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Technological and Environmental Transformations to c. 600 BCE

Chapter 3: The Mediterranean and Middle East, 2000-500 B.C.E.

Terms-Identify and explain the significance. Make flashcards or use Quizlet to complete-
HYPERLINK "<http://quizlet.com/>" <http://quizlet.com/>Iron Age

Hittites -- speakers of an Indo-European language; became foremost power in Anatolia from around 1700 to 1200 BCE

Hatshepsut -- the queen of Pharaoh Tuthmosis; served as a regent for her young stepson, but soon claimed the royal title for herself after her husband died

Akhenaten -- a pharaoh who parted with traditional ways; "beneficial to Aten" name spread his belief in Aten as the supreme deity; credited with the invention of monotheism

Ramesses II -- the greatest of the monarchs of the Ramssides' dynasty; ruled for sixty-six years and dominated his age

Hyksos -- "princes of foreign lands" ; possessed military technology that gave them an edge over the Egyptians; Egypt fell under their rule 1640 BCE; they were the first foreigners to rule Egypt

Minoan -- had centralized government, monumental building, bronze metallurgy, writing, and record keeping; civilization rose on the island of Crete

Mycenae --a city-state in southern Greece; the king of Mycenae, Agamemnon, was subject of Homer's epics, the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey*

Shaft graves -- a circle of graves at the base of deep, rectangular shafts at Mycenae; filled with gold jewelry and ornaments, weapons, and utensils showing some people in society acquired wealth, authority, and capacity to mobilize human labor

Linear A -- undeciphered script of Minoan that was the predecessor to Linear B

Linear B -- script of the Mycenaens; four thousand baked clay tablets about the Mycenaens are written in this script

Neo-Assyrian Empire -- destroyed the northern kingdom of Israel and deported much of Israel's population to the east

Ashur -- the leading urban center on the northern Tigris that anchored a busy trade route across the Mesopotamian plain and onto the Anatolian Plateau

Mass deportation -- forcibly uprooting entire communities and resettling them elsewhere

Library of Ashurbanipal -- library of one of the last Assyriaan kings at Nineveh; contained official documents as well as literary and scientific texts; more than twenty-five thousand tablets or fragments of tablets

Israel -- a land that is a crossroads linking Anatolia, Egypt, Arabia, and Mesopotamia

Hebrew Bible -- a compilation of several collections of materials that originated with different groups, employed different vocabularies, and advocated particular interpretation of past events

First Temple -- was built to strengthen the link between religious and secular authority

Monotheism -- the absolute belief in one god

Diaspora -- a Greek word meaning "dispersion" or "scattering"; the dispersion outside the homeland of many Jews

Phoenicians -- a major element of the ancient population of Syria-Palestine; major transformations in their time

Carthage -- a Phoenician colony outside the homeland; historians know more about it than the Phoenician homeland

Murex snail -- the creature from which a highly valuable purple dye was extracted that the Greeks called the Phoenicians according to which it was colored

Phoenician Triangle -- the first building in which soon became a great city was called

Mabbonath ("lodging" in Phoenician); it was the most important of the three buildings forming the "Phoenician triangle" cited by Thucydides; the others were the Motya and Soluntum

Neo-Babylonian kingdom -- rise of this empire started at the same time when the Neo-Assyrian Empire began to decline

Questions

	Answers: 1-2 sentences for most answers
What does the story of Dido tell us about the spread of culture and civilization?	This story highlights the spread of cultural patterns from older centers to new regions, and the migration and resettlement of Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age peoples in the Mediterranean lands and western Asia.
What were the motivations behind migrations of peoples in antiquity?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • trade • resources • land • power
The island of Crete was home to one of the first Aegean civilizations, the Minoans. What was the legend of King Minos and the Minotaur? Brief facts only!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • maze like labyrinth built by Daedalus to house the Minotaur • labyrinth under King Minos' palace • Minotaur was half-man, half-bull
What do the frescoes in the Minoan palaces depict? How are they different from the artwork of the Middle East? What does this represent?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • portray groups of women in frilly, layered skirts engaged in conversation or watching rituals or entertainment • young acrobats vaulting over the horns and back of an onrushing bull • Scenes of servants carrying jars and fishermen throwing nets and hooks from their boats • elite than about the reality of daily toil. The stylized depictions of plants and animals on Minoan vases —plants with swaying leaves and playful octopuses whose tentacles wind around the surface of the vase • frescoes depict beauty and order; do not show kings • Middle Eastern art depicts scenes of chaos; clear figures of authority

