

## CHAPTER OUTLINE

- I. Prehistory and Early Cultures
  - A. Definitions of culture and civilization
  - B. The time frame
    1. Origins of human life and culture
      - a) Old Stone Age and New Stone Age
        - (1) Artistic developments
        - (2) Other achievements
      - b) The Neolithic period
        - (1) Artistic developments
        - (2) Other achievements
    2. Rise of civilizations
- II. The Civilizations of the Tigris and Euphrates River Valleys: Mesopotamia
  - A. The Sumerian, Akkadian, and Babylonian kingdoms
    1. Historical overview of the three kingdoms
    2. Economic, social, and political developments
  - B. The Cradle of Civilization
    1. Writing
    2. Religion
    3. Literature
      - a) Epics, tales, and legends
      - b) *The Epic of Gilgamesh*
      - c) *The Exaltation of Inanna*
    4. Law
      - a) The Code of Hammurabi
      - b) Judicial system
    5. Art and architecture
      - a) Carvings
      - b) The ziggurat
- III. The Civilization of the Nile River Valley: Egypt
  - A. Prehistory to 3000 B.C.
    1. Characteristics
    2. Upper and Lower Egypt
    3. Neolithic developments
  - B. Continuity and change over three thousand years, 3100–525 B.C.
    1. Survey of Egypt's dynasties
    2. Common threads in politics, economics, and society
  - C. A quest for eternal cultural values
    1. Religion
      - a) The theocratic state
      - b) The pharaoh's defining role
      - c) The abortive Amarna revolution

- d) The promise of immortality
    - 2. Writing and literature
      - a) Hieroglyphics
      - b) Literary genres of the Old Kingdom, the First Intermediate period, and the Middle Kingdom
      - c) The rich heritage of the New Kingdom
        - (1) *Hymn to Aten*
        - (2) Love lyrics, model letters, wisdom literature, and fairy tales
    - 3. Architecture
      - a) The pyramid
        - (1) The earliest version
        - (2) The true pyramid
      - b) The funerary temple
      - c) Menageries and gardens
    - 4. Sculpture, painting, and minor arts
      - a) Purpose of art in Egyptian culture
      - b) Colossal sculpture: the Sphinx
      - c) Sculptures in the round
      - d) Portrait sculptures
      - e) The break in tradition: Amarna
      - f) The artistic canon
      - g) Tomb sculpture
- IV. Heirs to the Mesopotamian and Egyptian empires, after 1000 B.C.
  - A. The Hittites
  - B. The Assyrians
  - C. The Medes and the Persians
    - 1. Persian art
    - 2. The religion of Zoroaster
- V. The Legacy of Near Eastern Civilization