

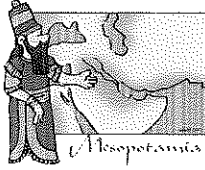
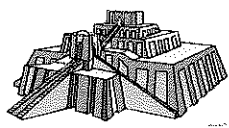
AP World History

Chapter 1

Mesopotamia Powerpoint

Ms. Carey

Mesopotamia



AP World History 12
Ms. Carey

Review

Mesopotamia was the first of the three main civilizations in the world. It was an early civilization that developed in the region of the Tigris and Euphrates rivers in the area of modern-day Iraq and Syria.

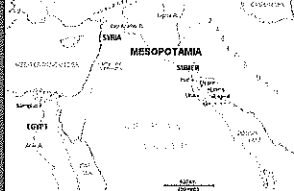

- Early civilizations first developed in Mesopotamia over six thousand years ago. Some of the first cities were established, a writing system was developed, empires were created and monumental buildings were constructed.

Here are some of the most important works of art:

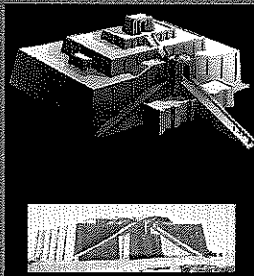
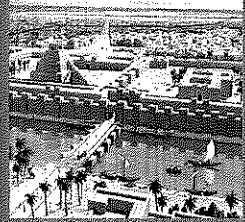
The Sumerians

- The Sumerians were the first of the three main civilizations.
- About 4000 B.C., they lived in southern Mesopotamia in a number of independent city-states. Each consisted of a small city and its surrounding area. The rulers of these city-states constantly warred with one another.


Sumerians....

- The *Lost City of Ur*
- Ziggurats (Temples)






New Techniques

- Ziggurats
- Pyramids
- Temples
- Defensive Walls
- Streets & Roads
- Sewage & Water Systems



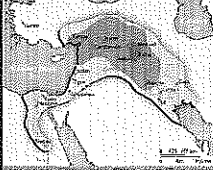

Sumerians

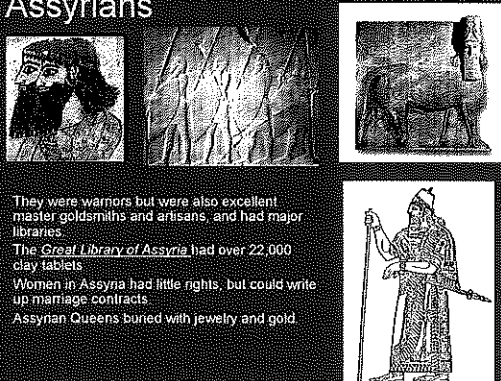
Monumental Architecture & Urban Planning

Assyrians

- The first inscriptions of Assyrian rulers appear after 2000 BC. Assyria then consisted of a number of city states/kingdoms.
- Called a *'Land based in blood'*
- Had the deadliest army in Mesopotamia- Assyrian Kings ruled by absolute power
- Merciless warrior-kings
- Patriarchal Society- men dominated

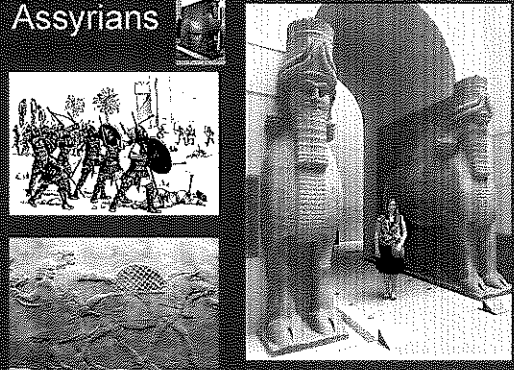
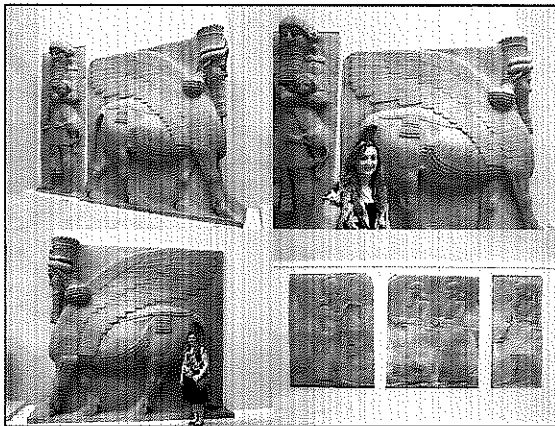



Assyrians




- They were warriors but were also excellent master goldsmiths and artisans, and had major libraries.
- The *Great Library of Assyria* had over 22,000 clay tablets.
- Women in Assyria had little rights, but could write up marriage contracts.
- Assyrian Queens buried with jewelry and gold.

