Amunirdis I Encyclopedia Article

Amunirdis I

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Contents

Amunirdis I Encyclopedia Article.....1

Contents.....2

Amunirdis I.....3

Amunirdis I

fl. 710 B.C.

Kushite princess who participated in the establishment of Egypt's Twenty-Fifth (Nubian) Dynasty (712-672 B.C.) Most likely the first notable woman of sub-Saharan African descent, Amunirdis was sister to Piankhi (769-716 B.C.), who first invaded Egypt in the 720s B.C., and Shabaka (r. 716-695 B.C.), who established the dynasty four years after Piankhi's death. Amunirdis later held an important position as "god's wife of Amon" in the temple at Thebes.