CIVILIZATIONS

MESOPOTAMIAN CIVILIZATION

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1. There were three parts in the Mesopotamian town planning:

The outer city

The sacred area

The walled city

The cities followed a grid like pattern but not as good as the Harappans. The sacred area had temple towers or ziggurats in them. The ziggurat was used as observatories, temples, granaries and schools.

People lived in the walled city and the outer city. The royal palace was in the walled city and some big cities were surrounded by moats.

1. Mesopotamians added a great amount of things to architecture, they are:

Vaults, domes, columns and arches. The ziggurat of Ur and the Hanging gardens of Babylon are excellent examples of Mesopotamian architecture.

1. a. social structure was divided into three classes

the upper class consisted of the royal family, upper clergy

the middle class consisted of farmers, artisans, merchants, goldsmiths etc

the lower class consisted of slaves.

b. the father was the head of the family and the women were treated with respect, the boys were sent to school to learn arithmetic, reading and maths and the girls were trained in dancing and music.

4. The main occupation of the Mesopotamian people was agriculture and other than that pottery weaving and metalwork were few of the specialized skills.

5. The Mesopotamians had trade with india, china and countries till the regions of the Mediterranean sea. It is proved that india had trade relations with Mesopotamia by finding Harappan seals in the sites of Mesopotamia.

6. The people of Mesopotamia worshiped the forces of nature and they thought that the king was the representative of god on earth and the priests were given a position in the temple tower.

7. a. ziggurats were either temple towers, schools, observatories, granaries or watch towers.

b. father was the head of the family and the rights of the women were protected, boys were sent to school and girls were trained in dance and music.

8. the Mesopotamians declined because Euphrates river the lifeline of this civilization unexpectedly changed its course, so, the site was abandoned and the wind eroded the walls of the sites and pushed it under the sandy plane.

EGYPTIAN CIVILIZATION

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1. Egypt was called the gift of nile because the lifeline of this civilization was the river nile.
2. The poor people lived in houses of 1-2 rooms with no bathroom and the richest people lived in houses which had at least 30 rooms and bathrooms, the windows were high at the top of the house to let the daylight and put the sun out. the poor shared a courtyard while the rich had their own courtyards.
3. The upper class – royal family, clergy and priests. The middle class – merchants, farmers, artisans, goldsmiths. The lower class – peasants and slaves.