

Unit 0 8,000BCE – 600BCE

Paleolithic Age (Old Stone)

Mesolithic Age (Middle Stone)

Neolithic Age (New Stone)



Ancient River Valley Civilizations

Sumer (Mesopotamia)

Egypt



Indus (Mohenjo Daro & Harappa)

China (Xia, Shang, & Zhou)

Milestones in 10 Million Years of Human Evolution



10 million

Bipedalism



5 million

4 million

Australopithecus



3 million

First stone tools

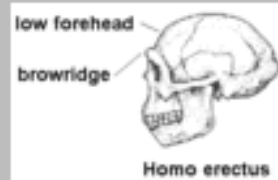


2 million

Homo habilis

Homo erectus

Homo erectus
brain size = 800 cm³



1 million

Signs of camps & meat eating
Use of fire



700,000

Environment of Evolutionary Adaption

200,000

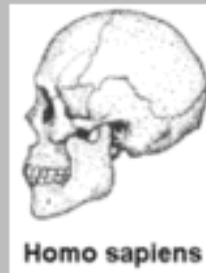
Homo sapiens

Advanced tools

100,000

Homo sapiens sapiens

- modern humans



Homo sapiens

Homo sapiens sapiens
brain size = 1700 cm³

40,000

10,000



Cave painting about
20,000 years old

150

Industrial revolution

50

Technological revolution



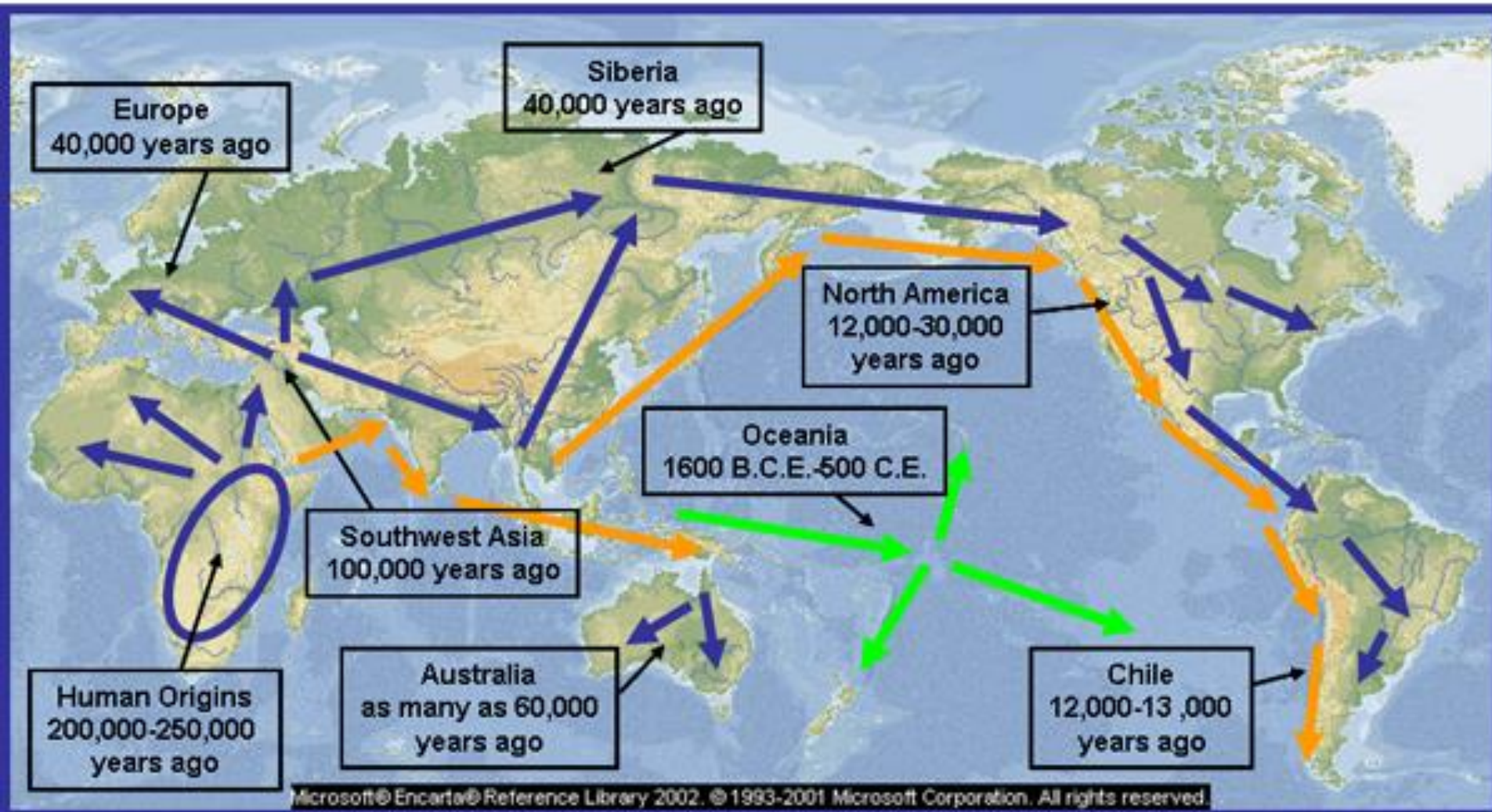
Paleolithic Age (2 million - 8,000 BCE)



- c.12,000 BCE—humans evolved physically and mentally to the level of today
 - Opposable thumbs & developed brain
- Achievements
 - Invention of tools & weapons
 - Language
 - Control of fire
 - Art (sculpture, jewelry, and cave paintings)
- Lived in small bands of hunter-gatherer societies
 - Men hunt and/or fish; women gather fruits, etc.
 - Follow migratory patterns of animals
 - Need large portions of land to support them
 - Life expectancy was 20 years or less
 - Lived in groups of 20-30 people



Migrations of Homo sapiens



- Possible coastal routes of human migration
- Possible landward routes of human migration
- Migrations in Oceania

The Mesolithic Age



- Between Paleolithic and Neolithic eras → a transitional stage known as the Mesolithic Age
 - a gradual shift from the old food-gathering and hunting economy to a food-producing one.
- Also a gradual domestication (taming) of animals, these changes led to the cultivation of crops = Neolithic Age.

