

Pick up the packet from the front –
This is tonight's reading

Quiz Tuesday

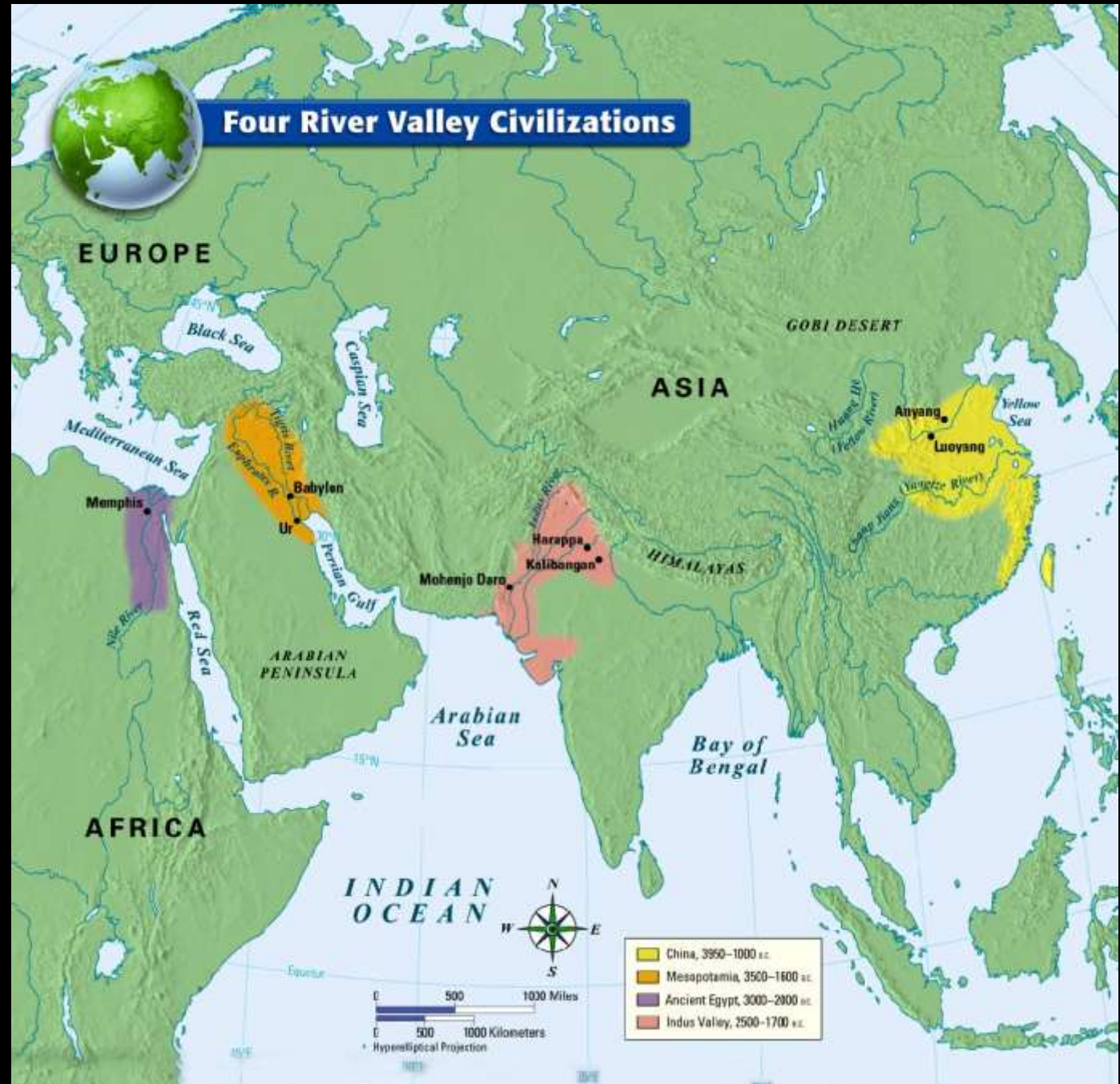
You have 50 minutes to work on essays and/or
read for tomorrow's quiz

Get going!

