

Shai's Story
Egyptian Civilization



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Lost and Found

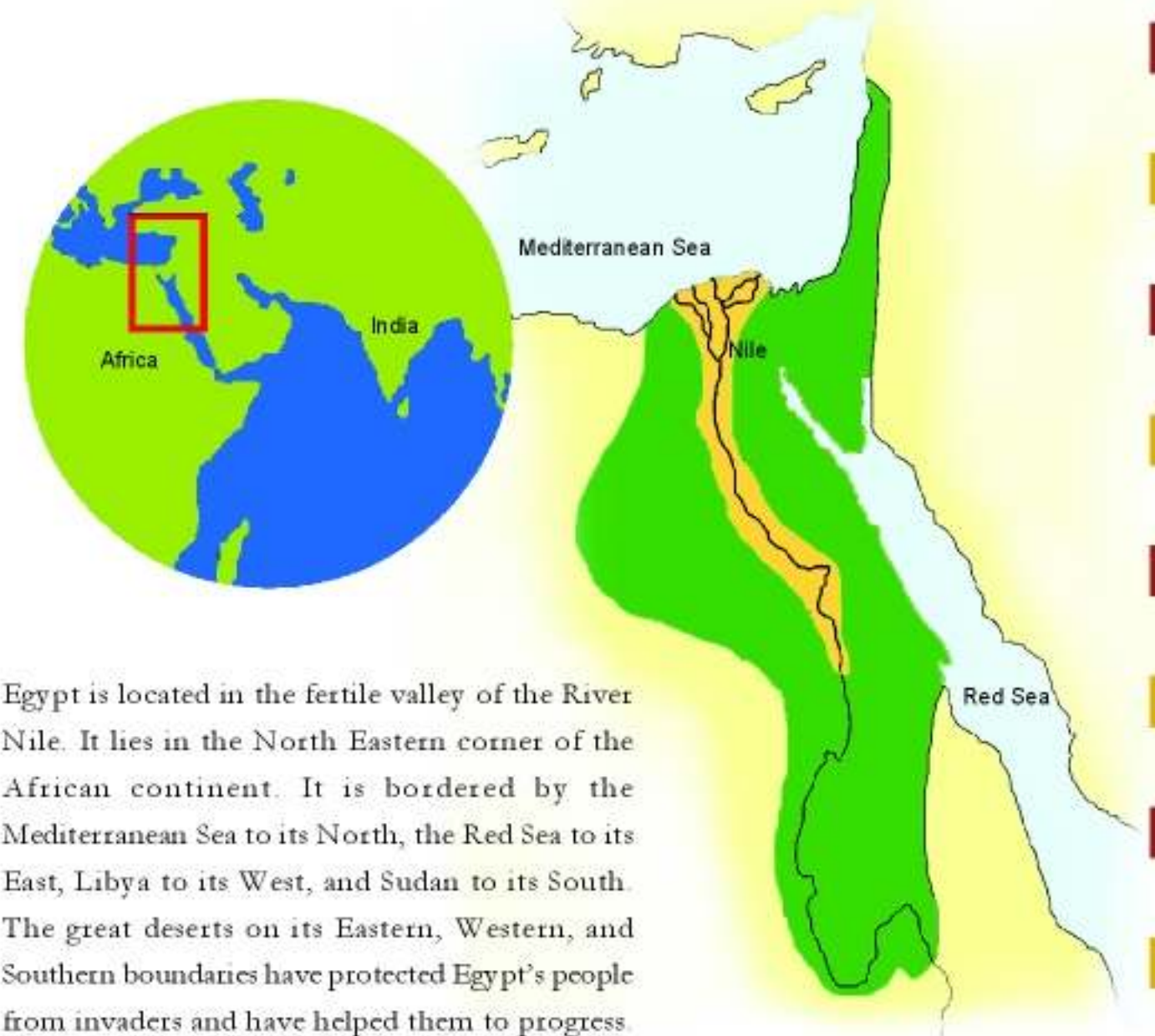
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Introduction



