The relationship between Greeks and Egyptians started probably from the archaic period. There are many archaeological evidences that indicate clearly this relation during the Old Kingdom (2700-2200 B.C): the cartouche of Pepi II has been found in Greece as well as some Egyptian statutes. During the Middle Kingdom (2160-1785), the trade dominated the relationship: Egypt imported the vases of pottery of Crete and the exported corn to them.

Before the New Kingdom Egypt was known for the Hellenic writers and poets such as Homer; he mention it in his Odyssey IV, 81-85, 219-232, 351-479, 581-582; XIV, 244-246; Iliad, IX, 381-384. The scenes of the New Kingdom prove the continuity of such kind of relationship.

During the 23rd (818-715) dynasty, the Greeks started to appear in Egypt as mercenaries; then they were became a major part during the reign of the kings of 26th dynasty (627-525 B.C) as King Pasmatic I (664-610 B.C) has hired many Ionian mercenaries and installed them in Delta.