

# Famous Pharaohs

**Menes (also known as Narmar).** He is thought to be the first Pharaoh to unite the north and south of Egypt into one kingdom around 3100 BC. Menes is shrouded in **mystery** with next to nothing known about him.



Snefru is famous for being a **builder** of many **pyramids**.

He is believed to be the first king of the 4<sup>th</sup> Dynasty (2613 to 2589 BC).



Khufu is also known as **Cheops**. Not much is known about him. He was

the 2<sup>nd</sup> king of the 4<sup>th</sup> Dynasty (2551 – 2528 BC). He is famous for building the Great Pyramid of **Giza**.

Ahmose I is famous for overturning the **Hyksos** (foreign kings who had rule Egypt for many years) and beginning the 18<sup>th</sup> Dynasty. He was the first king of the New Kingdom Period; the 'Golden Age' of ancient Egypt.

Amenhotep III is New Kingdom pharaoh of the 18<sup>th</sup> Dynasty famous for building many **temples** and monuments and expanding the glory of Egypt. He took the throne at 12 and is believed to have had 317 **wives**. He lived in a time of peace and prosperity that allowed him to build lots of **monuments**.



Akhenaten

This pharaoh is famous for

changing the capital and religion in Egypt and also for being weird looking (which leads to speculation that he may have had a medical condition). Akenaten was originally known as Amenhotep IV but changed his name to Akenaten to reflect the change of religion. He tried to introduce 'one god' worship of the sun disc (The Aten) and created a new capital and burial ground at Akhetaten. Many Egyptians resented the changes he tried to force on them and the old religion, burial practices and capital were quickly restored after his death. His wife Nefertiti is also famous.



Tutankhamun (1332- 1323 BC) is perhaps the most famous pharaoh today because of the amazing treasures found in his intact tomb. These **treasures** include a solid gold death mask, **chariots** and many items of gold, silver, turquoise and lapis lazuli. Many myths surround 'Tut' including a belief that he a curse was placed on those who desecrated his tomb. This 18<sup>th</sup> Dynasty pharaoh took the throne when only 9 and **died** when only about **18**. He



restored the old religion after the changes made by Akenaten.





Hatshepsut was an 18<sup>th</sup> century pharaoh of the 'golden' New Kingdom era. She is famous for



being one of only a few **female** pharaohs. She is also famous for portraying herself as a male in statues with the red skin designated to males instead of the female yellow. She **built** many famous monuments including her mortuary

temple at Deir el Bahri and the tallest obelisks  
in Egypt.





**Rameses** II (Rameses the Great). This ruler of the 19<sup>th</sup> Dynasty is famous for his long reign, being a great builder, warrior and religious man. He built the size, assets and power of the Egyptian empire. He is also said to have fathered 100 **children**!



Cleopatra VII came from a long line of pharaohs from the Ptolemaic Dynasty of ancient Egypt (descendants of Alexander the **Great** who conquered ancient Egypt around 330 BC). She

spent years competing with and outsmarting her brothers and sisters for the throne. She is famous as a rare female pharaoh and also being the last pharaoh of ancient Egypt. She is known for her charm and beauty and for committing **suicide** using a snake when captured by Rome for conspiring with Marc Antony. Egypt was then conquered by **Rome** and became part of the Roman empire and became part of the Roman empire.