

# Mesopotamia

"The Land Between the Rivers"

## Ch.3/Sec.1 Civilization of Sumer



# WESTERN ASIA





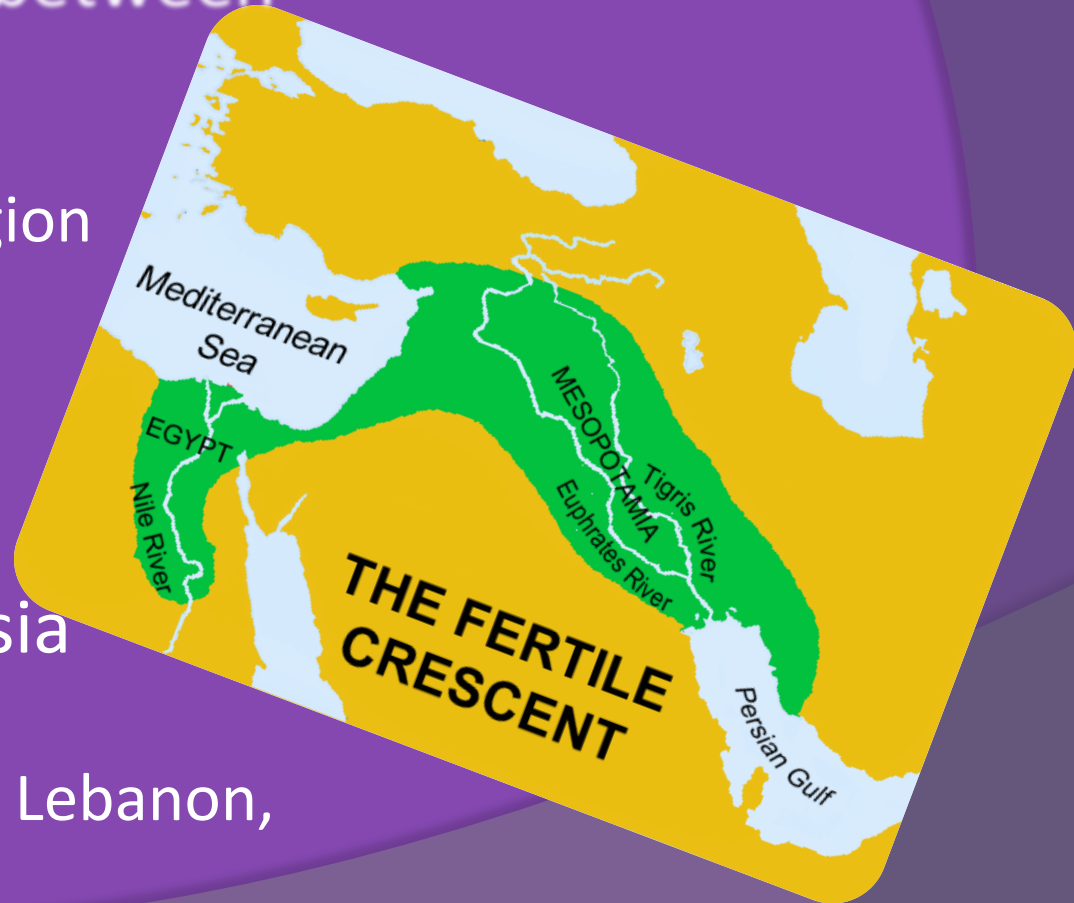
# TELL ME MORE!!!

○ Mesopotamia= “land between the rivers”

- Tigris & Euphrates
- Sumer was the first region that emerged

○ Located in Western Asia

- rocky/desert
- present day Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Israel

