

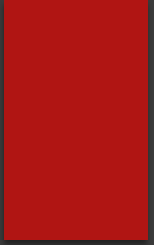


Western Civilizations

School of Athens by Raphael

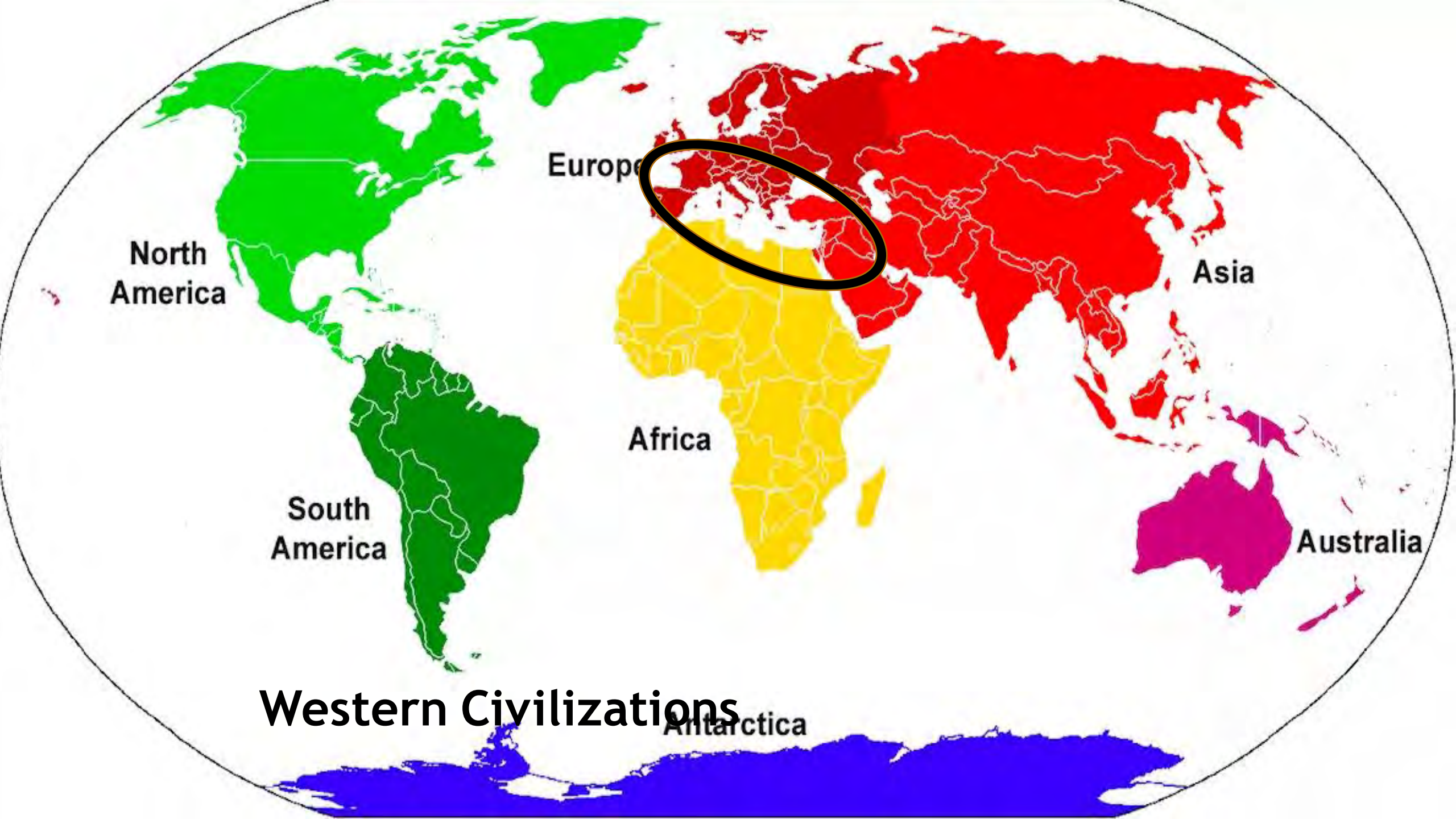


Western Civilizations

- 
- ▶ **What do we mean by the West?**
 - ▶ **The West of what?**
 - ▶ **What is the Origin of the Western Civilizations?**

Western Civilizations





North America

South America

Europe

Africa

Asia

Australia

Antarctica

Western Civilizations

What do we mean by the West?

Describing the West

- Ideas about the West and the distinction between **West** and **East** originated with the **ancient Greeks**.
- **The Greeks** defined themselves in relation to the earlier, advanced societies of the Near East such as **Mesopotamia** and **Egypt**, which they identified as “**Eastern.**”



Describing the West

- The Greeks passed this idea on to the **Romans**.
- They considered themselves part of the **West**.
- They viewed the **Near East/ MENA [the Middle East & N. Africa]** as more sophisticated and advanced.
- Greco-Roman **ideas** about the **West** were passed on to people who lived in **western and northern Europe**.
- They saw themselves as **inheritors** of this tradition and thus as the **West**.