Unit 2

Ancient Near East and Egypt

Mesopotamia



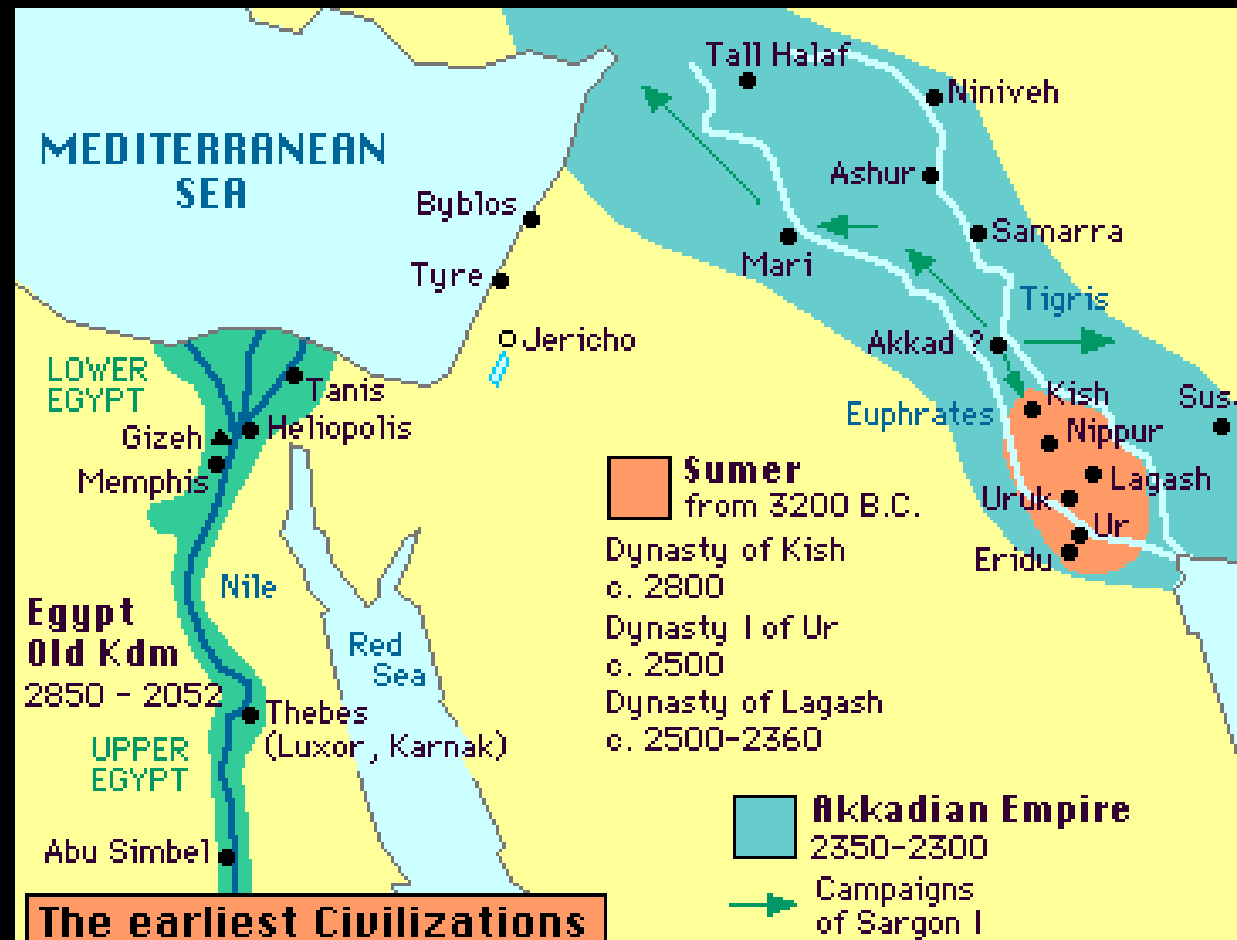
Ancient Mesopotamia



Mesopotamia: Environment as a Catalyst for Civilization

- Mesopotamia (land between rivers)
 - Harsh heat, drought; unpredictable floods
 - Few natural resources short of mud; no wood
 - No natural defensive areas such as hills
 - Area open to invasion by migrating nomads
- People in area must...
 - Provide permanent food supply
 - Regulate, provide permanent water supply
 - Provide defense against invaders
 - Acquire materials such as timber, minerals

Sumer



Cuneiform



- Uruk “ooh – rook” (modern Warka, Iraq), Sumerian. c. 3500–3000 B.C.E. Mud brick.



