

Chapter 6

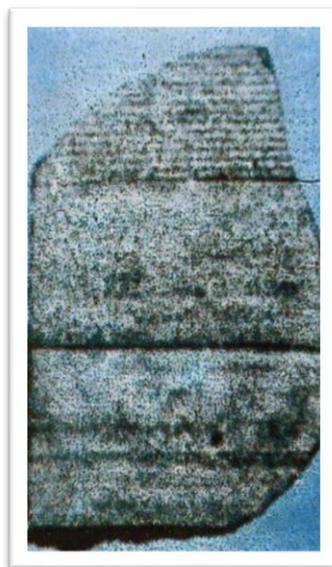
Egyptian Civilization

The land of the present-day continent of Africa was home to the ancient Egyptian civilization. The land of the Great Nile River was full of mysteries and wonders. The people here were very superstitious. Their biggest belief was in life after death. That's why the houses for living in this world were made of mud, while the houses for the afterlife, i.e., tombs and pyramids, were built and became famous, which are still present today. Their arts and crafts, including architecture, sculpture, medicine, and painting, all revolve around this belief.

In ancient Egyptian civilization, the Nile River played a very important role. Every year, during the Nile's flood, when it overflowed into the surrounding plains, it brought with it fertile silt. Crops were grown in these fertile areas, and animals were found in abundance, which provided a stable food supply.

Information about Egyptian customs and traditions has been obtained from various sources, including accounts of travelers. In addition, this civilization is also mentioned in the writings of priests. In 2001 BC, an Egyptian named MANETHO wrote a book, which was in Greek. Historians do not consider this book to be very reliable history. Another person named JEAN FRANCOIS CHAMPOLLION wrote a book on Egypt. He was a language expert. He deciphered the Egyptian language and gave its meaning. The carvings of the pharaohs are called HIEROGLYPHS, which literally means "inscribed sacred letters." According to CHAMPOLLION, it was not just a pictorial script, but in ancient times, the Egyptian language was spoken and written. The fact that the ancient Egyptians were superstitious and believed in life after death is evident from many things, but the most amazing thing was their writing, which was in a pictorial script. That is, the meaning of words was expressed through different shapes. This script is called HIEROGLYPHS. This pictorial script was a spoken language in ancient times, but it could not be read for centuries. But in 18th Century the Europeans discovered the antiquities and remains of ancient Egypt. In 1799, the French General Napoleon Bonaparte went to Egypt on a national mission with a team of experts in art, literature, music, and language. While there, they discovered a large stone slab with writing in three different languages:

- Greek
- Demotic script (the common language of the people)
- Hieroglyphics (the language of the Egyptian priests)



Rosetta Stone

This stone, known as the Rosetta Stone, helped scholars decipher the hieroglyphics and understand the mysteries of ancient Egyptian art. This discovery shows how cultural exchange can lead to mutual learning and influence. The Egyptians learned from the Greeks, and the Greeks learned from the Egyptians. However, the Egyptian civilization remained distinct and unique, as evidenced by its rich and complex culture. We observe that when a civilization's interaction with another civilization increases, and intellectual and cultural exchange begins through trade, that civilization learns a lot from the other civilization and transfers many of its own characteristics into it. However, if we look at Egyptian civilization, we find that Egyptian civilization is a civilization that has been influenced very little by other civilizations. This is the reason why we call it purely Egyptian civilization.

This is a civilization that was born in its own land and then entered the prime of youth there. The biggest reason for this was its geographical location, which meant very few other civilizations influenced it. This civilization began to flourish on its own. The nations there ruled generation after generation. They had their own beliefs, so neither did they attack anyone, nor did anyone attack them. If we look at Egypt on the map, it had two parts:

1. Lower Egypt
2. Upper Egypt

LOWER EGYPT

To the north was the **Mediterranean Sea**. To the south was the **Jebel and Nubian Desert**. To the west were the **Libyan Desert** and the **Abyed Plateau**. To the east were the **Arabian Desert** and the **Red Sea**. And there was the **Suez Canal**.

The Egyptian Empire:

This civilization is very ancient and one of the greatest. Its period of rule was magnificent and spanned thousands of years. We can divide this era into three beautiful periods:

- **Old Kingdom (2613 BC - 2160 BC)**
- **Middle Kingdom (2040 BC - 1652 BC)**
- **New Kingdom (1567 BC - 1069 BC)**

Old Kingdom:

This includes the civilization of the ancient Egyptian people. Their livelihood was agriculture. They made great progress in art during their time, with significant achievements in architecture and sculpture. The sculptures they created were 34 feet or even larger. Most of these sculptures were made by carving out rocks. These sculptures were solid and stylized. They also built tombs, which were exclusively for kings and were called Pyramids.

Middle Kingdom:

They were greatly influenced by the Old Kingdom, so their artworks also reflected this influence. However, they slightly reduced the size of the sculptures and introduced some flexibility into them. Their art was semi-realistic. We also see the construction of temples in this period.

New Kingdom:

Their art was very advanced and refined. Great care was taken in architecture, aiming to make buildings as beautiful as possible. Sculpture in this era began to appear closer to reality, which we can call realistic art.

Geographical Aspects:

Egypt was located in the north of Africa, and the Nile River Valley was on both sides of Egypt. Therefore, Egypt was fertile on both sides, meaning it was an oasis region with fertile settlements on both sides. To the east were the Red Sea and the deserts of Arabia.

Geographical Context of Ancient Egypt

- **Natural Defenses:**
 - To the north was the Mediterranean Sea, to the south mountains, and to the west the Libyan Desert. These natural features formed a natural barrier for Egypt, ensuring its safety and allowing its civilization to flourish independently.
 - The Red Sea and the Nile River run parallel for some distance, creating a fertile area between them. The Nile River forms a delta as it empties into the Mediterranean Sea. Egypt's terrain included mountainous and plains regions. The mountainous area was called "Upper Egypt," and the plains area "Lower Egypt." Settlements existed on both sides of the Nile River.

Geological Aspects

- **Abundance of Resources:**

- The land was rich in natural resources. Due to the mountains, beautiful and colorful stones were readily available.
- These stones included limestone in the north and sandstone in large quantities. In the south, granite and alabaster were also found. These stones were used in their architecture, sculpture, pottery, and tomb construction.
- Among metals, copper was most abundant, along with wood such as acacia and sycamore. Date palm wood was used for boxes as they grew abundantly due to the marshy and fertile land. Reeds and papyrus also grew there.
- The Egyptians also used mud bricks.
- Egypt had three types of buildings.
 - Domestic buildings.
 - Religious buildings.
 - Tombs.

Climate

- **Warm and Humid:**
 - The climate was warm and humid but pleasant and mild. Rainfall occurred from July to October.
 - There were primarily two seasons: intense heat and spring.
 - Due to the proximity of the deserts, sandy and dry winds blew.
 - Desert storms changed the color of the Nile River. While generally blue, it sometimes turned green or red due to the storms.
 - Floods occurred in the Nile River due to overflow, turning the entire valley into a lake.
 - Tides also occurred.
 - The sun shone brightly during the summer, prompting them to build fewer windows and skylights in their buildings.
- **Social Aspects:**
- Their primary source of livelihood was agriculture. Additionally, these people were very superstitious. Two classes resided here: the royal class and the labor class. The labor class consisted of builders, carpenters, farmers, and peasants. Their lives were harsh and pitiful, a constant grind of labor. The sole purpose of their lives was to serve the royal family. Their clothing, lifestyle, food, and every aspect of their lives were dictated by the royal rulers. They had no freedom of choice. In contrast, the royal class was extremely strict and cruel. They lived in grandeur and freedom, wore the finest clothes, and enjoyed the most delicious food. The royal ruler oversaw all religious matters, and the participation of common people in religious festivals was considered insignificant. Class distinctions were very clear and strictly enforced. The labor class wore only a loincloth, while the king wore full attire. The labor class was required to shave their heads, while the king had hair adorned with jewels. Royal women also adorned their hair with jewels. Their artwork suggests that the sole purpose of their lives was to obey the king and the ruling family.
- **Economic Aspects:**
- They were economically very stable. Their economy depended on two sectors: agriculture and trade. Their lands were fertile, and there was an abundant supply of water.

The people were prosperous and wealthy. Their buildings were quite large and built on extensive land. They obtained ample grain from agriculture, which they sold to acquire money and other necessities. If there was surplus grain, they used it for trade, making them economically prosperous. Most of the time, kings ruled here, whom they called Pharaohs. Pharaoh comes from the Egyptian word "PER-AA," which literally means "Great God." Egypt is located on the banks of the Nile River. During moonlit nights, tides would cause significant loss of life and property, and crops would be destroyed. People would drown, and stored grain would be ruined. To prevent this, they felt the need for proper management. So, they acquired the knowledge of stars. This way, they learned which date of the moon the tides would occur, which crops to plant in which season, and when to harvest them. Thus, they gained mastery over celestial bodies, and many excellent experts were born. They invented the calendar, which was in pictographic language, meaning their language was also pictographic. It is called "HIEROGLYPHS," which literally means "pictorial writing." They mastered many sciences, including science, geometry, arithmetic, and astronomy. Their pictographic writing is also visible in the background of every image, and they used this pictographic writing to keep track of history, days, time, and everything else. For general interest, some Egyptian words are being written here.

- **Religious Aspects:**
- These people were very conservative and superstitious. They worshipped gods and goddesses and considered kings and rulers to be no less than deities. They celebrated religious rituals and festivals with great enthusiasm and arrangements. The participation of common people and the working class was not considered necessary during these rituals; only rulers, kings, and the wealthy were involved.
- Their belief was in "life after death," meaning this present life is nothing, but death is coming, and after that, the real life will begin. This belief dominated all aspects of their lives. They believed that after death, the human soul comes in the form of a bird. This soul is cleansed of all evils and brings a new life. They called this bird "KA." To strengthen this belief, they would build their tombs during their lifetime. These tombs were built on a vast area, very strong, spacious, and durable. They built them with the help of large stones that could not be easily destroyed. They also used stone for construction, sculpture, and pottery. Here, we see a clear difference between the lives of the Syrians and the Egyptians. The Syrians believed in the present (existing) life and wanted to live it in luxury, while the Egyptians, on the contrary, believed in life after death and strived to improve it. Egyptian statues were 36.36 feet tall. Because of this belief, they preserved dead bodies by applying spices, which we commonly call "MUMMY." This was a new thing. These people believed in magic and superstitions. Common people were simple and hardworking. The sun god was considered the most powerful and famous deity and was called "RA."

