

THE MEDITERRANEAN AND MIDDLE EAST

2000-500 BCE

MIDDLE EAST

WESTERN ASIA AND EGYPT

COSMOPOLITAN MIDDLE EAST

- Iron Age
 - Use of iron instead of bronze for weapons and tools
 - Iron tools were harder and sharper than bronze ones
- Mesopotamia and Egypt subjected to many invaders and new peoples
 - Creation of a diversity of cultures

10000 BC	8000 BC	4500 BC	2300BC	1000 BC	700 BC	AD 50
← Mesolithic →		← Early-Neolithic - Late →		← Early-Bronze Age - Late →		← Iron Age →
← End of ice age →						← Roman →
Stone and flint tools found on the moor		Stone and flint tools found on the moor	irregular field systems	regular and extensive field systems (reaves)		
		← chambered tombs →	stone circles	stone rows & standing stones	round cairns and cists	hut circles
			← stone circles →	← stone rows & standing stones →	← round cairns and cists →	← hut circles →
				← round cairns and cists →	← hut circles →	← enclosures →
					← enclosures →	← hill fort →

STONE AGE

Palaeolithic (Old Stone Age) Begins 500,000 BC

Neolithic (New Stone Age) Begins 10,000 BC

The Stone Age lasted for a very long period of time! It stretches from the very beginnings of humanity three million years ago, to the farmers that lived a few thousand years ago. The reason it's called the Stone Age is because during this time, the people used tools made out of stone!

400,000 BC
The Old World ape in Britain. Early humans migrate into Britain from Europe. They walk over the land, as at the time Britain was connected to European land.

300,000 BC
Some now extinct animals lived in Britain during the animal kingdom. The mammoth, and giant beaver. There were also woolly rhinos.

130,000 BC
During the period people in Britain used wooden bows made out of stone. Such as the hand axe. The hand axe had been used for a long time, for digging and chipping wood.

130,000 BC
The early species of human was known as the Neanderthal. Neanderthals looked very similar to today's humans, but they did have different shaped heads.

25,000 BC
Britain and Europe were plunged into a long Ice Age. The temperature was extremely freezing. Glaciers moved and ice formed across much of the land, making it a difficult place to survive.

10,000 BC
After the Ice Age ends, the temperature in north Britain is warmer. Large groups of animals. Over time, large groups of animals. Over time, large groups of animals. Over time, large groups of animals.

8,000 BC
The first tools made of stone. Over time, tools and horses became more advanced. People chose the stones to make their tools because it was very strong, sharp and easy to find. The tools that people made provided more warmth and better shelter.

BRONZE AGE

Neolithic (New Stone Age) Begins 5,000 BC

5,000 BC **4,000 BC** **3,000 BC** **2,800 BC** **1,500 BC**

The Bronze Age was a period of time between the Stone Age and the Iron Age, when bronze was used widely to make tools, weapons and other implements. Bronze is made when copper is heated and mixed with tin, creating a stronger metal than copper.

4,500 BC - 3,500 BC
Before this period, people would move from place to place hunting and gathering wild plants. Over time, a new way of life was developed. Farming. People started planting crops and tending animals such as sheep, cows and pigs.

4,000 BC
Now that stone age people were farming, they started to settle down in communities with other families. Because there were more people, the houses were built on ground and wooden floors that housed their people. They were also made with stone walls, starting pottery items and even complex tools that were used for tasks such as carrying water, tending and farming.

3,000 BC
In a land where people were constantly moving around in search of food and shelter, settling down was a better and practical choice. They made an important way to carry simple and complex things.

2,800 BC
The prehistoric monument Stonehenge is erected, a huge structure that consisted of giant stones arranged in circles. It is believed that the stones were transported from 200 miles away. It is still not known what stonehenge was used for.

2,500 BC
A group of people migrated from Europe to Britain called the Beaker People. They had distinctive pottery bell-shaped drinking bowls. When they arrived they brought with them the knowledge of making bronze.

IRON AGE

1,250 BC **2,000 BC** **1,000 BC** **800 BC** **700 BC**

The Iron Age was the period of time after the Bronze Age. It is the third and last stage of the three-age system. It's named the Iron Age because people started using iron to make tools and weapons: this was a much stronger and reliable metal. We call the people that lived in Iron Age Britain 'Celts'.

