

European Legal Culture

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- » Submitting papers until 18th January 2018
 - » 8 - 13 pages of standardized text (font: Times New Roman 12, with bibliography and footnotes)
 - » topics need to be consulted with lecturers
 - » we strongly urge you to submit papers before Christmas break

First settlements

- » Early humans were hunter-gatherers, which relied on animals and plants for food
- » They were moving constantly, permanent settlements began with domesticating plants and animals after Ice Age
- » Irrigation as an important factor for development of agriculture and civilizations - rulers were not only obliged to maintain law and order, but also to ensure proper working order which in consequence required rise of administration

Mesopotamia

Land between two rivers (Tigris and Euphrates), which yearly flooding provide rich soil, suitable for agriculture of early civilizations.

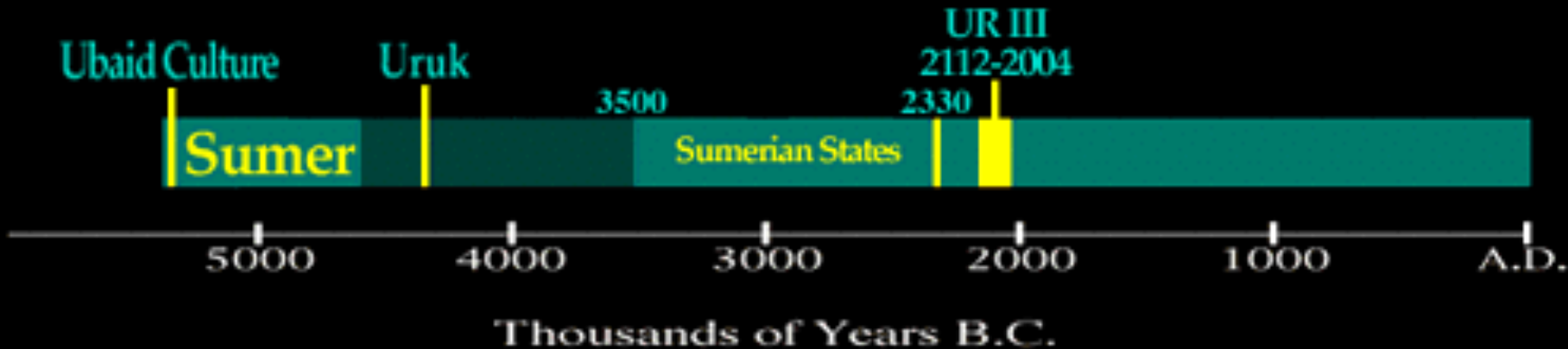


Mesopotamia

Kings ruled the states in the land between the rivers. In the third millennium BC they were generally considered incarnations of the main gods. In the second millennium they were only seen as the earthly representatives of the gods.

The kings were primarily aided by civil servants known as nubands, who were responsible for managing the royal court, day-to-day affairs of state and for exercising power over the military.

Akkadians before 3000
2112 Gutian Invasion
2200 Amorites
1595 Hittites sack Babylon
1200 Arameans
1159 Elamite Invasion
750 Chaldean Invasion
613 Medes



Mesopotamia

Sumer, the first civilization in Mesopotamia and the oldest known in the world consisted of city-states. Rulers of Sumerian city-states (by Sumerians called *en* , *lugal* or *ensi*) were both secular and spiritual rulers. In contrary to Egyptians pharaohs, Sumerian priest-kings were not viewed as divine but as human representatives of patron gods of city-states and lived in temples which were both religious and administrative centers of Sumerian city-states.

Akkadians formed new form of government which became a model for later rulers although priesthood played very important role throughout the history of Mesopotamia. Akkadian kings were “classical” despots and had an absolute power, while the title was hereditary although usurpers seized the throne and established new ruling dynasties from time to time. Akkadian rulers named themselves Lord of the Four Quarters (of the Earth) and were eventually elevated to the divine status. Unlike in ancient Egypt, the divine status of the Mesopotamian rulers was more of an exception than the rule.

Mesopotamia

A centralized administration in Mesopotamia came about during the Babilon era of the 18th century BC.

Hammurabi divided the state into provinces with governors (*issaku*) at their head, then into districts with satraps (*pahatu*). The smallest unit was the commune, headed by the warden (*rabianu*).

