

## EARLY CIVILIZATIONS

### NILE VALLEY- 5000 B.C. began settle

Hunter and gatherer- farming

- Seasonal floods renewed soil
- Wheat and barley
- Many animals (water fowl and fish)
- Papyrus along shores
- River acted as natural defense to attack
- Several villages- small kingdoms (monarchies)
- 4000 B.C. 2 main kingdoms
- Lower Egypt (N)/ Upper Egypt (S)
- 3000 B.C. Narmer (upper Egypt) conquered lower
- capital Memphis
- Narmer 1st of 30 dynasties (line of rulers)
- 3 main periods of dynasties
- Old- Middle- New Kingdoms

### OLD KINGDOM- 2700-2200 B.C.

- Unified kingdoms but separately
- Eventually strong central government
- Large bureaucracy (vizier) prime minister
- Controlled religion/ trade/ economy/ taxes
- Supervised public works
- Agriculture/ grain stores

Step Pyramid construction

- 1st 2600 B.C. King Djoser
- evolution of designs
- Giza Plateau "Great Pyramids"

Reasons for Pyramid:

- Tomb- theories
- Monument:
- Construction theories
- Mummies
- What was found in tomb
- exploitation
- Why pyramid construction ceased
- Worker conscription

### MIDDLE KINGDOM- 2200 B.C.- 1800 B.C.

- Memphis began to lose power
- Nobles began to fight each other
- 2050 B.C. new dynasty moved capital to Thebes
- regained strong power
- new irrigation
- gained new territory
- built forts
- campaigns against Syria

- Canal between Nile and Red sea = much trade  
1700

-Hyksos invasion (west Asia)

- bronze weapons (Egyptians foot soldiers only, copper and stone weapons)
  - chariots
- ruled 110 years

NEW KINGDOM- 1600 B.C.

-Hyksos overthrown (Ahmosa Egyptian prince)

-Ahmose revived kingdom

- Reopened temples

- started trade again

-successors waged military campaigns E into Africa

-1480 Queen Hatshepsut (wore fake beard)

- husband died and son too young; she ruled
- advisor believed to be lover
- their tomb opposite sides of valley
  - connecting hallway

-son Thutmose III took over

- military campaigns N.E./ Syria

-"Hippie" Akhenaton 1370 B.C.

- Amenhotep IV and wife Nefertiti
- should only worship one God (Aton) sun god
  - changed name to "spirit of Aton"
  - moved capital from Thebes -

many people not happy (priests)

resistance by many

weak military ruler/military not happy

Akenaten died

- Things restored
- Name erased
- military overthrew dynasty and set up new one

RECOVERY AND DECLINE- 1200 B.C.

- Ramses II "Ramses the Great"

-Military campaigns, Hittites over Syria

- peace treaty and mutual alliance

-Ramses ruled 67 years, 52 sons

-Built temples and tombs

-Died in 1237 B.C.

-Riders from Mediterranean weakened Egypt

-945 B.C. foreign rulers (Lybians/ Kushites)

LIFE IN EGYPT- 5 million people

-several classes

- top: royalty-nobles-priests, middle: artisans, scribes, merchants, tax collectors,

-Bottom: farmers, servants

## -Families

- Cities nuclear
- Farming extended

### Old kingdom women:

- not many rights
- revered as child bearers
- property of husband

### New kingdom women:

- own property
- hold office
- legal rights

### Polytheism:

- Various gods controlled life
- Part humanoid/animal
- Horus-Hawk (sky god)
- Ra- sun god
- Osiris- Nile and life/death god
- Isis- death and husband of Osiris

### Hieroglyphics-

- scribes
  - walls
  - tombs
  - papyrus
  - Over time people lost knowledge
  - 1799 French soldiers found Rosetta stone
  - Egyptian-Greek-demotic Text 196
  - B.C. decree by Ptolemy V
- Able to translate

## SCIENCE-

- Architectural
- Math
- calendars
- astronomy
- MD

## FERTILE CRESCENT - page 59 map

- Crescent land along Mediterranean Sea to Persian Gulf
- Tigris and Euphrates River
- Area of Mesopotamia "area between rivers"

## TWIN RIVERS-

- Not like Nile
- Not regular source of water
- Water shortage
- Spring harvest- flood

- Fall planting- draught
- Floods deposited too much silt
- Strong floods swept villages and fields
- Villages co-operated
- Built dams
- Escape channels
- canals
- ditches (irrigation)
- by 4000 B.C. abundance crops

#### SUMERIAN CIVILIZATION-

- 3500 B.C. Sumerians arrived
- from central Asia/ Asia Minor
- settled lower part valley (sumer area)
- 3000 B.C. 12 city-states
- Ur/ Uruk/ eridu
- 20000/ 250000
- All shared common language/ religion/ culture
- Buildings similar
- All had a Ziggurat (stepped pyramid)
- Shrine dedicated to city deity
- Only priests and priestesses entered

#### SUMERIAN GOVERNMENT-

- City states governed independently
- Early had council of nobles
- Later chose military leader
- Foreign threats
- Land and water fights
- Military leader needed
- By 2700 B.C. some leaders ruling as kings
- Then became hereditary
- Not just government leader/ religious
- Represented city deities
- King made 2 enforced laws
- Punishments from fines to injury to death

#### MEN AND WOMEN-

- Laws extensively regulated family life
- Men head of house
- In charge of wives/ children
- Could not sell if in strife
- Could divorce for any reason

#### Women-

- Buy and sell property
- Operate business
- Own slaves
- Difficult to divorce

#### WRITING-

- System of writing clay tablets

- Keep accounts and documents
- 3100 B.C. Cuneiform pictograms
- sharpened reed end in soft clay
- tablets/ cones/ sealed
- writers / scribes/ schools 'eddubas' historical records/ literary works
- gilgamesh 1850 B.C.