The Roman Forum



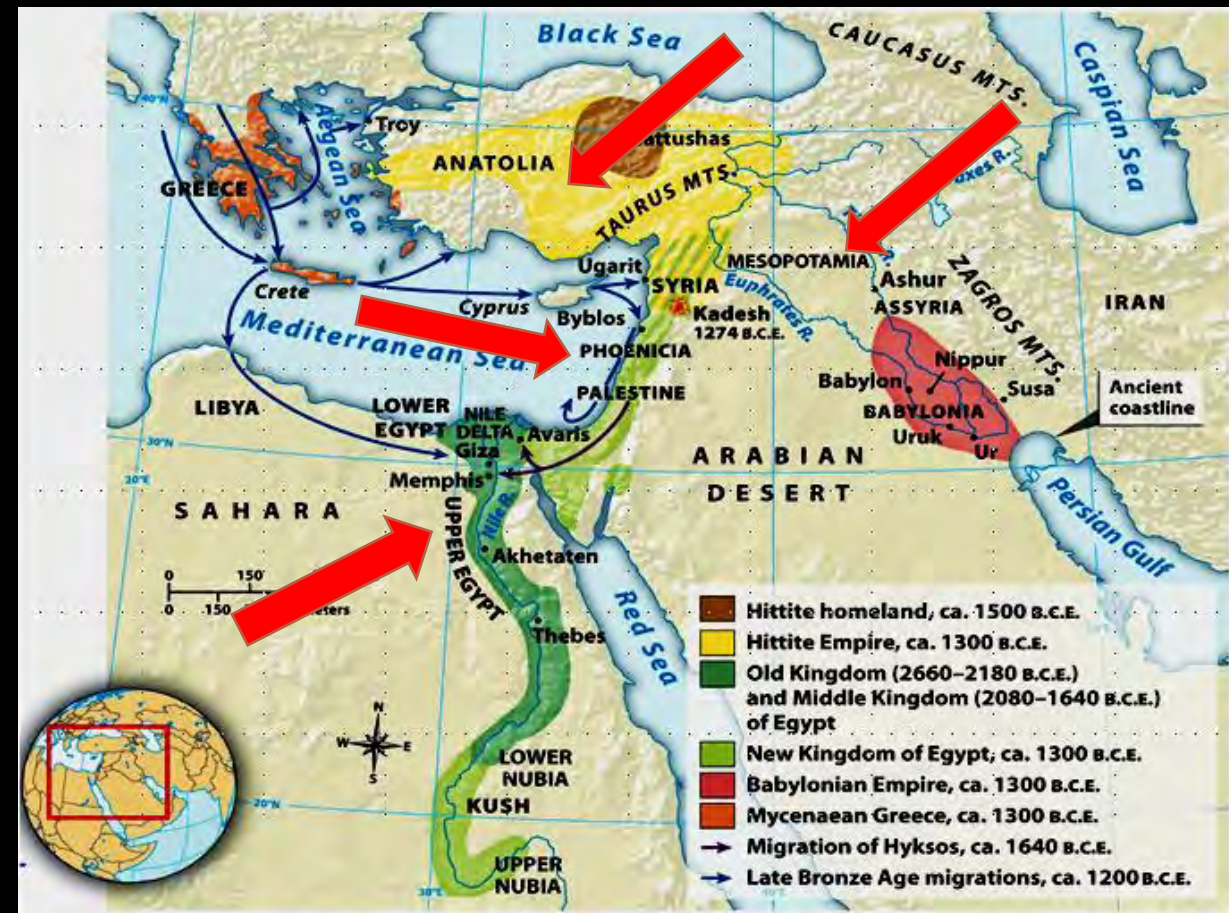
The Parthenon, Athens



What is the Origins of Western Civilizations?

The Origins Western Societies

- Mesopotamia (Sumer, Babylon, & Assyria & Anatolia)
- Egypt
- Phoenicia
- Persia



What is Civilization?

□ Civilization is a large-scale system of

- Political,
- Economic,
- and Social Organizations
- Cities/ Urbanization
- Laws,
- States,
- Writing.



World Ancient Civilizations

Understanding the Western Civilizations

A Chronology of Western Civilizations and its Origins

Mesopotamia Civilization	c. 3500 BCE
Egyptian Civilization	c. 3200 BCE
Minoans Civilization (Greeks)	c. 2000 BCE
Myceneans Civilization (Greeks)	c. 1600 BCE
Etruscan Civilization	c. 900 BCE
Roman Civilization	c. 750 BCE
Christianity	c. 30 C.E. /A.D.
Islam	c. 622 C.E. / A.D.

Chronology of Western Civilizations

1

- **Mesopotamia** and **Egypt** lead the ancient world civilization development beginning **3500 BCE**.
- Mesopotamian civilizations were (**Sumerians, Akkadians, Babylonians, and Assyrians**)
- By the **7c. BCE**, **Greece** kicks in and develop the Mediterranean world cultures.
- By **336 BCE**, **Alexander the Great** unit the Greeks and leads them to overcome the Persians and expands his empire from Greece, Egypt, all the way to Afghanistan and north India.
- By **323 BCE**, **Alexander dies**, leaving a massive legacy an empire of **4000 miles** wide.
- It became divided among his **four generals** which will fade down in 3 centuries.
- During that time, Romans were emerging as a world power.

The Ancient Near East, 1800 to 1400 B.C.



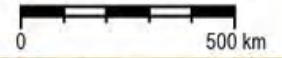
The Greek expansion 7th c. BCE





**THE EMPIRE OF ALEXANDER
334-323 B.C.**

- Conquest course of Alexander
- ⊗ Battle
- ⊙ Siege
- Town founded by Alexander
- ◉ Settlement of existing town
- ⋈ Mountain pass
- Greek colony
- Persian royal road
- A Alexandria





Alexander and His Successors, 336–300 B.C.



GEOGRAPHY SKILLBUILDER: Interpreting Maps

1. Region Onto which continents did Alexander's empire reach at its height?
2. Region Which kingdoms succeeded the empire of Alexander the Great after his death in 323 B.C.?

Italy Before the Roman Conquest



- Roman
- Latin
- Greeks
- Etruscans
- Gauls
- Italic

- Rome territory 700 BC
- Rome territory 500 BC

This map shows Italy in about 400 BC. Note the language differences in the various regions. Greek, Etruscan, Latin and the many Italian dialects were indeed different languages. By the time of Augustus, Latin became the dominant language and all Italians had Roman citizenship.

Rome 336 B.C.



