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## Early Middle Eastern Cultures



The Ancient Middle East, often referred to as the \_\_\_\_\_ of Civilization, played a pivotal role in the development of human history. This region was where the first cities like \_\_\_\_\_ and Ur emerged, laying the foundations for urban living. It was here that the \_\_\_\_\_ was invented, revolutionizing transportation and agriculture. The concept of \_\_\_\_\_ also originated in this area, with the creation of cuneiform in Sumer. These societies were governed by complex \_\_\_\_\_, exemplified by the Code of Hammurabi. Agriculture flourished thanks to the \_\_\_\_\_ systems that harnessed the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers. The \_\_\_\_\_, a massive temple structure, stood at the center of these cities, showing the importance of religion in daily life. Mathematics and \_\_\_\_\_ were greatly advanced by Middle Eastern scholars, laying the groundwork for future scientific \_\_\_\_\_. Trade routes established by these early civilizations helped in the exchange of \_\_\_\_\_, ideas, and culture across vast distances. Metals like \_\_\_\_\_ were first utilized here, leading to significant advancements in tools and \_\_\_\_\_. This region's contribution to the arts can be seen in their detailed \_\_\_\_\_ and intricate jewelry. Ultimately, the ancient Middle Eastern cultures set the stage for the \_\_\_\_\_ that followed, influencing societies around the globe.

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