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Agriculture
developed around
10,000 BCE

widespread
by 8000 BCE

The river valleys were unique for the development of civilizations because they provided food sources and the ability to support an agriculturally based economy. Along the Tigris and Euphrates river valleys, communities began to emerge around 4000-3000 BCE. Author Susan Pollock (1999) explains that this region and period of time are often referred to as the cradle of civilization as the settlement was secured through agriculture which allowed for social structures to develop without the necessity to migrate. In other words, it was now possible for the people to establish roots in a single location. Pollock adds that while many people continued to farm, other began to take on specialized job that were necessary to support the growing civilization. From these specialization the development of improve farming techniques emerged such as the plow, ^{and irrigation systems} Pollock states that this led to the ability to develop larger farms and an economy that stemmed from the amount of produce that was

Why?

available. Although this meant that the civilizations were prosperous, Pollock points out that there

When?

were many negative aspects of the culture that affected the people. For instance, with the need to build walls and permanent structures, as well as the desire to enjoy the arts, also came the exploitation of commoners and the establishment of a caste system

Sumerians based on the prosperity of the elite. As other civilizations emerged, the need for military strengthened the notion of identity alongside the religious and intellectual

Uruk founded structures. In other words, for each positive element of the growing civilizations, the culture also experienced negative elements. Within the balance of two sides, however, Pollock explains that these early civilization along the river valleys set the tone for ongoing innovation and agricultural developments as well as social structures including political, intellectual, and military foundations.

Needed a few more details and dates.

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Migrated
from North of
Greece
around 1800 BCE

The Mycenaen civilization was a highly militarized civilization that flourished during what is known as the Bronze age. According to Cartwright (2013) the civilization was influenced by the Minoan civilization through architecture and art as well as religious practices, but these influences were adapted to better represent the militarized traits of the Mycenaen civilization.

when?

Cartwright goes on to state that the civilization influenced other areas across Greece as well as in Crete and the Cycladic islands. As the Mycenaen civilization became more established ^{by 1400 BCE} and the influences that had been assimilated into the culture became more representative of the civilization, these goods and products were desired throughout the entirety of the Mediterranean. According to Cartwright this led to the Mycenaen civilization taking over trade routes after the fall of Minoans, establishing trade routes which resulted in the goods being discovered in modern items. However, it was not known exactly how dependent these other societies.

were on the Mycenaean civilization until its collapse which led to the dark ages.

According to Cartwright the greatest influences that the Mycenaean civilization had on the world can be discussed through this dependency. The civilization was strong in both naval venture and social structures making the representation of the civilization in other regions a form of exhibiting such strength. Eventually the Dorians took that perception of strength and modeled the militarization to the extent that they were able to take on the Mycenaean civilization.

Although natural disaster and drought are also considered part of the reason for the decline of the Mycenaean civilization, the Dorians' decision to migrate to the region can't be dismissed as the catalyst for this decline. However, Cartwright refers to this as a mysterious time period that can only be pieced together to form a general knowledge of the civilization that had such a strong influence across

when?

the Mediterranean.

Needed to expand a little more with
more details and dates

Trojan War