

**THE ANCIENT EGYPTIAN STATE AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF LAW**

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**Abstract:** Ancient Egypt is famous all over the world for its legendary gods and incredible buildings. As a real proof of this, we can take Egyptian pyramids, that is, pyramids. These pyramids are notable for their durability, solidity, unconventional design, and the fact that the "power of time" did not reach only these pyramids. With the emergence of statehood in Egypt, there was governance and, most importantly, following the orders given by the king, that is, the pharaoh. The reason is that the pharaoh is the son of God; he is carrying out his father's orders. Religious beliefs are also widely used. In this article, information about the creation of the Egyptian state, its periods, religious beliefs and the development of law is widely covered.

**Key words:** Egypt, pyramids, pharaoh, name, king-church economy, priest, sarcophagus, Khufu, Khafre, Cheops, Menkaure, sphinx, Khoremheb, property law, company law, family law.

**Introduction.** The Nile flows majestically, bringing with it pleasant and cool air. The magnificent river created the ground for the emergence of civilization in the northeast of Africa. The Nile valley was divided into several branches. The Greeks called the confluence of the Nile Valley Delta. [2] Because the Nile River flowed like a triangle, and the Greeks compared this landscape to their letters. The Nile River was a 6,000-kilometer river and was overflowing. The lower part of the river consisted of fertile black soils from 3 to 22 kilometers. The Egyptians named their valley "Gift of the Nile" or "Black soil". BC At the beginning of the fourth millennium, people began to master the banks of the Nile. Ancient Egyptians were hardworking people. They had more than 30 professions. Coppersmiths used to melt copper and cast copper weapons and armor. Carpenters made doors and windows, and shipwrights made reed boats. The place of residence of the Egyptians determined their position. [4,5] Their houses differed as follows:

- 1) The houses of ordinary Egyptians were built from papyrus leaves and stems covered with clay, but such houses were not strong and required quick repair.
- 2) Houses of the nobles were built of raw bricks dried in the sun. Such houses are very durable.
- 3) The palaces, palaces and temples of the pharaohs were built of stone. Such buildings are still preserved.

**Results.** Scattered settlements, that is, "names" began to appear as the basis of statehood in Egypt. In the Egyptian language, it was called "sepats". Their rulers, «nomarkhs», led these small states. [4] According to the data, there were 42 "names" in Egypt. The nobles of each name managed agriculture, animal husbandry, especially irrigation, as well as military and religious affairs. Over time, the "nomarkhs" began to turn into kings. At that time, the government in Egypt was divided into two. These are:

1. In Lower (Northern) Egypt, the state was ruled by one ruler.
2. Another ruler ruled the state in Upper (Southern) Egypt.

Menes, the ruler of Upper Egypt, won the war between the two countries in 3000 BC. He became the first president and pharaoh of the United States. The city of Memphis was designated as the first capital of the new and united country. Over time, the capital of the country changed from Memphis to Thebes.[6]

Scientists have divided the history of Egypt into 5. These are:

- 1) The early kingdom (3100-2800 BC);
- 2) The Old Kingdom (2800-2250 BC);
- 3) The Middle Kingdom (2500-1750 BC);
- 4) The New Kingdom (1584-1071 BC);
- 5) The last kingdom (11-6 centuries BC).

For the ancient Egyptians, religion was an integral part of their lives. The ancient Egyptians imagined their gods in the form of animals. According to their thinking, they thought that gods walk among people in the form of cats, sheep, oxen, lions, and cows. [14]

The priests were the priests of this temple and believed that the gods should be fed with the food and gifts brought by the believers. PTAX, the main god of Memphis, the capital of the ancient Egyptian kingdom, was impossible to see in its original form. He is often depicted in the form of a bull known as Apis. Apis is depicted as a black bull with a white forehead and waist. Next was Amon, the chief god of the Egyptian capital, and Ra, the sun god. It is said that the two gods merged and became a single god. The pharaohs are the sons of the sun god; they thought that they do everything according to the instructions and orders of their heavenly father. [7,8]

Let's get acquainted with the gods that are valued in Egypt:

- Hapi bu-God of the Nile- the primary source and guardian of life in Egypt;
- Osiris is considered the god of the earthly kingdom. According to the legends, Osiris was one of the first kings of Egypt and taught the people to farm for the first time;
- Anubis was the god of the realm of the dead and mummified;
- Maat was the goddess of truth and justice;
- Khathor was the goddess of music, beauty and love;
- Tot was the moon, the god of wisdom and medicine.

