

# EGYPTIAN PANELS



# Desert Protection

Protected on four sides

1. Desert to the East & West
2. Cataracts to the South
3. Marshy Delta to North

One of the most stable civilizations in history



# ANCIENT EGYPT

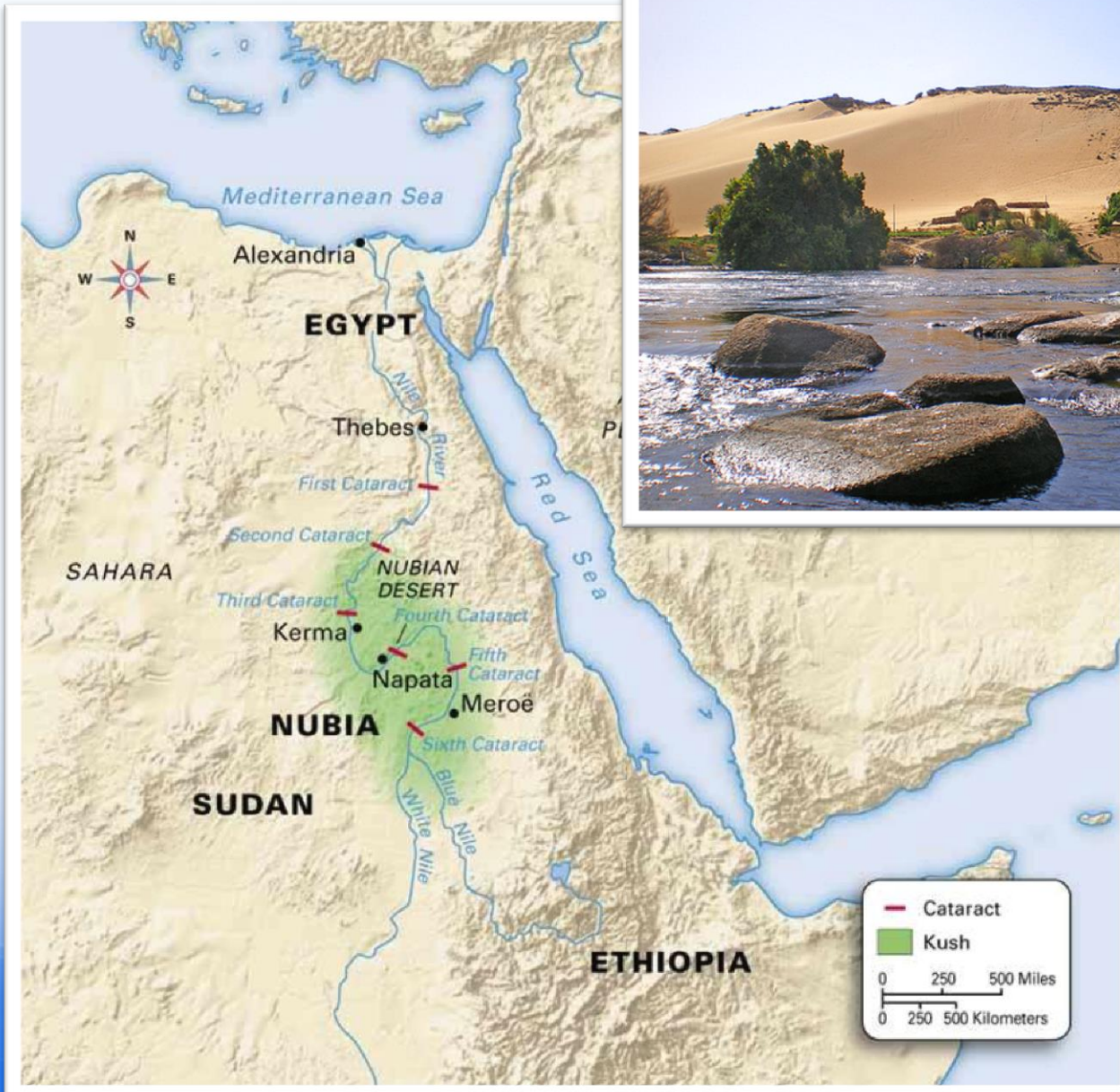
## AREAS OF FOCUS

- Rivers
- Social Classes
- Religion
- Government
- Writing
- Architecture
- Trade