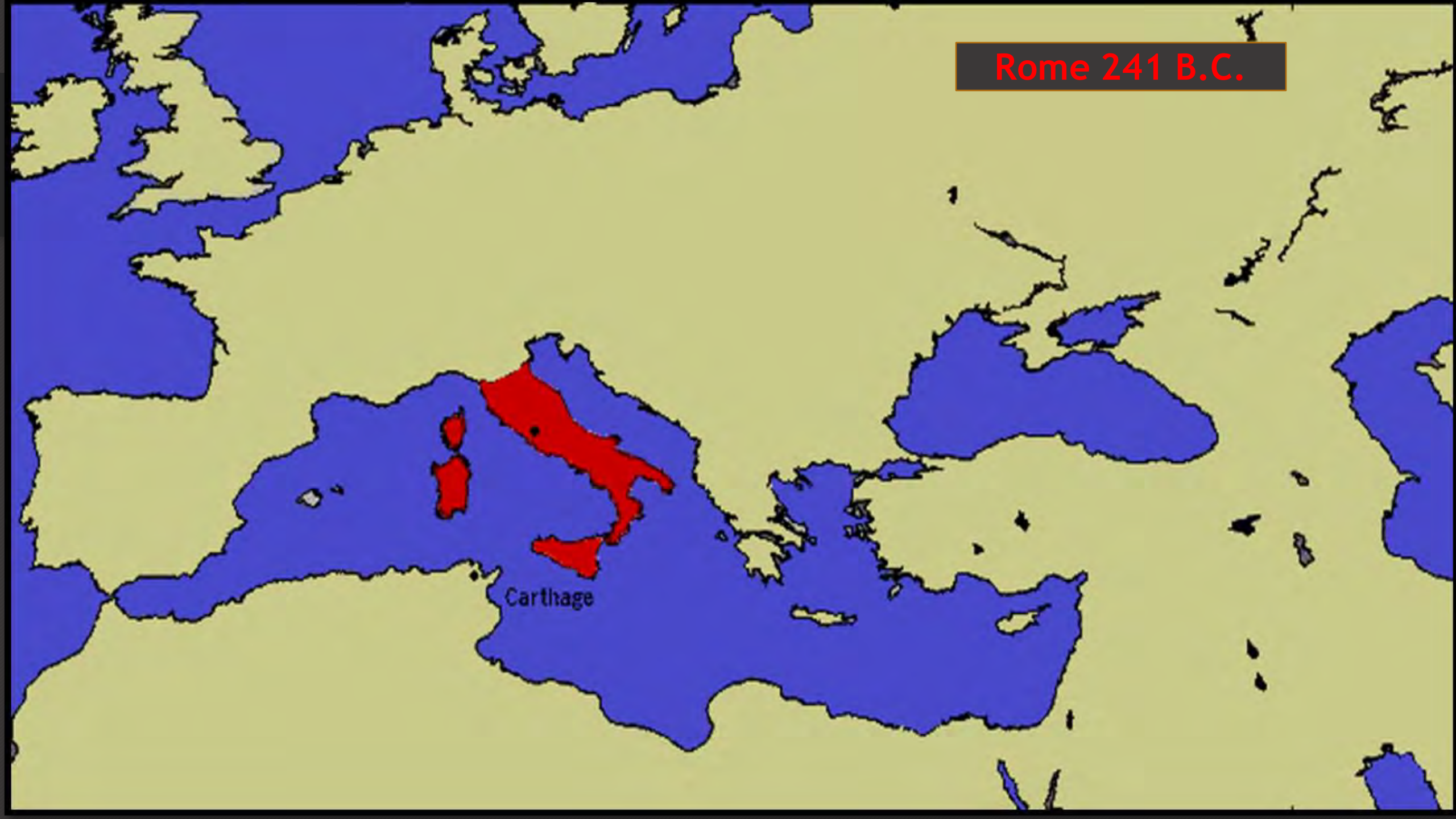
Chronology of Western Civilizations

2

- Rome was founded in 753 BCE.
- By 509 BCE, Rome becomes a Republic and start to expand.
- By 336 BCE, Rome starts to dominate the Italian Peninsula then expand over the Mediterranean.
- By 117 CE, Roman Empire control 50 countries from France to Persia.
- In 284 CE, the Roman Emperor Diocletian divides the Empire into Western and Easter, and appointing another assistant calling him Caesar.
- By the 6th. Century, the Eastern part later will be the Byzantine Empire and its capital will be called Constantinople.
- On the other hand, the Western Roman Empire will be conquered and occupied by the Germanic nomadic tribes (the Barbarians).

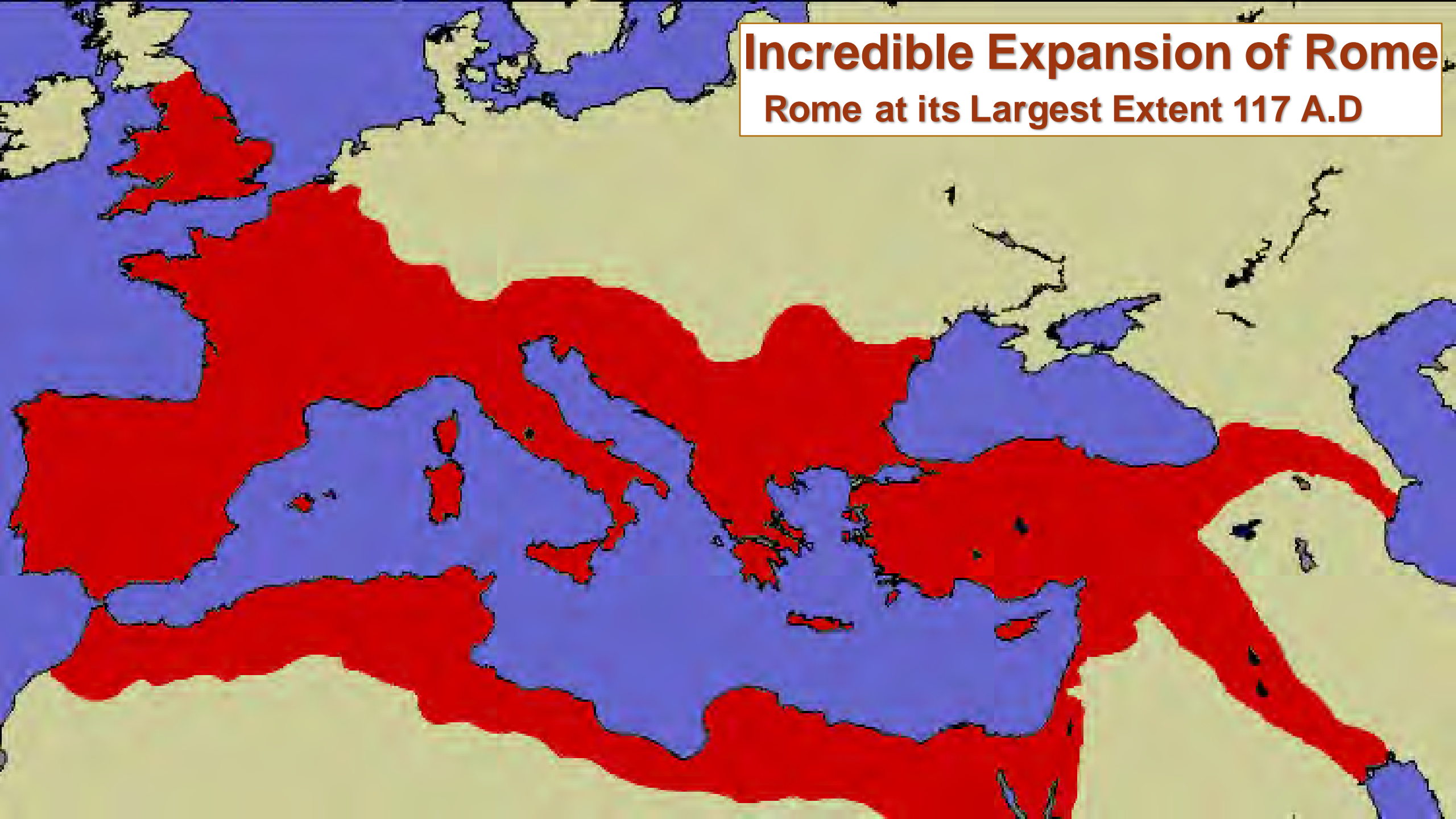
Rome 241 B.C.

