

# economic system in ancient egypt

Economic System in Ancient Egypt: A Deep Dive into the Foundations of an Ancient Economy

**economic system in ancient egypt** was a complex and fascinating structure that supported one of the most enduring civilizations in human history. Unlike modern capitalist or market-driven economies, ancient Egypt's economic practices were deeply intertwined with social hierarchy, religion, and the natural environment—particularly the life-giving Nile River. Understanding this ancient economic framework offers valuable insights into how resources were managed, wealth was distributed, and societal stability was maintained over millennia.

## Understanding the Economic System in Ancient Egypt

The economic system in ancient Egypt functioned primarily as a centrally coordinated system, with the Pharaoh at its apex. The state controlled most major economic activities, including agriculture, trade, taxation, and labor. This system was less about individual profit and more about sustaining social order and religious duties. The Pharaoh was considered a divine ruler, and his control over resources was both political and spiritual.

## The Role of Agriculture in Ancient Egypt's Economy

Agriculture was the backbone of the economic system in ancient Egypt. The Nile's annual flooding deposited rich, fertile silt on the riverbanks, enabling Egyptians to cultivate surplus crops. Wheat and barley were staple grains, essential for food, beer production, and trade. Farmers used simple tools like plows and sickles but relied heavily on organized labor and irrigation systems to maximize yields.

The economy was essentially agrarian, with the majority of the population engaged in farming or related activities. Land was owned by the state, temples, or wealthy elites, and peasants worked the land, often paying a portion of their harvest as tax. This agricultural surplus supported not only the population but also artisans, priests, and the military.

## Taxation and Redistribution

Taxes were a critical component of the economic system in ancient Egypt. Instead of money, taxes were often paid in kind—grain, livestock, or labor.

The tax collection was overseen by scribes and officials, who kept meticulous records. Taxation served two primary purposes: funding state projects such as temple construction, military campaigns, and irrigation works, and redistributing wealth to maintain social harmony.

The state redistributed resources through a system of granaries and storehouses. During times of famine or disaster, these reserves could be used to feed the population. This redistribution mechanism highlights the early form of economic planning and social welfare embedded in the ancient Egyptian economic model.

## **Trade and Commerce in Ancient Egypt**

Although agriculture dominated, trade played a vital role in the economic system in ancient Egypt. The Egyptians engaged in both internal trade along the Nile and international trade with neighboring regions like Nubia, the Levant, and the Mediterranean.

### **Internal Trade and Markets**

Markets existed in towns and cities where goods such as pottery, textiles, and foodstuffs were exchanged. Bartering was common, as coinage was not widely used until much later periods. Traders and merchants operated under the watchful eye of state officials, ensuring that trade activities aligned with broader state interests.

### **International Trade Routes and Goods**

Egypt's strategic location allowed it to become a hub for trade routes connecting Africa, Asia, and Europe. The Egyptians imported valuable commodities such as cedar wood from Lebanon, gold from Nubia, incense and myrrh from Punt, and lapis lazuli from Afghanistan.

In exchange, Egypt exported grain, papyrus, linen, and crafted goods. Trade expeditions were often state-sponsored endeavors, emphasizing the economic system's centralization. These interactions also facilitated cultural exchange and technological diffusion.

## **Labor and the Workforce**

Labor was a vital asset in the economic system in ancient Egypt. The workforce was diverse, ranging from peasants and craftsmen to priests and government officials.

## **Organization of Labor**

Most Egyptians were farmers who participated in communal labor during the agricultural off-season. Large projects such as pyramid building or temple construction employed thousands of workers, organized into teams and managed by overseers.

Workforce management reflected the highly organized nature of the economy, with labor being a form of tax or obligation to the state. This system ensured that monumental architectural achievements were possible without a modern monetary economy.

## **Craftsmanship and Specialized Workers**

In urban centers, specialized craftsmen produced goods like jewelry, pottery, tools, and textiles. These artisans contributed significantly to the economy by creating tradable items and supporting religious and royal institutions with luxury goods.

