

CHAPTER – 4

THE MESOPOTAMIAN CIVILIZATION

Q 1. DEFINE

1. Mesopotamia: A Greek word which means the land between two rivers.
2. Ziggurat: A pyramid-shaped tower in Mesopotamian temples, which had a shrine on its top.
3. Stylus: A pen like instrument of metal bone, etc used by the Mesopotamians for writing.
4. Cuneiform: A script of wedge-shaped signs developed by the Sumerians.

Q 2. FILL IN THE BLANKS

1. The tower with a temple on its top was called Ziggurat.
2. Temples were the center of economic activities.
3. The Hanging Garden were located in Babylon.
4. Most of the building in Mesopotamia were made of baked mud bricks.
5. The invention of wheel by Sumerians revolutionized transport.

Q 3. MATCH THE FOLLOWING (Direct Answer)

1. Hanging Garden of Babylonia - Architectural wonder
2. Mesopotamia - Land between two rivers
3. Hammurabi - Code of Laws
4. Dingir - God or Goddess
5. Library - Tello, Sumeria

Q 4. TRUE OR FALSE

1. The Mesopotamian Civilization emerged in East Asia - **False**
2. Hammurabi found the first Sumerian empire - **False**
3. There was a big library at Ur in Sumeria - **False**
4. The scribes wrote on clay tablets with stylus - **True**
5. The king of Uruk, Gilgamesh, is presented as superhuman
in the Epic of Gilgamesh - **True**

Q 5. NAME THE FOLLOWING.

1. Name the regions which contributed to the development of the Mesopotamian culture.

Ans. Sumer , Akkad , Babylonian , Assyria

2. Name some important rulers of Mesopotamia.

Ans. Hammurabi , Sargon , Nammu

3. Name the main Gods of Mesopotamia.

Ans. An , Entil , Enki , Ninhursaga

4. Name the Mesopotamian script.

Ans. Cuneiform

Q6. CHOOSE THE CORRECT ANSWER

1. A pyramid shaped tower in Mesopotamia is known as Ziggura

(a) Ziggurat (b) Pagodas (c) Tomb (d) None of these

2. Hammurabi, the greatest ruler of the Babylonia Empire

- (a) Babylonia (b) Syria (c) China (d) Egypt

3. Mesopotamia developed the Lunar Calendar

- (a) Lunar (b) Solar (c) Hijrat (d) None of these

4. The earliest settlers of Mesopotamia in the valley of sumer are known as Sumerian.

- (a) Assyrian (b) Akkadian (c) Sumerian (d) Babylonian

5. Lamassu was believed to protect buildings against evil.

- (a) Dingir (b) Lamassu (c) Entil (d) Hammurabi

Q7. ANSWER IN ONE WORD

1. Who enacted the code of Law?

Ans. Hammurabi

2. Which sharp red pen was used by Mesopotamian?

Ans. Stylus

3. Which is most popular epic of Mesopotamia?

Ans. The Epic of Gilgamesh

4. Which is the architectural wonder of Mesopotamia?

Ans. Hanging Garden of Babylon

Q8. WRITE A SHORT NOTE ON:

1. Hammurabi's Code of Laws.

In Mesopotamia, Law coded regulated every aspect of life. The most famous code of law was formulated by Hammurabi, the ruler of Babylonia. This code dealt with various facets of life such as wages, interest rates, theft, marriage, divorce, adoption and it brought about a culture of strict justice in Mesopotamia.

2. The accomplishments of the Mesopotamian Civilization.

The Mesopotamians were the first to introduce arches, domes, columns, vaults in their buildings. They developed a script of wedge-shaped sign and also a massive temple complex was built in each city. They worked out a 12 months calendar based on the cycle of the moon.

3. Lamassu.

A mythological creature having the head of a human, the body and ears of a bull and wings of bird. It was believed to protect the Mesopotamian against evil.

Q9. ANSWER THE FOLLOWING

1. Where did the Mesopotamian civilization develop and why?

Ans. The Mesopotamian civilization developed at the region between the two rivers Tigris and Euphrates. It is present day Iraq and parts of Iran. It developed because the land near river bank is fertile.

2. What is Cuneiform?

Ans. A script of wedge shaped signs developed by the Sumerians. This language was written on clay tablets using sharp red stylus. This script was called Cuneiform.

3. Explain how temples were the center of economic activities in Mesopotamia?

Ans. Temples were the center of economic activities in Mesopotamia because every economic activity including trade was controlled by temple priests. Farmers also used to bring their produce to the temple.

