CITY-STATES OF ANCIENT SUMER

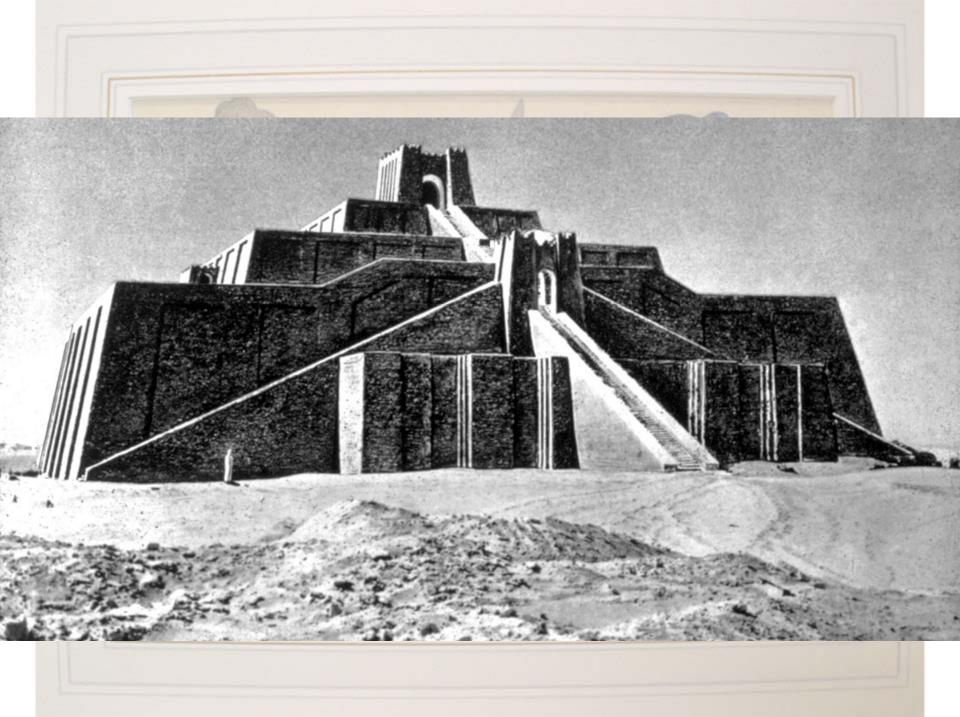
Fertile Crescent

- Mesopotamia "Land between the Rivers"
- Tigres & Euphrates rivers
 - Modern day Iraq
- Water & good soil.
- Early cities
 - Ur
 - Babylon

The Fertile Crescent HITTITE EMPIRE LAKE VAN ARARAT CASPIAN SEA (HATTD) (URARTU) HURRIANS LAKEURMIA SUBARTU MITANNI Haran o Nineveh PADDAN-ABAM • Ashur Ugarit Ebla SYRIA MESOPOTAMIA AKKAD (ARAM) Mari . Tigris River THE GREAT SEA (MEDITERRANEAN SEA) Euphrates River Damascus CANAAN Babylon Jerusalem . ELAM Ur . GOSHEN NEGEV Memphis ARABIA SINAL EGYPT LOWER SEA (PERSIAN GULF) Nile River RED SE A

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

