

# 8000 B.C.E. – 600 B.C.E.

## Snapshot

- Most people were nomadic hunter and gatherers
- Animism
- Some cultures in different regions learn seed cultivation and animal husbandry

## Key Events and Patterns

- First (Neolithic) Agricultural Revolution
- Early River Valley Civilizations – advanced, settled, urban cultures
- Irrigation key technology
- Metal tools and weapons developed
- Rise of cities and empires

## Continuities

- Early regional Cultural Hearths – diffusion/movement of material and non-material culture (ex. Northern China and Olmec Cultural Hearths)
- Irrigation based, advanced, settled, urban cultures
- Conflict between settled and nomadic (pastoral) cultures

## Changes

- Increased %of people living in settled cultures
- Increased population in advanced, settled urban cultures
- Decline in status of women, increased patriarchy in agricultural based societies