

# Bellwork 1/8



What are the important parts of a civilization?

How do we know about the civilizations that lived before us?  
(4-5 sentences total)

# What is Civilization?

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✦ A large group of people with a defined and well organized culture who share certain things in common:

- ◆ **Political**- common established government
- ◆ **Social**- common cultural elements like language, dress, religion, or education
- ◆ **Economic**- similar ways of earning a living
- ◆ **Geographic**- from the same or similar areas

# G.R.A.P.E.S

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- The “big ideas” of all civilizations
  - Important aspects of what makes a civilization
  - This will be used ALL semester!

# G- Geography

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- Location/region
  - Landforms(ex. mountains, rivers, deserts, forests)
  - Climate(weather)
  - Crops(ex. corn, wheat, rice, tobacco)
  - Natural Resources(ex. diamonds, metals, oil)

# R- Religion

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- Beliefs about morals and the afterlife
  - Who/what did they worship?
  - Rituals?
  - Holidays?
  - Holy books?
  - Rules?

# A- Achievements

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- What did they accomplish during their time?
  - Important discoveries they made
  - (ex. Telescope, pyramids, mathematics)
  - How did they improve technology?
  - What did they do that still affects us today?

# P- Politics

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- What type of government did they have?
  - How did people come into power, and how did they use it?
  - How do they lose power?
  - What laws did they have?

# E- Economics

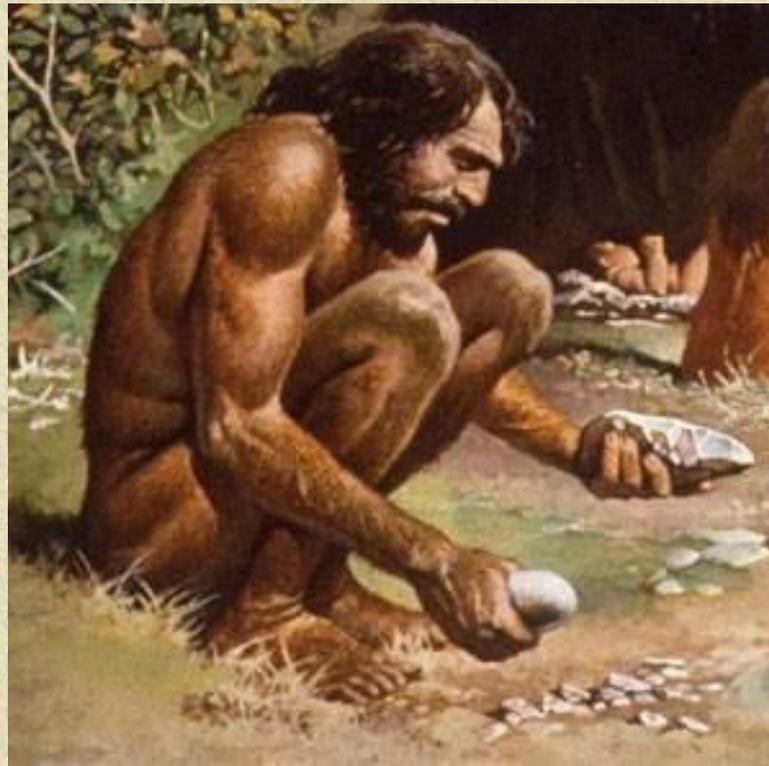
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- Did they trade or sell things?
  - Did they use money? What kind?
  - What trade routes?
  - Did they have taxes?
  - How did they use taxes?
  - Did their economy help their civilization?

# S- Social Structures

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- Who are the “most important” in society? Why were they important? What did they do?
  - Who was at the bottom? Why?
  - What privileges did each class have?
  - What did they do for fun?
  - What type of music and art did they have?

# Before Civilization

By studying the physical remains of the past, scientists are piecing together the story of the first humans. The science of studying the physical remains of the past is called **Archaeology**



# Before Civilization

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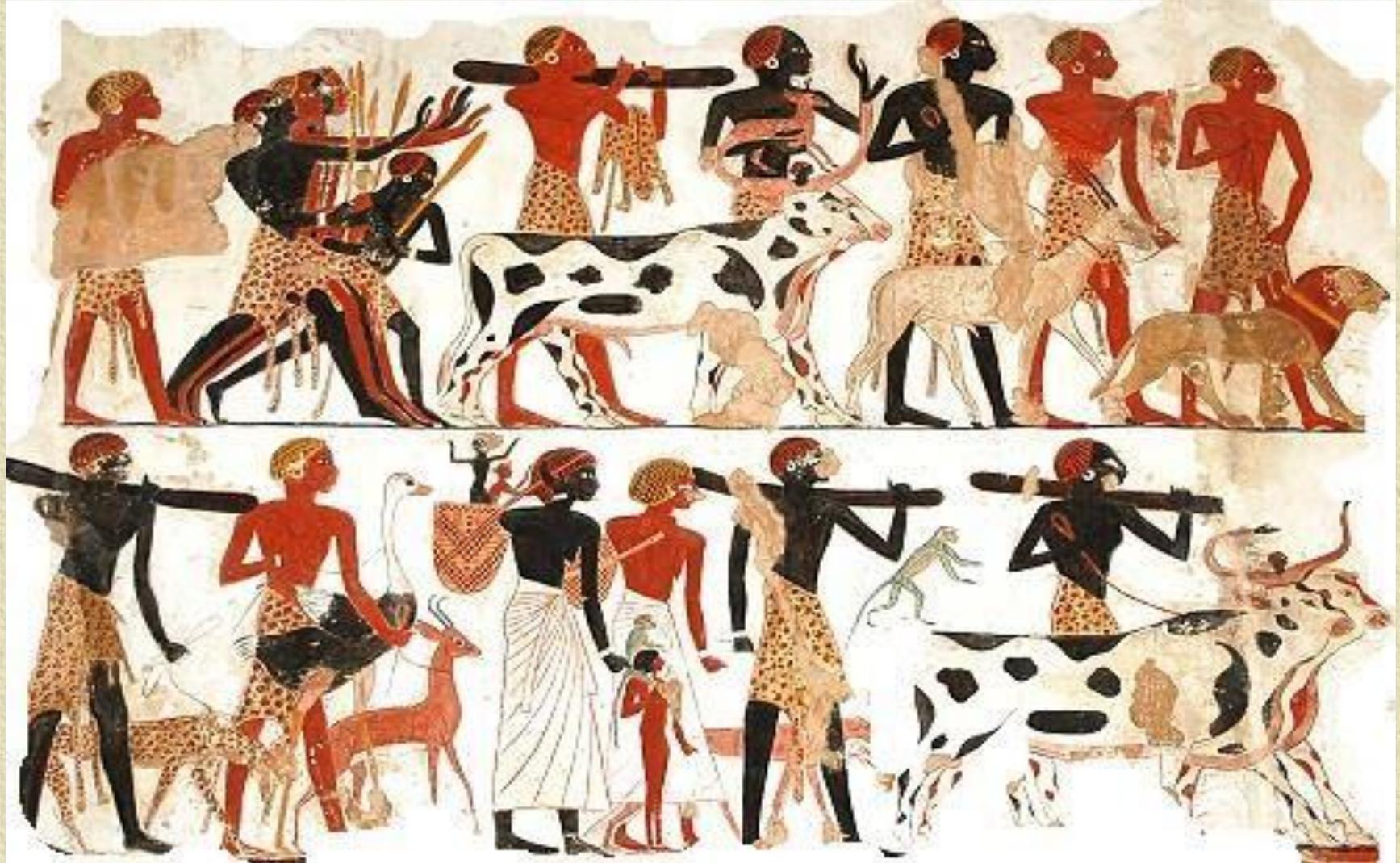
Early humans were **Hunter Gatherers**, meaning they lived off of the plants and animals already around them.

They were also **Nomadic**, meaning they had no set home. They moved to where the food was most plentiful.



Predict what you think happened to  
change human culture from  
nomadic lifestyles of hunting and  
gathering into the great civilizations  
of today.