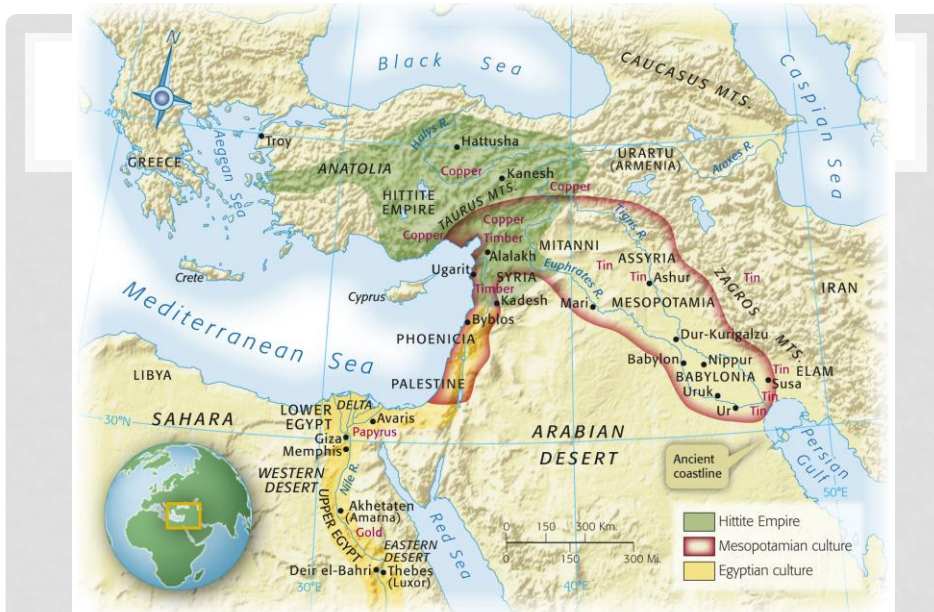
1,250 BC
A lot of bronze tools were a very important in human history. Bronze is made by heating copper and tin together in a furnace. The mixture is then poured into a mold. The mixture is then poured into a mold. The mixture is then poured into a mold.

2,250 BC
The houses of stone in the Bronze Age were the Roundhouses. This was a large round structure that had a conical roof. The houses were built on a hillside. The houses were built on a hillside. The houses were built on a hillside.

1,800 BC
People start mining for copper on a large industrial scale, digging deep beneath the earth's surface. They used one strong bronze pinbar to collect rocks containing copper (copper ore).

800 BC
The Celts were highly advanced warriors, made their own tools from bronze and iron. Celts were also very brave people. They were also very brave people. They were also very brave people.

700 BC
Celts made tools and weapons out of a metal called iron. Unlike bronze which is created, iron is melted into a shape for repeatedly melting and hammering, against an anvil. In large pieces of iron. The process is called working iron. It is much harder than bronze and needs a strong edge for larger, which is good for warriors!



Map 4.1: The Middle East in the Second Millennium B.C.E.

Although warfare was not uncommon, treaties, diplomatic missions, and correspondence in Akkadian cuneiform fostered cooperative relationships between states. All were tied together by extensive networks of exchange centering on the trade in metals, and peripheral regions, such as Nubia and the Aegean Sea, were drawn into the web of commerce.

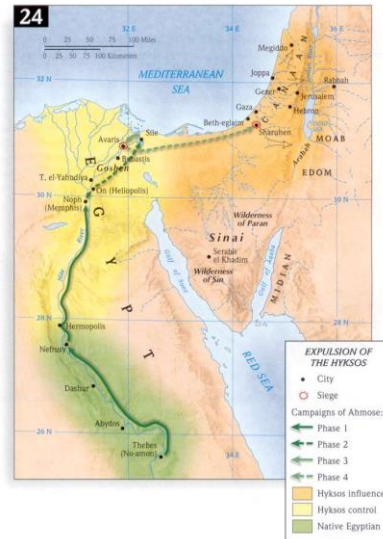
WESTERN ASIA

- Mesopotamia
 - Divided in half by 1500 BCE
 - Babylonia (south - orange)
 - Assyria (north - purple)
- Hittites
 - State that emerged on the outskirts of Mesopotamia
 - Became THE power in Anatolia (Turkey - green)
 - Horse drawn chariots used in warfare
 - First developed iron working for tools/weapons



