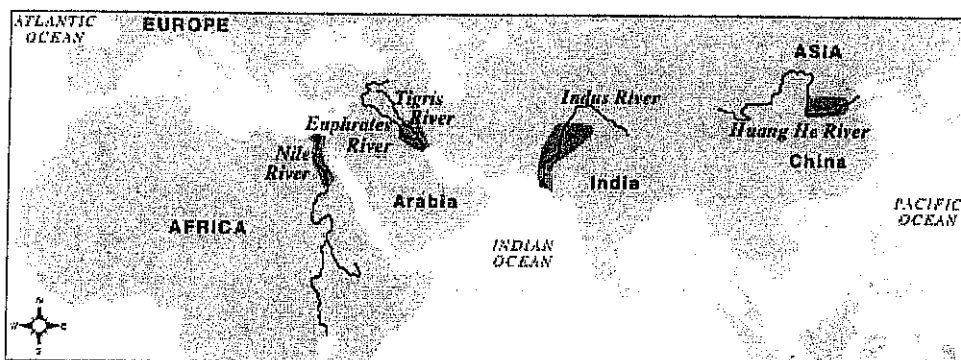


EARLY RIVER VALLEY CIVILIZATIONS



Source: Charles F. Gritzner, *Exploring Our World, Past and Present*, D. C. Heath and Company (adapted)

- 1 The main purpose of this map is to illustrate the location of
- (1) overseas trade routes
 - (2) early belief systems
 - (3) river valley civilizations
 - (4) burial sites of ancient rulers

Scientists believe that humans first appeared over two million years ago. The first humans were wandering hunters and gatherers.

What are nomads? People who move place to place looking for food.

Nomads made simple tools and weapons from stone, bone, and wood. Then

the Neolithic Revolution occurred!! Farming + Domestication of animals

What is the Neolithic Revolution? -

The shift from a food gathering to a food producing culture.

IMPACT OF AGRICULTURE

1. **PERMANENT SETTLEMENTS.** (Villages). - Sedentary life style
2. **POPULATION INCREASE.** More Food helped the population to increase.
3. **JOB SPECIALIZATION AND SOCIAL CLASSES.** People began to specialize in certain jobs because no one person could master all the necessary skills to provide. People were ranked according to their jobs.
4. **ORGANIZED Religion.** Ancient peoples were polytheistic, believing in many gods.
5. **ORGANIZED GOVERNMENT.** Rulers ordered that public works such as roads and bridges be built.

EARLY RIVER VALLEY CIVILIZATIONS

The very first civilizations formed around Rivers.

WHY RIVERS?

1. Fertile soil for farming
2. Transportation
3. Drinking
4. Fishing
5. Irrigation

YELLOW

- * Huang He (Yellow) in China
- * Oracle Bones
- * Family is important

MESS

- * Tigris/Euphrates in Mesopotamia (Fertile Crescent)
- * Ziggurats
- * Hammurabi

IN

- * Indus
- * Good builders/plumbing
- * Monsoons

EGGS

- * Nile
- * Pharaohs
- * Pyramids

A FEW OTHER IMPORTANT TERMS TO REMEMBER!!

1. Traditional Economy: - old fashion
2. Barter: Goods and services are traded rather than money
3. Cultural Diffusion: Spread of culture
4. Subsistence Agriculture - farmers focus on growing enough food to feed just their families.