Carthage



Incredible Expansion of Rome

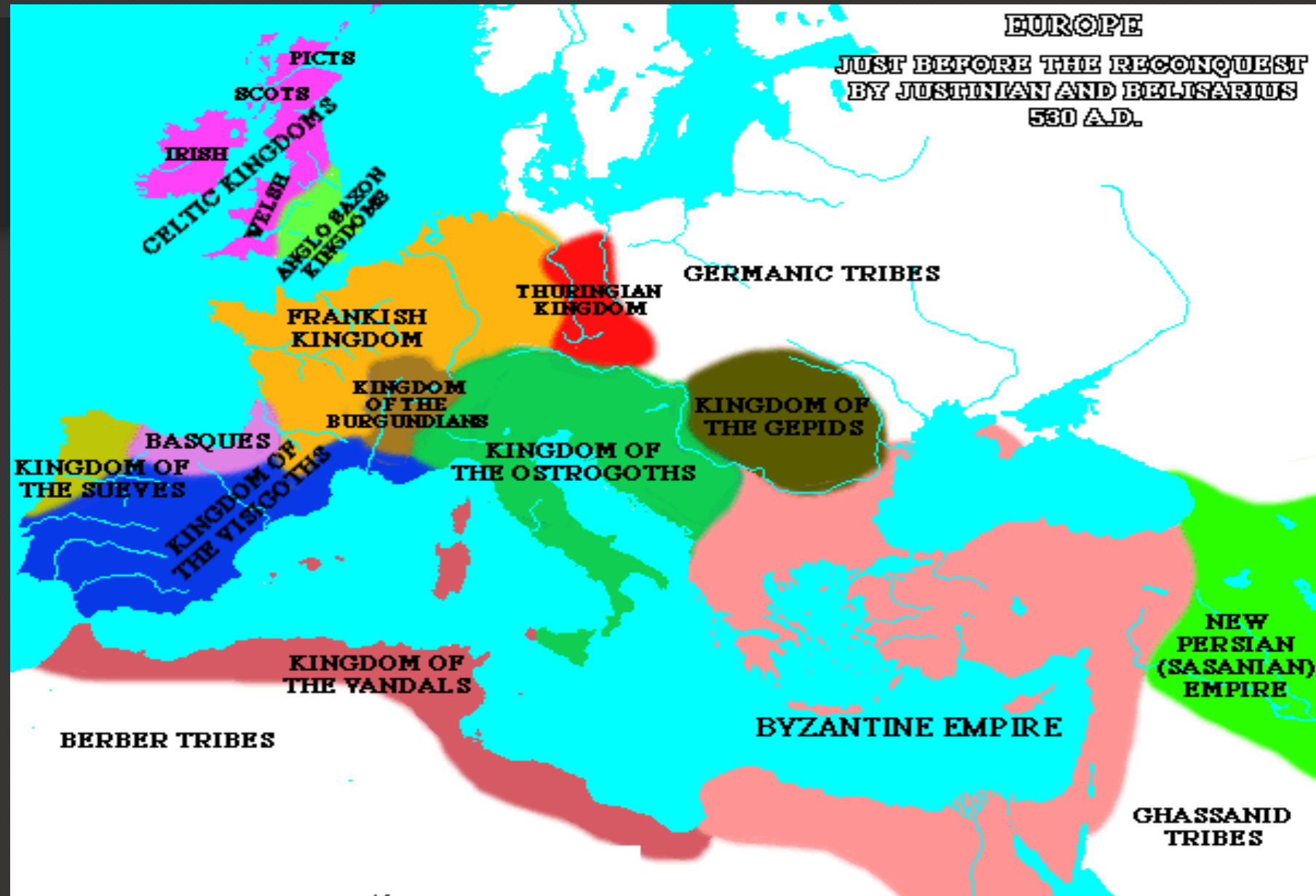
Rome at its Largest Extent 117 A.D



The Division of the Roman Empire 284 C.E.



Europe by 6th. Century C.E



Chronology of Western Civilizations

3

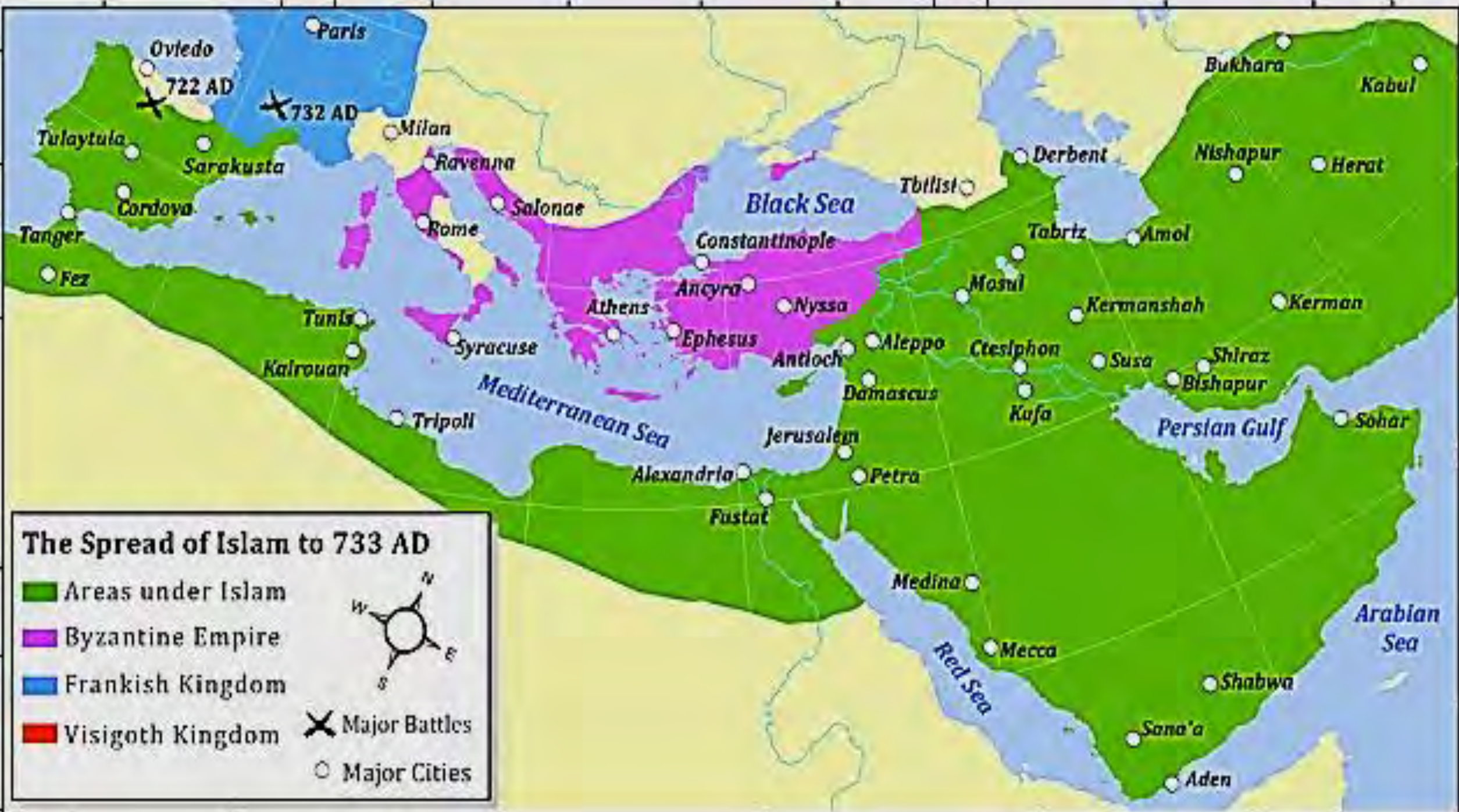
- By 632 C.E, Arab nomadic tribes (barbarians) from the Peninsula of Arabia, conquering the world.
- By 632 - 732 C.E, Arabs had conquered Southwest Asia (Middle East), North Africa & Spain.
- They defeated Byzantine armies and Farsi (Persian) armies.
- They established an Islamic Caliphate from Iran to Spain.
- By 1500 CE. Arab Muslims expanded their Caliphate from Spain, North Africa, Sub-Saharan Africa, central and south Asia to east and southeast Europe.
- The longer they kept control of these lands, the more culture changed.
- These countries adopted the Arabic language and Islam religion, which made Islam the second large religion in the world.

