ANCIENT



EGYPT NOTES



GEOGRAPHY

- Nile River: flows north, 4160 miles long, longest river in the world.
- Egypt part of Sahara Desert.
- Silt from Nile makes soil fertile.



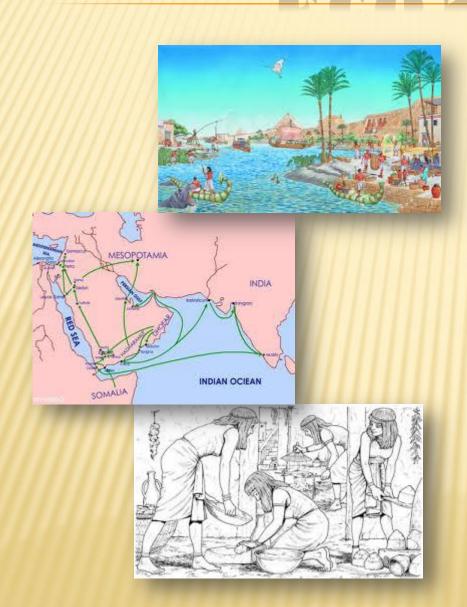
GEOGRAPHY CONTINUED

- Egyptians use Nile for irrigation, dams, dikes, water storage.
- Upper Egypt: Southern Egypt, up the Nile (which flows north).
- Lower Egypt: Northern Egypt, mainly the fertile delta.





ECONOMY



- Egyptians grew grains such as wheat and barley.
- Traded with southwestern Asia, eastern Africa, and eastern Mediterranean.
- Nile used for transport of resources like grain, papyrus, linen, pottery & gold.

ECONOMY CONTINUED

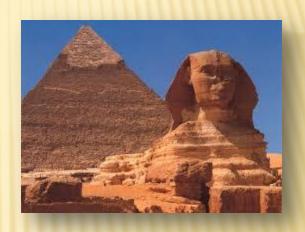
- Bartered for copper, ebony, iron, and wood, which builders & artisans used.
- × Robbers and pirates made trade dangerous.





ACHIEVEMENTS

- World's first nationstate.
- * Huge pyramids, temples, monuments still survive.
- Detailed records still survive.





ACHIEVEMENTS CONTINUED

- Advancement of agriculture.
- Paper made from Papyrus.
- Ships built for trade along Nile.





SOCIAL CLASSES

- Pharaoh was at top of society.
- Farmers and unskilled workers made up most of Egypt's population.
- Slaves were common and had some rights.





SOCIAL CLASSES CONTINUED

- Most Egyptians did not live in cities, but along river banks.
- Women were respected and had rights, but men were more powerful.



GOVERNMENT & LEADERSHIP

- Upper Egypt and Lower Egypt united in 3100 BC.
- First ever nation-state (people governed together, often united by common descent and language).
- × 31 total dynasties.
- Had three distinct eras: Old Kingdom, Middle Kingdom, New Kingdom



GOVERNMENT & LEADERSHIP CONTINUED

- Hyksos takes over Upper Egypt.
- * Egypt reunites under his rule.
- * Thutmose III expands Egypt to its largest size.
- Ramses the Great makes Egypt prosperous before its decline.
- Empire falls around 1075 BC.



King Thutmose III



RELIGION



- Polytheism: Belief in gods in that control nature.
- * Hapi=flood god, Ra=sun god, Osiris=god of afterlife, Horus=sky god
- Used mummification to preserve body for afterlife.
- Egyptians believed that kings/pharaohs were living gods that lived forever.