# Nomads to Farmers



# The Agricultural Revolution

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This change, from nomadic ways to an agricultural lifestyle, is known as an **Agricultural Revolution**.

Also referred to as the **Neolithic Revolution**.

What is a Revolution?



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What are some positive and negative aspects of starting to live in permanent settlements?

# The Neolithic Revolution allowed people to stay in one place for generations

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- They built permanent homes
- They began specializing in different tasks such as weaving, farming, or governing
- They also began **irrigating**, or moving water from one place to another so their settlement could continue to grow

# River Valley's

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Water was essential for these new settlements to grow.  
This is the main reason why most of the early civilization  
grew up next to rivers



# Ancient River Valley Civilizations



**There are 4 River Valleys we will be talking about**

# ANCIENT MESOPOTAMIA

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- ✦ Oldest known civilization in the world
- ✦ Between the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers
- ✦ Name Literally means “**land between 2 rivers**”



# ANCIENT MESOPOTAMIA

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- ✦ Setting for much of the Old Testament of the bible
- ✦ Known as the Cradle of Human Civilization



# ANCIENT MESOPOTAMIA

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✦ Mesopotamia is famous for their **Ziggarauts**, which are huge stone block towers, probably made as temples to the Gods

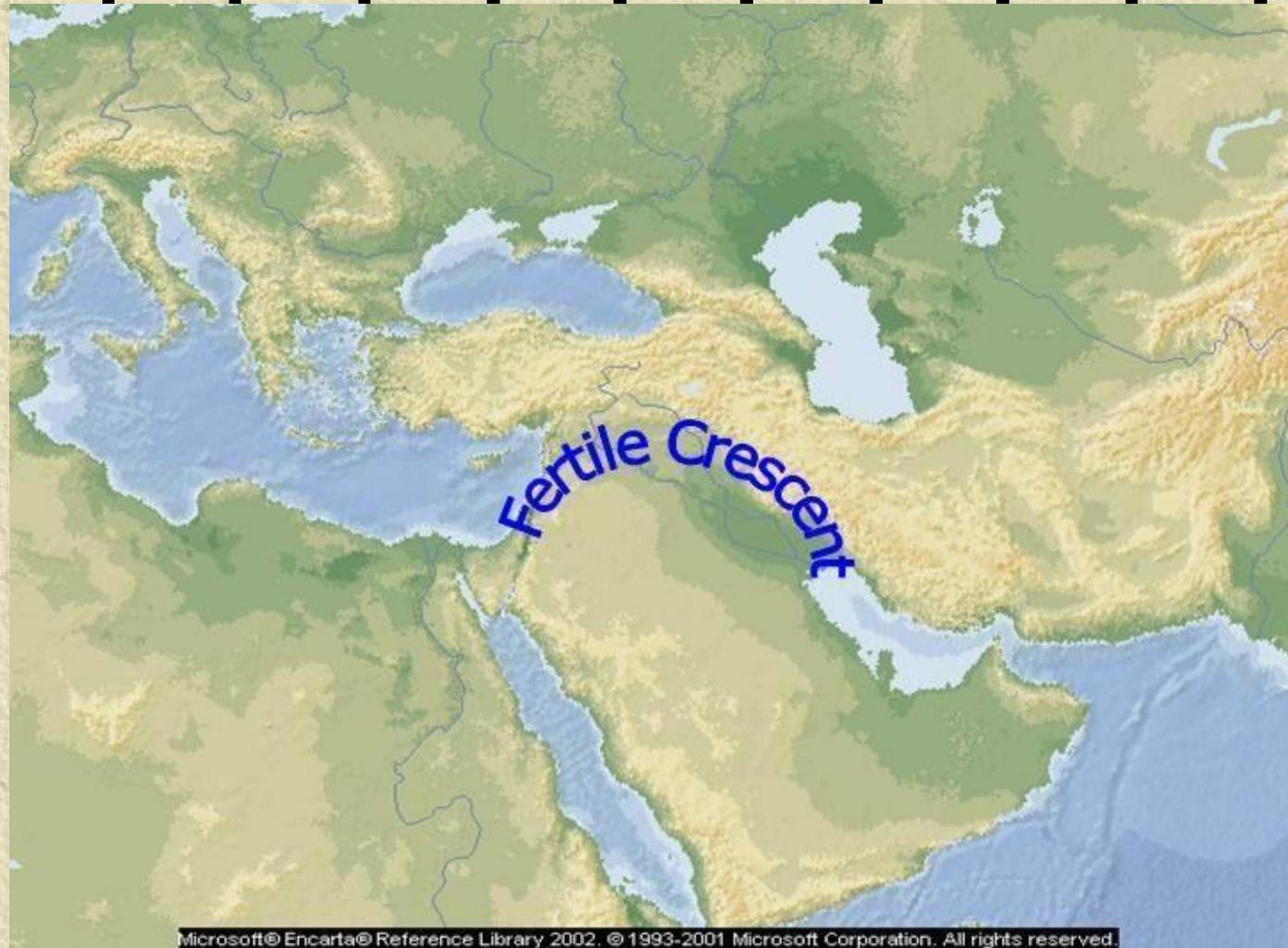


# Geography



- ✦ Mesopotamia rose in the valleys between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers.
- ✦ Some say this “Fertile Crescent” was the real Garden of Eden.

In what modern day country was Mesopotamia located?

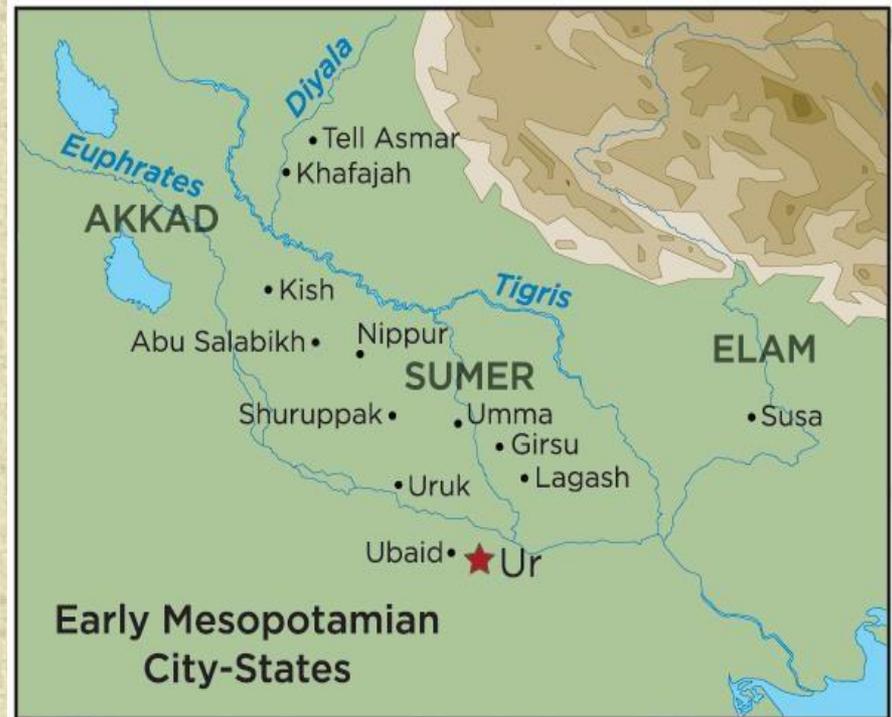




# Political: City-States

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- ✦ Mesopotamia was made up of many different **city-states** which are cities who rule themselves.
- ✦ At different times during the history of Mesopotamia, Kings would unite the City-States into one empire.



