
Unit 1:

Technological and Environmental — Transformations —

To c. 600 B.C.E.

Based on the following key concepts
(and the dates) make predictions on what
we will see in the unit.

Unit 1

To c. 600 B.C.E.

1.1 Big Geography & Peopling the Earth:

- Throughout the Paleolithic era, humans developed sophisticated technologies and adapted to different geographical environments as they migrated from Africa to Eurasia, Australasia, and the Americas.

1.2 Neolithic Rev. & Early Agricultural Societies:

- Beginning about 10,000 years ago, some human communities adopted sedentism and agriculture, while others pursued hunter-forager or pastoralist lifestyles -- different pathways that had significant social and demographic ramifications.

1.3 Development & Interaction of Early Societies:

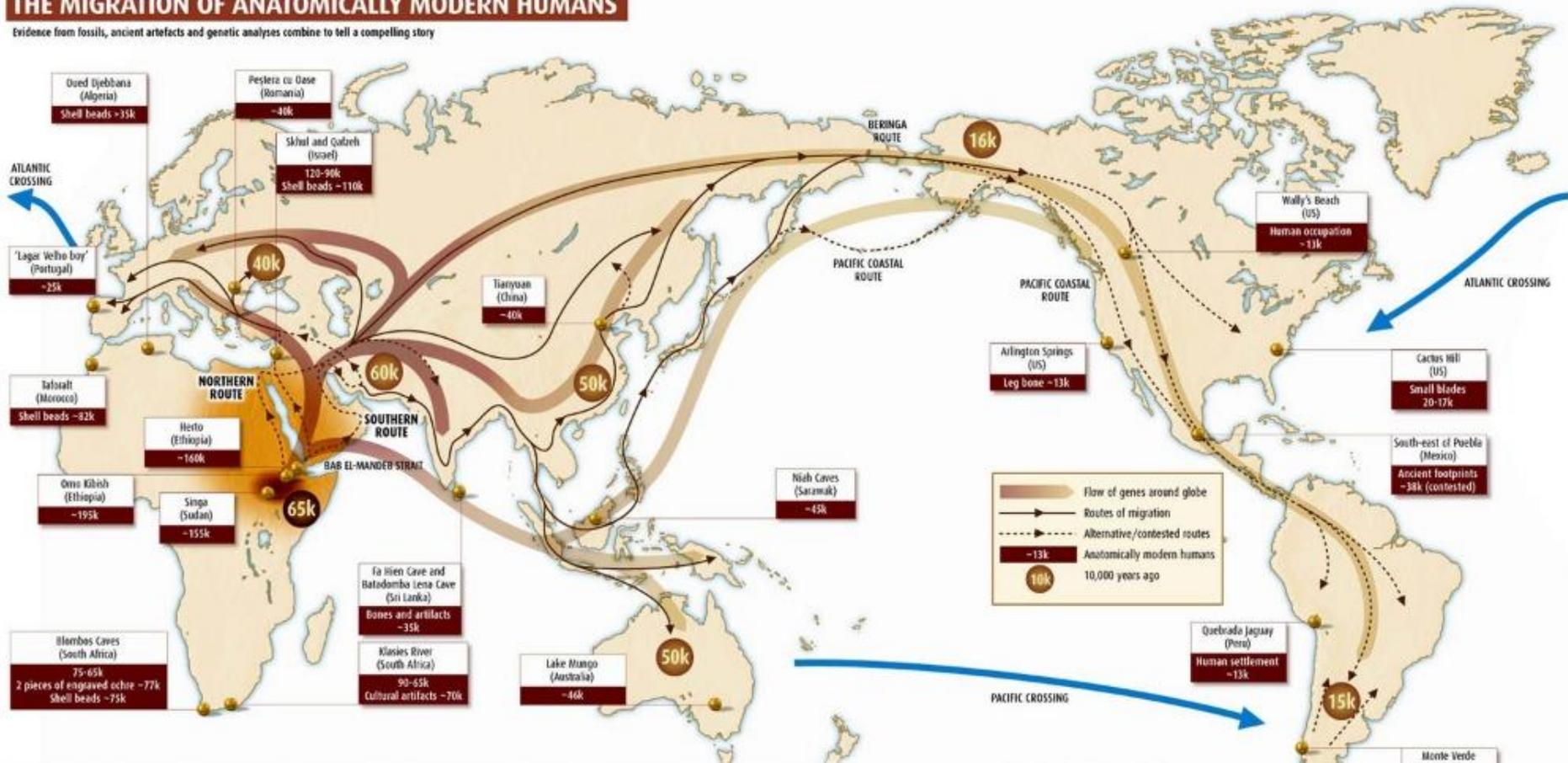
- The appearance of the first urban societies 5,000 years ago laid the foundations for the development of complex civilizations; these civilizations shared several significant social, political and economic characteristics.

