

# books on ancient egypt

**Books on Ancient Egypt** have captivated historians, archaeologists, and enthusiasts for centuries. From the mystique of the pyramids to the intricacies of hieroglyphic writing, the civilization of ancient Egypt offers a wealth of knowledge and fascination. Whether you're a student, a researcher, or a casual reader interested in the rich history and culture of this ancient society, exploring the best books on ancient Egypt can deepen your understanding and appreciation of one of the world's most iconic civilizations. In this comprehensive guide, we'll delve into the most acclaimed and informative books on ancient Egypt, covering everything from introductory overviews to detailed archaeological and linguistic studies.

## Why Read Books on Ancient Egypt?

Ancient Egypt is a civilization that has long captured the imagination of the world. Its monumental architecture, such as the Great Pyramids of Giza and the Sphinx, along with its complex religious beliefs and advanced societal organization, make it a subject of endless intrigue. Reading books on ancient Egypt provides:

- **Historical Context:** Understanding the timeline from the Early Dynastic Period through the Ptolemaic Era.
- **Cultural Insights:** Exploring religion, art, daily life, and societal structure.
- **Archaeological Discoveries:** Learning about significant excavations and their findings.
- **Linguistic Knowledge:** Deciphering hieroglyphs and understanding ancient Egyptian language.
- **Critical Perspectives:** Examining modern interpretations and debates surrounding Egyptology.

## Top Books on Ancient Egypt for Beginners

If you're new to the study of ancient Egypt, starting with accessible and well-illustrated books can lay a solid foundation.

### 1. "The Oxford History of Ancient Egypt" by Ian Shaw

A comprehensive yet approachable overview, this book covers over 3,000 years of Egyptian history. It features clear timelines, maps, and illustrations, making complex topics easy to understand. It's ideal for students and casual readers seeking a detailed chronological account.

## **2. "Ancient Egypt: The Land of Pharaohs" by Robert Bryan**

This visually stunning book combines photography, artwork, and engaging narratives to introduce readers to Egypt's legendary civilization. It's perfect for beginners interested in both historical facts and cultural aspects.

## **3. "The Egyptian World" edited by Toby Wilkinson**

A collection of essays by leading Egyptologists, this book offers diverse perspectives on ancient Egyptian history, religion, and society. It's suitable for those wanting a broader understanding of the civilization's complexity.

## **In-Depth Books for Advanced Readers and Researchers**

For readers seeking a deeper dive into specific topics or archaeological details, these books provide scholarly insights and comprehensive analyses.

## **1. "The Archaeology of Ancient Egypt" by William H. Peck**

This detailed volume explores archaeological methods, significant excavations, and discoveries. It discusses the evolution of archaeological practices and how they have shaped our understanding of Egypt's past.

## **2. "Hieroglyphs: The Story of the Egyptian Writing System" by Peter Lacovara**

A specialized book that explains the development, usage, and decipherment of hieroglyphic script. It offers insights into the linguistic complexity of ancient Egypt and the efforts to interpret its texts.

## **3. "The Complete Gods and Goddesses of Ancient Egypt" by Richard H. Wilkinson**

An authoritative guide on Egyptian religion, mythology, and the pantheon of deities. Richly illustrated, this book helps readers understand the spiritual world that underpinned Egyptian society.

# **Books Covering Specific Aspects of Ancient Egypt**

Many books focus on particular themes, periods, or artifacts, providing detailed insights.

## **1. "Pyramids: The New Evidence" by Jean-Pierre Houdin**

This book explores modern theories and discoveries about pyramid construction, including innovative architectural insights.

## **2. "The Mummies of Ancient Egypt" by John H. Taylor**

Focusing on mummification practices, burial customs, and famous mummies, this book offers a fascinating glimpse into Egyptian beliefs about the afterlife.

## **3. "The Art of Ancient Egypt" by W. Stevenson Smith**

A comprehensive examination of Egyptian art, covering sculpture, painting, and decorative arts from various periods.

# **Recommended Literature for Language and Decipherment**

Understanding hieroglyphs and the language of ancient Egypt is crucial for scholars and enthusiasts alike.

