

# AGENDA – 8/23

- Recap yesterday
- PIECES charts of River Valley Civilizations
- Take out: two different colored writing utensils (pen and pencil, two different colored pens, two different colored pencils, etc)
- HW: you have a quiz on Monday! Your notes are due on Monday!
  - Separate sheet of paper – not just annotations

# Warm up

- What did we learn about Babylonian society from examining Hammurabi's Code?

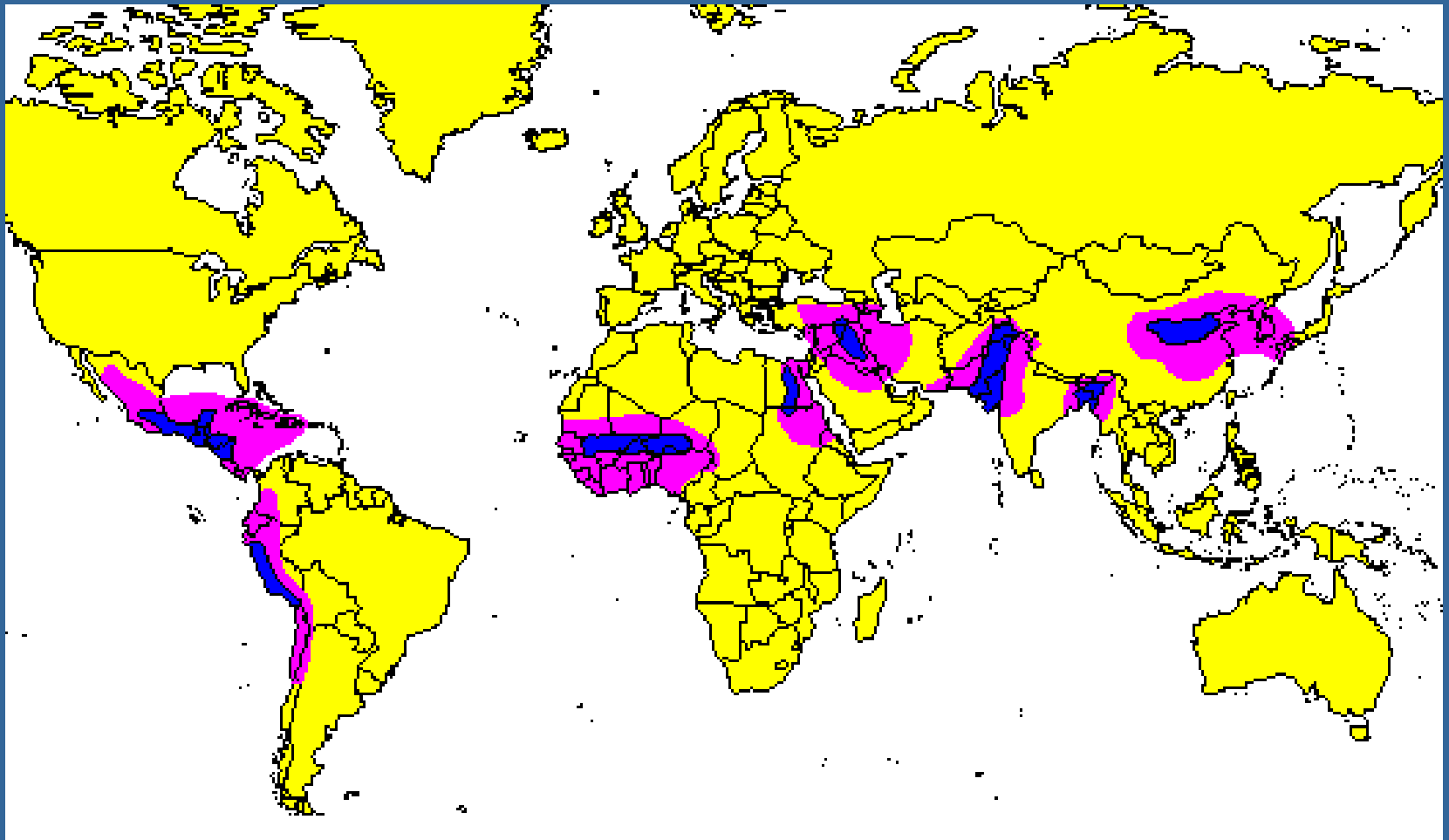
# RIVER VALLEY CIVILIZATIONS

An overview

# Emergence of River Valley Civilizations



# Location of “Cultural Hearths”



QUICK DISCUSSION TIME!

What was the Neolithic Revolution and how did it lead to the development of new and more complex economic and social systems?

# REVIEW: What was the Neolithic Revolution and how did it lead to the development of new and more complex economic and social systems?

Advent of **agriculture** → nomadic to **sedentary** peoples → job **specialization** and **leisure** time → develop into more complex societies → trade, wealth, organizations, technology, etc → civilizations!

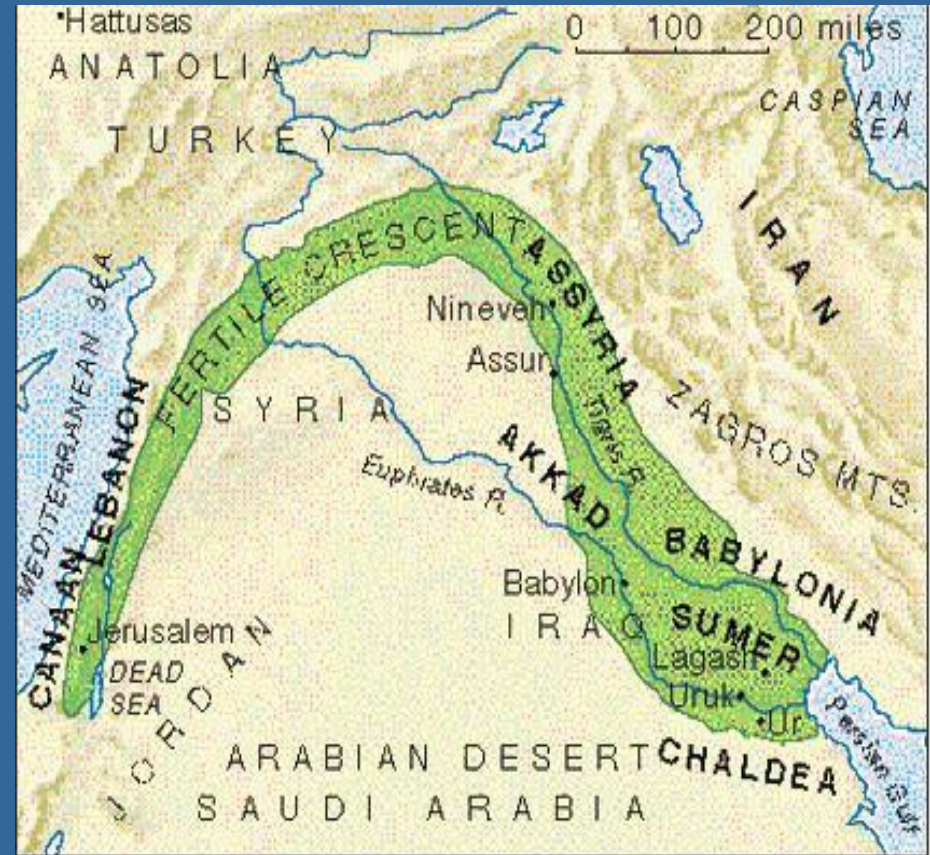
- What are the seven characteristics of a civilization?
  - **Surpluses**
  - **Specialized occupations**
  - **Clear social class distinctions**
  - **Growth of cities**
  - **Complex governments**
  - **Long distance trade**
  - **Organized record keeping systems**