ARCHITECTURE

ARCHITECTURE OF EGYPT

Types of Buildings in Egyptian Architecture:

1. **DOMESTIC BUILDINGS:** (Residences)
2. **RELIGIOUS BUILDINGS:** (Temples)
3. **TOMBS:** (Burial places)

Egyptian Civilizations:

All these buildings were carved from stone, specifically the stones that floated down the Nile River. These stones were marked with red and then pulled using ropes. They were then carved into buildings. The most important of these were the tombs, largely due to their belief in an afterlife. Their buildings were of the following four types:

Types of Tombs:

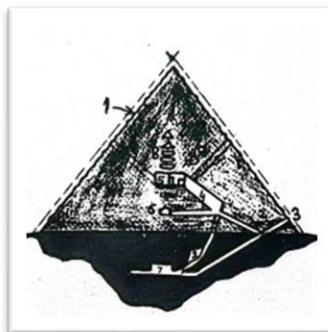
1. **PYRAMIDS**
2. **MASTABAS**
3. **ROCK CUT TOMBS**
4. **TEMPLES**

PYRAMIDS

These tombs were built for kings and royal family members, who had them constructed during their lifetimes. They were very durable and strong, and they still exist today, considered one of the wonders of the world. In their secret chambers, treasures, clothing, utensils, and jewelry were buried. The location of these treasures was known only to the king or queen, as were the secret passages. These secret passages led from the king's palace to the tombs.

PLAN or STRUCTURE OF PYRAMIDS

The walls of these pyramids were on all four sides, but they were pointed at the top. These walls were joined together so seamlessly that the joints were not even noticeable. These joints were the basis of their strength. The entire structure was very complex and mysterious, with secret passages known only to the king or queen. The main (outer) entrance was built several feet above ground level, out of reach of ordinary people, so they wouldn't dare to enter. Underground passages led to the treasure chamber. The outer surface of the building was kept plain and rough. It was built using limestone, which was cut from the mountains on the eastern side of the Nile River in large pieces and floated down the Nile during the annual flood. And at the Giza site, they were pulled out with the help of strong ropes. Upon completion of the building, the "LIMESTONE" with the shine of white layers was applied with elegance and beauty. That is why the magnificent buildings were visible from a great distance due to their height and shine. This shiny stone has now been removed and used in the Islamic buildings of Cairo.



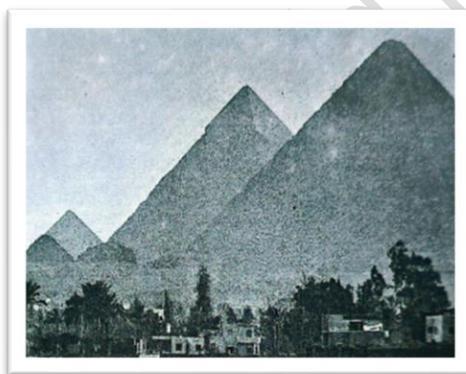
The Pyramid's Structure:

The pyramid used to have a pointed top. The entrance was several feet above ground level. Upon entering, there was a long corridor. After going some distance, this corridor split into two sections. One path led underground to the king's secret tomb, while the other went upwards to a gallery on the other side. Slightly further along this gallery, another path led

towards the queen's chamber. However, if you continued straight through the long gallery, after turning left, there was another long corridor leading to the king's chamber at a short distance.

In his chamber, five stones were placed one after the other as a ceiling, with space left between each stone to allow air to circulate and prevent friction. These stones bore the weight of the entire structure and added to its strength. Air ducts were built from the outside to the inside for proper ventilation. Additionally, secret passages were built into the structure. The king's sarcophagus was in his chamber, where his mummified body was placed. The sarcophagus was decorated with RELIEF WORK depicting the king's image. A statue of the KA-BIRD was also created to facilitate the king's spirit's journey to the sarcophagus. This bird was considered sacred and was an important part of their religion.

The walls of the pyramid were decorated with FRESCO PAINTING. The technique involved smoothing the wall and applying plaster of Paris. While the plaster was still wet, images were painted with brushes using various beautiful colors. These images depicted the king's life story, everyday life, religious life, lifestyle, and court-related scenes. Due to the air passages, the interior of the structure was protected from decay, rust, and rot. The base of these PYRAMIDS was always square. Going up, these four walls would become thinner until they formed a pointed object."



GREAT PYRAMIDS: Example 1

The PYRAMID was built by Khufu (KHOFU), the second king of Egypt's Old Kingdom. It is located in Giza (GIZAH). Many other structures were built on it. Lower Giza was a region of Egypt located near the Delta. Alongside it was another PYRAMID, which belonged to King Khafre, and one to Menkaure. These PYRAMIDS were built by cutting large rocks. First, red markings were made on them, then they were pulled to Giza using ropes. These ropes were pulled with the help of horse-drawn carriages. The base of one side of this pyramid was 775 feet long and 480 feet high, with a total area of 13 acres. According to historian Patrick's estimate, 2.3 million stones were used in it, each weighing two and a half maunds (approximately 205 pounds). Its entrance was 47 feet above ground level, and it was designed in such a way that it was not easily identifiable by the common person. Hidden latches and markings were placed on the windows and doors, known only to the king. The stone on the entrance door weighed 70 maunds (approximately 5750 pounds). The king's chamber was 17 feet wide and 34 feet long. The diameter of the air shafts was 7 to 18 inches. The construction costs and other details of the pyramid were recorded in pictorial writing on the walls of the pyramid. Additionally, the amount of treasure found in its treasury chamber

is beyond counting, i.e., it is a very large amount. These PYRAMIDS are further divided into three types.

1. Typical Pyramid
2. Stepped Pyramid
3. Double Pyramid

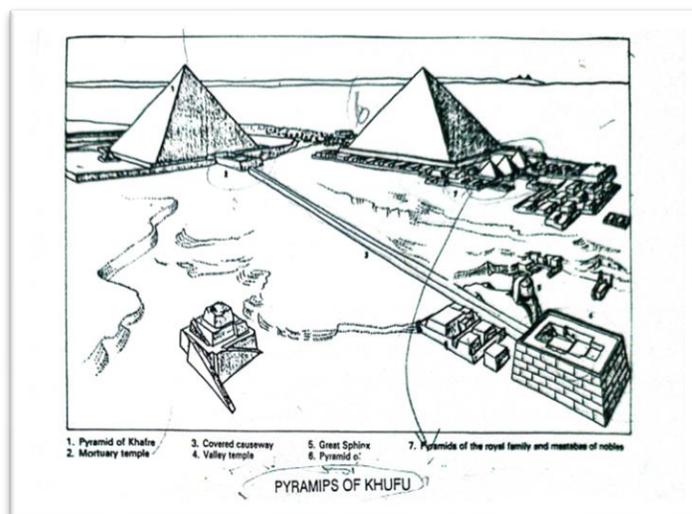


"PYRAMID OF ZOSER AT SAKKARA" 27TH CENTURY BC. IN THE FOREGROUND REMAINS OF THE MORTUARY TEMPLE OF KING LENAS, 5TH DYNASTY

Similar constructions are found at Giza, including the pyramids of Khafre and Khufu. Among them are the Pyramid of Khafre and the Pyramid of Khufu, along with three royal family pyramids and many Mastabas. The largest is the Pyramid of Khafre. In front of it, there's a staircase and a path that leads to the Sphinx, and beyond that, a temple. The details are as follows:

1. Pyramid Of Khafra
2. Mortuary Temple
3. Covered Causeway
4. Valley Temple
5. Great Sphinx
6. Pyramid Of Khufu
7. Pyramids Of the Royal Family and Mastabas Of Nobles

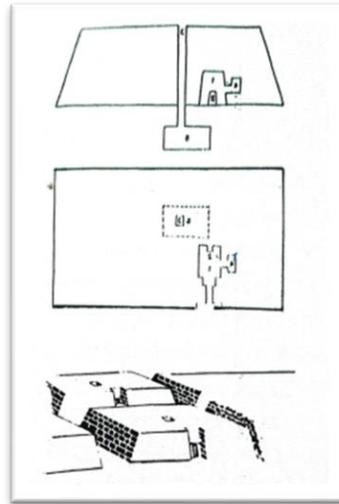
Ancient Egyptian art has been found in the northern (UPPER) part of Egypt, and modern art in the southern (LOWER) part. For 3000 years, Pharaohs ruled this land. They belonged to different dynasties. The first Pharaoh king came to power around 3200 B.C. After him, 30 dynasties ruled. In the Old Kingdom, the ruling kings made Memphis their capital and ruled there for a long time. In the Middle Kingdom, their capital became Thebes. This period saw the rule of dynasties 11-17. In the New Kingdom, dynasties 17-24 ruled. They changed their capital.



We find the oldest art from the walls of the Egyptian pyramids. Historians believe that this art has lost its original charm, and many of it have become extinct. In the beginning, humans did not value this art. People made this priceless art a source of income, scraping it from the cave walls and selling it to tourists. Furthermore, there was no thought given to preserving ancient art. When people and farmers settled in Upper Egypt, they lit fires, which blackened the cave walls, causing them to lose their original form.

MASTABAS - Built with bricks.

MASTABAS is an Arabic word meaning BENCH or desk. Their outer walls were sloping, and the foundations were long on two sides and short on the other two. These were tombs of kings and nobles. Their roofs were kept flat and straight so that another building could be constructed on top. Another advantage of MASTABAS was that they were built with bricks instead of stones. We can also call them a simple form of ancient ZIGURATS because they also consisted of towers. The MASTABAS we are discussing here consisted of only one floor. Underground secret chambers and passages were also built in them, where the treasures of the kings, their mummies (embalmed bodies), and statues of the deceased person were kept. Holes were left in their roofs to allow air to circulate easily. FRESCO PAINTINGS and RELIEF WORK were done on the inner walls, depicting the life of the deceased and his religious matters. A significant example of this was found in SAKKARA, which is the tomb of a courtier named "THI" from a royal family. Beautiful pictorial depictions are present on its interior walls.