## **1. "Egyptian Grammar: Being an Introduction to the Study of Hieroglyphs" by Sir Alan Gardiner**

Considered a foundational text, this grammar book provides detailed instruction on reading and interpreting hieroglyphic texts.

## **2. "How to Read Egyptian Hieroglyphs" by Mark Collier and Bill Manley**

A user-friendly guide ideal for beginners and intermediate learners, with practical exercises and clear explanations.

# Essential Tips for Choosing the Right Book on Ancient Egypt

Selecting the appropriate book depends on your interest level, background, and goals. Here are some tips:

- Identify Your Focus: Are you interested in general history, art, language, or archaeology?
- Check the Author's Credentials: Look for books written by recognized Egyptologists and scholars.
- Consider the Publication Date: More recent publications often include the latest discoveries and theories.
- Review Illustrations and Maps: Visual aids enhance understanding, especially for art and architecture.
- Read Reviews: User feedback can provide insights into the book's readability and accuracy.

## Where to Find Books on Ancient Egypt

These books are widely available through various channels:

- Bookstores: Major retailers and specialty stores often carry a selection of Egyptology books.
- Online Retailers: Websites like Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and Book Depository offer extensive options.
- Libraries: University and public libraries provide access to scholarly and popular titles.
- Digital Platforms: E-books and audiobooks can be convenient options for on-the-go learning.

## Conclusion

Exploring the world of ancient Egypt through books is an enriching journey that can deepen your understanding of one of history's most fascinating civilizations. Whether you're just beginning your exploration with accessible overviews or delving into specialized archaeological studies and linguistic guides, there is a wealth of literature available to suit every interest and skill level. By choosing well-regarded, comprehensive, and engaging titles, you can unlock the mysteries of the Nile, the pyramids, and the pharaohs, enriching your knowledge and appreciation of this timeless civilization.

Start your journey today by selecting a book on ancient Egypt and uncovering the secrets of the land of the Pharaohs!

# Frequently Asked Questions

## What are some highly recommended books to learn about the history of Ancient Egypt?

Some popular books include 'The Oxford History of Ancient Egypt' by Ian Shaw, 'The Complete Gods and Goddesses of Ancient Egypt' by Richard H. Wilkinson, and 'Temples of Ancient Egypt' by Richard H. Wilkinson, which provide comprehensive insights into Egypt's history and religion.

## Are there any recent publications that explore the daily life of Ancient Egyptians?

Yes, 'Daily Life of the Ancient Egyptians' by Kasia Szpakowska offers detailed explorations of everyday life, customs, and social structures in ancient Egypt, backed by recent archaeological findings.

## Which books provide an in-depth analysis of Egyptian hieroglyphs and language?

'Egyptian Grammar: Being an Introduction to the Study of Hieroglyphs' by Sir Alan Gardiner and 'Reading Egyptian Art: A Hieroglyphic Guide to Ancient Egyptian Painting and Sculpture' by Richard H. Wilkinson are excellent resources for understanding hieroglyphics and Egyptian language.

## Can you recommend books that focus on famous Egyptian archaeological discoveries?

Certainly, 'The Search for the Tomb of Osiris' by James Peter Allen and 'The Complete Valley of the Kings' by Nicholas Reeves provide insights into key archaeological discoveries and their significance.

## What are some accessible books for beginners interested in Ancient Egypt?

For beginners, 'Ancient Egypt: The Basics' by David P. Silverman and 'Egypt 101: The Essential Guide to Ancient Egypt' by Bob Brier offer clear, engaging introductions to Egyptian history, culture, and mythology.

## Additional Resources

Books on Ancient Egypt: An In-Depth Exploration of Literature, Legacy, and Scholarship

Ancient Egypt has long captivated the imagination of scholars, adventurers,

and casual readers alike. The mystique surrounding its monumental architecture, enigmatic hieroglyphs, and rich cultural practices continues to inspire a vast body of literature. Books on ancient Egypt serve as vital gateways into this ancient civilization, offering insights into its history, religion, art, language, and societal structure. This comprehensive review aims to examine the most influential, scholarly, and accessible works within this genre, exploring their contributions, strengths, and limitations.

