

# Ancient Near East





# Sumerians



# Mesopotamia--Civilizations

- ◆ 1. **Sumerian City States**
- ◆ C. 3500 BC First Cities
- ◆ C. 3000 BC Early Dynastic Kingdoms start-note NOT an empire
- ◆ C. 2700 BC Gilgamesh
  - ◆ Royal Cemetery of Ur



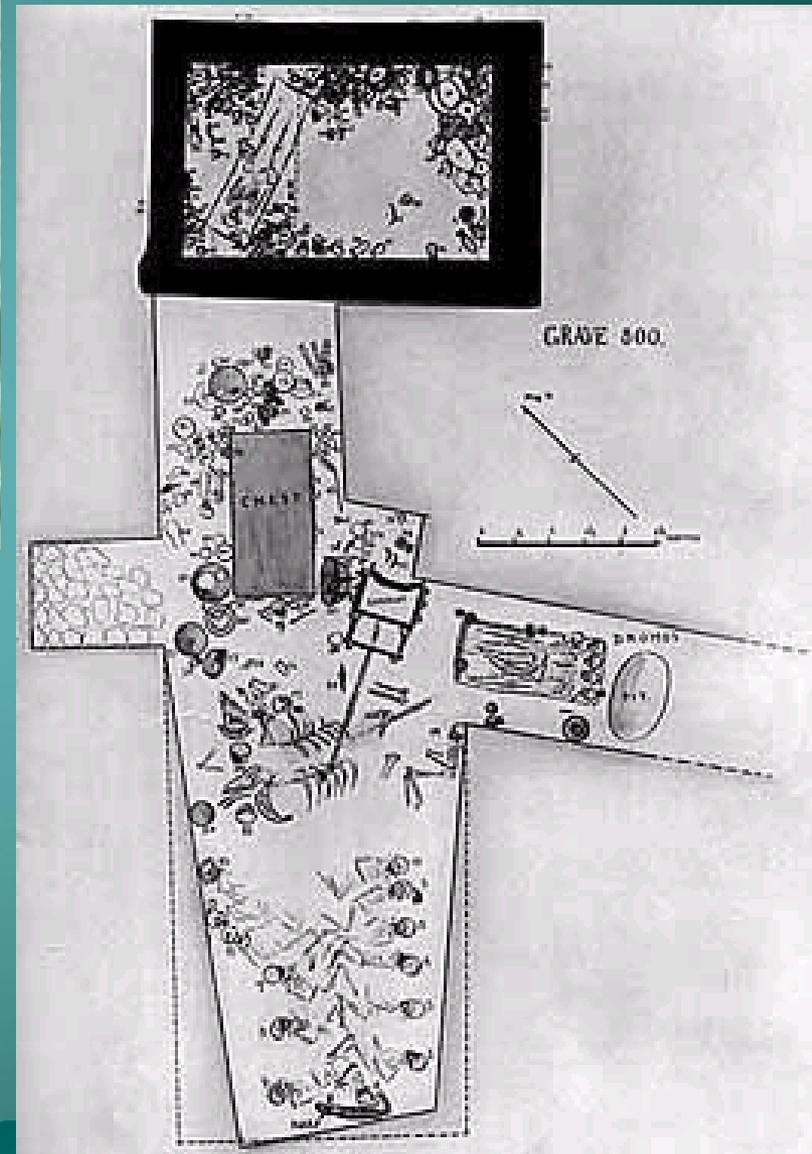
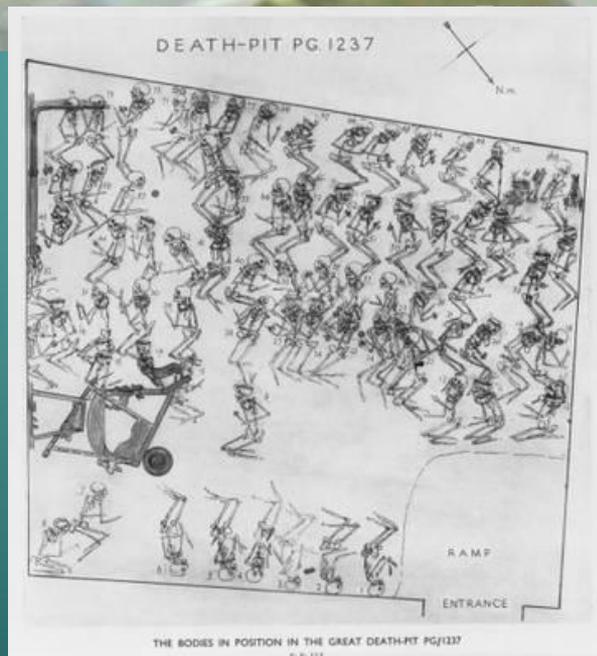
MS 2652/3

Gilgamesh and the Bull of Heaven. Sumer, ca. 2600 BC  
The earliest surviving MS of the world literature

	5300 BCF	3000 BCF	2400 BCF	1000 BCF
sag 'head'				
gin 'to walk'				
šu 'hand'				
še 'barley'				
ninda 'bread'				
a 'water'				
ud 'day'				
mušen 'bird'				



Ur







Its full purpose is not definitely known, but it clearly records the king and his court along with the spoils of military victory. The box was found in one of the largest chambers at the Royal Cemetery at Ur. Leonard Woolley, who excavated the item, speculated that it was carried on a pole as a war standard. Others have speculated that it was a musical instrument.