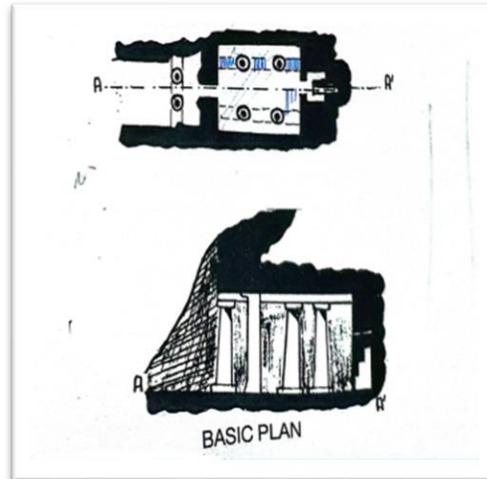
MASTABAS were also constructed like PYRAMIDS, meaning they had entrances and windows, but artificial window markings were created so that the actual entrance could not be found. The courtier whose tomb it was, his name was "THI". The events of this person's life, in addition to scenes of boating, cultivation of crops, scenes of various artisans working, etc., were done in FRESCO and RELIEF. These were the ancient forms of PYRAMIDS, which later came to be known as STEPPED PYRAMIDS. Their structure was as follows:

1. Chapel
2. False Door
3. Shaft Into Burial Chamber
4. Serdab (Chamber For Statue Of Deceased)
5. Burial Chamber

Rock Cut Tombs

Rock cut tombs were built during the Middle Kingdom. These were built by cutting rocks and mountains, and then building inside them. They had halls, stairs, etc. These tombs were very large and reached the top of the mountain like a minaret. Some of them were three stories high. Stairs were also built to connect them. These stairs were also built inside the mountain. These tombs were built in Upper Egypt. They had corridors, passageways, and rooms. The bodies of the dead and mummies were kept in the rooms. There was only one difference in the construction of these tombs and the pyramids, which was that large burial chambers were built in them. These tombs were used by the king or the pharaoh only for religious ceremonies. There were also sacrificial altars in these tombs. Examples of such tombs have been found in Beni Hassan and Dehrul-Bahari. These tombs were very large from the outside. A small path was visible from the outside. Columns were carved on the front face, which were not found in the pyramids and mastabas. These rock-like tombs reflect the grandeur of Egyptian civilization. Relief work and fresco paintings were painted on the inner walls and columns of the tombs. All the columns in the tomb were carved with papyrus and lotus flower motifs. The stories and life events of the deceased were also

written in fresco painting on these motifs. There was a hall in these tombs called the sacred chamber. Passing through this hall, one reached a dark room called the dark room. The ceiling of this dark room was relatively low. The coffins and treasures of the dead were kept in this room.



The design of the rock-cut tombs began with the entrance. The entrance was carved out of a rough rock.

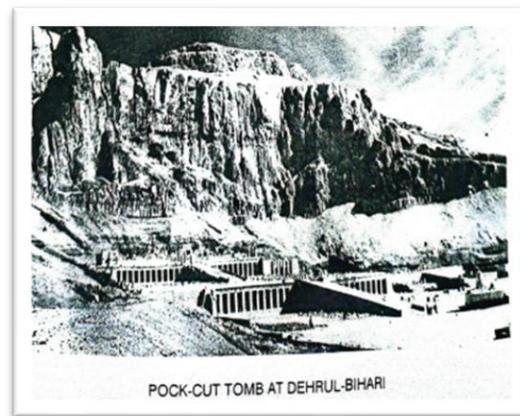
That is, the columns were carved from the rock itself and extended to the ceiling. These columns also added to the building's strength. The space between these columns formed the entrance. After entering this doorway, a corridor began, known as the **PORTICO**. This corridor was narrow, meaning less rock was cut away at this point.

Following this, we entered a hall. This was a very spacious and large hall where religious rituals were performed. It was also supported by columns. The walls and columns of the hall were also adorned with **RELIEF WORK** and **FRESCO PAINTING**, depicting the life of the deceased, including hunting and religious matters.

After the hall ended, we passed through another small corridor. Ahead was another room called the sacrificial altar, which could also be called the dark room. The ceiling of this room was also low. It contained the coffin and the treasure. Sacrifices were made here, and offerings were received. Sometimes, another room was built adjacent to this room, which only the king and queen were allowed to enter. This was also a dark room.

In this sacrificial altar, a **LIFE-SIZE** statue of the deceased was placed. Alongside it was a statue of the Ka bird. A tomb of this type was found at **DEHRUL-BIHARI**. It belongs to a ruler named **CHEPHREN**, built in 1500 BC. It has three stories, connected to each other by stairs. In some places, human statues served as columns. These statues were made very tall, in the style of columns. They were decorated with lotus and papyrus designs. We found large halls in this tomb.

To provide light, holes were made in the ceiling so that light could enter through them. Common people were not allowed to enter such tombs.



Abu al-Hol (Sphinx)

The Egyptians created the Abu al-Hol (Sphinx) based on the concept of a "Winged Being." Its form was such that they placed the face of a king on the body of a lion. From a distance, it appeared as if the lion was raising its head, symbolizing bravery. The body was that of a real lion, with its paws stretched forward in a seated position. The face was usually that of a king or religious ruler. They combined Egyptian beauty or royal majesty with the strength of a lion in its depiction. Prior to this, the concept of winged deities existed in Central Asian civilizations, which were associated with their architecture. In the Old Kingdom, Abu al-Hol were constructed on a very large scale, but in the New Kingdom, they became smaller in size.

The finest example of this Abu al-Hol is found near the Nile Delta in Lower Egypt, close to the pyramids of Khufu and Khafre, where a very large Abu al-Hol is erected. The size of this Abu al-Hol can be gauged from the fact that a person can easily sit on one of its fingers. Its total height is 65 feet. This particular Abu al-Hol has beautiful Egyptian features on its face and a crown-like structure on its head. This Abu al-Hol represents the best attempt to combine human beauty and animal strength. It is so tall that it can be easily seen from a distance. The eyes on its face are very large and elongated, appearing real and shining. By seeing this Abu al-Hol from a distance, an enemy could easily perceive the king's majesty or awe. Furthermore, historians believe that these Abu al-Hol were built to protect the treasures buried in the pyramids, as they were very fearsome. They were carved from solid rock in such a way that no one dared to approach them. Additionally, they were built to reflect the traditions of the royal family, as they bore the face of the king.

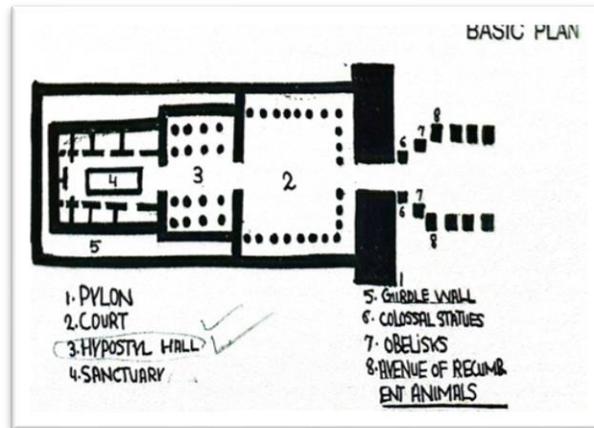


TEMPLES

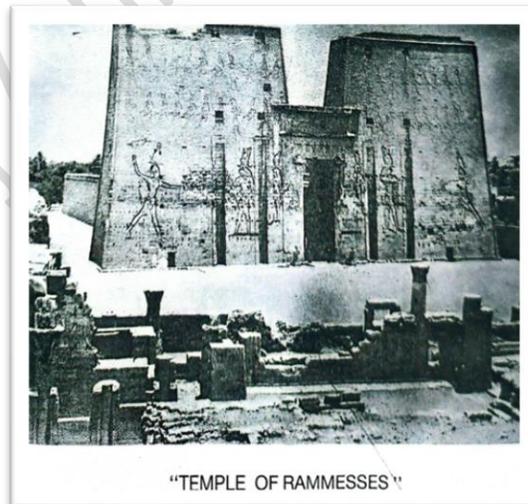
In addition to the construction of NEW KINGDOM temples, these were used for the performance of religious rituals.

1. The influence and power of the King's treasury was established.
2. Religious rituals were established in royal traditions.
3. Treasure and personal belongings were kept within them.

Because only specific individuals were permitted to enter these temples, not just ordinary people, but also members of the royal family, they could only offer prayers there. This is why only those who were considered religiously and spiritually pure could perform sacrifices and worship within them. Common people were not allowed to enter the temples. However, it is understood that the King, or his designated representatives, would offer sacrifices and worship on behalf of everyone. The deity to whom the sacrifice was offered was given a special name. The King would bear all the expenses. Grain, cattle, and other offerings were presented. People who were forced to work and labor would also offer the fruits of their labor. If someone from the King's household would serve the deity, then in return, he would receive a piece of land or some other valuable item. However, this was only a good act; otherwise, they could not inherit the kingdom. It is said that beautiful and precious stones were used to build these temples. Even though they were built with great effort and labor, they are not to be found today. However, some HEIRO GLYPHS still exist within these temples. It is said that GOD NIEL, GOD SUN, and SUN GOD were worshiped in these temples. The beautiful relief work on the walls of these temples' hints at the stories of these gods and goddesses.