## **The Evolution of Literature on Ancient Egypt**

Understanding the trajectory of books on ancient Egypt provides context for evaluating current scholarship. Early works, often driven by curiosity and discovery, focused on archaeological discoveries and monumental architecture. As the field matured, scholars incorporated linguistic analysis, cultural studies, and interdisciplinary approaches, leading to more nuanced and comprehensive texts.

The 19th century marked the beginning of systematic Egyptology, with pioneering figures like Jean-François Champollion, who deciphered the hieroglyphic language, and Sir Alan Gardiner, who advanced linguistic understanding. The 20th and 21st centuries saw an expansion of perspectives, including social history, gender studies, and material culture.

## **Categories of Books on Ancient Egypt**

To navigate the extensive literature, it's helpful to categorize books based on their focus and audience:

### **Academic and Scholarly Works**

- Designed for specialists, these texts offer in-depth analysis of artifacts, texts, and historical contexts.
- Examples: Gardiner's *Egypt of the Pharaohs*, Redford's *Pharaohs and the Gods*, and Wilkinson's *The Complete Temples of Ancient Egypt*.

### **General and Popular History**

- Written for a broader audience, these books synthesize complex scholarship into accessible narratives.
- Examples: Toby Wilkinson's *The Rise and Fall of Ancient Egypt*, and Joyce Tyldesley's *Egypt: How a Lost Civilization Was Rediscovered*.

## **Guides and Reference Works**

- These include atlases, dictionaries, and chronological charts for quick reference.
- Examples: The Oxford Essential Guide to Egyptian Mythology by Donald B. Redford.

## **Specialized Topics and Thematic Studies**

- Focused on particular themes such as religion, art, language, or daily life.
- Examples: Geraldine Pinch's Magic in Ancient Egypt, and Richard H. Wilkinson's Reading Egyptian Art.

## **Key Titles in the Field and Their Contributions**

A curated review of seminal works helps illuminate the landscape of Egyptological literature.

### **“Egypt of the Pharaohs” by Sir Alan Gardiner**

- A classic, comprehensive overview of Egypt's history from the Old Kingdom to the New Kingdom.
- Strengths: Deep linguistic and archaeological insights; detailed chronological narrative.
- Limitations: Dense for casual readers; somewhat dated in light of recent discoveries.

### **“The Oxford History of Ancient Egypt” edited by Ian Shaw**

- An authoritative collection of essays by leading scholars.
- Strengths: Multi-faceted perspectives on political, religious, and social history.
- Limitations: Academic tone; requires some prior knowledge.

### **“Temples of Ancient Egypt” by Richard H. Wilkinson**

- Focuses on the architecture, purpose, and symbolism of Egyptian temples.
- Strengths: Rich illustrations; detailed descriptions.
- Limitations: Primarily visual and structural; less emphasis on societal context.

## **“The Rise and Fall of Ancient Egypt” by Toby Wilkinson**

- A narrative history that covers the entire span of Egyptian civilization.
- Strengths: Accessible, engaging storytelling combined with scholarly rigor.
- Limitations: Less detailed on specific topics; broad overview.

## **“Magic in Ancient Egypt” by Geraldine Pinch**

- Explores the role of magic, ritual, and religion.
- Strengths: Well-researched; contextualizes magic within social and religious frameworks.
- Limitations: Focused on a specific aspect; may not appeal to all general readers.

## **Methodological Approaches in Books on Ancient Egypt**

Modern scholarship employs diverse methodologies, reflected in the literature. These include:

### **Archaeological and Material Culture Studies**

- Emphasis on artifacts, site excavations, and architectural remains.
- Example: Brier and Hobbs’ Ancient Egyptian Materials and Industries.

### **Philological and Linguistic Analysis**

- Focus on hieroglyphic texts, inscriptions, and linguistic evolution.
- Example: Gardiner’s Egyptian Grammar.

### **Historical and Cultural Analysis**

- Contextualizing artifacts and texts within broader societal frameworks.
- Example: Redford’s Pharaohs and the Gods.

### **Interdisciplinary Approaches**

- Combining archaeology, linguistics, art history, and anthropology.
- Example: Wilkinson’s Reading Egyptian Art integrates art analysis with religious symbolism.

