



1. Napatan Period (ca. 900-ca. 295 b.c.)

Religion



The Nubian's, like the Egyptians, worshiped a number of gods. The central god of the Nubian pantheon was the Egyptian god Amon; many of the Napatan and Meroitic kings bore names compounded with his name, such as "Amani-n ataki-lebte" and "Amani-bakhi". Amon originally was a god worshiped locally at Thebes in Egypt; he was known as "The Hidden One," and was believed to supply the breath of life. The New Kingdom pharaoh Ramesses II strengthened the worship of Amon, already established in Nubia, when he built the large temple to Amon at Jebel Barkal. Nubian religious beliefs during the Kushite monarchy will be more completely discussed in the Meroitic Period.