## **The Role of Temples and Religion in the Economy**

Temples in ancient Egypt were not only spiritual centers but also economic powerhouses. They owned large tracts of land, controlled livestock, and employed vast numbers of people.

## **Temple Estates and Economic Activities**

Temple estates operated almost like economic enterprises. They engaged in agriculture, craft production, and trade. The wealth accumulated by temples supported religious ceremonies and charitable activities, reinforcing the social and religious fabric of Egyptian life.

## **Religious Influence on Economic Behavior**

Religion influenced economic conduct through concepts of Ma'at—order, balance, and justice. Economic activities were meant to align with Ma'at, ensuring fairness and cosmic harmony. This belief system underscored taxation, labor, and distribution practices, embedding morality into the economy.

# Currency and Monetary Systems

Interestingly, ancient Egypt's economic system initially functioned largely without coined money. Instead, they used a system of barter supplemented by standardized units of value.

## Barter and Standardized Measures

Goods were exchanged based on agreed values, often measured in deben (a weight unit). This system allowed the Egyptians to facilitate trade and taxation without a formal currency.

## Introduction of Coinage

Coinage appeared much later, influenced by interactions with neighboring civilizations such as the Greeks and Romans. Before this, the economy thrived through centralized control, barter, and in-kind payments.

## Insights into the Economic System in Ancient Egypt

The economic system in ancient Egypt offers a striking example of how a civilization can thrive through centralized planning, agricultural mastery, and social cohesion. Unlike modern economies driven by profit maximization and market competition, the Egyptian model prioritized stability, religious duty, and communal welfare.

For modern readers, the ancient Egyptian approach underscores the importance of resource management, social responsibility, and the integration of economic activity with cultural values. Their ability to sustain a complex economy for thousands of years, build monumental architecture, and support a large population without modern technology remains a testament to their ingenuity.

Exploring the economic system in ancient Egypt reveals not just the mechanics of trade and taxation but also the deep connections between economy, society, and belief systems that shaped one of history's greatest civilizations.

## Frequently Asked Questions

## **What was the primary economic system in ancient Egypt?**

The primary economic system in ancient Egypt was a centralized, state-controlled economy where the Pharaoh owned all the land and resources, and the government directed agricultural production, labor, and trade.

## **How did agriculture influence the ancient Egyptian economy?**

Agriculture was the backbone of the ancient Egyptian economy, with the Nile River's annual flooding providing fertile soil for growing crops like wheat and barley, which sustained the population and supported trade.

## **What role did the Nile River play in the economic system of ancient Egypt?**

The Nile River was crucial to ancient Egypt's economy as it provided water for irrigation, enabling agriculture, facilitated transportation and trade, and supplied fish and other resources.

## **How was labor organized in the ancient Egyptian economy?**

Labor in ancient Egypt was organized through a system of corvée labor, where peasants worked on state projects such as building temples and pyramids during the agricultural off-season, under the authority of the state.

## **What commodities were commonly traded in ancient Egypt's economy?**

Commonly traded commodities in ancient Egypt included grain, gold, papyrus, linen, pottery, and luxury goods like incense and precious stones imported from neighboring regions.

## **How did the ancient Egyptian government control the economy?**

The government controlled the economy by owning all land, collecting taxes in the form of produce and labor, regulating trade, and managing large-scale projects that required organized labor and resources.

## **What was the significance of taxation in ancient Egypt's economic system?**

Taxation was significant as it provided the state with resources to maintain

the government, fund public works, support the military, and redistribute goods within society.

## **Did ancient Egypt have a monetary system?**

Ancient Egypt primarily operated a barter economy, but during later periods, they began using metal weights and rings as a form of proto-currency to facilitate trade.

## **How did trade impact the ancient Egyptian economy?**

Trade expanded Egypt's economy by allowing the import of raw materials like timber, metals, and luxury items not found locally, and the export of surplus agricultural products and crafted goods.

