

SECTION
2

Reading for Understanding

▶ Key Ideas

BEFORE, YOU LEARNED

Ancient Egyptians built a great civilization, but were conquered by foreign powers.

NOW YOU WILL LEARN

A blending of cultures has made Egypt a leader for North Africa, as well as for Southwest Asia.

▶ Vocabulary

TERMS & NAMES

Rosetta Stone an ancient Egyptian stone that provided a key to decipher hieroglyphics

Islam a religion believing in one god, called Allah, and his prophet on Earth, Muhammad

Muslim a follower of Islam

Suez Canal a waterway linking the Red Sea with the Mediterranean Sea

protectorate a weaker country or area controlled by a stronger country

Anwar el-Sadat president of Egypt from 1970 to 1981

Camp David Accords peace treaty between Egypt and Israel, signed in 1979

Sudan a country of northeast Africa, located south of Egypt

BACKGROUND VOCABULARY

modernize to accept modern ways or ideas



Visual Vocabulary Suez Canal

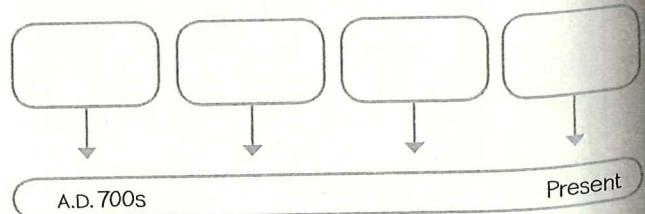
▶ Reading Strategy

Re-create the time line shown at right. As you read and respond to the **KEY QUESTIONS**, use the time line to order important events in Egypt and Sudan.



See Skillbuilder Handbook, page R6

SEQUENCE EVENTS



GRAPHIC ORGANIZERS

Go to Interactive Review @ ClassZone.com

SECTION
2

FOCUS ON

Modern Egypt and Sudan

Connecting to Your World

Have you ever created a secret code? Typically, one set of letters stands for letters you already know. Hieroglyphics were like a mysterious code until the 1799 discovery of a carved stone called the **Rosetta Stone**. It contained the same text in ancient Greek, Egyptian script, and hieroglyphics. Since scholars knew the first two scripts, they were able to crack the code of hieroglyphics. But no one in the world today knows how ancient Egyptian was spoken.



Rosetta Stone

This discovery was the key to decoding Egyptian hieroglyphics.

From Ancient to Modern Times

KEY QUESTION What foreign powers ruled Egypt?

The Arabic language became the dominant language in Egypt and North Africa because of a culture shift in the 600s and 700s. Around that time, Arabs from Southwest Asia introduced a new religion called Islam.

Temple of Luxor A white mosque stands amid the ruins of this ancient temple.



Influence of Islam **Islam** is the belief in one god, called Allah, and his prophet on Earth, Muhammad. Followers of Islam are called **Muslims**. (You will learn more about the spread of Islam in the next unit.) Arab Muslims invaded Egypt in A.D. 639. Afterward, Egyptians began to speak Arabic, and many adopted the Muslim faith. Islamic empires ruled Egypt for more than 1,000 years. The Ottoman Empire took control in 1517, but other groups contended for power.

During Napoleon Bonaparte's rule, France briefly occupied Egypt, beginning in 1798. The Ottomans regained control in 1801 under a military leader, Muhammad Ali. He tried to **modernize** Egypt. Though Muhammad Ali's efforts failed, his son Said (sa•EED) made a more lasting change. Under Said's reign, in 1859, workers began to dig the **Suez Canal**, a waterway linking the Red Sea with the Mediterranean. The canal continues to be a key trade route for Egypt, Europe, and Southwest Asia.

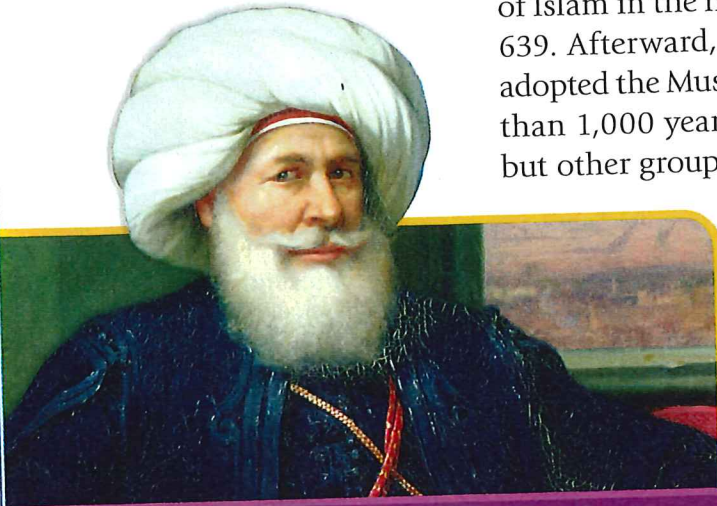
Becoming Independent The valuable trade route created by the Suez Canal led more foreign powers to try to control Egypt. Britain invaded Egypt in 1882. During World War I, Britain declared Egypt a **protectorate**, or country controlled by a stronger nation.