# Challenges and Limitations in Books on Ancient Egypt

Despite the richness of available literature, scholars and readers should be aware of certain limitations:

- Bias and Interpretation: Many works reflect the perspectives of their time or the cultural biases of their authors.
- Fragmentary Evidence: Gaps due to lost or damaged artifacts can lead to speculative conclusions.
- Language Barriers: Access to primary texts often requires knowledge of ancient languages.
- Evolving Scholarship: New discoveries continually reshape understandings, rendering some older works outdated.

## Emerging Trends and Future Directions in Egyptological Literature

Recent publications show trends towards:

- Digital Humanities: Incorporating 3D reconstructions, databases, and virtual reconstructions.
- Interdisciplinary Research: Merging genetics, climate science, and archaeology.
- Focus on Everyday Life: Moving beyond pharaohs to understand artisans, women, and rural populations.
- Public Engagement: More accessible books aimed at non-specialists, fostering broader appreciation.

## Conclusion: Navigating the Literature on Ancient Egypt

Books on ancient Egypt remain a vital resource for understanding one of history's most fascinating civilizations. Whether one seeks scholarly depth, engaging narratives, or visual guides, the literature offers a wealth of knowledge. For the dedicated researcher, works like Gardiner's *Egypt of the Pharaohs* or Wilkinson's *The Oxford History* serve as foundational texts. Casual readers and enthusiasts may prefer accessible titles such as Toby Wilkinson's *The Rise and Fall of Ancient Egypt* or Joyce Tyldesley's narrative histories.

As scholarship continues to advance, so too will the available books, continually refining and expanding our understanding of Egypt's past. Engaging critically with these texts, understanding their contexts, and

appreciating the diversity of approaches will enrich anyone's exploration of this extraordinary civilization.

In sum, the literature on ancient Egypt is as layered and complex as the civilization itself. From linguistic studies to art historical analyses, each book contributes to a broader mosaic—helping us decode the symbols, stories, and secrets of the land of the Pharaohs.

## **Books On Ancient Egypt**

**books on ancient egypt: Ancient Egypt** Douglas J. Brewer, 2014-05-01 Ancient Egypt is a beautifully illustrated, easy-to-read book covering the formative era of the Egyptian civilization: the age before the pyramids. Douglas Brewer shows why an awareness of the earliest phase of Egyptian history is crucial to understanding of later Egyptian culture. Beginning with a quick review of the fields of Egyptology and archaeology, Ancient Egypt takes the reader on a compelling survey of Egypt's prehistoric past. The book tours the Nile Valley to explore its impact on all aspects of life, from day-to-day living to regional politics, and introduces the reader to the Nile Valley's earliest inhabitants and the very first Egyptians.

**books on ancient egypt: A History of Ancient Egypt, Volume 2** John Romer, 2016-12-01 This definitive, multi-volume history of the world's first known state reveals that much of what we have been taught about Ancient Egypt is the product of narrow-minded visions of the past. Drawing on a lifetime of research, John Romer chronicles the history of Ancient Egypt from the building of the Great Pyramid through the rise and fall of the Middle Kingdom: a peak of Pharaonic culture and the period when writing first flourished. He reveals how the grand narratives of nineteenth and twentieth-century Egyptologists have misled us by portraying a culture of cruel monarchs and chronic war. Instead, based in part on discoveries of the past two decades, this extraordinary account shows what we can really learn from the remaining architecture, objects and writing: a history based on physical reality.

**books on ancient egypt: Ancient Egyptian Materials and Technology** Paul T. Nicholson, Ian Shaw, 2000-03-23 The book describes current research into all aspects of craftwork in ancient Egypt.