# Ur Standard 2700 BC

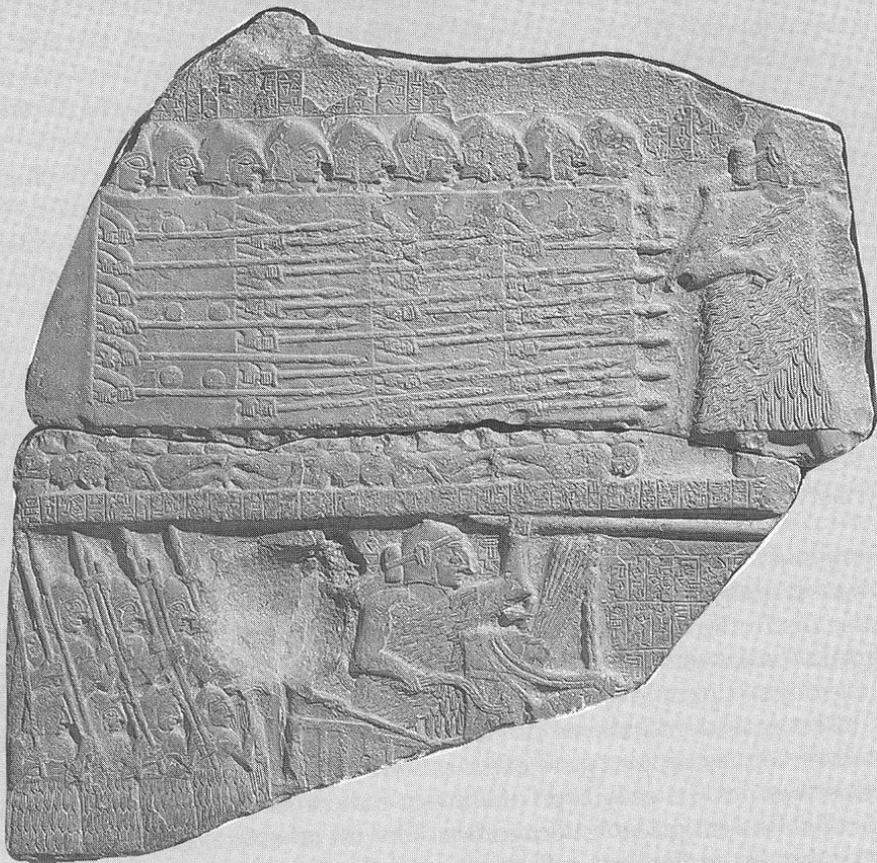




1. Convention of Size
2. Multiplicity of Views

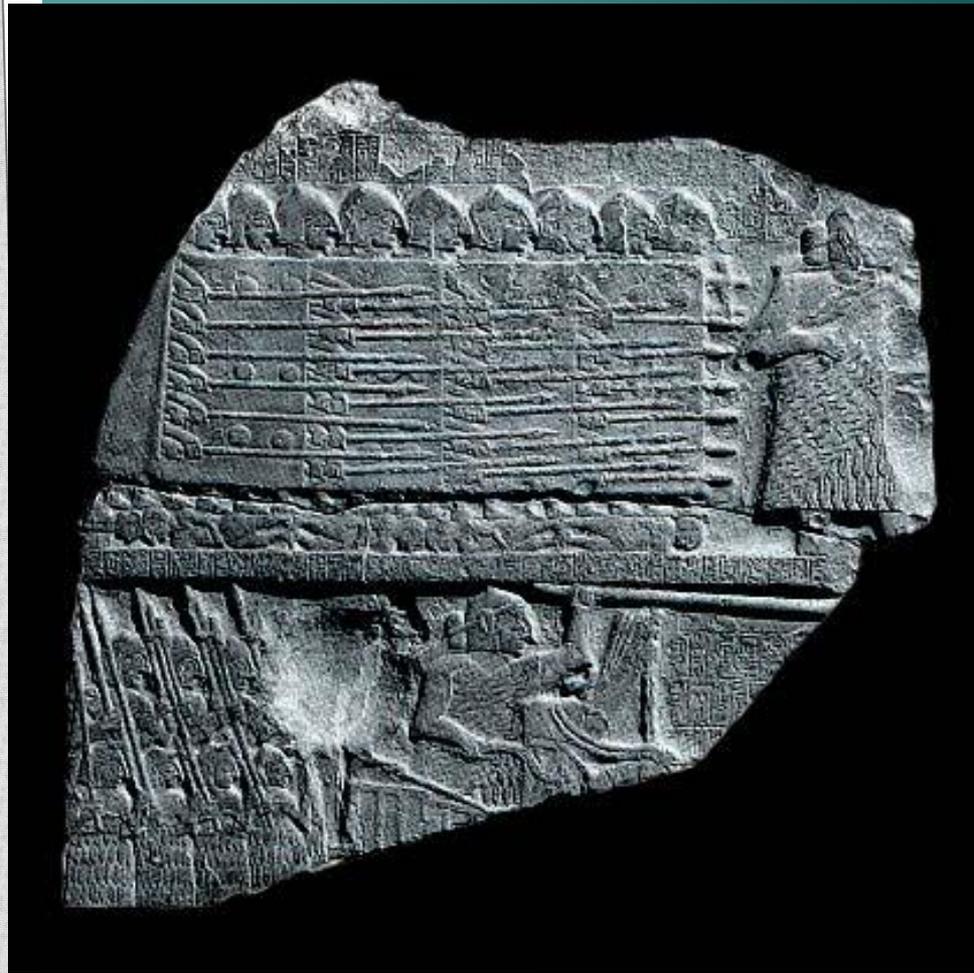


## WARFARE IN EARLY MESOPOTAMIA



The Vulture Stele from Lagash. (Réunion des Musées Nationaux / Art Resource, NY)