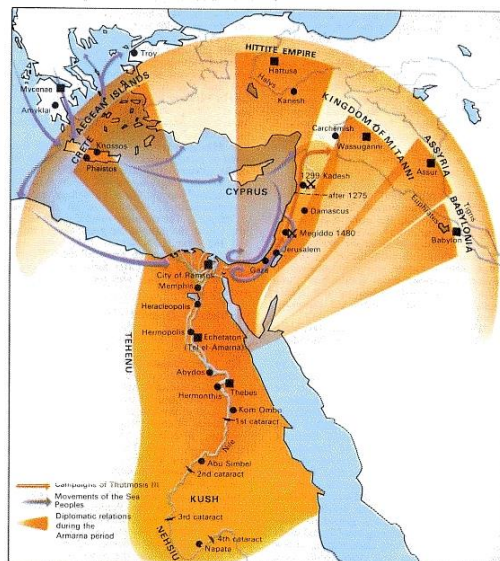
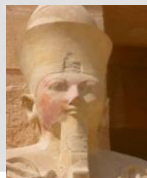
EGYPT

- Hyksos conquered Egypt in 1640 BCE
 - Introduced hors drawn chariots, composite bow
 - Expelled in 1532 after 30 years of war



NEW KINGDOM EGYPT

- New Kingdom (1532-1070 BCE)
 - Expanded territory into Palestine and Nubia
- Hatshepsut
 - Only female ruler of the New Kingdom
 - Successful expeditions for luxury items
 - After death, all references to Hatshepsut were eliminated





The Mortuary Temple of Queen Hatshepsut at Deir el-Bahri, Egypt, ca. 1460 B.C.E.

This beautiful complex of terraces, ramps, and colonnades featured relief sculptures and texts commemorating the famous expedition to Punt. Hatshepsut, facing resistance from traditionalists opposed to a woman ruling Egypt, sought to prove her worth by publicizing the opening of direct contact with the source of highly prized myrrh.



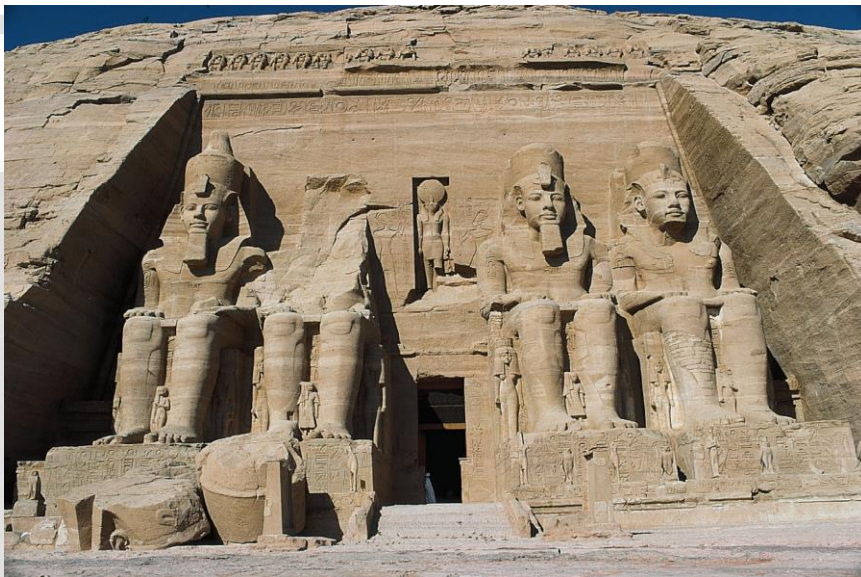
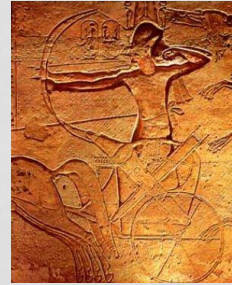
OTHER RULERS

Amenhotep

- "Inventor" of monotheism
 - Belief in one god
- Changed his name to Akhenaten
 - "Beneficial to Aten"
 - Aten: sun god
- Closed temples to other gods (including main god Amon)
 - Made priests mad
- Moved capital of Egypt to Amarna
- After his death, temples to other gods opened and Amon re-instated as main god of Egypt

Ramesses II

- Ruled for 66 yrs (1290-1224 BCE)
- Monumental building projects
- War with Hittites over control of Syria/Palestine and trade routes



Colossal Statues of Ramesses II at Abu Simbel.

