

Chapter 4

Lesson 2

The First Empires

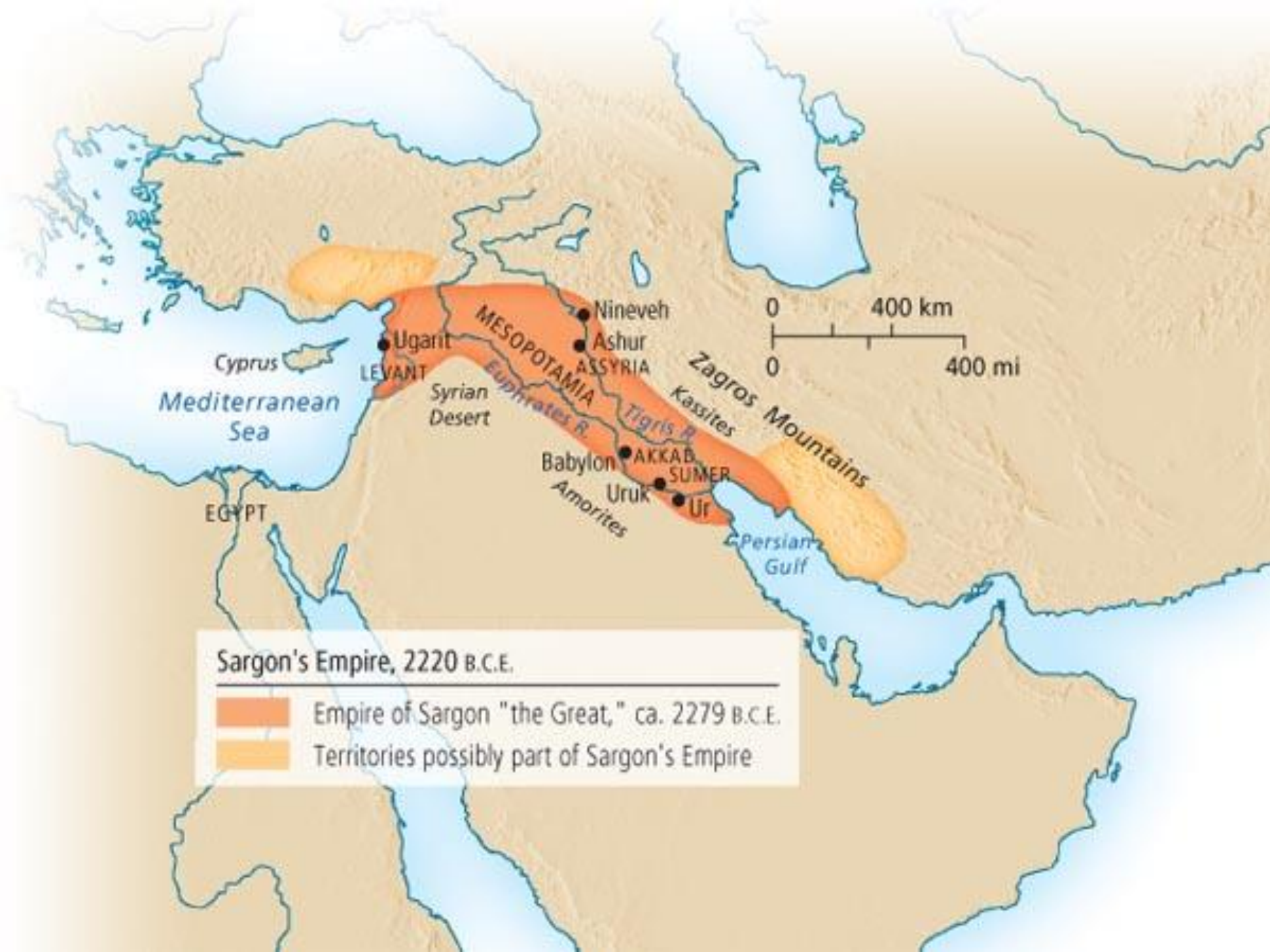
- By 2400BC Sumer city-state power is weakened
- Powerful kingdoms rise in northern Mesopotamia and Syria
- Empires
 - Through conquest and trade empires spread over wide regions.

Sargon



- Ruler of the Akkad kingdom
- 2340 BC conquered remaining Sumer city-states
- King of Sumer and Akkad
- Formed world's first empire
 - Soon controlled all of Mesopotamia
 - Lasted more than 200 years







Sargon's Empire, 2220 B.C.E.

-  Empire of Sargon "the Great," ca. 2279 B.C.E.
-  Territories possibly part of Sargon's Empire

Amorites

- 1800 BC conquered Mesopotamia
- Babylon
 - Grandest city
 - Banks of the Euphrates River
(modern day Iraq)

