SSWH1 The student will analyze the origins, structures, and interactions of complex societies in the ancient Eastern Mediterranean from 3500 BCE to 500 BCE. a. Describe the development of Mesopotamian societies; include the religious, cultural, economic, and political facets of society, with attention to Hammurabi's law code.

- <u>Mesopotamia</u>:
  - Early civilization
    developed along
    the Tigris and
    Euphrates Rivers
    due to the rich soil
    used for agriculture



# Mesopotamia

- Religion: Polytheistic
- Culture:
  - Patriarchal
  - Ruled by a council of elders which developed into citystates
  - Women could own property
  - Written language
  - Music
- Economics: Agriculture was the a main economic force, especially along the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers

# Code of Hammurabi

- After years of constant fighting by Mesopotamian city-states, Hammurabi came to power
- The first ruler of Babylon, Hammurabi set up a code, or set of laws for the people to follow
- He wanted to rule fairly and promote the welfare of the people



b. Describe the relationship of religion and political authority in Ancient Egypt.

- Egyptian Pharaohs (kings) were considered to be living gods
- The rule based on religious authority is called a theocracy
- Pharaohs continued to help rule after their deaths
- Pyramids were built to house the pharaoh and everything he would need in the after life



c. Explain the development of monotheism; include the concepts developed by the ancient Hebrews, and Zoroastrianism.

- Monotheism: the belief in one god
- Zoroastrianism
  - a monotheistic religion founded in ancient Persia (modern day Iran)
  - Believed in good and evil, and a final judgment based on how well a person fought for goodness

## Ancient Hebrews



- Believed that their god had power over all people and that he would protect them
- Their god gave them laws or commandments to obey (Ten Commandments)
- The history of the Hebrews is written in their bible, the Torah

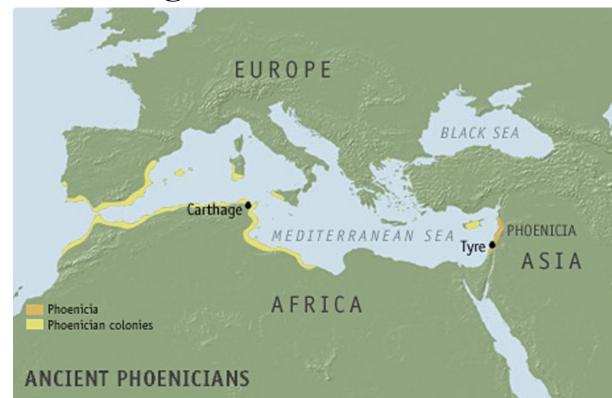
d. Describe early trading networks in the Eastern Mediterranean; include the impact Phoenicians had on the Mediterranean World.

- Many of the ancient trade routes were water based
- The Minoans were one of the first successful civilizations to trade throughout the Mediterranean (Crete)



#### Phoenicians

- The Phoenicians developed a series of powerful city-states along what is now Lebanon
- Colonized a large area



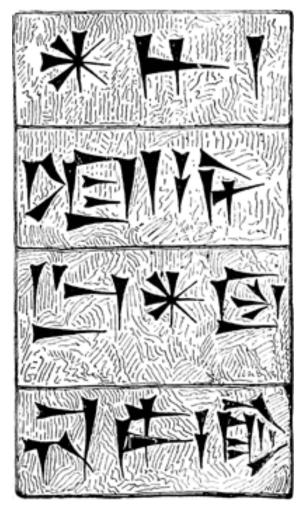
## Phoenicians



- The Phoenicians were great sailors and shipbuilders
- This enabled them to explore and set up citystates throughout the Mediterranean
- These city-states were used for trading posts for goods found throughout the region

e. Explain the development and importance of writing; include cuneiform, hieroglyphics, and the Phoenician alphabet.

• Cuneiform: Created by Sumerian scribes as a means to keep records; written into moist clay which was then dried



# Hieroglyphics

- In early Egyptian hieroglyphics, pictures stood for an idea.
- As they developed, the pictures came to represent sounds
- Egyptians used a form of paper called papyrus to write on
- Writing allowed civilizations to record their history, religious, and cultural beliefs



Phoenician alphabet

- Developed as a means of recording trade transactions-spread throughout the Mediterranean
- Was a phonetic system: one sign represented one sound
- Other cultures
   based their alphabet
   on the Phoenicians
   (Greece)

