## History of Ancient Empires

WARS / CRUSADERS

ment of victory stele

Archery: The Assyrians and Babylonians extensively used the bow and arrow; the Old Testament has multiple references to archery as a skill identified with the ancient Hebrews.

1728-1686: Hammurabi

1531: Looting and burning of Babylon by the king of the Hittities, Mursilis I. 1480: Battle of Meggido

1275 BC: Battle of Kadesh 1200 BC: Reign of Sea Peoples

## CULTURE / RELIGION

- "Cradle of civilization" transition from hunting and gathering communities to agriculture and settlement.
- First pottery
- Tribal families settle down in villages



- Climatic change, water gets more important

- Humid areas near rivers (Euphrat, Tigris, Nile) get important for the development of high crops
- Cities as new centers of trade
- Nucleus of cultural identity
- Social stratification and decreasing egalitarianism

- Egypt: Animal gods and solar deity

- Akkadian empire: Saragon I. is political ruler and also head of religious figure
- Assur: chief deity of the city, name of city and empire

Codex Hammurabi: Talion law code, "Eye for an eye". For example, if a person caused the death of another person's child, the killer's own child would be put to death



Battle of Kadesh. The Battle of Kadesh took place between the forces of the Egyptian Empire inder Ramesses II and the Hittite Empire under Muwatalli II at the city of Kadesh. (1275 BC)

SCIENCE / TECHNOLOGY

- Neolithic Revolution, origin of agriculture
- Storage of crops, nomads start to settle down
- Domestication of plants and animals
- Use of copper



Sumerian clay sickle

- First irrigation systems - Development of high crops

- Protective structures: embankments, ditches, drainage
- Invention of the wheel ca. 3600 BC
- Cuneiform script (Keilschrift)
- Early garners as a possible origin of sedentism
- First sacred architectures
- City as a center of trade

carts on the Sumerian "battle standard of Ur" (circa 2500 BC) - Bronze Age: use of bronze for tools and weapons

- Egyptians: use of Hieroglyphics

Ancient Greece: Helladic Period (2500-1600)

- Calendar system using 365 days, beginning mid of July (Nile
  - Mercenary: Pharaoh Rameses II used 11,000 mercenaries during his battles

łammurabi (1728-1686)

- Taxation

- New weapon technologies and the use of horse carts in wars

Akhenaten, Pharaoh of the Eighteenth dynasty of Egypt (1353-1334). He is especially noted for abandoning traditio al Egyptian polytheism and introducing worship centered on the Aton the god of all Egyptian



- Jericho (between 8'000 and 6'000 BC), in the Hebrew Bible as the "City of Palm Trees", was a prestage of city states

Catalhöyük

Uruk









- Egypt: Memphis as political Center

- Centralized government

- Give the region stability

- Assur: capital of Assyria
- Old Babylon: largest city in the world
- Washukanni: capital of the Hurrian kingdom

PEOPLE / EMPIRES

Sumer (3200-2350)

Akkad (2350-1950)

Hittities Kingdom (1640-1200)

Babylon (1728-1530) Mittani empire (1450 - 1350) Babylonian Kassites (1531 - 1155)

Old Assyrian Kingdom (1800-1375) Middle Assyrian Period (1375-1047)

Mycenaean Greece (1600-1150)

Palestine I (1500-567)

Fertile Crescent

Early agricultures in Mesopotamia / Europe

Ancient Egypt: Old Kingdom (2850-2052)

Middle Kingdom (2052-1570)

New Kingdom (1570-715)

neolithic period bronze age

10'000 BC

5'000 BC //// Spread of agricultures over the mediterranian sea and balkans to europe Earliest high crops cultures in the river valleys of Euphrates, Tigris and Nile, 2'500 BC Empire of Saragon I. (the Great) of Akkad (2334 - 2279 BC), around 2279 BC Territories possibly also belonging to Saragon I. |||||||| Old Babylon Empire of King Hammurabi at the end of his reign Ancient Egypt: Middle kingdom (2052-1570) Old Assyrian kingdom of king Shamshi-Adad I (1813 - 1781 or 1749-1717 BC)

1'000 BC 1'500 BC Mycenae culture area around 1300 BC Hittities kingdom at 1400 BC, biggest extent around 1322 BC Ancient Egypt: New Kingdom (1570-715 BC) Mittani Empire of Hurrians around 1400 BC Assyrian Empire around 1400 BC, biggest extent (1243 - 1207) Babylonian Empire of the Kas-

Iron age

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**CULTURE / RELIGION** 

of horseback archery

Assurbanipal: the last great king of - Assurnasispal II (883-859) -> first warriors on horses -Tiglatpileser III (745-727)