Strategically placed at a bend in the Nile River so as to face the southern frontier, this monument was an advertisement of Egyptian power. A temple was carved into the cliff behind the gigantic statues of the pharaoh. Within the temple, a corridor decorated with reliefs of military victories leads to an inner shrine containing images of the divine ruler seated alongside three of the major gods. In a modern marvel of engineering, the monument was moved to higher ground in the 1960s C.E. to protect it from rising waters when a dam was constructed.

NEW MODES OF TRANSPORTATION

- Allowed for more trade and better communication
- **Horses**
 - Domesticated in Central Asia
 - 2000 BCE: Mesopotamia
 - 1600 BCE: Egypt
 - Helped create large states/empires due to ability to travel quickly
 - Allowed for horse drawn chariots and
- **Camels**
 - 1500 BCE: Western Asia
 - Travel long distances without water
 - Led to emergence of desert trade routes



AEGEAN WORLD

MINOAN CRETE AND MYCENAEAN GREECE

Minoan Crete



Mycenaean Greece



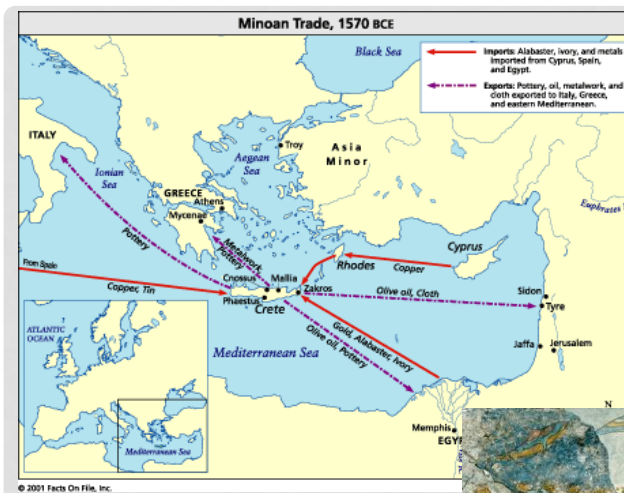
MINOAN CRETE

- First European civilization with complex political and social structures
- Un-deciphered writing
- Wide spread trade documented by discovery of Minoan artifacts around the Middle East and Mediterranean
- Colorful frescoes



MYCENAEAN GREECE

- Probable conquerors of Minoan Crete, 1450BCE
 - Influenced by art and architecture of Crete
- Linear B
 - Mycenaean writing
 - Uses pictorial signs
 - Tablets detail economy but not historical events or figures
- From mythical beginnings (*Illiad*, *Odyssey*) to architectural evidence
- Long distance trade
 - By sea
 - Depended on wind
 - Sail during daylight hours
 - Keep shore within sight
 - Land at night





THE FALL OF LATE BRONZE AGE CIVILIZATIONS

- Destruction of Old Centers of Civilization in the Middle East
 - Sea Peoples? Earthquake storms? Other Invaders?
- Unknown invaders destroy Hittites, Syria.
- The Egyptians battled invasions from the sea in the north and lost control of Nubia in South
- Mycenaean civilization fell due to combo of internal decline and external aggression

**Collapse of Mycenaean civilization demonstrates the degree of interdependence in Late Bronze Age: trade networks = natural resources, metals.

**When this world collapsed, the Mediterranean and Middle East entered a "Dark Age" – a period of poverty, isolation, and loss of knowledge.

(NEO) ASSYRIAN EMPIRE

911-612 BCE



Map 4.3: The Assyrian Empire.

From the tenth to the seventh century B.C.E. the Assyrians of northern Mesopotamia created the largest empire the world had yet seen, extending from the Iranian Plateau to the eastern shore of the Mediterranean and containing a diverse array of peoples.