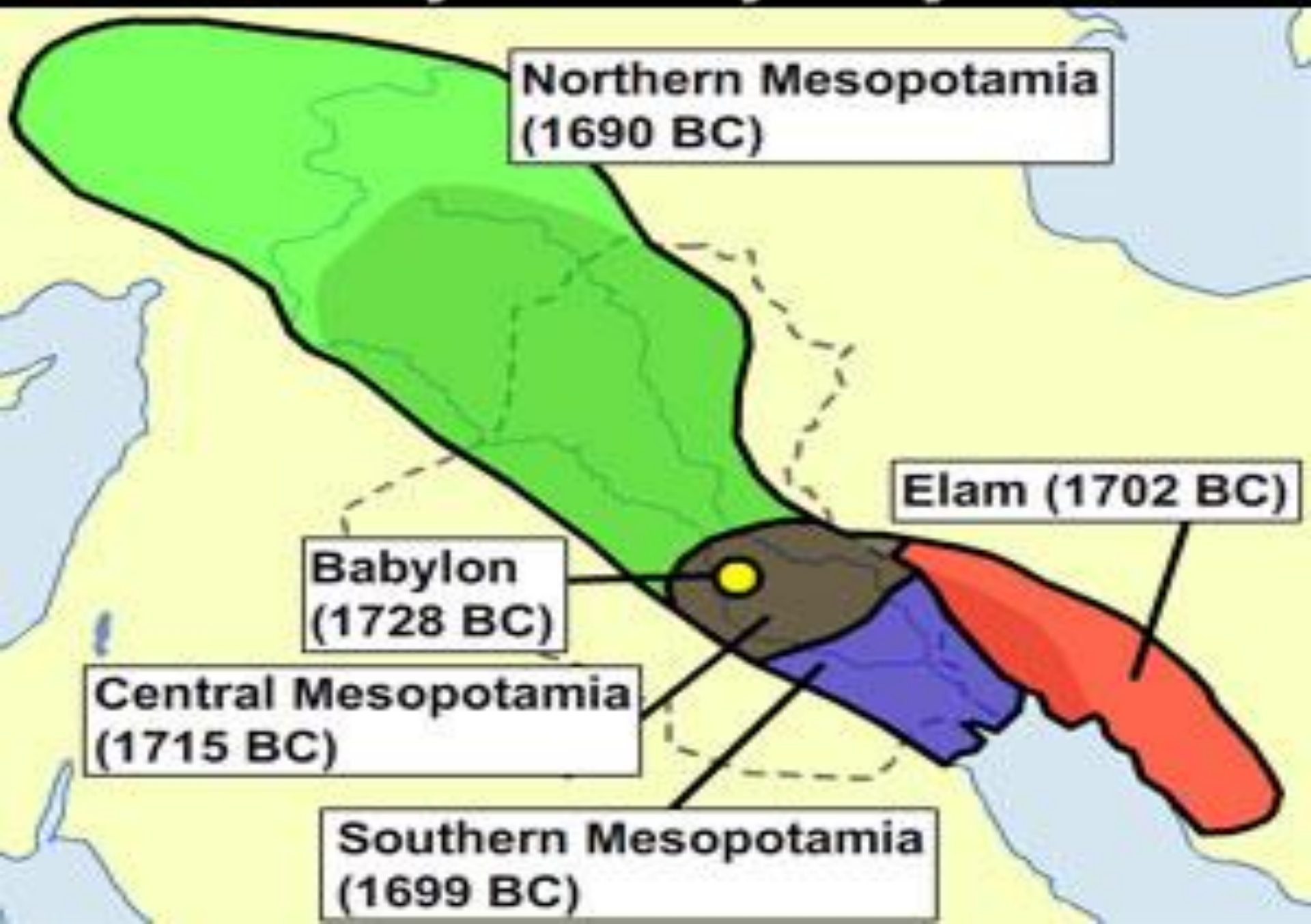
Hammurabi

- 1792 BC Amorite king conquered north and south
- Created the Babylonian Empire
 - Stretched from Persian Gulf to Mediterranean Sea





Amorite Babylonian Dynasty



Hammurabi's

CODE

Code of Hammurabi



The Code of Hammurabi was a list of 282 laws brought together and written on an 8 foot tall stone pillar in 1280 AD for all the people of Babylonia to see.

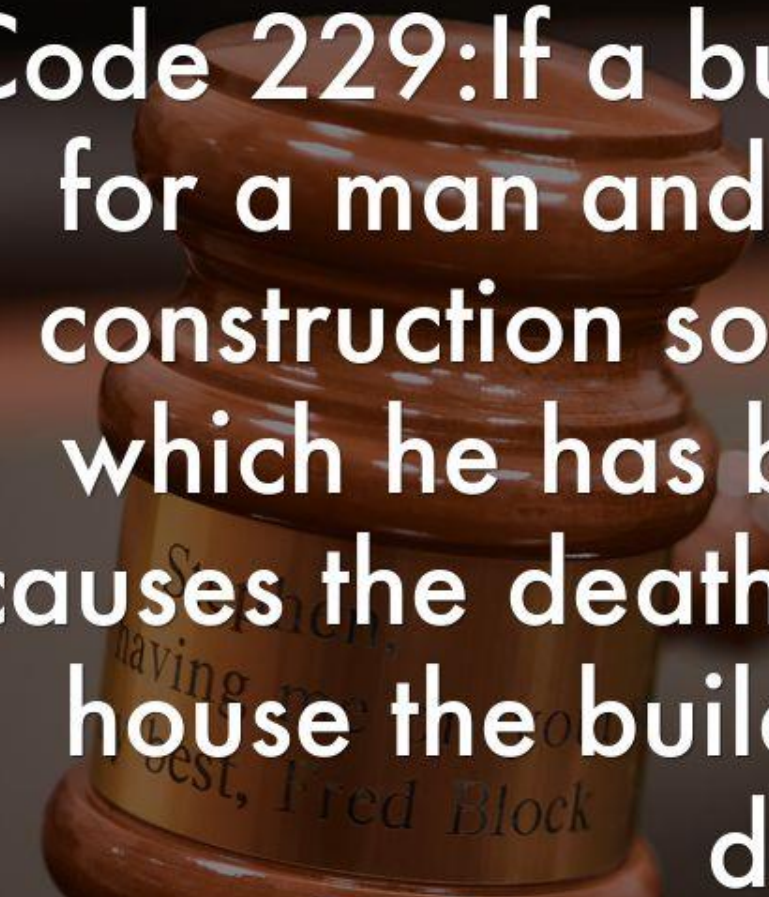
Hammurabi's Code

- Law code for his empire
 - Posted for all to read
- Dealt with crimes, farming, business, marriage, and family
- Listed a punishment for each crime
 - Stricter than the old Sumerian law