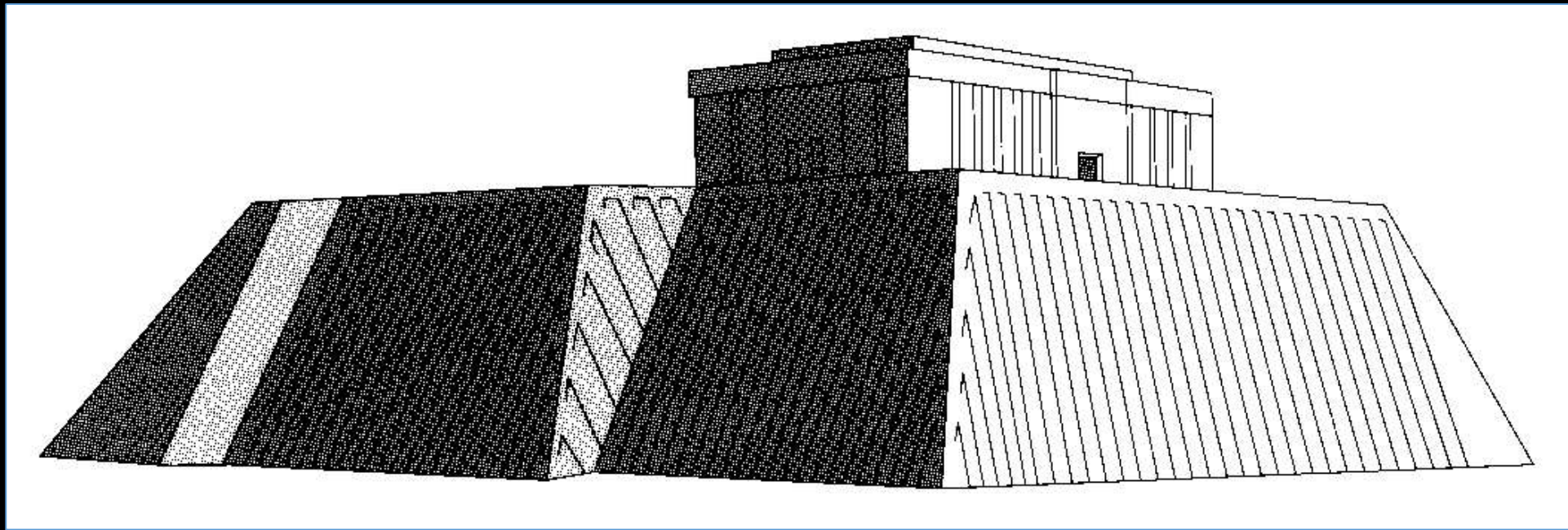
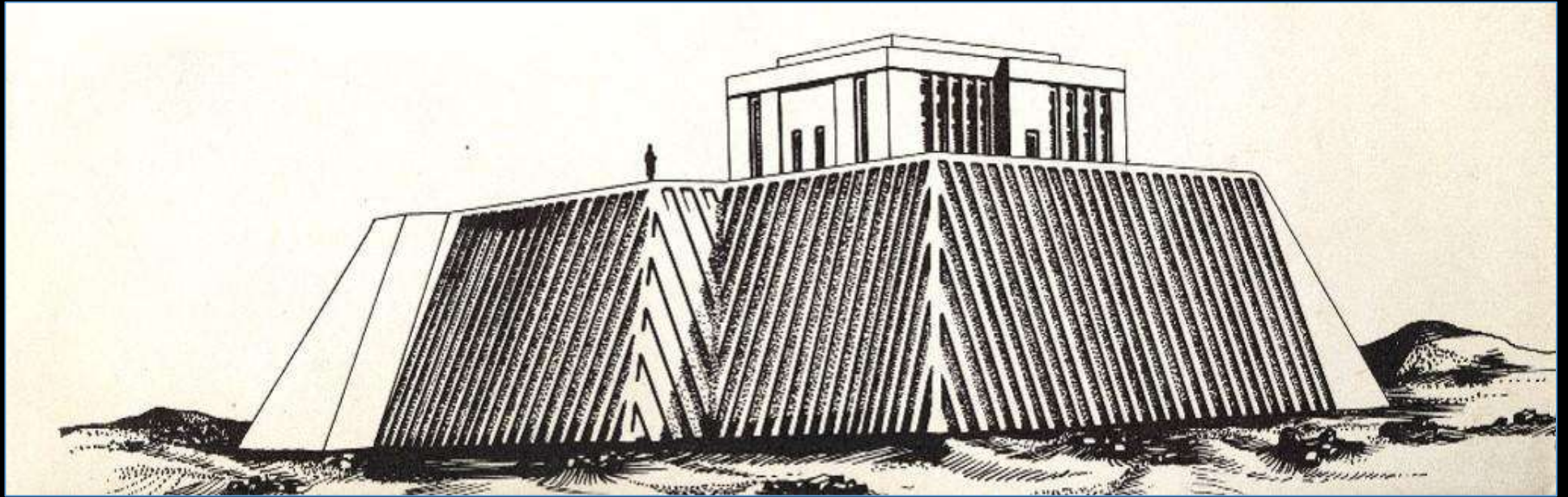
- Anu Ziggurat and temple – dedicated to Anu, a sky god
- Ziggurat = imitation mountain for gods
- Temple on top of the home of the deity
- Deity lives in the statue inside
- Bridges between the heavens and earth