## **What was the role of temples in the ancient Egyptian economy?**

Temples were economic centers that owned land, employed laborers, stored surplus grain, and acted as redistributors of goods, playing a vital role in the management and stability of the economy.

## **Additional Resources**

Economic System in Ancient Egypt: An In-Depth Analysis of its Structure and Functions

**economic system in ancient egypt** was a complex and highly organized framework that sustained one of history's most remarkable civilizations for millennia. Rooted in agriculture and facilitated by the Nile River's annual inundation, this economic model was distinctly different from modern market economies yet demonstrated sophisticated mechanisms of resource management, labor organization, and state control. Understanding the economic system in ancient Egypt offers valuable insights into how early societies balanced production, distribution, and governance in a largely pre-monetary context.

## **Foundations of the Economic System in Ancient Egypt**

At its core, the economic system in ancient Egypt revolved around agriculture. The Nile's predictable flooding deposited nutrient-rich silt on the land, enabling the cultivation of staple crops like wheat and barley. This agricultural abundance formed the basis of wealth and social stability, influencing every aspect of Egypt's economy. Unlike contemporary economies that rely heavily on currency and market transactions, ancient Egypt's

economy was predominantly a command or planned economy, where the state played a central role in managing resources.

## **Role of the Nile and Agricultural Surplus**

The Nile was the lifeblood of the ancient Egyptian economy. Its annual inundation dictated the agricultural calendar and ensured reliable harvests. This agricultural surplus was essential not only for feeding the population but also for supporting a specialized workforce, including artisans, scribes, priests, and the ruling elite. The surplus allowed the state to engage in monumental building projects, such as temples and pyramids, which required vast resources and labor.

## **State Control and Centralized Planning**

The economic system in ancient Egypt was characterized by strong central authority. Pharaohs, viewed as divine rulers, exercised considerable control over land, labor, and production. The state owned most of the land and collected taxes in the form of grain, livestock, and labor. This centralized planning facilitated the redistribution of resources to where they were most needed, whether that be for religious ceremonies, infrastructure projects, or military campaigns.

## **Key Features of the Ancient Egyptian Economy**

### **Barter and the Absence of a Monetary System**

Unlike economies that developed coinage, ancient Egypt relied primarily on barter and a system of standardized weights and measures. Goods such as grain, cattle, and crafted items served as mediums of exchange. While there is evidence of early forms of money-like tokens, these were not widespread. This barter-based system required meticulous record-keeping, which was carried out by a class of scribes skilled in hieroglyphic accounting.

### **Taxation and Labor Obligations**

Taxes were a critical component of the economic system in ancient Egypt. Farmers paid a portion of their harvest to the state, which then redistributed it. Beyond taxes, the corvée system obligated citizens to provide labor for public works. This labor tax was instrumental in the construction of pyramids, temples, canals, and irrigation systems. Such

state-driven mobilization of labor reflects an economy less reliant on market forces and more on collective contribution guided by political authority.

## **Specialized Labor and Craft Production**

The economy was diversified beyond agriculture through specialized crafts and trade. Artisans produced goods ranging from pottery and textiles to jewelry and tools. These crafts supported both local consumption and trade with neighboring regions such as Nubia and the Levant. Importantly, artisans often worked under the patronage of the state or temples, linking economic production to religious and political institutions.

## **Trade Networks and Economic Integration**

Ancient Egypt's economic system was not isolated. Trade played a vital role, bringing in luxury goods and raw materials not locally available. The state actively engaged in expeditions to acquire valuable resources like gold, incense, ebony, and lapis lazuli. Trade routes extended along the Nile, across the Sinai Peninsula, and along the Mediterranean coast, facilitating economic integration with surrounding cultures.