**books on ancient egypt: The Ancient Egyptian Book of the Dead** Carol Andrews, 2010 Keynote An authoritative and clear translation of the spells and prayers depicted on the Papyrus of Ani, illustrated with photographs of the original vignettes, now preserved in the British Museum. Sales points: Written by a leading authority on Egyptian funerary texts. The most reliable translation of the Papyrus of Ani, one of the greatest treasures of the British Museum. Illustrated with more than 140 colour and black and white photographs. Description: The Book of the Dead is the name now given to sheets of papyrus covered with religious and magical texts and accompanying illustrations, which the ancient Egyptians placed in the tombs of their dead in order to guide them safely through the dangers of the Underworld and to achieve a blissful afterlife. This authoritative book contains the translated text of the Papyrus of Ani, one of the greatest treasures of the British Museum. The spells are numbered and shown alongside photographs of the illustrative vignettes and complimented by a concise introduction and extensive glossary. Dr Faulkner's work is widely acknowledged as containing the most reliable translation of this fascinating collection of spells, prayers and incantations making this an essential purchase for anybody interested in Ancient Egypt. The Author: The late Dr R.O. Faulkner, for many years the assistant of the great Egyptologist Sir Alan Gardiner, was an expert in ancient Egyptian military and nautical matters and taught Egyptian language at University College London.

**books on ancient egypt: A History of Ancient Egypt** Marc Van De Mieroop, 2021-01-26

Explore the entire history of the ancient Egyptian state from 3000 B.C. to 400 A.D. with this authoritative volume. The newly revised Second Edition of *A History of Ancient Egypt* delivers an up-to-date survey of ancient Egypt's history from its origins to the Roman Empire's banning of hieroglyphics in the fourth century A.D. The book covers developments in all aspects of Egypt's history and their historical sources, considering the social and economic life and the rich culture of ancient Egypt. Freshly updated to take into account recent discoveries, the book makes the latest scholarship accessible to a wide audience, including introductory undergraduate students. *A History of Ancient Egypt* outlines major political and cultural events and places Egypt's history within its regional context and detailing interactions with western Asia and Africa. Each period of history receives equal attention and a discussion of the problems scholars face in its study. The book offers a foundation for all students interested in Egyptian culture by providing coverage of topics like: A thorough introduction to the formation of the Egyptian state between the years of 3400 B.C. and 2686 B.C. An exploration of the end of the Old Kingdom and First Intermediate period, from 2345 B.C. to 2055 B.C. An analysis of the Second Intermediate Period and the Hyksos between 1700 B.C. and 1550 B.C. A discussion of Greek and Roman Egypt between 332 B.C. and A.D. 395. Perfect for students of introductory courses in ancient Egyptian history and as background material for students of courses in Egyptian art, archaeology, and culture, *A History of Ancient Egypt* will also earn a place in the libraries of students taking surveys of the ancient world and those seeking a companion volume to *A History of the Ancient Near East*.

**books on ancient egypt: Ancient Egypt** Nancy Dickmann, 2016-08 Take a tour along the Nile and visit ancient Egypt. Peer inside the pyramids to find the treasure within. Unravel mysterious mummies and learn how the Egyptians had death wrapped up. Read hieroglyphic clues, journey into the afterlife, and find out what it meant to be a pharaoh as you hunt down the secrets of the dead!

**books on ancient egypt: The History of Ancient Egypt** Arthur Gilman, George Rawlinson, 2022-11-13 The *History of Ancient Egypt* masterfully encapsulates the grandeur and complexity of one of history's most enduring civilizations through a blend of insightful historical analysis and evocative narrative. Spanning from the early dynastic periods to the fall of Cleopatra, this collection explores themes of power, innovation, and culture, painting a vivid tableau that reveals the intricate tapestry of ancient Egyptian society. With a variety of literary styles ranging from rigorous historical discourse to vivid descriptive passages, the anthology encapsulates the allure and mystery that have long drawn scholars and enthusiasts to Egyptian antiquities. Noteworthy essays delve into the intellectual and theological accomplishments of ancient Egypt, shedding light on their lasting influence on successive civilizations. The esteemed contributors, Arthur Gilman and George Rawlinson, bring together their scholarly acumen and deep-seated passion for Egyptian history, drawing on an extensive reservoir of academic research and historical expertise. Their works collectively echo the values and underlying currents of the nineteenth-century Egyptomania that stimulated worldwide fascination with the ancient world. Through varied perspectives, they enrich the reader's understanding, transcending geographical and temporal boundaries to offer insights into the cultural dynamism and enduring legacy of Egypt's ancient past. The *History of Ancient Egypt* is an invaluable resource for anyone passionate about ancient history, offering a profound exploration of a civilization that continues to captivate millions. This anthology provides an unparalleled opportunity to traverse the millennia and engage with the myriad perspectives of its time. Its educational value is immeasurable, inviting readers to broaden their historical horizons and engage in a timeless dialogue about the evolution of culture, governance, and human ambition. Whether a seasoned historian or a curious newcomer, readers will find this collection a rich tapestry of insights and a catalyst for further exploration.