Egypt is famous in the world for its pyramids, which are among the seven wonders. The construction of these pyramids is also related to the influence of religious beliefs. During the Old and Middle Kingdoms, the huge pyramids (burial places of pharaohs) built by the Egyptians were mausoleums. During the past millennia, many cities and states disappeared, temples and palaces became ruins. Only the pyramids were not afraid of time. Only the pyramids have remained unchanged for more than 4000 years. The most famous pyramids are located near the city of Memphis. They were built for the famous pharaohs - Khufu, Khafra and Menkaura. The largest pyramid was built for Pharaoh Khufu. The Greeks called him Cheops. It was built in 2600 BC. The stones needed for the construction of the pyramids were brought from the banks of the Nile River. The height of Khufu's pyramid was 147 meters. The pyramid is made of 2.5 million pieces of stone, each weighing more than 2 tons. The interior of the pyramid consisted of several rooms

connected to the corridor. In one of those khans, there was a stone coffin - a sarcophagus, in which the body of the pharaoh was placed. The walls of the dungeons are filled with curses and prayers. They thought that he would protect the deceased in the court of Osiris. It was believed that the pyramids are guarded by a statue of a mythical creature with the body of a lion and the head of a man. The height of this statue is 20 meters and it is made of solid stones. This statue was called "Sphinx". According to legends, this statue was alive; it sat on the entrance gate of Egypt and addressed 3 riddles to every person who entered. He let those he found into the city, and those he could not find he took away. Judging by the actions of the mythical gods of the Egyptians, it can be said that law came into being along with religion. Take Osiris, the god of the underworld, as an example. According to the Egyptians, the deceased must pass the trial of Osiris in order to continue their life in the afterlife. According to him, the deceased's heart is placed on one side of the scale and the bird's feather is placed on the other side of the scale. If the feather of the bird is heavy, the deceased will continue his life, if the heart is heavy, it will become food for the ugly and evil creatures of Osiris. The mummification of the Egyptians must be interesting to everyone. The fact is that the deceased were mummified so that they could stand in front of Osiris and they believed that the mummy would bring the deceased back to life. Embalming usually lasted 70 days.

Egypt also developed laws and norms to govern society. All legislative, executive and judicial powers were united under Pharaoh. The meaning of the word pharaoh is "great house". [14]

As in all countries, in Egypt, first of all, customary law existed. Gradually, written rights began to appear. According to Diodor, the ancient Greek writer, the ruler who made the willful law was Menes. The ruler who issued the second law was Salkhis. This ruler passed a law defining the terms of borrowing. According to him, a person could not get a loan if he did not pledge his mummy. If a person died without paying his debt, he was not buried until his debt was paid, because his mummy was left as a pledge. In ancient Egypt, there were several ways of owning land, but all were considered the property of the king. The debtors were driven from the land by the ruling. By the time of Pharaoh Khoremheb, such driving was stopped. The law of obligation is widely used in Egypt. In Egypt, the obligation arose mainly from contracts. For a long time, contracts were made by solemn oaths before priests and officials. Only by the time of King Bohoris did they switch from such type of contract to written type of contract.

Previously, only the upper class owned land. By the time of King Bohoris, such activities were stopped. Farmers had the right to transfer their plots to other people. Certain formalities are allowed for the sale or acquisition of land. According to him, they drew up 3 documents in a row to achieve the goal.

In document 1, it is officially confirmed that the sale was made between two persons and it is confirmed that this property does not belong to a third person. [9,10]

In the 2nd act, the ceremony of taking an oath was held based on religious traditions.