ATLANTIC OCEAN



- Islamic world under Muhammad, 622–632
- Territory added by first four Caliphs, 632–661
- Territory added by Umayyad Caliphs, 661–750
- Military campaigns

Islam Expands



Expansion of the Islamic World to 1500



- Islamic world at the end of the Umayyad dynasty
- Extent of the Islamic world 1250
- Extent of the Islamic world 1500
- Area reconquered by Christians 1250
- Area reconquered by Christians 1500
- Extent of Christian crusading principalities in 12th century
- Site and date of important battle



Russia

Russia

Germany

Ukraine

Kazakhstan

Mongolia

France

Uzbekistan

Spain

Italy

Turkey

Turkmenistan

Israel

Syria

Iraq

Iran

Afghanistan

China

Morocco

Algeria

Libya

Egypt

Jordan

Pakistan

India

Saudi Arabia

Oman

Guinea

Mali

Niger

Chad

Sudan

Eritrea

Nigeria

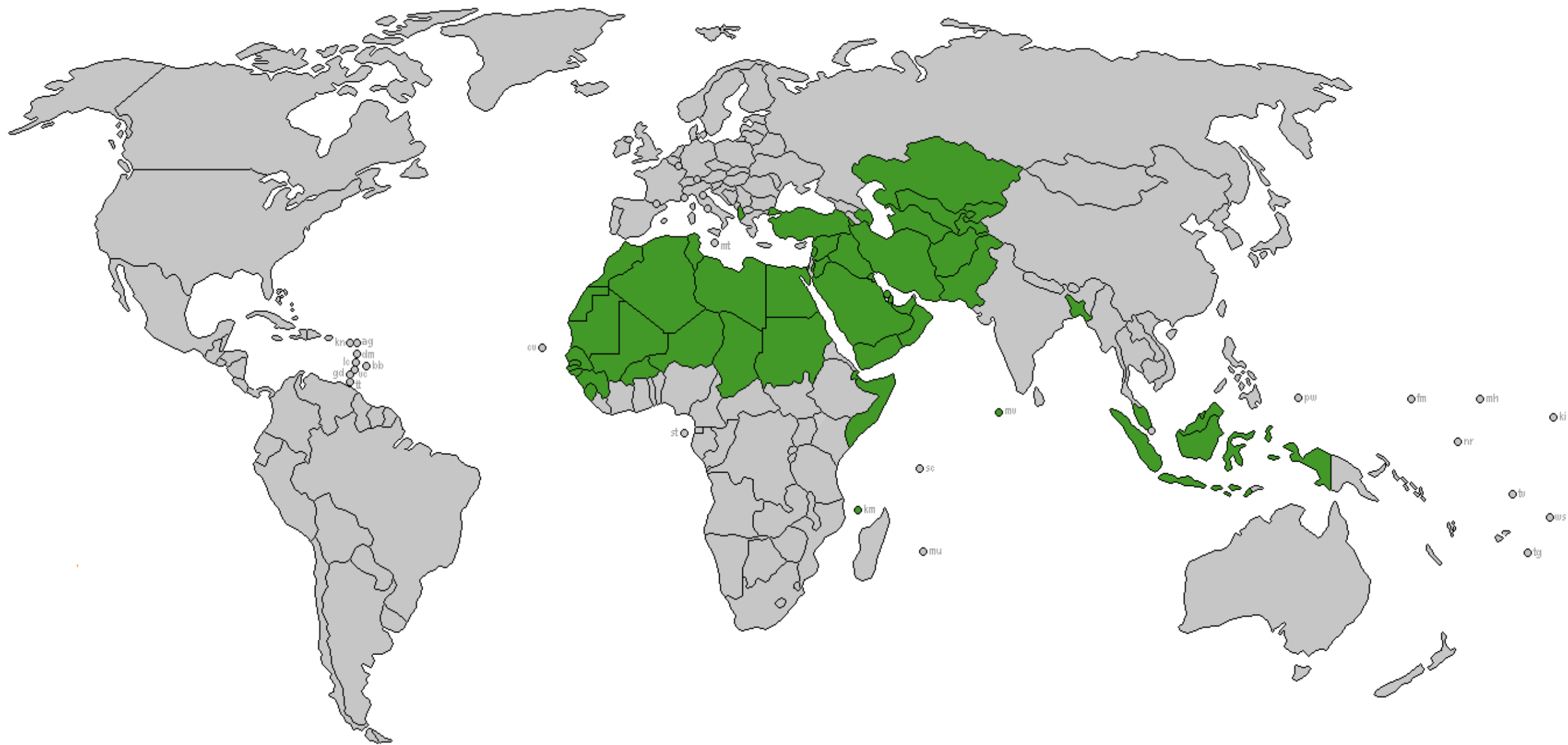
Ethiopia

Somalia

Zaire

Malaysia

Indonesia



Good Luck!



How much did you know?

1. Write the following civilizations in the correct historical order from the oldest to the newest:

Romans – Sumerians – Persians – Greeks – Mayans – Egyptians – United States of America

a. Sumerians, Egyptians, Greeks, Persians, Romans, Mayans, U.S.A

2. Write the name of 5 modern Middle East countries you know.

a. Iran, Iraq, Syria, Turkey, Lebanon, Palestine, Israel, Yemen.....

3. Write three things you know about modern Middle East countries.

a. Arabis language, majority Muslims, Falafel, pita bread, hummus, Kebab, belly dancing.

4. What is the world's first civilization to invent writing?

a. Sumerians

5. Where was the world's first city-state and government?

a. Sumer/Mesopotamia

How much did you know?