- Reconstruction of another Ziggurat
- Citizens could see the temple and ziggurat but only a select few could enter it

Religious center, Government Administration, even Business Transactions



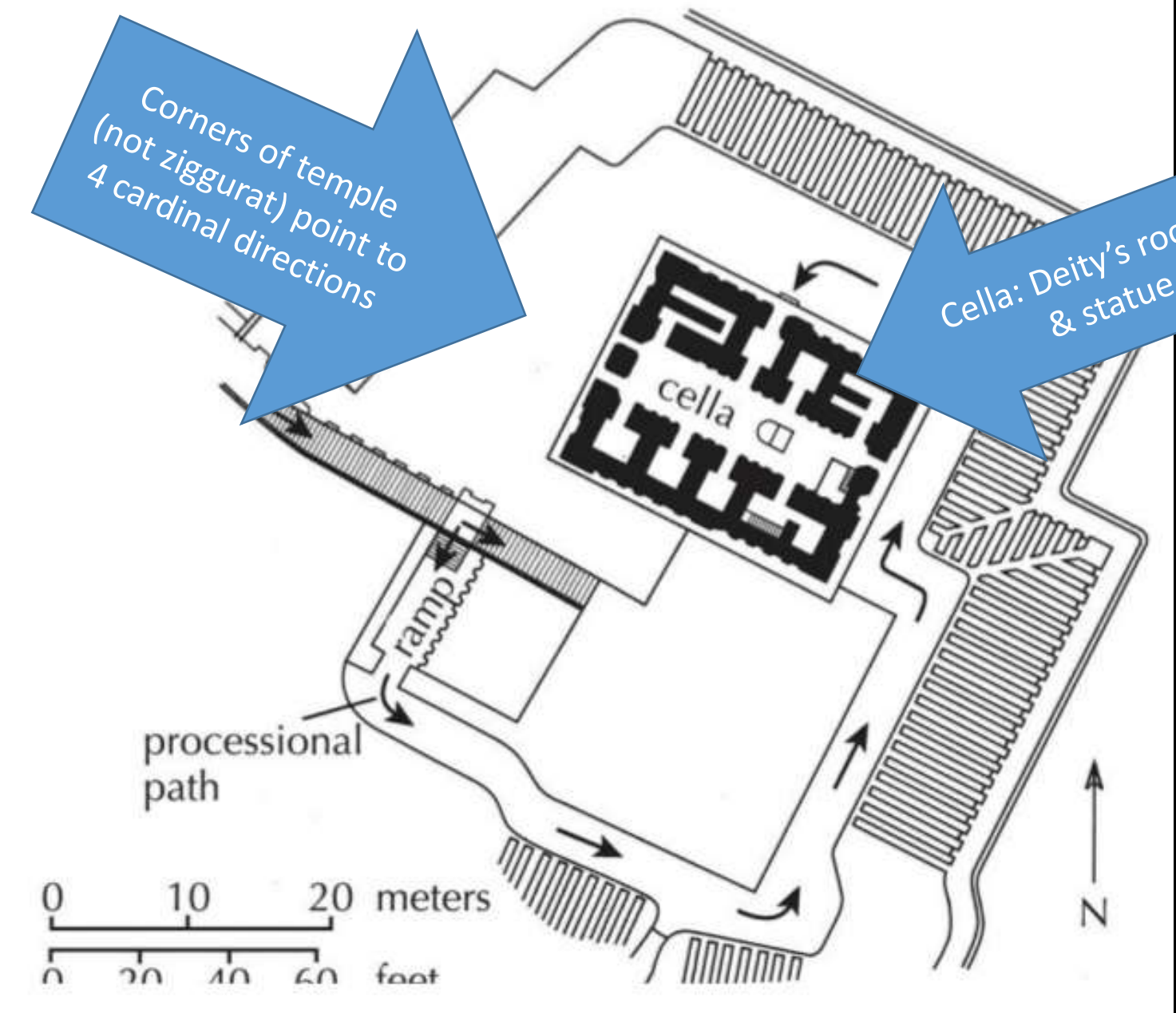
Theocracy: Ziggurat and temple symbolized religious and spiritual authority.