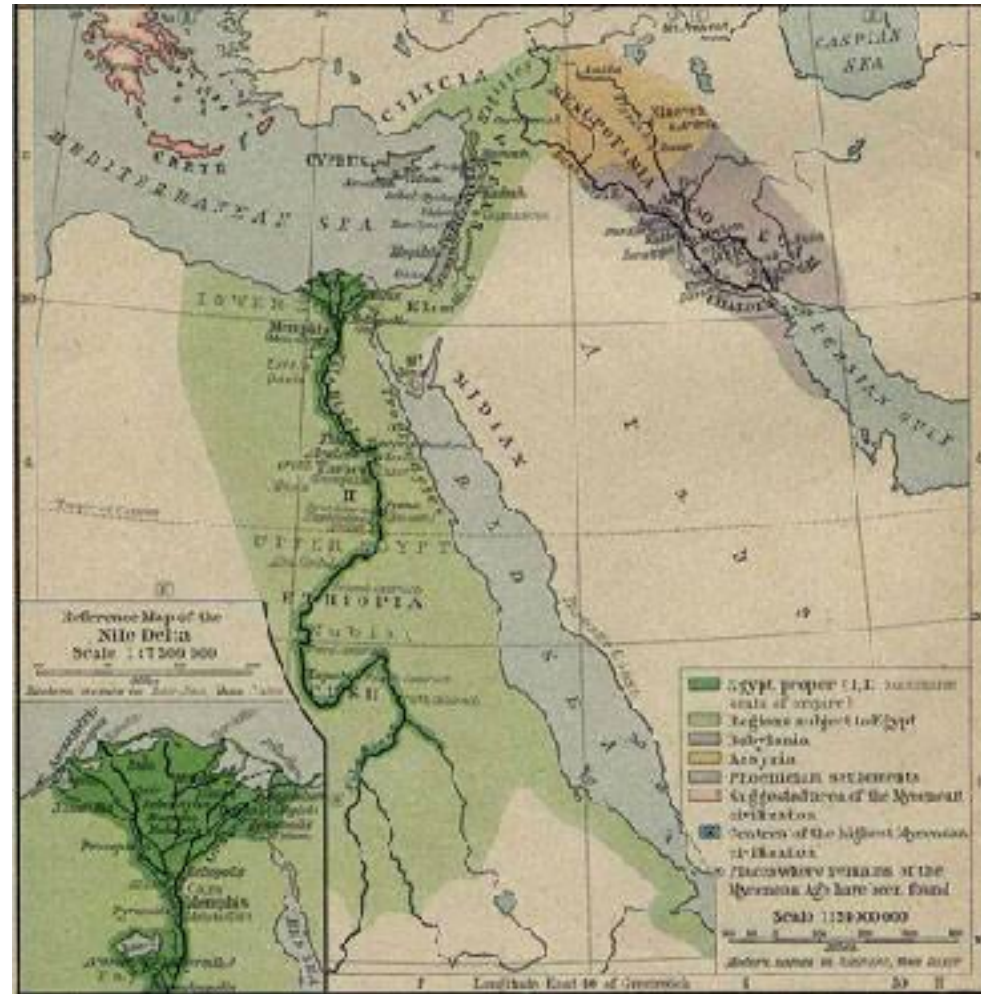
Local civil servants joined administrative, police and judicial functions.

The king directly appointed civil servants on all levels.

Importance of Hammurabi's Code and postal service during his reign.

Egypt

» River Nile flooded every year providing fertile land in desert.



Egypt

Around 3100 BC the pharaoh Menes united Lower and Upper Egypt and began the process of constructing a unitary state.

The status of the Egyptian ruler evolved: the king was first regarded as a god, then the son of a god, and then as an intermediary between the gods and the people. Pharaoh was identified with Horus, who inherited all his land from his father, Osiris.

They were embalmed and buried in enormous tombs (pyramids), which consisted everything they would require in afterlife.

The monarch was a despot, holding legislative, executive, judicial and military authority all at once.

Submission to this authority was considered fulfilling the will of the gods, and rebellion was punished by the most severe temporal penalties as well as condemnation in the afterlife.

Egypt



Egypt

The will of the ruler was carried out by state administration. It was headed by the Vizier, the pharaoh's deputy. There were two Viziers which was testament to old division of Country for Upper and Lower Egypt.

The chancellor and chief treasurer were under his authority, as well as a mayors of bigger cities (Memphis in north and Thebes in South). More independent magistrates contain royal treasurer and supervisor of granaries.