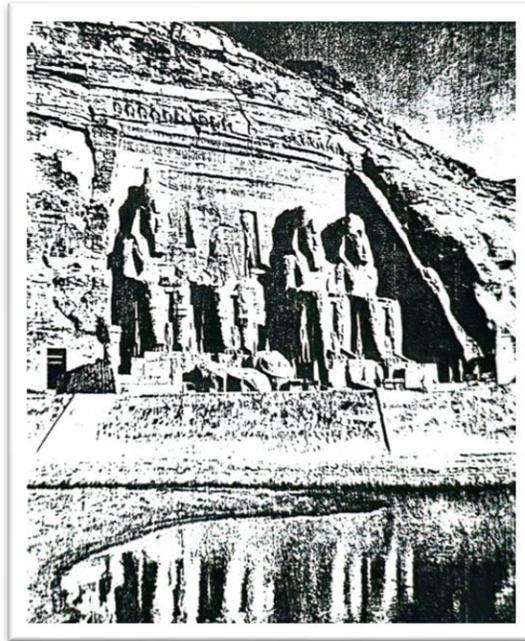


After entering the temple, we saw very impressive pillars. On three of the pillars were images of the face of a king, whom they called Abu Simbel. Obelisks, tall and high, were built at a short distance in front of them. On these obelisks, writings related to the conquests of the king were inscribed – HEIRO-GLYPHS. After that, there were pylons, doors with inward slopes. The shape of these pillars and doors was unique, meaning they were wide at the bottom and narrow at the top. In front of them was a large fresco painting and relief work on the entire wall. After crossing a small courtyard, we entered a hypostyle hall. After that, there was another small courtyard, around which were small chambers. These were probably religious chambers. If you look around this courtyard, you can see a girdle wall, which they call Karnak. On the banks of the Nile River, there is a rock-cut tomb called Abu Simbel, which Ramesses built, the last powerful king of Egypt. In front of this temple, there is also a detailed description of this temple.



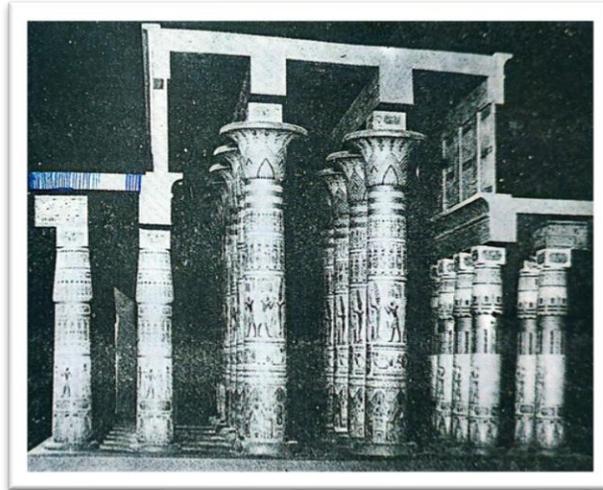
This was built by RAMMESES, the last king of Egypt. It was constructed by carving out very large rocks. Due to its location on the banks of the Nile River, it had sunk into the ground until recently. In 1968, to raise it, the various parts of this temple were carefully and skillfully cut and moved to another location. Large idols have been made at the

entrance doors and inside the temple. Their height ranges from 60 ft to 90 ft. The king and his children are also depicted seated on its throne. Idols have also been carved between the walls, which are very small. There are also small idols in the cradles here. Human figures have been used in the pillars of the halls. Fresco painting was done on the ceiling. Its domes and benefits of peace are enumerated. Their number was four, and their faces were towards each other. Beautiful relief work was done on these pylons.



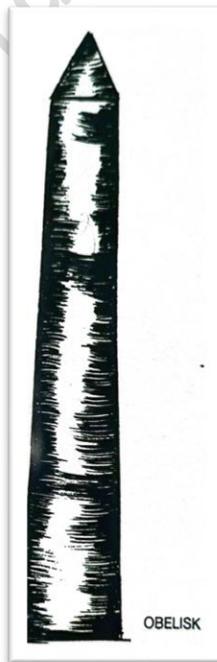
Temple of Ramasses II, Abu Simbel, 1257 BC Colossi, approx.. 60'

This was also found at the site of KARNAK. It has a hypostyle hall. There were rounded patterns on its columns. Beautiful relief work was done on the columns. These columns are designed in such a way that one is a column, but the other column is a human figure. Thus, one column and then a human figure. On these columns, there were lotus flowers at the top and bottom, and in the middle, there was relief work. Outside, there were statues with faces like mountain goats.



OBELISK

Obelisks were erected in the memory of kings or emperors. In Egyptian civilization, this was a new thing. To commemorate the events of royal life, inscriptions and pictorial writings were made on them. Sometimes, stories of gods were also inscribed. Obelisks were pointed at the top, like a pencil. Among the important works of Menhir style, one is the Obelisk of Queen Nefertiti. Some of these were 30-300 feet tall and were considered as a wonder. They were carved on all four sides, meaning only pictorial representations were made on them.



SCULPTURE OF EGYPTIAN CIVILIZATION:

Egyptian sculptures are found in as many conditions as there are in any other civilization. The main reason for this is that sculptures were made in Egyptian civilization in great abundance. Because no civilization accepted any kind of religious belief as much as they did. The pure and original color of the sculptures of their civilization appears to be religious. They also made sculptures in a style similar to Iranian art, which is **STYLIZED** and **SEMI-REALISTIC**. They say that they tried to portray their spiritual beliefs in their art. The sculpting of their sculptures had many reasons.

Reasons of Sculpture Work:

1. Religious Beliefs:

After the passing of a notable figure, a tomb would be built. The people who came to visit would strengthen their belief in the deceased. Therefore, they started making sculptures to further their religious beliefs.

2. Idols of Stones:

A large number of stone idols were also made. Many rivers were used to transport these idols. Initially, people made many idols.

3. Personal Life and Depiction of Events:

Sculptures were also made to depict one's personal life. They would create sculptures of different aspects of their lives. In addition to this, they also made sculptures to represent various events.

Kinds of Sculpture:

Egyptians were the first to make sculptures. Later, other people also made sculptures with different purposes. Here are some types of sculptures:

1. Idols of Gods and Goddesses:

The Egyptians believed in many gods and goddesses. To strengthen their belief in these gods and goddesses and to depict various aspects of their lives, the Egyptians made sculptures of them. In addition to this, they also made sculptures of kings and emperors to commemorate them.

2. For Religious Beliefs and Burial Purpose:

Sculptures were made for religious beliefs and for burial purpose. They also made sculptures to fulfill this purpose. Regarding the 'KA BIRD' bird, the construction of its idol was considered significant in their religion. All the 'KA' birds were placed near their graves along with their idols. They also carved idols of those who died.

Subject Matters of Sculpture:

These statues were carved 60, 80 feet and taller, meaning they were made **OVER LIFE SIZE**. Their sculpture did not have a specific subject, but they included every kind of subject in their sculpture. Their important subjects are listed below.

1. Reflection of Religious Life

Their (people's) sculpture primarily reflects their specific religion. They believed in life after death, hence they also made sculptures of it.

2. Reflection of Ordinary Life Events

Their sculpture also reflects the color of ordinary life and events, meaning everyday occurrences are depicted in their sculptures.

3. Reflection of Common Man's Life

Their sculpture was not limited to kings and deities. Rather, they sculpted the common man as well. They carved their own sculptures, but also depicted the common man in their sculptures.

Technique of sculpture:

Egyptians use to do two types of sculptures:

1. Sculpture in Round
2. Sculpture in Relief

One of the great strengths of Egyptian sculpture was that their stone carving had an element of individuality. Because they were neither influenced by any civilization nor did they try to adopt any civilization. All Egyptian sculptures were carved as a team because their sculptures were very large, so a single artist could not carve them alone. That's why many people worked together as a team. To make these sculptures, they would extract slabs from large rocks. These slabs were very large, and these slabs were dragged and taken to the desired location, and then stone carving was done on them.

1. They would extract slabs by cutting stone from large rocks and then carve sculptures onto these slabs.
2. Egyptian sculptures were made **OVER LIFE SIZE**, ranging from 30 to 60 feet tall. The purpose of this height was to express the individual's height, awe, grandeur, and superiority of wealth. (Pharaohs and religious deities)
3. The features and body proportions in human figures were very clear. They ensured balance and proportion when sculpting the body. Therefore, another characteristic was that the person's face was made to be recognizable, facilitating easy identification.
4. Because Egyptian civilization was a purely indigenous one, their sculptures reflected their unique attire, lifestyle, and decorum. (Pharaoh's beard)

5. The sculptures were **STYLIZED**. Egyptian sculptors had to adhere to certain rules. For example, Egyptian stone carvers always positioned the face to one side, the neck facing forward, hands and feet aligned, and feet facing in one direction. They believed that all features, like the ears, should be visible. They adopted a method where the face appeared from one side, but the eyes were sculpted in their original position. This technique to clearly depict all body parts (limbs) is called the **LAW OF FRONTALITY**.
6. Another characteristic of their sculptures was that they clearly depicted all the features of the person being sculpted, and their facial expressions reflected their emotions and sentiments. (Stern gaze)
7. If they were creating sculptures in **RELIEF WORK**, they would create sculptures of the entire family brought together in a single basket. (Children's cradle)
8. They employed a hierarchical approach in family groups. The head of the family was depicted as easily recognizable, followed by smaller children, and then common people. The smallest figures were of royal individuals, shown with beautiful portraits and adorned with dignity. The servant class was depicted with dirty feet and dirty heads.

9- One characteristic of their sculpture is that they practiced decorative sculpture, meaning their art was **DECORATIVE**.

10- The Egyptians started using colors and created [art] by applying these colors, meaning they depicted men's features in brown and red, women in white and pink, and the color of servants was often shown as **BLACK**.

11- In Egypt, making sculptures **OVER LIFE SIZE** was common in the **OLD KINGDOM**. In the **MIDDLE KINGDOM**, their size became somewhat smaller, and in the **NEW KINGDOM**, they started sculpting **LIFE SIZE** sculptures.

