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Building History and Architecture of The Ancient Egyptian Pyramids

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Annotation: The history of Egyptian ehrsams, which have been living for more than four thousand years, their construction system and architecture is the main question that world scientists and world historians have been thinking about. Scientists have different opinions about the reasons for the construction of these Pyramids, which are a unique construction of those times, especially about the different ways of construction and the products used. The diversity of these opinions has been influencing the creation of a consensus. This article also provides extensive information on these topics.

Key words: Pyramids, Egypt, Ehrsams, Khufu, Nile, Valley of the Kings.

The pyramids of ancient Egypt are one of the most unique monuments of world architecture. The base of the Egyptian ehrsams is triangular, quadrangular, and polygonal, with a wide base and a narrow, triangular shape at the top. During the ancient dynasties, Egyptian pharaohs and princes built huge stone shrines for themselves. We can compare such ehrsams with mausoleums in our country and in other places. Dead pharaohs, their family members, and officials were buried in such mausoleums. Egyptian pyramids amaze people with their size and strength. At the same time, Egyptian ehrsams were considered the power of pharaohs and officials. The largest and most luxurious ehrsams built in Egypt are the mausoleum of Josier and Khufu. The mausoleum built by Khufu, one of the pharaohs of the fourth dynasty, near the city of Memphis in 2600 BC, stands out for its grandeur and luxury. The sides of this pyramid are 250 meters, and one kilometer should be walked to go around it. In its time, its height was more than 150 meters. Perhaps due to the weight of the pyramid and the cause of subsidence and decay, its current height is 146 meters. Two million three hundred pieces of cut stone were used to make it. The stones, which are the raw materials of the Ehrsams, were mined from the stone mines of the Arabian mountains along the right bank of the Nile, polished and brought by water on rafts. The stones are cut and polished below. The smallest of the stones prepared for the construction of these Ehrsams was two and a half tons, and the largest was fifteen tons. According to the historian Herodotus, this shrine was built for 25-30 years. More than 100,000 people worked continuously during the construction of this facility. The stones of the mausoleum were smoothed and pressed together so tightly that even the blade of the French emperor Napoleon Bonaparte's sword, who visited Egypt, did not fit between the stones. Scientists say that the tombs are one of the most unique monuments of Ancient Egypt and world architecture, and Khufu's mausoleum is one of the seven wonders. During the construction of the



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Ehrams, large polished stones were probably brought out by pulling them up. Maybe the architects used manual labor and working animals in these heavy works. According to scientists, a special lift of thick beams was built from the bottom up to take the stones up. Beams can be cut, sanded, greased, and stones can be moved up and placed.

Along with architectural ensembles, mastabas, cities and temples, castles, necropolises, pyramids also occupy an important place in the archaeological monuments of ancient Egypt. Especially, the pyramids built during the III-IV dynasties are a unique historical and cultural monument. The pyramids, mastabas and other temples that existed in Egypt and have survived to this day were looted by thieves and robbers in ancient times. Among the pyramids that have not been looted is the pyramid of pharaoh Tutankhamun, which was found and examined by English scientist Carter in 1922. The gold and precious stones, iron metal, and the mummified body of Tutankhamun, who died at the age of 19, are extremely valuable from a scientific and historical point of view. Mastabas, where pharaohs of the I-II dynasties were buried, served as models for pyramids and sogans. Joser, one of the pharaohs of the 3rd dynasty, built the first 60-meter-high step pyramid on the site of the mastaba. The pyramid built by Pharaoh Khufu of the 4th dynasty was distinguished by its luxury. The height of the Khafra pyramid was 140 meters, and the length was 220 meters. After Khafra, pyramids began to be built on a small scale. It is from those times that the construction of temples was a special form of architecture. Temples dedicated to Amon-Ra were built in Karnak and Luxor. Gradually, the construction of the pyramids begins to stop. The pharaohs of the 5th dynasty (XXVI-XXV) refused to build huge pyramids. Local and service nobles were involved in the central administration, and the religious policy also changed. The construction of temples dedicated to God increased. Now the idea that the pharaoh's divinity is directly derived from God Ra has been put forward.

