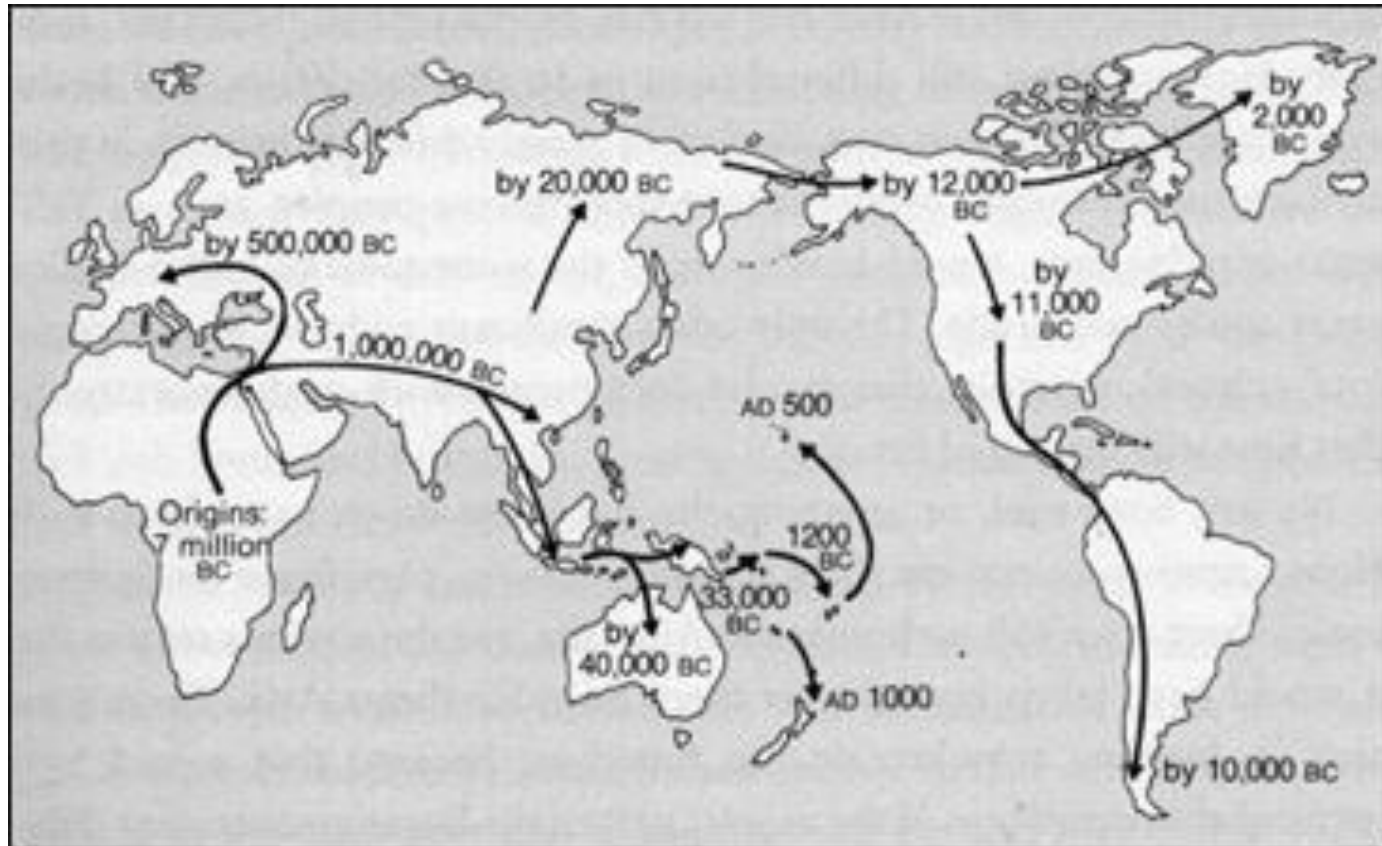




# UNIT 1: PART 1

Spread of Humanity- Mesopotamia

# From the starting line



# The Spread of Humanity

- 1 million BCE- migration out of Africa of hunter-gatherer societies
- 500,000 BCE- evidence of European nomadic societies
- 40,000 BCE- Indigenous peoples of Australia
- 20,000 BCE- migration into present-day China
- 12,000 BCE- Crossing of Beringia and spread of humanity across North and South America
- 500 CE- Hawaii is settled by Polynesian explorers
  - CE- Common Era/ BCE- Before Common Era/ AD- Anno Domini

# Unit 1 Terminology

- **Agricultural Revolution:** A process which occurred globally in which hunter-gatherers (foragers) transitioned from foraging to cultivating and domesticating crops.
- **Beringia:** A land bridge between Siberia and Alaska, which existed during the last Ice Age and allowed for peoples to migrate into the America's
- **Cuneiform:** An ancient writing system of Mesopotamia, Persia, and Ugarit, which survives today as impressions on clay tablets.
- **Domestication:** the process of adapting wild plants and animals for human use. Choosing the biggest, tastiest and easiest to plant in order to breed more.

# Unit 1 Terminology Continued

- **Nomad:** An individual who roams and migrates looking for better pasture and living in different locations. Can be entire nomadic societies.
- **Hunter-Gatherer:** also called foraging culture, any group of people that depends primarily on wild foods for subsistence.
- **Old Stone Age (*Paleolithic*)-** From the beginning of humanity until about 12,000 years ago.
- **New Stone Age (*Neolithic*)-** Commenced about 12,000 years ago with the advent of farming and ended with the development of bronze tools.

# Unit 1 Terminology Continued

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- **Migration:** the movement by people from one place to another with the intention of settling temporarily or permanently in the new location
- **Matriarchy-** A society ruled by women
- **Patriarchy-** A society ruled by men

# Geographic Luck

- Some crops possess a higher nutritive value than others
  - Wheat and Barley found in the Fertile Crescent are more nutritious than roots and bananas found elsewhere
  - Can be stored longer and can allow for a caloric surplus
  - A caloric surplus allows for people to settle, domesticate, and create a more complex society

# 8 Features of Civilization

- Across all large, stratified societies in the world, archaeologists and historians have identified eight features which all of them possess.
  - Cities
  - Organized Governments
  - Complex Religions
  - Job Specialization
  - Social Classes
  - Arts and Architecture
  - Public Works
  - Writing



# Ancient Mesopotamia

- Oldest known civilization
- Cradle of Human Civilization
- This civilization arose in the valleys between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers
  - ▣ Meso: Between
  - ▣ Potomai: Rivers
- Some say this Fertile Crescent was the real Garden of Eden
- The region is now in modern-day Iraq



# Mesopotamia Today...



# Ancient Mesopotamia Continued...

- **Hanging Gardens-** were one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, and the only one whose location has not been definitely established
- **Ziggurats-** were massive structures built in the ancient Mesopotamian valley
- **Cuneiform-** This ancient form of wedge shaped symbols found in clay is the earliest known form of writing