- Asharhoddon (680-669)

- Assurbanipal (668-626)

Nebukadnezar II (604-562)

- Ionian revolt (500-494)

- Corinthian war (395 - 387 BC)

- Persian wars 490 / 480 / 479, - End of Neo-Babylonian Empire

- Athens: city walls as protection Persian warriors, possibly Immortals a frieze in Darius's palace at Susa. Sil cious glazed bricks, 510 BC - Alexander the Great (334-323)

333 Victory against Persian King - 331 End of Persian Empire - Beginning of Hellenistic culture

Hellenistic period following the campaigns of Alexander the Great

The Phoenician

776 BC: First Olympic Games in Olympia, Greece. The first Games began as an annual foot race of young women in competition for the position of the priestess for the goddess, Hera, and a second race was instituted for a consort for the priestess who would participate in the religious traditions at the temple.

Athletes running the noplitodromos



Early Athenian coin, depicting the head of Athena on the obverse and her owl on the reverse - 5th century BC

Silver rhyta, drinking

The Alexander Mosaic of The Battle of Issus dating from circa 100 BC, is a famous mosaic originally on a floor in the House of the Faun, Pompeii. It depicts a battle between the armies of Alexander the Great and Darius III

of Persia.



Spread of Hellenistic civilization during the

SCIENCE / TECHNOLOGY



Assurbanipal established the first systematically organized library in the ancient Middle East.

Inscribed prism of Essarhaddon, from Area A, Mushlalu Gate, Nineveh

Polis: city and city-state, the ancestor of city. Political entity ruled by its body of citizens, indicated through Agora (social and economical market place), Acropolis (citadel, which now bears a temple instead of the Mycenaean palace), greek urban planning (Hippodamian plan), and often have colonies founded by the oikistes of the metropolis.



Greek colonization (750-550): Greek fleet of gallevs

distinguishing features: firstly the allotment (selection by lot) of ordinary citizens to government offices and courts, and secondarily the assembly of all the citizens.

Athenian democracy had two

even Wonders of the Ancient World

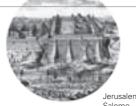
A Greek phalanx charging into battle, as peltasts throw spears over the heads of the

40 BC

**CITIES** 

Iron age

1'000 BC



PEOPLE / EMPIRES

Phoenicia (1000-539)

Biblical Jerusalem in the kingdom of Israel:

- 1006 966 David, king of Hebron conquers Jerusalem
- 966 926 Salomo: centralized state with tax-system and compulsory
- 925 587 Kingdom of Judah
- 587 Babylonians under Nebucadnezar II. destroyed both the city and the temple of Jerusalem, and deported Jews to Babylon



Babylon: Hanging Gardens and Tower of Babel

- Persepolis (515 BC) was the ceremonial capital of the Persian Empire during the Achaemenid dynasty.

- Alexandria (founded by Alexander the Great in 332 BC), was the seat of the Ptolemaic rulers of Egypt, and quickly became one of the greatest cities of the Hellenistic world

Athens: The Acropolis imagined in an 1846 painting by Leo von Klenze

City Pergamon, capital of the Kingdom of Pergamon during the Hellenistic period, under the Attalid dynasty, 281–133 BC.

Archaic Period of Greece (800-500)

Neo-Babylonian Empire (625-539)

Persian Empire (559-330)

500 BC

Classical Greece (500-336) Hellenistic Greece (323-30)

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Alexander (336-

Seleucid Empire (304-64)

Macedonia (279-148)

Diadochi wars (323-280)

250 BC

Palestine II (539 BC - 133 CE)

Ptolemaic dynasty (305 - 30 BC)

Late Period (715-332)

Neo-Assyrian Empire (883-612)

Greek colonization 750 - 550 BC Phoenician colonization 750 - 550 BC Assyrian Empire of Assurdan II. (934 - 912 BC) Assyrian Empire of Assurnasipal II. (883 - 859 BC) greatest extent under Asarhaddan (680 - 669 BC) and Assurbanipal (668 - 626 BC) Neo-Babylonian Empire of Nebucadnezar II. (604 - 562 BC) Babyloniar paptivity: deportation and exile of the Jews of the ancient Kingdom of Judah to Babylon by Nebuchadnezzar II. in 586 BC

750 BC

o Petra The Persian Empire from 559 to 486 BC • Persepolis Beginning of reign of Kyros' II. 559 BC INDIA Conquests of Kyros' II. 559 - 549 BC Conquests of Kyros' II. 549 - 529 BC Egyp Conquests of Kambyses' II, 522 - 486 BC Conquests of Dareios' I. 522 - 486 BC ////// Vassal states of the Achaemenid Empire

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