# What is an Empire?

Think-Pair-Share

An **Empire** is a group of territories all governed by the same ruler<sub>(s)</sub>, often referred to as an **Emperor**

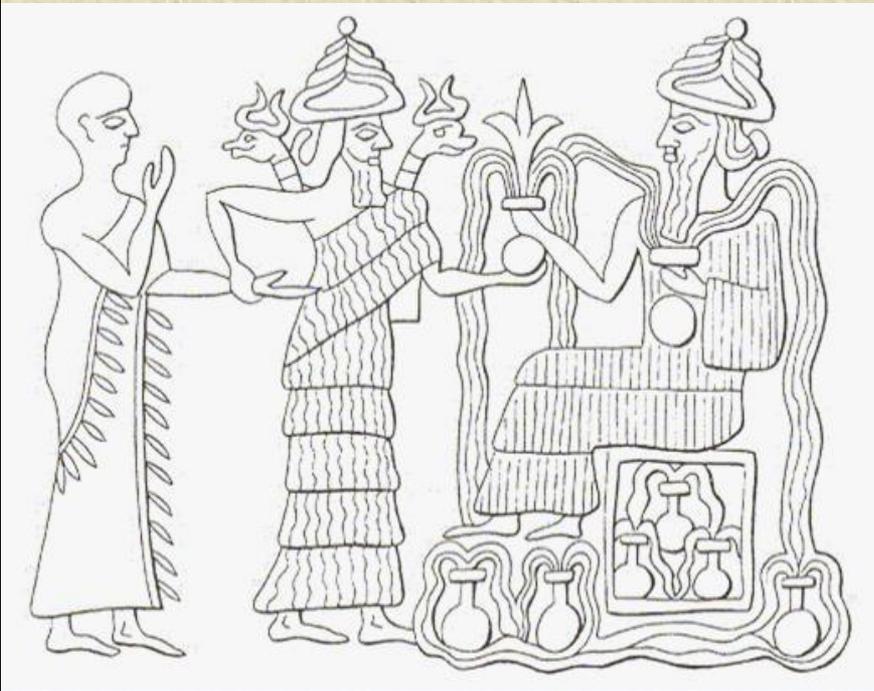
# Sumner

## The First Mesopotamian Civilization

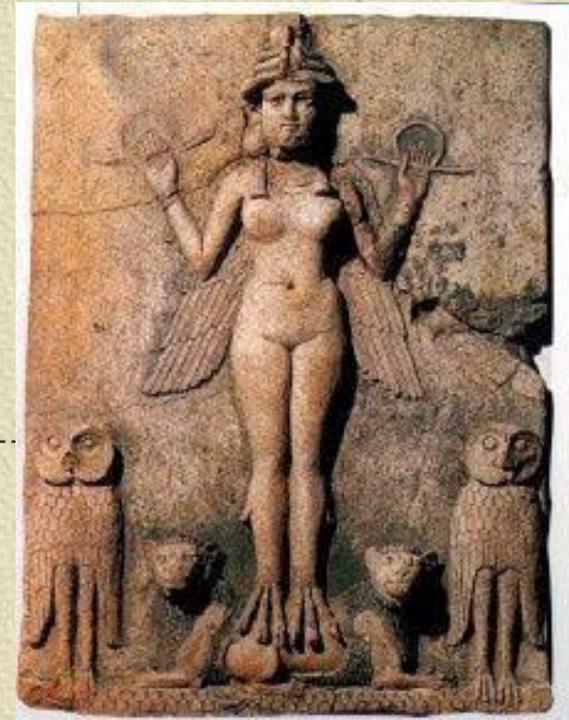


# Sumerian Religion

**Polytheistic- Meaning having many Gods**



**Enki**



**Innana**

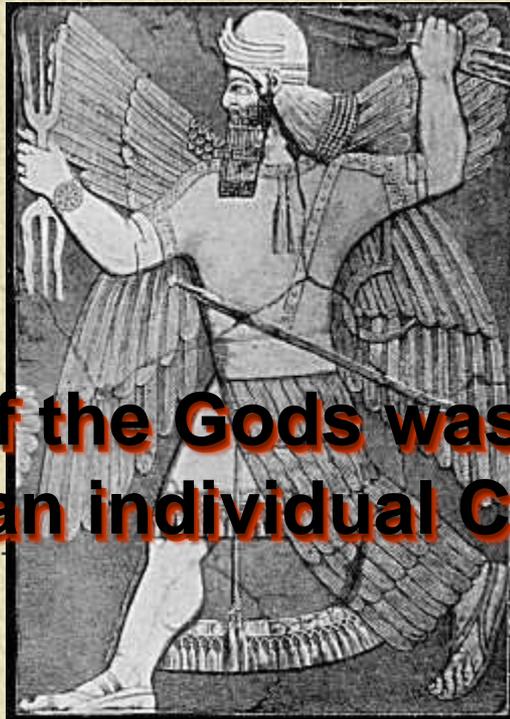
**The Gods of Sumer would form the basis for the rest of Mesopotamian religion**

# Sumerian Religion

gods in Mesopotamia were often **Anthropomorphic** meaning they were animal like gods with human characteristics



# Sumerian Religion



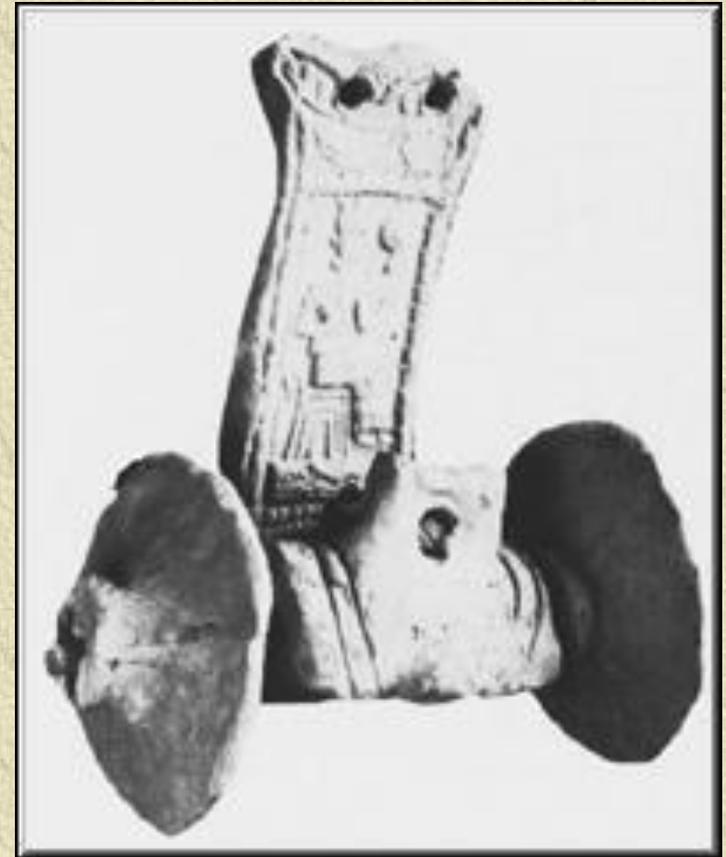
**Early on each of the Gods was a Patron God for an individual City**

**As the cities joined together under one government the Pantheon or group of gods grew.**

# Sumerians invented the wheel!

(maybe)

- ✦ The wheel was invented by around 6000 BCE
- ✦ It helped military, farming, and trade



# Social

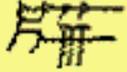
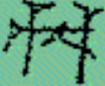
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- ✦ This is **cuneiform**.
- ✦ Mesopotamians wrote using this “wedge-shaped” writing on clay tablets.
- ✦ Cuneiform is the first type of writing we know of.