# RIVERS

- Nile River
- Flows NORTH
  - Highlands to Mediterranean Sea
- Two Sources
  - Blue Nile – Highlands of Ethiopia (fast)
  - White Nile – From East Africa (slow)
- Meet at S-Curve creating Cataracts (Rock-filled rapids/little waterfalls)
- Upper Egypt – Right of cataracts
  - Land is fertile on both sides of river
- Lower Egypt – Closer to Mediterranean Sea
- Delta – Mouth of the Nile at the Mediterranean Sea
- KEMET – Land along the Nile / Means BLACK Land for it is fertile soil
- Desert – RED Land

# RIVERS

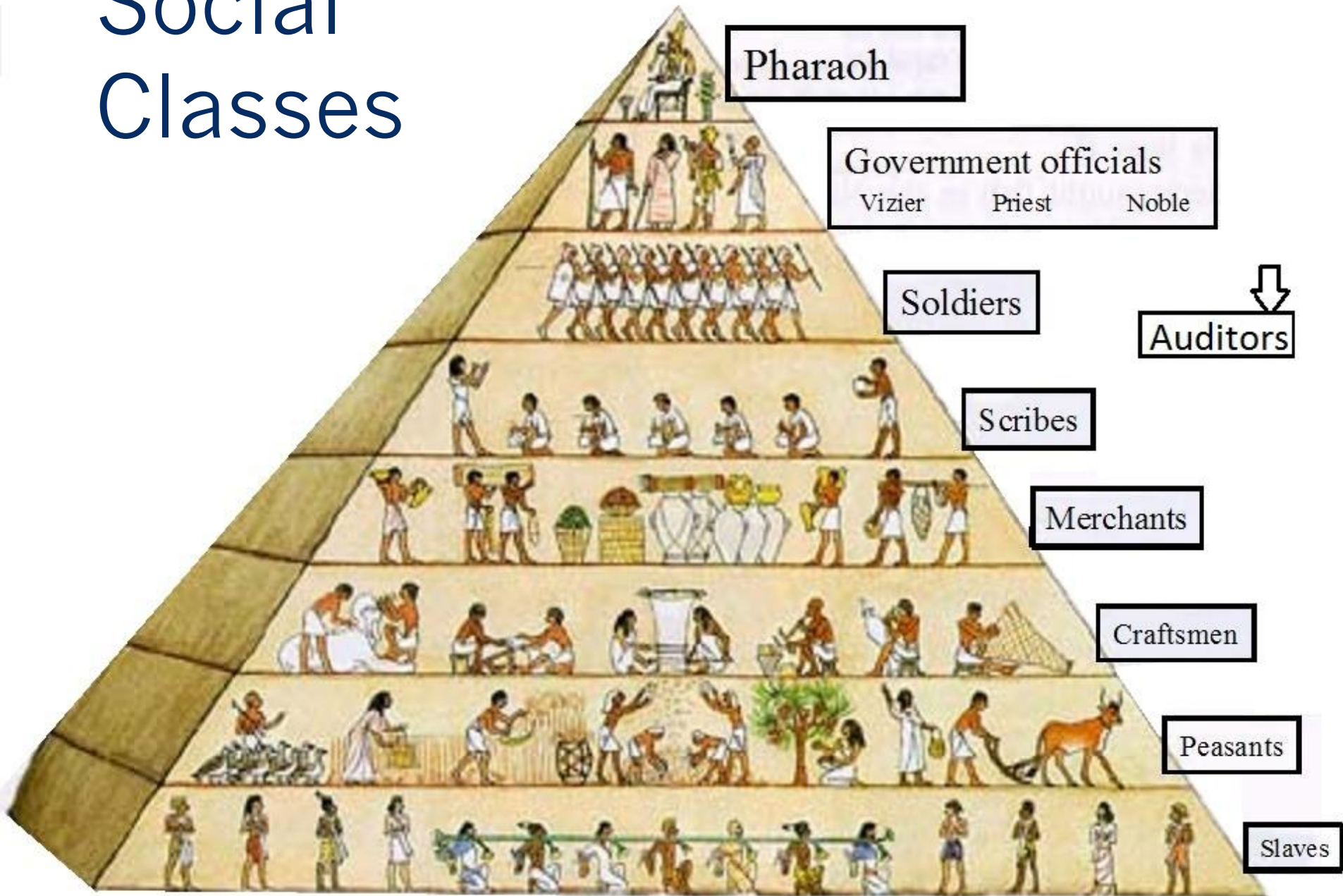


# SOCIAL CLASSES

Like a Pyramid

- Pharaoh – Top
- Small upper class – Priests, members of Pharaoh's court, nobles
- Middle Class – Merchants & Skilled workers
- Lowest class is largest – peasants, mostly farm labor, physical labor for roads/temples
- Slaves – separate class (captured in war / could own personal items and be set free by owner)
- UNIQUE Characteristic of Egyptian Society
  - Move up in society (good service)
- Women – Isis was the wife of god Osiris
  - Same rights as men – could own property, run a business, legal contracts, travel freely
  - Some served as regents until the Pharaoh was old enough to rule

# Social Classes



# RELIGION

- Polytheistic – Believed in many gods
- Gods & Goddesses controlled nature
- Form – Gods had human bodies but often animal heads
