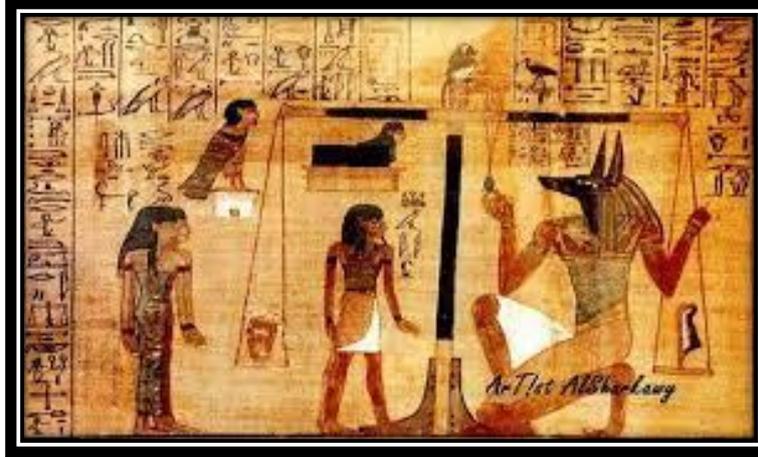


The techniques and materials used in photography used by the ancient Egyptians

Prof .Dr. Essam Mohamed Mahfouz Hussein

emm01@fayoum.edu.eg

linkedin.com/in/essam-mahfouz-89ba371b



“The most important materials that the ancient Egyptians used, or they may have used in pasting, were gypsum, resin, egg white, beeswax, gum, clay, and glue.” First: Adhesives: Gypsum: "The first case in which gypsum was used as an adhesive to repair a pottery vessel from the pre-dynastic era. Among the objects found in the tomb of Tutankhamun was a pottery jar whose cover was fixed with gypsum." “It was one of the most important uses of gypsum in ancient Egypt as an adhesive substance in mortar, and then another use of it as an adhesive substance, and that was in the white structure.” "It must be calcined by burning the gypsum first, whatever the purpose of its use, as it does not acquire the adhesive property except after calcination and the subsequent extinguishing with water." “Resin” “Resin is another important adhesive substance, which was used in ancient Egypt, and its use dates back to the Neolithic era when it was used to fix teeth diluted.” As for the other purposes for which beeswax was used, they were mummification, shipbuilding, making magical statues, casting bronze, and using wax at a very late date to give it the surface of writing boards. Sudan, but since acacia was also growing in Egypt, where it was more abundant in the past than it is at present. As for the “myrrh” gum that was mentioned in the ancient Egyptian texts, it was not a gum in the usual sense, rather it was a fragrant resinous gum used as incense. Perhaps it was the gum of the Lord’s country (Somalia), the gum

of the country of Bent, and the gum of the country of Jitbio from the resinous gums. Herodotus believes that the glue was used to bind the linen rolls together, in which the mummies were damaged after embalming. He mentioned on this occasion that the Egyptians used it mostly instead of glue. Glue: “Glue is one of the oldest and most famous adhesives, and one of the most reliable, especially with regard to wood. Glue is made from some animal materials that contain gelatin, such as bones, skins, cartilage and muscle tendons, by extracting boiling water and concentrating the liquid by evaporation and then pouring it into molds. It turns into a solid mass by cooling. Glue was used in ancient Egypt for several different purposes, namely: - Bonding wood together, and fixing fillings of ebony and ivory in their places - Making mortar and putty by mixing glue with limestone powder. The coarse woven linen cloth is fixed with wood and plaster, and gold foil is also fixed with plaster. As a coating material to cover stone and plaster surfaces before photographing them. - As a color-fixing material, “glue is present on many things found in Tutankhamun’s tomb, where it was used to tie the wood together and to fix the outer shell and inlay pieces of ebony and ivory in their places, as was proven in Tutankhamun’s sarcophagus.