

# **THE ARCHITECTURE OF ANCIENT EGYPT**

## **7<sup>th</sup> Lecture**

# PYRAMIDS



# Pyramids

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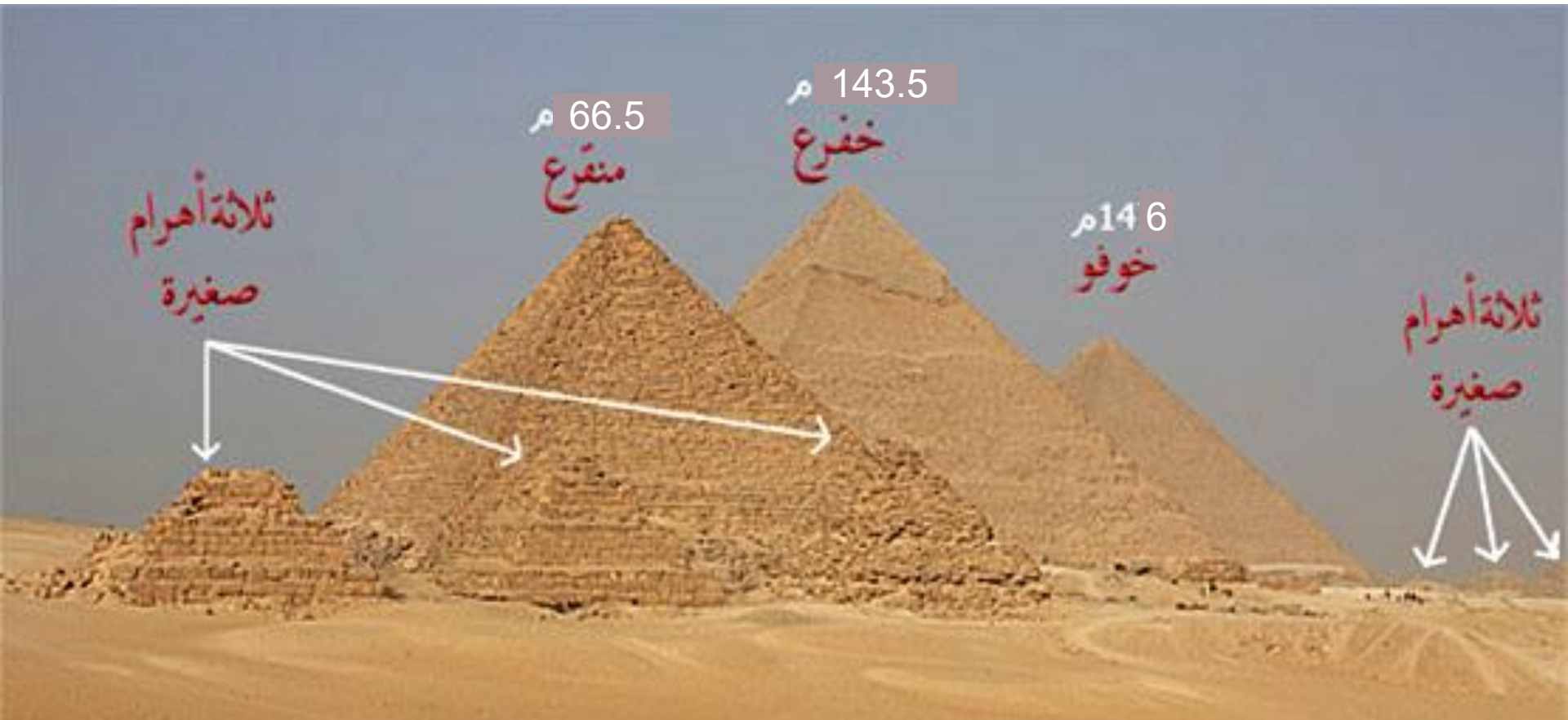
Top view for Giza's 9 Pyramids and the Sphinx (Abu Al-Hol): **3 Main Pyramids for the Kings Cheops, Chephren, and Menkaure.**