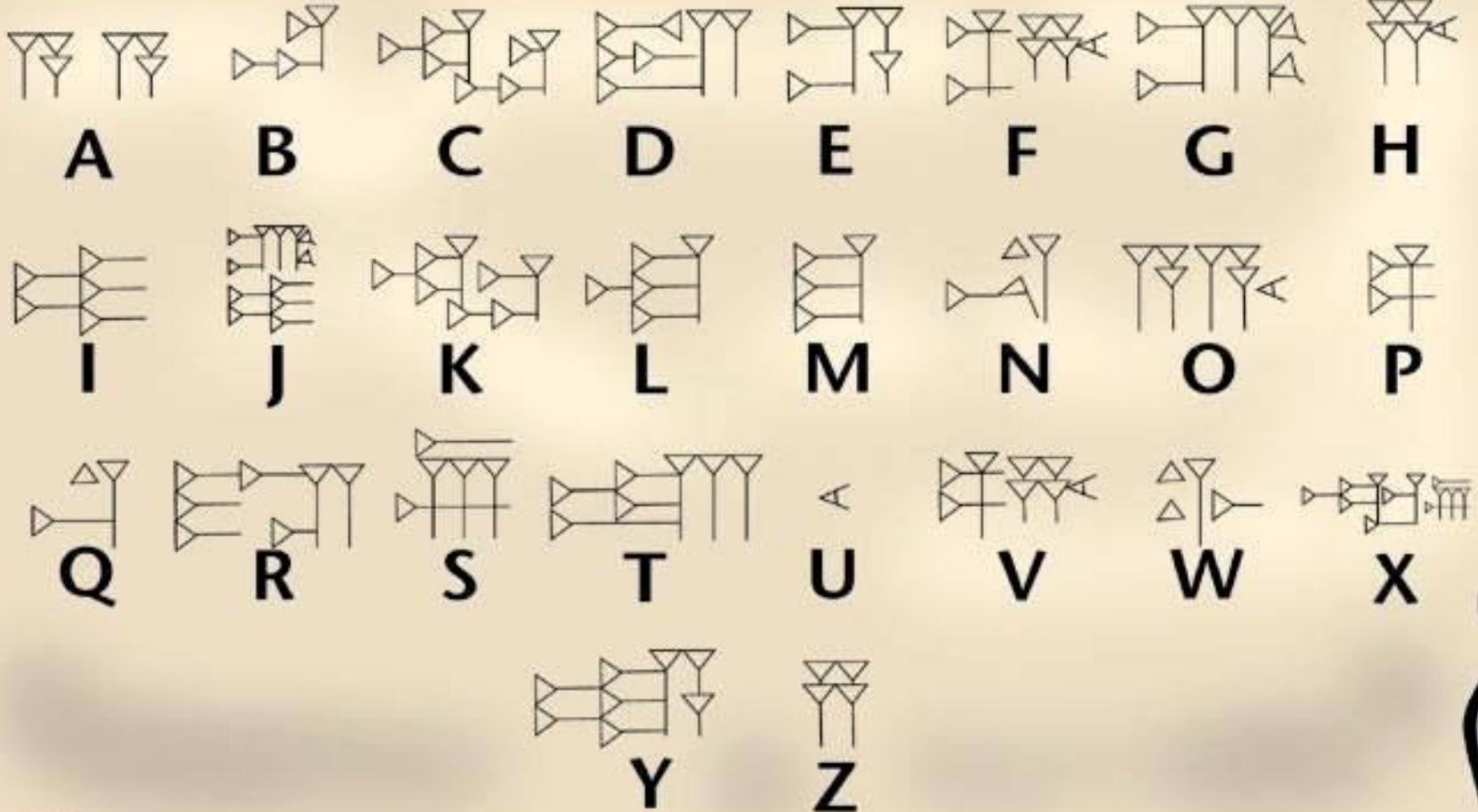


# Cuneiform Writing

## Development of Cuneiform, 3000 B.C.–600 B.C.

	Meaning of Pictograph					
	Ear of Barley	Head and Body of Man	Fish	Bird	Bowl of Food	Stream of Water
Pictographs c. 3000 B.C.						
Rotated Position Pictographs c. 2800 B.C.						
Cuneiform Signs c. 600 B.C.						

# Deciphering Cuneiform

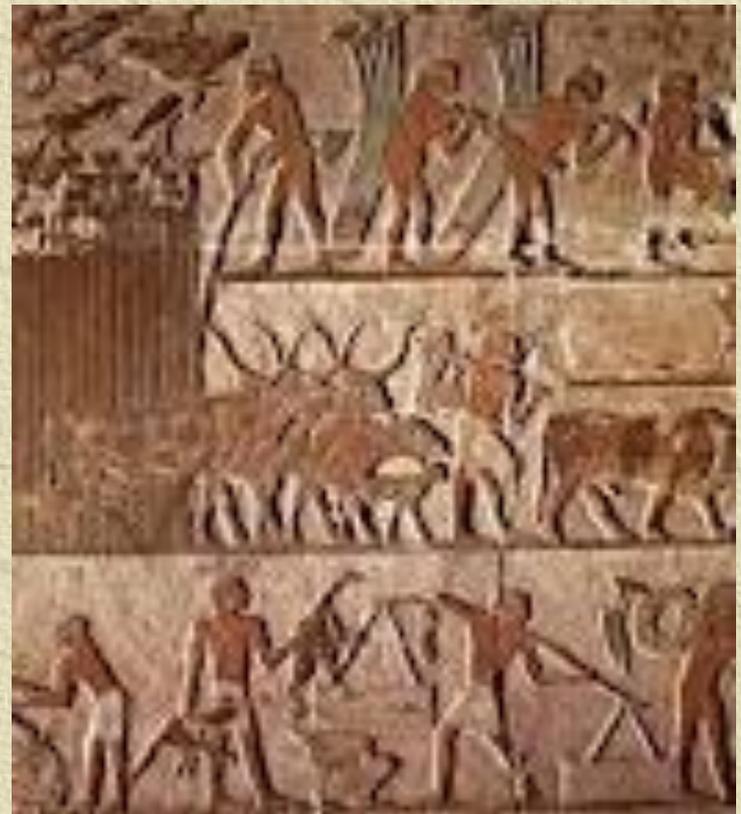


# Sumerian Economy

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✦ Most Sumerians earned a living in one of the following ways:

- ◆ Farming
- ◆ Herding
- ◆ Fishing
- ◆ Masonry or Pottery
- ◆ Metal Working
- ◆ Sales (Merchants)



# Sumerian Economy

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- ✦ Because of Cuneiform, the first known business methods arose in Sumer
  - ◆ Scribes kept records and wrote receipts
  - ◆ Contracts were created by pressing name seals into clay tablets
  - ◆ People began lending money
  - ◆ Interest was paid for money loaned. (20-30%)
  - ◆ Letters of Credit were given so people could get loans

# Sumerian Economy

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- ✦ The first form of money in Sumer was Barley and a system of **Barter** or trade was used
- ✦ Later it was changed to silver because
  - ◆ Barley would spoil
  - ◆ Animals, rodents, and insects would eat it
  - ◆ It was too difficult to carry a lot of it



# Sumerian Economy

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## ✦ SUMERIAN MONEY SYSTEM:

✦ 60 shekels = 1 mina

✦ 1 mina = 1 lb. of silver

✦ 60 minas = 1 talent

✦ A talent was a large bar of silver weighing 60 pounds

# Sumerian Economy

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- ✦ Trade was conducted in a large crowded **bazaar** or market place (Like that of a farmer's or flea market today)
- ✦ Located near the temple in the center of the city.
- ✦ A series of tented booths or open air stalls