6. Where was the world's first kingdom?

a. Egypt

7. What are the world's earliest monotheistic religions?

a. Judaism, Christianity, and Islam

8. In what region the world's first monotheistic religions were founded?

a. The Middle East / Ancient Near East

9. Which civilization presented the first phonetic alphabet?

a. Phoenicians

10. Who invented the numeric system that the world is using now?

a. Arabs



In the Beginning

Lecture 1

In the Beginning!

1. How did all start?
2. How can we understand the early human past?
3. How did men and women contribute to the earliest societies?
4. What are the characteristics of men and women described as hunter/gatherers?
5. How and why did agriculture develop?
6. What are the impacts of agriculture on human society?

How did it Start?

- Ancient Religions and Mythological Accounts
- Biblical Account
- Scientific Account



Who were the earliest human Societies? How did they live?

❖ Paleolithic Era

- Old Stone Era was a period from 200,000 up to 9000 B.C.E.
- Tools were made of stone & bone.
- People were nomads, lived in tents or caves.



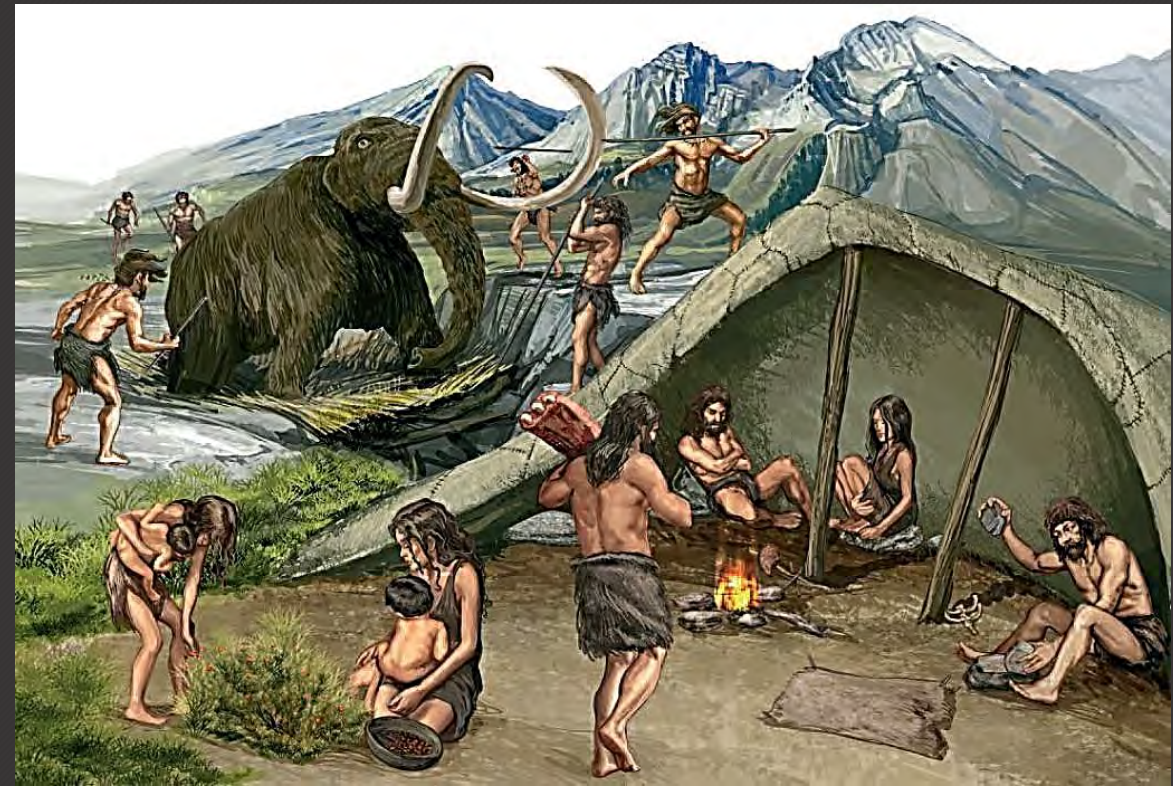
Paleolithic tools



Who were the Earliest Human Societies? How did they live?

❖ Nomadic Peoples

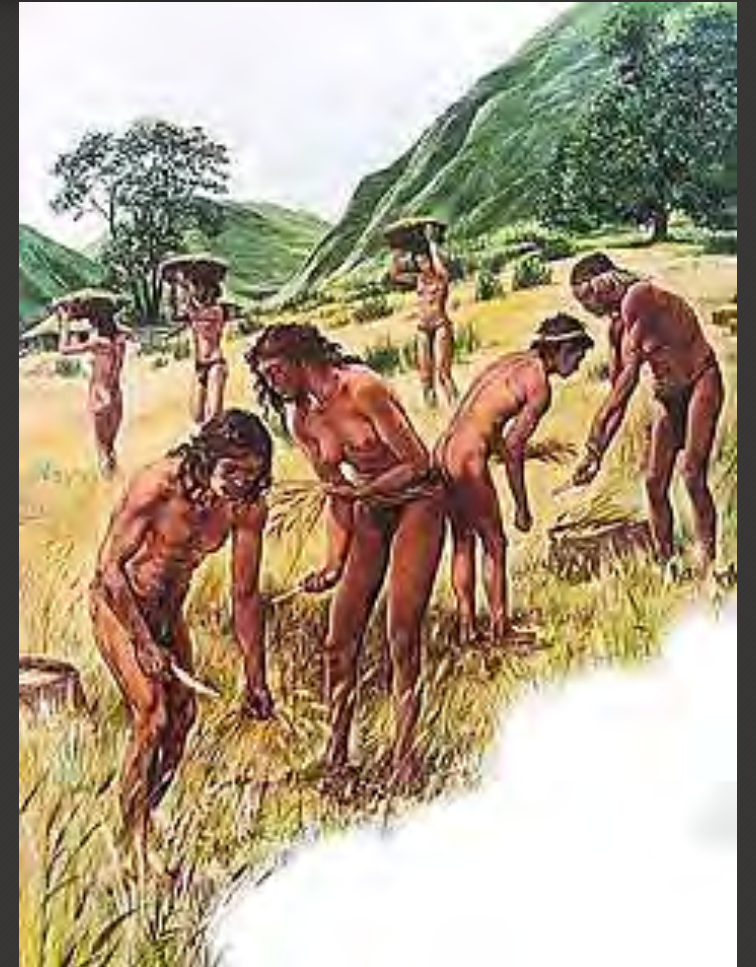
- Hunters and gatherers searched for their food; they lived in small groups and settled in areas rich in food resources.



How did Men & Women Contribute to the Earliest Societies?