SCULPTURE IN ROUND:

The materials used in Egyptian sculpture are as follows:

- Diorite Stone
- Alabaster
- Lime Stone
- Schist
- Wood
- Steatite Ivory
- Brass

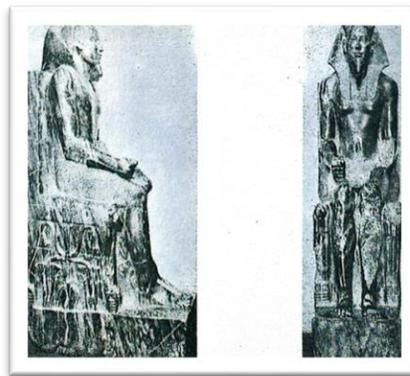
Seated Statue of King (Chephral) from Giza:

This is a 66-foot tall statue of the Egyptian pharaoh Chephren, made from diorite stone, which was found in Giza. The statue was pieced together from several broken pieces, likely due to its long burial. It is now housed in the famous Cairo Museum (IV Dynasty) of the Old Kingdom.

The pharaoh is depicted sitting upright, wearing a head dress and holding something in his hands. The proportions of his body, with his hands resting on his thighs on either side of the chair, are perfectly balanced. The features of his face are sharp and well-defined, and the details of the head dress are clearly visible. His body appears robust and strong.

Only half of his right arm is visible, with one hand resting on his knee and the other on his thigh. His eyes are all perfectly aligned. The statue has a large falcon (Ka bird) perched behind his head. The design of his chair is very beautiful, featuring lotus and papyrus flowers. The body of the Ka bird is consistent with the hieroglyphs on the base of the chair, which depict the pharaoh sitting on the Ka bird.

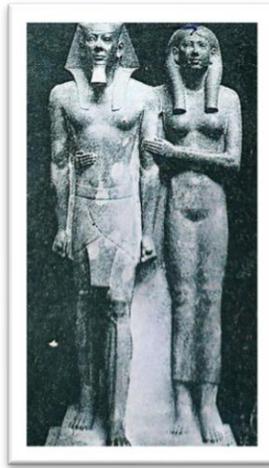
It is said that there are other such statues of Egyptian pharaohs in the pyramids.



The Couple Statue of King and His Wife in Schist:

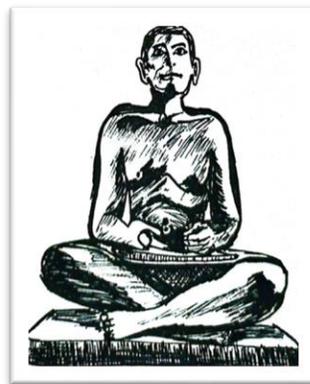
The individuality of this sculpture is remarkable, as it depicts a man and a woman in the round. The technique of carving in round sculpture is also noteworthy. Their bodies are beautifully carved. The king's body is slightly larger, while the queen's is more delicate. From their shoulders to their knees, their bodies are carved in a way that suggests they are holding something in their hands, though the objects themselves are not visible. The king's body is depicted with his hands slightly forward and his fingers closed. A snake is carved on one side of the king, and a mountain on the other. The hair on both sides of their heads is intricately carved in a natural style. The king's face, though damaged, still retains a hint of majesty. It is worth noting that the fundamental difference between the strong and muscular body of the man and the delicate and beautiful body of the woman is clearly shown. The delicate and soft bodies of both the man and the woman are shown in a way that suggests they are walking together, with their shoulders slightly hunched. Besides this, their small hands are also shown swinging together. Perhaps they are participating in some kind of ceremony, walking with dignity and pride. Their feet are also walking together, but their individual and proportional physical features are clearly visible. The positions of their hands are also clearly visible. It is also noteworthy that there is a single braid in the middle of their backs, which suggests that this was a common hairstyle in that era. This sculpture also relates to the Old Kingdom. All the prominent features of their faces, including their eyes and the king's damaged face, clearly highlight their beauty.

The Couple Statue of King and His Wife in Schist:



This is a beautiful and unique sculpture in round, which is a technique of sculpting in the round. This sculpture is very beautiful, and perhaps its beauty lies in the fact that the sculptor has shown both the king and the queen standing together. The king is shown wearing a short cloak, and the queen is also wearing a garment that covers her chest. Both the king and the queen have thick curly hair, which falls to their shoulders. Both are looking straight ahead, and their facial expressions are serious and dignified. The basic difference between the king and the queen's bodies is clearly shown. That is, the king's body is muscular and strong, while the queen's body is soft and delicate. Apart from this, the king and the queen are shown walking together, holding each other's hands. Both are walking together with great dignity and poise, but there is a slight difference in their walking styles. However, despite this difference, there is a great harmony and beauty in their combined appearance. Looking at this sculpture, one realizes that this was the time when the art of sculpture in the Old Kingdom was also reaching its peak. The sculptor has clearly and beautifully captured the dignity and beauty of their faces.

The Scribe with Painting (A):

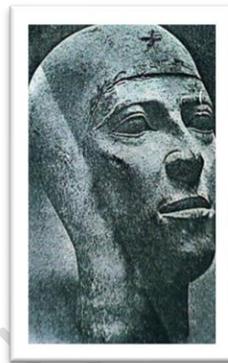


This is a 4th-century statue of a person who appears to be busy reading. It seems he is only wearing a loincloth. One of the remarkable features of this statue is that it has been painted with different colors. His eyes are fully open, and it seems as if he is attentively looking at something. His left hand is holding a book, and he appears to be reading it. His hair is curly and thick, and it seems to be dark brown or black in color. He is wearing a simple head covering. It does not appear to be a royal crown, but rather a simple cloth wrapped around his head.

The Scribe (B):

This statue was found at Gira. It is a very old statue and is kept in a museum. This statue belongs to the 5th century. The hair of this statue is shown to be long and curly. In addition, its mustache is trimmed. The eyes are shown to be large and bright. It is seated on a platform and has also worn a precious stone. Its precious ring is also shown, which has a broad gem in the middle.

Head of Prince from Giza:



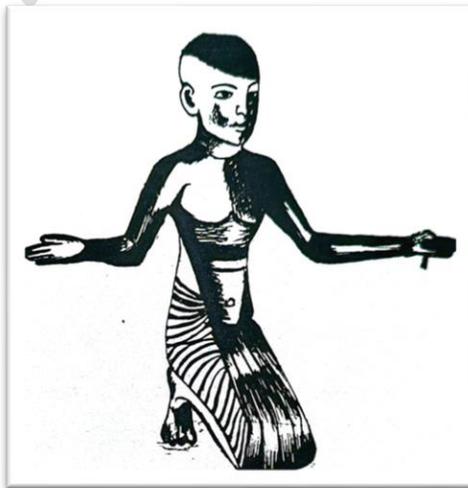
The ancient Egyptians did not create just a lifeless statue; they created a LIFE SIZE human head. It is crafted on a LIFE SIZE scale, and it is located at the famous site of Giza. This sculpture from around 2500 B.C. has a very impressive face and expression. The head and face are very beautiful, alive, and vivid. It seems as if the head is looking at you. The forehead, the new and fresh style of the face, and the beautifully created features make it seem as if it is a living human head. The sculpture's forehead shows a lock of curled hair, which used to be worn by the living. The eyebrows and the slight smile on the lips further enhance the liveliness. According to some archaeologists, the slight smile and the overall beauty of the sculpture make it seem as if the person portrayed is smiling. That's why this sculpture is also referred to as a "Smiling Face," a distinctive feature that makes it different from many others. Statue's ears are not carved.

Statue of Sheikh ul Belad in Wood:



This statue was found at Shakra (SHAKRA). Its height is 43 inches, and it dates back to 2400 B.C. Its importance lies in the fact that it belongs to the era of Sheikh Al-Balad. This statue is very different from others. The artist has placed a cloth over the head, and no hair is depicted. One side of the statue is made like a king, while the other side clearly shows the depiction of a common man. The body on one side is straight, while the other side shows the sagging and bent figure of an ordinary man. The same pattern is followed on the face, with one side appearing youthful and smooth, while the other shows signs of old age and exhaustion. The marks of devotion and piety are also visible. Even in the eyes, the artist has skillfully portrayed this contrast. This statue belongs to the 5th Dynasty.

Statue of a Priest:



This statue is so beautiful that it is considered the peak of artistic excellence. It is the statue of a man carrying a load. He is shown bending slightly under the weight of the load and straining his muscles. The posture clearly depicts the burden he is carrying, with both arms tied with ropes pulling downward. A cloth is wrapped around his waist down to his knees. The figure is carved with such beauty that it highlights the physical strength of the man. It vividly portrays the daily life of Egyptian workers and laborers. According to ancient Egyptian traditions, laborers and farmers were buried with models like these to symbolize that they would continue working in the afterlife. In this statue, the man is depicted bald, with no hair on his head.

Official:

This piece is a stone sculpture from the 12th Dynasty. It is a sculpture of a royal official. The sculpture has a serene face with Egyptian features. This sculpture is 12 cm high. This royal official is sitting with one hand placed flat on his knee, and the other hand resting straight on his lap. One notable characteristic of this sculpture is that his attire is different from others. That is, he is wearing a long cloak that covers most of his body, and only his hands and feet are visible.

Head of Nefertiti Steatite:



This is a sculpture of a queen's head, which has been carved with great beauty. The queen has a long neck, and her eyes and features have also been made. Her eyes are very large, and her nose is thin. In short, the features of this queen have been observed, and it is a magnificent and beautiful work of art from Egyptian civilization. This is a beautiful head of a queen.

Certainly! Here's the English translation of the provided Urdu text about "Sculpture in Relief":

SCULPTURE IN RELIEF

Relief sculpture is a type of sculptural work where figures and designs project from a background surface. It is a very ancient art form, found in the ruins of old buildings and temples.

Topics:

Sculpture in relief is generally created on two main topics, which are as follows:

- Religious Life Scenes
- Daily Life Scenes

Religious Life Scenes:

In this type, scenes from religious stories and beliefs are depicted. In addition to human figures, depictions of deities, angels, and other sacred beings are shown.

Daily Life Scenes:

In this type, scenes from the daily lives of people are depicted. These scenes often include depictions of hunting, gatherings, celebrations, and various professions.

(TECHNIQUE) Method of Work

In relief sculpture work, the following types of techniques are generally used:

1. Alto Relief
2. Sunken Relief
3. Bas Relief

Technique Of Alto Relief

In this technique of relief sculpture, the figures are carved so that they appear almost entirely detached from the background surface.

