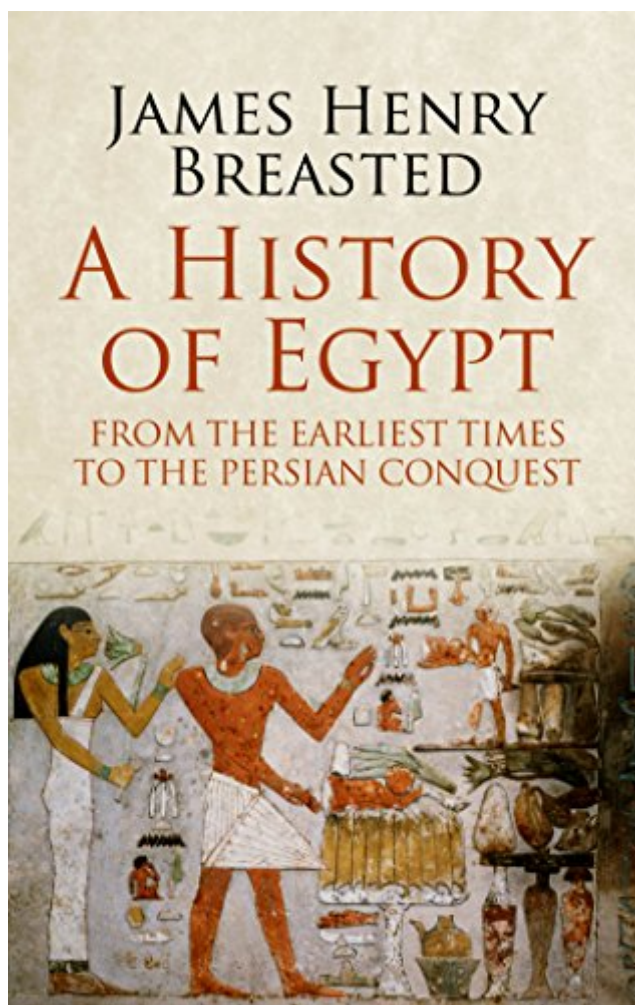


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A History Of Egypt From The Earliest Times To The Persian Conquest



Synopsis

“Considered by Egyptologists as one of the best introductions to their subject ever written.”

• World Archaeology James Henry Breasted, in this magnificent work on Ancient Egypt, takes the reader from the earliest days when the Egyptian state had barely formed through to its eventual demise and collapse at the hands of the Persians. He explains why Egypt was able to develop so rapidly and form such a sophisticated socio-political system. As a pioneer Egyptologist, Breasted draws upon a wide variety of sources to create this history of Ancient Egypt, from archaeology to ancient historians and translated hieroglyphics. Through the course of the book he uncovers early Egyptian religious beliefs, the development of the pyramids, the different dynasties that ruled, as well as many other fascinating subjects. A History of Egypt from the Earliest Times to the Persian Conquest is the authoritative history of Egypt and is essential reading for anyone interesting in learning more about this famous civilization.

“Those who wish to obtain a general view of the history of Egypt, from the beginnings to the Persian invasion, written by a scholar steeped in knowledge of the texts, may turn to Professor Breasted’s History of Egypt, the fullest as well as most vivid and interesting that has ever been written.”

• The English Historical Review “The foremost communicator of Egyptology to general audiences.”

• History Today James Henry Breasted was an American archaeologist, Egyptologist and historian. A History of Egypt from the Earliest Times to the Persian Conquest was his first book, published in 1905. That year he was also promoted to become a professor in Egyptology and Oriental History. In 1919 he founded the Oriental Institute at the University of Chicago. He died in 1935.

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Customer Reviews

Breasted breathes life into Ancient Egypt, forging a continuity of narrative that reveals much more than I expected to learn about the subject. His insights into the personalities of the pharaohs and their foes makes them sparkle through the intervening millennia! Dated language, perhaps, but very scholarly.

This is a reprint of a classic book that is very well written and a pleasure to read. Being originally published in 1905 it is unfortunately outdated in some historical detail, e.g. the timeline of the Thuthmoses. In electronic form it is also an excellent buy - I got it for less than 2\$. There are some typos, which seem to be the result of the OCR without careful editing, but these did not bother me. I can recommend the book to newbies to Egyptian antiquities like me, but one should rely more on the general narrative than on every historical detail due to the age of the book. If in doubt I have consulted Wikipedia for a second opinion, but where I had no doubts I may have been misled. However, rarely have I taken so much pleasure in reading an historical monography.

This volume is richly supported by references to existing records on monuments. Many more records have been lost because they were written on animal hides or other perishable materials. It would be helpful for the reader to have a map indicating the names of current geographical sites as well as the names of the ancient ones to enable one to visualize the areas involved in conquest and trade.

Thought this book would put me to sleep but was happy to find it was very interesting. I now realize Egypt had a very rich history that greatly influences our life today.

A book that tells many Egyptian secrets and long history

Good reading.

kind of boring

Both vols 1 & 2 of this long out-of-print classic belong on the reference shelves of any aspiring Egyptologist or ANE historian. And if the reader is truly serious, the companion Ancient Records of Egypt, vols 1-5 belong there as well. Breasted refers to these coyly as a 'dictionary'. They represent a completely new translation (ab ovo) of all memorials, et al extant at the time of the original publication - 1909 - and are referred to throughout the main history. This history, though dated, is a much better read than the more recent and stuffy work by Grimal (a sure cure for insomnia). Breasted is able to switch from a wonderful flow of descriptive narrative when giving a synopsis of The Land to a more scholarly mode without dropping a beat. Don't buy this book for the illustrations - being an off-print, they've suffered in the process but there are better places to find these anyway. The Oriental Institute Archives come to mind. This is the seminal work on AE history despite its age - the historical vade mecum for the AE buff.

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