And **6 Minor Pyramids for the Queens** (3 of them belonged to the cemetery of King Cheops, and the other 3 belonged to the Cemetery of King Menkaure)



## The Heights of the Three Main Pyramids of Giza

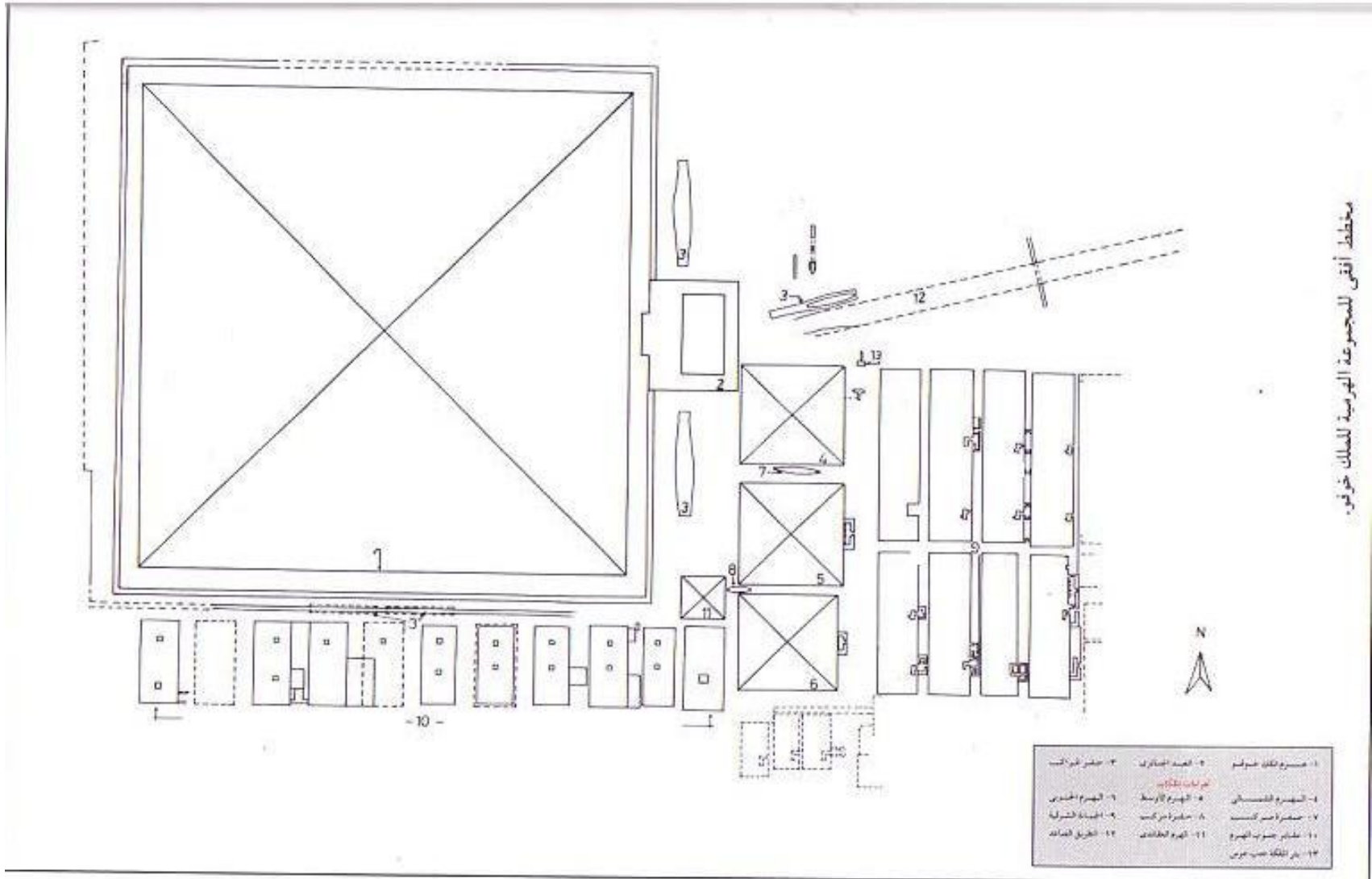
As shown in this picture, it seems like Cheops Pyramid is the smallest one, and that's not true, as it is the highest one but it was located on a lower land.