Neolithic Revolution



- c.10,000 BCE- two discoveries revolutionized society
 - Farming (1st crops were wheat & barley)
 - Herding (1st domesticated animals were goats, pigs, & cattle)
- Farming & herding allowed for urban development
 - 1st cities emerged in Middle East (Turkey & Jordan)
- Domesticated animals produced a new type of society called Pastoralists
 - Nomadic peoples who herd domesticated animals
 - Move in search of food for their animals
 - Traditionally more stable than hunter-gatherer societies

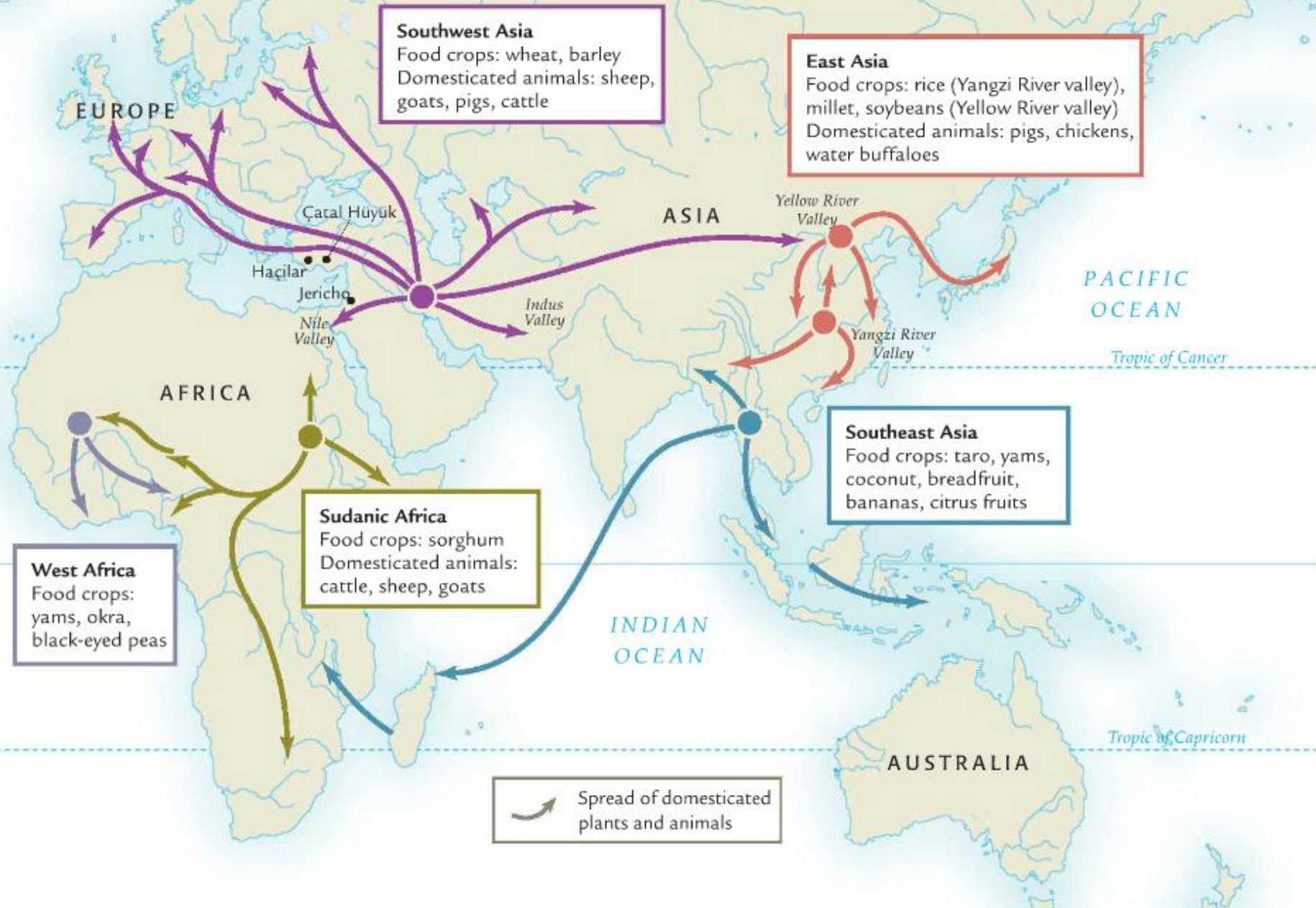


Pastoral Societies

- Develop on marginal land apart from areas suitable for agriculture, often semi-arid regions
 - Interact with agricultural societies
- Many pastoral nomads lived in kin-related bands numbering up to 100
- Tribal membership was defined by recognizing a common ancestry among kinship groups
- Often called Courage Cultures
 - Warlike males bound to each other by ties of personal loyalty tended to dominate these societies
 - Violence between kinship groups limited the ability of clans and tribes to cooperate



