

## **FAQ's**

### **1. What are the art types of the Stone Age?**

Petroglyphs – cupules, engravings, drawings, symbols, sculpture, carving, cave painting.

### **2. What were the major subjects of cave paintings?**

Ibex, goats, hyenas, turtles, people, human hands, marks that represent a calendar.

### **3. Explain in detail about the women or Venus of Willendorf.**

- The Venus of Willendorf (28000-21,000BCE.) is one of the earliest images of the body made by humankind. It stands just over 4 ½ inches high and was carved some 25,000 years ago. It was discovered on the banks of the Danube River, in Austria, and it was most likely made by hunter-gatherers who lived in the area.
- The people who made this statue lived in a harsh ice-age environment where features of fatness and fertility would have been highly desirable.
- Reproductive organs emphasized, huge breasts, belly, buttocks and navel.
- De-emphasized arms, legs, face, no feet.
- Face may have been painted, could have been a fertility symbol. Venus is the name given to the object, after its discovery as a way of comparing it to the ancient goddess of beauty.

### **4. What were the products used to make paints used on caves?**

Natural products like charcoal, iron ore, plant essence were used.

### **5. Explain in detail about cave paintings & cave painting theories with examples.**

#### **CAVE PAINTINGS:**

In pre historic art, the term "cave painting" encompasses any parietal art which involves the application of color pigments on the walls, floors or

ceilings of ancient rock shelters. A monochrome cave painting is a picture made with only one colour (usually black) -see, for instance, the monochrome images at Chauvet. A polychrome cave painting consists of two or more colours, as exemplified by the glorious multi-coloured images of bison on the ceiling at Altamira, or the magnificent aurochs in the Chamber of the Bulls at Lascaux.

### **CAVE PAINTING THEORIES:**

- A way to strengthen clan bonds
- A ceremony to enhance animal fertility
- Expression of sympathetic magic
- Religious or magical function
- -Visual record of hallucination
- -Visual record of real life happenings
- People enjoying the creative process

### **6. Explain the pre dynastic Egyptian art.**

The Nile Valley is first inhabited in the Lower Paleolithic Period (ca. 300,000 BC–90,000 BC). Neolithic people continue to create stone tools, and exploit domesticated plants and animals (7000–4500 B.C.). In the ensuing millennia many forms of art flourish, including jewelry (faience beads), ceramic vessels, geometric figures, and pottery, much of which is found in tombs. Hierakonpolis in the south, the largest Predynastic settlement known, is the center of political control.

### **7. Differentiate the artistic features of old kingdom, Middle kingdom and New kingdom Egypt.**

#### **OLD KINGDOM:**

The Old Kingdom was from c.2649-2150 BC . The pharaohs were idealized, and given great dignity. The seated statue of Khafre demonstrates this. The statue was found in his temple, and was thought to embody his ka. He is seated in a royal posture with both hands on his lap with his right hand in a fist, and his left hand laying flat on his knee. There is no space between the body, and the throne, and this unites him with it. His gods surround him to show his right to the power he maintained. The sculpture is unified and balanced showing divinity. He, like all pharaohs, was considered a god. There are eighty odd pyramids that exist with the largest being the pyramid

of Khufu. Three of them are from Old Kingdom pharaohs, and are the most impressive.

### **MIDDLE KINGDOM:**

The Middle Kingdom lasted from c1991-1700 BC, and during this period the pharaoh was showing a connection to his people. The political turbulence of this period had left doubt as to the pharaohs divine power, and the style was less imposing. Sesostris III considered himself to be the shepherd of the people. He was concerned about his subjects. There are lines of worry between his eyes. More personality is allowed to show through in the art of this period. Sculptures were more naturalist, and less imposing. Their bodies were more rounded, and their faces were more expressive

### **NEW KINGDOM:**

The New Kingdom covered the years from c.1550-1070 BC. During this period the pharaohs reestablished control of the country, and expanded to regions around them. It is during this time that the mortuary temples became a place where the pharaoh's patron deities were worshiped, and after the pharaoh's death he was also worshiped there.