TECHNIQUE OF SUNKEN RELIEF

In this technique, the design is carved deep into the surface, and the raised area around the design holds the sunken profile.

Plastering the Wall and Sculpture Making

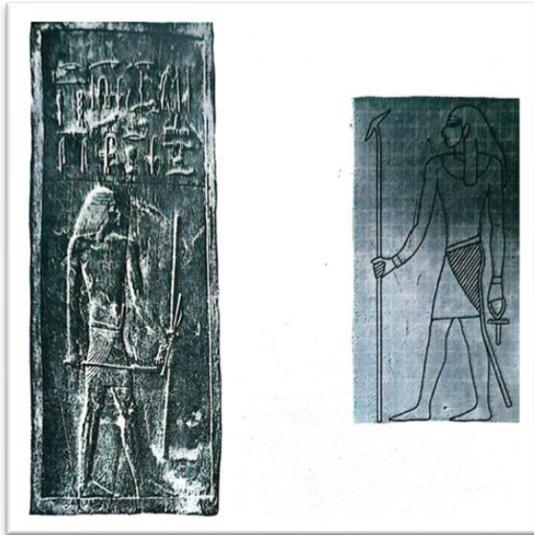
In this system, before plastering the wall, it was important to ensure the wall was straight and even. If it was not, then the idea was to first straighten the wall. After smoothing the surface, a chalk outline was drawn on the wall for reference. Then panels were made on the wall, and lines were drawn on those panels so that the image would appear balanced and proportionate. Beforehand, a subject was selected for the image — meaning a particular person was chosen, and then sketches in red or bright yellow were made of that subject.

Then the statue was carved out of black stone. It was a tough job. While carving the statue, it was important to maintain the shape of the body. First, the outer form was carved, and at the end, the central character of the story was given shape. Among all tasks, this was the most important, as

the job would only be considered complete when the color suited to the subject was applied. For the first time here, the trend of **RELIEF WORK** (raised surface artwork) in color began.

Wooden Panels From (Tomb of Hesyra) At Saqqara

Bas Relief:



This is an example of **bas-relief work** from the **Old Kingdom**, where a story has been carved on wooden panels. In this, the same person is shown multiple times—standing in some places and sitting in others. This style narrates the life story of that person, and his individuality has been emphasized. The physical form of the person reflects Egyptian traditions. The person is shown holding a stick, and he is also carrying weapons and hunting tools. In front of him is a lotus plant. This story is stylized, and on it, **hieroglyphs** have been inscribed. These are three panels.

Panel Number 1:

"A person is sitting, and in front of him is lotus plant, which has unnaturally appeared. He is having some tools or weapons on his shoulder, probably he is going for a prey. The person's hair is messy, and his muscles seem strong, he is wearing a long robe.

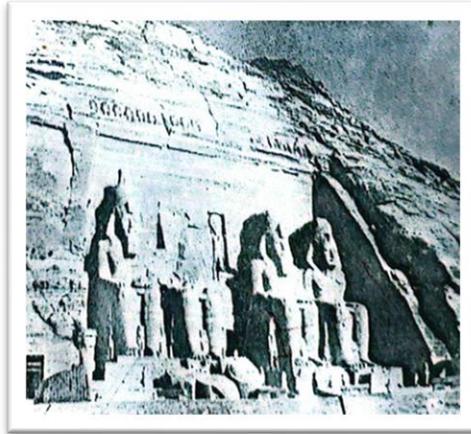
Panel Number 2:

In this Panel he is standing and his hair is in wavy look.

Panel Number 3:

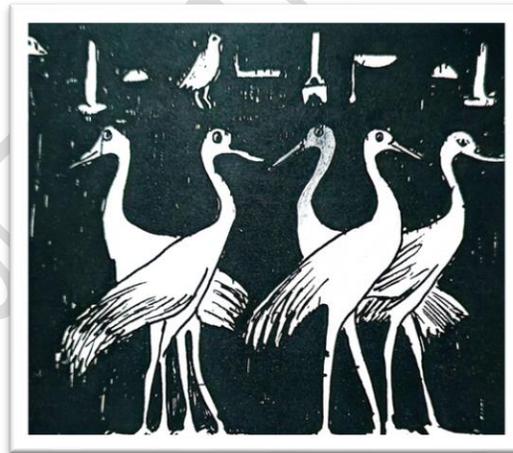
In this panel his hair looks like in straight lines. Weapons are shown again with him and something is also carved in hieroglyphs writing in this panel.

Temple of Ramesses:



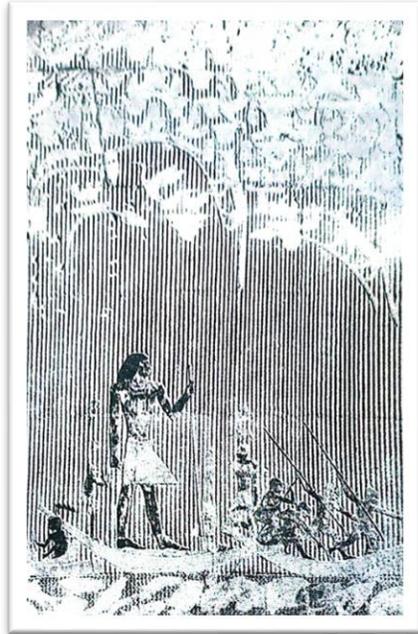
This relief work is from the Old Kingdom. It is from the temple of Ramesses at Abu Simbel. This relief shows members of the royal family. This statue has two colossal seated figures. Their height is 60 feet. All of them are shown facing their hands upward. Their legs are firmly placed, and on their heads are war caps. These caps are very large. Near their legs is the *Ka Bird*. The total number of figures is four, and two of them are slightly broken.

Cranes from the Tomb of Ranofer:



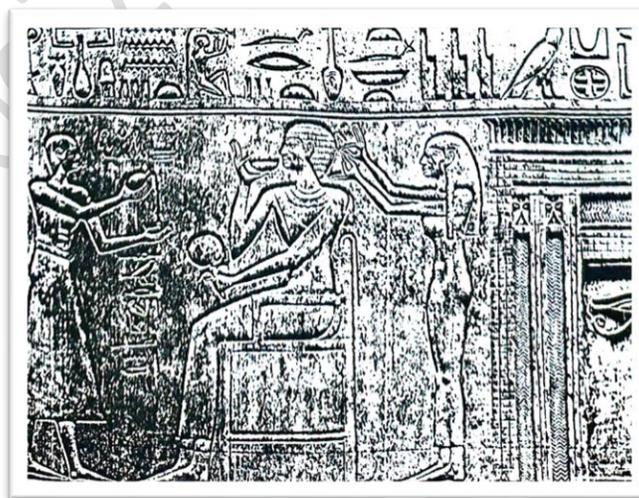
This belongs to the 5th century. It shows Sars arranged in a manner that beautifully symbolizes balance. Three are on one side, and two are on the other. In this piece, the three Sars are standing right side and two at left. The way they are designed at right, legs of two Sars can be seen clearly, but the legs of third are not visible. Perhaps it is made to show the legs of third Sars in an abstract or hidden way. Yet, they are there, and the feathers of Sars have been illustrated in lines. Hieroglyphs can be seen upright.

Ti Hunting from the Tomb of Saqqara:



In this beautiful relief, the noble man "Ti" is shown hunting. In accordance with the theme of the hunt, many birds and aquatic creatures are depicted. "Ti" is shown riding a boat, beneath which waves of water have been created. In this boat, hunting equipment is also present. In addition to this, guards are present for the protection of "Ti", who are shown holding bows and arrows. In the background, an attempt has been made to depict a jungle scene.

Hair Dressing Scene from Der-el-Bahari:



This relief is carved on the wall of Der-el-bahari 's tomb. The queen is gracefully shown seated on a throne. A servant stands behind her. The queen holds a mirror in one hand, and in the other,

she holds a cup of wine. In front of the queen, a wine bearer is depicted presenting the drink. This relief is carved on **steatite stone**. The complete tradition of Egyptian rituals is reflected in this artwork. The queen is beautifully dressed, and near her head, the statement of this scene is inscribed in **hieroglyphs**.

Offering for Atton (Sun GoD):



This relief, carved skillfully on **limestone**, shows the queen being presented with offerings by her royal maidens. The queen is adorned in beautiful traditional attire. Among all, this is considered the largest and grandest piece of art. The **sun disk** is also depicted very beautifully. Hieroglyphs have been used to describe the elegance of this relief in detail.

Egyptian Painting

Special Features of Egyptian Painting

Egyptian painting and sculpture have a unique creative characteristic. In ancient Egyptian paintings and temple wall carvings, it is evident that the wall for painting was prepared first, and the surface was made smooth with lime and plaster to make it suitable for painting or carving.

1. A special type of soft lime plaster was used.
2. If the surface had cracks, it was patched with lime and then covered with fine plaster to make it smooth.

3. The painting would begin from the **bottom of the wall** and gradually move upward.
4. Painting was typically done as a **teamwork effort**.
5. The wall would be divided into sections for painting, and each artist would work on different parts with their unique styles.
6. If it was **freehand art**, then special red paint was used to sketch the outlines of figures.
7. For background scenes, **light blue** was used, and to highlight objects, **dark colors** were applied.
8. For the final shape, **black ink** was used.
9. Shading was also done in human features.
10. Painting was usually done on walls of tombs.

Technique:

In Egyptian painting, the colors that were commonly used were mostly natural. These colors were extracted from aquatic minerals and animal fats. The skins of these animals were dried and ground to make powder, which was then mixed with gum or glue to make it durable and long-lasting. In Egyptian painting, red, green, yellow, white, and blue colors were used the most. These colors were used to paint all kinds of figures and scenes. A single color was never applied directly; rather, it was either blended with white to produce a lighter shade or mixed with black to make it darker and more expressive. This way, the desired tone was obtained. The entire background, whether it was earth, stone, or clay, was painted using yellow, ochre, emerald, turquoise, ruby, and desert clay colors. Yellow and red tones were obtained from desert soil, while white and yellowish-red colors came from stone. Black color was obtained by mixing animal fat and was used to paint the skin and features of animals.

