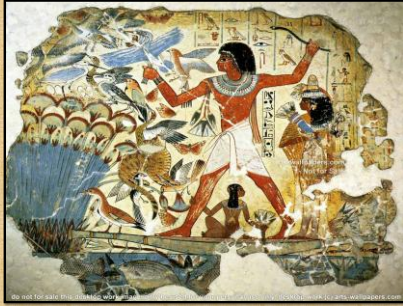


### 3. The Rise and Fall of Egypt




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### Natural Advantages

- 678 miles long
- rich soil (450/sq. mi.)
- Annual flooding (silt)
- Upper and Lower Egypt
  - Nomarchs
- Protected by:
  - sea to N. and E.
  - deserts W.
  - cataracts (waterfalls) S.
  - only NE passageway allows for land invasion

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### Egyptian Chronology

<p><b>Pre-dynastic Period (5500 - 3100 BC)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• farming villages coalesce</li> </ul> <p><b>Early Dynastic Period (1<sup>st</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> Dynasties)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Narmer forms the state (c. 3000 BCE)</li> </ul> <p><b>Old Kingdom (3<sup>rd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Dynasties)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Age of the Pyramids</li> </ul> <p><b>First Intermediate Period (9<sup>th</sup> – 11.5 Dynasties)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Civil War</li> </ul> <p><b>Middle Kingdom (11.5<sup>th</sup>- 13<sup>th</sup> Dynasties)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Classic Era</li> <li>• Tale of Sinuhe</li> </ul> <p><b>Second Intermediate Period 14<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> Dynasties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hyksos Occupation</li> <li>• acquire chariot, compound bow, stone defenses</li> </ul>	<p><b>New Kingdom (18<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> Dynasties)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Imperialism</li> <li>• Tutmose III                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Battle of Megiddo</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Ramses II                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Battle of Kadesh (1274 BCE)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>3<sup>rd</sup> Intermediate Period (21<sup>st</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup>)</b></p> <p><b>Late Period (26<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> Dynasties)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assyrian/Persian Control</li> </ul> <p><b>Ptolemaic Dynasty</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Macedonian Control</li> </ul> <p><b>Roman Period</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roman Period</li> </ul> <p><b>Byzantine Period</b></p>
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### Pre-Dynastic Period 5000-3000 BCE



Gebel al-Arak knife

#### Difference between Nile "Delta" and "Valley"

- physiognomy
- economic traditions
- burial customs
- pottery designs
- lack of a writing system
- contact with Mesopotamian culture
- Farming villages coalesce into provinces or principalities

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Early Dynastic (c. 3000 BCE)  
The Narmer Palette      Significance: depiction of the unification of Egypt

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### Changes made by Snefru

- Invades Nubia
  - builds a fortress at Buhen, near the 2nd cataract
  - confirms the Egyptian military presence
  - commercial settlement where traders from all of Nubia would come to trade with the Egyptians
- raids Libya
- Expands Egyptian Navy
  - trade with Lebanon for wood to make bigger ships




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### Old Kingdom Military Organization

- Relatively decentralized  
 greatest source of knowledge are autobiographical inscriptions
- Governor of each *nome* needed to raise its own army
  - Conscription levy 1/100 into army
    - General of recruits
  - Specialists in desert warfare, and travel
  - different types of troops
    - garrison troops
    - frontier troops
    - quartermaster officers
      - overseers of the arsenals
    - scribes (functioned as NCOs)

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string of 20 mud-brick fortresses guarding Gaza pass  
 8<sup>th</sup> Dynasty  
 each require 3,000 men  
 total number of frontier troops 60,000  
 Egypt's population = 2 million at the time

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### Middle Kingdom Reunification mid 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> Dynasties (2040-1648 BCE)

- Starting with mid-11<sup>th</sup> Dynasty from Thebes
  - Montuhotep I & II
- adjusted administration, economy and military structure to the municipal level
- 12<sup>th</sup> Dynasty large-scale projects
  - stone temples all over Egypt
  - cultivation and colonization of Fayum Oasis
  - conquest of Lower Nubia
  - imperial military system

