

The Rise of Hydraulic Civilization in Egypt

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The Nile Basin

Geography

Climate

Discharge

Humans along the Nile: Thumbnail history of Nile Cultures

Upper Palaeolithic hunter/fisher/gatherers

Nile Neolithic

Pastoral Neolithic

Predynastic polities

Dynastic polities

Role of the Greeks

Post-dynastic polities

Nomarchy

Origin and meaning of concept

How the Nomarchies may have developed

How Nomarchies were organized on the ground

How Nomarchies projected political/religious power

How Nomarchies were organized from above

Hydraulic engineering at the level of the Nomarchy

Settlement structure

Administrative settlements: city, large & small centers, large villages

Settlement distribution by administrative type and Nome

Land holdings, their uses and ownership

Hydraulic benefits and obligations

The role of religion in stabilizing settlement structure and distribution

Centralized authority and responsibility above the level of the Nome

Gods, governors and kings

The problem of Upper & Lower Egypt: the view from Memphis

Food as energy, food as power

Collection and redistribution of food

Labor as energy, labor as power

Internal conscription and deployment of knowledge, experience and labor

External conscription and deployment of knowledge, experience and labor

When energy capture exceeds the "political carrying capacity"

How the King limited the power of individual Nomes

History of hydrological development in Egypt

Irrigation systems and technology

Organization across settlements and political boundaries

Dispersion of land ownership, temple and Nome interests

Population size density through time

Instabilities in the system

The Nomarchy as a semi-stable system

Difficulties of growing beyond the Nile

How technological development destabilizes kingdoms and encourages empires

External invasions and how these were survived

Decline of the Nomarchy, hydraulic system and population