

Chapter 5  
Lesson 3  
**Egypt's Empire**

**A Golden Age**

- moved capital to city called Thebes
- Middle Ages 2055 B.C. to 1650 B.C.

**Conquests**

- improvements made to land for farming
  - more irrigation dams
  - canal between Nile River and Red Sea to ports of Arabia

**The Arts Flourish**

- arts, architecture thrived in Middle Kingdom
- statues of pharaohs were more human than god like
- Pharaohs now buried in limestone cliffs, not pyramids
  - known as the Valley of the Kings

**The Hyksos**

- when weak, Hyksos swept across Egypt
  - they rode horse drawn chariots
  - fought with sturdy weapons of bronze and iron
- 100 years later Egyptians learned how to steer horse drawn carriages and use their weapons.

**Building an Empire**

- New Kingdom about 1550 B.C. to 1070 B.C.

**A Woman Pharaoh**

- Hatshepsut was one of the few women who ruled Egypt
  - made herself pharaoh on behalf of her young nephew

**Growth of Trade**

- Hatshepsut was interested in promoting trade than starting wars

**Trade and Politics**

- Egyptians traded with Phoenicians for wood
- Hatshepsut used some of this wealth to build monuments
- envoys-representatives
- first time that groups of nations tried working together

**Expanding the Empire**

- Hatshepsut died and nephew, Thutmose III, became pharaoh
  - conquered more areas
  - slavery became more common

**Two Unusual Pharaohs**

- remarkable pharaohs
  - Amenhotep IV
  - Tutankhamen

### **A Religious Founder**

- Amenhotep IV tried to change Egypt's religion to monotheistic
- worship of Aton, the sun god

### **Who Was "King Tut?"**

- Amenhotep IV died and 10 year old son Tutankhamen became pharaoh
- restored the worship of many deities
- killed after 9 years

### **Recovery and Decline**

- 1200 B.C. the pharaohs worked to restore greatness

### **Ramses II**

- Ramses II ruled from 1279 B.C. to 1213 B.C.

### **Age of Temples**

- Ramses II had many temples built
- Temples were important to Egypt's economy

### **Why Did Egypt Decline?**

- 670 B.C. Egypt was taken over by Assyrians