

ANCIENT EGYPT

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(Above) The Goddess representation of *Ma'at*

Egyptians were polytheistic, believed on upholding the principle of *Ma'at* (harmony), and centered their lives around Magic, the harnessing of natural powers to achieve a certain goal.

Religion

Ancient Egypt was ruled by a *Pharaoh*, who manifested Gods on Earth. His word was implemented by the elite.

Government

The social order went peasant farmers and slaves, merchants, government officials and high priests, and finally ruled by the pharaoh. Peasant men were expected to serve the pharaoh, building palaces, temples, and tombs.

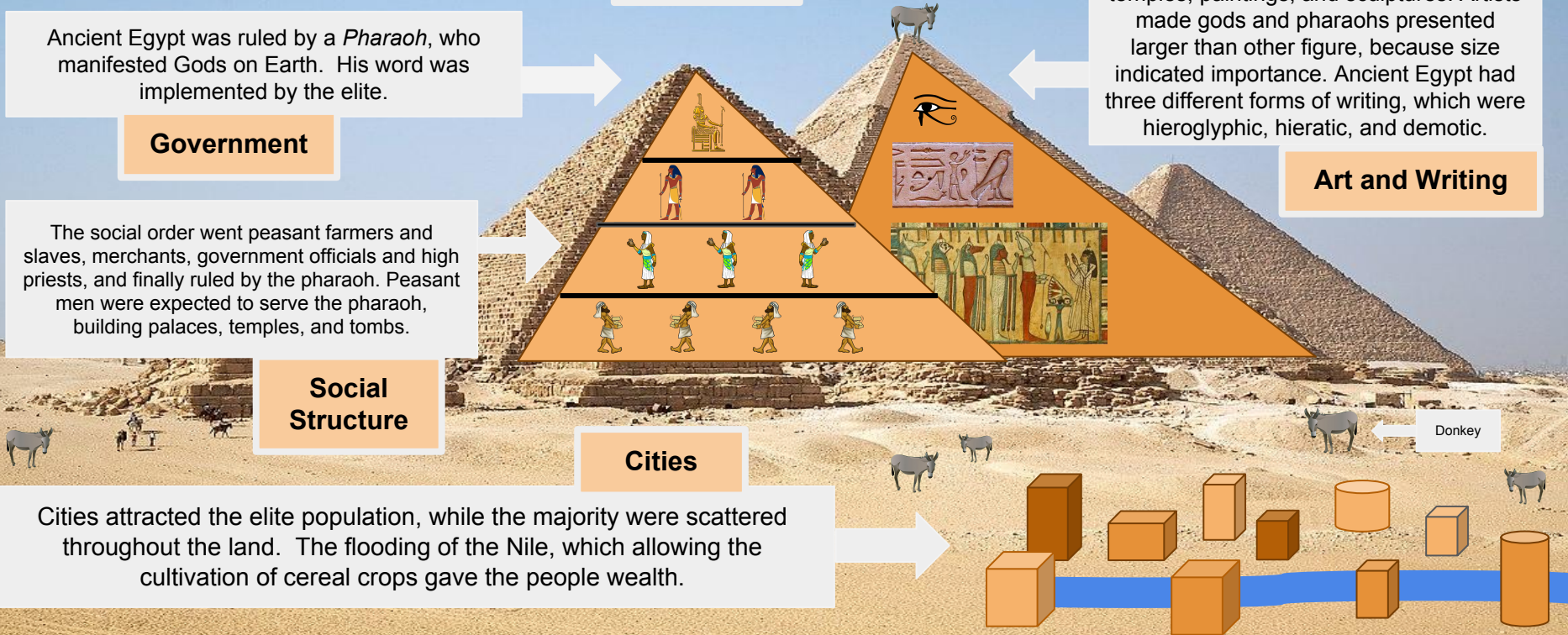
Social Structure

Cities

Cities attracted the elite population, while the majority were scattered throughout the land. The flooding of the Nile, which allowing the cultivation of cereal crops gave the people wealth.

Arts of ancient Egypt included statues, wall paintings in tombs, carvings on temples, paintings, and sculptures. Artists made gods and pharaohs presented larger than other figure, because size indicated importance. Ancient Egypt had three different forms of writing, which were hieroglyphic, hieratic, and demotic.

Art and Writing



Donkey