

Early Civilization and the Rise of the State

Civilization

- Comes from the Latin words “CIVIS” which refers to one who is inhabitants of a city and “civets” which refers to the urban community in which one dwells
- Is a highly organized society marked by advanced knowledge of trade, government, arts, science and often time written language

Civilization

- As defined by anthropologists, civilization refers to societies in which large numbers of people live in cities
- The inhabitants of the cities are socially stratified and governed by a ruling elite who work through centrally organized political systems called states.

Characteristics of Civilization

Large population centers

- Large population centers, or urban areas allow civilizations to develop, although people who live outside these urban centers are still part of that region's civilization.
- Rural residents of civilizations may include farmers, fishers, and traders, who regularly sell their goods and services to urban residents.

Monumental architecture and unique art styles

- All civilizations work to preserve their legacy by building large monuments and structures.
- The ancient monuments are used as a symbol of their culture and political power.

Shared communication

- Shared communication may include spoken language; alphabets; numeric systems; signs, ideas, and symbols; and illustration and representation
- Written language in particular allows civilizations to record their own history and everyday events—crucial for understanding ancient cultures. The world's oldest known written language is Sumerian, which developed in Mesopotamia around 3100 BCE
- The most familiar form of early Sumerian writing was called cuneiform and was made up of different collections of wedges (triangle) shapes

Infrastructure and administration

- All civilizations rely on government administration—bureaucracy.
- Romans built a network of roads so that communication between far-away territories was as efficient as possible. Roads also made travel by the Roman military much easier.

Division of labor

- Civilizations are marked by complex divisions of labor.
- In a purely agricultural society, members of the community are largely self-sufficient, and can provide food, shelter, and clothing for themselves
- In a complex civilization, farmers may cultivate one type of crop and depend on other people for other foods, clothing, shelter, and information.

Class structure

- The key to the development of civilizations is the division of people into classes.
- This is a complex idea that can be broken down into two parts: income and type of work performed.
- Changing classes has traditionally been difficult and happens over generations.
- Classes can mean groups of people divided by their income.
- This division is sometimes characterized as “economic class.”

FOUR EARLY RIVER VALLEY OF CIVILIZATION(4500-6000 YRS AGO)

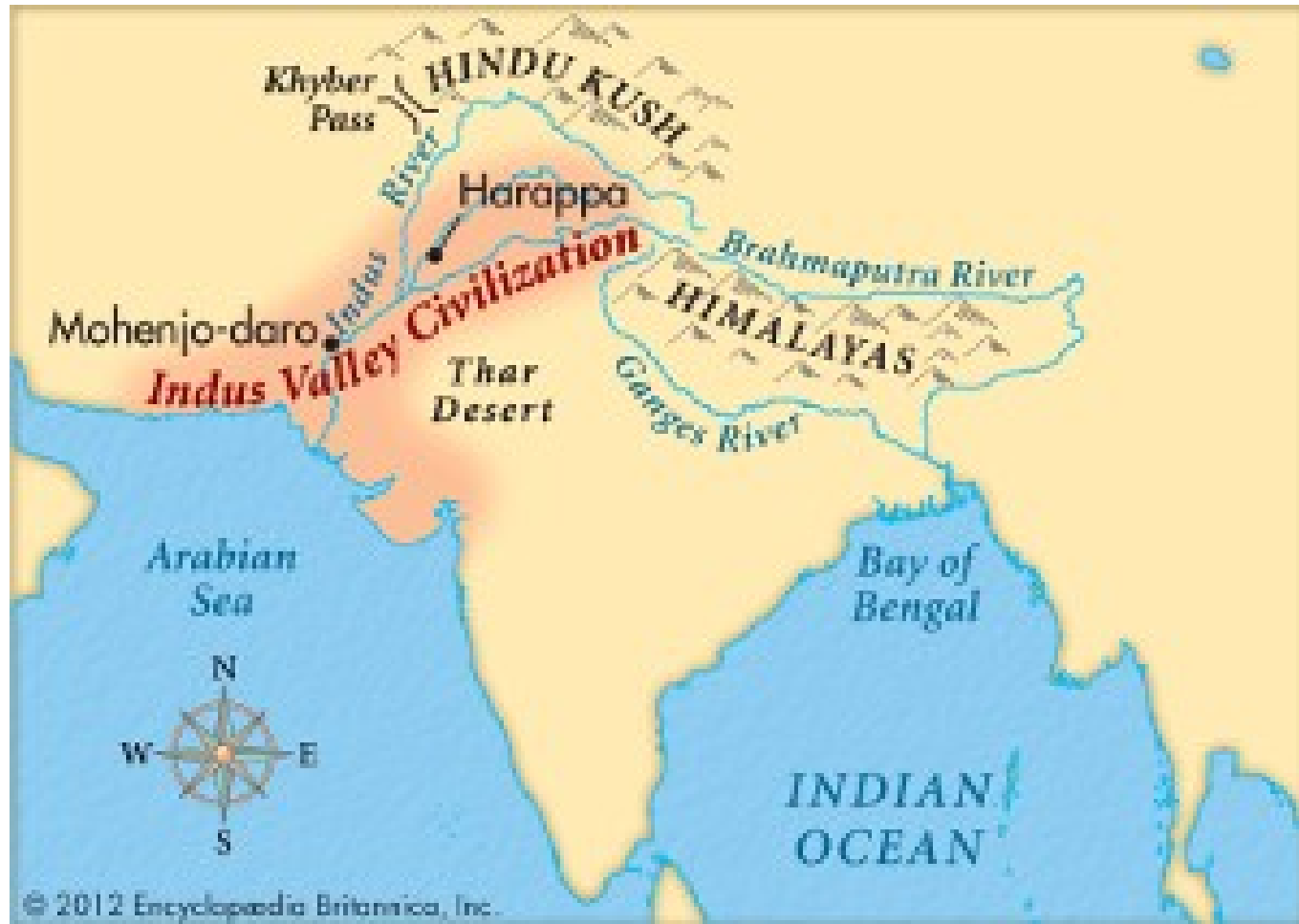
MESOPOTAMIAN RIVER (Tigris and Euphrates River)