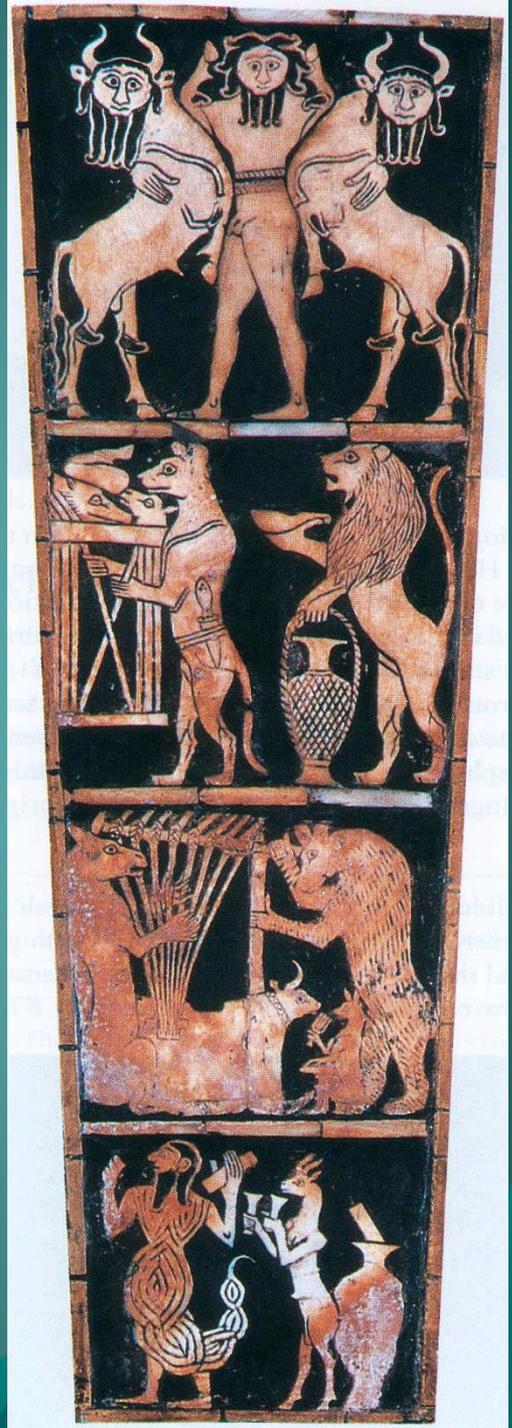
The "Vulture stele" (a **stèle** is an upright stone slab) from the city of Lagash, dated to 2450 B.C., preserves an illustrated narrative of a war between Lagash and the city of Umma, about thirty miles to the northwest along the Tigris. Infantrymen wield axes, adzes, and spears; one group carries shields and stands in a tight formation similar to the Greek hoplite "phalanx" (see p. 63). In one scene the king rides in a four-wheeled chariot at the head of the army; in another, he leads them on foot into battle. All the soldiers wear pointed helmets, perhaps made of leather. Other texts refer to contingents of "hunters," perhaps wielding nets.