- Key Gods
  - Horus – Sky god / God of Pharaoh
  - Amon-Re or Re – Sun god / God of creation
  - Osiris – God of the afterlife
  - Isis – Goddess of women / wife of Osiris, Mother of Horus
  - Thoth – God of wisdom and writing
  - Anubis – God of mummification / friend of the dead
- Believed in an afterlife
  - Heart was weighed at death to determine worthiness
  - Buried with possessions



# RELIGION

- Mummification – Desert dried out bodies / took 2 to 3 months
  - Removed all organs and put them in special jars called canopic jar
  - Filled body with salt to dry out body
  - Cleaned body and bathed in spices
  - Wrapped it in long linen bandages
- Body placed in 3-4 nesting coffins, the last designed to represent the person during life with face painted on



# GOVERNMENT

- MONARCHY – Pharaoh of Upper and Lower Egypt
- Dynasties
- God-Ruler
  
- Monarch was called Pharaoh
- Seized control by force usually
- Inherited power from father or male relative
- Child – regent help them rule (Mother, brother, uncle)

# GOVERNMENT

Dynasties – Series of rulers from same family

- 31 Dynasties
- Old, Middle and New Kingdoms

Believed Pharaohs were one of the gods in earthly form

Believed the Pharaohs controlled the flooding of the Nile & the harvest

Conquered by:

Alexander the Great (Cleopatra was a descendent of AG)

