

Name: _____

Mesopotamian Empires **Flipped Video #2 Notes**

With any region in history, the rule of Mesopotamia would change hands many times (meaning, the person who would rule this region changed several times). The city-states of Sumer often fought one another. This fighting weakened the city-states. Therefore, in 2400 B.C the _____ took power of Mesopotamia.

The Akkadians: The Akkadians were a group of people from the Northern region of Mesopotamia called Akkad. Akkad's leader was a man named _____. _____ was the first leader to have a permanent army. Eventually, Sargon and his army defeated all the city-states of Sumer. Sargon and the Akkadian rule of all of Mesopotamia established the world's first _____. An _____ is a group of different lands under a single rule/ruler. The Akkadian rule of Mesopotamia came to an end when the city-state of _____ regained its power.

The Babylonians: In 1800 B.C the city of Babylon (located near present day Baghdad, Iraq) was growing in size and strength. Babylon had a very famous king named Hammurabi. _____ created a code of laws for his people. It was called _____. The _____ was a set of 282 laws that dealt with almost every part of daily life in the Babylonian Empire. These laws covered everything from trade, to farming, to marriage, and murder. Each crime in Hammurabi's Code had a specific punishment or penalty. Social class would determine how harsh a penalty would be. For example, if you injured a rich man, your penalty would harsher than if you injured a poor man. Hammurabi's Code was written down for all of the people of Babylon to see so that everyone in the empire knew what was against the law.

The **Code of Hammurabi** was used later by the Greeks and Romans to help shape some of their laws. Under Hammurabi's leadership the Babylonians conquered all of Mesopotamia.

The Hittites and Kassites (1700-1200 B.C.): The Hittites had a powerful kingdom in what is now present day Turkey. The Hittites wanted to control the powerful city of Babylon. The Hittites had two military advantages:

- 1.
- 2.

The military advantages allowed them to capture the city of Babylon. After the fall of the Hittite Kingdom, the Kassites captured and ruled the city of Babylon for almost 400 years.

The Assyrians: The Assyrians lived in Northern Mesopotamia. Around 900 B.C. their army started to take over Mesopotamia. By 1200 B.C. the Assyrians controlled all of Mesopotamia. The Assyrian army showed NO MERCY. They were fierce warriors who destroyed towns, robbed people, and set fire to other people's crops. Their army was the first to make weapons out of _____. Iron was much stronger

than tin and copper. The Assyrians required the people they conquered to pay them money and made them follow strict laws. This forced payment was called a _____. Ninevah was the most important city in the Assyrian Empire. It was located along the Tigris River. The Assyrian Empire was ruled by a King. It was divided into regions called _____. The King would choose a person to rule each province. The Assyrians participated a lots of trading. They brought in wood and metal from other places in the world to create buildings, tools, and weapons. Eventually, the Assyrian Empire fell because of _____. Civil War is when people of the same empire (country) fight one another.

The Chaldeans: Around 630 B.C. the Chaldeans came to power by defeating the weakened Assyrian Empire. The Chaldeans took over the land the Assyrians had once ruled. They moved the capital of their empire back to Babylon. The Chaldeans famous king was King Nebuchadnezzar. He rebuilt the city of Babylon and made it the largest and richest city in the world. The “new Babylon had large walls that surrounded the city. The city had many temples and palaces. Nebuchadnezzar also built the famous *Hanging Gardens of Babylon*. These gardens are considered to be one of the Ancient Wonders of the World. A major trade route developed in Babylon. This resulted in many _____ passing through the city. A _____ is a group of traveling merchants who would bring goods to Babylon to trade or sell. Some of the goods that were traded or sold were; cloth, jewelry, and baskets. This made Babylon a very rich city.

Some of the Chaldean achievements included:

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The Phoenicians (530 B.C): Unlike other people in Mesopotamia, the Phoenicians did _____ have a strong army. They were a wealthy society based on trade. The Phoenicians were excellent at sailing. They had fast ships that they used to travel all over the Mediterranean Sea. They traveled to places like; Egypt, Greece, Italy, Sicily, and Spain. During these trips the Phoenicians would trade things like lumber, slaves, and purple dyed fabric. The most important Phoenician achievement was _____.

They developed their alphabet to record and keep track of their trading. The alphabet we use today is based on the Phoenician alphabet.