Bull's Head Lyre  
From Ur





Master of the Animals= Enkidu



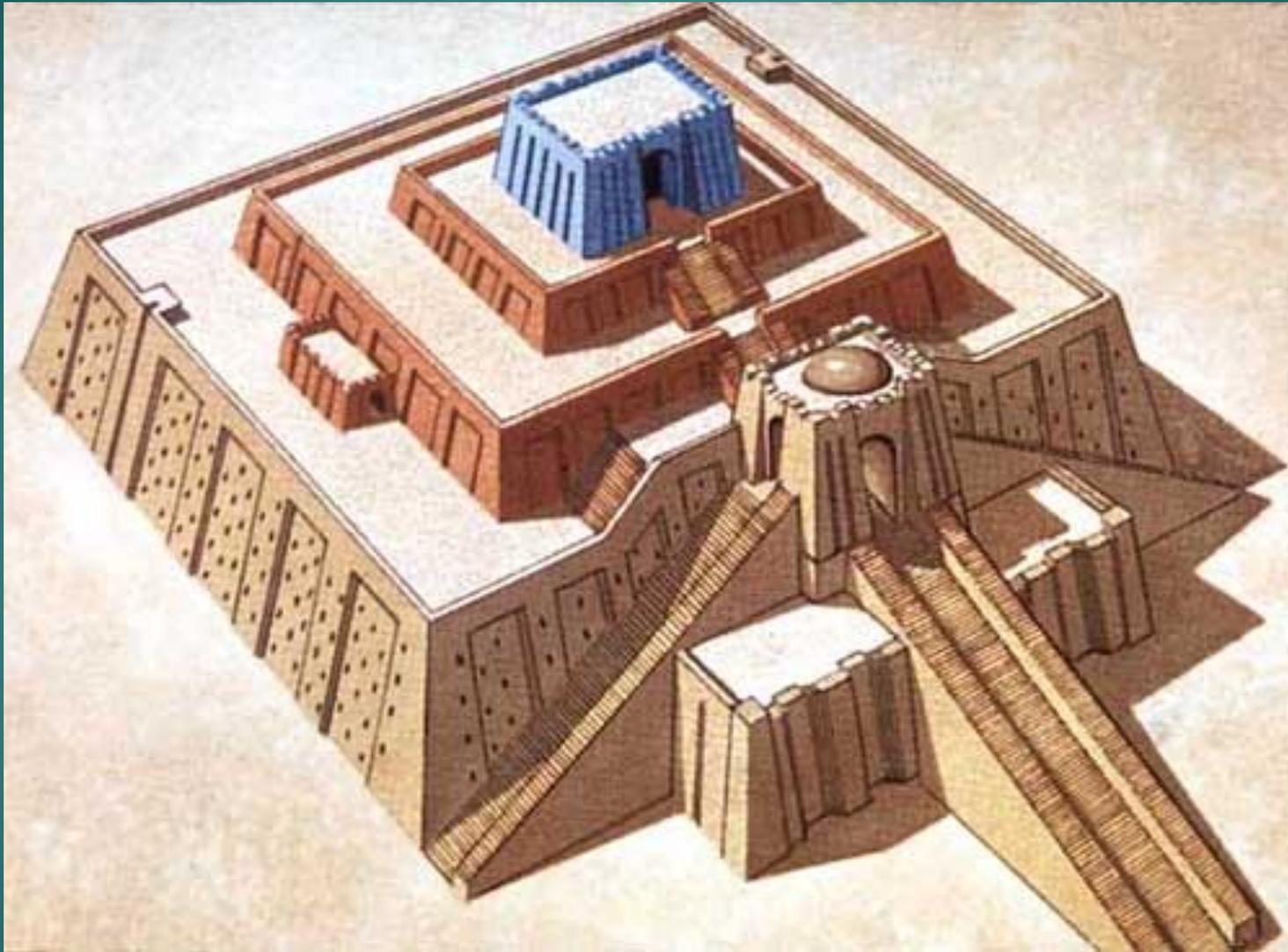
***Headdress of the Lady Puabi  
c. 2650-2550 B.C. –  
Made of gold, lapis lazuli  
and carnelian***

