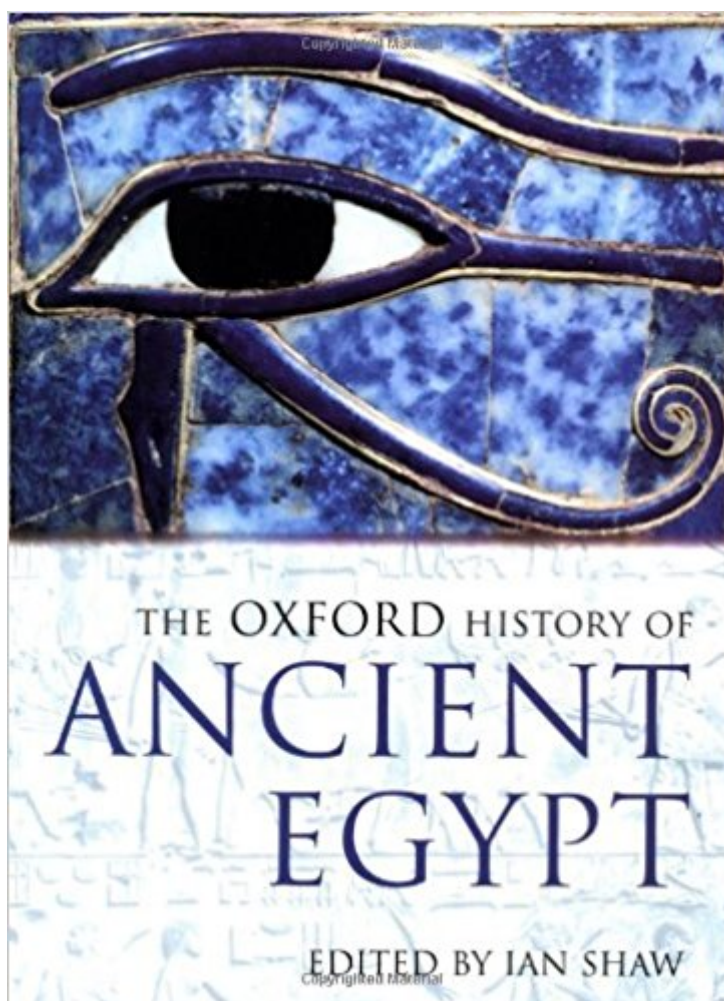


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The Oxford History Of Ancient Egypt (Oxford Illustrated Histories)



Synopsis

Blending vividly written essays and over a hundred attractive illustrations--including 32 color plates--The Oxford History of Ancient Egypt is a stunningly designed and authoritative account of the once glorious civilization on the Nile. Ranging from 700,000 BC to 311 AD, this volume portrays the emergence and development of Egypt from its prehistoric roots to its conquest by the Roman Empire. The contributors--all leading scholars working at the cutting edge of Egyptology--incorporate the latest findings in archaeological research as they chart the principal political events of Egyptian history, from the rise of the Pharaohs and the conquest of Egypt by Alexander the Great, to the ascension of the Ptolemies and the coming of Roman legions. The book also includes the first detailed examinations of three periods which were previously regarded as "dark ages." Against the backdrop of the birth and death of ruling dynasties, the writers also examine cultural and social patterns, including stylistic developments in art and literature, monumental architecture, funerary beliefs, and much more. The contributors illuminate the underlying patterns of social and political change and describe the changing face of ancient Egypt, from the biographical details of individuals to the social and economic factors that shaped the lives of the people as a whole. The only up-to-date, single-volume history of ancient Egypt available in English, The Oxford History of Ancient Egypt is a "must read" for everyone interested in one of the great civilizations of antiquity.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

