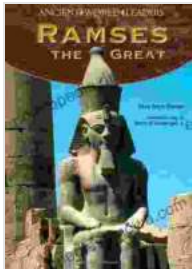


# Ramses the Great: An Ancient World Leader Who Left an Indelible Mark



## Ramses the Great (Ancient World Leaders)

by Silvia Anne Sheafer

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English

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Among the annals of ancient history, the name Ramses the Great stands tall as a beacon of power, ambition, and architectural prowess. This pharaoh of the 19th dynasty ruled Egypt for an astounding 66 years, leaving behind an enduring legacy that continues to captivate the world today.

### **Early Life and Rise to Power**

Ramses II, known as Ramses the Great, was born around 1303 BCE to Seti I and Tuya. From a young age, he displayed exceptional military skills and was appointed regent at the age of 14, assisting his father in military campaigns.

Upon Seti I's death in 1279 BCE, Ramses inherited the throne at the age of 25. He quickly embarked on a series of military expeditions, expanding Egypt's borders and securing its frontiers.

## **Military Conquests**

Ramses the Great is renowned for his military prowess. He led numerous successful campaigns, including the famous Battle of Kadesh against the Hittites in 1274 BCE. Despite not achieving a decisive victory, Ramses' strategic maneuverings and valor on the battlefield earned him widespread recognition.

Other notable military achievements of Ramses II include:

- Conquering Nubia and reaching the fourth cataract of the Nile
- Suppressing rebellions in Canaan and Syria
- Establishing Egypt's influence in Libya

## **Architectural Marvels**

Beyond his military exploits, Ramses the Great is celebrated for his ambitious building projects. He commissioned the construction of magnificent temples, colossal statues, and monumental tombs that showcased his grandeur and the power of ancient Egypt.

Some of the most famous architectural achievements of Ramses II include:

- **Abu Simbel Temples:** Two magnificent rock-cut temples dedicated to Ramses and his queen, Nefertari, located in southern Egypt

- **Karnak Temple:** The largest and most elaborate religious complex in ancient Egypt, boasting colossal statues and towering obelisks
- **Ramesseum:** A vast mortuary temple at Thebes, featuring a courtyard adorned with colossal statues of Ramses
- **Valley of the Kings:** The burial site of Ramses and other pharaohs, containing elaborate tombs and royal treasures

## **Religious Significance and Beliefs**

Ramses the Great was a devout follower of the ancient Egyptian religion. He believed in a pantheon of gods and goddesses and commissioned the construction of numerous temples to honor them.

Ramses II had a particularly close relationship with the god Amun-Ra, whom he considered his divine protector. He erected colossal statues of Amun-Ra and expanded the temple complex at Karnak in his honor.

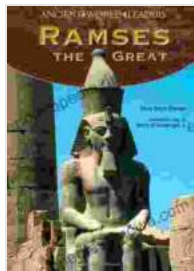
## **Legacy and Impact**

Ramses the Great's reign was a golden age for ancient Egypt. He ruled over a vast and prosperous empire, secured its borders through military conquests, and left behind an awe-inspiring architectural legacy.

Even after his death in 1213 BCE, Ramses II's legacy continued to inspire and awe future generations. His colossal statues and monumental temples remain enduring symbols of his greatness and the grandeur of ancient Egypt.

The impact of Ramses the Great's rule can still be felt today. His architectural marvels continue to attract tourists from around the world,

providing a glimpse into the splendor of ancient Egypt. His reign remains a testament to the power, ambition, and enduring legacy of one of the greatest pharaohs in history.



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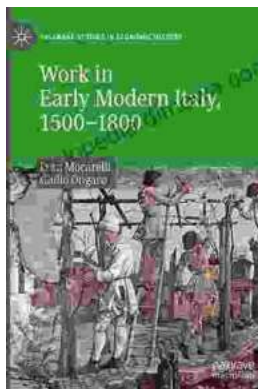
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