1.1 Big Geography & Peopling the Earth: Throughout the Paleolithic era, humans developed sophisticated technologies and adapted to different geographical environments as they migrated from Africa to Eurasia, Australasia, and the Americas.

I. Archeological evidence indicates that during the Paleolithic era, hunter-forager bands of humans gradually migrated from their origin in East Africa to Eurasia, Australia, and the Americas, adapting their technology and cultures to new climate systems.

THE MIGRATION OF ANATOMICALLY MODERN HUMANS

Evidence from fossils, ancient artefacts and genetic analyses combine to tell a compelling story



Two routes jump out as prime candidates for the human exodus out of Africa. A northern route would have taken our ancestors from their base in eastern sub-Saharan Africa across the Sahara desert, then through Sinai and into the Levant. An alternative southern route may have charted a path from Djibouti or Eritrea in the Horn of Africa across the Bab-el-Mandeb strait and into Yemen and around the Arabian peninsula. The plausibility of these two routes as gateways out of Africa has been studied as part of the UK's Natural Environment Research Council's

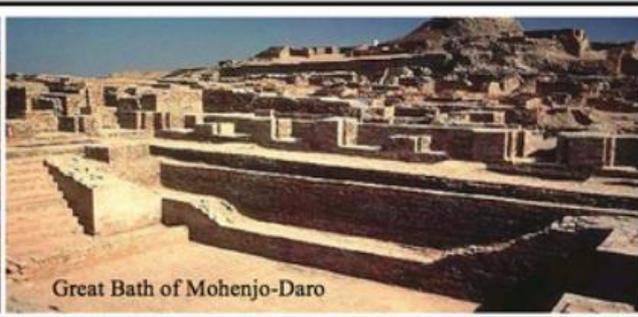
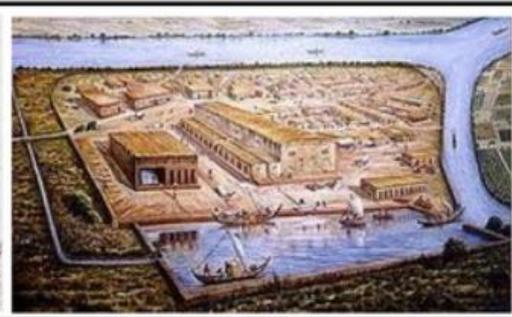
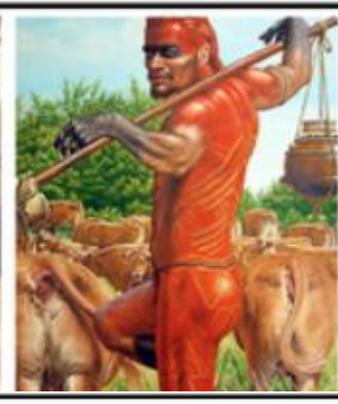
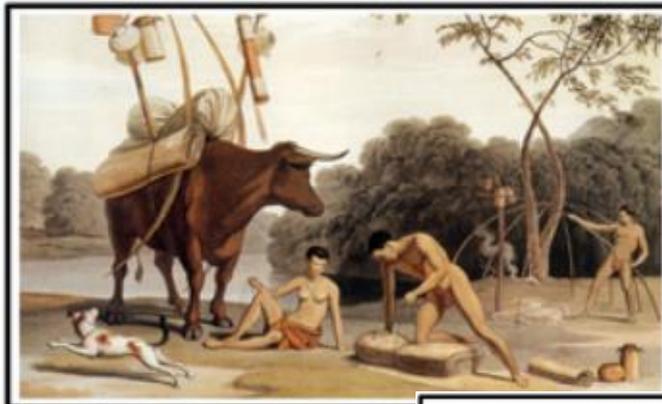
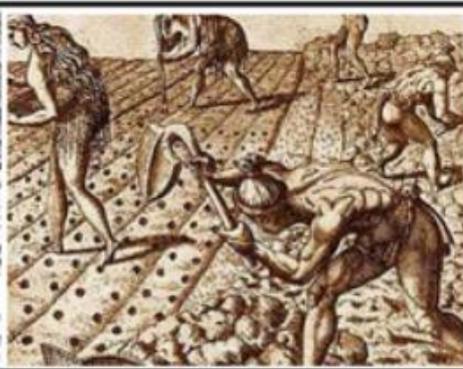
programme "Environmental Factors in the Chronology of Human Evolution & Dispersal" (EFCHEd). During the last ice age, from about 80,000 to 11,000 years ago, sea levels dropped as the ice sheets grew, exposing large swathes of land now submerged under water and connecting regions now separated by the sea. By reconstructing ancient shorelines, the EFCHEd team found that the Bab-el-Mandeb strait, now around 30 kilometres wide and one of the world's busiest shipping lanes, was then a narrow, shallow channel