Hammurabi's Code

- Punishment matched the seriousness
- Meant to limit punishment and stop blood feuds
- Protected the less powerful
 - Ex. Wife abuse

**BASIS FOR LAW CODES
IN ROME & GREECE**

A wooden gavel is positioned vertically on the left side of the image. It has a gold band around its middle section with the name 'Fred Block' engraved on it. The background is dark and out of focus.

Code 229: If a builder builds a house for a man and does not make its construction sound and the house which he has built collapses and causes the death of the owner of the house the builder shall be put to death.

Code 230: If it kills the son of the owner the son of that builder shall be put to death.



CODE 21

If any one break a hole into a house (break in to steal), he shall be put to death before that hole and be buried.



If a man destroy the eye of another man, they shall
destroy his eye.

(Hammurabi)

195: If a son has struck his father, they shall cut off his hand.

196: If a seignior has destroyed the eye of a member of the aristocracy,¹ they shall destroy his eye.

197: If he has broken a(nother) seignior's bone, they shall break his bone.

198: If he has destroyed the eye of a commoner or broken the bone of a commoner, he shall pay one mina of silver.

199: If he has destroyed the eye of a seignior's slave or broken the bone of a seignior's slave, he shall pay one-half his value.

200: If a seignior has knocked out a tooth of a seignior of his own rank, they shall knock out his tooth.

201: If he has knocked out a commoner's tooth, he shall pay one-third mina of silver.

202: If a seignior has struck the cheek of a seignior who is superior to him, he shall be beaten sixty (times) with an oxtail whip in the assembly.

203: If a member of the aristocracy has struck the cheek of a(nother) member of the aristocracy who is of the same rank as himself, he shall pay one mina of silver.

204: If a commoner has struck the cheek of a(nother) commoner, he shall pay ten shekels of silver.

Assyrian Empire





The Assyrians

- 1,000 years AFTER Hammurabi
- Located in present day Turkey, Syria, Iran, and Iraq
- MILITARY
 - Large and powerful
 - 1st- defense
 - 2nd- take over new land
 - 900 BC

Assyrian Army

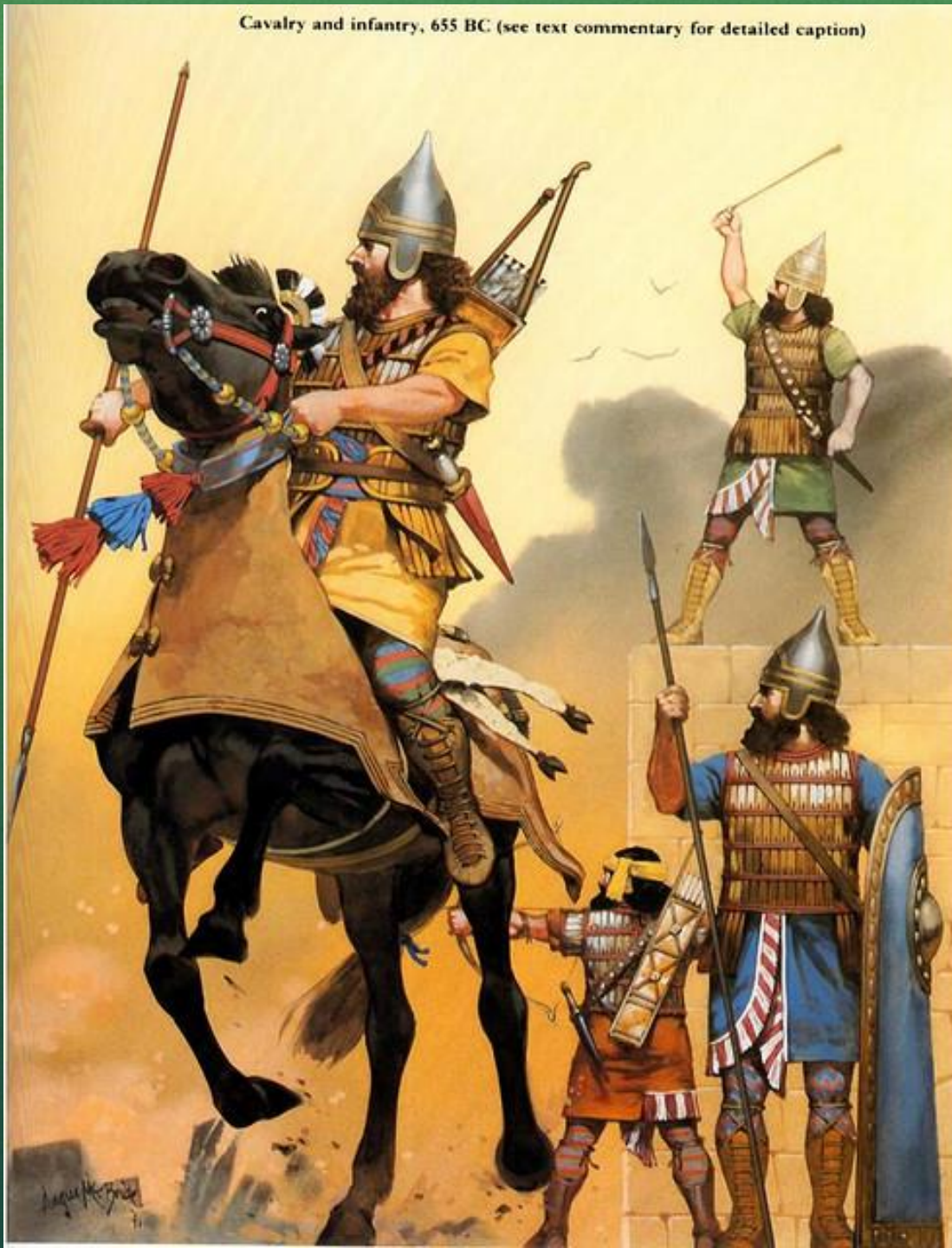
- Well trained, disciplined
 - About 50,000 soldiers
- Infantry
 - Foot soldiers
- Cavalry
 - Horse-back riding soldiers
- Charioteers
- Fought with slingshots, bows & arrows, swords, and spears