<p>How did the Egyptian New Kingdom differ from the earlier periods?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Egypt came under foreign rule for the first time • then the reunification of Egypt under a native dynasty was accomplished by princes from Thebes • a period of innovation • Egyptian soldiers, administrators, diplomats, and merchants traveled widely, exposing Egypt to exotic fruits and vegetables, new musical instruments, and new technologies, such as an improved potter's wheel and weaver's loom • one woman held the throne of New Kingdom Egypt • ruler who departed from traditional ways ascended the throne: Akhenaten; promoted monotheism for Aten • a new capital at modern-day Amarna • the general Horemhab seized the throne and established a new dynasty, the Ramessides •
<p>Although there are legends of King Minos, there is no evidence of Cretan political control of the mainland of Greece. Is there evidence of a cultural influence? Explain.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • yes • there is cultural influence in foreign lands • pottery and other artworks have been found in Mesopotamia and Egypt
<p>What were the possible reasons for the fall of the Late Bronze Age Mycenaean civilization?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • political and economic collapse • as migrants swarmed into one region, they displaced other peoples, who then joined the tide of refugees • unidentified invaders
<p>What was a major "weapon" in the Assyrian Empire's arsenal that involved many people? Explain</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • peasant farmers, accustomed to defending themselves against marauders, provided the foot-soldiers for the revival of Assyrian power in the ninth century B.C.E.
<p>The King was at the center of the Assyrian Empire. Explain.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All the land belonged to him, and all the people, even the highest ranking officials, were his servants • Assyrians believed that the gods chose the king to rule as their earthly representative

Explain the significance of the development of Jewish/Israeli monotheism.	Judaism led to both Christianity and Islam, which spread throughout Europe and the Middle East respectively. Most of the world was ruled by religions descended from Jewish Monotheism.
What is the significance of the Phoenician alphabet?	It is the basis for the English alphabet.
What did Carthaginian foreign policy reflect?	An interest in protecting sea trade; keep the fleet big and bash any rivals

II. Complete the following chart. Do not use complete sentences.

Government System

Egypt: Pharaoh as ruler; seen as god

Priests high status

Assyrian: Ruler seen as having been chosen by gods; all people were his servants

All land belonged to him

King was center of the universe

Minoan: Kings ruled over citizens

Centralized government

Not much known; tablets say little about political and social structures

Mycenaean: No mention of a king

Israel: Unified monarchy

David strengthened royal authority by making Jerusalem the capital

Phoenician: Broken into city-states

Two “judges” were elected from upper class families each year to serve as heads of state and carry out administrative/judicial functions

Senate were people of leading merchant families who sat for life

Inner ring of 30 senators made crucial decisions

Leadership had an Assembly of citizens to elect public officials/vote on important issues

Technology-Military and Non-Military

Egypt: Potter’s wheel; weaver’s loom

Assyrian: Chariots and horseback riding helped conquer other areas

Minoan: High-quality indoor plumbing

Boats

Huge fortified citadels provided refuge in times of danger

Mycenaean: Shaft graves-deep rectangular shafts containing the deceased; rounded by courtyards; Created writing form Linear B which used pictorial signs to represent syllables

Boats

Israel: First Temple (created by Solomon)-not really a technology, but a very significant construction because it strengthened the link between religious and secular authority and became a major pilgrimage site

Chariots made Israel a regional power

Phoenician: Created Phoenician alphabet based off of sounds

Oared warships

Economy based on...

Egypt: Gold; bronze; semi-precious metals

Assyrian: Iron; silver

Minoan: Pottery; jewelry

Mycenaean: Grain production; wool; pottery

Israel: Gold; silver

Phoenician: Obtained gold, precious stones and spices from trade
Raw materials (cedar and pine, metals, incense, papyrus)

Foodstuffs (wine, spices, salted fish)
 Luxury goods (textiles, carved ivory, glass)

Status of Women

Egypt: Slightly inferior to men but relatively equal in terms of other civilizations (women had more rights than most others)

Assyrian: Not mentioned

Minoan: Not mentioned, but women might have been seen as powerful due to their ability to reproduce; this is shown by how idols of women with animals represent fertility images (also shows power over animals)

Mycenaean: Not mentioned

Israel: Provided a vital portion of goods and services sustaining family

As a result were respected and enjoyed relative equality w/ husbands, but couldn't divorce or inherit property

Some women reached positions of influence (e.g. Deborah the Judge who led troops in battle against Canaanites)

Phoenician: Not mentioned

Role of Civilians

Egypt: Constructed monumental architecture such as pyramids; farmers; merchants; scribes

Assyrian: Farmers; worked in the army; used to invoke fear (e.g. were thrown into fires); merchants; scribes

Minoan: Farmers; fishermen; servants; merchants

Mycenaean: Farmers, shepherds; scribes; built shaft graves, and citadels; merchants

Israel: Building program est. by Solomon employing slaves and the compulsory labor of citizens

Phoenician: Scribes; merchants; farmers; fishermen

Themes

	Egypt	Assyrian	Minoan	Mycenaean	Israel	Phoenician
Theme 2: Development and Interactions of Cultures						

Theme 3: State- Building, Expansion , and Conflict						
Theme 4: Creation, Expansion , and Interaction s of Economic Systems						

Theme 5: Developm ent and Transfo rmation of Social Structur es						
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