Corners of temple
(not ziggurat) point to
4 cardinal directions

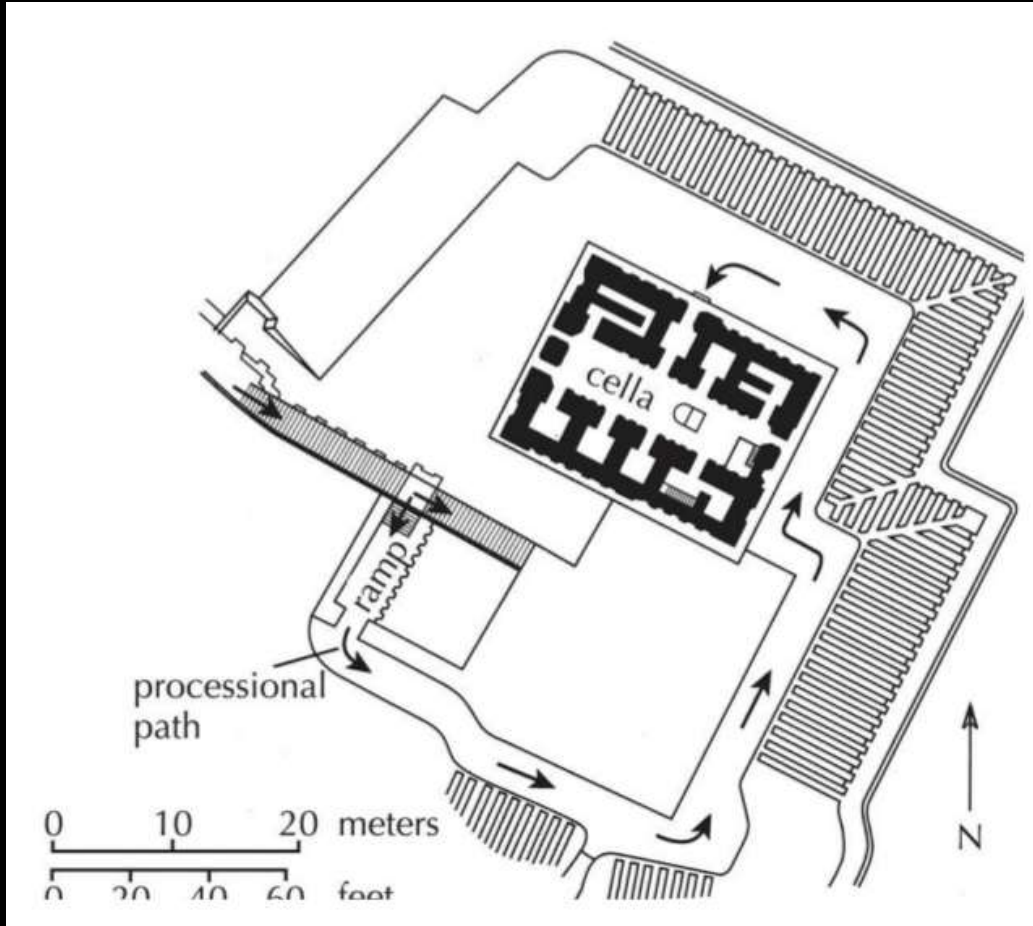
Cella: Deity's room, stepped altar
& statue of the deity



