Cleopatra

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Full name & life dates: Cleopatra VII Thea Philopator (69 BC - 30 BC)

Family: Last active ruler of Ptolemaic Egypt; descendant of Macedonian Greeks.

Education: Highly educated, fluent in several languages including Egyptian.

Key Contributions: Political alliances with Julius Caesar and Mark Antony.

Reign: Co-ruled with brothers; later ruled with her son Caesarion.

Death: Committed suicide after defeat by Octavian in 30 BC.

Legacy: Often mythologized; modern historians recognize her as a capable ruler and diplomat.