# The P.I.E.C.E.S OF HISTORY!



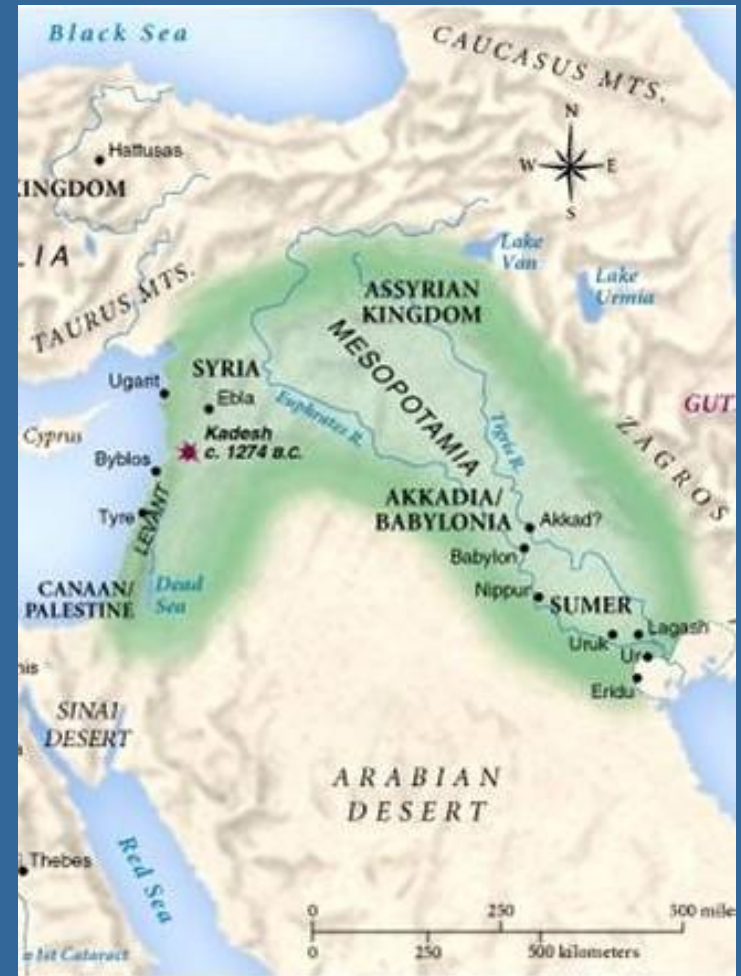
# MESOPOTAMIA

- Part of the “Fertile Crescent”
  - Tigris and Euphrates
  - **Unpredictable** flooding
    - → Negative outlook on life
- Empires include:
  - Sumerian
  - Akkadian
  - Babylonian
  - Assyrian



# POLITICAL

- Initially, priest-kings rule city-states
- City-states evolve into empires
- Land owning aristocracy dominated
- Develop formal legal code
  - Hammurabi's Code (c. 1800 BCE)



# INNOVATION AND TECH.

- Inventions: wheeled wagons, sail, and plow
- Bronze metallurgy
- 1<sup>st</sup> system of writing
  - Cuneiform
- 1<sup>st</sup> number system
  - Based on units of 10, 60, & 360
- Astronomy

	MEANING	OUTLINE CHARACTER, B. C. 3500	ARCHAIC CUNEIFORM, B. C. 2500	ASSYRIAN, B. C. 700	LATE BABYLONIAN, B. C. 500
1.	The sun	◇	◊	☼	☼
2.	God, heaven	✳	✳	☼	☼
3.	Mountain	⋈	⋈	⋈	⋈
4.	Man	♁	♁	♁	♁
5.	Ox	♂	♂	♂	♂
6.	Fish	♆	♆	♆	♆





