

Abstract:

Egypt is one of world's oldest human-populated areas. Some of the first written evidence of inhabiting the Nile valley by hunter gatherer date all the way back to the 5th century b.c. A period named Younger dryas took place around this time, causing both a change in the area's humidity and cooling of its temperature. A significant cultural and political revolution took place during these 2,000 formative years encouraged by a change of subsistence strategy. Two hierarchically virtually undiversified populations lived side by side in the two areas of Upper and Lower Egypt, which had been divided around 3,000 b.c., at which time the emperors of the First Dynasty took the throne. After this transition the Egyptian society became hierarchically diversified into commoners and elites. All the aforementioned factors contribute to both morphological markers and osteometric points of the human skeleton. The aim of this thesis is to summarize the outcomes of the scientific papers covering the anthropological markers of the human skeleton and to link them to the known facts about climate change, changes in social order and migration, focusing on the Early Dynastic Period and the Old Kingdom. The objective of this paper is therefore to give a more complex view of the above-mentioned historical periods.

Key words: Egypt, Old kingdom, morphology, human skull, human height