Sometimes, gold and silver threads were used to obtain metallic shades. These colors were also used in creating patterns and designs on colored clothes. To make brushes, hair was obtained from the chests and backs of animals. Bones of animals which were in width were used as pallet.

Purpose /Reasons of Painting:

Two major reasons/purposes of painting were:

1. Religious Life
2. Common Life

Religious Life

Religious life was depicted in such a way that images of gods and goddesses were created in temples. Besides these, images of queens and kings worshipping were also shown. They were portrayed presenting offerings before the deities. Alongside them, common people were shown prostrating before the king as if worshipping him.

Common Life

The Egyptians depicted every aspect of life through painting. The common man was shown standing before the king, presenting offerings. Scenes of walking, hunting, and dancing were also shown. They depicted every season—spring, autumn, winter, and summer—in their paintings. Along with all subjects, Egyptian paintings also reflected their **social and economic conditions**. From these, one can understand a great deal about their history. People were also shown praying and worshipping in temples. Every scene clearly reflects their lifestyle. It is evident from these images that even **non-royal citizens** had roles in society. The depiction of **craftsmen making pottery, non-Egyptians trading with them, and foreign delegations** meeting them shows their importance in trade and history. Apart from this, written accounts in **hieroglyphs** also appear in the artwork.

Characteristics of Egyptian Painting:

1. **Sense of Distance:**
Objects in the background and foreground were illustrated using light and dark colors to create a sense of depth.
2. **Balance and Proportion**
3. **For depicting women**, cream and light yellowish-white colors were used.
4. **For men and slaves**, red, brown, and black colors were used.
5. **Egyptian painting** showcased all forms of traditional Egyptian attire, ornaments, and beauty.
This remains a hallmark of Egyptian art even today.
6. Egyptian painting is highly rhythmic, and this preference for tradition is visible in their subject matter.
7. Egyptian painting reflects a high degree of discipline.
8. We can also refer to Egyptian art as **decorative art**, since its images were often created for ornamental purposes, and the forms of animals and birds were made accordingly.
9. Egyptian art can also be called **traditional art**.

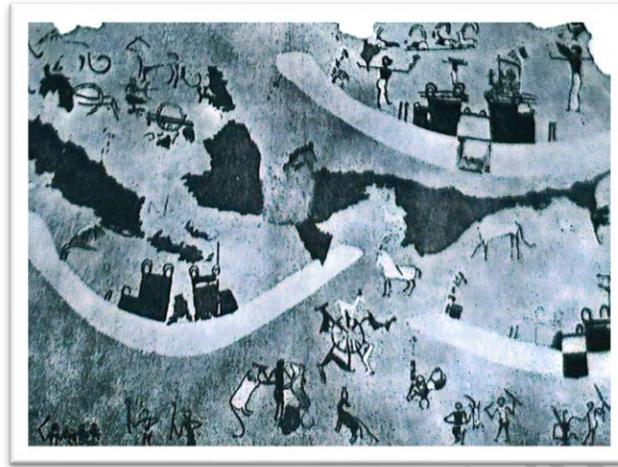
Examples of Religious Painting

One of the oldest and finest examples of Egyptian painting is found on the wall of a temple's place of worship.

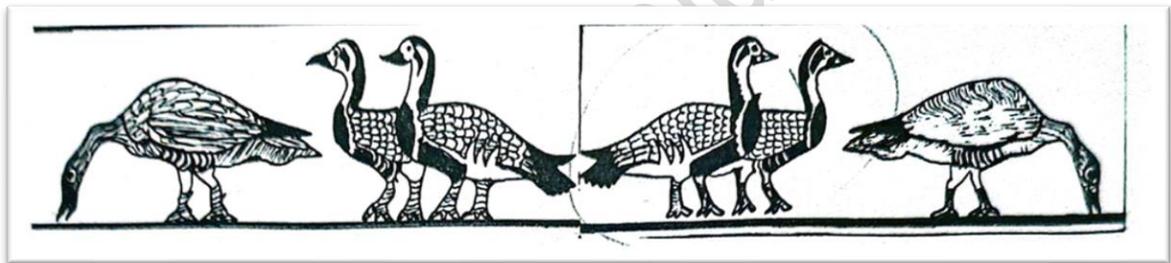
The name of this shrine is “**Shrine at Hierakonpolis.**”

In this painting, human beings, animals, and boats have been portrayed with a strange balance and proportion. The Nile River is symbolized by spirals. The boats suggest maritime trade. Animals are shown with human-like postures. This painting exhibits the characteristics of ancient "**Stylization**" art. The art of Mesopotamia resembles this. The artistic depiction of everyday life and animals was done with a symbolic style. Only one type of line was used for drawing animals and humans. This approach disrupted the concept of perspective in drawing.

The image was made without realism or anatomical accuracy, which ultimately gives the artwork its uniquely **pure Egyptian identity**.

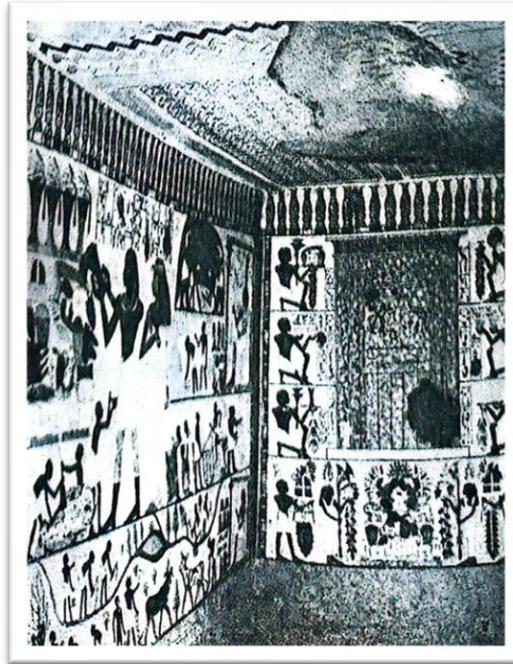


Frieze of Geese from Mastaba of Meiden:



The border of this painting was made with black color. There were three ostriches on one side and three on the other, clearly showing symmetry in the wings of the ostriches. The sense of proportion in this composition is very precise. A large ostrich is shown in the center, and there is a slight curvature in its body, indicating movement. The border of the wings and the feathers of the birds were painted in light and dark colors. The ostriches in the center were painted in yellow and green, while the outer ones were painted in white and brown. No color was used for the beaks and claws, which were left unpainted. The background of the painting was created with black color, and grass and plants were shown on the ground. This painting is an excellent example of balance and proportion, and it was considered one of the finest pieces of lotus and papyrus panel art.

View of the South Wall from the Tomb of Nakht:



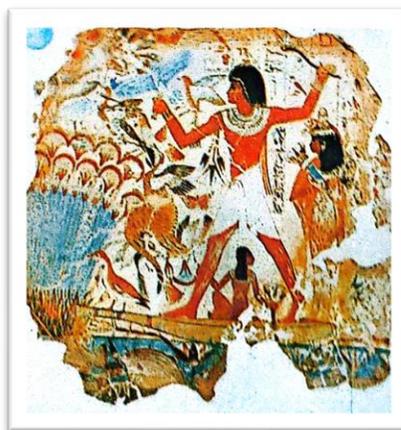
This painting was made across two walls. On the first wall, the king was shown on one side and the queen on the other, while groups of people and animals were depicted around them. It was shown that the people were busy with various tasks, and the king and queen appeared majestic and awe-inspiring. The geometrical design within it is worth noticing. On the second wall, a garden was depicted, and people were shown sitting in different positions facing one another. Some were sitting cross-legged, while others had one knee raised. A garden servant was shown presenting various items. Between the two walls, a central panel was created where **hieroglyphs** were inscribed.

The Book of the Dead:



In this painting, a **scene of the Day of Judgment** has been depicted. On this temple wall, lines of deities were drawn in a specific arrangement. All the souls were shown standing in rows, with their hands folded. Among them was the **KA Bird**, whose statue was placed under the panel. It held a scale in one of its hands, representing justice. On the same scale, a **Dog** was shown weighing the souls of people to assess their deeds. The body of the deity was human-like, but the face was that of a dog. On one side of the KA bird, women of the royal family were shown in white clothing. This entire panel was colored in black, brown, and white tones. The entire artwork was done in light surface colours with dark colours painting on it. Hieroglyphs are also shown in painting.

The Hunting Fresco from the Tomb of Nebamon:



In this painting, a prince is shown hunting. Alongside him is a princess, and his daughter is also present. The prince is shown hunting many birds with one hand, while in the other hand he holds a snake. The princess is standing to the right, wearing a beautiful royal dress. His daughter sits between the legs of the princess. The prince is portrayed with great strength and power. In another scene, the prince is shown riding a boat. The boat is filled with lotus and papyrus flowers. In the boat, the prince holds a tank in one hand, and in the other hand he holds lotus flowers that are floating on the surface of the water. This too is painted in Egyptian style. This painting illustrates the youthful bravery and glory of a prince from a royal family.

Fresco from Tomb of Cha, at Deir-e-Medina

In this painting, the king and queen are shown sitting on large thrones. Their eyes are very large. Both figures are adorned with jewels. On the thrones, the **lotus flower**—a favorite of the Egyptians—is designed. In this painting, soft pastel colors are used, and the entire artwork is painted in a **stylized** manner. This painting is a complete reflection of traditional Egyptian aesthetics.

Examples of Common Life Painting:

Women Mourning, Fresco in the Tomb of Ramesses at Thebes:



This painting portrays a mourning atmosphere. In it, five women are shown sitting and weeping. All the women are dressed in blue, with their hair loose and scattered over their shoulders. Women are shown raising their one hand while seated, while other hand shown on floor. However, they appear grief-stricken. It is believed that these women belong to a royal family. The background of this painting is colored green, and the lower portion of the painting is in black.

