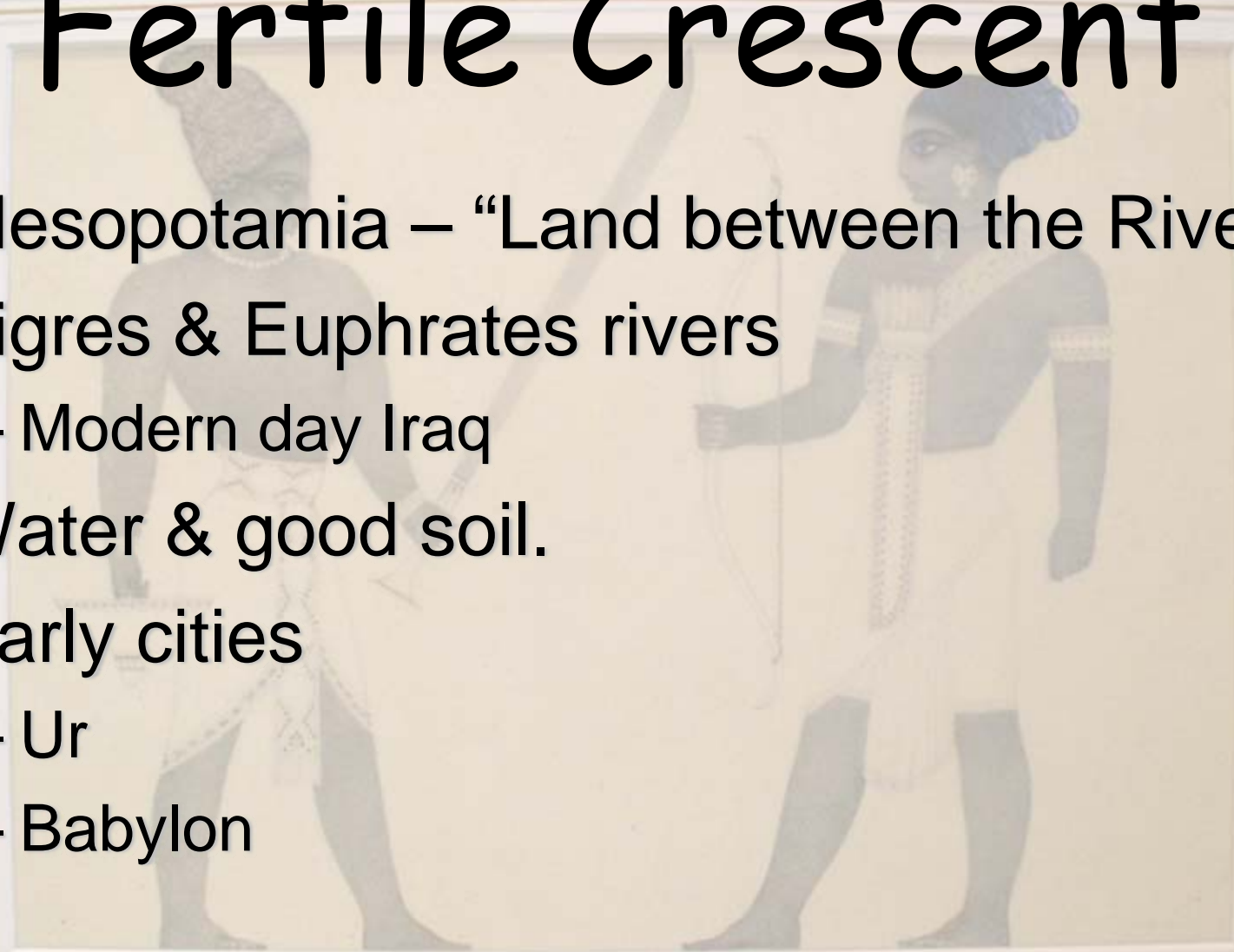




CITY-STATES OF ANCIENT
SUMER

Fertile Crescent

- Mesopotamia – “Land between the Rivers”
- Tigris & Euphrates rivers
 - Modern day Iraq
- Water & good soil.
- Early cities
 - Ur
 - Babylon

