

THE WAR OF THE NUBIAN EMPIRE AND ROME

BACKGROUND

The Nubian Empire had been established in eastern African since 4800 BC and were well known in the region as being one of the most effective military powers. By 760 BC The Nubian Empire had conquered Egypt and controlled the entire area of Upper and Lower Egypt and Upper and Lower Nubia. By 40 BC a new power from Europe named The Roman Empire invaded Egypt taking control from Queen Cleopatra and attempted to impose taxes on the Nubian Empire. The Queen of Nubia at this time was Amanirenas who ruled until 10 BC and her son was Prince Akinidad.



THE WAR

In 24 BC Prince Akinidad led an army of 30,000 Nubian soldiers and reinforcements from Central Africa against the Romans and defeated their forces which were located at the Egyptian cities of Aswan and Philae. Queen Amanirenas and her son Prince Akinidad returned to Nubia with Roman slaves and treasure from the conquest of Rome. After this event a peace treaty was agreed between the Nubian Empire and the Roman Empire and the previously imposed taxes were rescinded. Queen Amanirenas was succeeded by Queen Amanishakheto who ruled from 10 BC to 1 AD. Augustus Caesar led the Roman Empire and again began to encroach upon Nubian territory breaking a previous peace treaty between the two empires and in around 9 BC the Romans eventually attacked Nubia due to the Romans desire to take the area called Wadi Allaqi which was rich in gold reserves. Under the leadership of Queen Amanishakheto the Nubians attacked the Romans in Aswan and then led her army to Thebes and defeated the Roman Army. Once they defeated the Romans the Nubians destroyed the statues of Caesar. The Nubians buried a statue under the floor of a temple at Meroe in Nubia. In the belief system of the Nubians they believed that by stepping over a representation of their enemy Rome the power of their enemy would be further weakened and destroyed.