Early humans may have taken this southern route out of Africa. The northern route appears easier, especially given the team's finding that the Suez basin was dry during the last ice age. But crossing the Sahara desert is no small matter. EFCHEd scientist Simon Arrittage of the Royal Holloway University of London has found some clues as to how this might have been possible. During the past 150,000 years, north Africa has experienced abrupt switches between dry, arid conditions and a humid climate. During the longer wetter periods huge lakes existed in both Chad and Libya, which would have

provided a "humid corridor" across the Sahara. Arrittage has discovered that these lakes were present around 10,000 years ago, when there is abundant evidence for human occupation of the Sahara, as well as around 115,000 years ago, when our ancestors last made forays into Israel. It is unknown whether another humid corridor appeared between about 65,000 and 50,000 years ago, the most likely time frame for the human exodus. Moreover, accumulating evidence is pointing to the southern route as the most likely jumping off point.

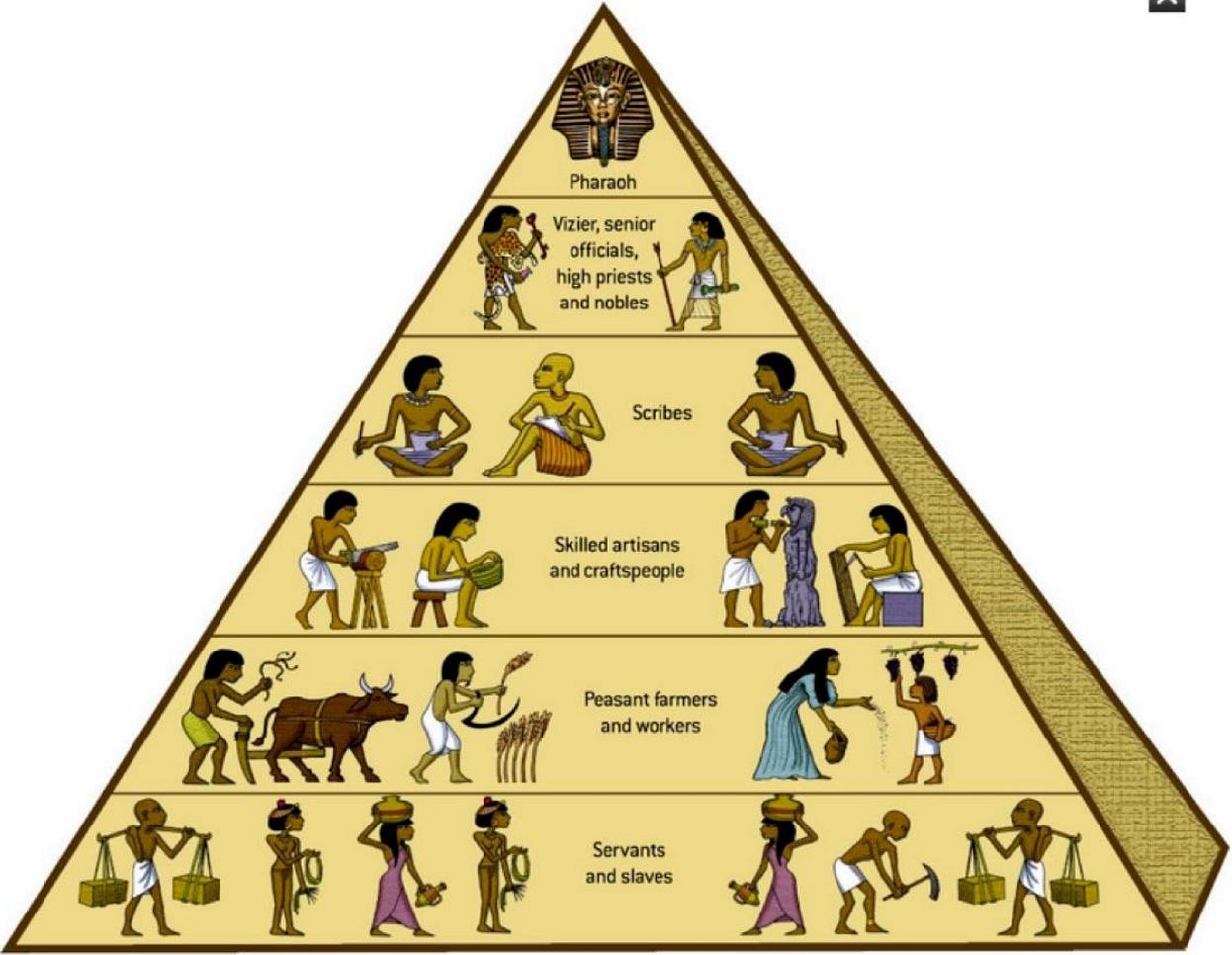
1.2 Neolithic Rev. & Early Agricultural Societies: Beginning about 10,000 years ago, some human communities adopted sedentism and agriculture, while others pursued hunter-forager or pastoralist lifestyles -- different pathways that had significant social and demographic ramifications.