# Cheops Pyramid "The Great Pyramid of Giza"



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A plan of the Cheops Pyramid "The' Great Pyramid of Giza

# Cheops Pyramid “The Great Pyramid of Giza”

## Its Characterises:

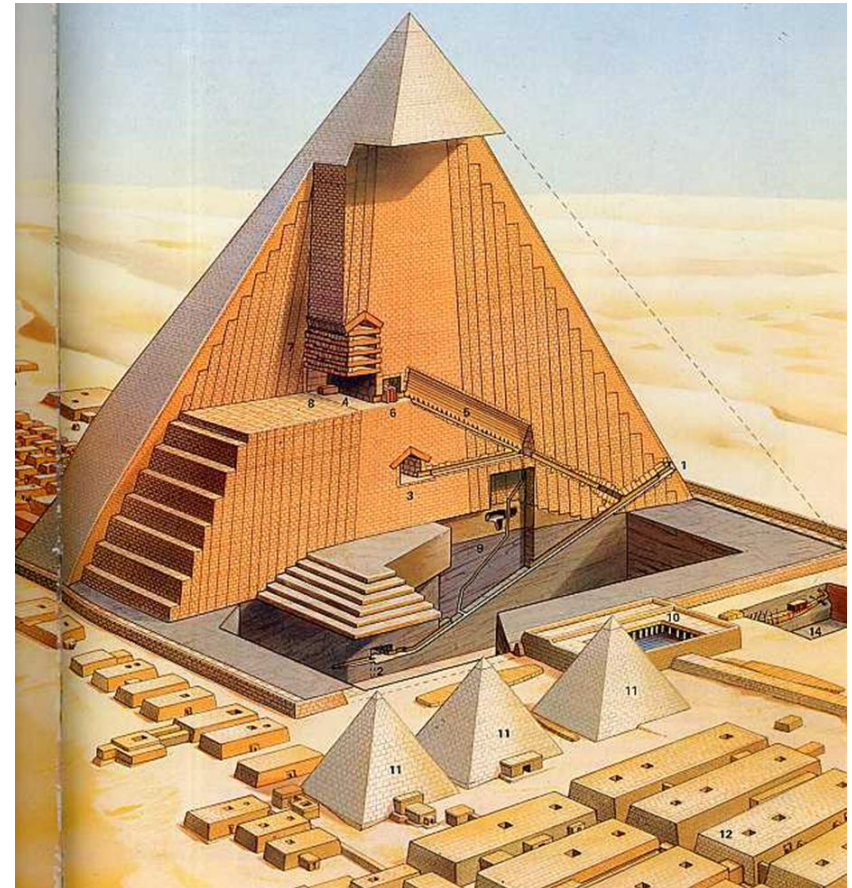
The four sides of the Pyramid were oriented to the exact four points of the Compass.

-The height of the Pyramid is **146m**.

