UNIT 1: FOUNDATIONS PERIOD
8000 BCE- 600 BCE (Ancient)
NEOLITHIC RIVER VALLEY CIVILIZATIONS

- Tigris/Euphrates River (Mesopotamia)
- Nile River (Egypt)
- Andes (Chavin)
- Papa New Guinea
- Indus Valley (Mohenjo Dara/Harappa)
- Mesoamerica (Olmec)
- Yellow River/Huang He (Shang)
- Hittites
- Babylonia

TRADE ROUTES
- Egypt to Nubia
- Mesopotamia to Indus
What is the evidence that explains the earliest history of humans and the planet? How is this evidence interpreted?

- **HUNTER GATHERS**
- **PALEOLITHIC**
- **BIG GEOGRAPHY**
- **Egalitarian Societies**

Humans first appeared on Earth during the Paleolithic Era. The evidence of burial grounds, as well as stone tools and other items explains this. They show a general migration path from Africa outwards. These tools show that the groups were hunter-foragers and nomadic.
Where did humans first appear on Earth, and what were their society, technology, and culture?

- **Out of Africa**
- **Kinship Groups**
- **Animism**
- **Hunter Gathers**

Humans first appeared on Earth during the Paleolithic Era, in the steppes and savannah of Africa, before migrating to Eurasia, the Americas, and Australia. These humans were hunter-foragers, changing their tools and culture to adapt to their surroundings.
Describe earliest humans’ technology & tools

- **Fire**
- **Stone Tools and weapons for Environment**

The humans used fire as a main tool everywhere, from hunting and foraging, as well as for defense and warmth. The earlier human’s used a variety of stone weapons for their specific environments and food they hunted.
How did the earliest humans’ society help them procure enough supplies to survive?

- **Egalitarian Societies**
- **Small Kinship groups**
- **Basic trade**

Each band of hunter-foragers had specific duties assigned to a group of people to make what they needed for survival. However, exchanges in items and ideas between these groups were common.
What were the long-term demographic, social, political, and economic effects of the Neolithic Revolution?

- Ice Age
- Neolithic Revolution
- Domestication
- Irrigation
- Patriarchy
- Pyramid Building
- Theocracy

The societies that were founded in the Neolithic Revolution were the foundation of the River Valley civilizations.
How did pastoral societies resemble or differ from early agricultural societies?

Differences:
- Pastoral societies were smaller and more mobile than early agricultural societies
- Pastoralism focused more on hunting and gathering, while early agricultural societies depended more on the same soil...
- Pastoral societies adapted far better to their environment as they could move

Similarities:
- Both developed animal husbandry
- Pastoralism persisted in areas that could not sustain long-term agricultural pursuits, such as areas with unfavorable climates and unreliable sources of pastures, food sources, and water.
How did the Neolithic Revolution affect human societies economically & socially?

- Climate change caused change
- Barter
- Cultural Diffusion
- Permanent Settlements
- River Valley Civilizations

· Due to the closed nature of society, the demographic of farmers was less diverse than of the demographic of herders as they mostly mated within their population
· Gender roles became more prevalent
· The reliance on the limited amount of land they had gave way to political organization
· Less variety in terms of food which affected the overall health of the farming society’s citizens
· Political organization caused social organization which was divided by amount of property and power.
Why did the Neolithic Revolution start (at all)? Where did the Neolithic Revolution first transform human populations?

- Growth of Agriculture
  
- Easier survival

- need for a long-term reliable source of food to nourish a rapidly growing society
- rose because people experimented with plants out of their own free time
- the need for political and social organization
- by accident
Where did pastoralism persist even after the Neolithic Revolution?

- Africa
- Steppes

Pastoralism developed at various sites in the grasslands of Afro-Eurasia.
What various crops & animals were developed or domesticated during the Neolithic Revolution?

- Pastoralism
- Agricultural Revolution
- Growth of Civilizations
- Job Specification
- Slash and Burn Farming

- The trinity: maize, beans, and squash
- Rye, wheat, barley
- Potato
- Teff
- Rice
- Quinoa
- Various marine animals, snails
- Sheep, goats, yaks, llamas
What labor adjustments did humans make in order to facilitate the Neolithic Revolution?

- Specification of Workers
- New Classes of Artisans and Warriors
- New Elites

• Increased reliance on female labor
• Had to produce more crops to make up for the energy used for farming
What were the environmental effects of the Neolithic Revolution?

• Impact on diversity of food products
• Pastoralist changed landscapes

• Soil was overused.
• Deforestation occurred to make more land available for agriculture
• Overgrazing
• Animals became more suited to human needs due to animal husbandry
What were the effects of pastoralism & agriculture on humans?

- Greater populations
- Increased interaction
- Genetic diversity

Pastoralism and agriculture led to more reliable and abundant food supplies, which increased the population.
What effects did pastoralism & agriculture have on the food supply?

- Domestication
- Increased Populations
- Catal Huyuk
- River Valley Civs
- Developed Cultures

- At first the food supply was unreliable due to a lot of energy devoted to crop production
- The food supply slowly became more reliable and created surplus
- In certain regions of the world, food options were limited
What were the social effects of the increased food supply caused by increase of agriculture?

