

# Ancient Mesopotamia

## Later Peoples



A Guardian statue in front of the city of Babylon

# The End of Ur

- Mesopotamian groups were always at war with each other
- The Sumerian group was the most powerful in the beginning
- 2000<sub>BCE</sub> – the city of Ur is destroyed
  - Now everyone wants to control Mesopotamia



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# The Rise of Babylon

- The Babylonians come to power after Sumer
- Hammurabi was one of the Babylonians best monarchs
  - Monarch – A ruler of a kingdom or empire
- Hammurabi was a great war leader
  - Conquered all of Mesopotamia
  - Called it the Babylonian Empire
    - Babylon was the capital city
- Hammurabi made the Babylonian Empire very powerful








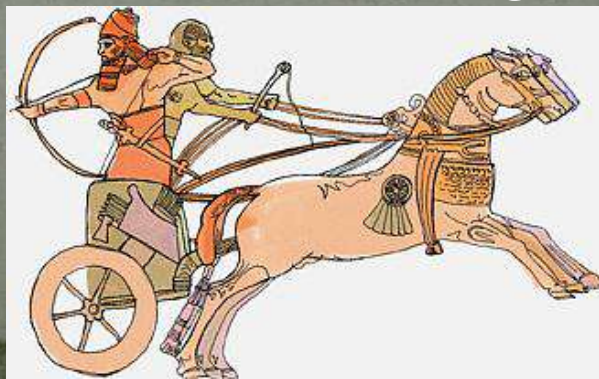
# Hammurabi's Code



- Hammurabi is most famous for his Code of Laws
- Hammurabi's Code – A set of 282 laws that dealt with almost every part of daily life
  - Contained some ideas that are still in use today
- Hammurabi's Code was written down for everyone to see
  - Now everyone knew what the law said
- After Hammurabi died, Babylon slowly fell apart



- Different groups were battling each other for fertile land
    - Land = Power
  - The Hittites were a strong group in modern day Turkey (Asia minor)
    - Hittites were one of the first to master ironworking
    - They had the strongest weapons of the time
    - They also invented the chariot
      - Chariot – Wheeled, horse-drawn cart used in battle
  - The Hittites conquered the Babylonians
    - Then their king was assassinated , and the kingdom fell apart
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# The Assyrians

- Soon, a group called the Assyrians conquered the Hittites
  - They were defeated very quickly by other groups
  - Then, they re-conquered Mesopotamia
- Then they re-conquered the Hittites and even Egypt!
- The Assyrians had a very strong army
  - They also set up the world's first library at their capital city of Nineveh





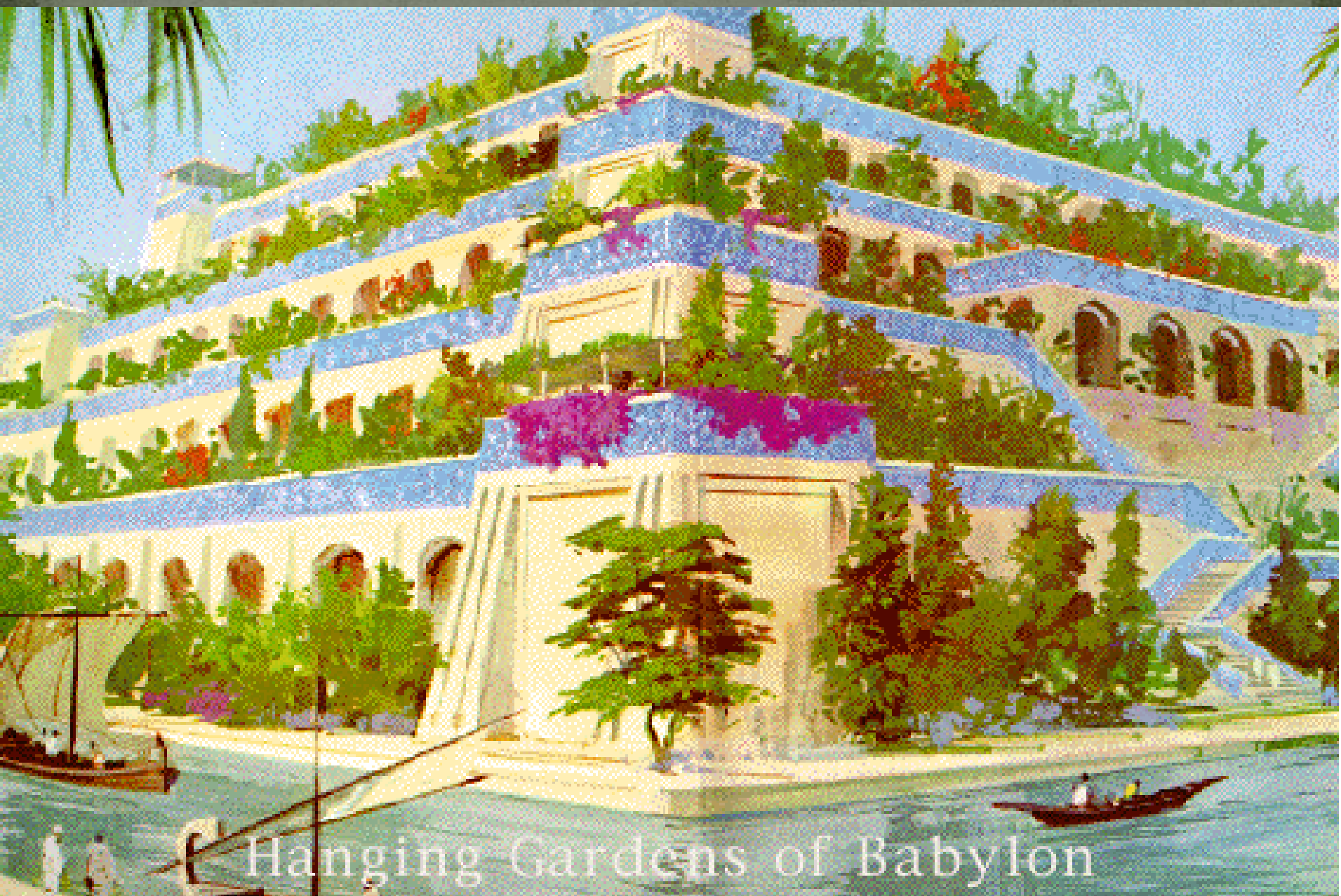




# The Chaldeans

- Later, the Assyrians started to battle each other
  - Assyrian Empire becomes very weak
- Here come the Chaldeans!
- The Chaldeans take over the Assyrian Empire
- Most famous king for the Chaldeans is Nebuchadnezzar
  - Rebuilt Babylon
  - Also built the Hanging Gardens of Babylon





Hanging Gardens of Babylon



# The Phoenicians

- Phoenicians lived on the Mediterranean Sea in a land called Phoenicia and were great sea traders
  - Couldn't trade on land because of geography or unfriendly neighbors



# The Phoenicians

- **Phoenicians were expert sailors**
  - Sailed all over the Mediterranean and even into the Atlantic Ocean!
- Phoenicians started many new cities around the Mediterranean
  - Including Carthage which later became a major city
- **Phoenicians most important achievement was an alphabet**
  - **Alphabet** – A set of letters that can be combined to form words
  - This made writing much easier
  - English alphabet is based on the Phoenician alphabet



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- Sumerians
- ↓
- Babylonians
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- Hittites
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- Assyrians
- ↓
- Chaldeans

