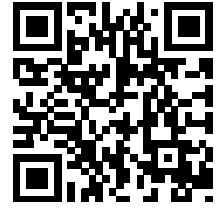


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Ancient Sumer and Its Legacy



In ancient times, the _____ played a crucial role in the development of human _____. This society flourished in what is now known as Southern Iraq, by the banks of the _____ and Tigris rivers, around 4500 BCE. They are celebrated for creating one of the world's first _____, Uruk, which was a hub for trade, culture, and innovation. The invention of _____ writing by the Sumerians marked a significant leap forward in human history, enabling the recording of _____, trade transactions, and literature. This writing system was initially developed for keeping track of _____ and goods.

The Sumerians were also pioneers in the field of _____. They developed irrigation techniques that transformed the arid landscape into a fertile agricultural _____, which supported their growing population and economy. In terms of _____, they established a city-state system where each city was ruled by a _____ who was believed to be divinely chosen.

Their architectural achievements include the construction of _____, massive terraced structures that served as temples to the gods. These monumental _____ demonstrate the Sumerians' advanced engineering skills and their deep religious _____.

Moreover, the Sumerian civilization made significant contributions to _____, particularly in the development of a base 60, or sexagesimal, number system. This _____ is still used today to measure time and angles.

Despite their many _____, the Sumerian civilization eventually declined around 2000 BCE, due to a combination of internal strife and external _____.

However, their innovations, particularly in writing, agriculture, and law, laid the _____ for future civilizations in the region and significantly influenced human _____.

- | | | | | | | | |
|-----------|--------------|------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|---------|-----------|
| devotion | invasions | heartland | system | ziggurats | cities | history | buildings |
| Sumerians | civilization | crops | cuneiform | agriculture | mathematics | king | |
| Euphrates | foundation | governance | achievements | laws | | | |