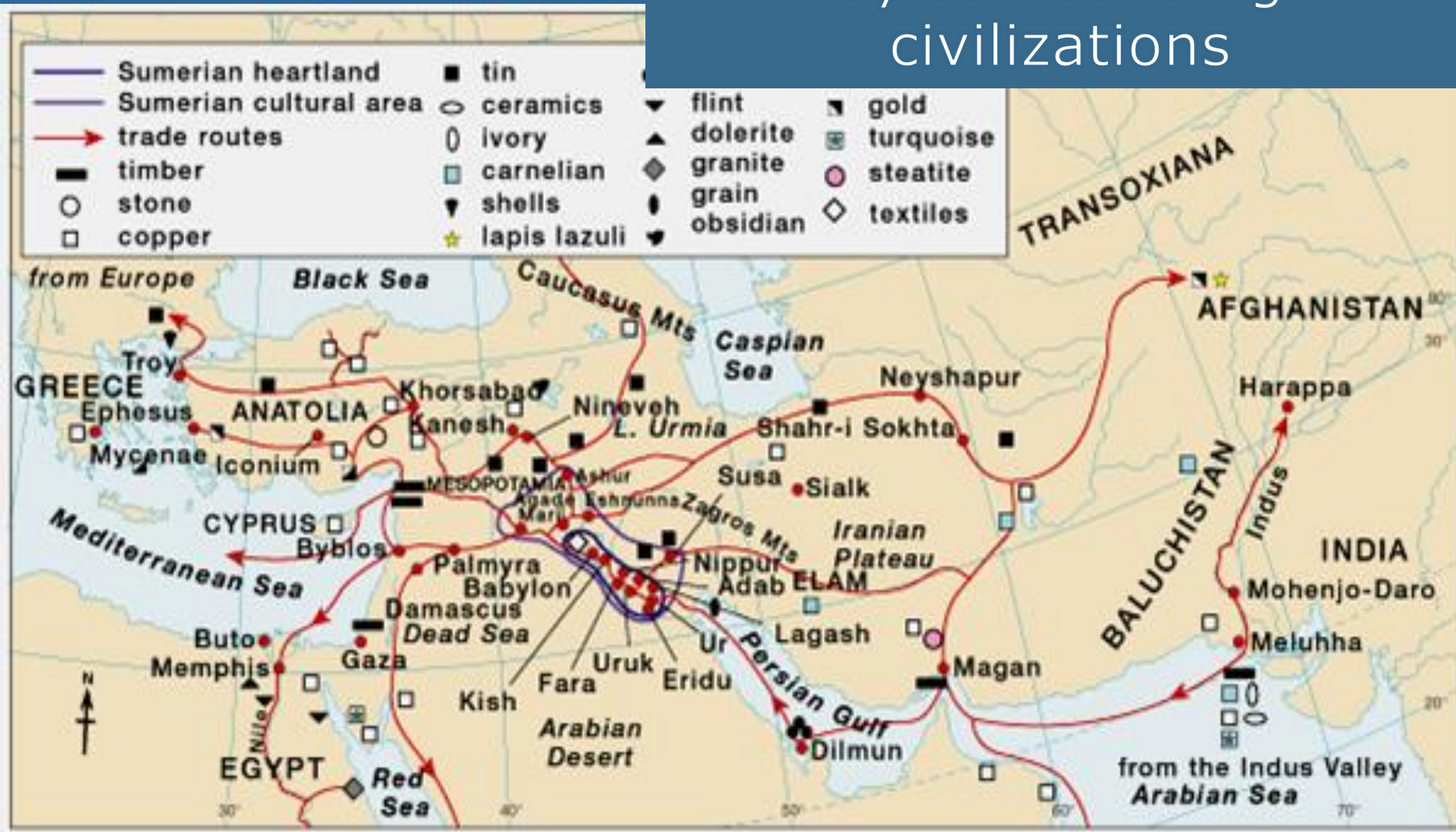
# CULTURAL

- **Polytheistic**
  - When gods are happy, society flourishes! If gods are bad, floods happen
- Art and literature focus on gods and religion
  - *Epic of Gilgamesh*
    - Contains a story of an epic flood
- Built ziggurats

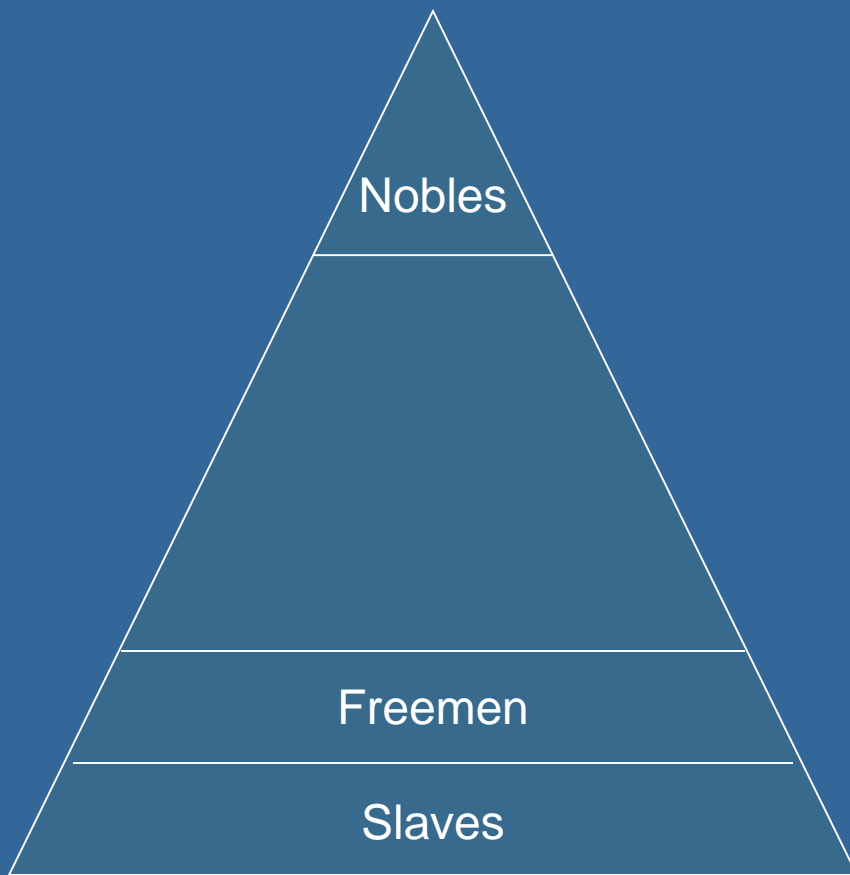


# ECONOMIC

Mesopotamia was the **crossroads** of society, and was highly influenced by surrounding civilizations



# SOCIAL



- Social stratification
- Slavery was common
  - One could become a slave through war, crime, or debt
  - Slaves were used in temples, public buildings, or private homes
- Patriarchal
  - Women could not hold most occupations

# ANCIENT EGYPT

- Nile River Valley
  - **Predictable** flooding
    - Positive outlook on life!
    - Advanced astronomy, calendar, and geometry
    - Provided rich soil, easy soil to farm
    - Civilization regulated flooding, surveying → helped set up govt systems
    - *Control the Nile; control society*
  - Surrounded by natural barriers on all four sides
    - *As a result, Egypt didn't develop weapons, and spent more time on math/art/culture*