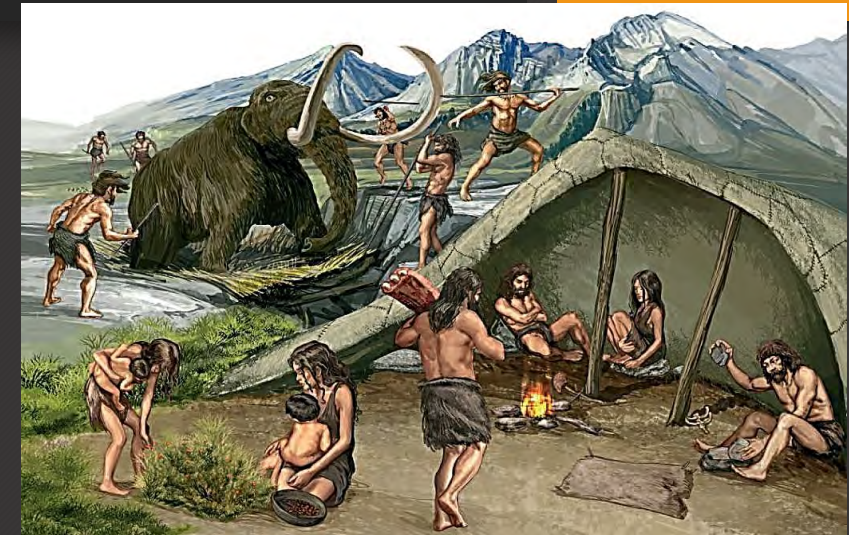
❖ Division of Labor

- Men hunted while the women foraged for food and took care of children.



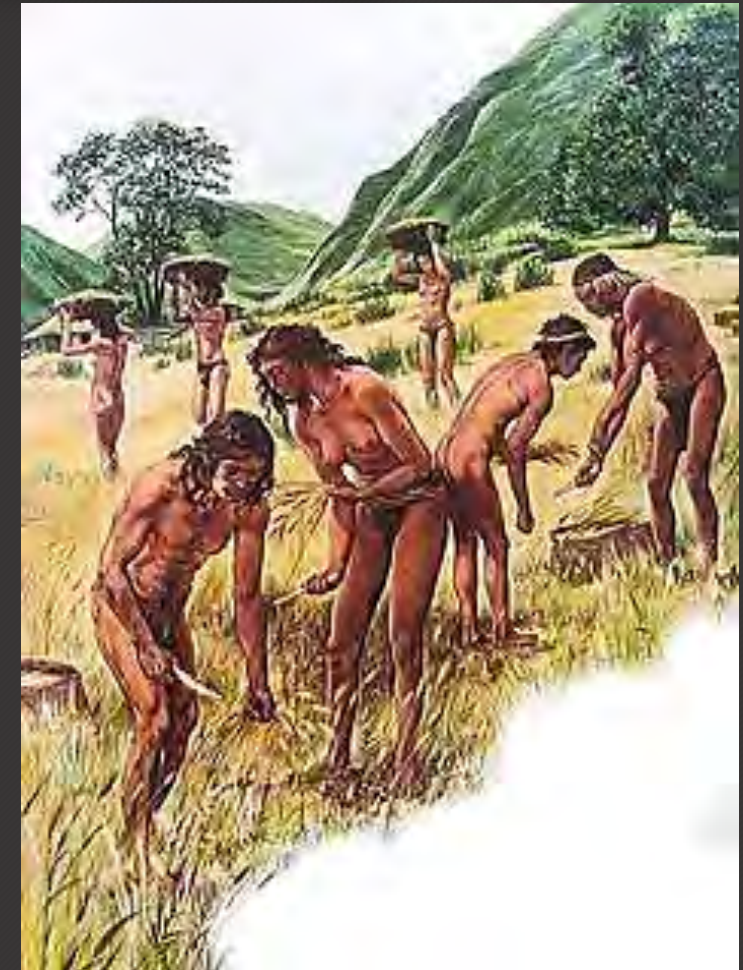
What are the Characteristics of the Men & Women Described as Hunter/Gatherers?

- Men & Women (30 years life span)
- Men grow muscle mass: jogging and carrying heavy weights.
- Women gathered (30 years)
- Women grow
 - **Fat**
 - **Fat=beauty=energy**
- Delivery costs a woman:
 - **55,000 calories**
- Pregnancy: eliminates woman from hunting



What are the Characteristics of the Men & Women Described as Hunter/Gatherers?

- Women miscarried 50% of the time
- Extended nursing: women must nurse until child can keep up
- Female fertility is limited to one baby every 4 years
- Population grows by 0.00085% per year.



The Earliest Human Societies

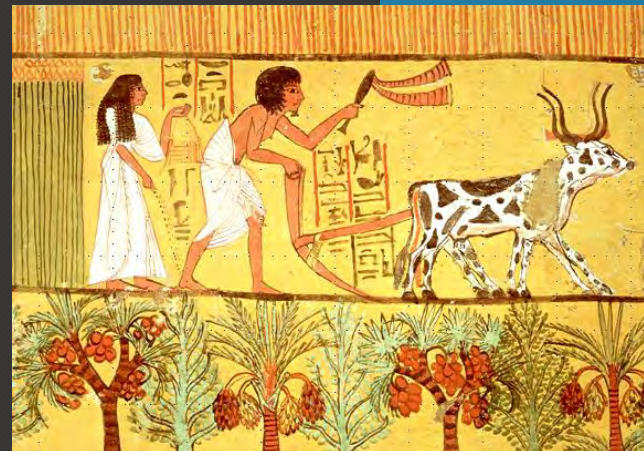
❖ Neolithic Era

- New Stone era: Period after 9000 B.C.E. till Bronze Age 3500 BCE.
- People developed agriculture, domesticated animals, and used tools made of stone and wood.