In the 3rd act, the transfer of land ownership is specified. One of the most common types of contracts in Egypt was the debt contract. The main object of this contract was money and agricultural products. According to this, until the debt is paid, one of Ahakh's close relatives is taken as a pledge. If the debt repayment period expires or the debt is not repaid, the given relative is enslaved. After the laws issued by Bokhoris, slavery was strictly prohibited.

The company contract (agreement on joint activities) is also widely used. According to it, the persons who are called partners are engaged in activities without being prohibited by the law in

order to get profit. Another type of contract is the baggage and freight contract. Accordingly, the baggage or cargo is delivered to the destination and the other party must pay the delivery fee. In Egypt, family law was established early and the signs of matriarchy were partially preserved. The family is mainly organized between brothers and sisters. Children were mainly named after the maternal line, and the position of the mother was higher than ever.

But if we look at the legislation of our current state, i.e. the family code, we can see completely opposite norms. Accordingly, according to Chapter 11 of the Family Code "Personal property rights of minors" and Article 69 thereof, it is defined as follows: [11]

The name of the child is given according to the agreement of the parents, and the patronymic is given according to the name of the father.

The surname of the child is determined according to the surname of the parents. When the parents have different surnames, the child will be given the surname of his father or mother according to the agreement of the parents. [12,13] According to the wishes of the father and mother, the father or mother according to the grandfather's name according to national traditions can give the child a surname. If there is no agreement between the parents on the child's name and surname, the dispute will be resolved by the body of guardianship and patronage.

The marriage was concluded based on a contract, and the woman signed the contract on her own behalf. In this way, he saved his property. It was necessary for the husband to provide money to his wife. In order to preserve the wife's property, he registered the property in one head and pledged all the property of the husband. Sometimes the husband transferred all his property to his wife. Such a contract had to be approved by the minister. Divorce was voluntary in ancient Egypt. The wife was able to cancel the marriage at her own will. [14] During the divorce, the wife received a certain amount from her husband, which belonged to her children from the marriage and as an inheritance. If the husband breaks the marriage, the inheritance was transferred to the name of the eldest son, and he had to distribute the inheritance to the remaining children.

In Egypt, children had their own property and could use it freely. The inheritance is divided equally among all children. This situation has created gender equality. Gender equality is equal rights of men and women in social and political life.

One of the most important laws in Egypt is criminal law. In it, crimes are divided into broad types depending on their scope. The most serious crimes are:

- 1) Treason;
- 2) Incitement;
- 3) Plotting;
- 4) Violation of religious rules;
- 5) Digging a buried grave in Mur;
- 6) Burying the corpse in a prohibited place;
- 7) Witchcraft;
- 8) Killing animals thought to be God and other crimes are severely punished.



All of these are severely punished. [15,16] The most painful point is that his relatives and friends were punished for the crime he committed. Each of them is sentenced to death. According to our new constitution, this norm is condemned. We can cite Article 28 as an example. According to him, the conviction of a person and the resulting legal consequences cannot be the basis for restricting the rights of his relatives.

**Conclusion.** If we look at the history and legislation of ancient Egypt, we will once again witness that people experienced unjust hardships. The lack of value of a person and the use of punishment against him is a very sad situation. During the development of correct law, all kinds of mistakes and cruel experiments were conducted, and it developed, polished and became the present day law. We should draw conclusions from such situations and be thankful that we did not live in those times, and we should not allow such ignorance to escalate. It was not for nothing that our fans insisted that the law is equal for everyone. As the great German poet Goethe said, "The law is strong, but prudence is good." Ignorance of the law does not exempt from responsibility. The laws established in our country are based on the principles of humanity, legality, justice, tolerance and firmness, and the equality of every person in front of the law, regardless of their status, is determined separately. Contributing to raising legal awareness and legal culture in our country is the best thing we can do for our country and people.

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**SJIF 2019: 5.222 2020: 5.552 2021: 5.637 2022:5.479 2023:6.563 2024: 7,805**

**elSSN :2394-6334 <https://www.ijmrd.in/index.php/imjrd> Volume 11, issue 05 (2024)**

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