Roman Empire under Julius Caesar (Cleopatra married JC – Had son

# WRITING

Hieroglyphics – Picture-like symbols

Some stand for ideas, some for things, and some for sounds

Papyrus – invented early form of paper

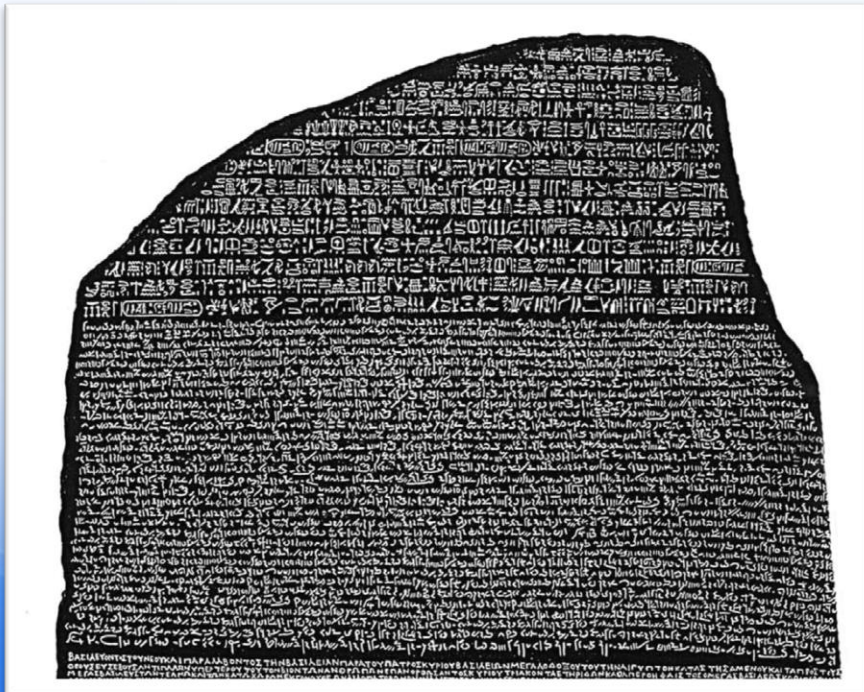
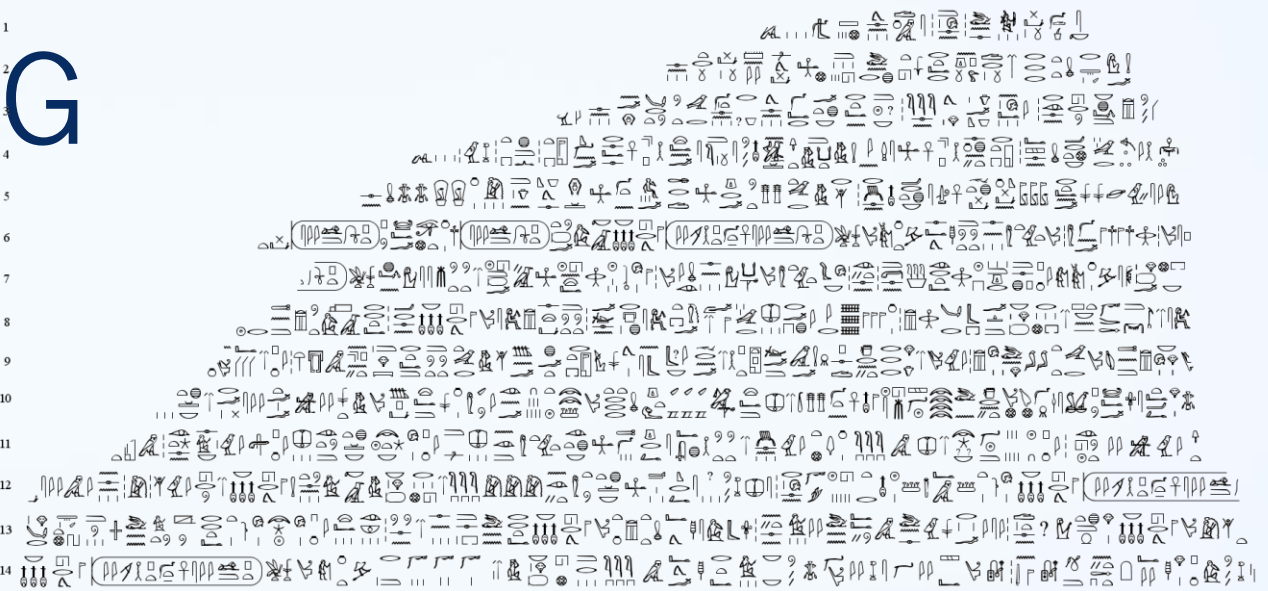
Made from a reed found in marshes

Hieroglyphics decoded with finding the Rosetta Stone in 1799

Three texts on the stone all told the same story in different language, could read the Greek, so decoded the others.

