

The History of West Asia

1. The Ancient Oriental Civilization

(1) Egyptian civilization and Mesopotamian civilization

	Egypt	Mesopotamia
river	The Nile	The Tigris , The Euphrates.
topography	For the exclusive topography, an empire of a single race continued for a long time.	For the expansive topography, many races jumbled and followed complicated history. ※ 2
character	Hieroglyph deciphered by Champollion (1822 Rosetta Stone)	Cuneiform character deciphered by Rawlinson (1846 Behistun Inscription)
note medium	papyrus	clay tablet
calendar	solar calendar → Julian Calendar (Roman Empire) ※ 1	lunar calendar seven days of the week ※ 3
counting system	decimal	Sexagesimal
religion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Ra"---the sun God • "Amen"---the God of Thebe • Pyramid---Pharaoh's grave(?) • Mummy ---a preserved dead body for its soul's return • Book of the Dead ---papyrus document buried with a dead body for the wish of its soul's happiness • Amenhotep IV's "Reformation" the only one God "Aton" 	<p>Mesopotamia has various legendary stages of the Old Testament. (<i>Book of genesis</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God created the world in six days and was taken a rest on the seventh day. → ※ 3 • The Great Flood (Noah's Ark) (↑ <i>Epic of "Gilgamesh"</i>) • The Tower of Babel (=Babylon) → ※ 2

※ 1 In 1582, Julian Calendar was revised to be Gregory Calendar.