EGYPTIAN CIVILIZATION(Nile River)



INDIAN CIVILIZATION (INDUS RIVER)



ANCIENT CHINA (Huang Ho River)



10 OLDEST ANCIENT CIVILIZATION

Mesopotamian Civilization

- Civilization Name: **Mesopotamian civilization**
- Period: **3500 BC–500 BC**
- Original Location: **Northeast by the Zagros mountains, southeast by the Arabian plateau**
- Current Location: **Iraq, Syria, and Turkey**
- Meaning: **Land between rivers (ancient Greek)**
- Major Highlights: **First civilization in the world**

Mesopotamian Civilization

- Mesopotamia is a Greek word for 'Land between two rivers.'
- It's the region of Western Asia located between the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers.
- It's home to the area known as the fertile crescent, where the first evidence of agriculture was found.
- The first human civilizations were taking the earliest steps from hunter-gatherer societies into settled community.

Mesopotamian Civilization



The Indus Valley Civilization

- **Civilization Name:** Indus Valley civilization
- **Period:** 3300 BC–1900 BC
- **Original Location:** Around the basin of the Indus river
- **Current Location:** Northeast Afghanistan to Pakistan and northwest India Major
- **Highlights:** One of the most widespread civilizations, covering 1.25 million km

The Indus Valley Civilization

- This civilization flourished in areas extending from what is today northeast Afghanistan to Pakistan and northwest India.
- Along with Ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia, it was one of three early civilizations of the ancient world, and of the three, it was the most widespread, covering an area of 1.25 million kilometers.

The Indus Valley Civilization



The Ancient Egyptian Civilization

- **Civilization Name:** Egyptian civilization
- **Period:** 3150 BC–30 BC
- **Original Location:** Banks of the Nile
- **Current Location:** Egypt Major Highlights:
Construction of pyramids

The Ancient Egyptian Civilization

- Ancient Egypt is one of the oldest and culturally rich civilizations on this list.
- The ancient Egyptian civilization, a majestic civilization from the banks of the Nile, is known for its prodigious culture, its pharaohs, the enduring pyramids, and the Sphinx.

The Ancient Egyptian Civilization



The Maya Civilization

- **Civilization Name:** Maya civilization
- **Period:** 2600 BC–900 AD
- **Original Location:** Around present-day Yucatan
- **Current Location:** Yucatan, Quintana Roo, Campeche, Tabasco, and Chiapas in Mexico and south through Guatemala, Belize, El Salvador, and Honduras
- **Major Highlights:** Complex understanding of astronomy

The Maya Civilization

- The ancient Maya civilization flourished in Central America from about 2600 BC and has been much talked about because of the calendar it introduced.
- Once established, the Mayan civilization went on to prosper and become highly sophisticated with a booming population of about 19 million at its peak.
- By 700 BC, the Mayans had already devised their own system of writing which they used to create solar calendars carved in stone.
- According to them, the world was created on August 11, 3114 BC, which is the date from which their calendar begins. The supposed end date was December 21, 2012.

The Maya Civilization



The Chinese Civilization

- **Civilization Name:** Chinese civilization
- **Period:** 1600 BC–1046 BC
- **Original Location:** Yellow River and Yangtze region
- **Current Location:** Country of China
- **Major Highlights:** Invention of paper and silk

The Chinese Civilization

- The Yellow River civilization is said to be the beginning of the entire Chinese civilization as this is where the earliest dynasties were based.
- It was around 2700 BC that the legendary Yellow Emperor began his rule, which later led to the birth of many dynasties that went on to rule mainland China.
- 2070 BC, the Xia dynasty became the first to rule the whole of China as described in ancient historical chronicles.

