

Ancient River Civilizations

	Nile/ Egyptian Civilization	Mesopotamia	Huang Ho/Huang He	Indus River Valley
Location	Northeast Africa Civilizations developed along the Nile River	Western Asia Between the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers In modern day Iraq, Syria and Turkey	Eastern Asia Located in Eastern China in the Huang He River valley The Huang He is also known as the Yellow River	Middle of Asia On the <u>Indus River</u> in the valley that divides modern day Pakistan and India
Agriculture	The Nile River brought fertile soil to the river banks where they could plant flax and wheat	Known as the "Grainery of the World" because they grew wheat, barley and flax First irrigation system to bring water to crops	Flooding led to fertile soil that was used to grow millet First to plant in rows rather than scattering seeds which led to greater crop yield	Relied on predictable flooding to farm grains and cotton Cotton cloth became their primary export
Religion	Believed in many gods and goddesses Belief in the afterlife led to building pyramids and mummifying pharaohs	Worshipped gods and goddesses Created temples on top of ziggurats	Offered sacrifices to their ancestors Believed spirits and demons affected everyday life and they must be kept happy	No major evidence of gods or goddesses A very peaceful civilization
Government	Pharaohs had supreme power to rule Egypt Pharaohs were thought to be gods in human form	Had kings and government officials Hammurabi was one of the most powerful leaders Created the first set of laws- Hammurabi's Code	A ruling family or dynasty known as the Shang took power in Ancient Huang Ho Powerful nobles helped them rule using military power for 500 years	No specific mention of government by evidence includes trading seals and public gathering places in large cities such as Mohenjo Daro and Harappa
Cultural Contributions	Built great pyramids to honor their pharaohs Built canal systems for irrigation System of writing called hieroglyphics	First Laws- Hammurabi's Code System of writing called cuneiform Temples and Ziggurats First literature- <u>Epic of Gilgamesh</u> Class System	Created the first system of currency using shells Created the first paper currency Chinese writing were inscriptions carved on ox bones and turtle shells	Established long distance trade as far away as Mesopotamia Traded cotton cloth Used mud bricks for building
Scientific Contributions	Learned about the human body and its organs through mummifying their dead Made medicines from plants	Created the wheel Invented a math system based on the number 60 Began algebra and geometry	Learned to create and use silk Mapped stars and created a navigation system based on these star maps	Used metals to create jewelry and other items Created drainage and sewers for people to use