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Tender Heart High School, 6/5/24
Sector 33B, Chandigarh
Class VI

Subject:- History and Civics

Teacher:- Mili Bhatnagar

Chapter 3 The Mesopotamian Civilization (Continued)

Good Morning Students!

In the previous lecture we had studied about some aspects of the Mesopotamian Civilization. We will continue here with the art and architecture of this civilization.

A number of evidences of the artistic skills of the people of Mesopotamia could be seen in metalwork and seals. As stones were not easily available, here most of the architecture was there in sun-dried bricks, so little information is available. Arches, columns, vaults and domes were used in buildings. Ziggurats, temples, Ishtar gate, Hanging gardens of Babylon were important architectural works.

The Mesopotamian system of writing was called cuneiform. It was written on clay tablets from right to left. The writings relate to different aspects like trade, law and literature.

Science was quite developed in Mesopotamia. They had knowledge of astronomy and mathematics. Mesopotamians devised lunar calendar and could even predict eclipses. They used the number 60 as a unit.

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A number of achievements could be credited to Mesopotamians. They invented the first wheeled vehicle, perfected potter's wheel and also invented the art of metallurgy. They built dykes (long thick walls) to prevent floods. The first law code in history was also compiled by the Mesopotamians. The King of Babylon Hammurabi made a law code called 'Code of Hammurabi'. It contains details of different legal provisions dealing both with civil and criminal laws.

The Mesopotamian Civilization declined mainly due to invasion of Alexander's general, Seleucus Nicator. He founded Seleucia as a new capital.

MCQ.

5. Wedge-shaped characters 7. Mesopotamians.
6. 60

Fill in the blanks

3. Babylon.
4. reed or bone
5. Tin and Copper.