# POLITICS



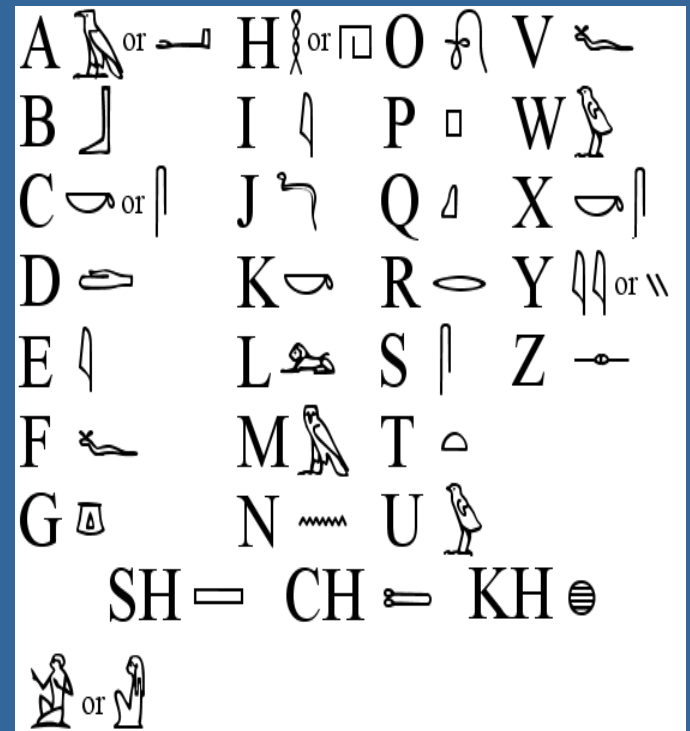
*Hatshepsut! She took over after her husband died, because her son was too young to rule. She wore a fake beard.*

- Formed by 3500 BCE
- Unified for most of history
  - Old Kingdom
    - Pharaohs, strong economy, pyramids
  - Middle Kingdom
    - Expanded trade, invasion by Hyksos
  - New Kingdom
    - Egyptians took back over, kicking out Hyksos - aggressive expansion of territory
- Theocracy
  - Pharaoh was a **god-king**
    - Reincarnation of Horus
  - Women could be pharaohs
    - Hatshepsut (1473-1458 BCE)



# INNOVATION AND TECH.

- Hieroglyphic writing on papyrus
- Mathematics
  - Geometry
- Calendar system
  - 365 days (off by 6 hours)
- Medicine
  - Due to...



# FUN TIME! LET'S LEARN ABOUT KING TUT



Akenhaten  
*(deformed)*

Nefertiti  
*(most beautiful Egyptian)*

Tutankhamen (King Tut)  
*(also deformed)*

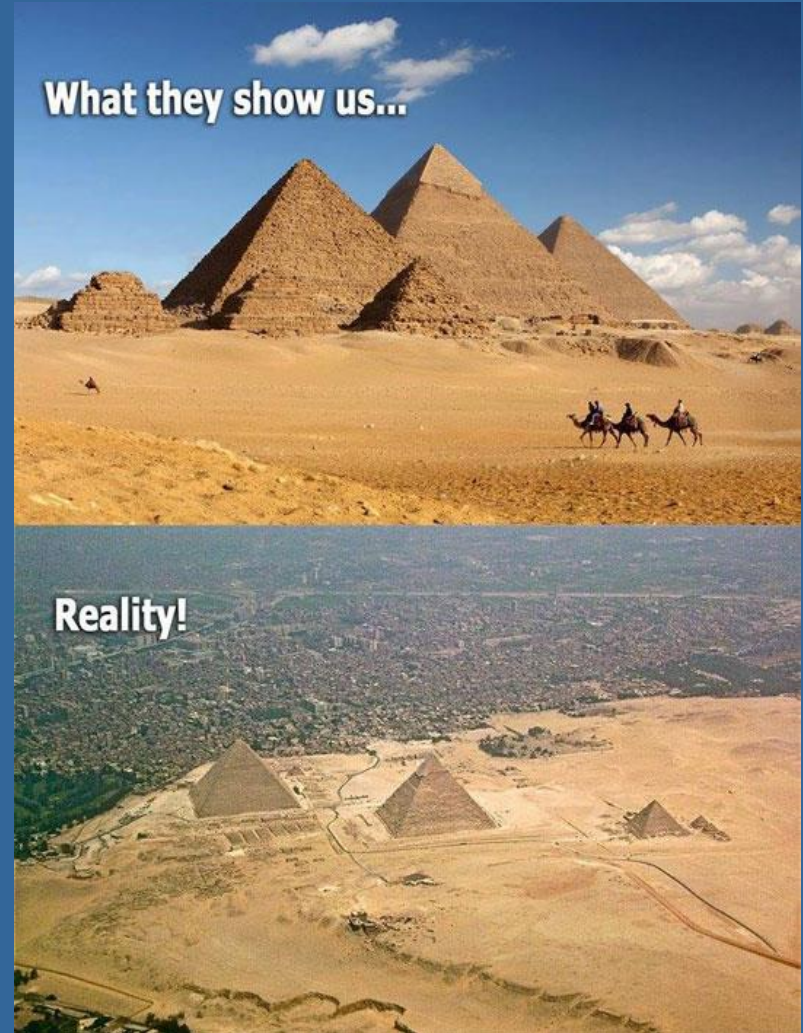
**“Death comes with swift wings to those who disturb the Pharaoh”**





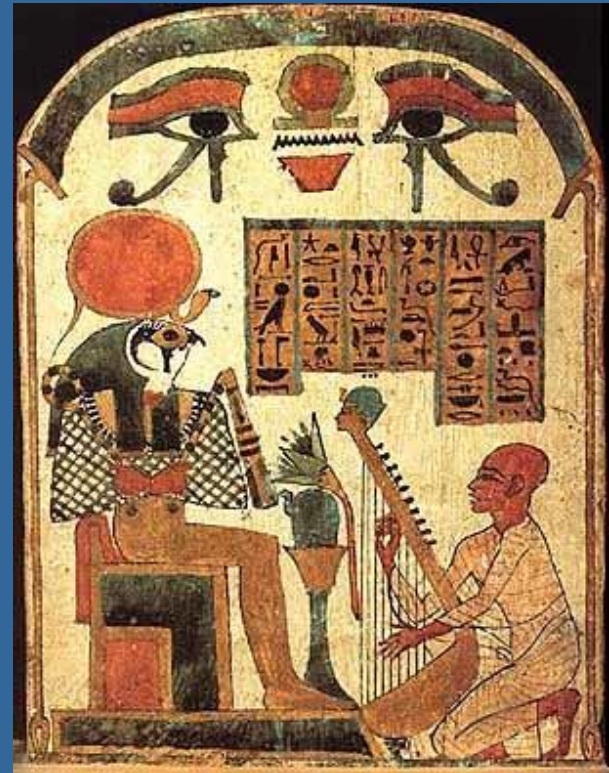
# And one last thing to blow your mind

- Construction of the pyramids started approximately 2620 BCE. Hatshepsut ruled in 1460 BCE.
- $2620 - 1460 = 1160$  years. The difference from when the pyramids were built to the time of Hatshepsut's reign was 1160 years.
- For context:
- 1160 years ago from today is the year 858. What was happening in North America in 858?

