

The Great Pharaohs

Akhenaten 1353 BCE

Akhenaten created a new capital city.

Akhenaten's 'principal wife' was Nefertiti and they had six daughters. There were also other wives, including Kiya who may have been the mother of Tutankhamen.

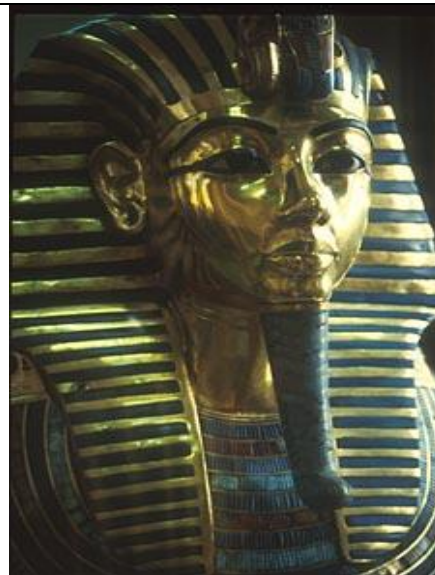
Akhenaten was known for his very artistic style and although he began with temple construction and decoration projects reflecting that of his ancestors, within a year or two he was building temples in a very different style.



Tutankhamen 1336 - 1327 BCE

Probably the most famous of all the Pharaohs. His tomb was discovered by the *British archaeologist Howard Carter* in 1922, and is the largest recovery of Egyptian treasure to date. The tombs discovery included; his sarcophagus, golden funerary mask and some 5,000 other treasures.

There is still a lot of mystery surrounding the young Pharaoh's death. Was it illness or was he murdered... ?



Ramesses II 1279 – 1213 BCE

Ramesses II or 'Ramesses the Great' as he is also known, followed in the footsteps of his father Sethos I around 1279 BCE.

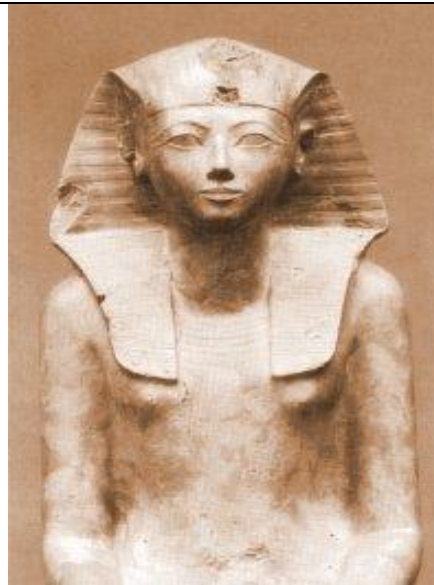
He ruled for 67 years and waged a series of wars on the Syrians that made Egypt safe for years to come.

With 200 wives and concubines Ramesses had well over 100 children, and outlived 13 heirs.



Hatshepsut 1479 – 1457 BCE

When Thutmose II died in 1479 BCE, his wife Hatshepsut took over as ruler because her son was only a baby. This was not the first time a queen had governed on behalf of a child. However, Hatshepsut took the step of calling herself Pharaoh and Lord of two Lands. She took the double crown and the crook and the flail – the symbols of a pharaoh. Throughout her reign she developed trade to other lands, and the skills of craftsmen and artists flourished.



Zoser 2686 - 2613 BCE

King Zoser lived in the Third Dynasty which lasted from 2686 BCE to 2613 BCE. This was the beginning of the Old Kingdom. He was born in 2667 BCE and died in 2648 BCE.

Zoser's Step Pyramid of Saqqara is thought to be the first pyramid ever built in Egypt and the oldest stone building still standing in Egypt. Before this most tombs were made of sun-dried mud bricks.



Cleopatra VII 51 - 30 BCE

She met Mark Antony (a popular love story through out the ages) in 36 BCE. In 31 BCE Octavius's army defeated Mark Anthony at the battle of Actium. Cleopatra and Mark Anthony fled, According to legend she died of a bite by an asp (snake) to avoid being captured by Octavius.



Khafra 2558 - 2532 BCE

Khafra built his own tomb - close to that of his father, Khufu's. The pyramid complex is also the most complete example of such a complex to have survived. From the king's huge temple at the base of his pyramid, a long causeway runs down to his valley temple. The granite-lined temple was once adorned with 23 superb statues of the king and Horus the falcon god.



Amenhotep I 1525 - 1504 BCE

He inherited the kingdom formed by the military battles of his father.

He continued to rebuild temples in Upper Egypt.



Thutmose III 1479- 1425 BCE

Tuthmose III conducted 17 successful campaigns which served him a position as the most successful Pharaoh ever — in military terms. He extended Egyptian territory and power considerably. The new lands were put under control of kings and chiefs, who paid high taxes to Egypt.



Ramesses III 1184 - 1153 BCE

He defended Egypt against invasions by Libyans and The Sea Peoples.

He is thought of as the last of the Great Pharaohs, it was all downhill for Egypt after him!