ASSYRIAN CHARIOTS

Cavalry and infantry, 655 BC (see text commentary for detailed caption)







61 A six-wheeled battering-ram
From the bronze gates of Balawat, ninth century B.C.



Mean People

- Robbed people, set crops on fire, destroyed towns and dams
- Took tribute
 - Forced payments
- Drove people from their homes
- Stories of their brutality spread
 - People started to surrender WITHOUT a fight

Key to Military Success:

IRON WEAPONS

Assyrian Kings & Government

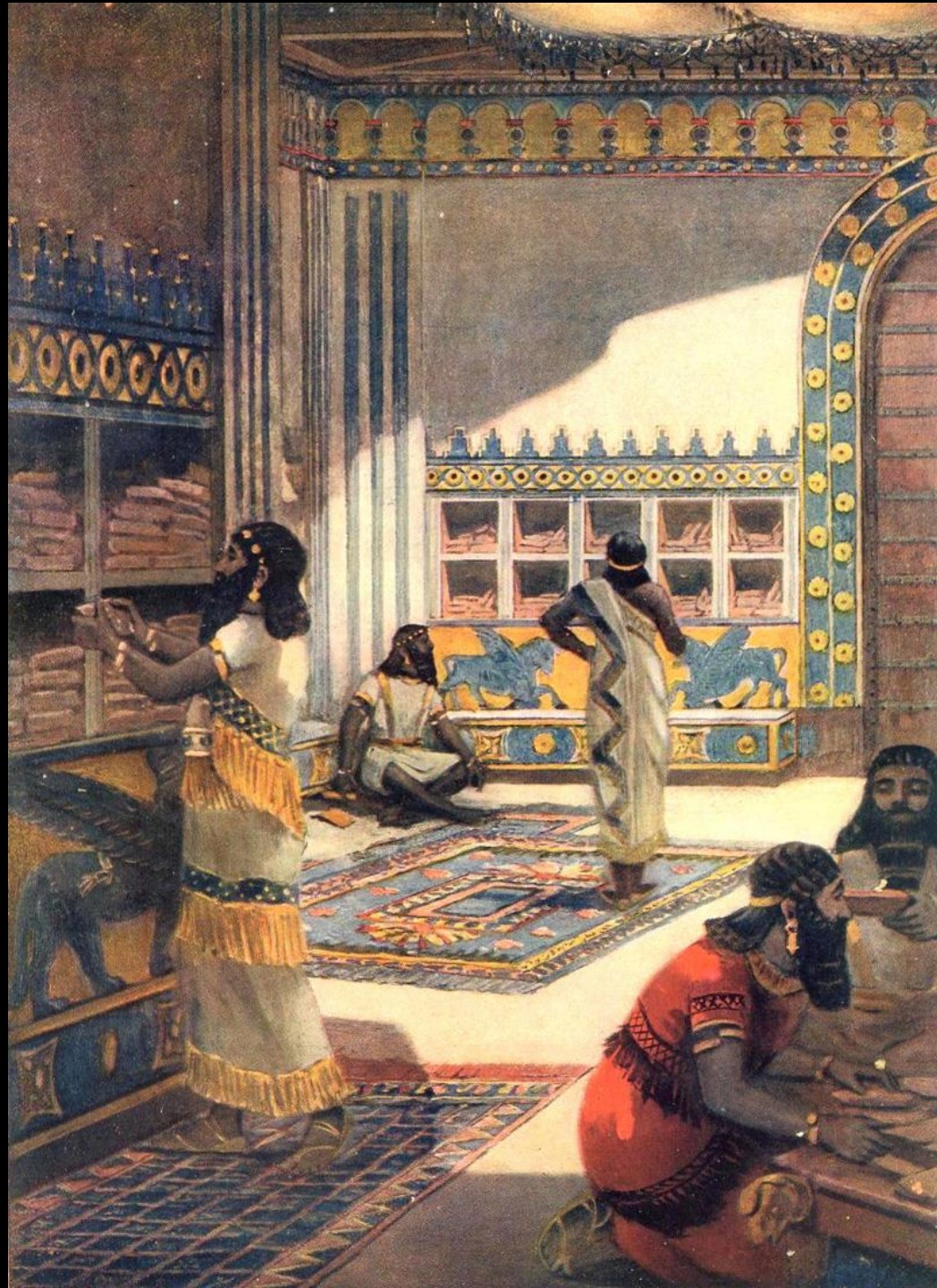
- Capital in Nineveh (along the Tigris River)
- Kings divided land into provinces
 - Political districts
- Built roads to connect them
- Chose government officials
 - Govern, collect taxes, carry out laws
- Soldier stations
 - Defended provinces and the roads