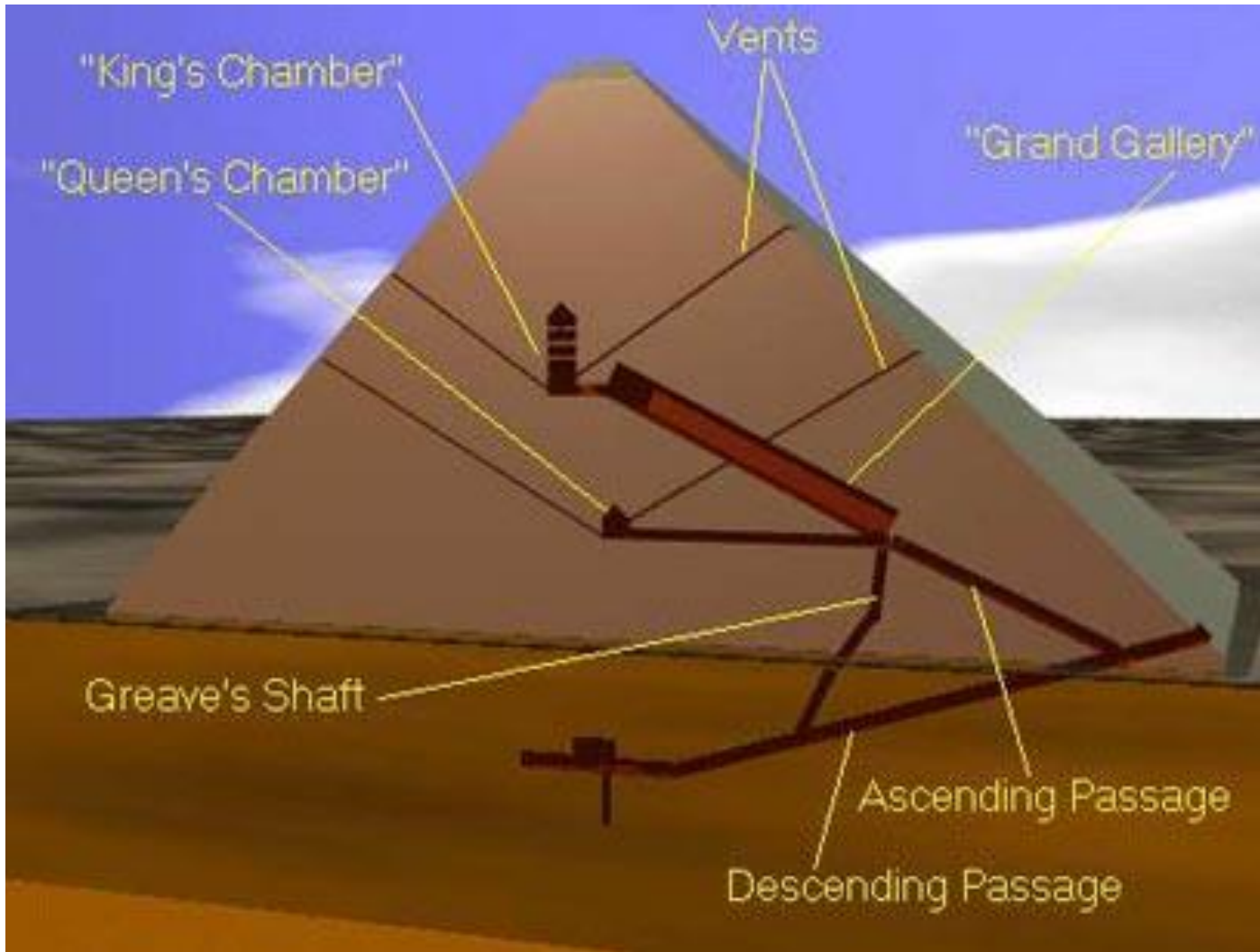
-The main entrance was located in the Northern facade with 20m height.

-The entrance is connected to the Funerary Chamber (under the ground) by Sloped pass-way linked to another horizontal path.