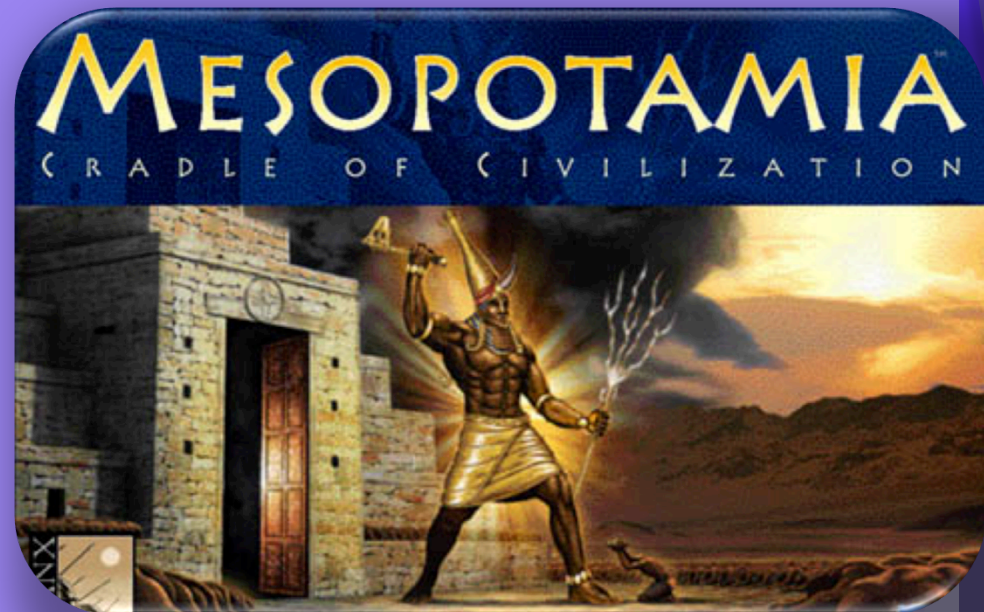


# it's complicated!



No one group ruled in Mesopotamia...

1. Sumerians
2. Akkadians
3. Sumerians
4. Old Babylonians
5. Kassites
6. Assyrians
7. New Babylonians
8. Persians
9. Greeks
10. Romans



# What's For dinner??

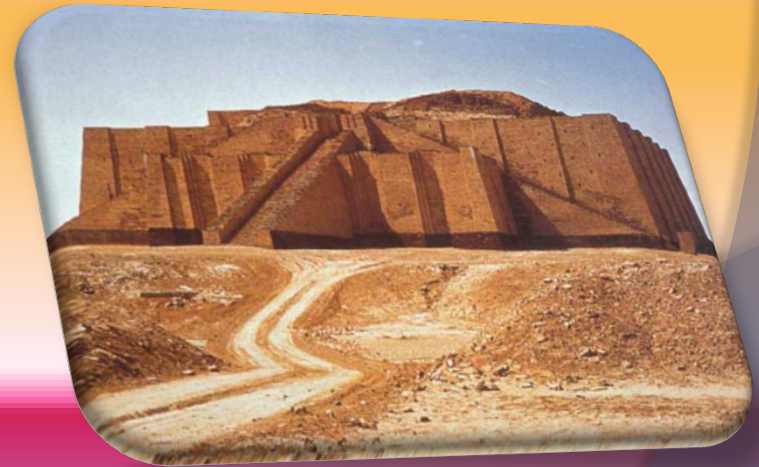
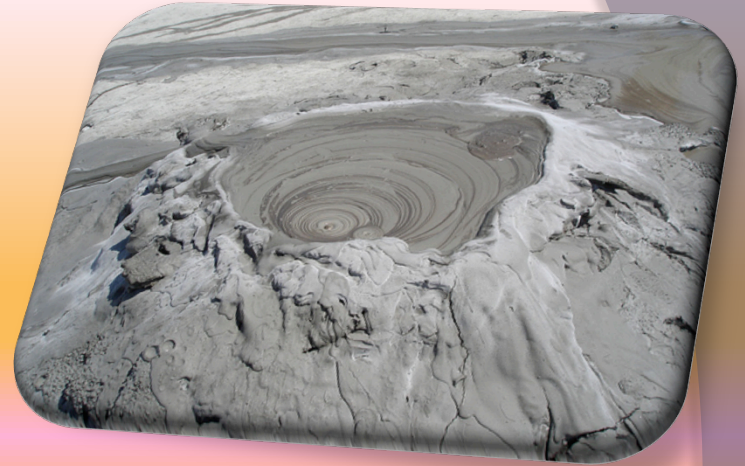


- Farmers grew: wheat, barley, beans, onions, lettuce, cucumbers, spice plants, apples, pomegranates
- Sheep: provided milk and wool
- Cattle: work animals, used for milk, leather, and meat