Life in Assyria

- Built on what they learned from previous civilizations
- Law codes
 - Harsher than before
- Writing based on Babylonian writing
- Worshipped many of the same gods
- Made large temples and palaces

World's First Library

- Located in Nineveh
- Under the instruction of King Ashurbanipal
- Held 25,000 tablets of stories & songs to the gods





Assyrian Life

- Farming and trading were both important
 - Brought in wood and metal from far away places
 - BUILDING SUPPLIES AND WEAPONS

RULED FOR OVER 300 YEARS

The Chaldean Empire

Stand Up

- People finally rebelled against Assyrian rule

Fighting broke out...

**Who would be the
next King???????**

The Fight Is On

- 1000 BC- Southern Mesopotamia
 - People never liked the Assyrians
- Pushed Assyrians out of Uruk
- The Medes joined in
- 612 BC: captured Nineveh
 - Burned it to the ground

The New Empire

- King Nabopolassar and his son, Nebuchadnezzar created new empire
- Descendants of the Babylonian Empire
- Regained their control
 - Sometimes called “New Babylonian”

Greatness of Babylon

- Rebuilt Babylon
 - Largest and richest city in the world
 - Brick walls surrounded the entire city
 - Protected by soldiers
- Grand palaces and temples were in the middle
 - Huge ziggurat (seen for miles)
 - Palace
 - Equal in size to the ziggurat

Hanging Gardens

- Giant staircase of greenery
- Terraced gardens
- Complex system of irrigation
- Large plants
- Street next to Hanging Gardens
 - Limestone, marble, blue glaze tile



Batkya © 2011







Marduk

- God of Babylon
- Gold statue pulled through Babylon once a year
- Brought peace and bigger crops.





Babylon Advancing

- Built more canals
 - Cause more fertile land
- Collected high taxes and tributes
 - Paid for his buildings and defense

“In magnificence,
there is no other city
that approaches it.”

Life in New Babylon

- Outside city center: houses and marketplaces
 - Pottery, clothing, baskets
- MAJOR TRADE ROUTE
 - Caravans would always stop
- People made lots of money
 - Under Assyrians: Poor