## **Internal Trade and Marketplaces**

Within Egypt, local marketplaces enabled the exchange of goods among individuals. While the state controlled major economic activities, local markets allowed for some degree of private exchange and barter. These markets were essential for distributing surplus goods and facilitating access to specialized products.

## **Foreign Trade and Diplomacy**

Economic interactions with neighboring civilizations were often intertwined with diplomacy. Trade expeditions, such as those to Punt or Nubia, were state-sponsored ventures that served both economic and political objectives. The inflow of exotic goods not only enhanced the material wealth of Egypt but also reinforced the pharaoh's prestige.

## **Comparative Perspectives and Economic Implications**



When compared to other ancient economies, such as Mesopotamia or the Indus Valley, the economic system in ancient Egypt stands out for its remarkable level of centralization and state involvement. While Mesopotamian economies exhibited more pronounced commercial activities and early monetary use, Egypt's economy was more heavily regulated by the state apparatus. This centralization had both advantages and limitations:

- **Advantages:** Efficient mobilization of resources for large-scale projects, stability in food production, and cohesive social organization.
- **Limitations:** Potential rigidity limiting entrepreneurial activity, dependency on state decisions, and vulnerability to administrative inefficiencies.

Moreover, the reliance on a surplus agricultural economy made Egypt particularly susceptible to environmental changes affecting the Nile's flooding patterns. Nevertheless, the economic system demonstrated resilience, adapting through centuries of political upheaval and social transformations.

## **Economic Administration and Record Keeping**

The sophistication of the economic system in ancient Egypt was underpinned by an advanced bureaucratic structure. Scribes maintained detailed records of agricultural yields, labor contributions, tax collections, and commodity inventories. These records, inscribed on papyrus and temple walls, highlight the importance of documentation in managing an economy without standardized currency.

## **The Role of Temples in Economic Life**

Temples functioned as economic hubs, controlling extensive landholdings and employing numerous workers. They acted as centers for storage, redistribution, and production. The integration of religious and economic functions underscored how intertwined spiritual beliefs and material management were in ancient Egyptian society.

## **Labor Specialization and Social Stratification**

The economic system also reinforced social hierarchies. The allocation of labor and resources reflected social status, with peasants primarily engaged in farming, while skilled artisans and administrators occupied higher social

tiers. This stratification was essential for maintaining order and ensuring that economic activities aligned with societal roles defined by the state and religious doctrine.

Through the lens of economic history, the system in ancient Egypt reveals a civilization that achieved remarkable feats of organization and resource management. Its unique blend of agriculture-based wealth, centralized control, and strategic trade facilitated a stable and enduring economy that supported one of antiquity's most iconic cultures.

## **Economic System In Ancient Egypt**

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**economic system in ancient egypt: *Economy and Industry in Ancient Egypt*** Leslie C. Kaplan, 2004 Describes the industries and economic system of ancient Egypt.

**economic system in ancient egypt: The Ancient Egyptian State** Robert J. Wenke, 2009-04-27 This survey traces the emergence of Egypt from a rural backwater into a great nation-state with a rich culture. Focusing on the period between 5000 and 2000 BC, the book traces the broad historical processes driving Egyptian civilisation and explores its most remarkable cultural phenomena.

**economic system in ancient egypt: *Ancient Egypt*** B. G. Trigger, B. J. Kemp, D. O'Connor, A. B. Lloyd, 1983-09-22 The rich and extensive floodplain of the River Nile can claim to be the cradle of one of the earliest and most spectacular civilizations of antiquity. *Ancient Egypt: A Social History*, first published in 1983, presents an innovative perspective on the ancient societies which flourished in the Nile Valley from the Predynastic period to the conquest by Alexander the Great. From the introduction of a subsistence economy through the establishment of the first agricultural communities to the development of urban centres and the political state, this volume traces the process of political, social and economic change. The emphasis on the social and economic aspects of Egyptian society and the integration of archaeological and historical data mark a new departure in Egyptian studies.