The Spread of Agriculture

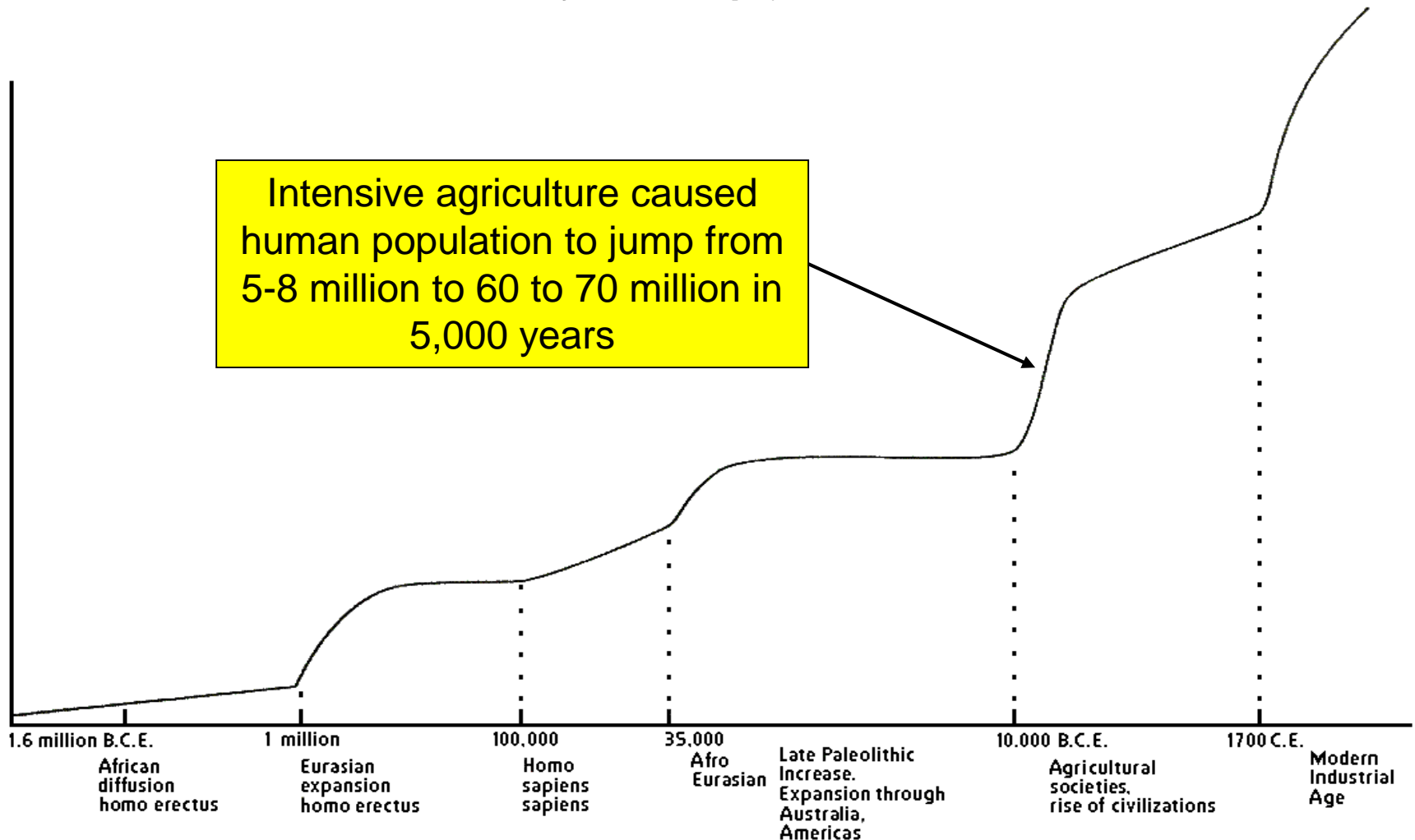


World Population Growth



- HUMAN POPULATION AND MIGRATION PATTERNS •

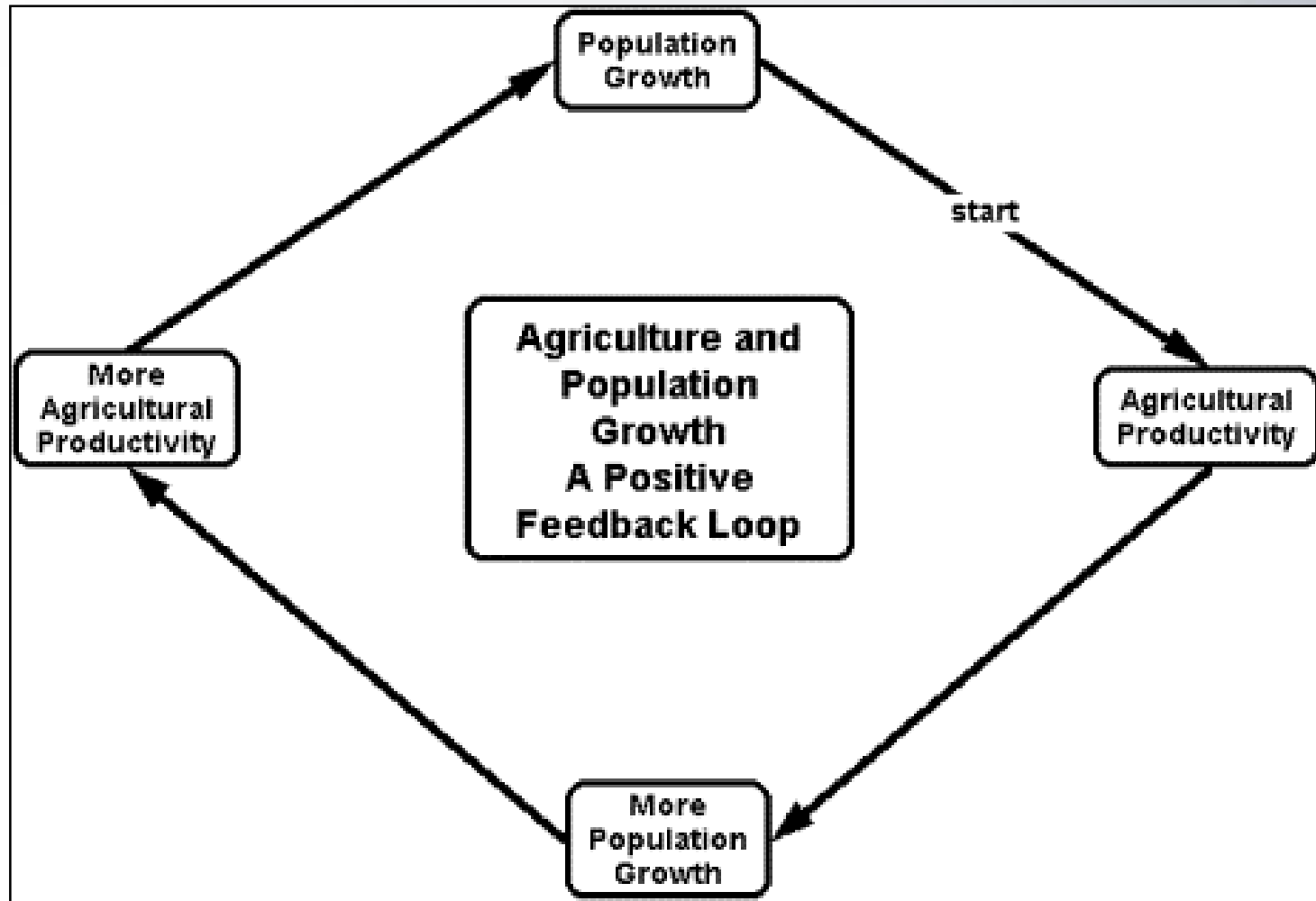
Cycles of Demographic Growth



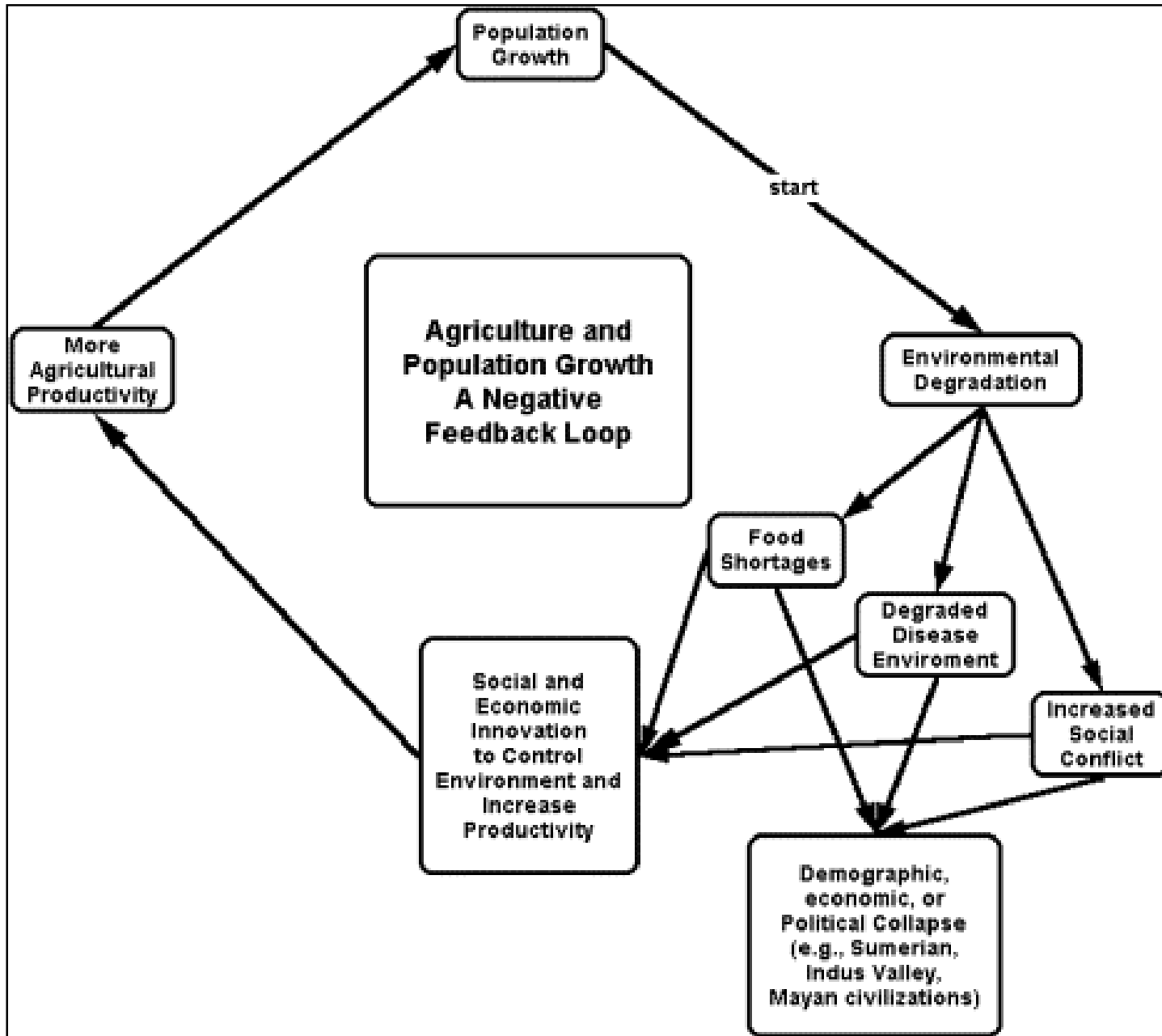
World Population Growth



Positive Effects of Population Growth



Negative Effects of Population Growth



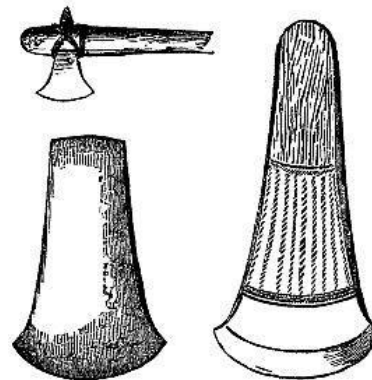
CRADLES OF CIVILIZATION



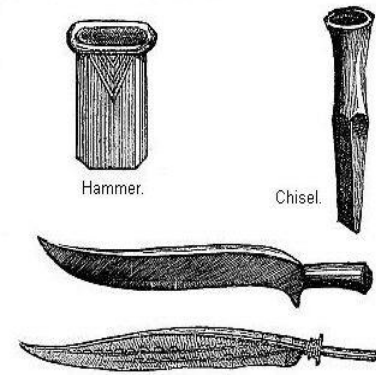
Variations on Agriculture

- As agriculture spread, different areas began to grow different crops that were suited to their environment.
- People began to settle down, grow crops, and start villages became known as the **Cradles of Civilization**. Most of these areas were in river valleys.
- The oldest and largest of the villages are found in SW Asia.
- New discoveries transformed permanent settlements into civilizations

- Bronze
- Writing



Bronze Axes—First Form.



Bronze Knives.

Rise of Civilization 4th Millennium BCE



- 1st civilization emerged in Mesopotamia (modern day Iraq)
 - c. 3500 BCE between the Tigris & Euphrates Rivers
 - Other river valleys → Nile in Egypt, Indus in India, & Huang He in China.
- These types of villages spread throughout Europe and the rest of the world.

Social Transformations (Neolithic Period)