***Gold ostrich egg***



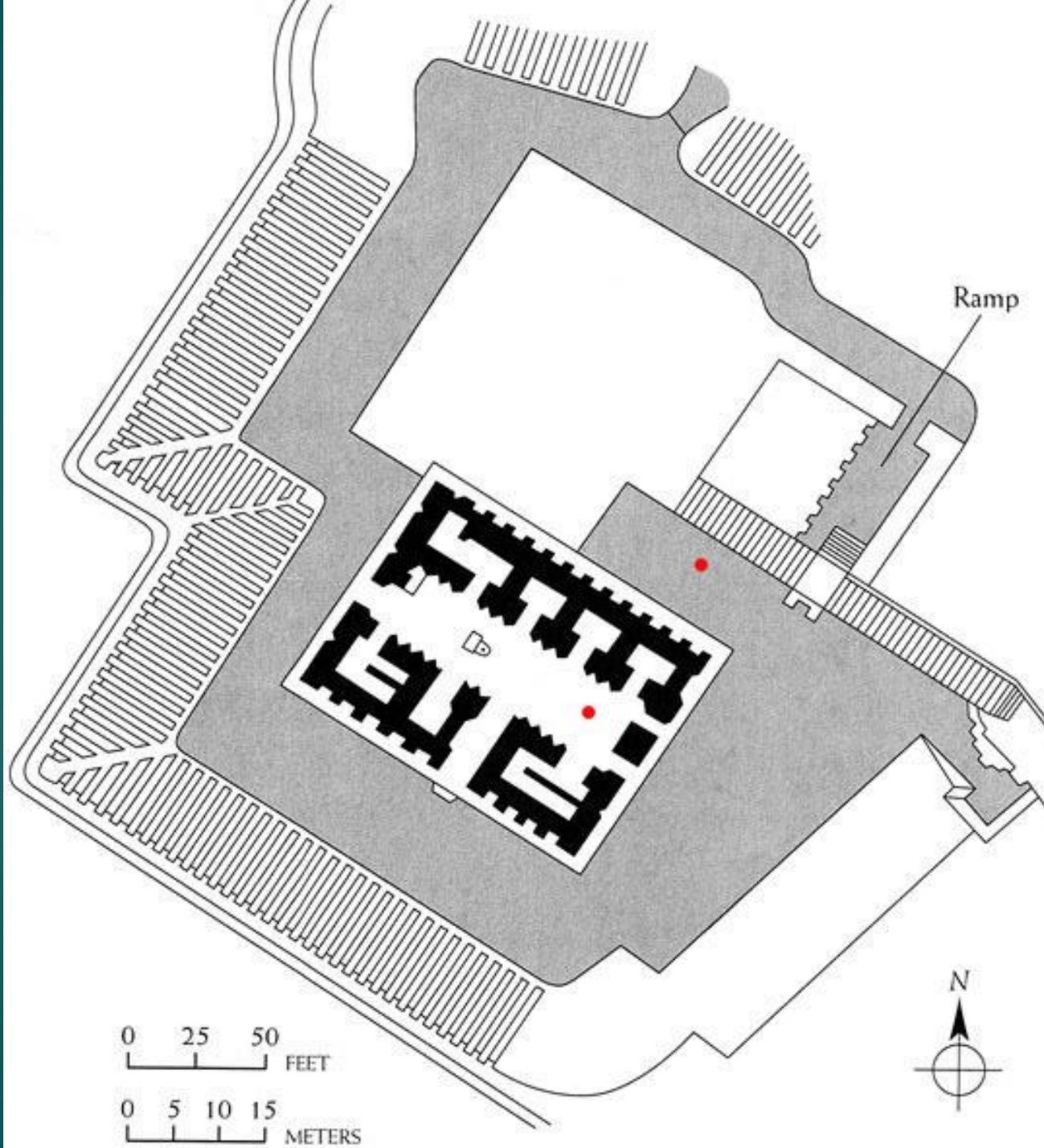
# Ziggurat of Ur





Temple raised in elevation  
Bent axis

## Temple Anu



## Sumerian Votive Figurines



# Gilgamesh, Enkidu, & Humbaba



# Siduri's Advice

- ◆ As for you, Gilgamesh, let your belly be full,  
Make merry day and night.  
Of each day make a feast of rejoicing.  
Day and night dance and play!  
Let your garments be sparkling fresh,  
Your head be washed; bathe in water.  
Pay heed to a little one that holds on to  
your hand,  
Let a spouse delight in your bosom.

The parallels between the stories of Enkidu/Shamhat and Adam/Eve have been long recognized by scholars. In both, a man is created from the soil by a god, and lives in a natural setting amongst the animals. He is introduced to a woman who tempts him. In both stories the man accepts food from the woman, covers his nakedness, and must leave his former realm, unable to return. The presence of a snake that steals a plant of immortality from the hero later in the epic is another point of similarity.



Damuzi the Shepherd and spouse of Inanna

“COMPOSITION”

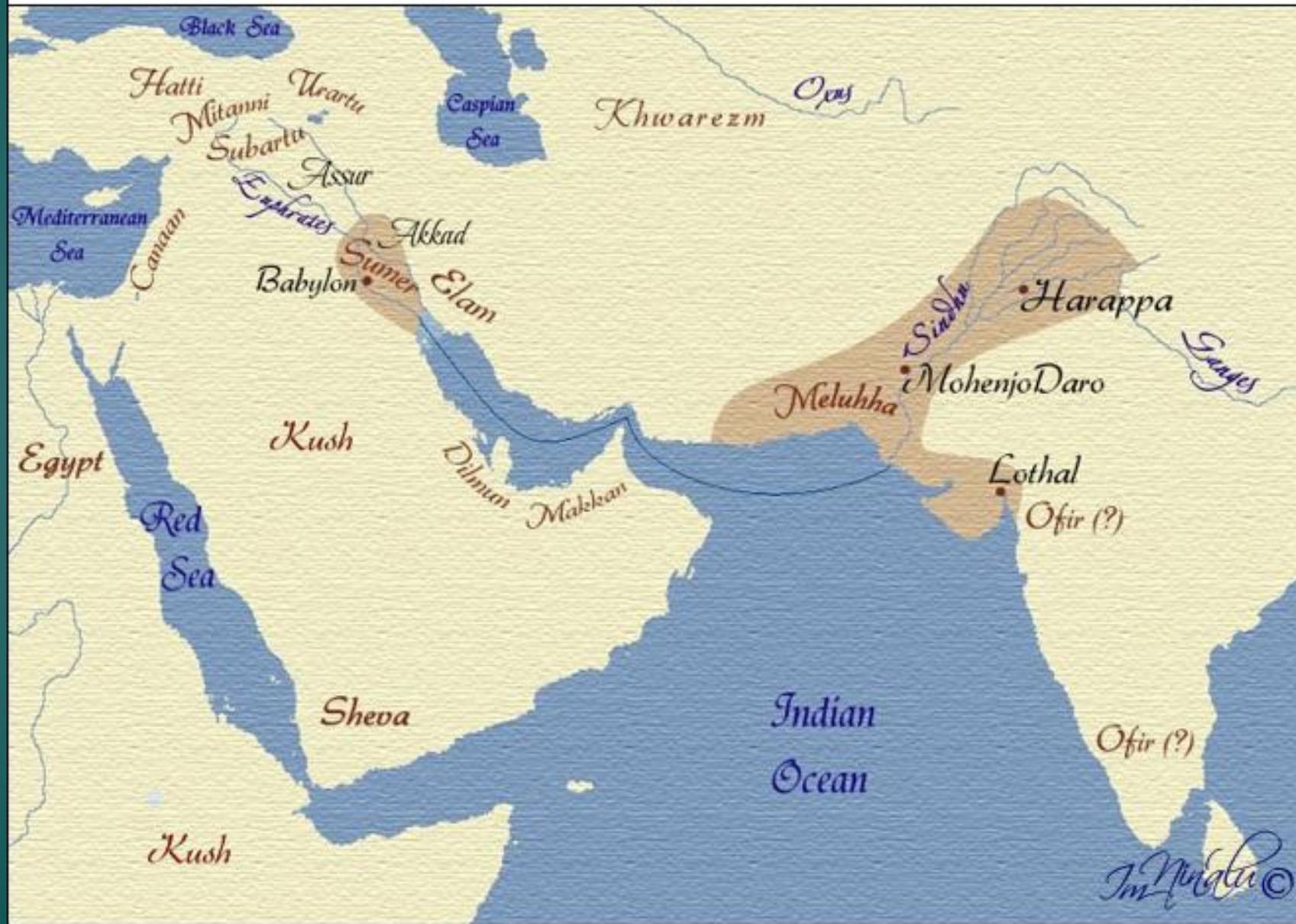
# Akkadians



Sargon?