**economic system in ancient egypt: *The Economy of Ancient Egypt*** Mahmoud Ezzamel, 2024-08-21 Taking ancient records as the starting point for analysis, this book theorises the state, administration and economy of ancient Egypt. The Egyptian state is theorised as an administrative field of material and symbolic powers with emphasis upon the latter because it has received scant

attention in Egyptology. Maat (truth, fairness, connective justice) is theorised as symbolic power discursively authored, disseminated and monitored by senior administrators who redefined its meaning to suit changes in the sociopolitical contexts. The book examines the classification schemes of the Egyptian population devised by the administrative field of power and how they were used to differentiate, hierarchise and fix specific individuals within clearly demarcated social and economic categories that aimed to fix the subjectivity of those assigned to each category. Ancient Egyptian had a significant state economic sector and a private sector. A multiplicity of sources of state economic resources are examined: taxation/ impost, war booty and tributes, and gifts exchanged between the Egyptian kings and foreign kings. A nuanced understanding of Polanyi's work on redistribution is used to theorise the cycle of levying, collecting, storing and redistributing tax revenues. Exchanges of gifts between Egyptian kings and kings from Asia Minor are theorised as occurring on a stage of institutional drama, war booty as an 'economy of force' and tribute as an economy of restitution. Private exchange is theorised by developing the concept of 'sociable markets' and drawing on Maat in its various meanings as truth, fairness and connective justice. This book will be of interest to readers in the fields of economic history, ancient Egypt and ancient history more broadly.

**economic system in ancient egypt: Ancient Egypt** Bruce G. Trigger, 1983-09-22 This book, first published in 1983, presents an innovative perspective on the ancient societies which flourished in the Nile Valley.

**economic system in ancient egypt: Economic Life at the Dawn of History in Mesopotamia and Ancient Egypt** Refael (Rafi) Benvenisti, 2024-01-29 The book is a study of the emergence of market economy with modern economic institutions in the early civilizations of Mesopotamia and ancient Egypt from the third and early second millennium B.C.E. The study covers the Sumerian, Old Assyrian and Old Babylonian periods. The economic analysis is based on Institutional Economics theory, and the data on the Old Assyrian period is based on the work of many scholars that transliterated, translated and studied many of the 23,000 documents of the Old Assyrian traders found in old Kanesh in Central Turkey. The book includes chapters on the institutions of: property rights; the markets and means of exchange; the organization and finance of trade; and enforcement institutions from the judicial, social and political systems. In addition, it gives a detailed analysis of: the early means of exchange (money) like the use of volume measure of barley and weight measure of copper and silver in Sumer; various instruments establishing property rights such as Kuduru border stones, seals and inserted cones in walls; detailed analysis of the communication system and its components; and the description of the modern financial instruments used to include, for example, limited partnerships.

**economic system in ancient egypt: Economic Structures of the Ancient Near East** Morris Silver, 2024-08-28 Economic Structures of the Ancient Near East (1985) is a political economy of antiquity which applies the universal conclusions of theoretical economics to the interpretation of economic life. The first part of the book shows that the analysis of transaction costs – that is, the resources used up in exchanging ownership rights including costs of communication and of designing and enforcing contracts – provides numerous insights into the structure of the ancient economy. The role of temples as centres of commerce, inculcation of professional standards by gods, elevation of technology to the status of divine gift, religious syncretism and fetishism and many more seemingly exotic practices are comprehended as elements in a strategy to cope with high transaction costs by increasing the stock of what might be called trust capital. It is shown that similar considerations lie behind the ubiquity of diversified, multinational family firms, the prominent entrepreneurial role of high-born women, the prominence within the contractual process of publicly performed conventional gestures and recitations, and the intrusion of gifts, friendship, and other manifestations of personal economics into exchange relationships. The book goes on to examine carefully, and then reject, the view of economic historian Karl Polanyi and others that the ancient Near East lacked true markets for consumer goods and productive factors. The direct evidence of market exchange (local and long distance), occupational specialisation, supply-demand determined prices, investment in material and human capital, production for the market, and other