-But Cheops preferred to build another Funerary Chamber in the heart of the Pyramid, so the builders made a hole 18m away from the entrance, and started from there building another narrow corridor with 36m length, and 1m height, with the end of it there was another horizontal path that reached to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Funerary Chamber Queen's Chamber this one has a pitched roof



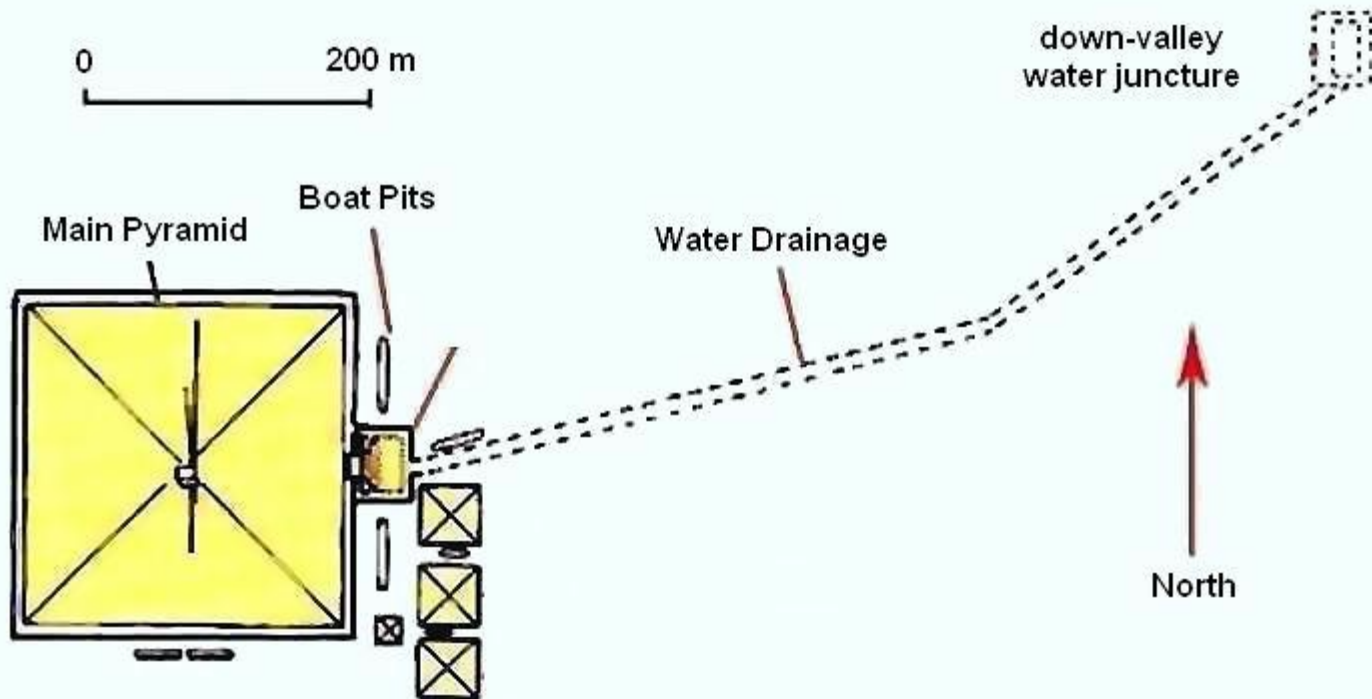
## Cheops Pyramid "The Great Pyramid of Giza"



**A cross-section of the Great Pyramid (Cheops Pyramid) showing the passageways**



# Cheops Pyramid "The Great Pyramid of Giza"



## Chephren Pyramid “The Second Pyramid of Giza” and the Sphinx

- After the Death of his father Cheops, King Chephren, had become the King, and built his Pyramid wich was 143.5m height. With a square base of 215.5m for each edge.



## The Sphinx

(Abu Al-hol) it was actually a high rock land but it was too small to build a pyramid above, but the builders of the second Pyramid used its big mass to form their great Abu Al-hol (Sphinx) with a body of lion and the head of King Chephren himself with 73.5m length and 20m height.



## Menkaure Pyramid “The Third Pyramid of Giza”

### Its Characters:

1. With a limestone Menkaure built his Pyramid, which was the smallest but chicest.
2. Its height was 66.5m, and its base edge length was 108.5m.
3. It was well-known for its Funerary chamber had a vaulted roof , and this was the first time of using vaults in such chambers.