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**~~Amazing Facts about the Great Pyramids of Giza~~**

By Nina Sen | September 6, 2012

One of the seven ancient wonders of the world, the great pyramids of Giza are marvellous feats of architecture. The Giza complex consists of three large pyramids built for the pharaohs Khufu, Chephren and Menkaure.

The grand structures were built between 2 589 BC and 2 504 BC. How they were built has been a source of debate. The pyramids are part of the Giza Necropolis that also houses the Great Sphinx, smaller pyramids for queens and several complexes for the workers. Historians agree there was an immense amount of labour involved; technical ingenuity and skill that went into the pyramids helped the structures remain standing today.

Khufu's pyramid, known as the great pyramid of Giza, is the oldest and largest, rising at 481 feet (146 meters). Archaeologists say it was the tallest structure in the world for about 3 800 years.

The sphinx is a 73.5-meter (241 ft.) long monument built during the reign of Khafra. The creature is a mythical being commonly found in Greek, Egyptian and even South Asian ancient architecture.

Chephren and Menkaure's pyramids are much smaller and simpler in design than Khufu's massive structure. When first built, the pyramids were covered in white limestone much of which eroded over the years.

Contrary to popular depictions, the Egyptian pyramids were not built by large groups of slaves or prisoners, many historians say. Egyptians were employed and archaeologists estimate the workers would have had to set a 2.5 to 15 ton block every two and a half minutes to finish Khufu's pyramid in about 30 years.

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# Dimensions

Figure :Dimensions of the Great Pyramid

