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Ancient Egyptian Civilization

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Ancient Egyptian Civilization

In ancient Egypt, religion was a complicated system of rituals and polytheistic that created a crucial part of ancient Egyptian culture. It revolved around the Egyptian's interactions with the numerous deities believed to be currently involved. Egyptians gave offerings and prayers considered to be rituals to gods in exchange for their favors. On the other hand, religious acts that were formal and centered on Egypt's rulers, pharaohs, were believed to have divine power by their level. Egypt is popular because of its pyramids and arts (Basak, 2020). Additionally, it is essential to understand ancient Egypt's artistic part because it played an essential role in supporting these beliefs practices.

The Akkadian empire was the first ancient empire of Mesopotamia. However, before Akkadians took over, the entire Mesopotamian region were mainly followers of Syriac Christianity. Mesopotamia was a coherent and consistent tradition that adapted what they needed internally (Voicethread). Hence, Akkad people worshiped the Sumerian religion, the Sumerian civilization's cosmology, the mythology and rites. Their myths and misconceptions were transferred through oral tradition before the invention of the Sumerian cuneiform. Later, during the early dynastic period was when the religious writings became incantations and hymns. There were three Sumerian triads worshiped by Akkadians namely Enlil, Anu and Enki, but later, their names were changed to Bel, Anu and Ea. Anu was viewed as the king of the gods and only the king was allowed to worship him. On the other hand, Bel was a god of dynasty and order, as indicated by Akkadians. Lastly, Ea was a god of great power and force, also remembered to be a god of sorcery, incantation and ritual purification (Voicethread).

Egyptian art was a way of transferring or communicating information. Through the artistic gesture from different parts of ancient Egypt, many Egyptians understood their beliefs

and practices. Uniquely, the art displayed was always accompanied by some text that explained the art's purpose and gave an explicit scene to complete the art's purpose. Similar to their statues, the texts were on the back of the statue's supporting pillar. Art represented the processes followed during a ritual and the beliefs of what would follow later. Similarly, art also represented the gods being worshipped and how they all looked like. Therefore, this acted as a reminder for the entire 3000 years of history where the same style was still in play (Robins, 2008). In conclusion, without art being incorporated as one way of spreading the religion, it would have been challenging to spread it.

References

Basak, S. (2020). Unit-8 Egyptian Civilization. Indira Gandhi National Open University, New Delhi.

Robins, G. (2008). The Art of Ancient Egypt. Harvard University Press.

Voicethread. <https://voicethread.com/myvoice/thread/2112742/11280845/13406880>

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