**River Valley Civilizations**

**Anthropology— the study of culture**

**Culture— The way a group of people live. (Religion, language)**

**Archeology — the study of early people through the examination of their physical remains.**

**Artifact -- object made by human beings. (Studied by archeologists)**

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| **Civilization/****location** | **Economic conditions** | **Social conditions**  | **Political conditions** |
| **Sumerian****Civilization****3000 BCE****Mesopotamia-****Land between two rivers****Fertile Crescent****Tigris and Euphrates Rivers****Iraq --today** | **Mostly agricultural (farming)****Also traded with the use of the invention of the wheel.** | **Ziggurat—****Used for civic (city-state)****Pride and to honor the god or goddess of the city-state****Epic of Gilgamesh—****Search for immortality****Flood story****Creation of cuneiform****Writing system on clay with a special pen, stylus.****Pictograms used by scribes to keep records** | **Theocracy—government leaders were also religious leaders.****Kings had divine power** |
| **Babylonia--Mesopotamia** | **Agriculture** | **Patriarchal (family headed by the father)****But women were protected in some case by the Code of Hammurabi****Mesopotamian floods****were NOT PREDICTABLE****Made life more difficult.** | **Hammurabi gains control of Sumer.****Law code of 282 laws****Strict code of justice “eye for an eye”** |
| **Egypt****Nile River Valley** |  |  |  |
| **Indus River Valley****India** |  |  |  |
| **Yellow River Valley****China** |  |  |  |