



# **Later People of the Fertile Crescent**

# **The Babylonians Conquer Mesopotamia**

- **By 1800 BC, a powerful city-state had arisen in Babylon, an old Sumerian city on the Euphrates.**
- **Babylon's greatest monarch (MAH-nark), Hammurabi, conquered all of Mesopotamia.**

# Hammurabi

- During his 42-year reign, Hammurabi oversaw many building and irrigation projects, improved the tax collection system, and brought prosperity through increased trade.
- He is most famous, however, for Hammurabi's Code, the earliest known written collection of laws. It contained laws on everything from trade, loans, and theft to injury, marriage, and murder. Some of its ideas are still found in laws today. The code was important not only for how thorough it was, but also because it was written down for all to see.

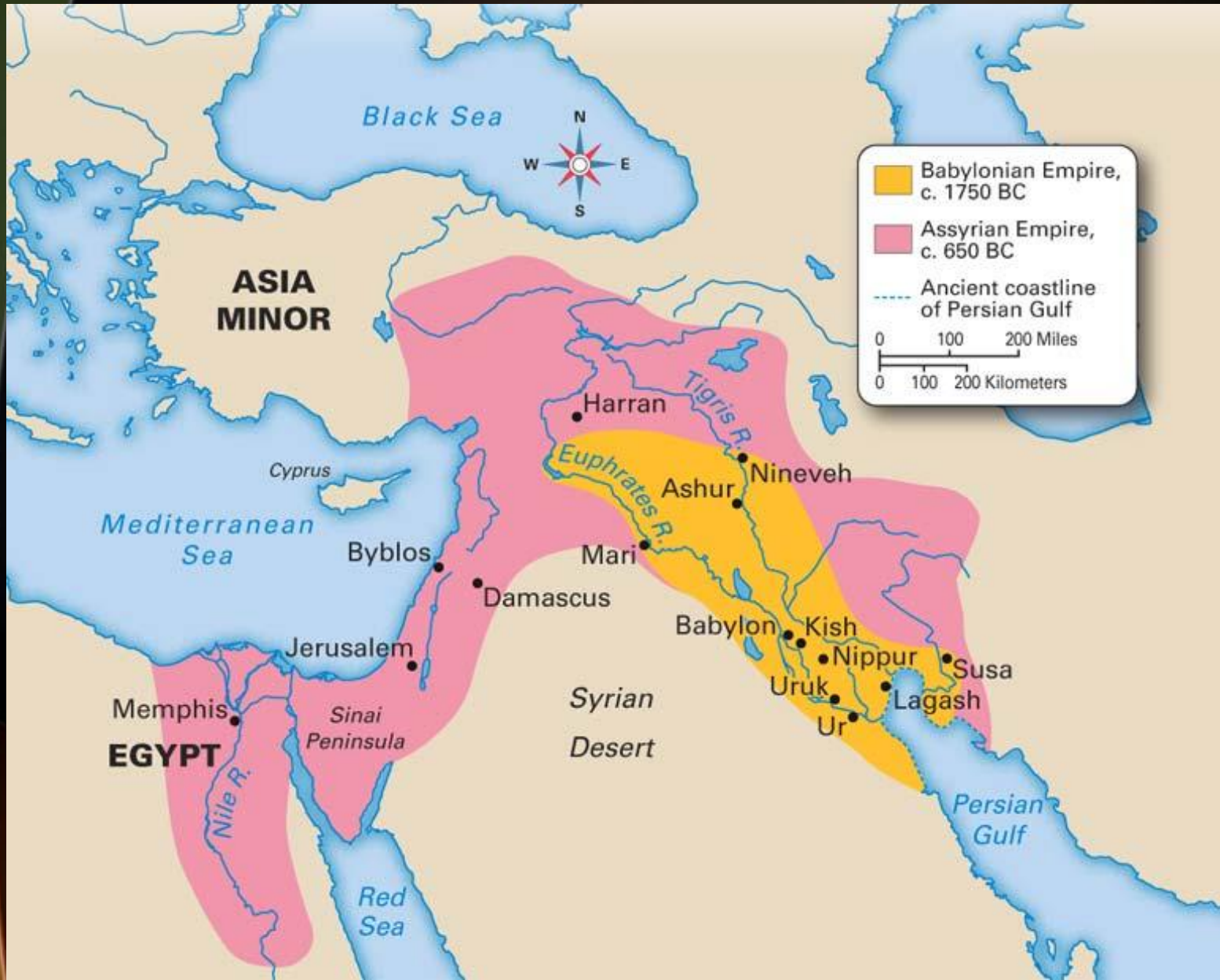
# **The Assyrians**

- **The Assyrians were the next group to conquer all of Mesopotamia. They ruled from Nineveh, a city in the north.**
- **The Assyrians collected taxes, enforced laws, and raised troops through local leaders.**
- **The Assyrians also built roads to link distant parts of the empire. In 612 BC the Chaldeans, a group from the Syrian Desert, conquered the Assyrians**

# Invasions of Mesopotamia

- Several other civilizations developed in and around the Fertile Crescent. As their armies battled each other for Mesopotamia's fertile land, control of the region passed from one empire to another.
- The Hittites of Asia Minor captured Babylon in 1595 BC with strong iron weapons and the skillful use of the chariot on the battlefield. After the Hittite king was killed, the Kassites

# Babylonian and Assyrian Empires



# The Assyrians Army

The Assyrian army was the most powerful fighting force the world had ever seen. It was large and well organized, and it featured iron weapons, war chariots, and giant war machines used to knock down city walls.



# Nebuchadnezzar

- Nebuchadnezzar (neb-uh-kuhd-NEZ-uhr), the most famous Chaldean king, rebuilt Babylon into a beautiful city.



- According to legend, his grand palace featured the famous Hanging Gardens.
- The Chaldeans revived Sumerian culture and made notable advances in astronomy and mathematics.

# The Phoenicians

- Phoenicia, at the western end of the Fertile Crescent along the Mediterranean Sea, created a wealthy trading society.
- Fleets of fast Phoenician trading ships sailed throughout the Mediterranean and even into the Atlantic Ocean, building trade networks and founding new cities.
























# Phoenicia, 800 BC

The Phoenicians sailed throughout the Mediterranean, building trade networks and founding new cities.



# Phoenician Alphabet

- The Phoenicians' most lasting achievement, however, was the alphabet, a major development that has had a huge impact on the ancient world and on our own.

 Z Zayin Weapon	 W Waw Hook	 H He Window	 D Daleth Door	 G Gimel Camel	 B Beth House	 Aleph Ox	
 N Nun Fish	 M Mem Water	 L Lamedh Ox-Goad	 K Kaph Palm of Hand	 Y Yodh Hand	 T Teth Unknown	 H Heth Fence	
 T Taw Mark	 SH Shin Tooth	 R Resh Head	 Q Qoph Monkey	 S Sadhe Fishhook	 P Peh Mouth	 Ayin Eye	 S Samekh Support

# Chapter 3 Summary

The early Mesopotamians developed irrigation to grow food.

Food production in Mesopotamia led to the world's first civilization.

Sumerian advances included ziggurats, the wheel, and the first writing system.

Later peoples developed the first written laws and the first empires.