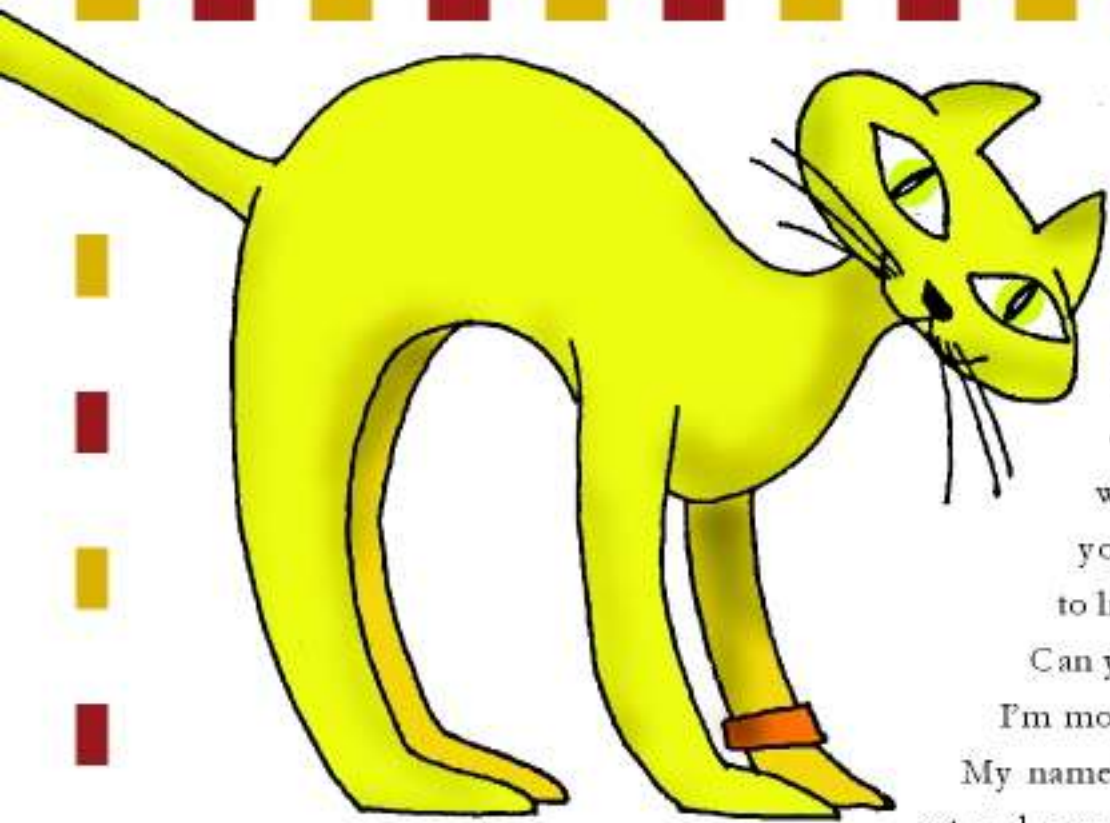
Egypt is located in the fertile valley of the River Nile. It lies in the North Eastern corner of the African continent. It is bordered by the Mediterranean Sea to its North, the Red Sea to its East, Libya to its West, and Sudan to its South. The great deserts on its Eastern, Western, and Southern boundaries have protected Egypt's people from invaders and have helped them to progress. The River Nile, which divides the country, is the lifeblood of Egypt, around which all life revolves. The capital of modern day Egypt is Cairo, and its citizens speak Arabic.

Egypt is one of the oldest civilizations of the world. It is around 4,500 years old. It started, like many other early beginnings, on the banks of a river – the Nile – in 3100 BC.

■ Egypt
■ Egyptian Empire

Inside A Tomb





“Meow! Are you surprised to hear me speak and see me move? Did you think I was a statue? Well, most of the time I am, but when someone special like you comes along, I return to life. I become a cat again. Can you guess how old I am? I’m more than 4,000 years old. My name is Shai. I am a magical cat and a royal one too! I used to be the favourite of a beautiful Queen.

“We are inside a dark and scary place right now – in a tomb, where they bury the dead. But there’s no need to be afraid. This is the tomb of my mistress and it is inside a pyramid. Mistress was married to a Pharaoh, one of the great kings of Egypt. When they were alive, my master and mistress were rich and powerful. The Egyptian people worshipped them as Gods.

“Now I’m going to let you in on a huge secret – I can travel back and forth in time! Would you like to come with me on an exciting journey back in time to the streets and alleys of ancient Egypt where I once roamed free? Come along then, there are lots of exciting things to see.”

Process Of Mummification



1 Internal organs are removed and put into canopic jars.

2 Body covered with a special salt called natron, for drying. The inner portions stuffed with linen, natron, sawdust and spices.



3 Body enfolded in bandages.



4 Face covered with a mask. A priest dressed like God Anubis, prays for the dead person.



The ancient Egyptians believed that when a Pharaoh died, his soul continued to look after his kingdom. To ensure that the Pharaoh would continue to enjoy the blessings of the Gods, his body was wrapped and preserved through an elaborate process called mummification and his body was placed inside a mighty pyramid that had already been constructed to protect the Pharaoh’s body.

Mask of an Egyptian Pharaoh

