

over which they ruled, and the last Hyksos dynasty adopted the language, the architecture, and most of the customs of the Egyptians. Their God was *Set*, or *Sutekh*, an Asiatic divinity, the worship of which was preserved in the Delta even by the native kings of the XIXth dynasty long after the Hyksos had been driven out.

It is not possible to give a definite answer to the question where the Hyksos came from ; they have been called Phœnicians or Arabs. It is certain that they came from the east, but that they were not Semites, or at least their kings were not. The monuments which they have left, and which have been discovered at Tanis first, and quite recently at Bubastis, have a type of face which is certainly not Egyptian, but which is not Semitical, and which must be considered as belonging to Asia with a certain likeness to the Mongoloid type. It is highly probable that the invasion of the Hyksos in Egypt must be connected with the conquest of Lower Mesopotamia by the Elamites. Either the Elamites went as far as the valley of the Nile, or they drove before them a mixed crowd consisting of Turanian and Semitical elements which made the conquest of Egypt ; for it is evident that if the Hyksos princes were not Semites themselves, they were accompanied in Egypt by nations of that race which already under the preceding pharaonic dynasties came in great numbers to settle in the country. The fact that the Hyksos came from Mesopotamia may have contributed to dispose their kings favourably towards Hebrews like Abraham or Jacob, also Mesopotamians, who came to take shelter in their kingdom.

The Christian chronographer, Syncellus, says that all historians unanimously agree in stating that it was under King Apophis that Joseph reached the high dignity which is described in Genesis. We know two Hyksos kings of that name ; the most famous is the second, very likely the last, or one of the last, foreign rulers. He began against the Theban princes a war, the result of which was to deliver Egypt from the foreign yoke. At the time of Apophis, the Hyksos were no more the barbarians who had waged destruction over the