# WRITING

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14

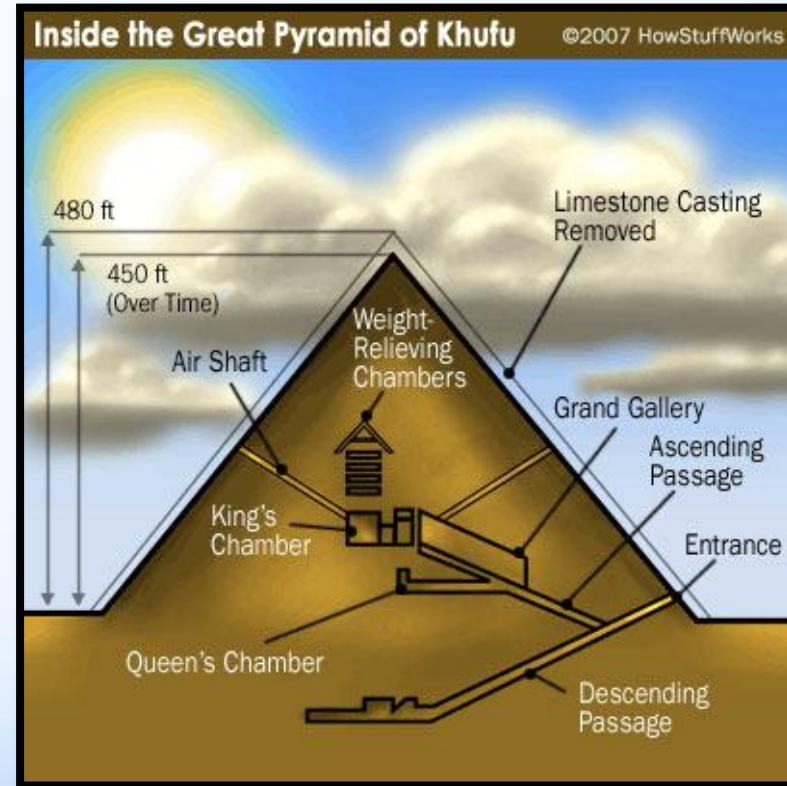


|    |     |   |    |    |      |       |       |
|----|-----|---|----|----|------|-------|-------|
| A  | C-K | B | Y  | P  | V-F  | N     | M     |
|    |     |   |    |    |      |       |       |
| J  | R   | E | H  | L  | O    | X-Z   | O-U-W |
|    |     |   |    |    |      |       |       |
| SH | G   | Q | T  | KH | D    | TA    | TH    |
|    |     |   |    |    |      |       |       |
| N  | I   | S | CH | M  | ANKH | WOMAN | MAN   |
|    |     |   |    |    |      |       |       |

# ARCHITECTURE

## Famous structures

- Pyramids – Tombs of Pharaohs
- Old Kingdom
- Four sided
- Always on west bank of Nile River (home of the dead or sunset in west)
- Sides set to NSEW
- Largest Great Pyramid at Giza





Pyramid of Khufu

Pyramid of Khafre

Pyramid of Menkaure

Great Sphinx

Queen Hetepheres' tombs

Western cemetery

Eastern cemetery

Rock cut tombs

Funerary Temple of Khafre

Temple of The Sphinx

Builders' quarters

Subsidiary pyramid

Mastabas and rock cut tombs

Valley Temple of Khafre

Central field of Mastabas and rock cut tombs

Pyramids of Queens

Menkaure quarry

Tomb of Queen Khenkawes

Valley Temple of Menkaure

Modern cemetery

Southern field of mainly rock cut tombs



# ARCHITECTURE

- Started building pyramid as soon as Pharaoh took throne
- Made 2 million stones, weighing 5,000 lbs each
- Floated stone down river
- Humans put them in place
  - Before wheels were invented
  - Used sleds, log rollers, and levers along ramps made of packed rubble

## Workers

Peasants force to work for certain number of months each year (not slaves)

Many died crushed by stones

Workers' city was set up to build each pyramid





# TRADE

- Four Avenues of Trade

1. Nile used to transport goods

- Ships traveled North by floating down stream
- Ships travel South by using strong winds (sails)

2. Ships crossed the Mediterranean Sea to Red Sea and Greek Ports

3. Caravans carried goods across desert to Mesopotamia and Africa

