

Chapter 1--EGYPT



“Egypt is the gift of the Nile.”
- Herodotus



**Nile River flows from the south to north extending 4000 miles;
therefore the Nile Delta is the Lower Nile**

EGYPTIAN DYNASTIES

Old Kingdom 2700-1990 BCE
Confident period until 2200 conflicts

Middle Kingdom 1990-1575
Ever-growing uncertainty about future

New Kingdom 1575-1100
Akhenaton (1379-62)

Late Period 1100-500
Persians in charge

Egyptian Society and Art

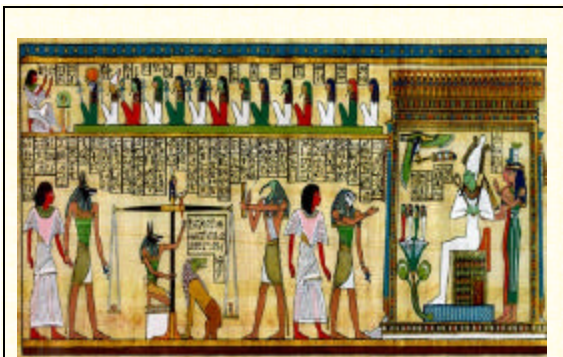
Parallels between culture and artistic expression:

1. Pyramidal
2. Static
3. Traditional
4. Other worldly
5. Autocratic
6. Unity and continuity
7. Polytheistic with Amon, Re, Ra, Aten (various names for the Sun god) N.B. Exception: Akhenaton and the El Amarna experiment
8. Osiris—ruler of the underworld
9. Resurrection central for the gods, pharaoh, and commoners
10. Theocracy with the pharaoh as god's representative

(You will need to be able to compare and contrast these characteristics with the Greeks)

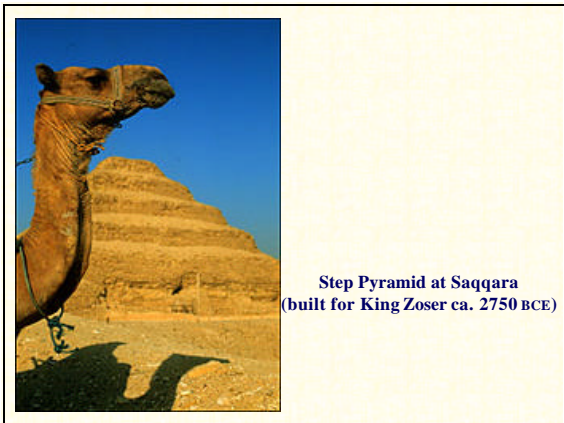


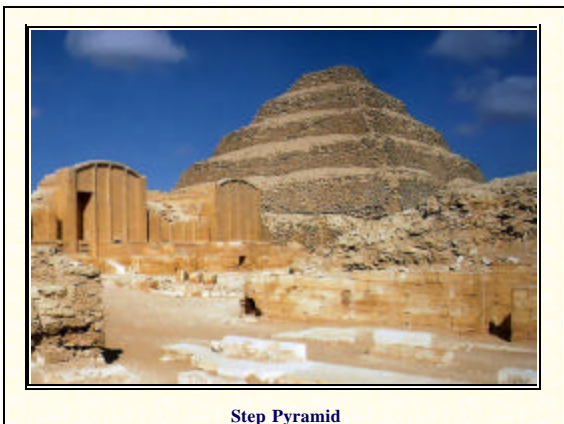
Votive palette of King Narmer (Menes) 3100 BCE
(first pharaoh who united Upper and Lower Egypt)

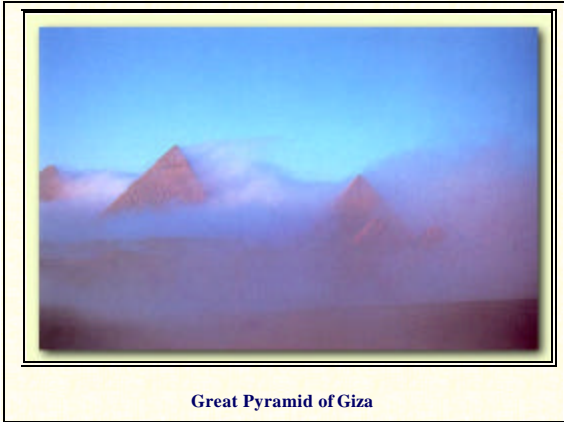


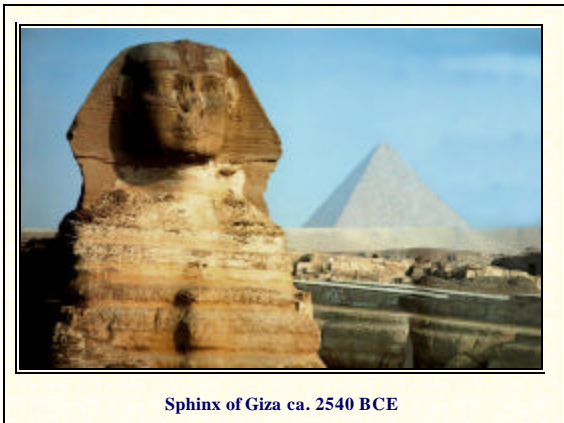
Funerary papyrus from
the *Book of the Dead*