We can find a lot of information about Egyptian ephemera in the works of Greek historians. Next to the great sphinx carved out of a single rock, the famous pyramids, which are still standing in the desert of Giza, are especially worthy of attention. According to the Greek historian Herodotus, Khufu (Kheopsa in Greek) was built for 20 years. Inside the pyramid there are three cameras installed everywhere; the complex layout of these chambers confirms the hypothesis that the pyramid was built over a long period of time and that the construction plan was changed several times during the work. Pharaoh Khafra's pyramid was also built in Giza, it is 8 meters lower than Khufu's pyramid, but Khafra's pyramid is better preserved. The preserved part of the pyramid coating shows that the stone-cutting technique was at a high level at that time. The third pyramid in Giza was built by pharaoh Menkavra. This pyramid is also distinguished by its small size compared to the rest. During the reign of Menkavra, the financial resources and power of the pharaohs of the IV dynasty must have started to decline. These three pyramids located in Giza are surrounded by many mausoleums of royal relatives, high officials and officials. This huge "city of the dead" is currently being accurately excavated, and the finds reveal a vivid picture of the material culture, art and history of this period. Greek historians Herodotus and Diadorus narrate later legends about the pharaohs of the 4th dynasty forcing the people to sweat and toil to build the luxurious pyramids. Next to the pyramids temples were built "for the soul" of the kings.

The Khafra temple is typical of the architecture of the Old Kingdom temples. The Khafra Temple consisted of several side rooms that could be passed from one to another, a main courtyard for



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citizens and a holy room that only priests could enter. Another example of the architectural complex of this period is the pyramid of Joser and the large and small temples built around this structure. During the 5th dynasty, when the central authority began to weaken, smaller pyramids were built for the pharaohs, but more attention was paid to the temples dedicated to the souls of the kings. According to the legend written down by Herodotus, the hut in Khufu's pyramid is reached through a complex system of corridors. Usually, the ihram is part of an architectural complex that includes a temple and a covered porch leading down to the river valley.

Over time, the size of the ihram decreases and its importance decreases. Ehrams could not grow infinitely. The costs involved in the construction of these colossal structures were enormous, and although the 6th Dynasty ehrams are considered architectural masterpieces, they seem rather small compared to Khufu's ehrams.

By the time of the New Kingdom in Egypt, the stone saghana carved into the rock became the main type of tomb where the bodies of kings were placed. A well-hidden entrance to the veritable labyrinth of corridors confirms the idea that can be formed at first sight of a new type of tombs: Their origin is connected with the protection of these tombs from looting robbers and other groups. According to scientists, ancient texts also confirm that there were many such thefts. That is why people were forced to choose a remote place that was difficult to reach for the construction of a mausoleum. One such place is the Valley of the Kings, located west of Thebes, where Tutankhamun's rich tomb and the tombs of many other kings were found. Another similar place is the Valley of the Queens, which is further south, where the wives and children of the pharaohs were buried.

According to modern Egyptologists, before building the pyramids, the Egyptians first dug ditches in the mountainous areas and managed to make a flat and solid foundation. For this, they filled the ditch with water, put stakes in it and marked the surface of the water. Then they leveled the area, filled the ditch with stones and leveled it with the marks on the stakes. As a result, a flat and solid base of the future pyramid was created. At this time, the stone delivery masters prepare the stones used for the pyramid by smoothing and polishing them for several years. The stone blocks were made to last for three months, because the farmers, who lost their jobs for three months as a result of the annual Nile flood, were involved in the construction of the pyramids. After the first row of stones was installed, gravel was piled around it, and the slope was pulled to one side. Then, the blocks were pulled up the slope and placed on top of the first row. In this way, as the pyramids gradually rose up, the slope made of gravel around it rose in the form of a spiral, according to X.A. We can find it in Solokhuddinov's book. When the last stone was placed on the top of the pyramid, it resembled a mass covered with sand and gravel. At this time, experienced and skilled master pickers began to finish the surface of the pyramid with smooth blocks from top to bottom. At the same time, the workers began to remove sand and gravel from the top to the bottom of the finishing work. Before the exterior work was completed, the inner passages and the burial chamber were built. After the burial ceremony was over, all the doors leading to the room were closed and sealed with huge blocks of stones prepared in advance in order to keep it a secret from everyone. There is a mysterious sphinx near the Great Eham in Giza. It is still unknown by whom and why it was created. But it can be understood that it is not surprising that the Egyptian



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pharaoh Heffen saw his reflection in the place of this ruler, who was created as a half-man and half-poem.

To sum up, we have witnessed a great variety of information about the history of Egyptian temples, its construction system and architecture. True, some information repeats each other. However, the ideas in the construction system of these huge buildings are often based on scientific assumptions rather than accuracy. In scientific works, it is said that the stones for construction were brought from the Arabian mountains. Most modern scientists repeat that these stones were cast in molds. They make their point with examples of stones being cast very flat and so on. Maybe one or the other is true. Of course, time will show this, but this Egyptian nation, which has been living for a long time for forty thousand years and made a unique, scientific construction, is a proof that it has high science for its time.

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