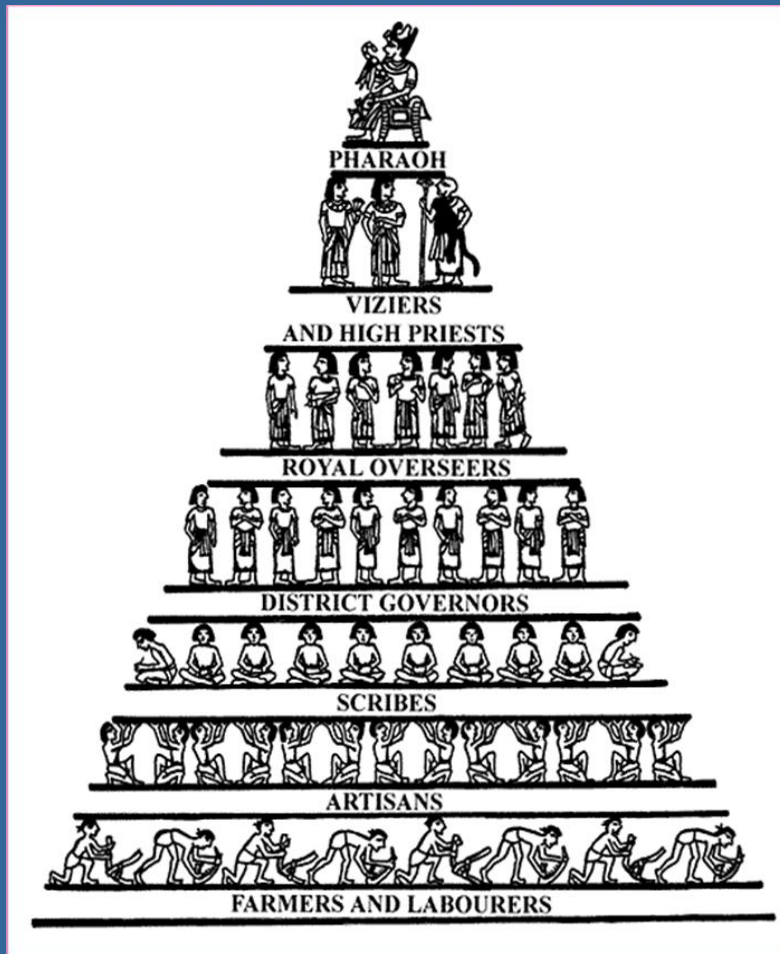


# CULTURE

- Polytheistic (many gods)
  - Gods have animal and human qualities
- Believe in afterlife
  - Mummification
  - Pyramids and temples
  - *Book of the Dead*



# SOCIAL



- Relatively egalitarian
  - Women are more equal here!
  - Could own property, propose marriage, etc
- Slavery common
- Strict social hierarchy, with priests at the top

# QUICK DISCUSSION

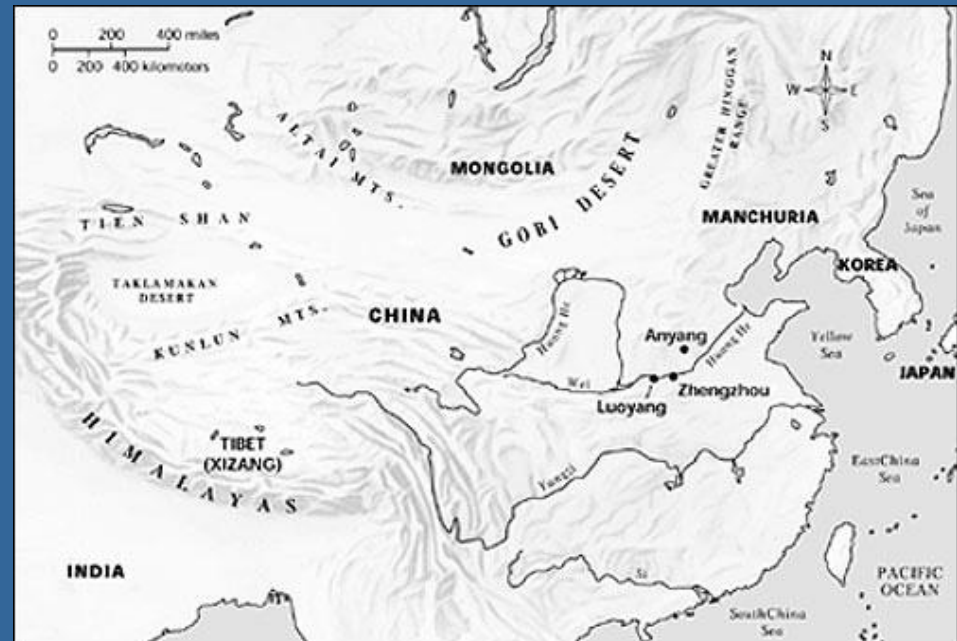
- *What's one similarity between Egypt and Mesopotamia? Why does that similarity exist?*
- *What's one difference between Egypt and Mesopotamia? Why does that difference exist?*



# ANCIENT CHINA

- Chinese River Valley
  - Huang He (Yellow River)
  - **Unpredictable** flooding
- Surrounded by natural barriers
  - Desert, mountains, ocean
  - Developed in isolation