Ca. 2550 BCE



Seated Scribe ca. 2500 BCE



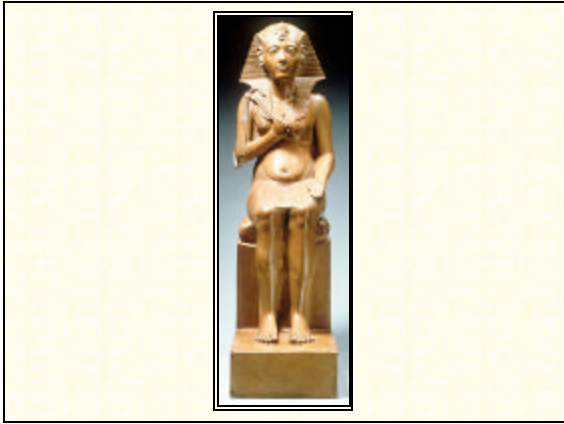
Pepy II and His Mother ca. 2300 BCE

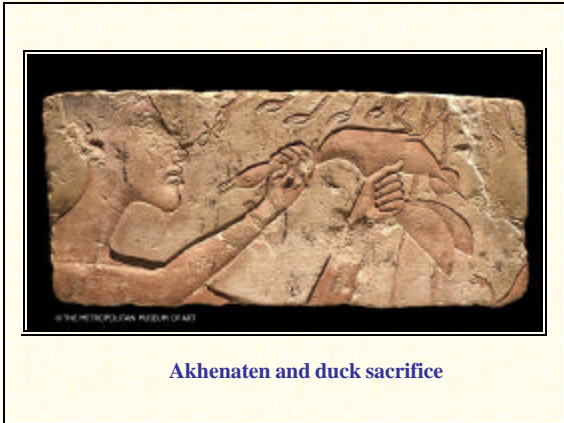


Akhenaten and His Family ca. 1348-36 BCE

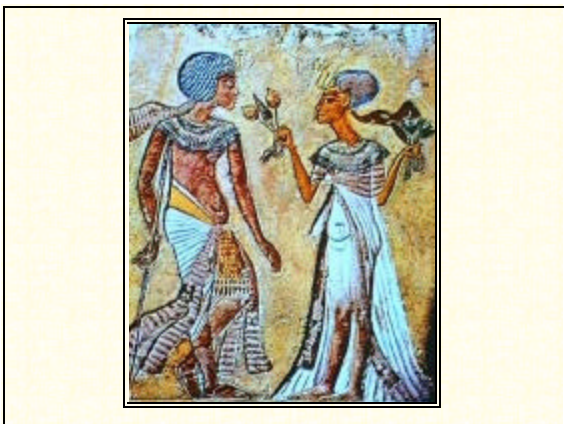






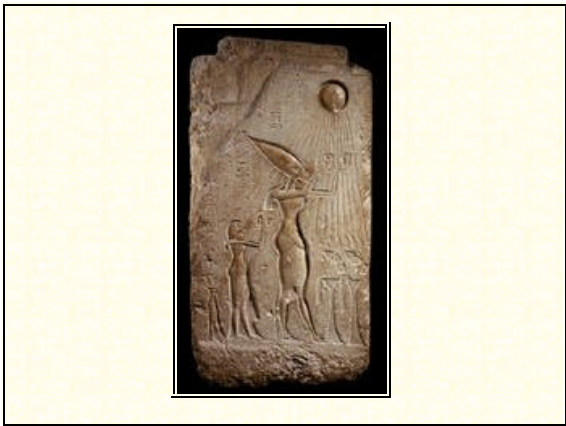


Akhenaten and duck sacrifice







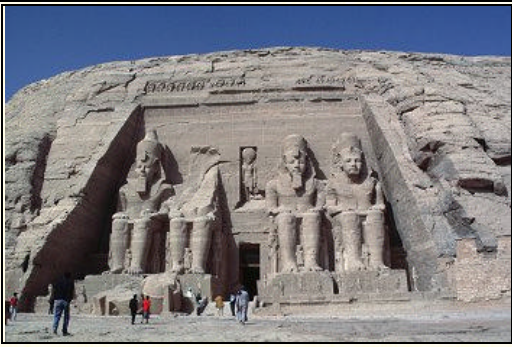




Nefertiti (queen of Akhenaten)
ca. 1355 BCE







Abu Simbel 1279-1212





N.B. the way the body is painted: head and legs painted side forwards and torso painted frontal while the eye looks at viewer



**And now for a moment of
Zen:**

**The Egyptians had nearly 3,000
years of centralized societal
control without producing any
artistic growth or new ideas.**

For an interesting world timeline:

<http://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hm/03/hm03.htm>
