

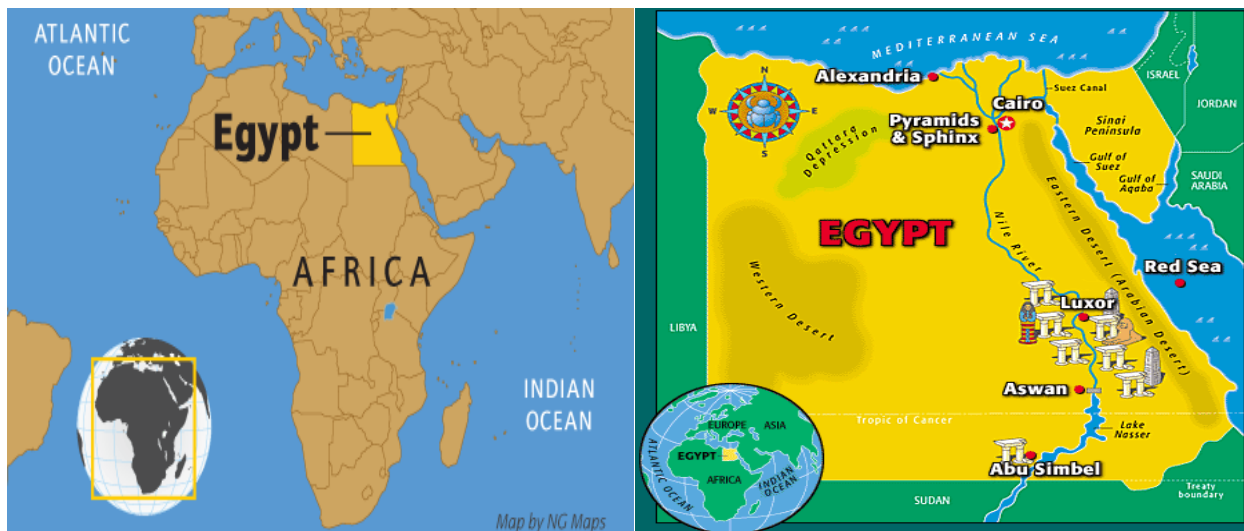
World Travelers: Exploring Egyptian Culture through Dance!

All around the globe people of different cultures dance for many reasons! Dancing is a fun and healthy way to celebrate community, life celebrations such as weddings and holidays, as well as for entertainment, ritual, and spiritual meditation! For today's activity, we will travel to Egypt, the country famous for ancient pyramids and Pharaohs, to see what some of their various folk dances look like.

Egyptian Dance:

Dancing has been a well-known and loved activity in Egypt since the time of the Ancient Egyptians, their tomb and temple engravings even highlight various dance performances. This remains true today, and different parts of the country each have their own special dances. Dances most often occur at family celebrations such as weddings and community celebrations outside in the streets. We will explore some current dances being performed in the biggest cities today.

Let's take a look! Click the Video Links to watch different dances from Egypt's major cities!



Cairo “Tanoura” – A dance that went from spiritual Sufi ritual to popular entertainment famous for colorful spinning skirt-costumes! <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Ls2ZwEkQWo>

Luxor: “Ghawazee” – An entertainment dance passed down through a family blood line for centuries, now only one performing family member remains! Famous for finger cymbals and stomping! <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2w7r5smEGb8>

Aswan: “Nubian” – A dance by the local performing city troupe for entertainment/festivals http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JJf5v_P8oD0