

**Chapter II: The Spread of Civilization p. 23**

**INTRODUCTION**

	<i>Neolithic Revolution</i>
<b>Cause</b>	<i>River Valleys</i>
<b>and</b>	<i>Civilizations-Characteristics</i>
<b>Affect</b>	<i>Mesopotamia-Sumarians</i>
	<i>Economies</i>

*How did geography affect the development of civilization?*

*How did civilizations affect each other?*

*- Look at map p.25, Notice how the civilizations were spread across the world*

What might have been some similarities between them?

- 1) available fresh water    2) moderate climate    3) fertile soil    4) geographic protection

**Vocabulary Words, People, Places and Key Points:**

**LESSON 2.1 Egypt p. 26**

\* The Nile River: **LONGEST** river in the world and it was critical to life in Egypt.

- |                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| 1) <b>Transportation</b> | 3) <b>Unification</b>  |
| 2) <b>Trade</b>          | 4) <b>Fertile soil (flooding) provided a food surplus (Define surplus)</b> |

The Nile flowed from **south** to **north**, emptied into the Mediterranean Sea. Note map on page 27.

What is unusual about Upper/Lower Egypt because of this?

**Geography** helped to protect Egypt

1) Desert - ppl could not travel through it to attack
HOW?
2) The Red Sea- easy for Egyptians to defend crossings
3) The Mediterranean Sea - easy to see approaches

Life in Egypt was stable and constant, unlike in **Mesopotamia**, where violent **floods** were unpredictable and there was a constant threat from **invaders**. The floods of the Nile were easy to **predict** and **control**, because they came at the same

\* time each year. These floods left behind **silt** which increased soil **fertility** and provided food.

**Polytheistic** - Egyptians worshiped many gods, and even sometimes worshiped their rulers as gods

**Dynasty** - a ruling family where the right to rule is passed down by birth - the ruler was known as the "King of Upper and Lower Egypt"

**Pharaoh** - most popular term for Egyptian rulers. Name means "Great House." The had absolute power over the people.

**Bureaucracy** - government officials who helped the Pharaoh's rule. 42 Governors in provinces.

## \* **Three Major Periods: Old Kingdom, Middle Kingdom, New Kingdom**

### Old Kingdom (2700 BC-2200 BC)

Egyptians believed in life after death, so they invented a process to preserve the body and to prevent decomposition. This was known as mummification. It was a very complex process (see p. 28) and was expensive, so mostly only wealthy people, especially the pharaohs, were mummified.

Pyramids were great tombs to house the bodies of the Pharaohs.

Incredible technology was needed for this process and much of how they built these pyramids is still a mystery today. Two examples of great pyramids are Khufu's Pyramid and the Great Pyramid, which are guarded by the Sphinx (body of a lion with the head of a man)

### Middle Kingdom (2055 BC-1650 BC)

After the Old Kingdom collapsed, the Middle Kingdom was restored after about 150 years.

The Middle Kingdom was known for:

- 1 Strength - they built fortresses to keep invaders away
- 2 Stability - Pharaoh's had strong rule, but cared more for the people than Old Pharaohs  
Public works projects provided for the people more (roads, irrigation, dams)
- 3 Expansion - The conquered NUBIA to the south
- \* 4 Trade - widely traded with other areas such as Mesopotamia and Crete

\* Social Structure - was like a pyramid as well: Top: Pharaohs >>>> nobles/priests  
>>> merchants, artisans, scribes, tax collectors >>> but most people were farmers.

They usually had arranged marriages for boys around age 14, and for girls around 12.

\* Women were more respected in Egypt than in most other places. They could even own property and some businesses.

### Accomplishments -

\* Hieroglyphics - a system of writing that emerged around 3000 BC. The name means "sacred writings". They had a simplified version for daily use.