- Full-time political and religious figures emerge as community leaders
- Specialized workers developed
 - toolmakers, miners, and merchants
- Despite specialization, 'well-defined' social stratification did not exist
- Farming & specialization of labor led to...
 - Villages turned into cities → men took over farming
 - Men were the primary food providers & women no longer filled that role
 - Role of women changed to family caregiver and society became mostly male dominated (**patriarchal**) in most cultures
 - an increase in technology (Axes, the plow, dams, and canals)

Metallurgy

No substance has been as important as metal in the story of man's control of the environment. Advances in agriculture, warfare, transport, even cookery are impossible without metal.



Copper-

The first metal used by ancient man was copper, c.7,000 BCE, a natural metal that could be cast into tools

Bronze Age-

Later, copper was mixed with tin to make Bronze. Bronze was the metal of choice for tools and weapons from c.3000-1200 BCE

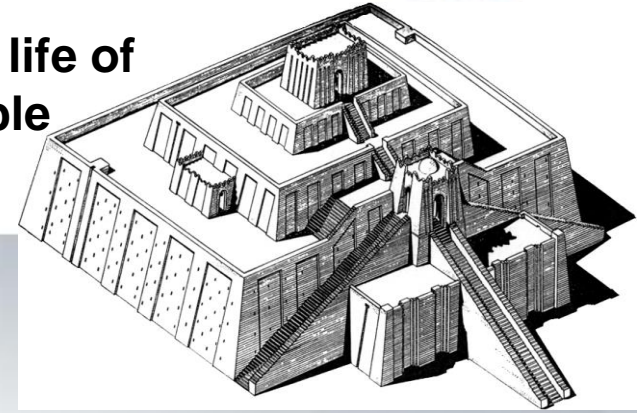
Iron Age- c.1000 BCE the use of iron became common



CIVILIZATION

Culture: way of life of a group of people

An agricultural surplus led to the emergence of **civilization**, a complex culture where humans share common elements.



