

Egypt



- **Name:** Arab Republic of Egypt
- **Government:** Republic, communist state
- **Population:** 104 million people
- **Language:** Arabic
- **National symbols:** golden eagle, white lotus, red, white and black
- **National Anthem:** "*Bilady, Bilady, Bilady (My Homeland)*"



The cartouche was written on tombs and coffins to mark which pharaoh was buried inside, to help their souls, the Ba and Ka, find their way back to the body and to move on to the next life. The Ba and Ka are two parts of a person's soul. When a person dies, the Ba goes to a place to have fun and enjoy life and the Ka goes to take care of the person's family and friends and to make sure they are safe and happy. At the end of each night, the Ba and Ka come together to meet the mummy and the mummy has a nice peaceful rest.

A cartouche could also be worn as an amulet, to protect the pharaohs from evil spirits and bring good luck. The hieroglyphs on a cartouche can be written from right-to-left, left-to-right, or top-to-bottom. The general practice was to read from right-to-left.