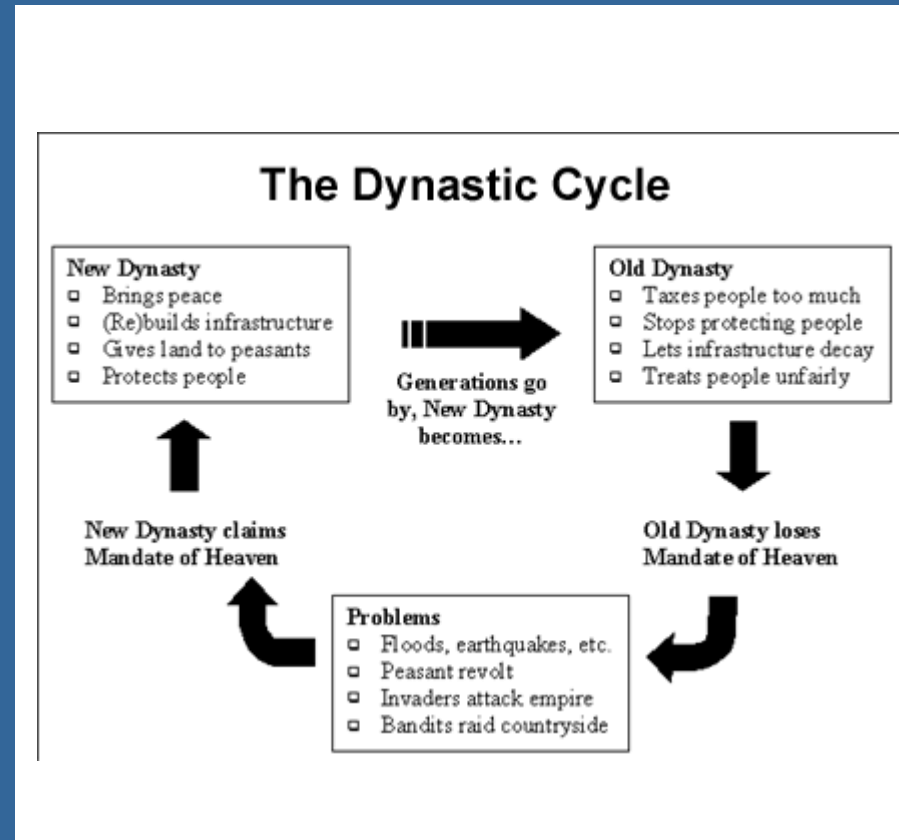
Cities surrounded by massive earthen walls



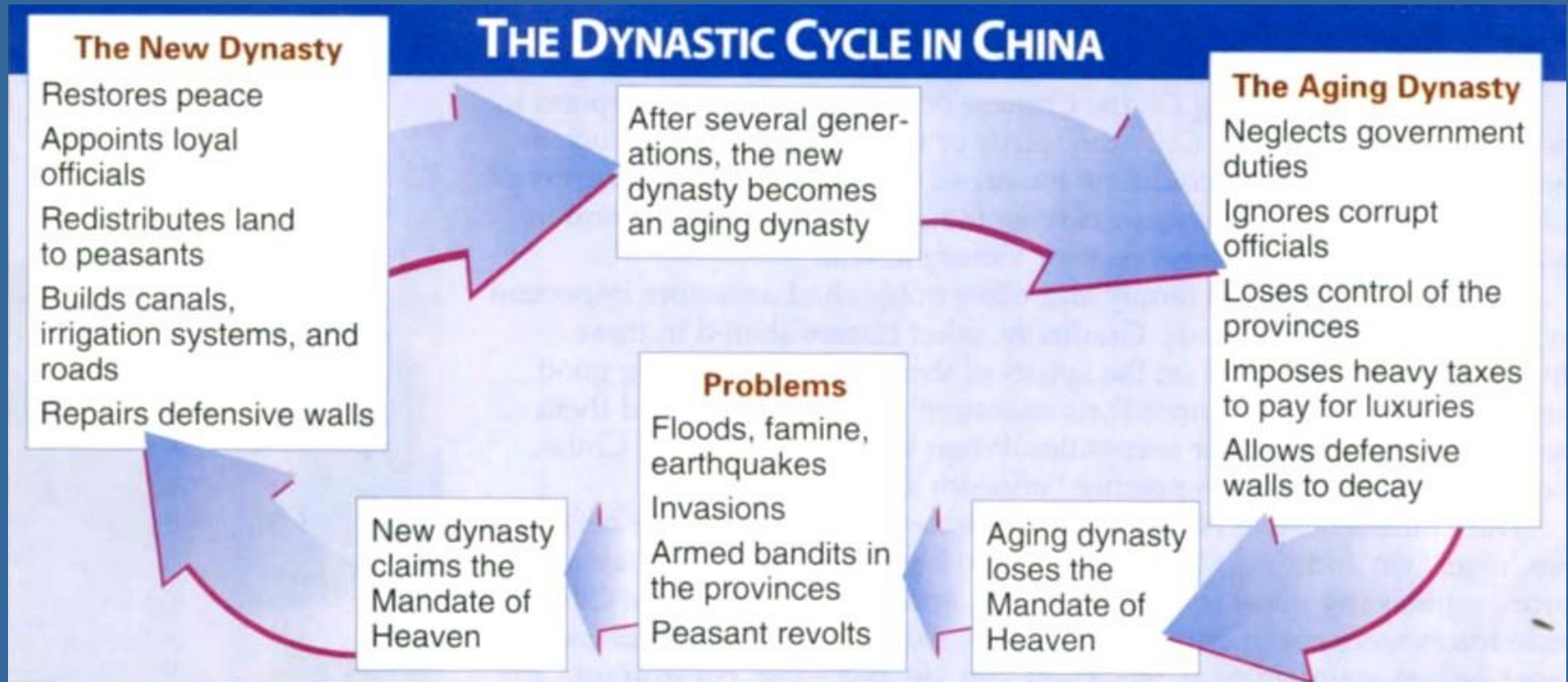


# POLITICS

- **Dynastic cycle** and the **Mandate of Heaven**
- Warlike kings & wealthy landowners dominate
- Important Dynasties
  - Xia? (2100 BCE – 1800 BCE)
  - Shang (1500 BCE – 1100 BCE)
  - Zhou (1100 BCE – 256 BCE)



# Dynastic Cycle



Mandate of Heaven—Rulers are chosen to rule by heaven and will continue to rule as long as heaven is pleased; if heaven is not pleased, heaven will pass the mandate to another family