# Mud-luscious...

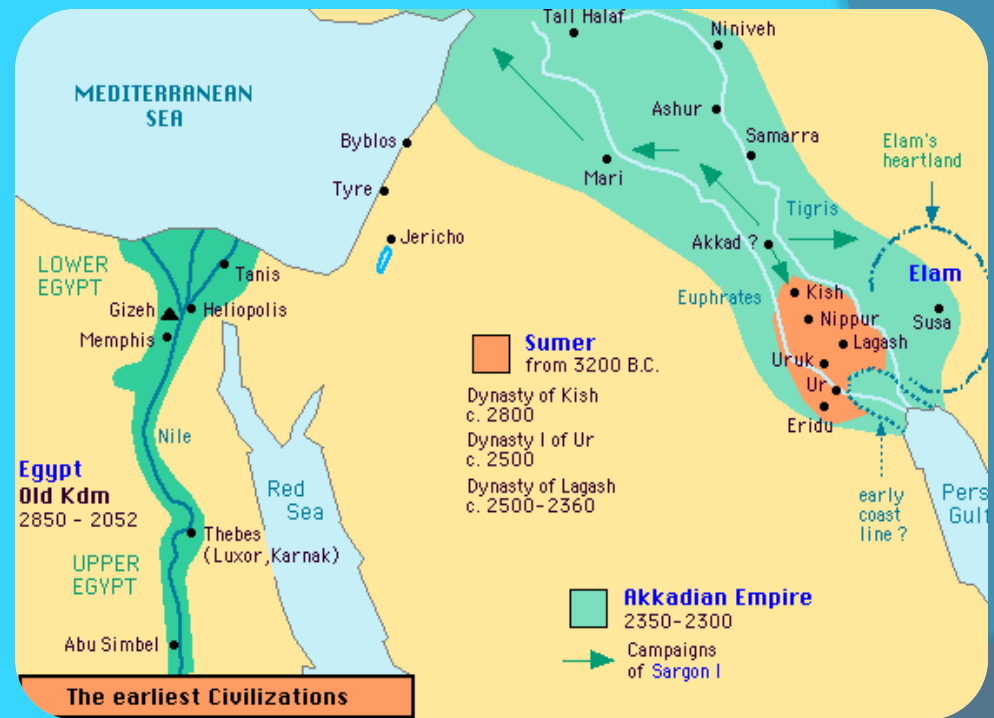
- ⊙ Not a lot of stone or wood nearby
- ⊙ Rivers provided mud
  - used to build houses, palaces, & temples
- ⊙ Mud brick doesn't have lasting power of stone



# Who's The Boss???



- Cities in southern Mesopotamia began to emerge
  - Region—Sumer
- City-states:
  - own government/ ruler, temple at the center of each city
  - battle each other over river water





# city gates

- cities surrounded with large walls for protection
- gathered near the gates to trade
- King's palace could be seen from all over the city
- Kings : generals, judges, canal overseers

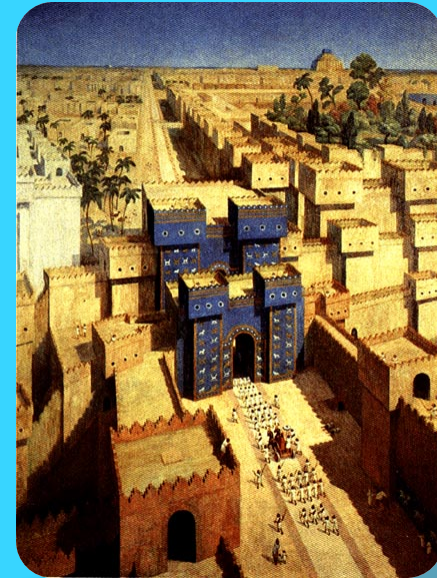
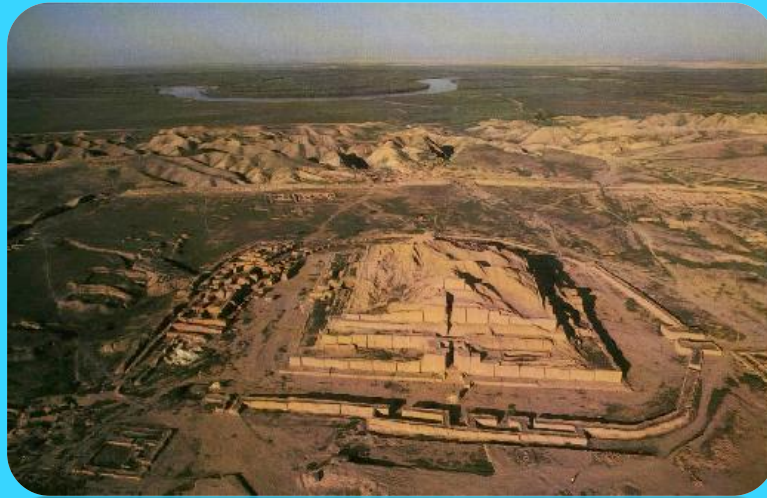




