

Geography

Major Rivers

- Tigris
- Euphrates
- Oxus

Main Cities

- Susa
- Babylonia
- Persepolis

Major Lakes

- Black Sea
- Caspian Sea

Major Opponents

- Steppe
- Greeks
- Indians

Herodotus

Historian.
c. 484 – c. 425 bc.
Expert on Greco-Persian Wars. Wrote Histories.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Herodotus>

Herodotus - Wikipedia

5th century BC Greek historian and author of The Histories Herodotus (hīr-OD-ə-təs; Ancient Greek: Ἡρόδοτος, Hēródotos, [hɛːrɔ́dotos]; 484 – c. 425 BC) was an ancient Greek writer, geographer and hi ...

<https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/245829>

Cyrus, the Great

First Persian King. Founder of Archemenid Empire.

- Religious Tolerance
- Highly Luxurious.
- Died during the siege of the Steppe Clan (Scythians)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cyrus_the_Great

Cyrus the Great - Wikipedia

Cyrus II of Persia (Old Persian: 𐎠𐎼𐎷𐎡𐎴, Kūruš,[5] New Persian: کوروش, Kūros; 600 – 530 BC).[6] commonly known as Cyrus the Great,[7] and also called Cyrus the Elder by the Greeks, was the founder of ...

Tomyris

Empress of Scythians (European Steppe)

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tomyris>

Tomyris - Wikipedia

Tomyris (; from Eastern Iranian: Tahm-Rayiš "Brave",[1] or Scythian: *Tʰumrī or *Oʰumrī,[2]) also called Thomyris, Tomris, Tomiride, or Queen Tomiri, reigned over the Massagetae, an Iranian peopl ...

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scythians>

Scythians - Wikipedia

The Scythians (; from Greek Σκύθης, Σκύθοι), also known as Soyth,[1] Saka, Sakae, Iskuzai, or Askuzai, were an ancient nomadic people of Eurasia, inhabiting the region Scythia. Classical Scythians d ...

Met Artifacts

Gallery 405

<https://www.metmuseum.org/search-results#/1/sean>

Achaemenid Empire

Sudharsan Asaithambi

Darius, the Great

- 3rd Persian King
- Overthrew **Bhardiya**, son of the Cyrus the Great. (Told he was an imposter Gautama)
- Faced many battles before he claimed legitimate power.
- High Infrastructure and consolidation.
- Historical records from **Behistun Inscription** and **Heredotos**.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Darius_the_Great

Darius the Great - Wikipedia

Darius I (Old Persian: 𐎠𐎼𐎷𐎡𐎴, Dārayava(h)uš; New Persian: داریوش Darius; Hebrew: דָּרְיָוֶשׁ, Darayavēs, Dārayāvēš; c. 550 – 486 BCE), commonly known as Darius the Great, was the third Persian Kin ...

Behistun Inscription

Authored by Darius (522-482 BC)

- Persian
- Akkadite (Babylonian)
- Elamite.

The same matter is written in these three languages. Key to understanding few of these languages.

The inscription is approximately 15 m (49 ft) high by 25 m (82 ft) wide and 100 m (330 ft) Mount Behistun, Modern Day Iran. Contains 16 other heritage sights.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Behistun_Inscription

Behistun Inscription - Wikipedia

The Behistun Inscription (also Bisotun, Bistun or Bisutun; Persian: بیستون, Old Persian: Bagastana, meaning "the place of god") is a multilingual inscription and large rock relief on a cliff at Mount ...

The Royal Road

- Connects from Susa Sardis.
- Built by **Darius, the Great**
- Travelled within a week

The Road

The road was 1,677 miles in length. There were 111 post or relay stations spaced about 15 miles apart along the road. Other roads branched off the main road to distant parts of the empire.

The Ride

Relay stations were equipped with fresh horses for the king's messengers. Royal messengers could cover the length of the Royal Road in seven days. Normal travel time along the road was longer. A caravan, for example, might take three months to travel the whole distance.