Egypt

Local administration was based on a division into nomes, (42 since pharaoh Niuserre) ruled by nomarchs. Their function was taken from local rules of previous times, and it became hereditary.

Power of nomarchy was linked with the power of king - during the periods of distress nomarchs took over functions reserved to king and his officials.

They concentrated administrative, judicial and fiscal authority, and oversaw local economic management.

Nomarchs oversaw lower-ranking bureaucrats, who primarily managed public works.

Public administration workers were paid in kind.

Most important noms gained during the Old Kingdom period, but with the help of Viziers pharaohs restricted their power, with subdivision of noms. They regained their importance during Ptolemaic Period.

Egypt

Other important branches of administration contained:

- military (two armies with scribal administration and corps of combat officers with commanders constituted by Pharaoh)**
- foreign relations (emissaries and scribes under control of Pharaoh, with little involvement of Vizier)**

The Jewish state

In the Jewish state the king was never regarded as a godly being, but rather only as anointed.

The king oversaw the executive power. Lawmaking power belonged to the assembly, which limited the monarch's despotism.

Central administration rested in the hands of clan leaders.

Ten Commandments as a basis for civil and religious law of Judaism, the first monotheistic religion.

The Jewish state 2

The Jewish state was divided into 12 districts, a reference to the tradition of the 12 Israeli tribes.

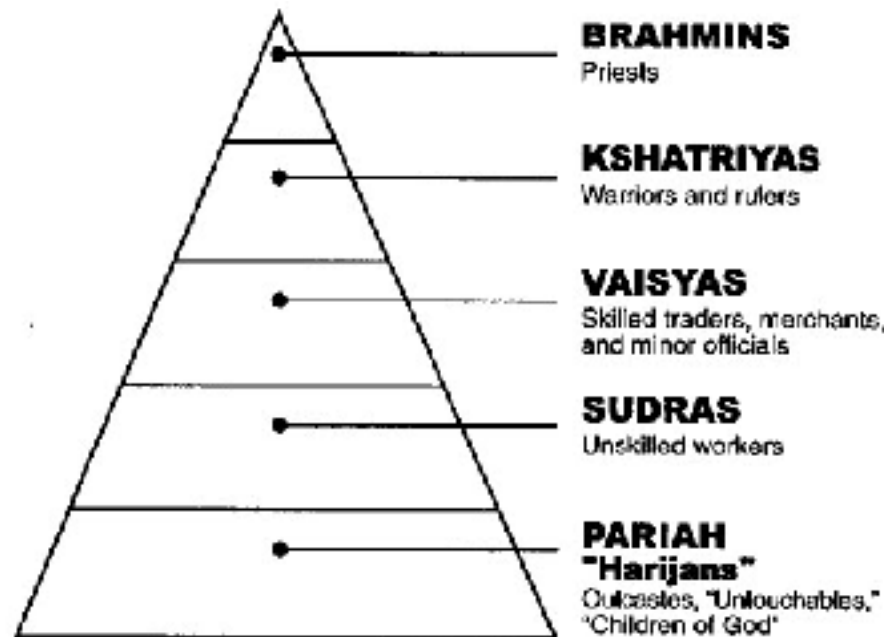
The head of a district was known as the judge.

Every district was required one month out of the year to deliver supplies to the palace needed for maintaining the royal court.

After the death of Salomon, around 930 BC the Jewish state disintegrated into the Kingdom of Judah (two tribes in Jerusalem) and the Kingdom of Israel (10 tribes occupying Samaria).

Ancient Indian Caste System

- The caste system organized Indians into four classes - the Brahmins (teachers, scholars and priests), the Kshatriyas (kings and warriors), the Vaishyas (traders), and Sudras (agriculturists, service providers, and some artisan groups).



Greece

Around 1200 BC, Greece was occupied by the Dorians. They led to the fall of the Mycenaean culture.

This new situation did not lead to a unified Greek state.

However, small state-like bodies developed called *poleis* (Latin singular *polis*).

***Polis* consisted of both a city and its surrounding area.**

Usually the territory of a *polis* amounted to several hundred km² and anywhere from a few thousand to tens of thousands of residents.

Athens (2,500 km²) and Sparta (8,400 km²) were exceptions.

Poleis joint together seeking protection against common enemy (like Persians for example) - Athens served as a hegemony of Delian League. Later Greek states was incorporated into Macedonians and later Romans state.