

Egyptian Technology & Advancements



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Introduction to Ancient Egyptian Technology and Advancements

In these slides, you will learn or learn more about Ancient Egyptian technology and advancements. We will cover the topics of Agriculture(Farming), Transportation(with a focus on boats and The Nile), and finally, Trade. We hope you learn something new and enjoy the slides.

-Miles, Eli, and Sami

Agriculture

By Miles



This is what farming would have looked like. As you can see in the background there is a boat on the Nile which was important to trade and transportation.

The Egyptians made considerable advancements in agriculture. They made traps to hunt ducks in the Nile and they domesticated animals. Like the cows we have today, they had two types of cattle, one for meat and the other for dairy. Similar most ancient civilizations, Egyptian farmers were a low class in the social hierarchy but essential in the trading system. With the items farmers produced, they had a surplus of varied food that other civilizations did not have. The Egyptians also connected religion to farming. They thought if they had a bad harvest, it was because the gods were angry at them. The Egyptians took both agriculture and religion very seriously.

Animals in Agriculture

The Egyptians started to domesticate more animals. They used cattle as livestock to get two different things dairy and meat. The Egyptians also used traps to capture animals like ducks in spring traps. Once traps were set in the long grass by The Nile, if the ducks would step on the trap it would spring and get the duck. Cattle were also used as farm animals. They did work like trampling corn fields that had been cut to remove the grain from the ear of corn. Of course, they had to water the crops. But how did they do that, you may ask? They used canals. These canals led from the Nile River to the crops. This is how they watered the crops.

Crops

These would be some the crops that would usually grow.

-Barely

-Sesame

-Wheat

-Corn

-Flax

Those were some of the crops that grew year round. These are some seasonal crops:

-Peppermint

-Black Pepper

-Cotton

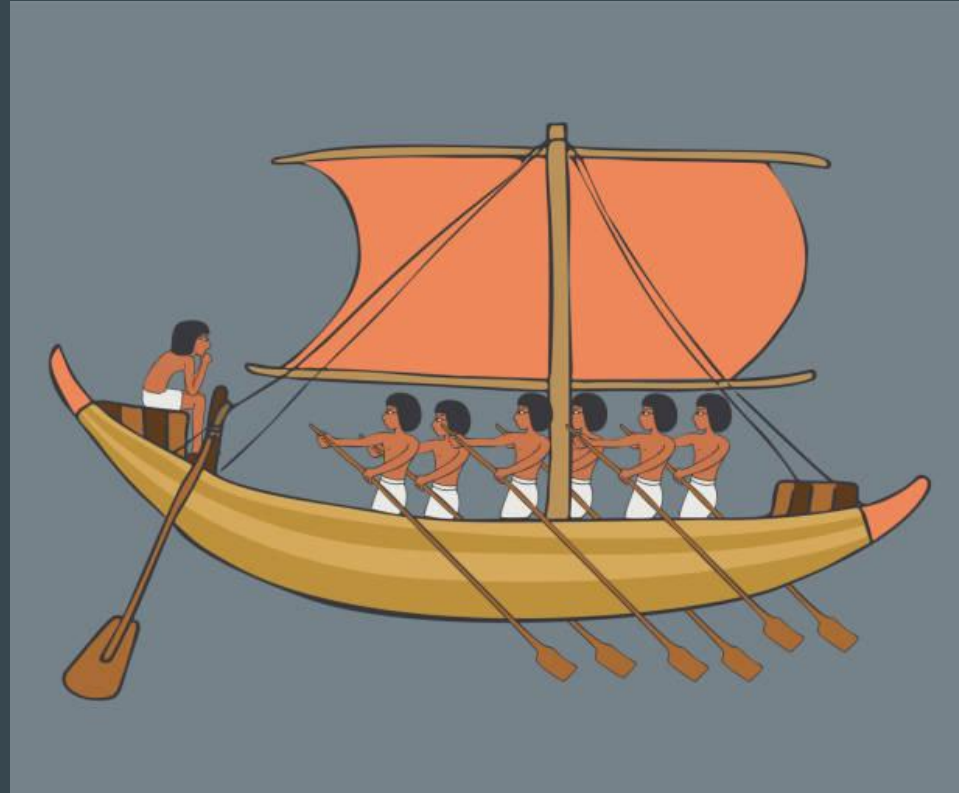
Transportation

By Eli

Transportation in Ancient Egypt made many advancements throughout its lifetime, some of the most important being the boat, the chariot, and the riding of donkeys. This helped them in many ways, such as transporting goods, people, etc. Most Egyptian towns didn't have roads as they relied mainly on the Nile river for transportation though they used some on-road vehicles.

Egyptian boats and ships

One of the many ways we stated in the advancements of transportation and trade in Ancient Egypt was boats, these would help the Egyptians in many ways, and they're still used today! The primary purpose for the boats and ships was trade, but they could also be used for activities such as fishing getting food, transportation, and even recreation. Boats were also used religiously, as they were said to guide the pharaohs into the afterlife as they were buried with them. The first Egyptian boats were made with reeds that were made from papyrus, a free material that was very abundant throughout the country. As reeds are hollow, they float; this helped the Egyptians go long distances quickly. As you can see from the picture, the boats were transported by sail and paddle, which gave extra staffing to help them move.



Riding by donkeys

The donkey (*Equus asinus*) was one of the most important animals for transport and item transport in ancient Egypt. Not only that, but they could also be used in the plow fields. They were primarily used in the Maadi period. Egyptian donkeys were mostly ridden on top, but they could also be used with chariots and wagons.



Figure 1

Chariots

Though made in ancient Mesopotamia, chariots were used in places like ancient Egypt as well. Chariots were primarily made of thin wood slats and leather. Their primary purpose was to transport high-power people like priests or pharaohs. The pulling of two horses mostly moved chariots. This helped them be protected and move at the same time. Not only were chariots used for transport, but they were also used for war. This enabled them ride into battle while also traversing with a bow.



Technology in Trade

By Sami

Trade is tied into technology by first, being technology as technology is something that makes living easier. You may think, how does trade make things easier? It allows people of different careers to get resources not made by them. For example, potters make pottery, so when they need food, they can trade their products to get things like bread.

Pots, Pots, Pots

Not many advancements and technology with the general thought of trade; however, the products made either are technology or are made with it. Between 2600 and 2500 B.C.E during the Old Kingdom, potters started using pottery wheels. These machines allowed for more refined and smooth outcomes. What they made with this were functional pottery and religious pottery too. By functional pottery, I mean it could store food and liquids such as water and helped accomplish many tasks.

Religious Pottery was also something made instead of furniture. This is partly because of the belief that the god of fertility, Khnum, formed babies by sculpting them from clay and placing it in the womb of a mother. Religious texts gave him names such as “Divine Potter.” Another reason they made religious pottery is for religious ceremonies and funerary purposes.

Transportation with Trade

Transportation was necessary with trade as how would people transport their items and themselves. Traders mostly used the Nile and other rivers from town to town or city to city. They, of course, used boats; boats were vehicles that would flow through the water. Most of them would be made of a reed called papyrus. The banks of the Nile river commonly found it. They also traded with their local area. They traded pots, wine, bread, papyrus, and more.

Paper in Egypt

Paper in Egypt wasn't made with wood like in modern days but with a reed called papyrus. They would make this paper-like material by cutting and laying papyrus reeds over each other and then soaking them in water. Lastly, they set them out in the sun to dry. The paper was also called papyrus, so that it can get confusing.



Conclusion

Overall, we branched out to each others sub topics and even to other topics completely, but I do hope you have learned something or at least found a fun fact to share. Agriculture, transportation, and trade might also not have sounded much with the technology, but we used it as a general categorization. We wish you a good day or afternoon and brush your teeth.