# ECONOMY

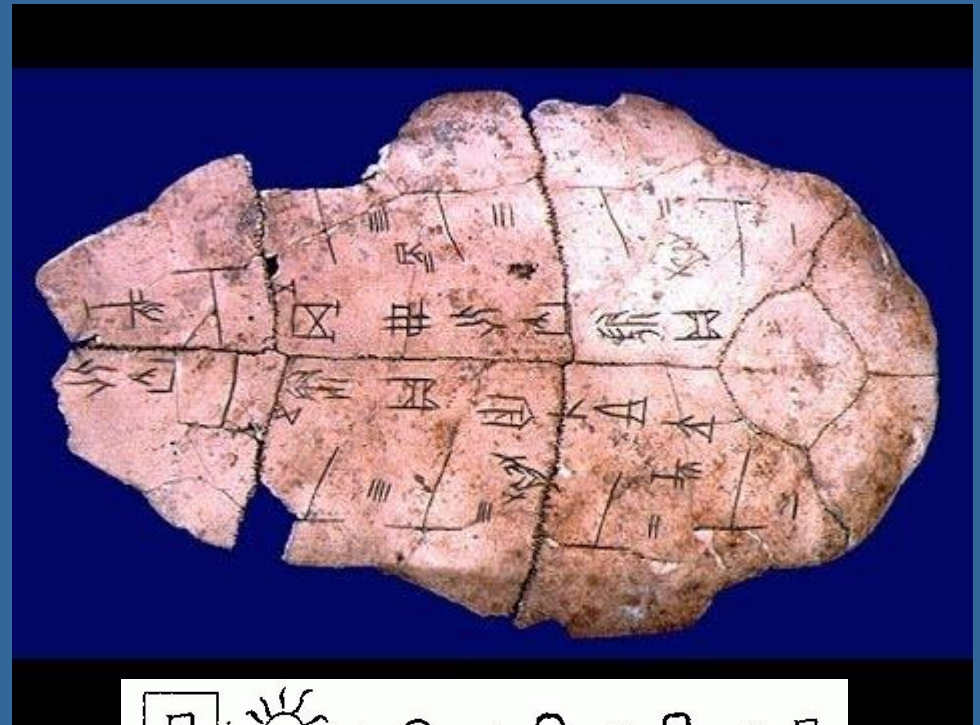
- Bronze and silk





# CULTURE

- Confucianism
- Oracle bones
  - believed spirits of family ancestors could bring good fortune or disaster
- Pictographs



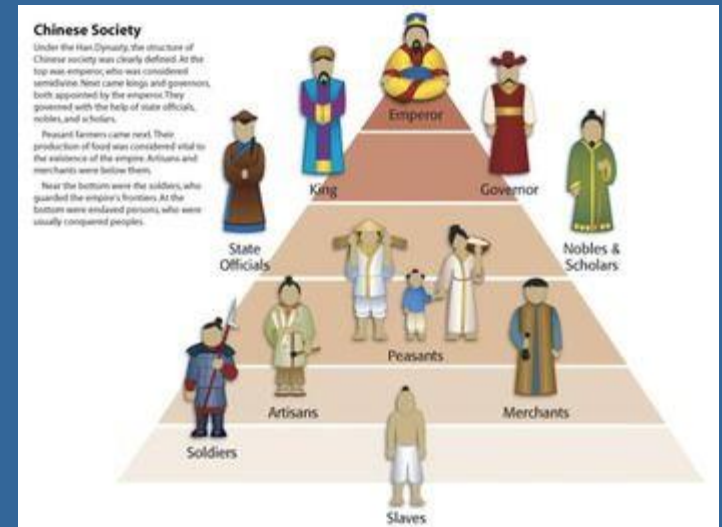
日		→		→		→		→	
目		→		→		→		→	
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馬		→		→		→		→	
刀		→		→		→		→	
魚		→		→		→		→	
門		→		→		→		→	

# CONTINUITIES IN CHINESE CULTURE

- Ethnocentrism – “**Middle Kingdom**” idea
  - We’re better than everyone and foreigners are bad
- Creativity and innovation
  - Lots of technological developments and advancements
  - Education valued
- Importance of family
  - Patriarchal society – women very low
  - Ancestor worship
- Political cycles
  - Strong, centralized governments
  - Dynastic cycles
- Hard lives of peasants

# SOCIAL STRUCTURES

- No priestly class – least religious society; rather, a **scholarly class**
  - From those who were rich (aka, landowners; back then called “gentry”) = scholar gentry
- Women lower than in most other early societies
- Family life very important
  - Center of society
  - Extended-family structure

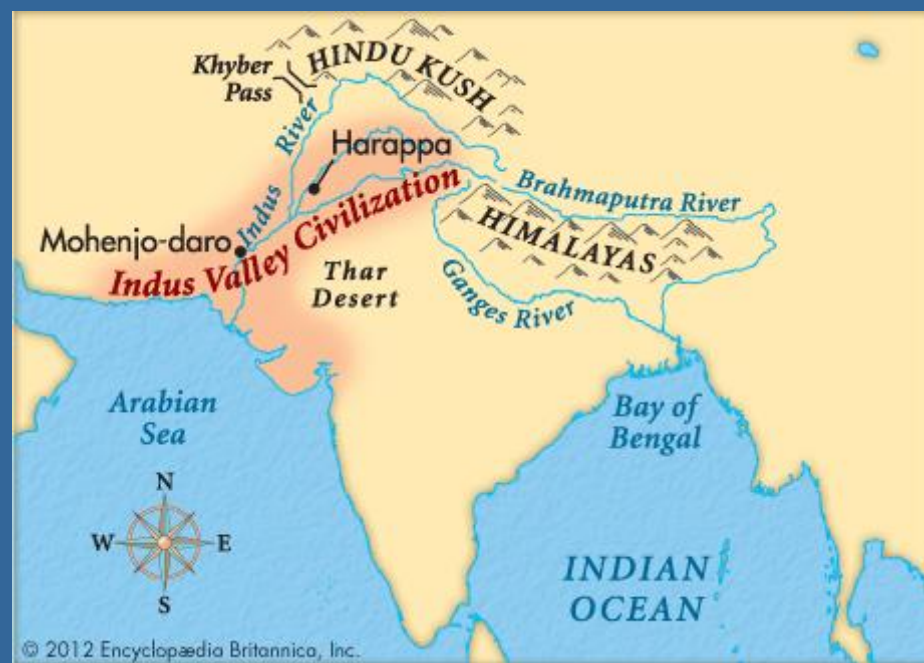


# QUICK DISCUSSION

- *What's one similarity between Egypt and China? Why does that similarity exist?*
- *What's one difference between China and Mesopotamia? Why does that difference exist?*

# ANCIENT INDIA

- Indus River Valley
  - Indus River
  - Unpredictable flooding
  - Monsoons
- Twin capitals
  - Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro





# Indus River Valley



- Polytheistic religion
  - Influenced Hinduism
- Planned cities with large temples
  - Extraordinarily well-planned cities
  - Grid system
  - Clay brick houses
  - Plumbing and sewer system
- Undecipherable writing system
  - Indus Valley Seals

Fun Fact! Mohenjo-Daro means "Mound of the Dead." It may have been the first city to domesticate chickens

# The Americas are important, too!

- They're just not "river valley civilizations," because they didn't develop in river valleys
- They didn't need that irrigation and water source
- Because they developed in areas with high rainfall



# The Olmec

- Olmec emerge in Mesoamerica c.1400-400 BCE
- Olmec zone is dense tropical forest
  - High rainfall - over 300 cm/year