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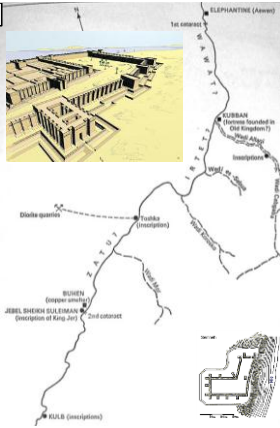
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**The fortress of Buhen**

- 180 yards square
- surrounded by a mud-brick wall 15 feet thick and 30 feet high.
- Wall had firing bastions every 30 feet.
- Moat surrounded the outer wall and was 26 feet across and 18 feet deep, with yet another steep glacis on the inner slope.
- The gate complex was 45 feet high and stretched from the inner wall across the moat, allowing archers to control fire along parallel approaches.

fort system along southern Nile near Nubia




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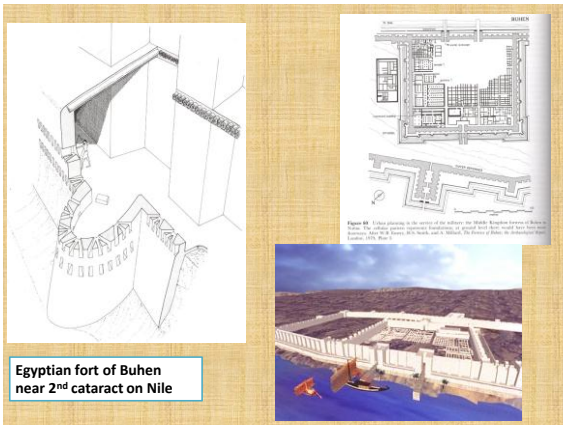
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Egyptian fort of Buhen near 2<sup>nd</sup> cataract on Nile

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**Imperial Military System**

- King acts as military commander on major campaigns
- Military Intelligence bureau formed
  - “Master of Secrets”
- Army becomes much more structurally articulated:
  - new ranks and titles
  - junior officer corps
  - new specialized squads (“shock troops”)
  - refined troop divisions: 8/60/100

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### Hyksos Invasion of Egypt



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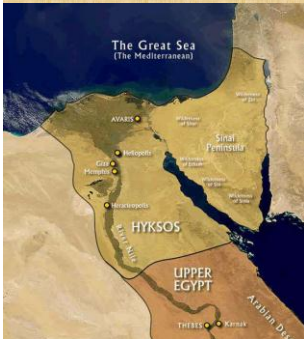
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### The Hyksos Kingdom (15<sup>th</sup> Dynasty)



- 1720 BCE Hyksos establish capital in Avaris
- 1640 captured Memphis
- Next 100 years Egypt divided between:
  - Lower Egypt (Hyksos)
  - Upper Egypt (Theban Princes)

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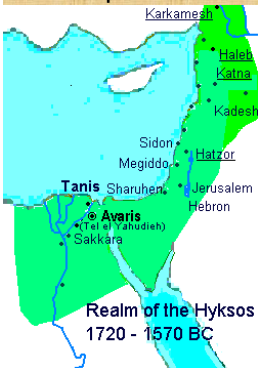
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### Sophisticated military technology



- horse drawn chariot
- composite bow and quivers
  - 200 yards further
- slashing sword
- penetrating axe
- helmets and body armor



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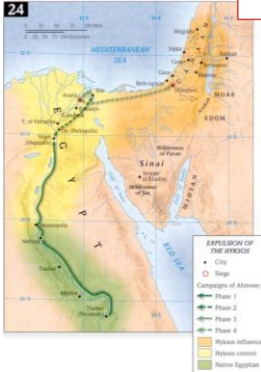
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### Expulsion of the Hyksos