# Economic

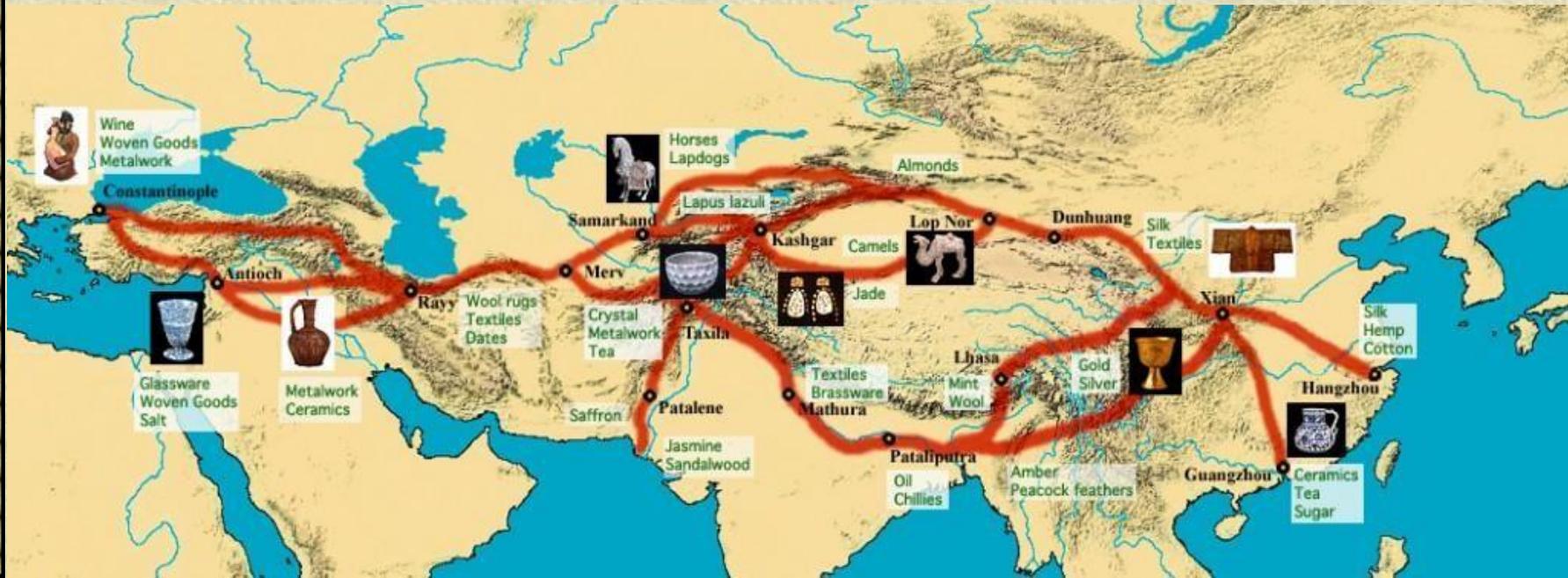
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- ✦ Mesopotamians were known to trade with other ancient civilizations such as the Egyptians and the Indus Valley civilizations.
- ✦ In later years, these trade routes between Asia and Europe became known as the **Silk Road**.

# The Spread of Culture

✦ The transmission of goods or ideas from one people to another is known as **cultural diffusion**. (Not all ideas are culturally diffused. Many ideas develop independently in different locations at the same time)



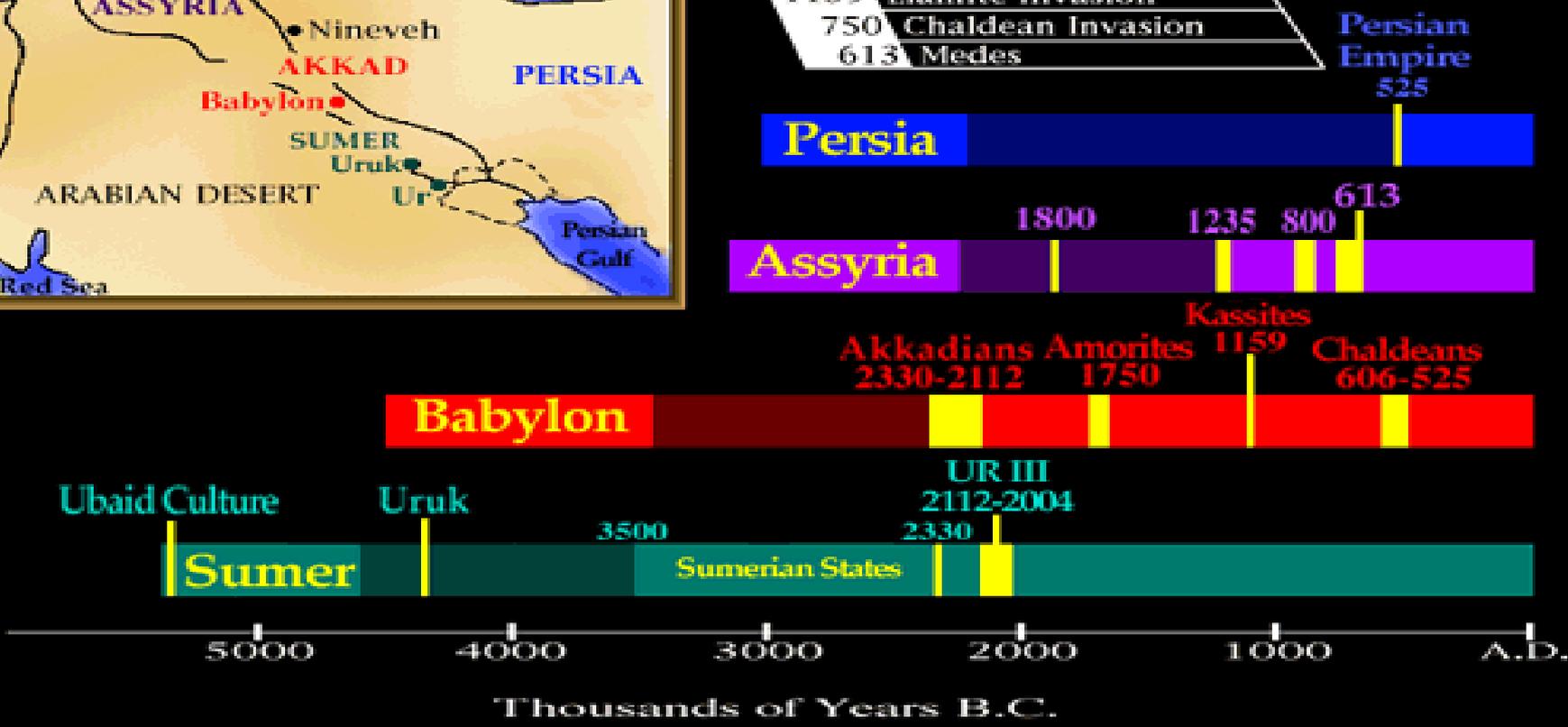


Bronze head of an Akkadian ruler, probably Sargon, c. 23rd – 22nd century BC.

✠ Under **Sargon the first** the Akkadians conquered Sumer creating a much larger Semitic Empire in Mesopotamia