RISE OF CITIES

Growth of Government

Usually monarchs
(King and Queens)

Emergence of Religion

Priests or Shamans
take an active role

Specialization Jobs, Artisans

New Social Structure Different social classes emerge

CIVILIZATION

Art & Architecture Temples, Pyramids, Palaces, Painting, and Sculpture

Writing 1st was Cuneiform in Sumer

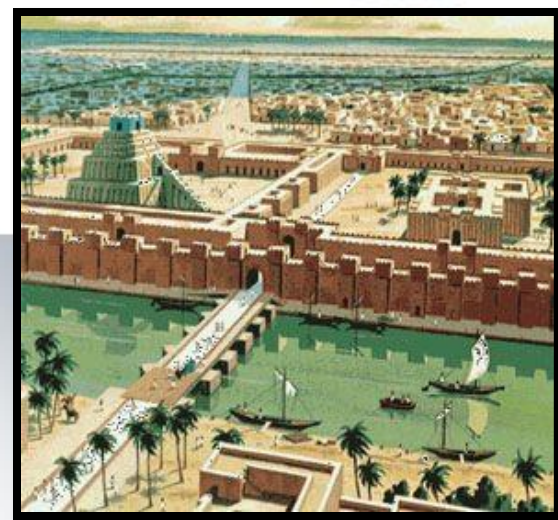
Public Works Irrigation, Roads



8 Components of Civilization

1. Cities

- Agriculture allowed for a surplus (difficult to move)
- River valley: agriculture required a stable source of water



2. Government

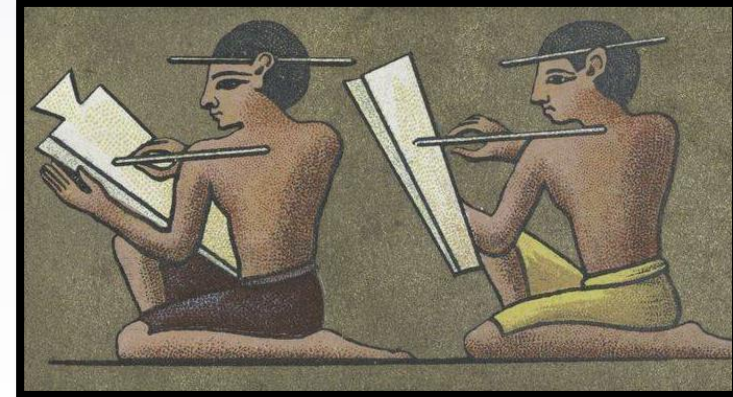
- emerged to regulate many aspects of city life including the food supply & defense of city
- Issues laws, collects taxes, organizes defense, monitors/rations food supply
- Bureaucracy – managing government through departments of officials
- Protecting the surplus was the most important
- As people had more contact with each other, conflicts emerged, helped to regulate these
- Most early governments were monarchies



8 Components Cont.

3. Religion

- Developed to explain natural phenomena
- Polytheistic – many gods
- People wanted to gain favor with the gods → direct impact on the lives of the people
 - If deities weren't happy things would go poorly for the people
- Priests- important figures w/special powers
- Rulers said their power came from the gods



4. Writing (1st cuneiform in Sumer)

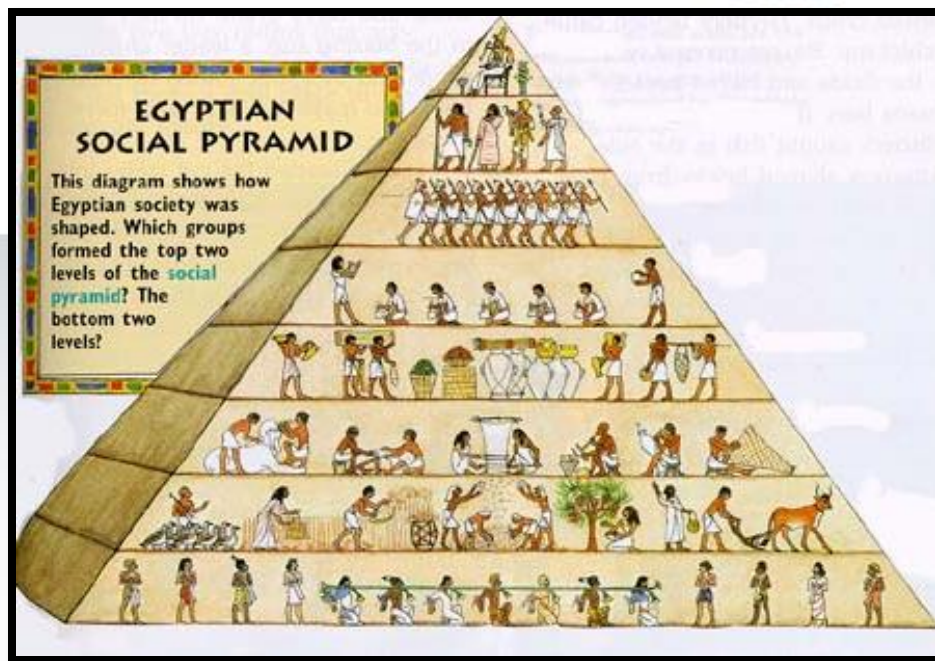
- Crucial skill for early civilizations
- Pictograms – simple drawings to show words
- Scribes – as writing became complex these trained experts learned to read and write
- Religious texts, Gov't. rules, Economy trading



8 Components Cont.

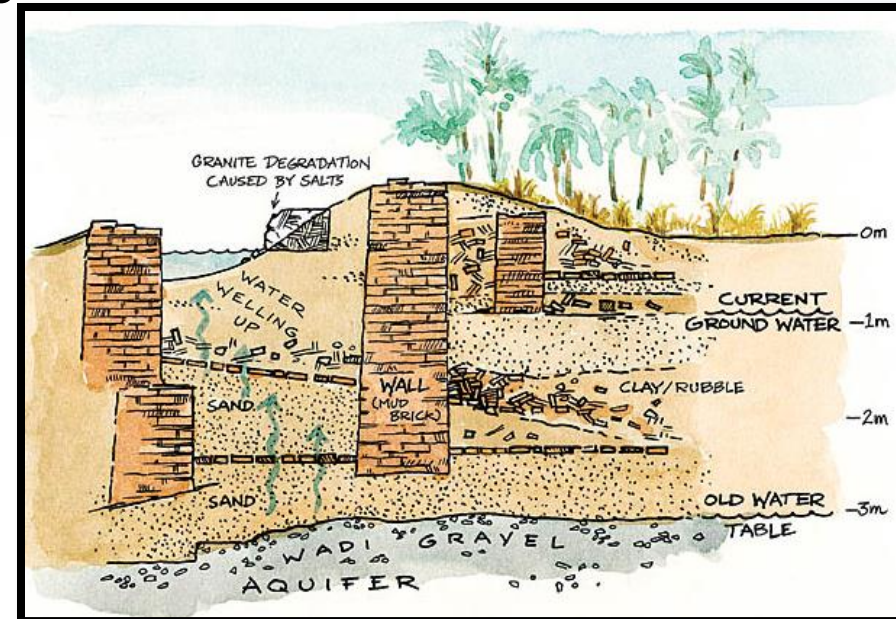
5. Social Classes

- Ranked according to their jobs/occupations
- Priests and nobles → top level of society
- Merchants, artisans, farmers → mid-level
- Slaves were usually prisoners of war
- As economic power increased → led to divisions between the social classes