Sargon the Great  
7:44

# Ancient Civilizations in Mesopotamia and the Indus Valley



## 2. Akkadian Empire

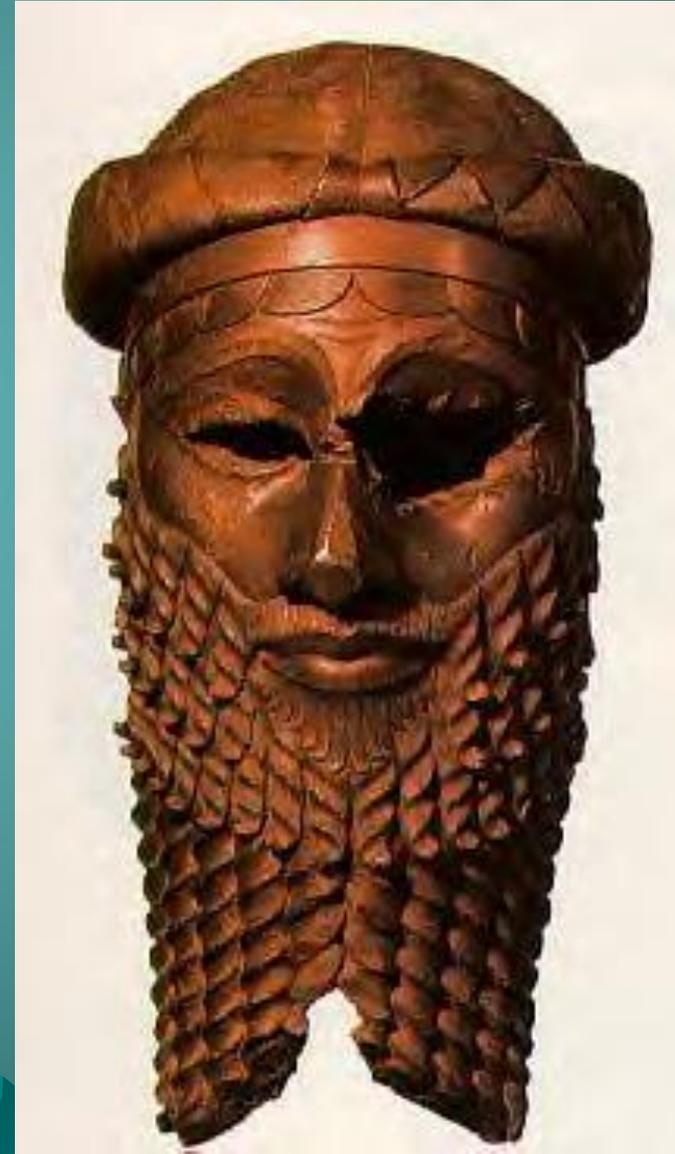
- ◆ 2400 BC Sargon of Agade
  - ◆ 1<sup>st</sup> Empire
  - ◆ Naram-sin
  
- ◆ 2200 BC Fragmentation, drought ?



Reino de Sargón

El reino de Sargón - 2350-2320 a. de C.