After the war, Egyptians began to call for independence. Britain granted independence in 1922, but kept troops in Egypt to guard the Suez Canal. During World War II, Egypt and other Arab nations formed the Arab League, which opposed the formation

of Israel in 1948. Egypt lost four wars with Israel between 1948 and 1973. In 1977, Egyptian President **Anwar el-Sadat** traveled to Israel. In 1979, Egypt and Israel signed the **Camp David Accords**, the first peace treaty between Israel and an Arab state. The Arab League expelled Egypt for signing the treaty, but readmitted Egypt in 1989.

Egypt remains a leader in North Africa and the Arab world. Its capital, Cairo, is Africa's biggest city. In Africa, only Nigeria has more people. Although Egypt is not a big oil producer, Saudi Arabia is the only Middle Eastern country with a stronger economy.

SEQUENCE EVENTS Identify the foreign powers that ruled Egypt.



HISTORY MAKERS

Muhammad Ali Pasha 1769–1849

As an officer in the Ottoman army, Muhammad Ali helped rid Egypt of French invaders. In 1805, he became Egypt's governor, or Pasha. During his 44-year reign, he attempted to transform Egypt into a modern country. Muhammad Ali brought European advisors and teachers to Egypt and sent Egyptians to study in Europe. He also tried to bring industry to this agricultural land. Muhammad Ali's descendants ruled under British control, but his family held power in Egypt until 1953.



ONLINE BIOGRAPHY

For more on the life of Muhammad Ali Pasha, go to the Research & Writing Center @ ClassZone.com

Life in Egypt Today

KEY QUESTION How do most Egyptians live?

Egyptian city life is hectic and noisy. Huge slums adjoin wealthy residential areas, and the streets teem with traffic and overcrowded streetcars. People might wear Western clothes or traditional Egyptian clothing: a shirt and pants for men and a long, colorful flowing gown for women. Culturally, most Egyptians consider themselves Arabs and practice Islam.

More than half of Egyptians live in the countryside. Most villagers tend small farms on land often owned by wealthier landowners. Electric power is common in rural areas. Poor city dwellers and villagers alike eat a diet of bread, beans, and vegetable stew. Sweetened coffee or tea are popular drinks.

National Government Egypt's president serves a six-year term and may be re-elected indefinitely. The powerful president also leads the armed forces, appoints a prime minister and cabinet, and even appoints some members of the parliament. In 2005, Egypt allowed multiple candidates to run for president. Previously, parliament had selected single candidates for citizens to vote on.

Economic Structure and Activities Despite its role as a regional leader, Egypt is still a developing nation, struggling with unemployment and with how to feed its growing population. Agriculture employs more than one-third of Egyptian workers, but accounts for only one-sixth of the economy.

Cairo The Nile winds through Egypt's capital city. If you are traveling south along the Nile, are you headed upstream or downstream?



Service industries, such as banking, education, and trade, employ half of Egypt's workers and account for more than half of the economy. Thanks to Egypt's high-grade cotton, textile production provides one-third of the economy. In this socialist country, the government owns most major industries. But change is under way. To stimulate Egypt's economy, the government tries to attract foreign investment in Egypt's energy and tourism industries. Tourists, lured by ancient temples and pyramids, provide the largest share of Egypt's foreign funds.

SUMMARIZE Describe daily life in Egypt.



Sudan: Egypt's Neighbor

KEY QUESTION What cultural differences are behind the conflicts in Sudan?

You already learned that ancient Egypt controlled Nubia, or northern Sudan. After ancient Egypt lost control, Nubia's Kush kingdom endured until its collapse around A.D. 350. Modern **Sudan**, Egypt's southern neighbor, is Africa's largest nation in area. Part of Sudan extends into central Africa, with its savannas and rain forests. Northern Sudan is covered by desert.