'modern' traits is uneven with respect to place and time, but nevertheless abundant. The requisite market functions demanded by Polanyi, including a market for labour (slave and free) and elaborate credit and investment markets, can be seen plainly from very early times. Finally, the book deals with the impact on the ancient Near Eastern economy of changes in economic incentives and of changes in economic policy. It becomes evident that ancient economies were capable of making profound alterations in order to take advantage of new economic opportunities. It is also shown that the ancient Near East was not static, as is usually asserted: periods of pervasive economic regulation by the state are interspersed with lengthy periods of relatively unfettered market activity and growth.

**economic system in ancient egypt:** *Ancient Egypt* Alan B. Lloyd, 2014-06 In *Ancient Egypt: State and Society*, Alan B. Lloyd attempts to define, analyse, and evaluate the institutional and ideological systems which empowered and sustained one of the most successful civilizations of the ancient world for a period in excess of three and a half millennia. The volume adopts the premise that all societies are the product of a continuous dialogue with their physical context - understood in the broadest sense - and that, in order to achieve a successful symbiosis with this context, they develop an interlocking set of systems, defined by historians, archaeologists, and anthropologists as culture. Culture, therefore, can be described as the sum total of the methods employed by a group of human beings to achieve some measure of control over their environment. Covering the entirety of the civilization, and featuring a large number of up-to-date translations of original Egyptian texts, *Ancient Egypt* focuses on the main aspects of Egyptian culture which gave the society its particular character, and endeavours to establish what allowed the Egyptians to maintain that character for an extraordinary length of time, despite enduring cultural shock of many different kinds.

**economic system in ancient egypt: State and Economy in Ancient Egypt** David Warburton, 1997 Combining philological investigation and theoretical reasoning, this book offers a completely new interpretation of the economic role of the state in ancient Egypt. The first part provides background outlining the relevance of Keynes General Theory to the ancient Egyptian economy. The central part uses ancient Egyptian texts as the foundation of an analysis of words commonly assumed to relate to taxation during the New Kingdom (c. 1540-1070 B.C.E.). The conclusions summarize the philological results and explore the role of the temples in the ancient Egyptian state during the New Kingdom. The result places ancient Egyptian taxation and state economic activity in a market context, opening a new path to the understanding of the ancient Egyptian economy based on an analysis of primary sources.

**economic system in ancient egypt:** *Introduction to Egypt* Gilad James, PhD, Egypt, officially known as the Arab Republic of Egypt, is a country located in North Africa. It is bordered by Libya to the west, Sudan to the south, Israel and the Gaza Strip to the northeast, and the Mediterranean Sea to the north. Egypt is known for its rich history, with evidence of settlements dating back to 6,000 B.C. It is famous for its ancient civilization which produced the Great Pyramids of Giza, The Sphinx, and The Valley of the Kings. Modern-day Egypt has a population of over 100 million people and is one of the most populous and influential countries in Africa and the Middle East. Egypt has a diverse economy, including agriculture, manufacturing, and services. Its main exports include oil and gas, textiles, and chemicals. Egypt is also a popular tourist destination, attracting millions of visitors each year to see its historical sites and enjoy its beaches and resorts. However, the country also faces challenges such as political instability and a high unemployment rate. Despite this, the people of Egypt are resilient and continue to work towards building a strong and prosperous future for their country.