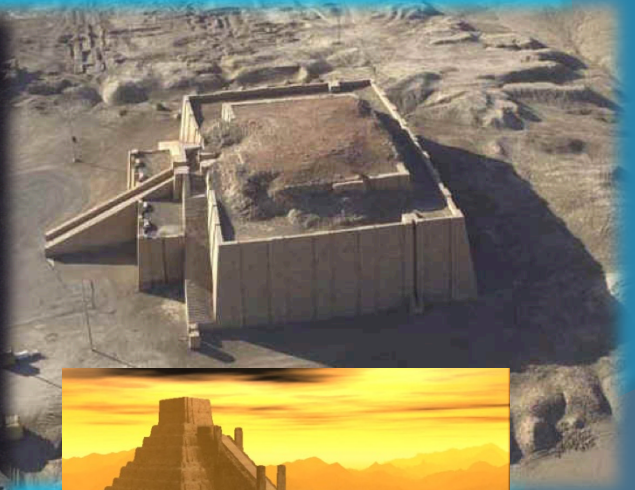
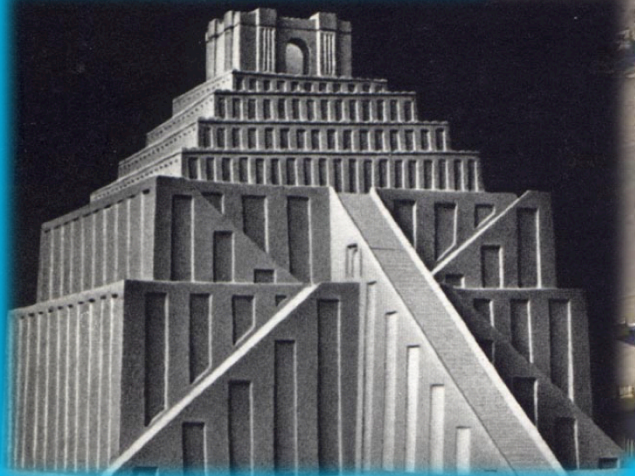
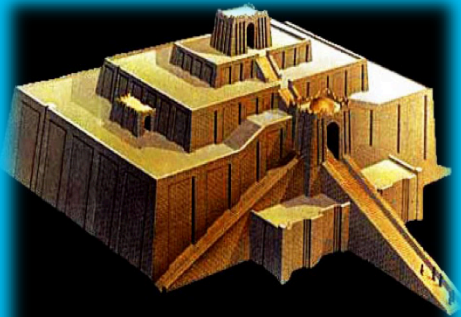
# Ziggurat What???

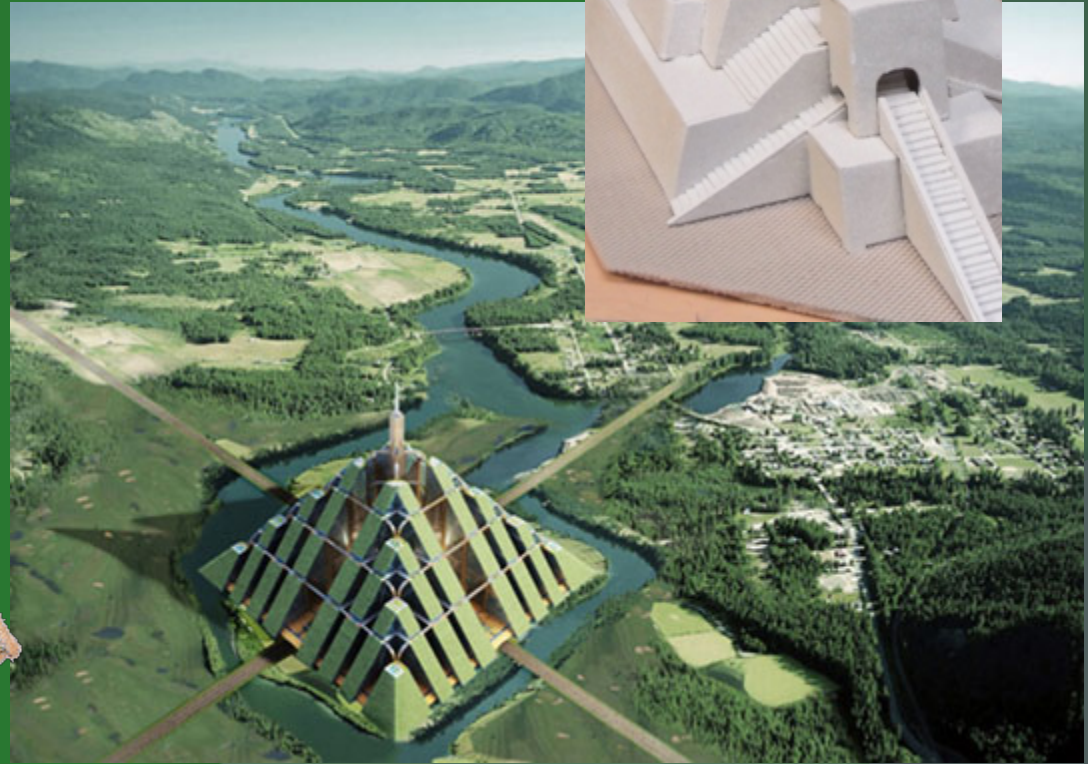


- Ziggurat: large pyramid like building in the center of ancient Sumerian cities
- Practiced polytheism: belief in many gods



# Ziggurat





# EARLY CONTRIBUTIONS

- ⦿ made some of the world's first wheeled vehicles, arch/dome, sailboats, pottery wheels
- ⦿ Writing: *cuneiform*
  - 500 signs
- ⦿ Scribes wrote love letters, stories, law, and songs