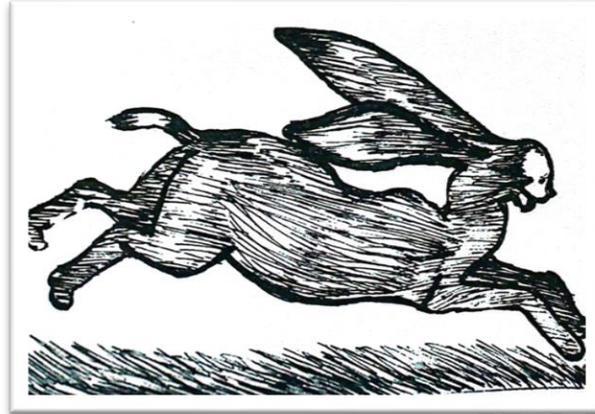
Women Musician, Tomb of Nakht, Thebes:



In this painting, three musical women have been depicted, who were considered master musicians of their time. Two of the women are shown wearing jewelry, while the one in the middle is not. The woman in the middle is portrayed without any ornaments, yet she is very beautiful and striking in appearance. The posture of the first and last woman suggests that they might be singing a duet, while the third woman is playing a flute with both hands. The most prominent face in the painting is that of the first woman playing the flute, which resembles a

crescent moon. Her height is also taller than the others. The painting uses beautiful colors such as blue, black, brown, and green. This painting was discovered at the site of Thebes.

Hare Fleeing the Hunter, Tomb of Userhet, Thebes:



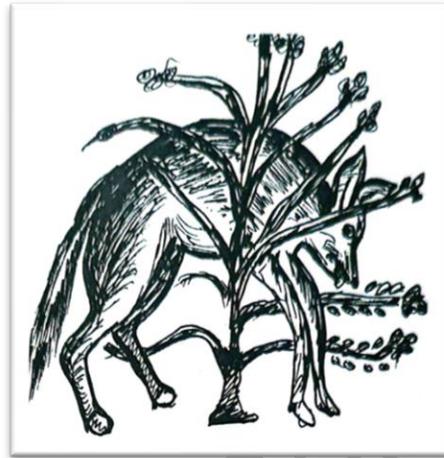
This is a very beautiful painting of a running rabbit. The rabbit has been shown in a greenish shade, and the background is painted in brown. The ground was depicted in a slightly dark brown tone. The scene is such that the rabbit is either running away from a predator or trying to escape from it. It appears that the rabbit is pushing itself to the fullest of its strength to flee.

Youths Carrying Arrows, Tomb of Kenamun Thebes:



This is a picture of two young men who appear to be lifting a deer. This image is also from the region of Thebes. One of the young men is holding a deer by the leg, possibly having hunted it. The other young man has flowers in his hand. One of them is also wearing jewelry. Both are walking toward a certain place. Background is in light colour so that the figures can be prominent.

Dying Fox of Userhet, Thebes:



The lioness is shown pouncing on the deer. This lioness, caught between life and death, is depicted in a state of struggle. The deer's innocence and agony are striking. The lioness is shown in a henna-brown color, while the deer is painted in a light brown shade. The tree is in dark brown, and ahead, two more deer are heading toward the back. In the background, a light pink color is visible.

Women at Her Toilet, Tomb of Deserkarasonb:

In this picture, two maids (servants) are shown bathing a princess. One maid is styling the princess's hair, while the other maid is standing near a basket of flowers. The princess is seated on a chair beside the flower basket, and she is portrayed as taller than everyone else. The princess is seated on a cushioned chair and is drinking wine. The maids are shown unclothed—one is wearing only a belt, while the other is completely nude. Their body color is dark brown.

Blind Harpist of Nakat, Thebes:



In this image, a man is playing a musical instrument. There is jewelry around his neck. His body is painted in Brown and head is painted in light yellowish brown. His fingers are very beautifully positioned as they move over the instrument, displaying elegance. This person has worn a robe of off-white shade. His one arm is visible and with single hand, he is trying to create a beautiful scene through the instrument's melodies. Below the instrument is a design of lotus flowers. His hands are swiftly moving across the strings, and his eyes are shut. Folds are shown on his belly

Metal Work and Pottery of Egypt:

The craft of pottery in ancient Egypt had already begun during the Old Kingdom of Egypt. Egyptian pottery from in start was simple and colorless in shape, but later, beautiful pottery emerged in various forms. Some of these resemble the pottery of Neolithic Period. With the passage of time, the size and grandeur of the pottery increased significantly, but along with the grandeur came refinement. Egyptians began to incorporate decorative elements in their pottery. They started using various materials, such as enamel, glass, ivory, and colored stones to decorate their pottery. Apart from this, Egyptians also used porcelain in everyday items, which included makeup boxes, jewelry cases, and cosmetics jars.

Not all of these porcelain items are included in pottery, but the Egyptians showcased them with such realism and aesthetic craftsmanship that they are considered part of the art. The relief work and illustrations on Egyptian pottery depict themes that show the Egyptians' artistic expression and narrate the tales of their civilization. On their pottery, Egyptians portrayed historical and mythological stories, the splendor of pharaohs, the harshness and bitterness of life, and aspects of human emotions. The ancient Egyptian script Hieroglyphs is also seen on pottery, in which they used special symbols to record tales with unique expression and vivid imagination. Additionally, their pottery depicted the struggles between good and evil through symbolic forms of animals, birds, and insects. It is evident that the symbolic nature of Egyptian pottery was fundamental to

its artistic design, and this is the reason why Egyptian pottery holds a unique and important place in world history.

Examples of Egyptian Pottery:

Cosmetics Tray:



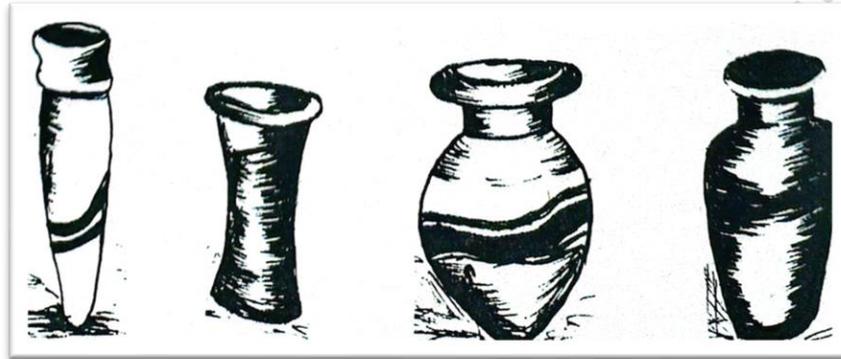
It is a box, divided into two parts. When opened, it appears like a closed box. In one part, you would place your makeup items, and the other part would be used to store your jewelry. Indeed, this was considered a very ancient and valuable makeup box of its time. Its use was widespread and in **relief work**, images and figures of animals were also crafted on it. There were also unique shapes among these. One part had a circular design, and the other had a rectangular one. The rectangular design featured a cruel lion attacking animals. On one side, the lion was shown pouncing on an animal, and on the other side, the animal was depicted lying on its back, surrendering, with eyes closed as if it had accepted its fate. This type of makeup box had a handle underneath, allowing it to be held and carried. This design is commonly known as the "Palette of a Dog." Just like this, there were also other distinctive and imaginative designs.

Another Tray:



This is also like a makeup box, divided into two parts. In one part, a king is shown fighting a war, and in the other part, the upper Egypt and lower Egypt, and the ruler of upper Egypt and lower Egypt are depicted. Apart from this, lotuses and papyrus flowers are also shown in it. In the other part, the king is shown returning victorious from battle, and on this part, the Ka Bird is also shown. In addition to that, two slaves are dragging two prisoners in different chains. On one side, a person is being struck with a mace. In addition to this, a pictorial representation of the king's shadow is also carved. The name of this king is Naomer.

Small Alabaster Vases from Old Kingdom:



All these utensils are carved from **alabaster**. Each vessel has a different shape from the other. The first type is thin, the second is round, and the third resembles a glass and fourth is cylindrical. These utensils were used commonly in households. In these vessels, special features of alabaster can be seen, which appear not in brown but in a milky white color. The total number of these **vases** found belongs to the **fourth century**.

Terra Cotta Vase from Arentu:



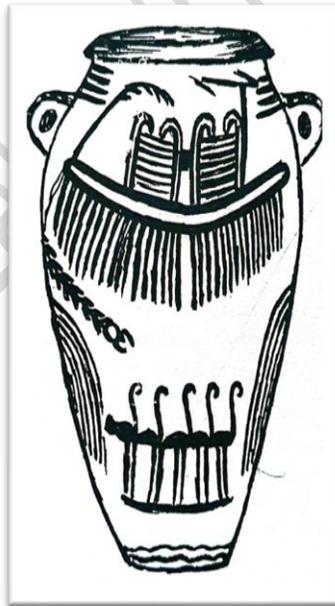
This is a wide-mouthed open vessel, and its shape is similar to that of a bowl. Two colors have been used in it—black on the top and brown towards the bottom. This effect was achieved by heating the vessel in fire. Despite being old, the vessel has retained its proper shape.

Terracotta Pot:



This is a handle with bends on both sides. There are decorative designs on its surface, as seen in the image. On it, animals are carved in a row. In middle, there is zigzag design.

Terracotta Jar:



This is a container, generally used during religious rituals. It has two handles attached to it. The design on it is made with the help of a red slip, and images of trees and wild animals are depicted. This too has been baked in fire. The vessel is quite ancient and resembles the pottery of the Neolithic period.

Glass Vase, Dark Blue with Dragged Pattern in Light Blue, Yellow and White:



This is a beautiful glass vase, and its size is 3½ inches. Yellow, white enamel, and brown colors have been used on it. In addition, white, yellow, and brown stripes are present on its surface. This was a decorative vessel, and it was considered extremely sacred. Looking at this vessel, it appears that it was made with great delicacy, as handles were crafted on its sides as well. The method of making it seems to be that first, the vessel was prepared by molding clay, then it was coated with a material, and finally, molten glass was poured over it. In this way, a beautiful glass vessel was created.

by Arooj Zahra (Gold Medalist)