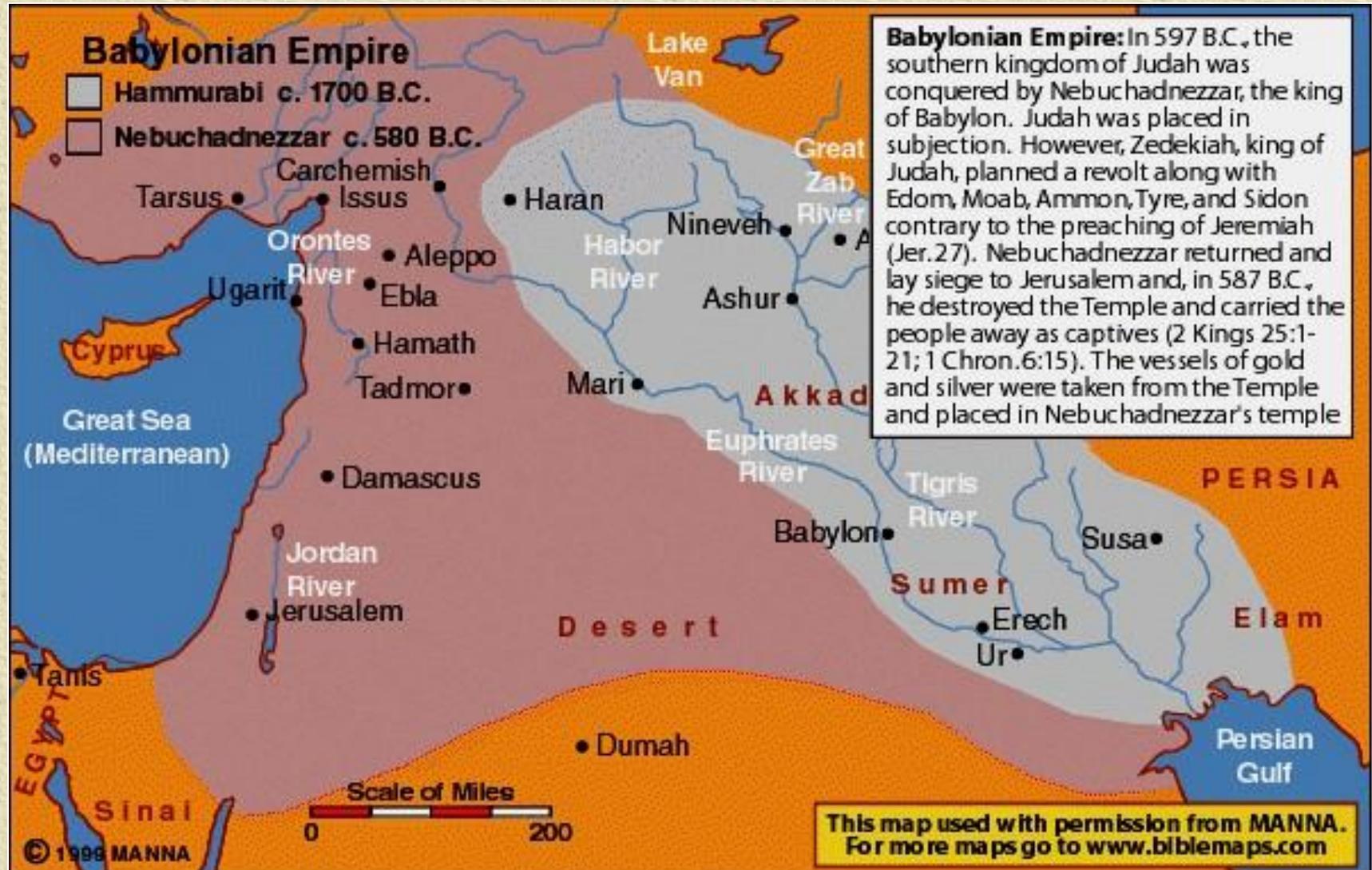


Akkadians before 3000
2112 Gutian Invasion
2200 Amorites
1595 Hittites sack Babylon
1200 Arameans
1159 Elamite Invasion
750 Chaldean Invasion
613 Medes



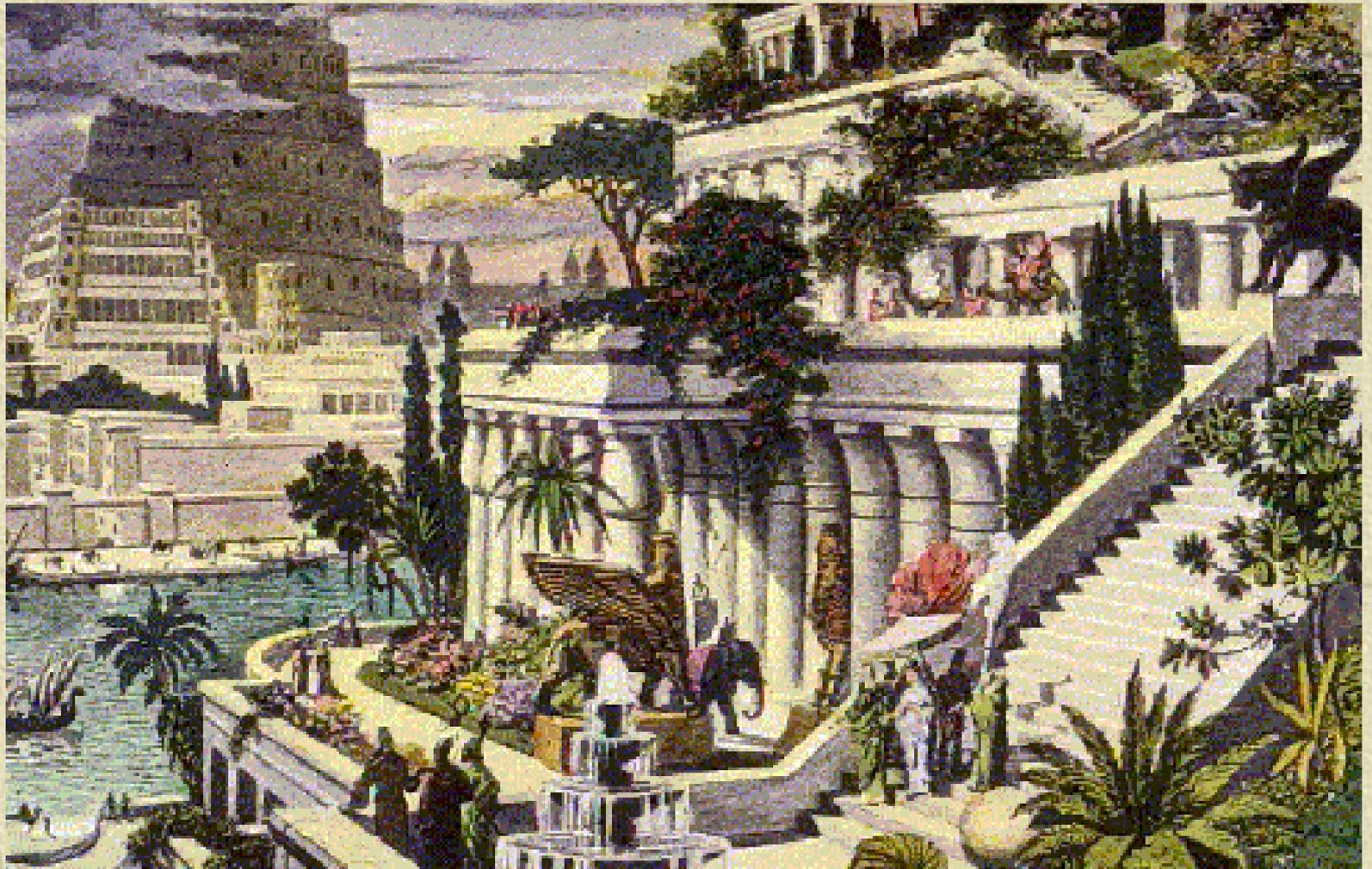
✦ Until a group from the North east called the **Medes** conquered Mesopotamia and established the **Persian Empire**