Assyrians

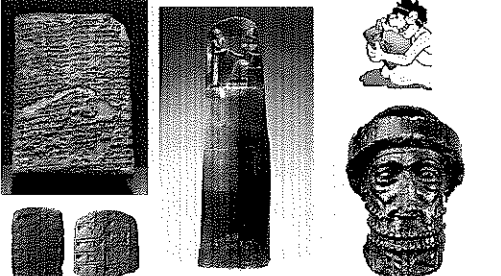
The Babylonians

- The Babylonian Empire was the capital of the ancient land of Babylonia in southern Mesopotamia. It was situated on the *Euphrates River* about 50 miles south of modern Baghdad.
- Existed in the Near East in southern Mesopotamia between the Tigris and the Euphrates Rivers. Throughout much of their history their main rival for supremacy were their neighbors, the Assyrians. It was the Babylonians, under King Nebuchadnezzar II, who destroyed Jerusalem, the capital of the Kingdom of Judah, and marched the Israeli captives back to Babylon in 587 BC.




Babylonia

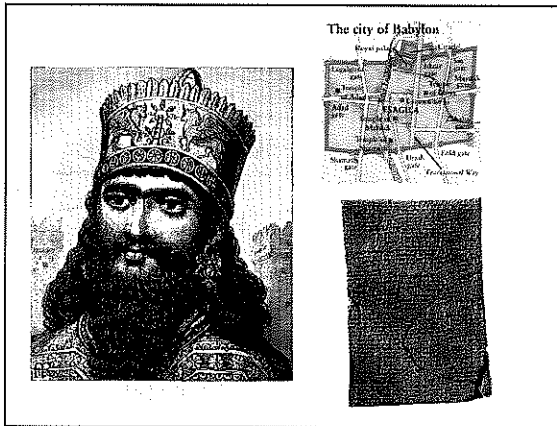
- Babylon was the first empire to create and write down a legal code.
- King Hammurabi introduced the **HAMMURABI CODE** to the empire:



Code of Hammurabi



Actual Code!
(In Louvre Museum in France)





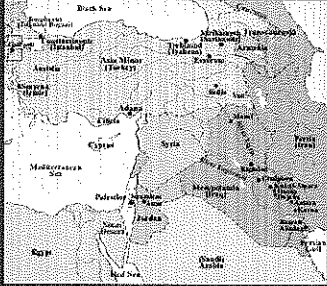
Mesopotamia

- The written language was called the CUNEIFORM.
- It was the first civilization on earth.
- The Babylonian Empire began to fall as the Egyptian Empire began to emerge.

Why Did it Develop Here?


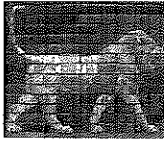


- Rivers!
 - Tigris
 - Euphrates
- Fertile Land
- Religious Beliefs
- Trade began and expanded from local to regional and trans-regional



Culture of Mesopotamia

Culture played a significant role in unifying states through laws, language, literature, religion, myths and monumental art.




- elites, both political and religious promoted arts and artisanship
- sculptures, paintings, wall decorations, elaborate weaving

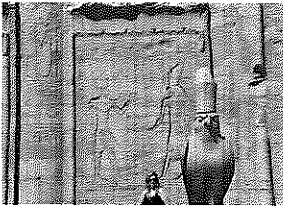
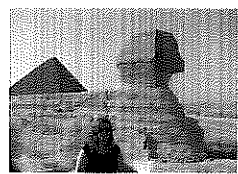
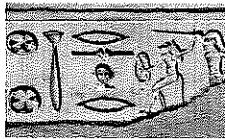

Systems of Written Records

Systems of record keeping arose independently in all early civilizations and subsequently were diffused.

- * Cuneiform
- * Hieroglyphs
- * Pictographs
- * Alphabets
- * Quipu (Inca)

Written Records...

Literature

What does the literature say about their civilization?



- The "*Epic of Gilgamesh*"

The Epic of Gilgamesh is, perhaps, the oldest written story on Earth. It comes to us from Ancient Sumeria, and was originally written on 12 clay tablets in cuneiform script. It is about the adventures of the historical King of Uruk (somewhere between 2750 and 2500 BCE).

- *Rig Veda*

is a collection of Vedic Sanskrit hymns counted among the four Hindu religious texts known as the Vedas. The Rig Veda was likely composed between roughly 1700–1100 BCE, making it one of the oldest texts of any Indo-European language, one of the world's oldest religious texts. It was preserved over centuries by oral tradition alone and was probably not put in writing before the Early Middle Ages. The Rig Veda is considered to be oldest written book on the planet, and was likely composed between roughly 1500–1200 BCE. It is the earliest of the four Hindu religious scriptures known as the Vedas.

- *The Book of the Dead* (Egypt)

Assignment

- Two Readings with Questions:
Life in Mesopotamia...

- 1) *Code of Hammurabi* (5 questions)
- 2) *A Pessimistic View of Life* (2 questions)