Caspian Sea

CARGHEMISH

HARAN

Tigris River

NINEVEH

KHALAB

GOZAN

ASHUR

Euphrates River

MARI

AKKAD

ZAGROS MOUNTAINS

Mediterranean Sea

SIDON

TYRE

DAMASCUS

RUTBA

BABYLONIA

BABYLON

NIPPUR

SUSA

JERUSALEM

ERECH

EGYPT

PETRA

UR

BASRA

MEMPHIS

EZION-GBER

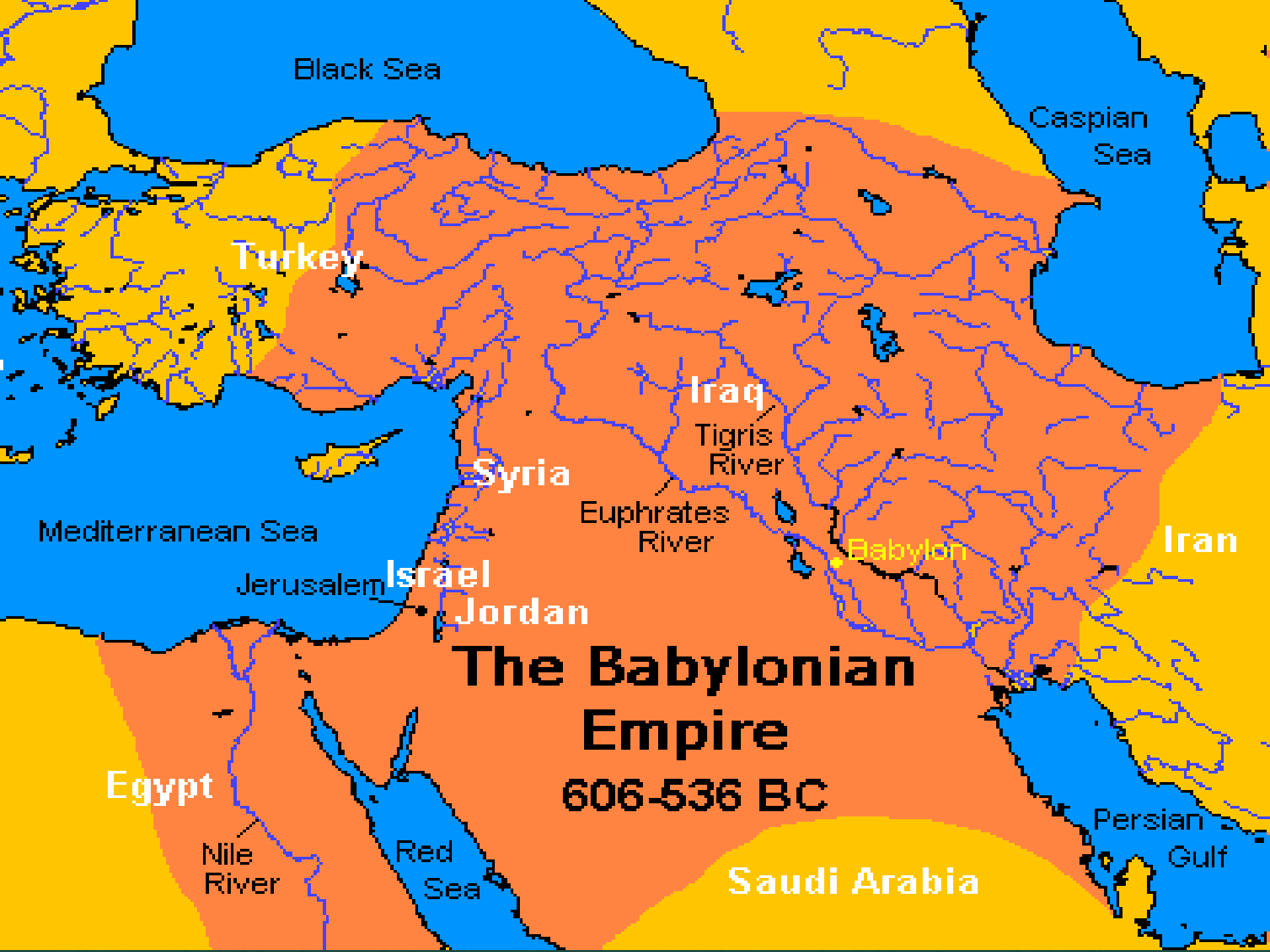
Ancient Trade Routes

Persian Gulf

ARABIAN DESERT

Nile River

Red Sea



Black Sea

Caspian Sea

Turkey

Iraq

Tigris River

Syria

Euphrates River

Babylon

Iran

Mediterranean Sea

Jerusalem

Israel

Jordan

The Babylonian Empire

606-536 BC

Egypt

Nile River

Red Sea

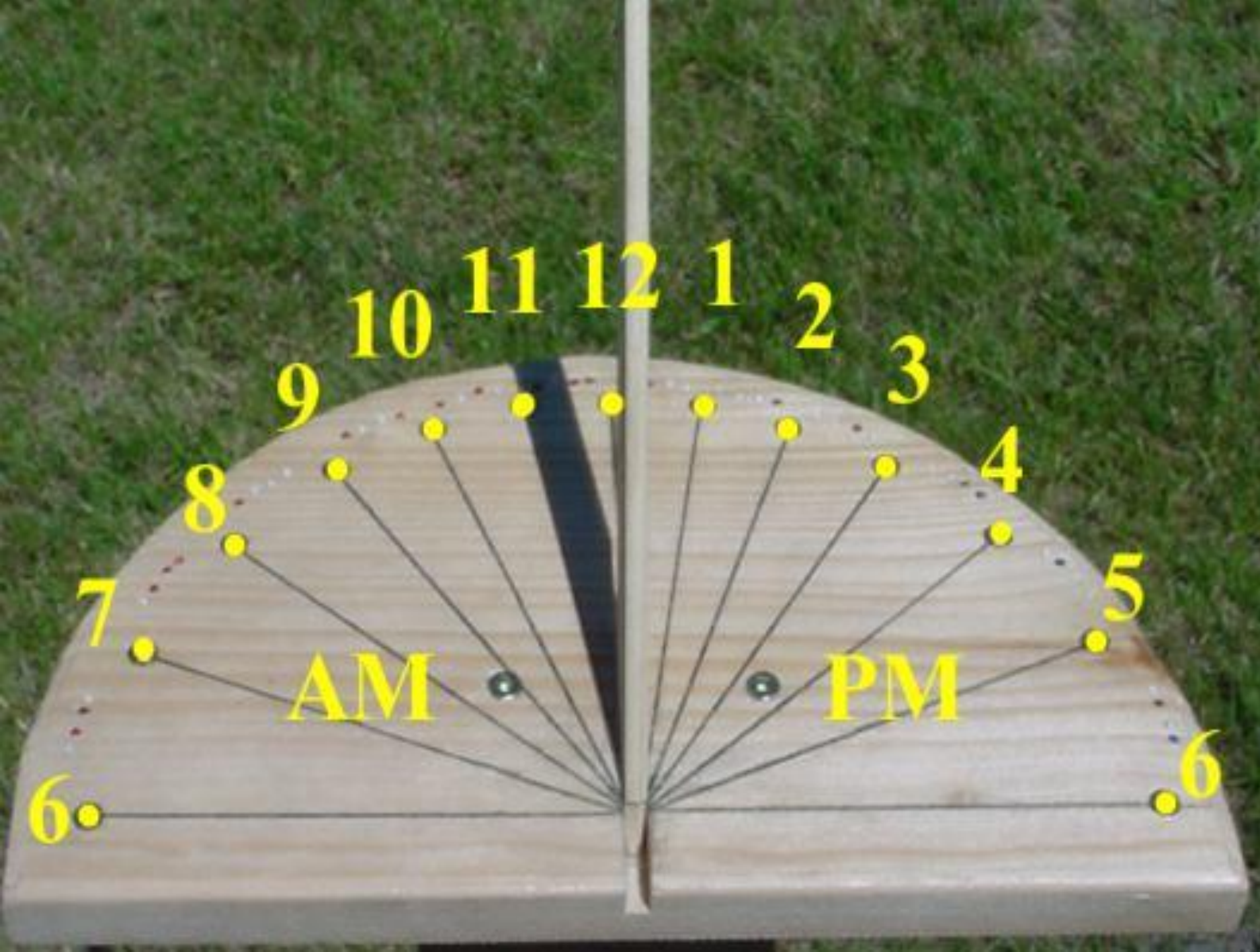
Saudi Arabia

Persian Gulf

Scientific Achievements

- Astronomers
 - Mapped stars, planets, phases of the moon
 - Gods showed plans in sky
- Invented one of the first sundials
 - Measures time
- First to follow a 7 day week









Fall of Empire

- Nebuchadnezzar died
 - Weak rulers followed
- Poor harvest
- Slow trade
 - NO MONEY

End of an Empire

- 539 BC: Persians captured Babylon
 - Now part of the Persian Empire
- Left it alone.
- Kept its culture.
 - Did not want to destroy all of its accomplishments