- 1551 Ahmose I drives Hyksos from Avaris and pursues into Canaan
- Amenhotep I expands East



siege of Hermopolis against the Hyksos

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### Utility of the “foreign invader” for Egyptian unification

- Hyksos act as a foil for a new “national” narrative
- expulsion of foreign invader and reestablishment of central monarchy memorialized as a “traumatic experience” and a moment of national glory
- Royal representation also changes
  - king now endows temples to show piety
  - helps with legitimacy and bureaucratic administration
  - embellishment of temples (Amun-Ra at Thebes)

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### Military Innovations of New Kingdom

- Adopt Hyksos weaponry
- abolished local militias
- national army based on conscription
  - 1/10
  - centrally trained by NCOs
  - Pharaoh commander-in-chief
- military families given land grants
- Ramses II reorganize Egypt into 34 districts to facilitate conscription and training

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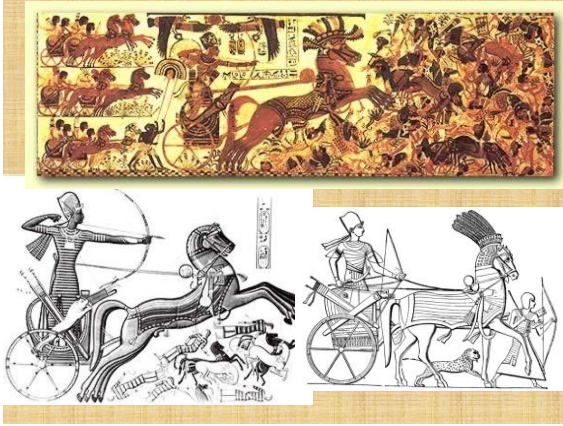
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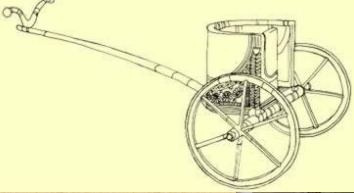
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**Egyptian Chariot**

- D shape of lighter wood
- belly-bar and leg straps
- greater tensile strength
- central yoke and axle
- moved to the rear
- special quiver for archer




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### Army Organization of New Kingdom

Base 10 system

- Squad of 10
  - 9 men + kir (sergeant)
- Platoon: 5 squads
  - 50 men + “leader of 50”
- Company: 5 platoons
  - 250 men+ captain, quartermaster, and scribe
- Regiment: 5 companies
  - 1250 men
- Division (*Pegdet*): 4 regiments
  - 5000 men names after an Egyptian god

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## Discipline and Punishment

- Beatings were the most common form of disciplinary punishment in the Egyptian army
- Horemheb (soldier turned Pharaoh) punished a soldier for stealing hides from the local population
    - “beating with 100 blows; opening 5 old wounds”
  - Seti I ordered anyone stealing from Royal estates would have their ears cut off
  - Ramses II executed the chariot commanders who abandoned him at Kadesh

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## New Kingdom (18-20<sup>th</sup> dynasties)



- aggressive foreign policy
- Thutmose I forge a new form of Egyptian Imperialism
- Conquers Nubia and Kush
- Monumental rock-cut tombs “Valley of the Kings”

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## 18<sup>th</sup> Dynasty Campaigns

- Amenhotep I
- Nubia between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Cataracts
- Thutmose I
- Nubia into 4<sup>th</sup> cataract
    - military annexation
  - NW into Levant
    - no forts
    - indirect control




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### Tutmos III General-Pharaoh



- Aggressive into Levant and Syria
- Battle of Megiddo (1457)
- War against Mitanni (1446)
  - 20,000 men
  - transported hundred of rafts by wagon over 300 miles to cross Euphrates
- commander’s conference
- field intelligence
- 17 campaigns—victorious
  - Nubia to 4<sup>th</sup> Cataract (1425)

