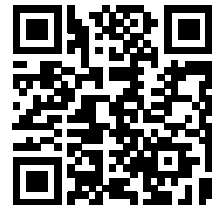


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# Ancient Middle Eastern Trade Routes



Thousands of years ago, the \_\_\_\_\_ was the center of the world's earliest civilizations. The Euphrates and \_\_\_\_\_ rivers created fertile lands that supported the growth of societies. In these lands, the invention of \_\_\_\_\_ allowed for the development of complex trade systems.

Trade \_\_\_\_\_ connected various regions, enabling the exchange of goods like spices, metals, and textiles. \_\_\_\_\_ traversed deserts, bearing goods between cities and empires. The \_\_\_\_\_, known for their innovation, played a significant role in shaping trade networks. They exchanged \_\_\_\_\_ for materials not available in their region. The \_\_\_\_\_, skilled sailors, expanded trade across the Mediterranean Sea, bringing with them purple dye and fine \_\_\_\_\_. Markets in ancient cities buzzed with merchants from distant lands, showcasing the era's \_\_\_\_\_. Trade agreements were sealed with clay tablets, illustrating the importance of contracts. These \_\_\_\_\_ not only boosted economies but also fostered cultural exchanges, spreading ideas and technologies. The \_\_\_\_\_, although more associated with later periods, had its early roots in these networks, highlighting the enduring \_\_\_\_\_ of Middle Eastern trade.

**crops** **Tigris** **wood** **legacy** **interactions** **routes** **Silk Road** **writing**  
**Middle East** **globalization** **Sumerians** **Caravans** **Phoenicians**