

# Ancient Mesopotamia

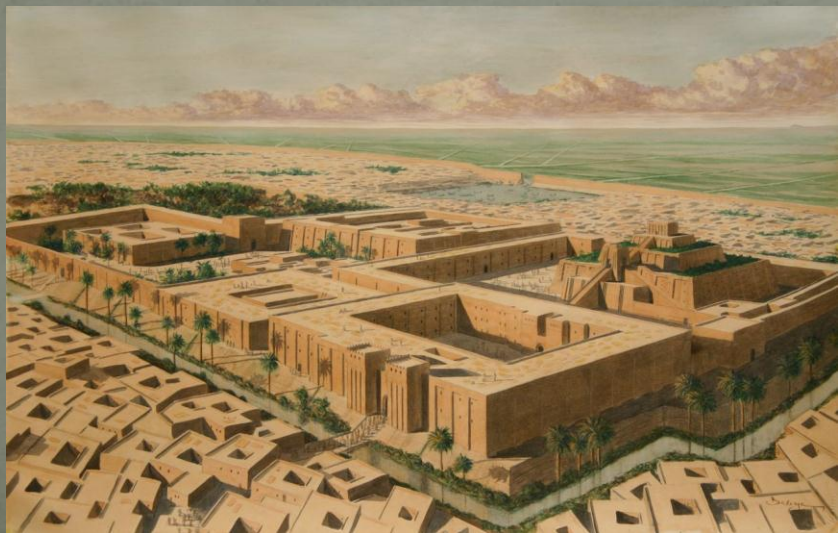
## Later Peoples



A Guardian statue in front of the city of Babylon

# The End of Ur

- Mesopotamian groups were always at war with each other
- The Sumerian group was the most powerful in the beginning
- 2000<sub>BCE</sub> – the city of Ur is destroyed
  - Now everyone wants to control Mesopotamia



# The Rise of Babylon

- The Babylonians come to power after Sumer
- Hammurabi was one of the Babylonians best monarchs
  - Monarch – A ruler of a kingdom or empire
- Hammurabi was a great war leader
  - Conquered all of Mesopotamia
  - Called it the Babylonian Empire
    - Babylon was the capital city
- Hammurabi made the Babylonian Empire very powerful





# Hammurabi's Code



- Hammurabi is most famous for his Code of Laws
- **Hammurabi's Code – A set of 282 laws that dealt with almost every part of daily life**
  - Contained some ideas that are still in use today
- **Hammurabi's Code was written down for everyone to see**
  - Now everyone knew what the law said
- After Hammurabi died, Babylon slowly fell apart





# The Assyrians

- **Soon, a group called the Assyrians conquered the Hittites**
  - They were defeated very quickly by other groups
  - Then, they re-conquered Mesopotamia
- Then they re-conquered the Hittites and even Egypt!
- **The Assyrians had a very strong army**
  - They also set up the world's first library at their capital city of Nineveh



