Chapter 8
Ancient World: Ego, Archaic, Immortality

ABSTRACT

The features of depicting space in the reliefs and murals of Ancient Egypt are considered. Attention is drawn to the preservation of the connection of ancient Egyptian art with primitive art in sacred paintings and to the evolution of the ways of depicting space in secular scenes. There is enough material to reconstruct the ancient Egyptian version of the World Tree myth and to establish links with other archaic myths and ideas about the World Tree in the synchronous cultures of the Middle East. When analyzing markers of evolutionary changes, the most active channels were established and the forecast of the self-organization scenario was checked. The results are presented in the form of generalized psychological portraits and behavior patterns of representatives of the main estates.

BACKGROUND

The timeframes of the research need to be established.

Archeological finds in the Nile Valley date back to the Paleolithic, Neolithic and Eneolithic Ages. Speaking about a relatively developed urbanistic civilization comparable with the Harappa or Sumer, such one appeared in the so-called predynastic times (approximately 6 000 -5 000 years ago). However, of interest here is the pictorial art of the epoch of the earliest states, as it is somewhat different from the art of the Eneolithic period. Those timeframes encompass the so-called dynastic period of the Egyptian history (5 000-2 650 years ago) which includes the periods of the Old, Middle and New Kingdoms, together with the intermittent periods of disturbances and foreign invasions (Breasted, 1915; Gardiner, 1964; Grimal, 1992; Dodson, Hilton 2004; Wilkinson, 2010). In that period Egypt’s influence sometimes spread to the west and east of the Nile Valley, as well as far back southwards, sometimes, it narrowed down to the territory spanning from the Nile delta in the north to approximately the latitude of the present-day Aswan in the south (Figure 1).

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Figure 1. Ancient map of Egypt with names of towns also in hieroglyphs. The map is made by Jeff Dahl. Hieroglyphic names of towns and nomes. Author: JLG. Arts. (Wikipedia, Ancient Egypt, n/d)
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