Geometry - they developed this for use in re-measuring their fields after the floods

Calendar - 365 day, accurate

## **LESSON 2.2 The Peoples in the Eastern Mediterranean p. 31**

How did nomadic people influence civilized societies? See below

**Pastoral nomads** had most of the following characteristics:

- 1 dependent on hunting/gathering or herding
- 2 sometimes they farmed, but not extensively
- 3 domesticated animals - used them for food, clothing
- 4 followed migration routes
- 5 carried products between centers of civilization
- 6 passed ideas and technology on to different people
- 7 sometimes they attacked and overran settled communities and created empires

**Indo-European Languages** : languages have similarities b/c they come from the same parent tongue

The languages spread through migration

Examples: Latin, Greek, Spanish, German, French and several others

**Hittites** : Indo-European group who settled in present day Turkey. (See map, p. 32). Asia Minor.

- \* 1 the first known group to use iron weapons / Significance: stronger and cheaper than bronze
- 2 created an empire 1600 BC-1200 BC that threatened the Egyptians
- 3 destroyed by "Sea Peoples" in 1200 BC - these are an group unknown to historians

*The destruction of the Hittites and the weakening of Egypt allowed other small kingdoms to rise in the area...*

**Discuss** : How do you think iron-making technology spread from the Hittites to others?  
through trade and migration / also maybe through warfare eventually

**The Phoenicians** (Greek meaning people of purple)

- 1 located on the eastern coast of the Mediterranean (see map p. 32)
- 2 began to expand their trade, power and prosperity throughout the Mediterranean
- \* 3 Goods: purple dye, glass, lumber
- 4 great ships enabled them to become international trader, As far as into the  
Atlantic Ocean (Britain) see map, page 32 again
- \* 5 most significant achievement: The Alphabet, which had 22 letters. This led to the Greek and  
Roman alphabets and those we use today.

**Why would a trading empire like this want colonies?**

Power increased

trade markets

resources - access to resources not available in their homeland

wealth

## The Israelites

- 1 Minor group in the area, but one of the world's major religions came from them
- 2 Judaism - flourished there and eventually influenced Christianity as well
- 3 OLD TESTAMENT - much of their history is recorded in this first part of the Christian Bible
  - A The Israelites: descendants of Abraham, were taken into slavery in Egypt
  - B Moses: led the Israelites out of slavery and back to Canaan around 1300 BC
  - C David: a great king of Israel who moved the capital to Jerusalem
  - D Solomon: David's son. As king, he expanded government, army and trade. He built the first temple in Jerusalem. Israel was at the height of power under him.

After Solomon's death, the kingdom of Israel split apart into two kingdoms. In 722, the Assyrians overran the Northern kingdom of Israel and sent the to other parts of their empire. Many lost touch with each other. The Southern kingdom of Israel was known as Judah. They were sent by the Chaldeans to Babylonia, where they stayed in exile until the Persians allowed them to return home many years later. This period was known as the Babylonian exile. The people of Judah survived and were called Jews. The religion of

\* Judaism derives its name from their name. \*\*"TEN LOST TRIBES"

## JUDAISM

- \* monotheism: believing in only one god. Judaism is the first monotheistic religion
- God: according to the Jews, their God created the world and everything in it.
- God's promise: to take care of the Israelites if they would obey him
- Torah: God's law, given to the Israelites / The Ten Commandments were part of this law
- Covenant: Promise between God and the Israelites: He would protect them / they would obey

Discuss: What are some of the Ten Commandments? Only worship one God, no idols, do not take the name of the Lord in vain.<<Religious Moral>> Keep the Sabbath holy, commit adultery, lie etc Honor thy mother and Father do not murder commit adultery, steal, bear false witness, covet

(covet - yearn to possess or have something - desire,crave,want)

10) You shall not covet your neighbors house, wife, male servant, female servant, ox donkey, nor anything that is your neighbors (Exodus)

- \*\* How did these moral laws influence laws even today?
- How are our government ideals based in religious philosophies?

Some current legal ideas are based in religion:

- 1 people were equal before God's law
- 2 witnesses required to testify at trials

The Jewish people's belief in only one god set them apart from other people in western Asia. They also believe God sent prophets to help the people see when they were not obeying God. They warned the Jews to repent and live according to God's commands.

## The Minoans (see Crete, on map p. 32) (2800 BC-1340 BC)

King Minos: the civilization was named for this legendary king of Crete because of some similarities to his buildings

Knossos: - an enormous palace complex, which revealed a very rich culture  
(NAH suhs) - this palace had many rooms, even bathrooms and workshops for  
- crafting art works, great storerooms and brightly painted walls

Trade: the Minoans had a far-reaching empire based on trade. They went as far as to Greece and Egypt

The End: the Minoans suffered a sudden, catastrophic collapse around 1450 BC. No one knows exactly why. Some believe that a huge tidal wave was responsible. Others believe that they were invaded by Mycenaeans from the Greek mainland.