# Sargon ?



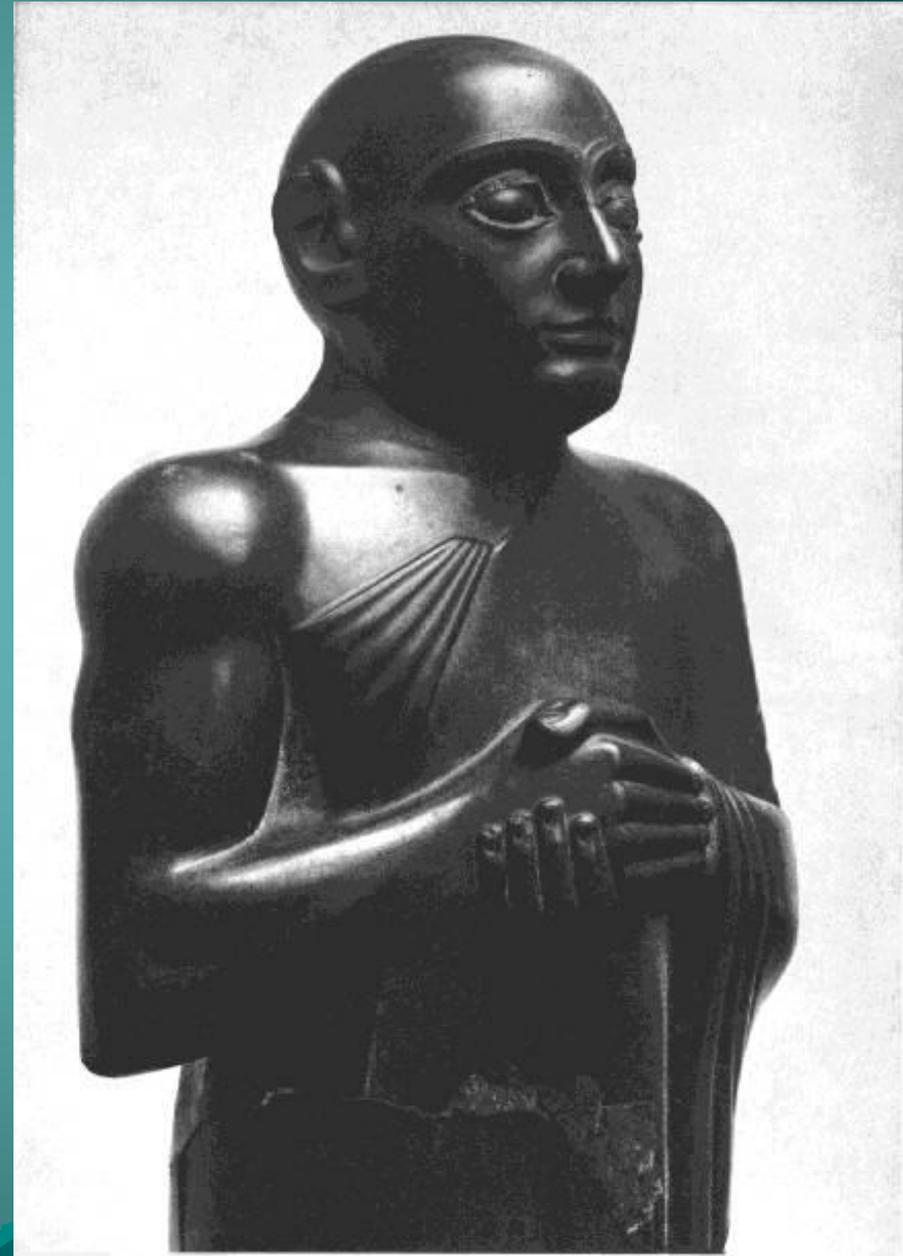
# Naram-sin



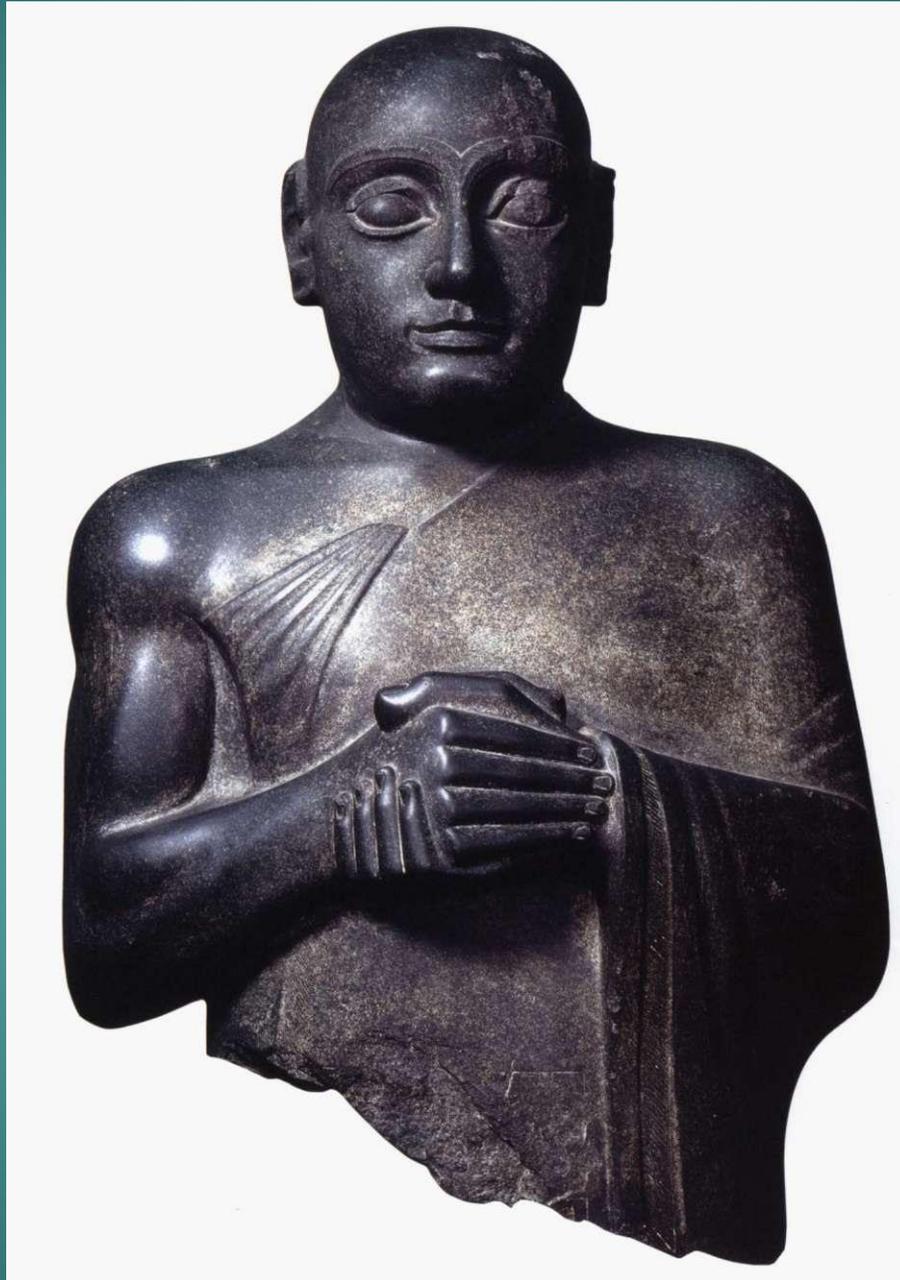
# 3. Ur III Sumerian Renaissance

- ◆ 2100 BC Third Dynasty of Ur
- ◆
  - ◆ Ur-Nammu of Ur=Laws
  - ◆ Gudea of Lagash=
  - ◆ Renaissance