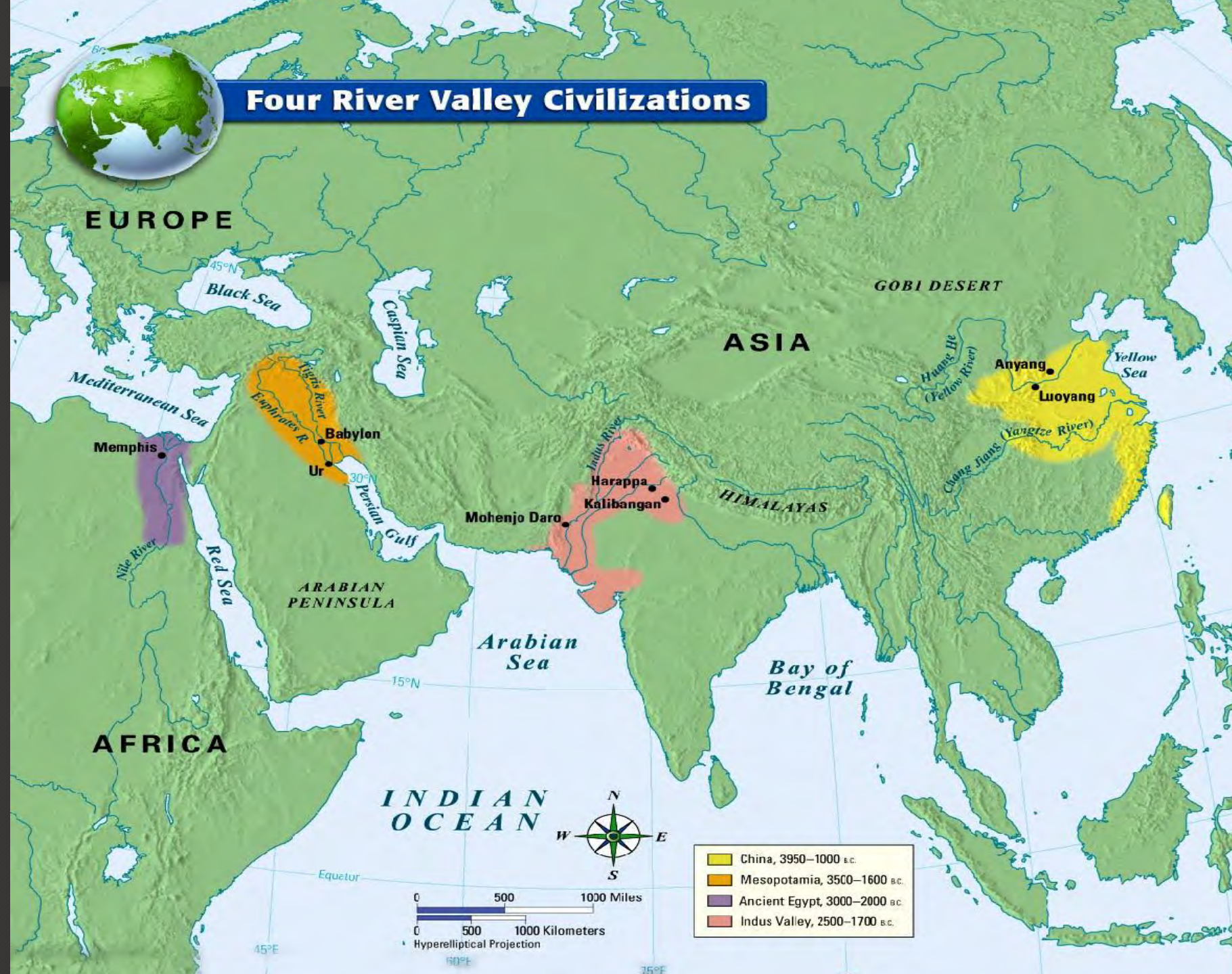
How did Agriculture Develop?

- Earth's climate became more temperate (~15,000 years ago) allowing for the establishment of sedentary or semi-sedentary settlements facilitating agriculture (9000 B.C.E.).





Four River Valley Civilizations





How the Sahara was made?

- Fresh water shells showed that 90,000 years ago a wobble in the earth axis created gigantic lakes and rivers and turned the Sahara green 20,000 years ago







The earliest agriculture societies



spear-thrower



Neolithic Jars and Figurines

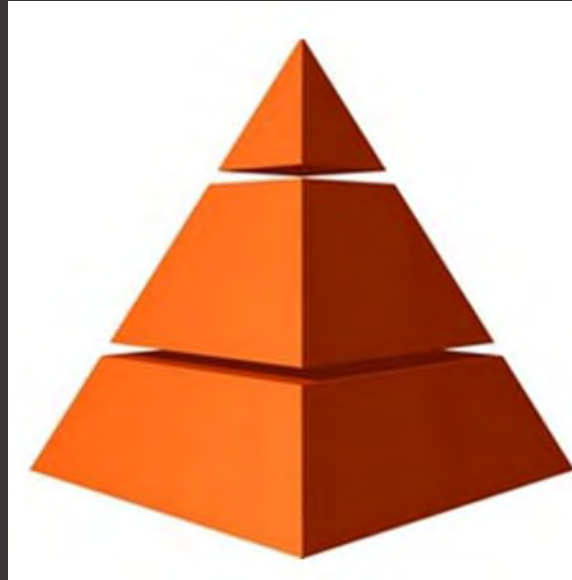
Beginnings of Agriculture

□ Fertile Crescent

- Area of mild climate and abundant wild grain where agriculture first developed (present-day Lebanon and Israel to Iran-Iraq border).



How did agriculture effect Human Society?



How did agriculture effect Human Society?

1. Settlements
2. Pastoralism
3. Social Hierarchy
4. Patriarchy
5. Religion
6. Trade
7. Writing



The Implications of Agriculture

□ Settlements

- Farming and agriculture fostered the growth of settlements with permanent dwellings, food became more abundant, and populations grew and became more advanced.

□ Pastoralism

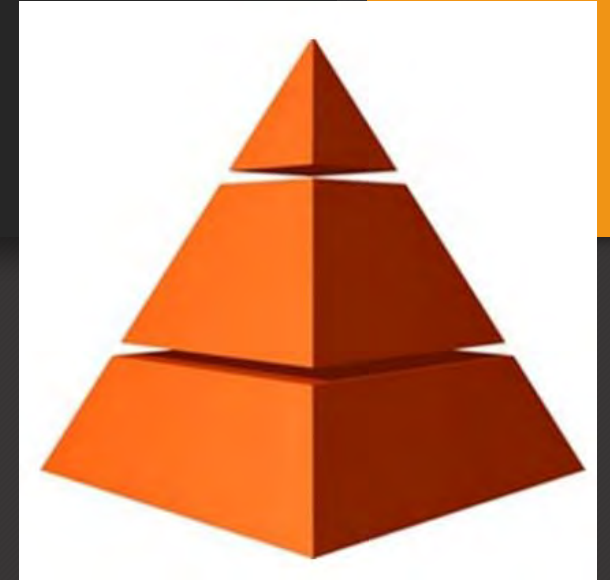
- Economic system based on herding flocks of goats, sheep, cattle, etc., beneficial to humans. Animal domestication supplied humans with labor and a richer food supply.



The Implications of Agriculture

□ Social Hierarchy

- Increased division of labor enabled the creation of social hierarchies based on wealth and power.



□ Patriarchy

- A society in which most power is held by older adult males, especially those from elite groups.



The Earliest Human Societies

□ Art and Religion

- Early humans expressed themselves through art (paintings, jewelry) and held primitive spiritual beliefs depicted in burials and carvings.



The Implications of Agriculture

□ Polytheism

- The worship of many gods and goddesses. Religion became increasingly complex and imbued in society; the gods followed human social practices (division of labor, hierarchy).



Osiris - Anubis - Horus

Good luck!