- Creativity
- Religious devotion
- Class separation
- Conflict!
- Patriarchal dominance
- Luxury commerce

- Created class distinctions, the people with more land and therefore more food were on the higher end of the social hierarchy
- Increased population
- More leisure time
- Feasting increased loyalty to leadership
What technological innovations are associated with the growth of agriculture?

• Pottery
• Plows
• Metallurgy
• Hweels
• TRADE!

• Preservation of food surplus, created granaries and store houses
  • Irrigation
  • City planning
  • Domestication/animal husbandry
What is a ‘civilization,’ and what are the defining characteristics of a civilization? How did civilizations develop and grow more complex before 600 BCE? What were the effects of this increasing complexity?

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A civilization is a group of people that share a common leadership, culture or social structure. They did this by obtaining a food surplus. This would allow for specialization, which means there are people in society that are not involved in agriculture. Now it was possible to have soldiers, politicians, priests and artisans, and as a result, have a more complex society.
Where did the earliest civilizations develop, and why did they develop in those locations?

- Yang and My TRIP!

They developed in Mesopotamia, Egypt, modern day Pakistan, and China. These civilizations were all located near rivers that flooded regularly. This allowed for feasible farming where people did not have to work as much for food, and they could settle down and lead sedentary lives.

**MUST KNOW THE FOLLOWING**

- Mesopotamia in the Tigris and Euphrates River Valleys
- Egypt in the Nile River Valley
- Mohenjo-Daro and Harappa in the Indus River Valley
- Shang in the Yellow River or Huang He Valley
- Olmecs in Mesoamerica
- Chavin in Andean South America
What is a “state?” Who ruled the early states, and which segments of society usually supported the ruler?

- State
- Nation
- Country
- Hittites
- Polis?

A state is a group of governing bodies that come together to regulate food production and distribution. Early states were led by either military or religious leaders. Rulers were said to have connections to the spiritual world and be able to control nature.
Why were some early states able to expand and conquering neighboring states?

- Egypt
- Sargon
- Babylon
- Mesopotamia

They had environment that were stable enough to support a food surplus. This allowed them to specialize and make an army. This allowed them to conquer other states. Other early empire used trade and industry to expand into other areas, but this was not conquering other societies as much as it was taking them in.
Give four examples of early empires in the Nile & Tigris/Euphrates River Valleys

- Mesopotamia and Babylonia
  - Sumerians, Akkadians, Babylonians
- Egypt and Nubia
  - Egyptian (Old and Middle, New)
  - Nubia (Kush, Axumite)
What role did pastoral civilizations play versus empires?

- Wheel
- Spears
- Atlatl

Pastoralists were often the developers and disseminators of new weapons and modes of transportation that transformed warfare in agrarian civilizations.
How did culture play a role in unifying populations?

- Theocracy
- Ziggurats
- Pyramids

Culture played a significant role in unifying states through law, language, literature, religion, myths and monumental art.
What architectural forms did early civilizations produce?

- Ziggurats
- Pyramids
- Temples
- Defensive Walls
- Streets and Roads
- Sewage and Water systems

Early architectural forms included grain houses to distribute food and religious buildings used in ceremonies. Rulers created lavish palaces for themselves.
Which **social strata** encouraged the development of art in ancient civilizations?

- Early Patronage
- Artisan class
- Technological advances
- Different Styles

Elites, both political and religious, promoted arts and artisanship.
What forms of writing developed in ancient civilizations?

- Cuneiform
- Hieroglyphic
- Phoenician alphabet
- Harappan Glyphs

Cuneiform developed in Mesopotamia, and it consisted of lines and dashes rather than an alphabet. Egypt had its famous hieroglyphs, many of which still survive today. The Phoenician alphabet originated on the eastern shores of the Mediterranean. This simplified the language down to a small set of letters and spread literacy to a somewhat larger portion of the populace. Many other independent languages or dialects of widespread ones arose as well, though much less remains given their limited usage.
What was the relationship between literature and culture?

- Epic of Gilgamesh
- Torah
- Book of the Dead
- Rig Veda

Describe the moral values of the society and their cultural traditions.
What pre-600 BCE religions strongly influenced later eras?

• Zoroastrianism
• Judaism/Hebrew
• Vedic
• Jainism
• Legalism

Founding/Religions influence can be seen in a variety of modern religions.
How “big” were the pre-600 BCE trading regions?

• Nile
• Mesopotamia
• From Egypt to India

Some notable trading regions included trade up and down the Nile, trade through Mesopotamia (a pivot point between Mediterranean, Egypt and the Indus Valley), and trade throughout the Mediterranean via the Phoenicians.

INCREASED/CHANGED: regional to transregional!!!
Between Egypt and Nubia and Between Mesopotamia and the Indus Valley
How did social and gender identities develop pre-600 BCE?

• Patriarchal Societies
• Strict roles
• Conflict
• Religious duties

Broadly speaking, women were inferior to men in society. This status extended to everyday freedom, hierarchical opportunity, legal rights, and property ownership. Still, there were a fair amount of expectations. In early foraging and farming groups, men and women did different tasks, but both were valued in the society for their contributions. As rulers commanded civilizations, kings’ wives, advisers, and harem members could influence the decisions.