ANCIENT EGYPT and NUBIA
Ancient Nubia

• Kush, the Egyptian name for ancient Nubia, was the site of a highly advanced, ancient black African civilization that rivaled ancient Egypt in wealth, power and cultural development.
Kerma

- The first capital of Kush lay at Kerma just south of the Third Cataract of the Nile.
- Here dwelt powerful and wealthy black kings who controlled the trade routes connecting central Africa with ancient Egypt.
Egypt Conquers Kush

- The Egyptians, who had few natural resources of their own, sought the precious, exotic products of central Africa to satisfy the demands of their luxury-loving populace.
- By about 1500 B.C., the Egyptians, feeling threatened by the Nubian kings, invaded Kush and conquered it.
Gold from Nubia

- Model coffin of Tutankhamun, probably made from Nubian gold. Found in his tomb at Thebes. Egypt, Dynasty 18, ca. 1348-1338 BCE.

- For the next four centuries, the Egyptians exploited Kush as a colony.

- Egypt's wealth in gold came from the desert mines of Kush. The Egyptian word for gold is *nub*, which is thought by some to be the origin of the name Nubia.
Around 730 B.C., Kush's warrior hordes turned the tables on a weakened Egypt and conquered it.

This event established the black Pharaohs from Kush.
Piankhi

- Piankhi, (d. 721 BC) was a Kushite king and founder of the Twenty-fifth dynasty of Egypt.
- He ruled Egypt from the city of Napata, located deep in Nubia.
• Taharqa, a son and third successor of King Piankhi, was the greatest of the Nubian pharaohs.
• He ordered many construction projects, and built or renewed many fine temples in Egypt. The early years of his reign were very prosperous.
# 25th Dynasty of Egypt

## Twenty-Fifth Dynasty

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alara</td>
<td>780-760</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kashta</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Piankhi</td>
<td>c. 752 BC – 721 BC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shabaka</td>
<td>721 BC – 707 BC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shebitku</td>
<td>707 BC – 690 BC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Taharqa</td>
<td>690 – 664 BC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tantamani</td>
<td>664 – 656 BC (died 653 BC)</td>
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- Black Pharoahs ruled an Egyptian-Nubian empire that extended from the Mediterranean to the confluence of the Blue and White Niles for sixty years.
- Historians would count their reign as Egypt's 25th Dynasty.
Christian Nubia

- Converted to Christianity in the 6th century A.D., Nubia united with Ethiopia but fell to the Muslims in the 14th century.
Nubia

- Muhammad Ahmad "El Mahdi“ of Sudan

- Nubia was converted to Christianity in the 6th cent. A.D.
- Joined with the Christian kingdom of Ethiopia, it long resisted Muslim encroachment, but in the 14th cent. it finally collapsed.
Ancient Egypt
Prehistoric & Predynastic Periods | Early Dynastic Period | Old Kingdom | The Middle Kingdom | New Kingdom | Third Intermediate Period | Late Period | Graeco-Roman Period | Byzantine Period
Ancient Egypt

- Ancient Egypt was a civilization in eastern North Africa concentrated along the middle to lower reaches of the Nile River that reached its greatest extent in the second millennium BC during the New Kingdom.
Old Kingdom (2700 B.C.–2184 B.C.)

• The Old Kingdom (Dynasties 3 to 6) was a period of great prosperity and innovation whose most memorable feature was surely the pyramid.

• Pyramids of Giza
New Kingdom (1570 B.C.–1070 B.C.)

- Temple of Ramses II

- Dynasty 18 through Dynasty 20, known as the New Kingdom, witnessed a time of international prestige and prosperity for Egypt.

- The kings of this period conducted extensive military, diplomatic and trade relations with Nubians as far south as the Fourth Cataract in Nubia.
Graeco-Roman Period (332 B.C.–A.D. 395)

- Alexander the Great conquered Egypt in 332 B.C., thus ending unwanted Persian rule. The Egyptians willfully accepted him as pharaoh because he adopted the Egyptian kingship and religion.
Byzantine Period (A.D. 395-A.D. 641)

- Remains of Coptic Church

- During the fourth and the fifth centuries A.D., Egyptians converted to Christianity.