**books on ancient egypt: Ancient Egypt** George Hart, 1990 Text and photographs trace the evolution of the written word, how the alphabet grew out of pictures, the development of papermaking, bookbinding, children's books, and more.

**books on ancient egypt: The Ancient Egyptians** Jill Kamil, 1996 This new and completely

revised edition of *The Ancient Egyptians* traces the origins of the Egyptian civilization through the rise and fall of the Old Kingdom, in light of contemporary theories and the many recent discoveries made in the field of Egyptology. Two main themes are explored in order to explain the particular success of the Old Kingdom: that ancestor worship lay at the root of ancient Egyptian religious beliefs, and that carefully established cult centers created both a common religious and cultural tradition and a reciprocal service relationship between the central government and distant communities.

**books on ancient egypt:** *Ancient Egypt* George Rawlinson, Arthur Gilman, 1887

**books on ancient egypt:** *Encyclopedia of Ancient Egypt* Margaret Bunson, 2014-05-14 An A-Z reference providing concise and accessible information on Ancient Egypt from its predynastic cultures to the suicide of Cleopatra and Mark Anthony in the face of the Roman conquest.

Annotation. Bunson (an author of reference works) has revised her 1991 reference (which is appropriate for high school and public libraries) to span Egypt's history from the predynastic period to the Roman conquest. The encyclopedia includes entries for people, sites, events, and concepts as well as featuring lengthy entries or inset boxes on major topics such as deities, animals, and the military. A plan and photograph are included for each of the major architectural sites.

**books on ancient egypt: The Rise and Fall of Ancient Egypt** Toby A. H. Wilkinson, 2010 In *The Rise and Fall of Ancient Egypt* Toby Wilkinson, one of the leading Egyptologists of his generation, goes behind the dazzling mask of Ancient Egypt to make the story of one of the world's greatest (and in terms of longevity, most successful) civilisations accessible to the general reader. From the pharaohs at the apex to the slaves at the base of the pyramids they built, the unifying theme will be the darker side of pharaonic civilisation- the relentless propaganda that infiltrated every aspect of public life, the cut-throat politics that lay behind the mask of unchanging monarchy and the brutality and repression that underpinned royal authority will all be fully examined in this major history that will draw on the latest research, including the author's own original fieldwork.

**books on ancient egypt: Ancient Egypt** Captivating History, 2018-02-11 Explore the Captivating History of Ancient Egypt Ancient Egypt is one of the most fascinating and sophisticated civilizations in the known history. The Ancient Egyptians are remembered by their gods, pyramids, pharaohs, mummification, hieroglyphs, agriculture and much more. This book reveals the secrets of the captivating world of Ancient Egypt, the intriguing stories of its celebrities, such as the Akhenaten, Ramses the Great, Queen Cleopatra, and the boy-king Tut. You'll learn about mighty gods and the magical link between the Sun and the people of Egypt, and explore the horrendous burial rituals that warranted a safe path to the afterlife. Find out the secrets of one of the most magnificent societies that ever existed and discover why it still manages to seize the attention of the world. Some of the topics covered in this book include: Who Were Ancient Egyptians-Their Origins, History, and Geography Who Held the Power: The Social Structure of Ancient Egypt Kings and their Military Power The Magnificent Pharaohs of the New Kingdom and Their Empire The Decay and End of the Egyptian Civilization A Romance, Politics, and Tragedy: The Story of Cleopatra VII The Religion, Mythology, and Rituals of Ancient Egyptians Funerary Beliefs and Rituals: Mummification and Afterlife The Architecture of Ancient Egypt: Temples and Pyramids And much more! Scroll to the top and select the Add to Cart button to learn more about ancient egypt!