## **The Impact of Geography in India**

- Sub-continent: India is a huge, triangle shaped land mass that hangs off the S. ridge of Asia
- Himalayas: the tallest mountains in the world are on India's NE corner
- Ganges River: directly to the South of the Himalayas, this river valley is a main area of Indian culture and population
- Indus River: to the west, is the Indus River is mostly in Pakistan now. The valley was much more productive and moderate in ancient times. This is where the civilization began and thrived before spreading east.
- Deccan Plateau: between the two River valleys is a dry area that extends to the S. tip of India
- Coastal area: on the east and west coasts are very fertile plains. These have been where the greatest populations have lived throughout the years
- Monsoons: seasonal winds that blow heavily over southern India. Main *climate feature*.  
June-Sept - winds from the s/sw blow over the Indian Ocean and deposit huge amounts of rainfall into India, esp. on the w. coast.  
Oct-Feb. - the cooler season wind pattern reverses and blows air from the n/ne. The air is cooler and drier, but still brings rainfall to the east coast.

**Discuss:** Why would more people want to live in coastal areas such as these?  
What might be some problems associated with so much rain, especially for farmers?

## **Indus Valley Civilization**

*Just like in Egypt and Mesopotamia, the Indus River Valley supported a large civilization in India beginning from around 3000 BC to 1500 BC. There were thousands of small settlements in the area. The civilizations were very advanced, and were known as the Harappan civilization.*

- Two cities: **Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro** - with populations of around 35,000 each
- Grid pattern - carefully planned streets with N/S and E/W layouts
- Houses: all followed the same plan - small courtyard surrounded by rooms
- Wells: public wells supplies regular drinking water to all
- Drainage: a very advanced system took waste-water out beyond the city walls
- Trash: went through chutes to street-level containers
- Leadership: religion and political power were closely linked (comb. Palace/temple)

\* **Discuss:** *What do the features above show about the government in H-MD? It was very well organized and powerful to be able to plan and carry out such advanced features.*  
*What would be needed to bring about these types of things? Strong, intelligent leaders many workers, supervision among all levels, etc.*

*There is much speculation and debate about why the Harappan civilization declined and no definitive information exists. Another group, known later as Aryans, migrated into India and their culture began to dominate in the area. The Aryans gave up their nomadic ways and settled permanently. Farming was improved by the use of iron and irrigation.*

- Crops: wheat, barley, millet. Rice was the most common. Vegetables, spices and cotton
- Sanskrit: the written language that appeared about 1000 BC. Before this, everything was passed down orally.
- Vedas: early writings that reveal their history  
Many small kingdoms/ not empires as in some areas  
Rajas - princes who often warred with each other
- \* Patriarchy: males dominated society and had prominence over females. *The family* was the basic unit in society. Only males could own property. Children were expected to care for parents in their old age.
- \* Suttee: women were encouraged to throw themselves on their husband's funeral pyre and commit suicide. Some were disgraced if they did not. Others were forced. It was banned by the British in 1829.

**Discuss:** *How did a system of writing improve life for ancient people?* Records for trade and religious ceremonies, history, traditions - students give examples if possible.

## ***LESSON 2.4: The Rise of China p. 42***

### The Impact of Geography in China (map p. 43)

Yellow River / Huang He: 2900 miles / carries rich, yellow silt from Mongolia to the Pacific Ocean.

Yangtze / Chang Jiang River: 3400 miles - flows across central China to the Yellow Sea

Lack of fertile fields: only about 10% of land in China is good for farming

Many barriers: mountains and deserts surround much of China's populated areas in the west and south

Northern frontier: Other people came into contact with the Chinese on their northern border. This was a source of great conflict over the years.

Varied Climates: significant climate differences exist, depending on elevation and amount of rainfall  
Causes great temperature variations

### The Shang Dynasty (1750 BC-1045 BC)

\* Xia Dynasty: first dynasty in China, mostly unknown (over 4000 years ago)

2nd Dynasty: SHANG - (1750 BC -1045 BC)

\* Aristocracy: an upper class rule based on wealth through land ownership / power passes on from one generation to the next

Location: Huang He River Valley

Features: huge city walls, royal palaces, large royal tombs

King: defended the land with help of warlords (aristocratic military leaders) The king could remove them at any time. Kings were buried in royal tombs, often accompanied by their servants (buried alive with them). The Chinese believed that the gods helped the king to rule