# The Babylonian Empire



# Hanging gardens of Babylon

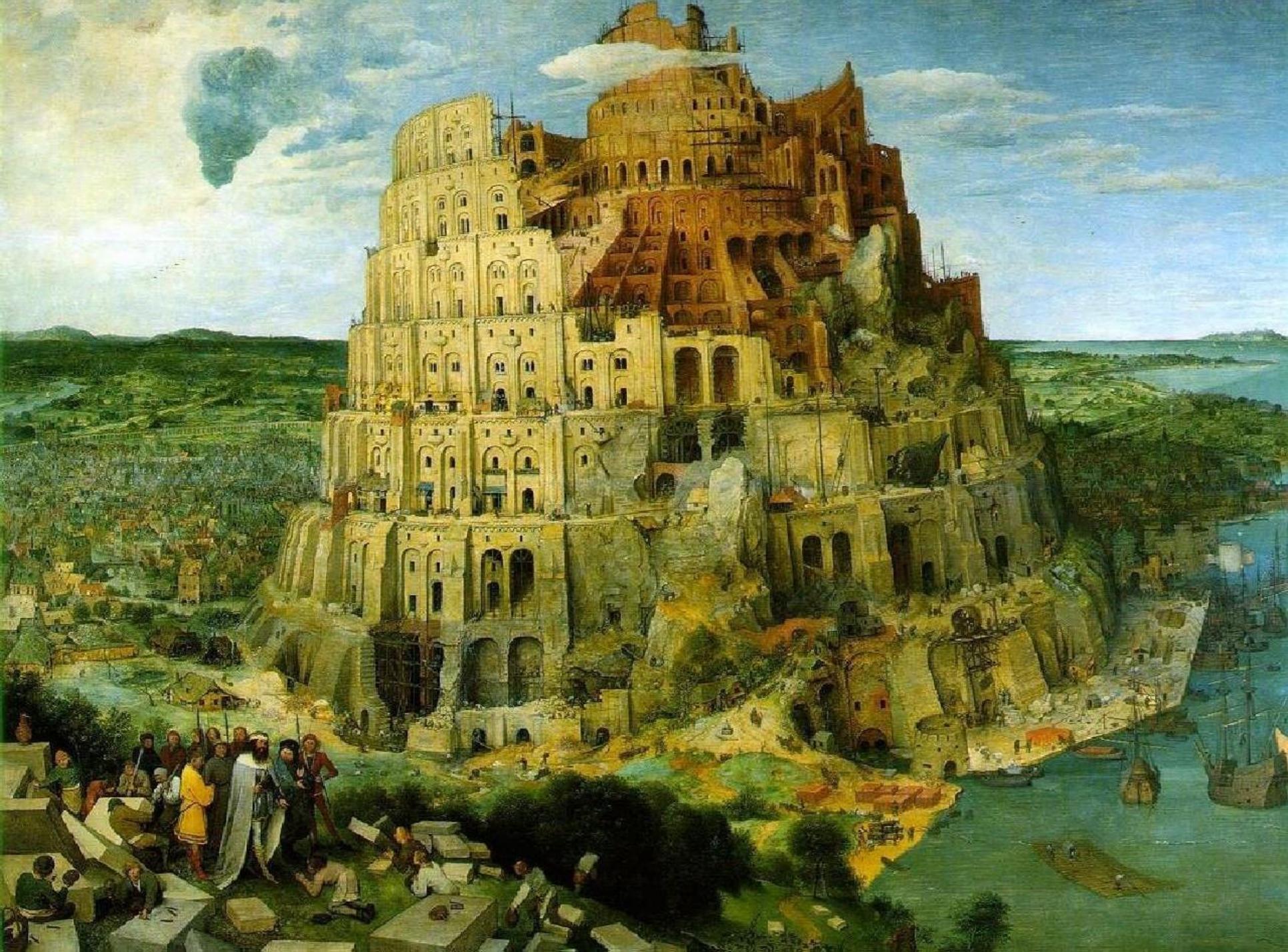
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# The Hanging Gardens with Tower of Babel in back

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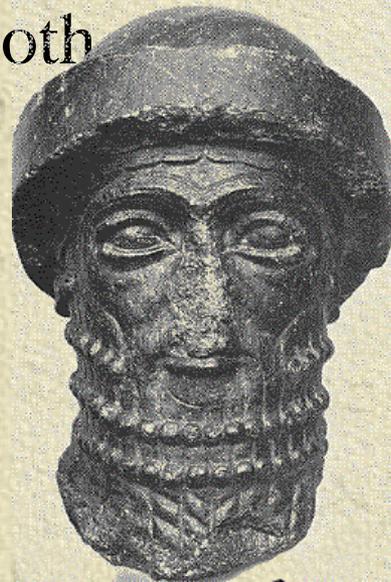


# Political: Babylonian Law

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✦ During the Babylonian Empire King Hammurabi established the world's first written law called **The Code of Hammurabi**

“an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth”



# Epic of Gilgamesh

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- ✦ Earliest known literary work. Written around 2000 BCE
- ✦ Central idea of the epic is a *carpe diem* ("seize the day") theme.



# Epic of Gilgamesh

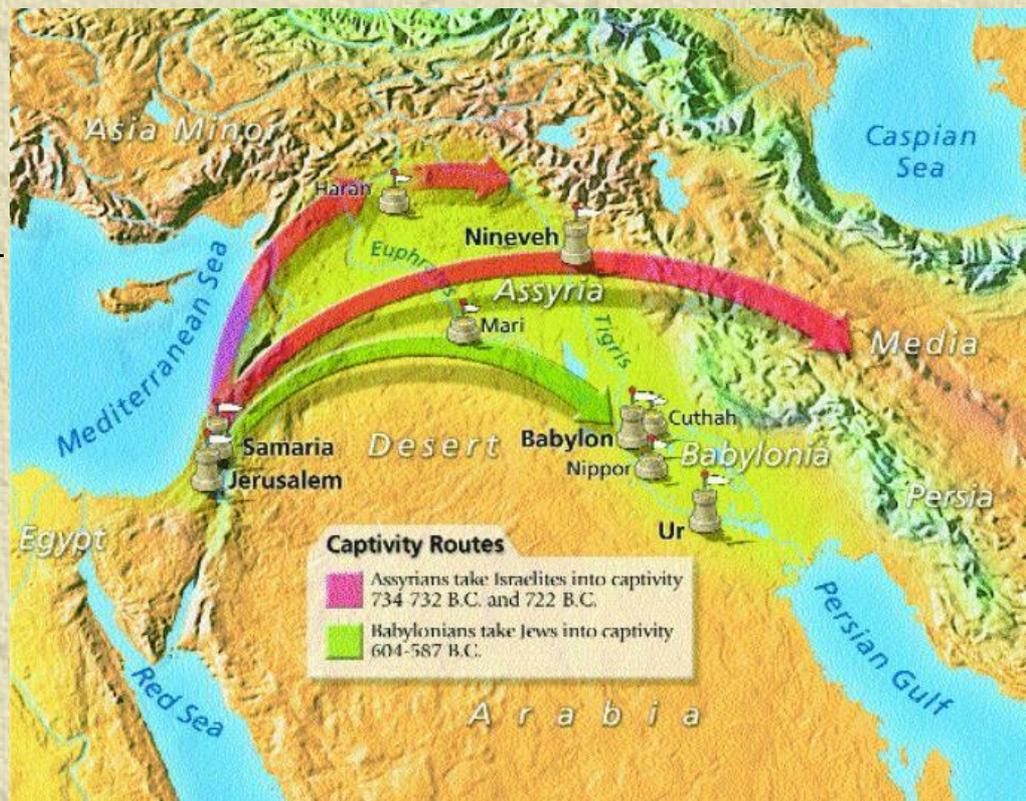
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- ✦ Contains account of the **Great Flood** and the story of a virtuous man named Utnapishtim—
  - ◆ possible source for the later biblical story of Noah.



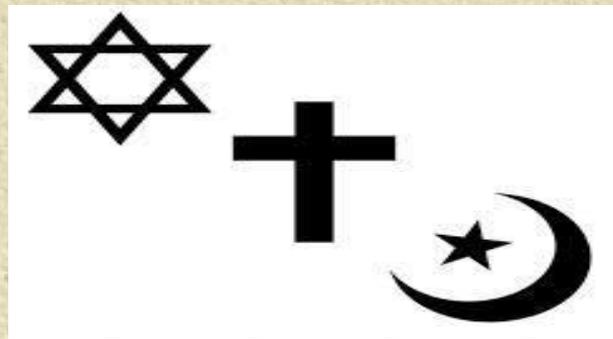
# Conquests of Israel

✠ The Empires of Mesopotamia conquered other peoples as they spread their civilization



One group called the **Hebrews (Jews)**, who lived in the land near the Eastern Mediterranean Sea called **Israel**, were enslaved and relocated to other parts of the empire