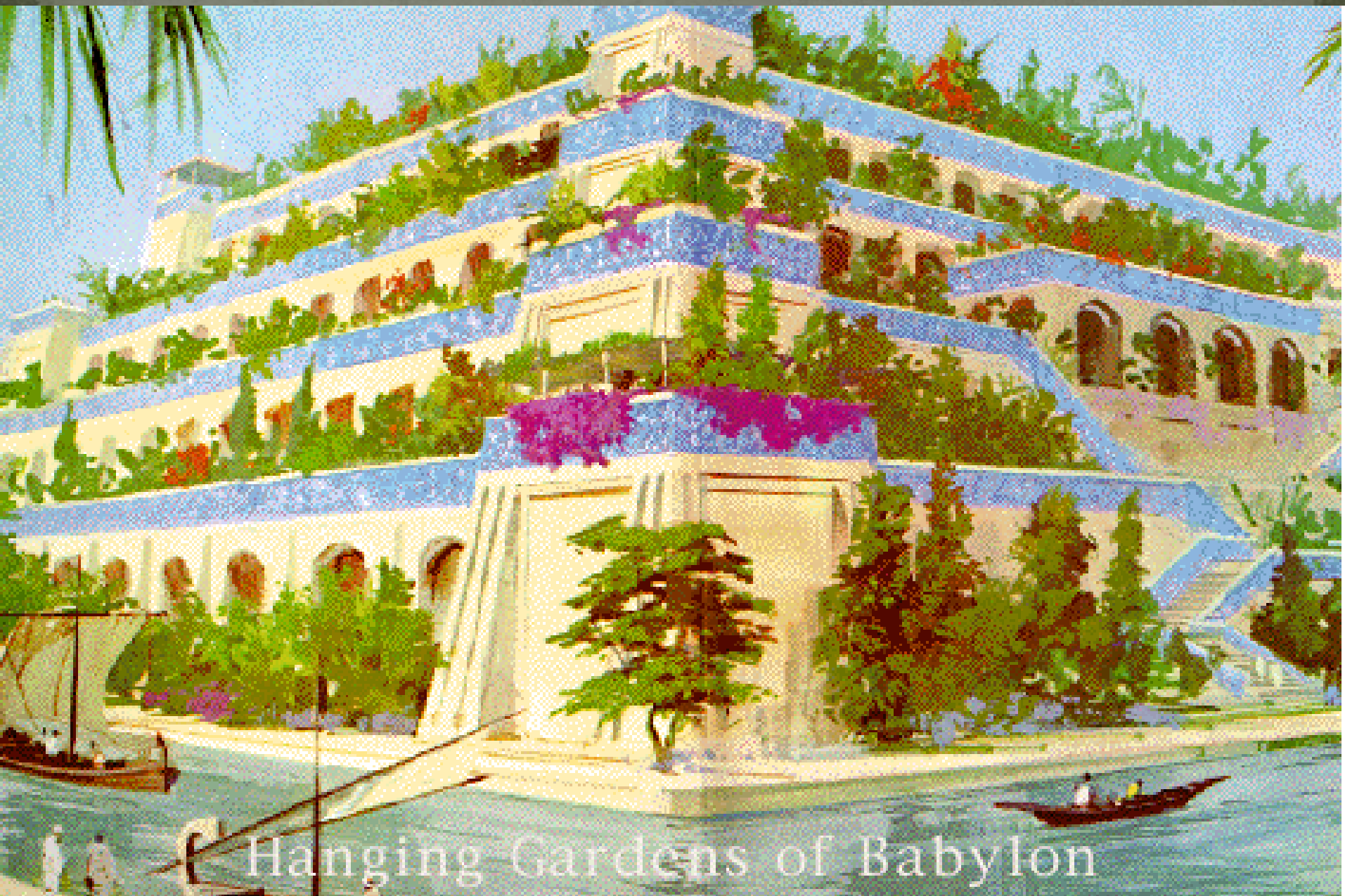




# The Chaldeans

- Later, the Assyrians started to battle each other
  - Assyrian Empire becomes very weak
- Here come the Chaldeans!
- The Chaldeans take over the Assyrian Empire
- Most famous king for the Chaldeans is Nebuchadnezzar
  - Rebuilt Babylon
  - Also built the Hanging Gardens of Babylon





Hanging Gardens of Babylon

# The Phoenicians

- Phoenicians lived on the Mediterranean Sea in a land called Phoenicia and were great sea traders
  - Couldn't trade on land because of geography or unfriendly neighbors



# The Phoenicians

- **Phoenicians were expert sailors**
  - Sailed all over the Mediterranean and even into the Atlantic Ocean!
- Phoenicians started many new cities around the Mediterranean
  - Including Carthage which later became a major city
- **Phoenicians most important achievement was an alphabet**
  - **Alphabet** – A set of letters that can be combined to form words
  - This made writing much easier
  - **English alphabet is based on the Phoenician alphabet**

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- Sumerians



- Babylonians



- Hittites



- Assyrians



- Chaldeans