Caspian Sea

ASIA

Mediterranean Sea

Tigris River

Euphrates River



Kish

Lagash

Uruk

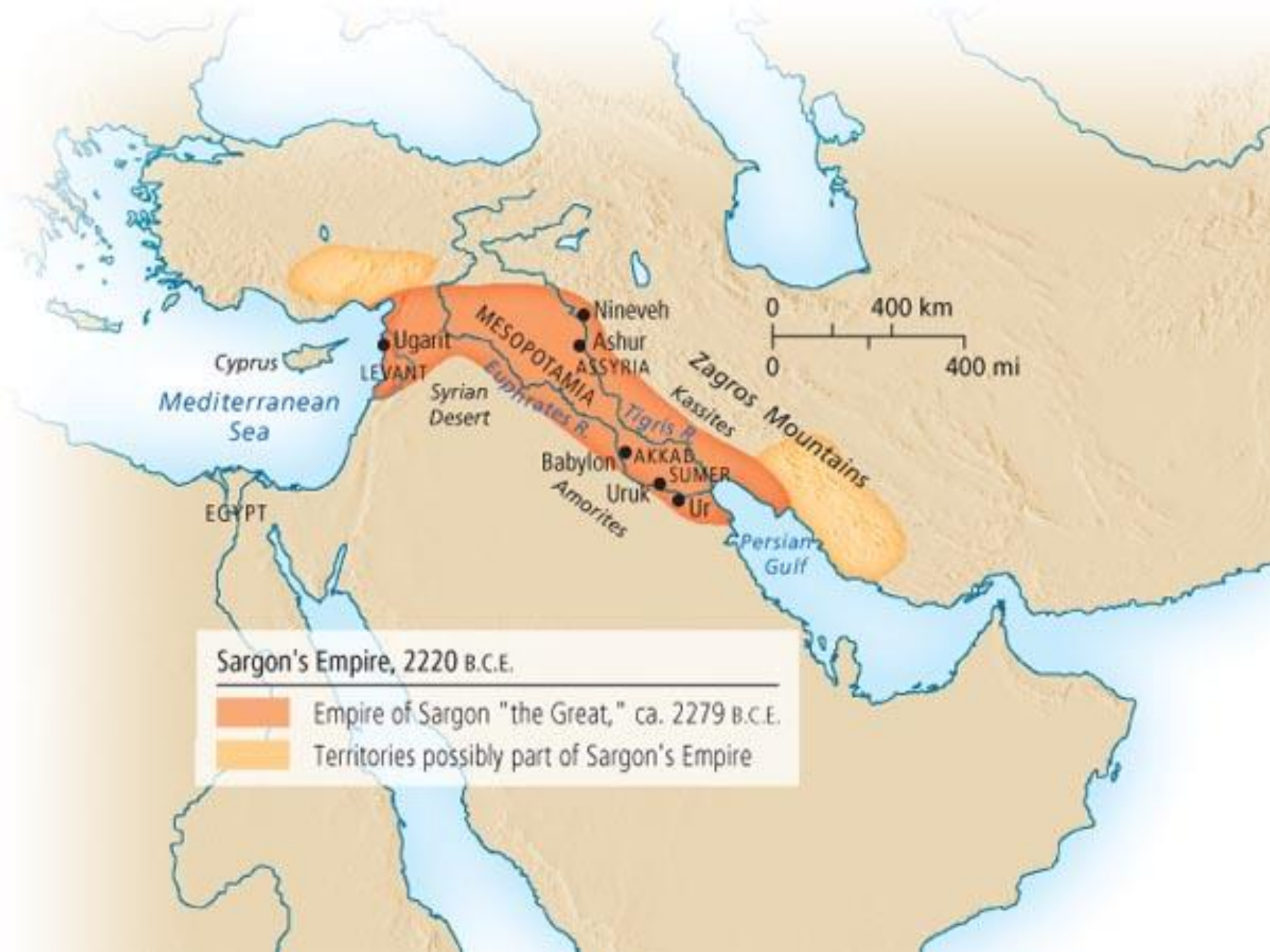
Ur

Sumer



ARABIAN DESERT

Red Sea

Persian Gulf



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Black Sea

Caspian Sea

Turkey

Iraq

Tigris River

Syria

Euphrates River

Iran

Mediterranean Sea

Jerusalem Israel

Babylon

Jordan

The Babylonian Empire

606-536 BC

Egypt

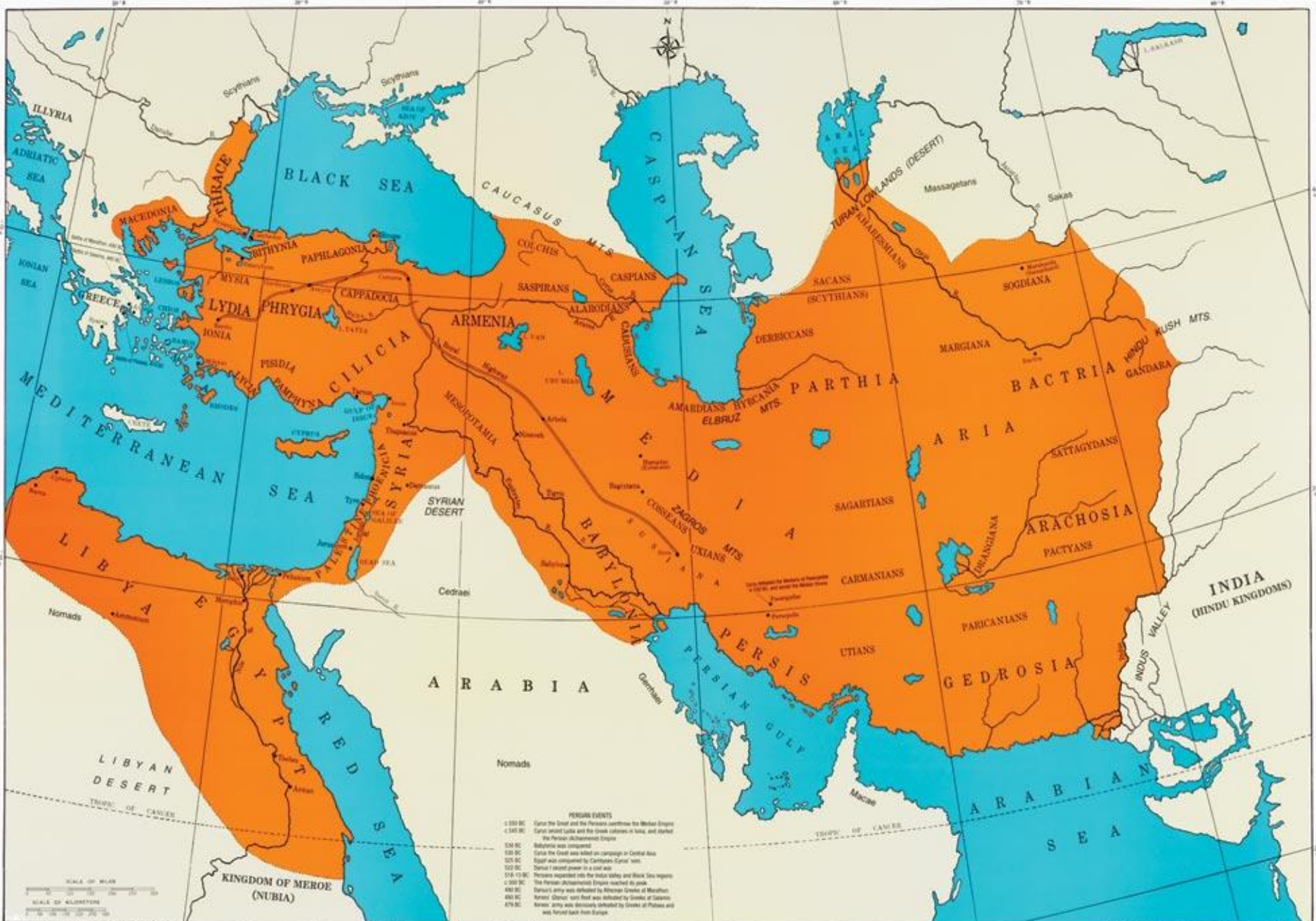
Nile River

Red Sea

Saudi Arabia

Persian Gulf

THE PERSIAN EMPIRE ABOUT 500 B.C.



PERSIAN EVENTS

- 550 B.C. Cyrus the Great and the Persians overthrow the Median Empire. Cyrus united Lydia with the Greek colonies in Ionia, and started the Persian (Achaemenid) Empire.
- 530 B.C. Babylon was conquered.
- 520 B.C. Cyrus the Great was killed in campaign in Central Asia.
- 505 B.C. Egypt was conquered by Cambyses, Cyrus' son.
- 500 B.C. Darius I inherited power in a civil war.
- 510-480 B.C. Persians conquered into the Indian valley and Black Sea regions.
- 490 B.C. The Persian (Achaemenid) Empire reached its peak.
- 480 B.C. Persian Army was defeated by Athenian Greeks at Marathon.
- 480 B.C. Persian (Greek) navy fleet was defeated by Greeks at Salamis.
- 479 B.C. Persian Army was decisively defeated by Greeks at Plataea and was forced back to Europe.