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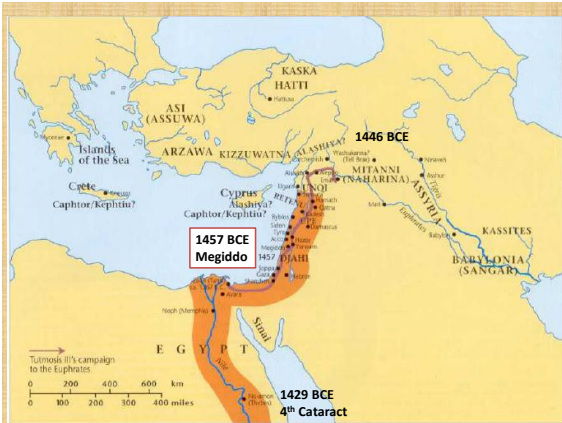
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### Battle of Megiddo (1456 BCE)

- Against Canaanite coalition organized by the King of Kadesh
- Thutmose chooses a narrow and risky path to Megiddo for surprise
- Large Egyptian force of soldiers and chariots
- Canaanites routed, defenders of Megiddo refused to open the gates and pulled their fleeing charioteers over the walls to safety.
- Instead of attacking the city the Egyptians began to loot the abandoned camps, which gave the Canaanites time to organize their defense



City besieged for 7 months Egypt was victorious

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Tel Megiddo

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His Majesty ordered to tell the whole army:  
"Your valiant lord will guide your steps on this  
road which becomes narrow." For his Majesty  
had taken an oath, saying: "I shall not let my  
valiant army go before me from this place!"  
This his Majesty resolved that he himself  
should go before his army. Every man was  
informed of his order of march, horse  
following horse, with his Majesty at the head  
of his army.

*Annals of Tutmose III, "Battle of Megiddo"*

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### Modern Analysis casts Doubt

Yaham-Aruna =21km  
Aruna-end of pass =15.3km  
Pass =13.4km  
End of pass-Megiddo = .8km  
Egyptian Chariots on flanks

6000 needs 60 acres



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### Changes in Egypt The Rise of the Ramesses Family

- Young successful noble Pramesse adopted as Ramesses I.
- Adopts Seti I who conquers region around Kadesh
- Muwatalli accepts his gains with Orontes as boundaries so he can focus on uprisings in his own lands
- Son of Seti I takes name Ramesses II

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### Ramses II (19<sup>th</sup> Dynasty)

“The Great”

- expeditions in Nubia, Libya, Levant and pirates landing in Egypt from North
  - standing army of 100,000
- Renaissance of Egyptian culture and creativity
- married to Nefertiti



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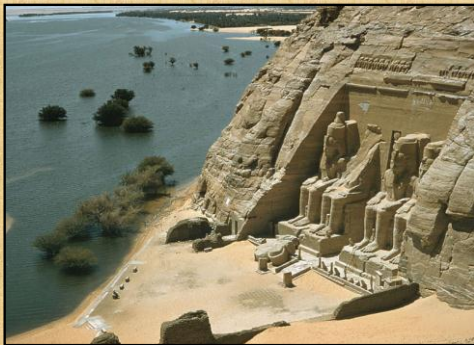
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Abu Simbel Temple

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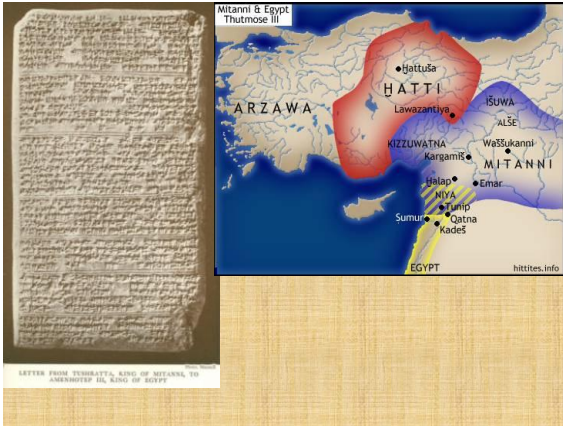
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