

Lecture Notes: Mesopotamia

SSWH1 Analyze the origins, structures, and interactions of societies in the ancient world from 3500 BCE/BC to 500 BCE/BC.

a. Compare and contrast Mesopotamian and Egyptian societies, include: religion, culture, economics, politics, and technology.

The Babylonian Empire

1. 1792-1750 BC: The 6th King of the Amorite Dynasty, Hammurabi (King of Babylon)
 - i.

- c. Ordered repairs on temples
- d. Religious unit
 - i. Promoted “Marduk”
 - 1. Patron god of Babylon

New Empire, New Ideas

- 1. Hitties
 - a. From Asia Minor
 - b. Came to Mesopotamia ~1400 BC
 - c. Learned to extract Iron from Ore
 - d. Iron
 - i. Weapons/tools
 - 1. Harder/sharper than those of bronze and copper
 - ii. Plentiful: cheaper to arm more people (army)
 - e. Tried to keep iron a secret
 - f. Empire collapsed ~1200 BC
 - i. Iron work spread across the g

- c. Spain
 - d. Britain
 - e. W. Africa
6. Used papyrus obtained from Egypt to make scrolls
 7. Bible & bibliography named after the city of Byblos
 8. Called “Carriers of Civilization”
 9. Developed 22 symbols
 - a. 1st alphabet
 - b. Only consonants
 - c. Represented sounds