



# GREAT QUEENS

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## OF AFRICA

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### THE NUBIAN EMPIRE

## QUEEN AMANIRENAS

REIGN START: 40 B.C.

Queen Amanirenas was one of the greatest queens of the Nubian Empire (also known as the Kush Empire) and is famed for leading the Nubian Army against the Romans from 27 BC to 22 BC. Queen Amanirenas led an army of 30,000 Nubian soldiers and defeated the Romans who were stationed within the Egyptian cities of Aswan and Philae. The defeat of the Romans led to a peace treaty being created between Rome and Nubia. Queen Amanirenas’s husband was King Teriteqas and their son was the Prince Akinidad.

### THE ETHIOPIAN EMPIRE

## QUEEN MAKEDA

REIGN START: 950 B.C.

Queen Makeda (also known as the Queen of Sheba) was an Ethiopian Queen. Queen Makeda is mentioned in the Ethiopian text known as the ‘Kebra Nagast’. Queen Makeda also had a romantic relationship with Jewish Prophet King Solomon. In the Christian holy book ‘The Bible’ it states: *“AND SHE (QUEEN OF SHEBA) GAVE THE KING 120 TALENTS OF GOLD, LARGE QUANTITIES OF SPICES, AND PRECIOUS STONES. NEVER AGAIN WERE SO MANY SPICES BROUGHT IN AS THOSE THE QUEEN OF SHEBA GAVE TO KING SOLOMON”*. Queen Makeda was also the mother of Emperor Menelik I, one of the early rulers of Ethiopia.





## THE EGYPTIAN EMPIRE QUEEN NEFERTITI

REIGN START: 1351 B.C.

Queen Nefertiti, whose name means ‘a beautiful woman has come’, was the queen of Egypt and Great Royal Wife (chief consort) of Pharaoh Akhenaten of the 18th Dynasty of Egypt. In conjunction with her husband Pharaoh Akhenaten introduced the monotheistic religion of Atenism into which was the belief in one God called Aten.

## THE BERBER KINGDOMS QUEEN DIHYA

REIGN START: 695 A.D.

Queen Dihya (also known as Queen Al-Kahina) was an African Berber warrior queen who ruled the north African region of Numidia in modern-day Algeria. The name Al-Kahina which means ‘sorceress’ was given to her because of her ability to predict events. Queen Dihya was the leader of an African Jewish tribe who consolidated power amongst the various Berber tribes and defeated the Arab army from the Umayyad Caliphate who were attempting to invade northern Africa.