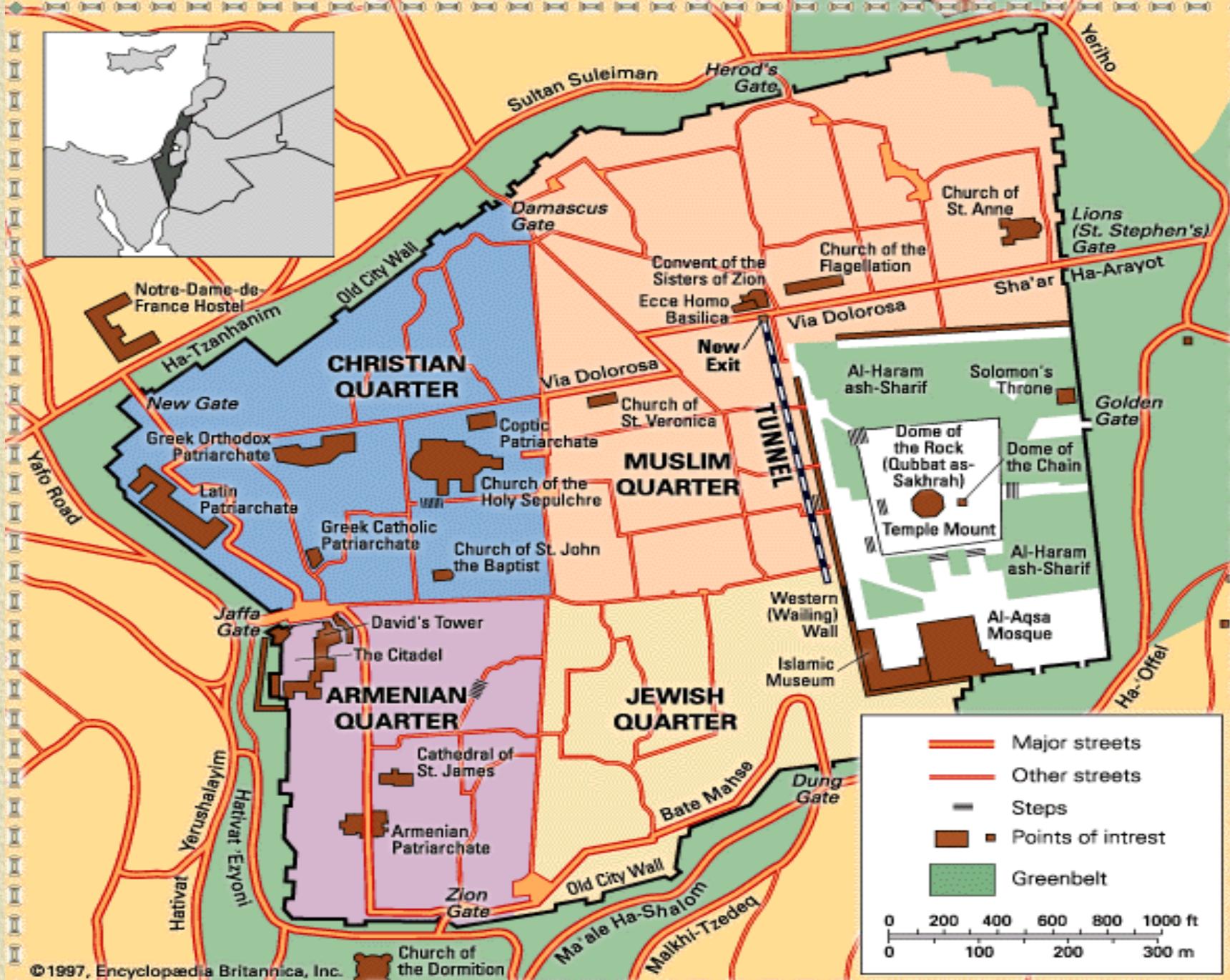
# The Hebrews



- ✦ The Hebrews were a Monotheistic people who believed that **Yahwey (God)** had chosen them to inherit the earth.



- ✦ The Jewish book of Scripture, **The Torah**, contains many of the same stories and ideas as the Christian Bible and the Islamic Qur'an
- ✦ Therefore, Jewish teachings and mythology form the basis for later Christian and Islamic Religions



	Major streets
	Other streets
	Steps
	Points of interest
	Greenbelt

0 200 400 600 800 1000 ft  
0 100 200 300 m

# Let's Review

## Visual Summary

**QUICK  
FACTS**

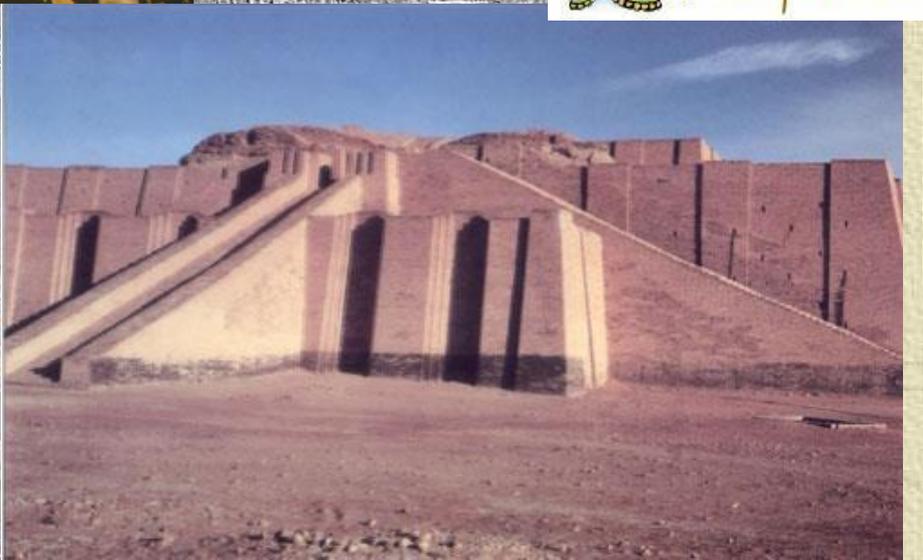
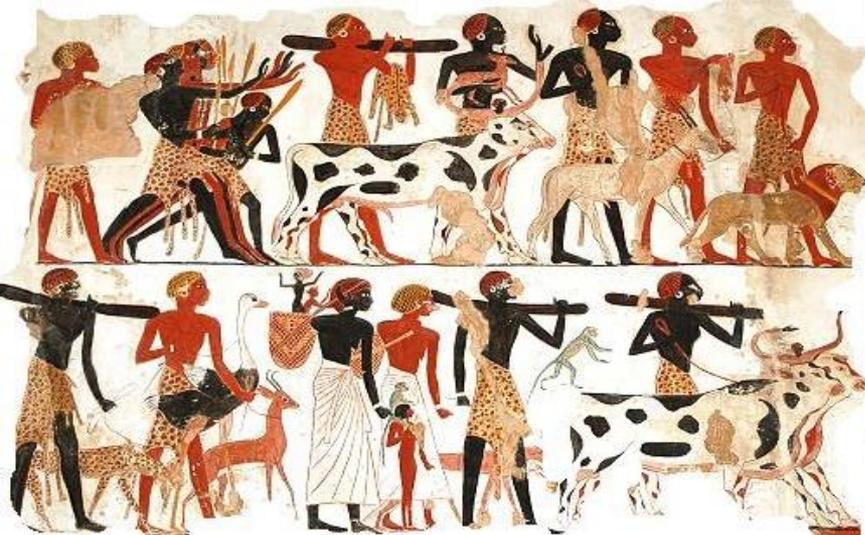
The early Mesopotamians developed irrigation to grow food.

Food production in Mesopotamia led to the world's first civilization.

Sumerian advances included ziggurats, the wheel, and the first writing system.

Later peoples developed the first written laws and the first empires.





## Primary Source

QUICK  
FACTS

### HISTORIC DOCUMENT

## Hammurabi's Code

*The Babylonian ruler Hammurabi is credited with putting together the earliest known written collection of laws. The code set down rules for both criminal and civil law, and informed citizens what was expected of them.*

- 196. If a man put out the eye of another man, his eye shall be put out.
- 197. If he break another man's bone, his bone shall be broken.
- 198. If he put out the eye of a freed man, or break the bone of a freed man, he shall pay one gold mina.
- 199. If he put out the eye of a man's slave, or break the bone of a man's slave, he shall pay one-half of its value.
- 221. If a physician heal the broken bone or diseased soft part of a man, the patient shall pay the physician five shekels in money.
- 222. If he were a freed man he shall pay three shekels.
- 223. If he were a slave his owner shall pay the physician two shekels.

—Hammurabi, from the Code of Hammurabi, translated by L. W. King

ANALYSIS  
SKILL

### ANALYZING PRIMARY SOURCES

**How do you think Hammurabi's code of laws affected citizens of that time?**

