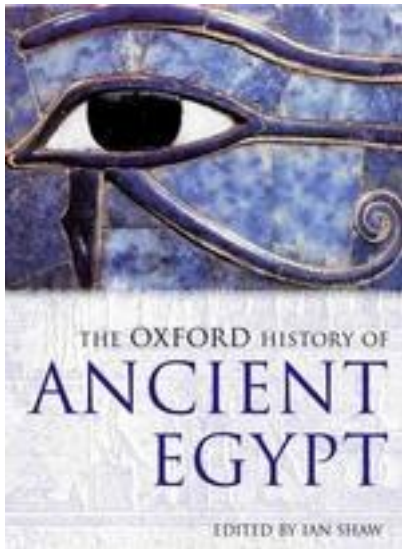# The Oxford History of Ancient Egypt

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著者:Ian Shaw

出版者:Oxford University Press

出版时间:2004-2-19

装帧:Paperback

isbn:9780192804587

One of the most vexing problems in Egyptology is the question of establishing reliable chronologies, whether through relative methods such as stratigraphy and the dating of artifacts or through more absolute time horizons established by astronomical ephemera or radiometric dating. In this overview of ancient Egypt--meant for advanced students, but accessible to general readers with an interest in the area--Ian Shaw and 13 contributors pay close attention to issues of chronology, reconciling conflicts of dating that mark older scholarship.

While doing so, they address other problems in the study of ancient Egypt, such as the lack of material evidence of early humans in the region and the increasing destruction of sites in the face of contemporary urban growth. Elsewhere, they remark on the principal developments that distinguish periods in Egyptian prehistory, such as the Old Kingdom's use of large-scale building projects to consolidate power and "remind people of the greatness of pharaonic civilization," and the Middle and New kingdoms'

apparent openness to foreigners, which lent Egypt a cosmopolitan, multicultural air that persisted for centuries during long periods of domination by outside powers such as Persia and Rome. Highly useful as a reference and survey, this handsomely illustrated book is a fine addition to any Egyptophile's collection. --Gregory McNamee --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

作者介绍:

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too professional...

花了一个多月才基本看完，是我看过最专业最详尽的古埃及历史和考古通史。全书其实很枯燥，但这是因为作者非常克制谨慎，往往引用大量考古成果和他人研究，才小心得出一个信息量很少的结论。看完觉得古埃及真是诠释了"国之大事，惟祀与戎"，几乎所有权力的来源和王朝信仰都奠基于此，埃及也远非高度集权的帝国，法老的权力时刻会衰落、碎片化，总之很与众不同

有些年头了，有些论点在现在已经不成立了（例如democratization of afterlife（

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