

# MESOPOTAMIA

## Visual Vocab



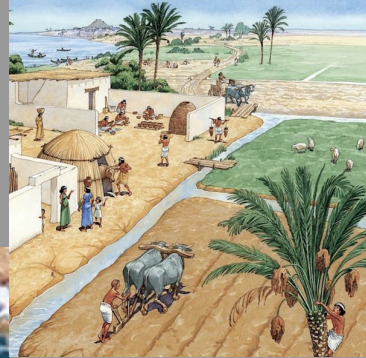
A contemporary map of Iraq and the surrounding region showing Mesopotamia (literally, "between rivers").



# Fertile Crescent

A large arc of rich, or fertile farmland

- Location of 1st Civilization



# Silt

A mixture of soil and rocks that is very fertile

- Used for Farming



# Irrigation

## **A WAY OF CONTROLLING WATER FOR FARMING**

- **PREVENTS FLOODING**
- **SUPPLIES WATER**



# Division of Labor

A System that  
Divides People into  
Jobs

- Accomplish different Tasks
- Merchants & Farmers



# EMPIRE

Independent  
Territories that  
make up a  
civilization

-Sumer, Babylonia, & Assyrian



# SOCIAL HIERARCHY

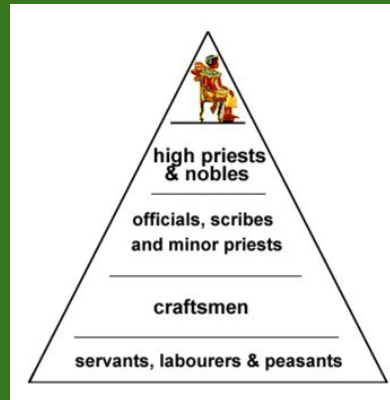
A system that divides people into classes based on job of your family.

-Highest Rank= Top

-King

-Lowest Rank= Bottom

-Slaves



## Sumerian Social Order

Title	Description
king	Believed the gods gave them the right to rule
priests	Gave up working & lived of the offerings of the people- given large tracts of land to rent out to farmers for financial support
Skilled craftspeople	Crafters with specific skills that are in high need
merchants	People who buy & sell goods to the public
Traders	*huge <u>impact</u> on Sumer Travel to far away places to trade gold, silver, copper, lumber, & precious stones
Farmers	Grow crops- working class
Laborers	People who do manual labor-ex. Build bricks and structures- working class
Slaves	People bought and sold to be laborers for the wealthy- lowest social class

# cuneiform

**The world's first system of writing**  
- **Used for Keeping Records**





# ZIGGURAT

A pyramid-shaped temple

- used for religious ceremonies



# Surplus

Producing more goods or crops than was needed

- **Used for trade or storage**



# HAMMURABI'S CODE

First set of 282 laws  
created by King  
Hammurabi

- Dealt with daily life
- Eye for an eye