Map 4-3, p. 93

NEO-ASSYRIAN EMPIRE

- Homeland in northern Mesopotamia
- Stretched from Anatolia, Palestine, and Egypt to Mesopotamia and Iran
- Larger empire than anyone had ever seen



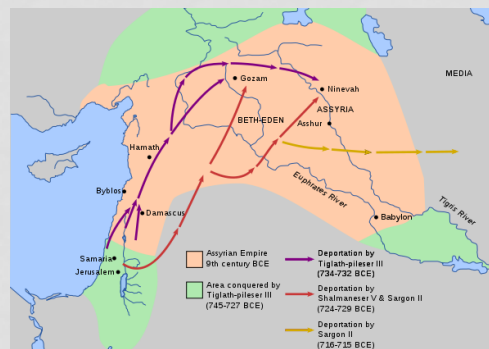
RELIGION AND POLITICS

- King was the center of the Assyrian world
 - Chosen by the gods to represent them on Earth
- Kings' decisions had to be approved by the gods through divination
- Superior military
 - Professional soldiers
 - ½ million soldiers could be mobilized at a time
 - Bowmen, cavalry, spearmen, 4-man chariots
 - Iron weapons
 - Battering rams, signal fires, spies



61 A Bull-headed Lamasu
From the facade gate of Babylon, sixth century B.C.

- Mass deportation
 - Forced move of entire communities/peoples, esp Israelites
 - Up to 4 million people displaced during the empire
 - Deportees worked estates of the elite
- Empire funded by the spoils of war
- Size of the empire made it hard to control administratively
 - Tight control near the capital and loose control on the edges of the empire





ISRAEL

2000-500 BCE

ISRAEL

- Historical information comes from archaeological digs and the Hebrew Bible (Old Testament)
- Abraham rejects the idol worship of his home and leaves to follow Yahweh
 - His descendants (Isaac, Jacob) become leaders of the nomadic group that would become Israel
- Famine and drought cause the Israelites to move to Egypt
 - Eventually enslaved and forced to work on royal building projects
 - New Kingdom projects??
- Led out of Egypt by Moses
- Eventually led by Joshua into the Promised Land of Canaan (modern Palestine)

KINGS

- Saul (c 1020-1000 BCE)
 - First king of Israel
 - Anointed by Samuel
- David (c 1000-960 BCE)
 - Unified Israel
 - Created taxes, standing army
 - Expanded Israel's borders
- Solomon (c 960-920 BCE)
 - Height of Israelite monarchy
 - Foreign trade
 - First Temple
 - Created elite priest class






"Solomon Making A Sacrifice To The Idols"
By Sébastien Bourdon (1616-1671)

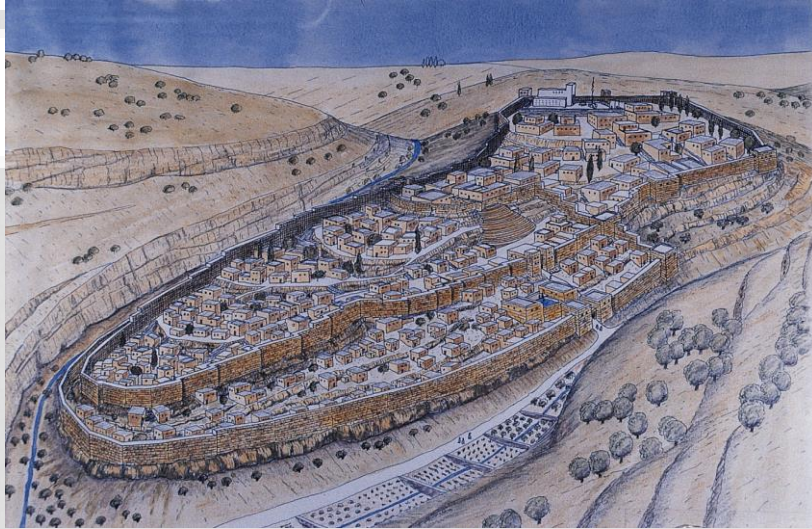
THE THREE KINGS

Israel Demands a King
"Behold, thou art old, and thy sons walk not in thy ways: now make us a king to judge us like all the nations"
1 Samuel 8: 4-5

The United Kingdom

(40 Years Each King)

Saul	David	Solomon
		
- Tribe of Benjamin 1 Samuel 9:1	- Shepherd Boy 1 Samuel 16:11	- God gives Wisdom 1 Kings 3
- Head & Shoulders above Other Men 1 Samuel 9:2	- Slays Giant 1 Samuel 17	- Builds Temple 1 Kings 6
- Rejected by God 1 Samuel 16:14	- Man after God's Heart Acts 13:22	



Artist's Rendering of Solomon's Jerusalem.