# Gudea



Gudea  
Diorite



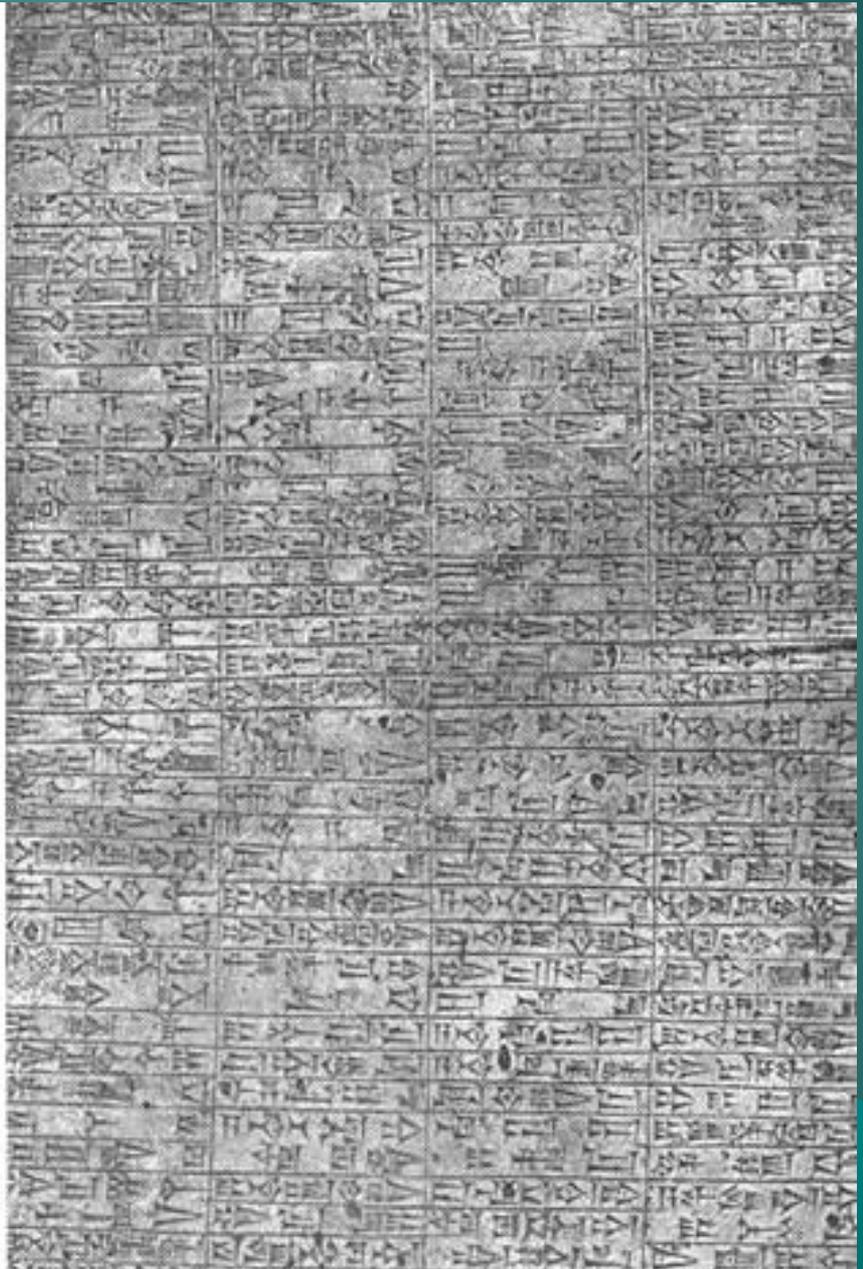
## 4. Hammurabi of Babylon

- ◆ 1900 BC Amorite Dynasty
  - ◆ Eshnunna
- ◆ 1750 Hammurabi
- ◆ Hittites Raid
- ◆ Disorder
- ◆ 1600 Kassites
- ◆ 1450 Hittites dominate

# Hammurabi of Babylon



El imperio de Hammurabi - 1792-1750 a. de C.



# Code of Hammurabi

- ◆ 134. If any one be captured in war and there is not sustenance in his house, if then his wife go to another house this woman shall be held blameless.
- ◆ 135. If a man be taken prisoner in war and there be no sustenance in his house and his wife go to another house and bear children; and if later her husband return and come to his home: then this wife shall return to her husband, but the children follow their father.
- ◆ 148. If a man take a wife, and she be seized by disease, if he then desire to take a second wife he shall not put away his wife, who has been attacked by disease, but he shall keep her in the house which he has built and support her so long as she lives.

- ◆ 195. If a son strike his father, his hands shall be hewn off.
- ◆ 196. If a man put out the eye of another man, his eye shall be put out.
- ◆ 197. If he break another man's bone, his bone shall be broken.
- ◆ 198. If he put out the eye of a freed man, or break the bone of a freed man, he shall pay one gold mina.
- ◆ 199. If he put out the eye of a man's slave, or break the bone of a man's slave, he shall pay one-half of its value.
- ◆ 200. If a man knock out the teeth of his equal, his teeth shall be knocked out.

◆ The Law Code Stele of King Hammurabi Smarthistory



c. 1450, Hittites conquer Babylon