**books on ancient egypt: The Old Kingdom of Ancient Egypt** Charles River Charles River Editors, 2017-01-08 \*Includes pictures \*Includes ancient accounts of the Old Kingdom \*Includes online resources and a bibliography for further reading Africa may have given rise to the first human beings, and Egypt probably gave rise to the first great civilizations, which continue to fascinate modern societies across the globe nearly 5,000 years later. From the Library and Lighthouse of Alexandria to the Great Pyramid at Giza, the Ancient Egyptians produced several wonders of the world, revolutionized architecture and construction, created some of the world's first systems of mathematics and medicine, and established language and art that spread across the known world. With world-famous leaders like King Tut and Cleopatra, it's no wonder that today's world has so many Egyptologists. What makes the accomplishments of the Ancient Egyptians all the more

remarkable is that Egypt was historically a place of great political turbulence. Its position made it both valuable and vulnerable to tribes across the Mediterranean and the Middle East, and Ancient Egypt had no shortage of its own internecine warfare. Its most famous conquerors would come from Europe, with Alexander the Great laying the groundwork for the Hellenic Ptolemy line and the Romans extinguishing that line after defeating Cleopatra and driving her to suicide. Perhaps the most intriguing aspect of ancient Egyptian civilization was its inception from the ground up, as the ancient Egyptians had no prior civilization which they could use as a template. In fact, ancient Egypt itself became a template for the civilizations that followed. The Greeks and the Romans were so impressed with Egyptian culture that they often attributed many attributes of their own culture - usually erroneously - to the Egyptians. With that said, some minor elements of ancient Egyptian culture were, indeed, passed on to later civilizations. Egyptian statuary appears to have had an initial influence on the Greek version, and the ancient Egyptian language continued long after the pharaonic period in the form of the Coptic language. Although the Egyptians may not have passed their civilization directly on to later peoples, the key elements that comprised Egyptian civilization - their religion, early ideas of state, and art and architecture - can be seen in other pre-modern civilizations. For instance, civilizations far separated in time and space - such as China and Mesoamerica - possessed key elements that were similar to those found in ancient Egypt. Indeed, since Egyptian civilization represented some fundamental human concepts, a study of pharaonic culture can be useful when trying to understand many other pre-modern cultures. Thus, anyone who reads about ancient Egyptian civilization in this regard is best served by looking at its earliest phases: the Early Dynastic Period and the Old Kingdom. By examining the Old Kingdom and the period immediately preceding it, attributes considered quintessentially Egyptian in later periods will become clearer. The Old Kingdom of Ancient Egypt: The History and Legacy of the Beginning of Egyptian Civilization chronicles the tumultuous history that ushered in the beginning of Ancient Egyptian civilization. Along with pictures depicting important people, places, and events, you will learn about the Old Kingdom like never before.

**books on ancient egypt: Ancient Egyptian Gods and Goddesses** Christopher Forest, 2012 Describes gods and goddesses of ancient Egypt--Provided by publisher.

**books on ancient egypt: Ancient Egyptian Religion** Henri Frankfort, 1961 Fascinating study finds underlying unity in Egyptian religions--the concept of the changeless. Relation of religion to Egyptian society, government, art, more. 32 halftones.

**books on ancient egypt: Ancient Egypt** Jonathan Sutherland, Diane Canwell, 2007 Most people coming into contact with the remains of the ancient Egyptian civilization through books, films, visits to museums or to Egypt itself admire what they see, but do not fully understand its history. This book aims to help the reader understand the concepts and history of ancient Egyptian culture. Beautifully illustrated throughout.

**books on ancient egypt: Ancient Egypt** Loredana Agosta, McRae Books Srl, Anne McRae, 2008

**books on ancient egypt: Handbook to Life in Ancient Egypt** Ann Rosalie David, 1999 Explores the lifestyles of the ancient Egyptians including, economy and industry, foreign trade and transportation, architecture, and more.

**books on ancient egypt: A History of Ancient Egypt** John Romer, 2013-08-20 The first volume of a history of the earliest days of ancient Egypt challenges popular archaeological understandings to chronicle the ancient world's first agricultural practices through the construction of the pyramids.

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