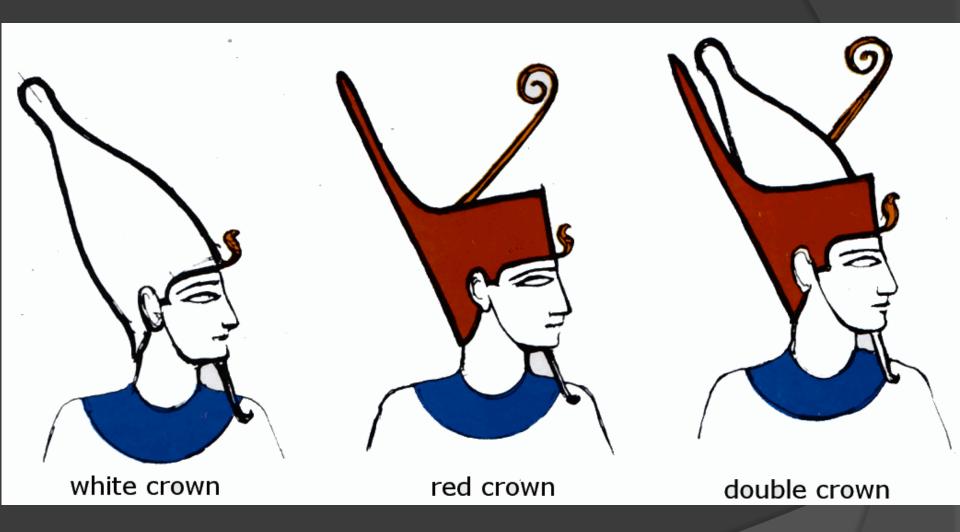


Uniting the Kingdoms

- 3100 BC
- King Narmer (aka Menes) from Upper Egypt conquered Lower Egypt
 - Married one of the Lower Egypt's princesses
 - United both kingdoms
 - First time Egypt is ruled by one king







DYNASTIES

<u>Dynasties</u>

- Menes considered Egypt's first pharaoh
 - Created the first dynasty in Egypt
- Menes built a new capital city
 - Later called <u>Memphis</u>
- 3100-332 BC: 32 different dynasties ruled Egypt
 - Old Kingdom, Middle Kingdom, New Kingdom