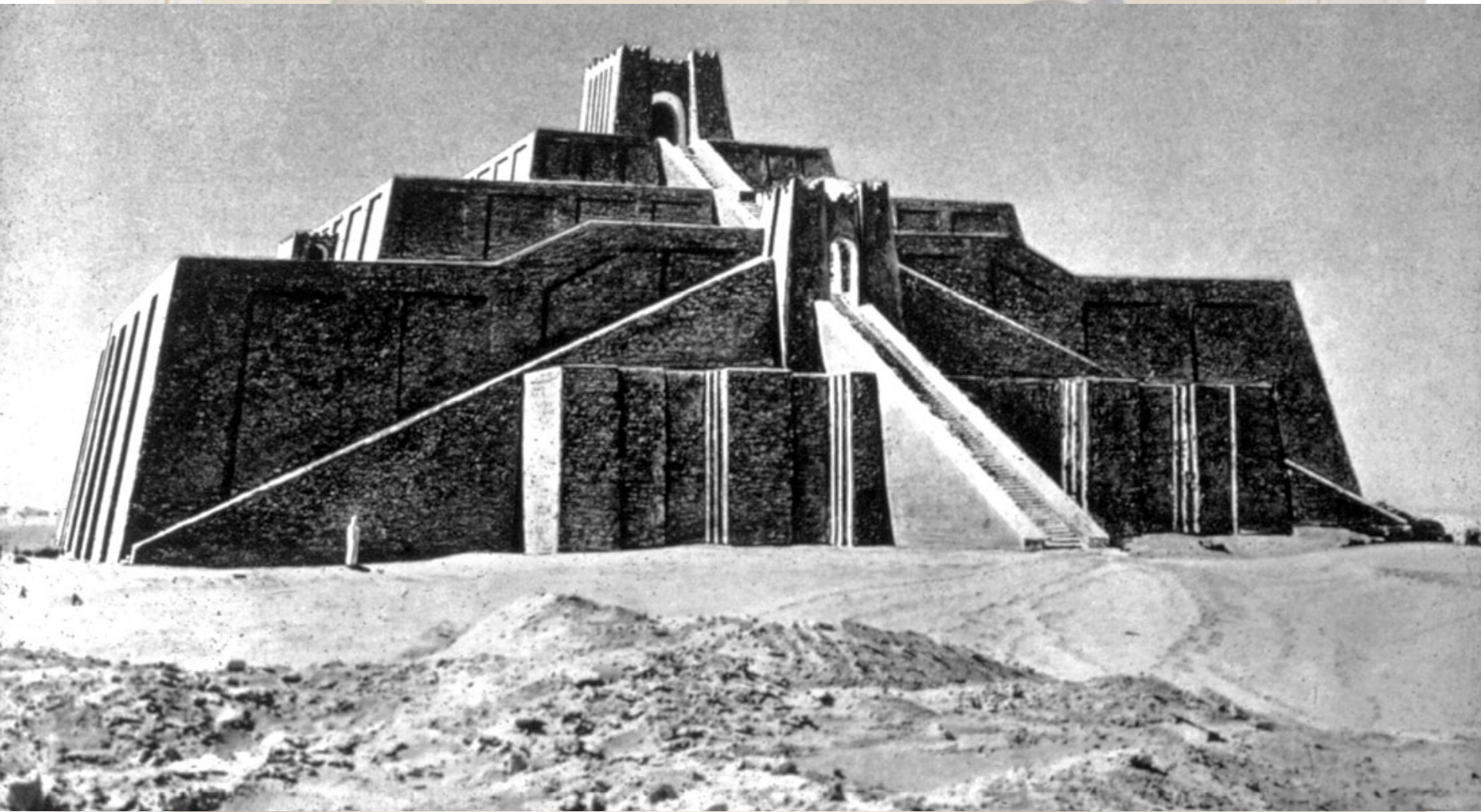


The Fertile Crescent



Sumarian Culture

- **City-States**
 - Each had it's own ruler
 - Class hierarchy: most people made up the lower, peasant class.
- **Male dominated society but some women had power/legal rights.**
- **Religion: polytheistic, many gods; controlled all aspects of life.**
- **Ziggurat: pyramid-type temple.**



Education

- **Advanced education system.**
- **Only for the select few.**
- **Cuneiform: first writing system; wedge-like writing on clay tablets.**
- **Mathematics: based on the number 6.**
- **Epic Of Gilgamesh: first work of literature; Sumerian beliefs.**
- **Influenced later Greek & Roman civilizations.**

Cuneiform Wall – British Museum