One of the most vexing problems in Egyptology is the question of establishing reliable chronologies, whether through relative methods such as stratigraphy and the dating of artifacts or through more absolute time horizons established by astronomical ephemera or radiometric dating. In this overview of ancient Egypt--meant for advanced students, but accessible to general readers with an interest in the area--Ian Shaw and 13 contributors pay close attention to issues of chronology, reconciling conflicts of dating that mark older scholarship. While doing so, they address other problems in the study of ancient Egypt, such as the lack of material evidence of early humans in the region and the increasing destruction of sites in the face of contemporary urban growth. Elsewhere, they remark on the principal developments that distinguish periods in Egyptian prehistory, such as the Old Kingdom's use of large-scale building projects to consolidate power and "remind people of the greatness of pharaonic civilization," and the Middle and New kingdoms' apparent openness to foreigners, which lent Egypt a cosmopolitan, multicultural air that persisted for centuries during long periods of domination by outside powers such as Persia and Rome. Highly useful as a reference and survey, this handsomely illustrated book is a fine addition to any Egyptophile's collection.

--Gregory McNamee

`This splendid, lavishly illustrated book is the only single-volume work to cover 700,000 years of Ancient Egypt from the stone age to Roman conquest.' Roddy Phillips, Aberdeen Press and Journal, 30th Sept. 00. `an excellent choice for enthusiasts and novices alike; even better if you can persuade someone to buy for you as a present.' Roddy Phillips, Press and Journal, 30th Sept. 00. `This splendid, lavishly illustrated book is the only single-volume work to cover 700,000 years of Ancient Egypt from the stone age to Roman conquest ... Lucidly edited by Ian Shaw ... you get the facts without the dust.' Roddy Phillips, Press and Journal, 30th Sept. 00. `From the Stone Age to the Roman occupation in the fourth century AD, the mighty Egyptian dynasties are brought to life in almost 450 pages ... never anything but deeply informative, without losing sight of the essential attribute of any book - readability.' Peter Leach, North West Evening Mail, Sat 7th Oct 2000. `both stimulating to the casual reader or keen-to-learn holiday maker and the serious student alike.' Peter Leach, North West Evening Mail, Sat 7th Oct 2000. `The Oxford History of Ancient Egypt is brimming with ... intriguing facts ... it also provides a first-rate overview of - le progress Egyptien - from the period when Homo erectus first stalked the land right up to Octavian's triumphant entry into Egypt in 30 BC.' Douglas Kennedy, The Times, 11th Oct. 2000. `The approach combines traditional chronological history with cultural and social historical material to produce a well rounded picture.' Antiquity 75` chapters covering prehistory and the intermediate periods are particularly good, with

Seidlmayer on the First Intermediate Period and Bourriau on the Second Intermediate Period outstanding. Bryan's chapter on the 18th Dynasty before the Amarna Period is also particularly good.' Antiquity 75`If you only want to read one book on Egypt, then read this one.' The Northern Echo`even people who consider themselves as experts on Ancient Egypt will find much to set them thinking: And while such Egyptologists will have a field day, the casual reader will find plenty to arouse their interest, ranging from the story of the world's first strike ... to the revelation that Scotland Yard possesses a print taken from the hand of a mummy.' The Northern Echo

Bought this for my 6th graders Egyptology assignment in History. I was very impressed with how thorough this book was and also how many pharaohs they had information on. My 6th grader had a pharaoh that was hard to find information on... this had a lot of info and explained the history and life of the pharaoh very well.

Well written scholarly approach to the subject. To get a full picture you need to read several books on the topic and there have been some recent developments that might change some of the author's previously written conclusions. I liked it.

Very condense book. I don't like the setup of different authors for each chapter as it makes it less consistent. It is very very detailed, so perhaps not the best introduction for someone who doesn't know a lot about the subject to begin with. I have read other books on Egypt with a better narrative to it (e.g. Egypt a Social History, Trigger/Kemp/O'Connor).

I bought this book for my grandson 14 who is an aspiring archeologist! I cannot speak as to the age level but he is 14 and he liked it very much.

good reference book.

Outstanding! Book was in pristine condition. Super fast shipping. Many thanks.Pat

filled with good information. I don't think there is another book on this subject to be had for its content and price.

This is like a text book on Ancient Egypt. This should be used as a companion guide to any book of

that period of Egypt

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