The Chinese Civilization



The Ancient Greek Civilization

- **Civilization Name:** Greek civilization
- **Period:** 2700 BC–479 BC
- **Original Location:** Italy, Sicily, North Africa, and as far west as France
- **Current Location:** Greece
- **Major Highlights:** Concepts of democracy and the Senate, the Olympics

The Ancient Greek Civilization

- The ancient Greeks may not have been the oldest civilization, but they are doubtlessly one of the most influential
- The rise of ancient Greece came from the Cycladic and Minoan civilizations (2700 BC–1500 BC), there is evidence of burials in the Franchthi Cave in Argolid, Greece, dating back to around 7250 BC.
- The history of this civilization is spread over such a long period of time that historians have divided it into different periods, the most popular of them being the Archaic, Classical, and Hellenistic periods.

The Ancient Greek Civilization



The Persian Civilization

- **Civilization Name:** Persian civilization
- **Period:** 550 BC–331 BC
- **Original Location:** Egypt in the west to Turkey in the north, and through Mesopotamia to the Indus river in the east
- **Current Location:** Modern-day Iran
- **Major Highlights:** Royal road

The Persian Civilization

- The ancient Persian civilization was, in fact, the most powerful empire in the world
- Though only in power for a little over 200 years, the Persians conquered lands that covered over two million square miles
- From the southern parts of Egypt to parts of Greece and east to parts of India, the Persian Empire was known for its military strength and wise rulers.

The Persian Civilization



The Roman Civilization

- **Civilization Name:** Roman civilization
- **Period:** 550 BC–465 AD
- **Original Location:** Village of the Latini
- **Current Location:** Rome
- **Major Highlights:** Most powerful ancient civilization

The Roman Civilization

- Roman civilization emerged around the sixth century BC.
- At the height of its power, the Roman Empire ruled over a huge chunk of land, and all the present-day Mediterranean countries were part of ancient Rome
- Early Rome was governed by kings, but after only seven of them had ruled, the people took control over their own city and ruled themselves.
- Rome also saw the rise and fall of some of the greatest emperors in human history, like Julius Caesar, Trajan, and Augustus.

The Roman Civilization



The Aztec Civilization

- Civilization Name: Aztec civilization
- Period: 1345 AD–1521 AD
- Original Location: South-central region of pre-Columbian Mexico
- Current Location: Mexico
- Major Highlights: Nahuatl became the major language

The Aztec Civilization

- The Aztecs came on to the scene pretty much around the time when the Incas were emerging as powerful contenders in South America
- Around the 1200s and early 1300s, the people in present-day Mexico lived in three big rival cities – Tenochtitlan, Texcoco, and Tlacopan.
- Around 1325, these rivals created an alliance and the new state came to dominate the Valley of Mexico
- The rise of the Aztecs was within a century of the fall of another influential civilization in Mexico and Central America – the Mayans.

The Aztec Civilization



The Incan Civilization

- Civilization Name: Incan civilization
- Period: 1438 AD–1532 AD
- Original Location: Present-day Peru
- Current Location: Ecuador, Peru, and Chile
- Major Highlights: Largest empire in South America in the pre-Columbian era

The Incan Civilization

- The Incan Empire was the largest empire in South America in the pre-Columbian era.
- This civilization flourished in the areas of present-day Ecuador, Peru, and Chile and had its administrative, military, and political center at Cusco which lies in modern-day Peru.

The Incan Civilization



The Rise of the Cities

a. Agricultural Innovation

- a. Changes in farming methods distinguished early civilizations from Neolithic villages
- b. The ancient Sumerians built an extensive system like dikes, canals, and reservoirs to irrigate their farmland.

The Rise of the Cities

Diversification of labor

- In a Neolithic village without irrigation or plow farming, every family member participated in the planting crops.
- High crop yields made possible by new farming methods and increased population permitted a sizable number of people to pursue nonagricultural activities on a full-time basis

The Rise of the Cities

Social stratification

- The rise large, economically diversified populations presided over by centralized governing authorities brought with it the fourth cultural characteristic of civilization: social stratification or the emergence of social classes.

The Rise of the Cities

Central government

- The emergence of a governing elite also characterized early civilizations.
- The challenges new cities faced because of their size and complexity required a strong central authority.
- The governing elite saw to it that different interest groups, such as farmers or craft specialist, provided their respective services and did not infringe on one another.

Earliest form of Government

- A king and his advisors typically headed the earliest city governments. Of many ancient kings in the world, it was Hammurabi (the Babylonian king who lived in Mesopotamia between 3700 and 3950 years ago) who issued a set of laws now known as the Code of Hammurabi
- While some civilization flourished under a single ruler with extraordinary governing abilities, other civilizations possessed a widespread governing bureaucracy that was very efficient at every level. The government of the Inca empire is one such example.