

**GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL & COLLEGE, PRAYAGRAJ**

**WORK-SHEET No. - 2**

**Session 2020 - 2021**

**CLASS 6 (A, B, C, D, E & F)**

**SUBJECT - HISTORY**

**TOPIC : THE EGYPTIAN CIVILIZATION**

**Note:** Parents please ensure that your ward refers to a (History & Civics) book of class 6 or a website on the internet for detailed information of the topic. For help you may use the links given below -

<https://youtu.be/hO1tzmi1V5g>

<https://youtu.be/8XpnseaS3TI>



The conventional Egyptology states that the Egyptian Civilization would be 5,300 years old. Ancient Egypt like other early civilizations, developed in the river Nile. The river Nile was central to the whole civilization and a constant and major influence on its development. That is why some Greek historians called Egypt ‘**The Gift of Nile**’.

The history of ancient Egypt is divided into three periods. They were: (1) The Old Kingdom (approximately 2649 BCE to 2150 BCE), (2) The Middle Kingdom (approximately 2055 BCE to 1700 BCE), and (3) The New Kingdom (approximately 1550 BCE to 1070 BCE), The Egyptians were ruled by a king and he was called the **Pharaoh**. He was all-powerful and was treated like God. They were considered holy and the Egyptians referred to their rulers indirectly by talking to the ‘Pharaoh’ which means ‘great house’. He was a hereditary ruler and was believed to be God’s representative on Earth.



The Egyptians were divided into three distinct classes too. They were: (1) Upper class (consisted of the royal family, priests and government officials), (2) Middle class (consisted of merchants, craftspeople and manufacturers) and (3) Lower class (consisted of peasants and the slaves who were mainly prisoners of war).

The families were close knit groups. The relationship between the husband, wife and children was usually close. The father was the head of the family. Women were treated with respect and their property rights were protected. The birth of daughters was welcomed. Women belonging to poor families worked on fields and looked after their house. Rich women led better lives. They were more or less equal to men in the eyes of law. Wealthy or rich families lived lives of luxury and pleasure but the poor worked as servants or as labourers in rich household. Rich people wore jewellery made of gold and precious stones and the poor wore jewellery made up of cheap metals.



Egyptians were very good at art and craft. There were skilled craftspeople such as potters, goldsmiths, carpenters, weavers, sculptors and painters. They built remarkable monuments such as **The Great Pyramid** and **The Sphinx**, and some temples too.



The Chief God was Amun-Re or Ra, the Sun God. He was the King of all Gods, and considered the source of warmth and life. Other Gods that were worshipped were Thoth, the Moon God, represented by Ibis, a water bird; Horus, the sky God, represented by a hawk; Anubis, the God of mummification, represented by a Jackal. Each God had a separate temple and a priest, and each city had a pattern of God. The Egyptians worshipped many Gods and Goddesses. Each God was associated with a particular aspect of life, and each a specific form.

They believed in life after death. So they used to preserve the dead bodies. Such preserved dead bodies were known as ‘**MUMMY**’.



The Egyptians developed a form of writing called ‘**HIEROGLYPHIC SCRIPT**’, which means sacred writing. The script was written from right to left. Initially, people wrote on stone walls and clay tablets. Later paper sheets, made from papyrus reeds were used. A pointed reed was used as a pen.



The country was divided into provinces called ‘Nomes,’ each governed by an official called ‘Nomarch’. The King was assisted by officials. They supervised every aspect of the administration, including tax collection. The Government controlled all the resources. The King gifted large estates to private owners but a major part of the produce was taken as tax for the Royal treasury.

The chief occupation of the Egyptians was agriculture. The fertile soil, abundant supply of water from the Nile and a vast irrigation network enabled them to grow crops throughout the year. Their chief crops were wheat, barley and millet. Vegetables and fruits such as dates, apples, peaches and figs were grown. Wine was a popular drink among the rich.

The Egyptians studied the movements of heavenly bodies to predict natural phenomena. The Egyptians introduced the world's first Solar Calendar. They founded that the average time between two annual floods was 365 days. The need to calculate the time of the annual floods led to the development of Astronomy. By 1000 BCE, the glory and splendor of the Egyptian empire had declined. Foreign invasions and internal revolts weakened the empire and reduced it to a shadow of its former self.

After the new kingdom came to an end, the Egyptian empire collapsed. Egypt came to be conquered by the Assyrians, the Persians and the Romans. The Egyptians civilization was as advanced as the other civilizations of the period. The civilizations of Greece and Rome were greatly influenced by the Egyptian Civilization.

### **ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:**

1. How old is the Egyptian Civilization?
2. Why Egypt is called 'the Gift of Nile?'
3. How many periods is the history of ancient Egypt divided into? Name them.
4. Who were the Pharaohs? Why were they treated like Gods?
5. Briefly describe the family life of the Egyptians.
6. Give two examples to prove that the Egyptians were great builders.
7. Why did the ancient Egyptians preserve the dead?
8. Discuss the contribution of the Ancient Egyptians in the field of Astronomy.

### **FILL IN THE BLANKS:**

1. There were \_\_\_\_\_ social classes in Ancient Egypt.
2. The preserved dead bodies were called \_\_\_\_\_.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ was the form of writing introduced by the Egyptians.
4. The provinces were known as \_\_\_\_\_.
5. The officials who governed or ruled the provinces were called \_\_\_\_\_.
6. The \_\_\_\_\_ calendar was introduced by Egyptians.

7. They calculated that the year had \_\_\_\_\_ days.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ were greatly influenced by the Egyptian civilization.
9. \_\_\_\_\_ invasion and internal revolts weakened the empire.
10. \_\_\_\_\_ was the Chief God of the Egyptians.

**TRUE OR FALSE :**

1. Poor people lived in luxury and in pleasure.
2. Rich or wealthy people of Egyptian civilization wore jewellery made of gold.
3. Women were more or less equal to men in the eyes of law.
4. In Egyptian civilization people used to worship only one God.
5. The chief occupation of the ancient Egyptians was agriculture.
6. Egyptian women were treated with respect.
7. The script was written from left to right.
8. Sheets of paper were made from palm reeds.
9. The popular drink of the rich was wine.
10. Relationship between husband, wife and children was very close.

**MATCH THE COLUMNS:**

- | <u>A</u>              |   | <u>B</u>             |
|-----------------------|---|----------------------|
| 1. The New Kingdom    | - | Pen                  |
| 2. Pointed reed       | - | Father               |
| 3. Lower Class        | - | treated with respect |
| 4. Head of the Family | - | 1550 BCE to 1070 BCE |
| 5. Women              | - | prisoners of war.    |

**END**