# Olmec Government & Society

- Several city-states with common culture
- Social Hierarchy
  - Highest rank is that of the chief
  - Dominated by landed aristocracy
  - Laborers forced to build temples, palaces, and drainage canals



# Olmec Religion

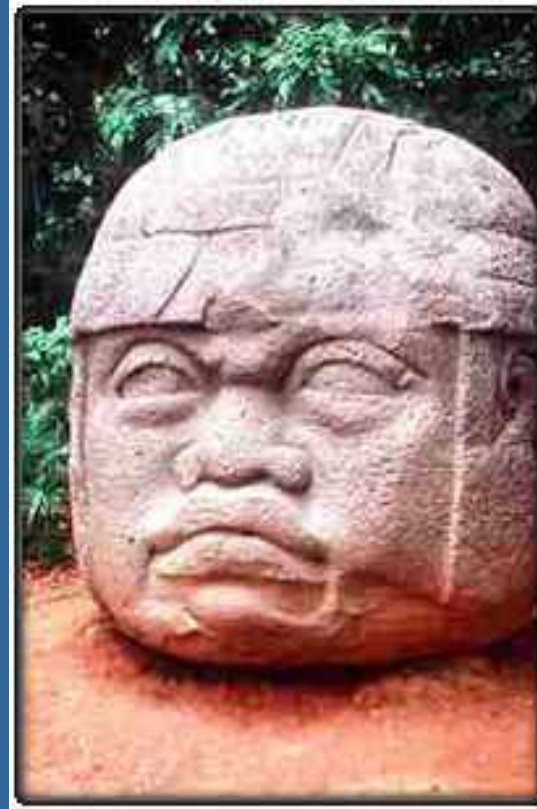
- Polytheistic
  - Deities blended male & female, animal & human characteristics
    - Feathered-serpent god (right)
  - Shamans organized religious life
- Religion led to development of writing system and calendar





# Olmec Art

- Building of clay pyramids and temple mounds
- Particular sculptural style
  - Jaguars
  - Fine jade carving
  - Colossal heads



# Norte Chico (pre-Chavin)

- 3000-1800 BCE in Peru
- Polytheistic
- Famous for monumental architecture and weaving
  - No evidence of any art or ceramics
- Used quipu for record keeping



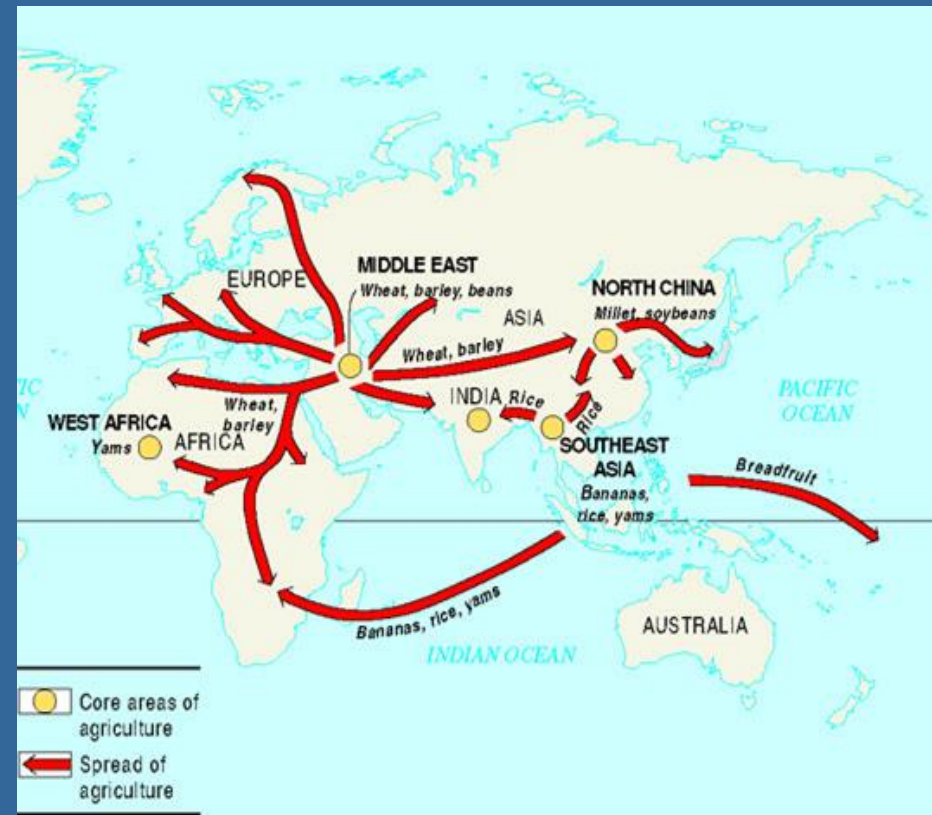
# QUICK DISCUSSION

- *What's one similarity between Eurasian and American civilizations? Why does that similarity exist?*
- *What's one difference between Eurasian and American civilizations? Why does that difference exist?*



# IMPORTANCE OF RIVER VALLEY CIVILIZATIONS

- Cultural Hearths
- Beginnings of civilization
- Set up **trade routes** that eventually became the Silk Road
- **Diffusion of domesticated plants, animal, and technology**



# Legacy of Ancient Civilizations

- Writing systems, religions, and technology was influenced the development of new civilizations and cultures
- Ancient civilizations decline by 1000 BCE
  - Subject to nomadic invasions
- Ancient River Valley Civilizations were the warm up that led to... Classical Civilizations!

# QUIZ TIME

1. One reason for the development of an early civilization in the Tigris-Euphrates river valleys was that

A.the location protected the people from land invasion

B.periodic flooding left rich soil, which was ideal for farming

C.these rivers provided a direct trade route between Europe and Asia

D.these rivers flowed into the Mediterranean Sea

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2. "If a seignior (noble) has knocked out the tooth of a seignior of his own rank, they shall knock out his tooth. But if he has knocked out a commoner's tooth, he shall pay one-third mina of silver."

-Code of Hammurabi

Which idea of Babylonian society does this portion of the Hammurabi code of law reflect?

A.all men were equal under the law

B.fines were preferable to corporal punishment

C.divisions existed between social classes

D.violence was always punished with violence



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3. The early civilizations of the Nile River Valley, Mesopotamia, and the Yellow River Valley were similar because they were

- A. industrialized societies
- B. monotheistic
- C. dependent on fertile land
- D. dependent on each other for trade

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