**What makes a great Civilisation?**

A civilisation is characterised by many different features. Each and every feature is important and without any of them, the civilisation would fall. All these features contribute in helping a civilisation to prosper. Some examples of features include a stable government, geographic features, popular religious beliefs and even a variety of occupations. How great a civilisation is depends on how advanced each feature is.

A stable government is one of the most important factors for a civilisation to be great. In the pyramid-shaped social strata, the pharaohs and viziers were right at the top, having control over the law and order of the country. With the people believing that the pharaohs were sent by the gods, the pharaohs were able to control the people and make them carry out their orders and follow them faithfully. Thus, the orderliness in the civilisation made it able to prosper. Therefore, it can be seen that a stable government is a necessary part of a great civilisation.

Another important factor is good geographical features, such as availability of water. Most successful civilisations were built near water sources. For example, the Indus Valley Civilisation was situated near the Arabian Sea while the Shang Dynasty was situated near the Yellow River. The Egyptians had the 'gift of the Nile'. The River Nile enabled transport, food, exchange of ideas and trade. The abundant food obtained from the River Nile allowed the Egyptians to prosper as a great civilisation without being hindered by the scarcity of food. Thus, the geographic features of a civilisation is important for a civilisation to be great.

Another factor is a civilisation's popular religious beliefs. The Ancient Egyptian Civilisation had popular religious beliefs such as worshipping their gods. They worshipped gods like Amun-Re, the sun god and Anubis, the god of mummification and embalming. These common beliefs allowed them to come together and work as one. Thus, religious beliefs help civilisations such as the Ancient Egypt Civilisation to advance as a great civilisation.

Apart from the mentioned factors, another factor of a great civilisation is its great variety of occupations. An example is the Ancient Egyptian Civilisation. There were many occupations then such as the government (eg. pharaohs), farmers, construction workers, artists and slaves. This specialization of labour helped to increase crops for trade, for instance. This allowed them to prosper as a great civilisation without being hindered by scarcity of necessary items. Thus, a variety of occupations is necessary for a great civilisation.

In conclusion, a stable government, good geographic features, popular religious beliefs and variety of occupations, along with some others, helps a civilisation to advance as a great one.