Strategically located in the middle of lands occupied by the Israelite tribes and on a high plateau overlooking the central hills and the Judean desert, Jerusalem was captured around 1000 B.C.E. by King David, who made it his capital (the City of David is at left, the citadel and palace complex at center). The next king, Solomon, built the First Temple to serve as the center of worship of the Israelite god, Yahweh. Solomon's Temple (at upper right) was destroyed during the Neo-Babylonian sack of the city in 587 B.C.E. The modest structure soon built to take its place was replaced by the magnificent Second Temple, erected by King Herod in the last decades of the first century B.C.E. and destroyed by the Romans in 70 C.E.

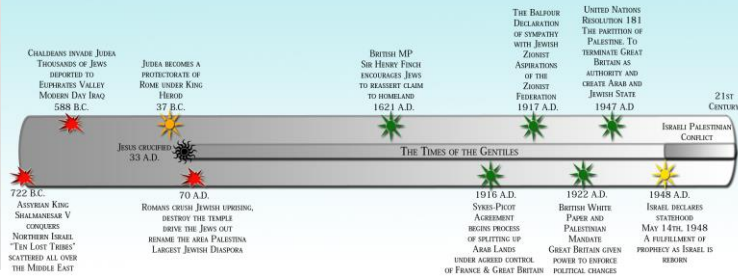
ISRAEL AND JUDAH

- Solomon's death splits Israel in two
 - Israel (north)
 - Judah (south)
- Israel destroyed by Assyrians in 721 BCE
 - Population is deported to the east and Persia
 - "Diaspora" dispersion outside the homeland of the Jews
 - Given the chance to return under the rule of Persian king Cyrus, but many decide to stay
- Solomon's Temple destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar in 587 BCE with the capture of Jerusalem
 - Some Diasporic communities eventually return to Judah and rebuild the temple





THE JEWISH DIASPORA AND RESTORATION 722 B.C. - 21ST CENTURY



Map 4.4: Phoenicia and Israel.

The lands along the eastern shore of the Mediterranean Sea—sometimes called the Levant or Syria-Palestine—have always been a crossroads, traversed by migrants, nomads, merchants, and armies moving between Egypt, Arabia, Mesopotamia, and Anatolia.

PHOENICIA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

PHOENICIANS

- Mediterranean coast
- Referred to themselves as Can'an
 - (Canaanites-see Israel)
- 1200 BCE: Canaanite settlements destroyed
 - Remaining city-states: Byblos, Berytus, Sidon, Tyre
 - 1000 BCE: Byblos = most important
 - Cedar distribution center
 - 969 BCE: Tyre replaces Byblos as dominant city-state
 - Alliance with Solomon – materials for Temple
- Began emphasis on trade of woods, metals, food, and luxury goods (including purple cloth from Tyre)
- Developed a 24 consonant "alphabet" from early Canaanite script



PHOENICIAN COLONIES

- 900 BCE: Tyre begins expanding it's territory
 - Cyprus
- More known about colonies than Phoenician homeland
- Phoenician triangle
 - Libya and Morocco
 - Spain (Iberia)
 - Strait of Gibraltar
 - Sardinia, Sicily, Malta
- Trading network across entire Mediterranean





Map 4.5: Colonization of the Mediterranean.

In the ninth century B.C.E., the Phoenicians of Lebanon began to explore and colonize parts of the western Mediterranean, including the coast of North Africa, southern and eastern Spain, and the islands of Sicily and Sardinia. The Phoenicians were primarily interested in access to valuable raw materials and trading opportunities.

Map 4-5, p. 105

CARTHAGE

- Modern day Tunisia
- Inner and outer harbor
 - Inner: 220 warships
 - Outer: merchant ships
- 22 mile long wall that circled the entire city
- 400,000 population
 - One of largest cities in the world by 500 BCE
- Navy
 - Military power of Carthage
 - Galleys
 - Propelled by rows of oars
 - Up to 170 rowers
- Evidence of trade with Sub-Saharan Africa
- Child Sacrifice



The Tophet of Carthage.

Here, from the seventh to second centuries B.C.E., the cremated bodies of sacrificed children were buried. Archaeological excavation has confirmed the claim in ancient sources that the Carthaginians sacrificed children to their gods at times of crisis. Stone markers, decorated with magical signs and symbols of divinities as well as family names, were placed over ceramic urns containing the ashes and charred bones of one or more infants or, occasionally, older children.

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