I. The Neolithic Revolution led to more complex social and economic systems.



1.2 Neolithic Rev. & Early Agricultural Societies: Beginning about 10,000 years ago, some human communities adopted sedentism and agriculture, while others pursued hunter-forager or pastoralist lifestyles -- different pathways that had significant social and demographic ramifications.

II. Agriculture and pastoralism began to transform human societies.



1.3 Development & Interaction of Early Societies: The appearance of the first urban societies 5,000 years ago laid the foundations for the development of complex civilizations; these civilizations shared several significant social, political and economic characteristics.

- I. Core and foundational civilizations developed in a variety of geographical and environmental settings where agriculture flourished.**

MESOPOTAMIA
EGYPT
SHANG
OLMEC
CHAVIN
MOHENJO-DARA HARAPPA

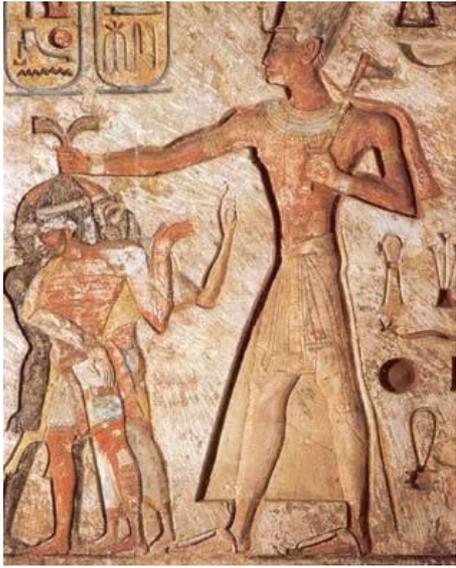
FREEMAN-PEDIA

CORE & FOUNDATIONAL CIVILIZATIONS TO KNOW FOR THE FOUNDATIONS (to 600 BCE)



1.3 Development & Interaction of Early Societies: The appearance of the first urban societies 5,000 years ago laid the foundations for the development of complex civilizations; these civilizations shared several significant social, political and economic characteristics.

II. The first states emerged within core civilizations in Mesopotamia and the Nile River Valley.



1.3 Development & Interaction of Early Societies: The appearance of the first urban societies 5,000 years ago laid the foundations for the development of complex civilizations; these civilizations shared several significant social, political and economic characteristics.

III. Culture played a significant role in unifying states through laws, language, literature, religion, myths, and monumental art.