#### SUMERS DEITIES-

- Sumerians/ Polytheistic
- Deities for rain/ moon/ air/ or activity metal

#### working brick making

- Selfish / unpredictable beings
- If angry cause flood/ draught/ famine
- Priests and priestesses ceremonies and rituals
- Did not believe in good afterlife
- Dark- grim- suffering

#### SUMERIAN INVENTIONS-

- Wagon wheel
- arch
- potters wheel
- sundial
- 12 month calendar moon cycles
- writing
- 1st bronze

#### 1st MESOPOTAMIAN EMPIRES-

- get too large and begin to fight between each other
- 1st Empire builder Sargo I (Akkadian people)
- orphan- like Moses/ adopted parents formers
- rose to leader around 2300 B.C.
- began military campaign
- conquered all city-states of Mesopotamia
- made people speak Akkadian language
- kept Sumerian religion and farming
- Sargon's death grandson death Empire gone

#### KINGDOM ELBA- Northern Syria

- Fought and lost against Sargon over river trade
- Grandson captured Elba and burned city
- Paper burned/ clay tablets didn't
- Trade between Egypt and Mesopotamia with Elba on way made rich
- Leader elected to 7 year term
- If do bad/ removed
- Declined and destroyed by Amorites (from w. Syria)

#### HAMMURABI'S EMPIRE-

- Amorites kept expanding into Mesopotamia
- Overran Babylon (city still small)
- Babylon produced great ruler- Hammurabi
- Took control of other cities

- Reorganized taxes
- Strong government
- Ordered repair and expansion of public works
- Became major trade center
- Hammurabi's Code
  - Gathered various laws and reshaped into one code
  - Painfully states laws and scenarios
  - Penalties and harsh punishments
  - Eye for an eye
  - Covered all aspects of life: marriage theft, farming, assault
  - Penalties varied by class: high-mid-low (murder)
- After Hammurabi Babylon declined to small states
- Hittites took over 1600 B.C.

#### EARLY SOUTH ASIA- Indus River Valley

- 3 modern nations have roots
  - India/ Pakistan/ Bangladesh
  - Subcontinent of South Asia
  - Mts. Natural boundary from Asia
    - Himalayas/ Hindu Kush
  - Invaders by sea or mountain passes (protected) 3 main rivers:
    - Indus/ Ganges/ Brahmaputra
- Seasonal winds
  - Northern Mountains keep cold air out
  - Monsoon winds
    - Winter (NE wind)
      - Dry air from mts
    - Summer (S wind)
      - Wet air from ocean
      - Heavy downpours
        - Replenished soil
        - Many times floods badly and destroys much
      - Not enough rain/ crops very poor

#### INDUS CIVILIZATION-

- Earliest 2500 B.C.
- Harappan Civilization
  - 2 major cities Harappa/ Mohenjo-Daro
    - great urban planning
    - grid pattern-city around large citadel
    - several story homes
    - indoor plumbing
    - underground sewers

#### HARAPPAN LIFE-

- Most farmed
  - Wheat/ barley/ rice/ cotton
- Artisans
  - Bronze/ copper/ silver/ gold/ shell/ ivory
  - Mass produced clay pots
- Traded with Mesopotamia (wax ID seals found)

- No real record of written language
- Might have used pictograms from Mesopotamia
- Might have worshipped gods of nature

#### COLLAPSE- 1500 B.C.

- Disappeared
- Many theories
- Invaders?
- Climate change?
- Floods?

#### EARLY CHINA-

- Developed by themselves
- Homeland Zhongyuan (Ji Zhong Guo) 'middle kingdom'
- Strong national identity
- Oldest civilization in world (continuous)

#### GEOGRAPHY-

- Himalayas- S.W./ Kunlun Shan and Tian Shan -W-
- Gobi desert
- Little cultural diffusion
- Mostly ignored sea exploration despite coastal border

#### SHANG DYNASTY- 1700 B.C.

- 1st Dynasty with written writing evidence
- kings political but religious duties
- could communicate with nature
- prayed/ made offerings/ sacrifices
- call upon ancestors
- bone scribing- heat to crack- read splintering

#### ACHIEVEMENTS-

- Bone writing 1st examples of writing
- Few people could read and write "kanji" very difficult
- Metal casting perfected
- Best examples of metal ever made
- Artisans ivory/jade/ bone
- silk
- pottery
- 7 capital cities (emperor moved place to place)

#### DECLINE-

- After taking most of Huan He Valley
- Lacked strong leaders
- 1000 B.C. Wu (territory in N.W.) marched on main capital
- Set new dynasty Zhou (Joh) 800 years
- Centuries of Dynasties
- Until 1900's dynasties ruled
- History divided by dynasty and reigns of ruling families
- Rulers had mandate of heaven
- If things go bad- crops fail/ loss of battles

- Replaced by other Dynasty

STONEKING'S NOTES - DO NOT USE TO MAKE YOUR OWN