6. Public Works

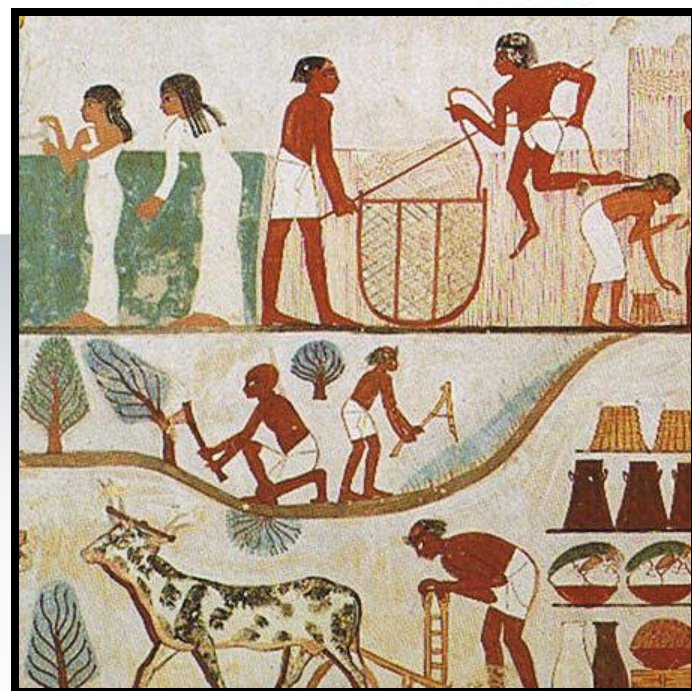
- Monumental architecture – temples, palaces
- Irrigation systems, roads and bridges
- Defensive walls



8 Components Cont.

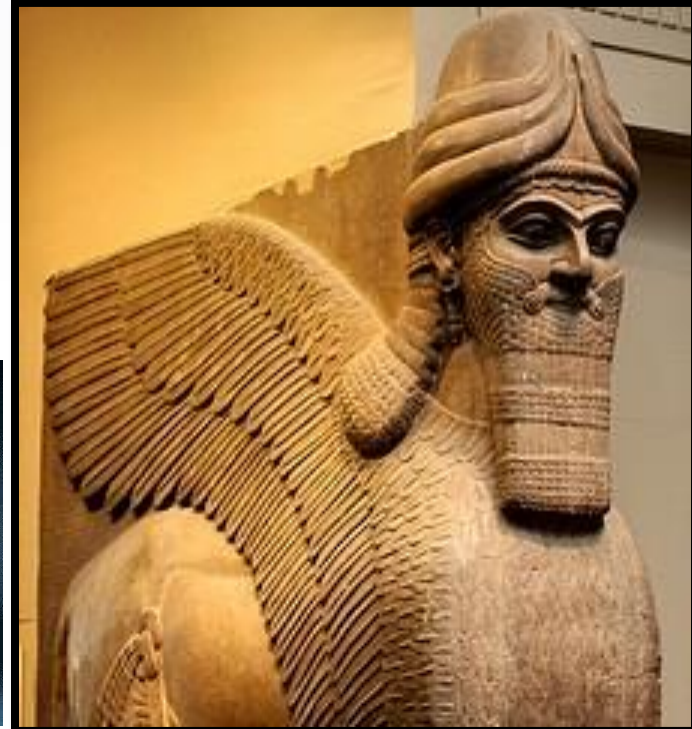
7. Job Specialization

- Specialization brought expertise
- Artisans – skilled craft workers who made pottery or woven goods



8. Art & Architecture

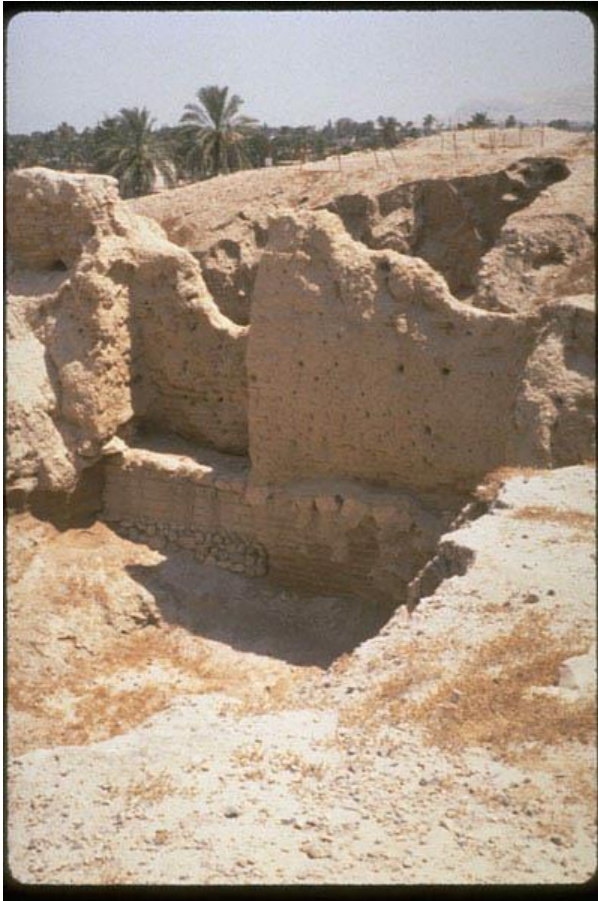
- Steady food supply → more time for artistic activity
- Expressed the beliefs and values of people who created them
- Temples and palaces reassured people of the strength/power of their government and religion



JERICHO



Found in ancient Palestine near the Dead Sea.
It was in existence by 8000 B.C.



Çatal Hüyük

Found in Anatolia (Modern Day Turkey)

Its walls enclosed 32 acres and up to 6,000 people.

Grew many different crops and developed artisans and trade.



Aleppo

one of the oldest inhabited cities in history

Located in Modern-Day Syria; has been occupied since around 5000 BCE.

A strategic trading point midway between the Mediterranean Sea and the Euphrates River.

The main role of the city was as a trading place.



STONEHENGE



Started in the Neolithic age and finished in the Bronze Age
Located on the Salisbury Plain in England



What it may have looked
like at completion





Surplus/Storage → Artisans/Specialization → Trade

Agricultural Surplus

Farming technology improved & people were able to grow the food they needed. Not everyone had to work on providing food anymore → could do other things.