Social Order: King>>Aristocracy>>peasants (farmers)>>merchants, artisans>>slaves

Oracle Bones: priests used questions scratched on the bones to ask questions of the gods. They would heat them and interpret the cracks as the answers from the gods

Veneration of Ancestors: Chinese believed it was important to respect their ancestors, and to treat their spirits well >> ancestor worship

Bronze casting: Shang's best known accomplishment. 1000's of objects found in the tombs >> highly admired

## The Zhou Dynasty (1045 BC - 256 BC)

- Zhou (Joe)            2nd longest dynasty in Chinese history - almost 800 years
- Shang practices:    the Zhou continued the Shang ways of ruling and dividing the kingdom into territories governed by officials (the aristocracy)
- \* Mandate of Heaven:    Zhou claimed it overthrew the Shang because they were wicked & that the gods were in their favor  
(See *Dynastic Cycle p.44*)  
                                  Zhou king was the link between heaven and earth  
                                  Became a major principle of Chinese government
- \* Dao:                    King was also supposed to rule well for the people according to the proper WAY (Dao)  
                                  If the king failed in his rule, he would be replaced as well  
                                  Sometimes natural disasters were blamed on the rulers because of this
- Era of Warring States:    civil wars began c403 BC as the Zhou were challenged by powerful states lasted for many years
- Changes in Warfare:    Iron weapons, cavalry, cross-bow caused the Zhou to lose power
- Qin (Chin):            came to power in 221 BC (talk more about Qin later...)
- Family importance:    family was the basic unit in China, but it was more than that...families worked together and were essential to survival.
- Filial piety:            duty of members of the family to put their needs last and to submit to the male head of the family...every member has his or her place
- Male supremacy:        idea was key in China's social system: men worked and provided for their families and women raised the families at home
- Population growth:    improvements in farming increased food supplies and China's population 50 million during the Zhou period
- \* Improved trade:      Silk was the most desired item and would fuel China's exports for centuries
- Pictographs:            Chinese writing using symbols to represent an idea

## LESSON 2.5: *Civilizations in the Americas p. 47*

### Early civilizations in Mesoamerica

Mesoamerica: "Middle" America - a name used for areas of México and Central America where ancient empires arose

\* The Olmec: The "Rubber people" because of rubber trees that grew there - the first known civilization in Mesoamerica. Appeared around 1200 BC.

*Why so much later than civilizations in the east?* Took a long time to arrive

Traded: jade and obsidian (dark, natural glass stone formed by lava)

Religious Centers: San Lorenzo and La Venta: large, pyramid shaped monuments - also several huge stone heads were carved to represent their gods or rulers. They weighed 20 tons! Remarkable because: they didn't have metal tools and they didn't have use of the wheel to transport.

Decline: for unknown reasons, but some of their traditions influenced later societies

Influence: Maya: ball courts, jaguar-like god, Olmec calendar

The Zapotec: around 500 BC -estimated population: 200,000 (lived in terraces cut in mountains)

Monte Alban: center of Zapotec with pyramids and temples

Teotihuacan: 1st major city - "Place of the Gods" . Located about 30 miles NE of Mexico City.  
Main street: Avenue of the Dead contained many temples and palaces

Pyramid of the Sun: largest pyramid - over 200 feet high.

Farming: most people were farmers - this was one of the richest farming areas

Trade: Artisans made tools, pottery, weapons, jewelry. Most famous: Obsidian tools which could be used in human and animal sacrifices

Decline: around 900 AD, for unknown reasons - Teotihuacan was destroyed & abandoned

### Early Civilizations in South America

Caral (in Peru) the oldest major city in the Americas - around 2500 BC  
sophisticated irrigation, stone buildings, grand houses  
abandoned between 2000 BC and 1500 BC

The Chauvin Located in the coastal regions of Peru / Ecuador around 900 BC

Ceremonial Complex: a temple surrounded by two pyramids and stone figures depicting gods

Crafts: made objects from gold and silver

Technology: a solar observatory made of 13 stone towers on a hillside

Decline: unknown - around 200 BC

### **SUMMARY:**

#### **What are some similarities in all or most of the civilizations studied in this chapter?**

Cities	Government	Metal Working	Writing
Religion	Trade	Social Structures	Arts/Artisans
Architecture	Agriculture	Patriarchy	