Culture: Regional Differences Most people who live in the northern two-thirds of Sudan speak Arabic, the country's official language, and follow Islam. In the southern third of Sudan, various African groups practice traditional animist religions. A few are Christians.

Most Sudanese people live on subsistence farms or herd animals in the desert. Three out of ten Sudanese live in cities and towns. Sudan's main urban center—the area surrounding the capital, Khartoum—is home to more than six million people. Near the capital, two million more Sudanese live in refugee camps, displaced by civil wars.

Modern History of Sudan In the 1800s, Sudan again came under Egyptian control. But in 1881, a Sudanese Muslim teacher led a four-year revolt, overturning Egyptian rule. In 1898, Britain and Egypt joined forces to conquer Sudan. Britain ruled Sudan until 1956.

Between independence and 1998, military governments ruled Sudan. Conflicts between Sudan's Arab Muslim north and non-Muslim,

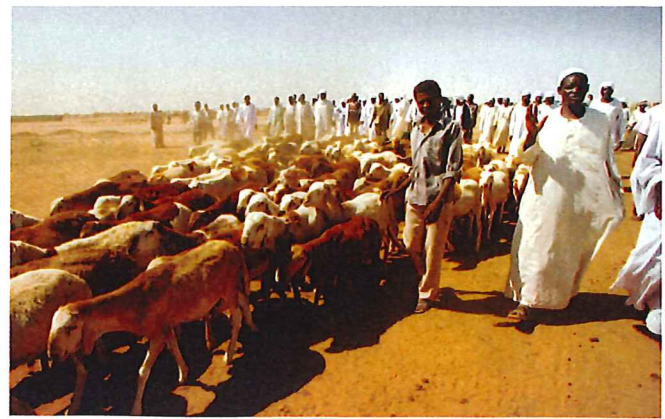
CONNECT History & Culture

Lost Boys of Sudan

The Lost Boys were orphans of Sudan's civil war. These children and young adults banded together to make a harrowing journey from Sudan to Ethiopia, back to Sudan, and then to refugee camps in Kenya. In 2001, the United States took in 3,600 Lost Boys across the country, primarily in Texas, Michigan, and Arizona. Now mostly adults, many Lost Boys work one or two jobs while attending high school or college classes.



non-Arab south led to two civil wars during the 20th century. Millions of people lost their lives. A separate conflict in a western region of Sudan called Darfur erupted in 2003. This war pitted Arab herders, aided by government militias, against non-Muslim ethnic groups. Tens of thousands of civilians died, and roughly two million farmers were forced from their homes.



Herding Sudan's government donated these goats to people in refugee camps.

Government and Economy Drought and famine periodically plague Sudan, which remains mired in the Darfur conflict. Under Sudan's 1998 constitution, the president serves a five-year term and appoints a cabinet. Voters elect most members of the legislature, who serve terms of four years.

This developing economy depends heavily on agriculture. Sudanese factories, which employ about four percent of the population, manufacture cement, food products, food, and textiles. In 1999, Sudan began producing oil, currently the country's leading export. But most of Sudan's roads remain unpaved, and four out of ten people live in poverty.

FIND MAIN IDEAS Describe the cultural differences leading to Sudan's civil wars and conflicts.

ONLINE QUIZ
For test practice, go to
Interactive Review
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Section 2 Assessment

TERMS & NAMES

1. Explain the importance of

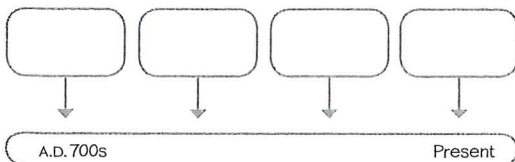
- Rosetta Stone
- Suez Canal
- protectorate
- modernize

USE YOUR READING NOTES

2. Sequence Events

Use your completed time line to answer the following question:

What was the last foreign power to control Egypt?



KEY IDEAS

3. Why were the Camp David Accords important?
4. With which culture and religion do most Egyptians identify?
5. What natural and political problems have plagued Sudan?

CRITICAL THINKING

6. **Draw Conclusions** Why do you think the Suez Canal has been so important to Egypt?
7. **Make Inferences** Why has the Sudanese government's attempt to enforce Islamic law caused problems in this mostly Muslim country?
8. **CONNECT to Today** Terrorist bombings at popular Egyptian tourist sites took place in 2004 and 2005. Why do such attacks threaten Egypt's economy?
9. **MATH Make a Graph** Make a bar graph showing Egypt's major industries. Your graph should clearly show which industries employ most people and which industries are most profitable.