Storage of Food

Pottery and other devices were invented as ways to store extra food. Extra food was vital for feeding a growing population.

Artisans

People who made crafts such as textiles (fabrics), pottery, jewelry, etc. . .
People could do what they were good at instead of having to farm.

Specialization of Labor

Because people could focus on one particular thing technology and skills improved.

Trade

As artisans made goods they began to exchange goods with other villages, and later cities, who had different goods → Barter system

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WILL YOU LAY OFF?
YOU'VE BEEN ON MY CASE
SINCE DAY ONE!

Second day of human civilization.

Early River Valley Civilizations



Sumerian Civilization - Tigris & Euphrates Rivers (Mesopotamia)

Egyptian Civilization - Nile River

Indus Civilization - Indus River (Harappa & Mohenjo Daro)

Chinese Civilization - Huang He (Yellow) River (Shang Dynasty)



Archaeologists believe this is where the world's first civilization arose. Mesopotamia (today's Iraq) – is known as the cradle of Civilization.

Mesopotamia

- Fertile Crescent
- Started a civilization
- city-states
- 1st to create literate urban culture, highly developed political institutions
- Mathematical/scientific discoveries
 - time - 60; geometry;
- Geography - crossroads/ unpredictable rivers
- Code of Hammurabi - law giver
 - 1st set of laws in ancient world (retribution)
 - social status
- Cuneiform - form of Writing
- Ziggurats - temples to gods
- adopted use of Bronze/iron early -3000BCE
- Gilgamesh - first piece of literature
- Sumerians - Babylonians - Assyrians (conquered)
- Assyrians - 1st Empire



Egypt

- Three kingdoms - Old Kingdom, Middle, New
 - -3000 bce - 332 bce - longest civilizations
- geography = isolationed
 - -Nile! - tame/seasonal flooding/ predictable
- Gov't - Pharaoh - King & God
- Less pronounced social divisions than Meso
 - Women higher status in Egypt than Meso

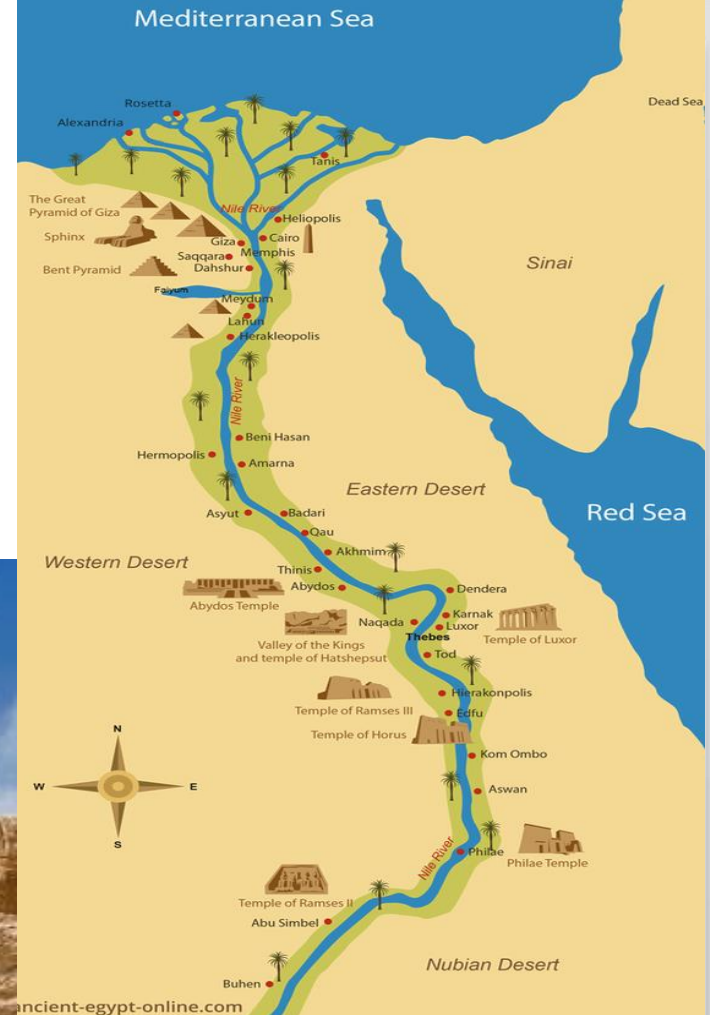
Old

- Glory age
- Pyramids
- Divine kingship
- Literate
 - Hieroglyphics
- Rich



-Middle

- Nubia
- Develop interest in conquering
- Military technology
- Bronze weapons (1700 BCE - much later than Meso)

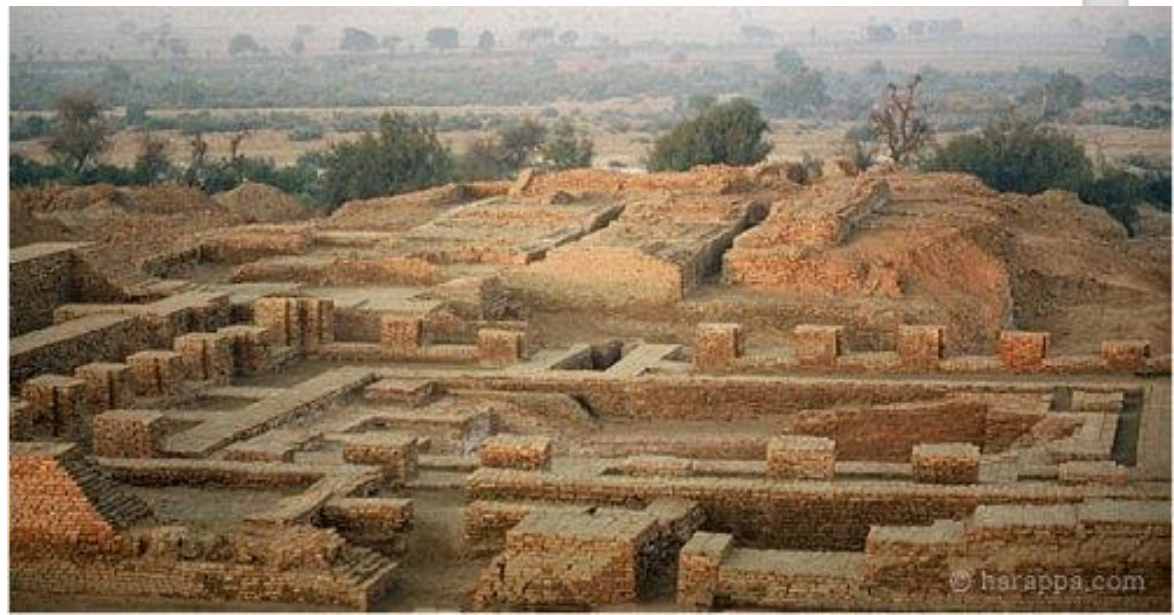


-New Kingdom

- Expand south
- Ruled by women
- Military expansion

Indus River Valley

- Indus River
 - -Rivers flooded most reliable/
Monsoon Rains
 - trading
 - Largest of Indus valley
 - -Written language
 - Amazing cities
 - DENSE, multi- level home
 - Organized to catch the wind
 - Plumbing system!
 - -Peaceful!
 - No weapons
- 1750 bce - declined
- Why??