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**economic system in ancient egypt:** *Ancient and Medieval Economic Ideas and Concepts of Social Justice* Todd Lowry, Barry Gordon, 2023-03-20 On March 17, 2015, Brill was informed that the article by Francisco Gómez Camacho S. J., "Later Scholastics: Spanish Economic Thought in the XVIth and XVIIth Centuries," in *Ancient and Medieval Economic Ideas and Concepts of Social Justice*, ed. S. Todd Lowry and Barry Gordon (Leiden: Brill, 1998), pp. 503–561 suffers from serious citation problems and that in some cases the original sources are never mentioned at all. It goes without saying that Brill strongly disapproves of such practices, which represent a serious breach of publication integrity. Brill condemns any violation of the authors' rights and the copyrights of the publishers, and distances itself from these practices. As a result Brill cannot stand behind the noted material as originally contained in this volume and for these reasons formally retracts the article by Francisco Gómez Camacho and also the volume. The volume will no longer be available in its current form. (Blurb: 13 scholars contribute to this survey of past discussions of the workings of economic structures and of justice in interpersonal relations, cultural institutions and the social order. They investigate the sources in each historic period from the world of the Old Testament and the ancient Greeks through to Spanish scholasticism and its offshoots in the Spanish Americas of the 18th century and relate the ideas of writers from the past to modern discussions.)

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**economic system in ancient egypt:** *The Egyptian World* Toby Wilkinson, 2007-09-18 The

Egyptian World provides an authoritative exploration of Ancient Egyptian civilization. The volume covers seven broad themes, with each section allowing specialists to focus on a particular topic.

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The Economic System of Islam, is an English version of a lecture delivered in Urdu by Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad, the Second Khalifah Head of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community to a gathering of academia in Lahore, Pakistan, in 1945. The book presents a detailed account of the teachings of Islam regarding the system of economics. It demonstrates that economic system of Islam is placed within the broader teachings of Islam, with the objective of attaining the pleasure of Allah and everlasting bliss in the Hereafter. It provides for a healthy and progressive society in which the basic needs of all are met, and incentives for achieving excellence are provided, with due regard to justice and fair play. The lecture then makes a critical evaluation of the economic aspects of Communism. It provides ample evidence that Communism has failed in its pretensions of promoting justice and equality both within its own borders and in international affairs. It brings out serious objections against Communism from a religious point of view, and cites three prophecies about the decline of Communism.

**economic system in ancient egypt: Ancient Egypt** Patricia D. Netzley, 2009-06-25  
Thousands of years ago, the ancient Egyptians established a civilization that continue to fascinate people today. This A-Z encyclopedia provides information about the most important people, places, and practices of ancient Egypt, as well as about ancient Egyptian historical periods, religious beliefs, art, architecture, and concepts related to the Egyptian worldview. In addition, the encyclopedia talks about the Egyptologists and archaeologists who helped advance modern knowledge about this ancient culture. Provides numerous entries covering the world of ancient Egypt.

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UNTOLD HISTORY illustrates how African history is intertwined with and foundational to American history. The book begins this narrative in the fourteenth century, when European seafarers discovered the coastal regions of Africa, describes the meeting of the three worlds aEUR Europe, Africa, and the New World, (later known as America), and details the increasing interactions of the three worlds after the 1450s. The author dispels some of the misconceptions about pre-colonial Africa by presenting the history and culture of the African continent from a distinctively African lens. As such, this book chronicles some prominent African empires and kingdoms, Africa-European bilateral trade relations, the trans-Atlantic Slave trade, and contemporary Africans in the United States. The book highlights stories of contemporary Africans residing in the United

States and documents the contributions of early and contemporary Africans to the history, economic development, culture, and prominence of the United States of America. It concludes with a snapshot of contemporary Africa. The book provides a framework for understanding the history of Africa prior to the arrival of European merchants on its shores, African civilizations, cultures, legacy, and contributions to American. Educators can use the book to supplement their course on American History, World History, African American History in pre-collegiate or collegiate settings. This book can help educators to reimagine the teaching and learning of the United States history by centering on important narratives in Africa and with Africans in the American diaspora. The book is organized chronologically and can help the reader to understand the past as it relates to the present world. To facilitate teaching, each chapter opens with a quotation that introduces the content of the chapter and ends with study discussion questions that educators can use or adapt as appropriate for instruction and to ensure full, comprehensive understanding of the content presented.

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