

North Africa

Ancient Egypt

- Egypt is the gift of the Nile
- Nile is the longest river in the world, 4000 miles long
- It begins in the heart of Africa and runs north to the Mediterranean
- Floods each year, enriching soil around it

NILE RIVER

- Served as a highway that enhanced transportation and communication

EGYPT religion

- Egyptians were polytheistic
- 2 groups of gods= land and sun gods
- Sun was worshipped as the source of life
- Sun god = Atum or Ra
- Egyptian ruler was known as Son of Ra

Atum/ RE

Ancient Egypt

- Divided into three kingdoms
- Old Kingdom
- Middle Kingdom
- New Kingdom

Old Kingdom

- [Mummification process](#)
- Giza pyramid=largest, built for King Khofu, covers 13 acres
- Great Sphinx in Giza=body of lion, head of pharaoh, believed to protect site
- Rulers became known as Pharaohs
- Pharaohs had absolute power, assisted by family and then a large bureaucracy
- Vizier=2nd in power, in charge of bureaucracy and reported to the pharaoh
- Pyramids built during the O.K., served as tombs for pharaohs and families

Middle Kingdom

- Considered to be the golden age
- Egypt expanded
- Pharaohs became known as the protectors of the people

- Invasion of the Hyksos (western Asia)
- Overwhelmed Egyptians with chariots as they fought from donkey carts

New Kingdom

- During this period Egypt created an empire
- Pharaohs were really wealthy
- Hatshepsut [hat-shep-soot] =first female pharaoh
- Akhenaton (ä'kə-nät'n, äk-nät'n) tried to make Egypt monotheistic, only the sun god
- People thought that it would upset cosmic order and destroy Egypt
- Tutankhamen restored old gods and polytheism
- Rames II (Great) regained some of the empire
- New invasions from the “Sea Peoples” eventually ended the Egyptian empire
- Cleopatra VII tried to reassert Egypt independence=led to Roman rule over Egypt

Hieroglyphics

- Means “priest carvings” or “sacred writings”
- Uses pictures and abstract forms to write
- Used for writing in temples and tombs
- Took a long time to learn and do

Egypt/geography

- Borders the Mediterranean Sea, 3x size of New Mexico
- Mostly desert; hot, dry summers with moderate winters
- Nile River is the world’s longest river & supplies 85% of Egypt’s water
- Suez Canal separates Egypt from the Sinai Peninsula, ships are able to pass from Mediterranean Sea to Red Sea

Suez Canal

Aswan High Dam

Culture & Government

- Is now a republic
- ½ of Egypt’s people live in rural areas
- Most are farmers, raise only enough food to feed their families, best farmland is around Nile
- 94% = Muslim Speak Arabic
- Cairo = leading center for Muslim world
- Main resource = oil
- Tourism = major industry, ancient ruins
- Agriculture = main economic activity

Libya

- Sahara covers 90% of land
- Desert with only a few oases
- Has no permanent rivers, but aquifers lie beneath the vast desert
- Poor soil & hot climate = Libya has to import $\frac{3}{4}$ of food supply
- Discovery of oil in 1959 brought great wealth
- Mixed Arab & Berber heritage/Berbers first known in NA
- 86% of people live on the Mediterranean coast
- Practice Islam Speak Arabic
- 1969 Muammar al-Qaddafi overthrew the king & became dictator
- For many years US has accused him of sponsoring & encouraging terrorism/ bombed family compound

Al-Qaddafi (Muammar al-Gaddafi)

- Bombing of Pan Am Flight 103
- In 1988, terrorist bombed Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland
- US worked for many years proving Libya's involvement
- One Libyan was actually found guilty in an international court

Tunisia/geography

- North Africa smallest country, size of Georgia
- Atlas mountains = northwest
- South merges into Sahara desert
- Mild, rainy winters/Hot, dry summers = North

Tunisia/history

- Berbers were the first to settle the area
- Carthage = center of powerful trading empire
- Carthage eventually lost battle with Romans for control of Mediterranean Sea
- Was the part of several Muslim empires
- Became independent of France in 1956
- Ancient Carthage Ruins

Tunisia/culture

- Mixture of Arab & Berber ancestry
- Speak Arabic Practice Islam
- Economic activities = farming, fishing, manufacturing
- Tourism is growing

Algeria

- Largest country in North Africa, 3.5x of Texas
- Algeria must import most of its food which is paid for by selling oil & natural gas
- French colony = 1834-1862 speak French & Arabic
- Today, Algeria is a republic with a strong president & legislature
- Since 1990's there have been many conflicts between government & Muslim political parties
- Widespread poverty exists today
- Many people have had to move to other countries to find work
- There is a civil war going on between the Muslims & the government

Morocco

- Between Algeria & Western Sahara
- Mediterranean climate, more extreme in the interior
- Economy is based on agriculture, industry, & tourism
- Gained independence from France in 1956

Strait of Gibraltar

- Separates Africa & Europe/ Morocco & Spain
- Only 9 miles between the separation

Morocco

- Has constitutional monarchy/King/Queen is head of state but elected officials run the government
- Developed bicameral legislature in 1997
- Most people live in coastal areas, some herd & farm in the foothills of the Atlas mountains
- Casablanca = largest city