Huang He River Valley – Shang Dynasty

- T'ang, overthrew the decadent emperor Jie, the last of the Xia dynasty
- Claimed Jie's lack of virtue meant he lost the ability to govern his people
- Emperors were seen as intermediaries between Di (supreme deity/sky god), dead ancestors, and Humankind
 - Emperor made *government decisions* and led *religious rituals*
- Valued the predictions of Shamans/ Priests
- Pictograms found on oracle bones
- Oracle bones designed to predict future, help rulers govern
- Basis of modern Chinese script
- Each character stands for an idea not a sound
 - over a 1,000 characters → barely literate.
 - Scholars knew around 10,000 characters.
- Shang known as the Bronze Age of China
- Bronze- source of Shang art, weapons, and tools
- Ended c.1050 BCE, Zhou conquerors invaded capital
- claimed to overthrow the Shang for moral reasons
- Said heaven no longer wanted Shang king to rule
- Blamed the Shang's downfall on king
 - drinking, indulgent lifestyle, and immoral behavior
- Cautionary tale to kings/emperors for years to come

湯
以賢繼志 國曰永興
盤錫一德 永於萬世
人紀肇修 垂于萬世

Emperor T'ang



King

Ruled the land and gave power to the warrior nobles in exchange for goods. Lived in palaces and built tombs.

Warrior Nobles

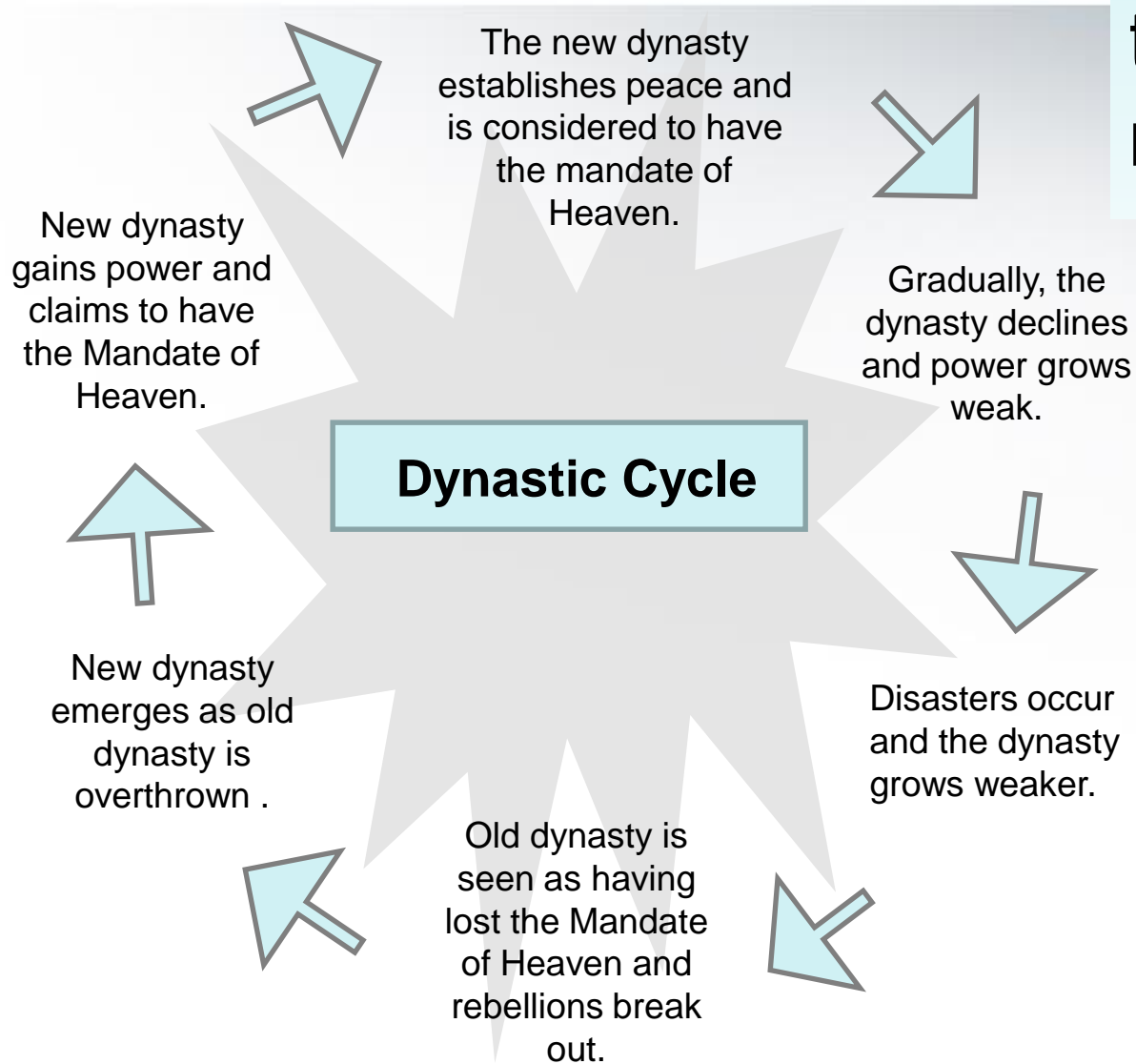
Governed and owned the land. Governed scattered villages within the Shang lands and sent tribute to the king in exchange for local control. Lived on the inside of the city protected by the city's walls.

Peasants/ Laborers

Were the lowest class, and worked as farmers their overlords. Lived on the outside of the city in small huts.

The Mandate of Heaven

Mandate of Heaven -
the divine approval
that is the basis of
royal authority



Dynastic Cycle -
the historical pattern
of the rise, decline,
and replacement of
dynasties



Optional Historical Videos

- [History Channel video on Fire](#)
- [History Channel video on Farming](#)
- [Crash Course Video #1 Neolithic Revolution](#)
- [Guns, Germs and Steel: Stone Age Crops](#)

If you would like more information about this historical period, take notes while watching these videos for a greater understanding of the topics we discussed in class for Unit 0A.