“Bent Axis” plan rather than
a linear plan – stairway to
the top does not end in
front of temple doors

Bent Axis Plan

Linear Plan





- Sumerian Votive Statuary
 - Represent Humans
 - Representations of worshipers
 - Record of offerings to gods
 - “Libations for the Gods”
 - Ritual pouring of liquid
 - The Eyes?
 - Possible reasons?



Standard of Ur (c. 2600 BCE)



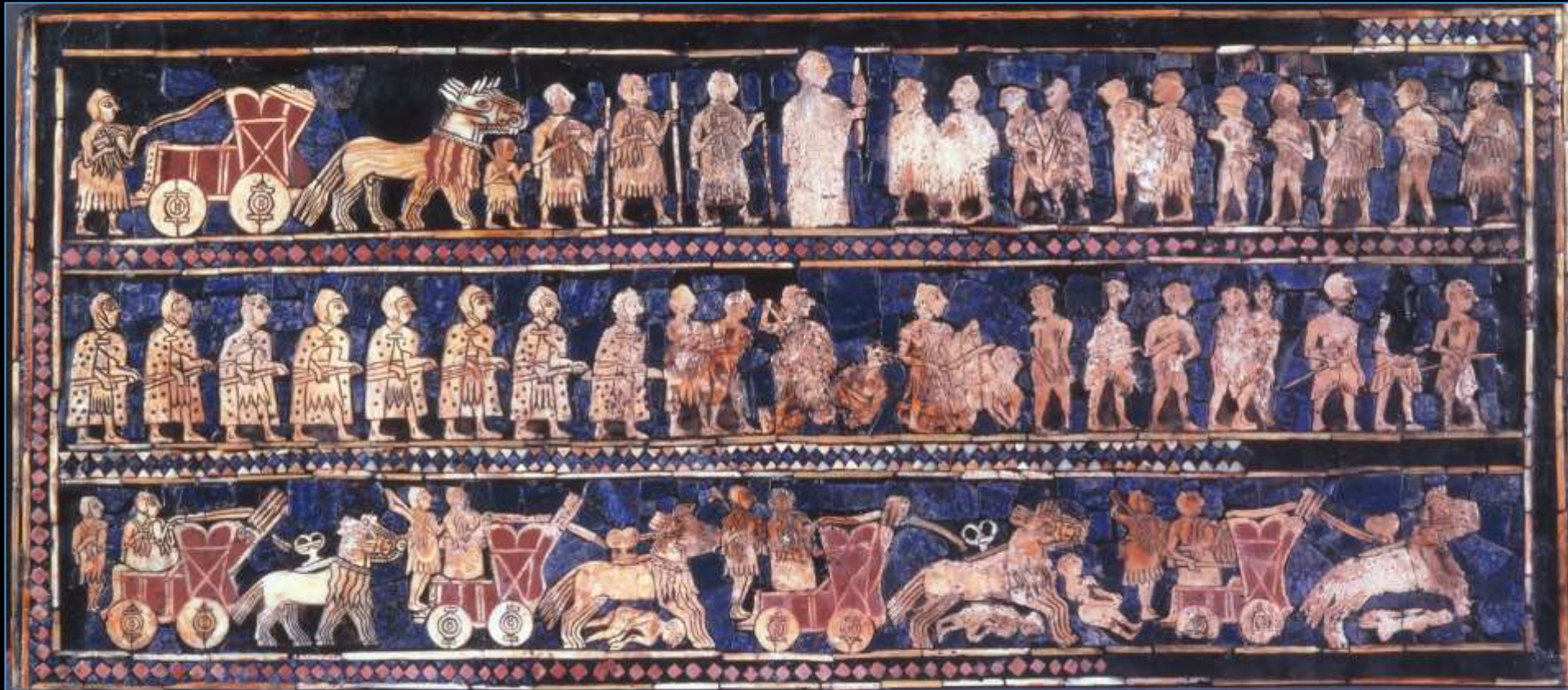


THE GOLDEN CHARIOT

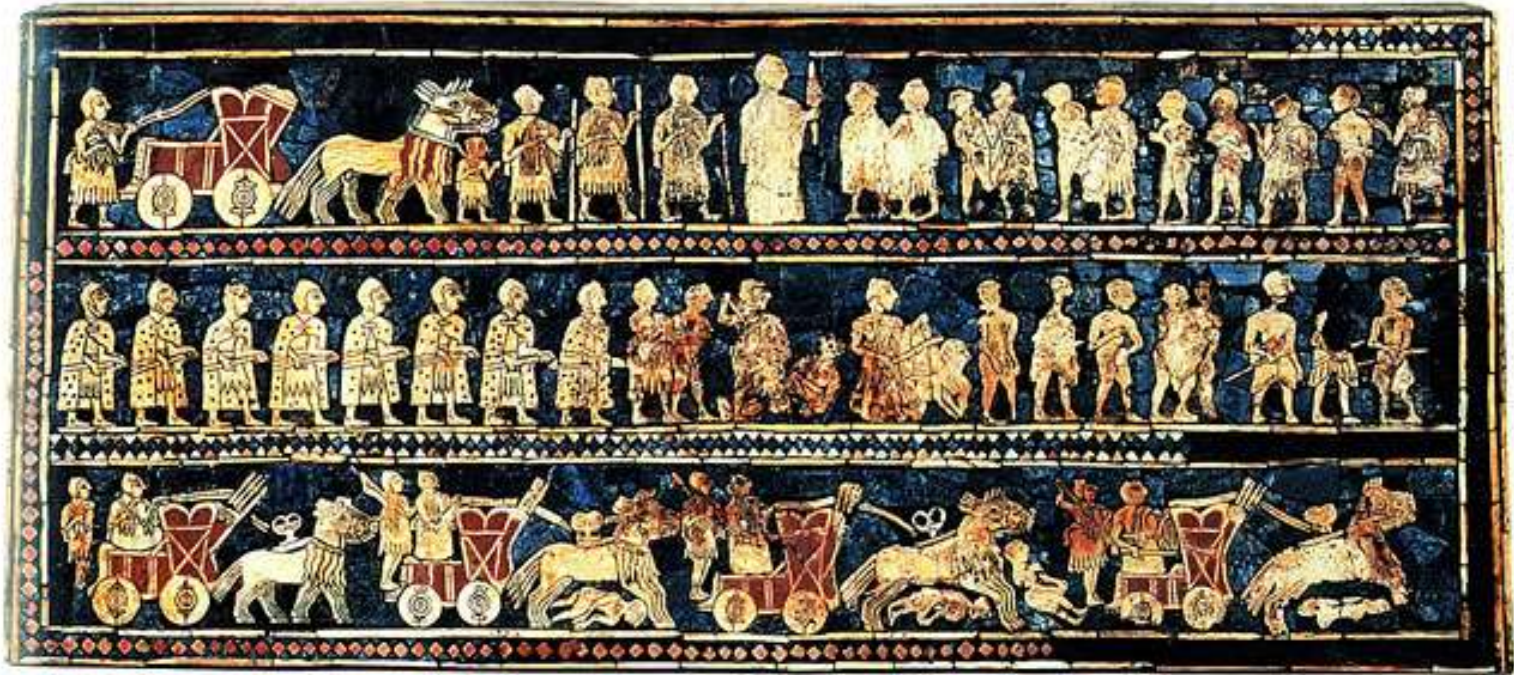
The golden chariot is a masterpiece of ancient Egyptian art, made of gold and inlaid with semi-precious stones. It is a representation of the sun god Ra, who is depicted as a falcon with a human face, wearing a sun disk and a uraeus. The chariot is pulled by four horses and carries the sun god and his children. The golden chariot is a symbol of power and divinity, and it is believed to have been used by the pharaohs in their chariot battles. The golden chariot is a masterpiece of ancient Egyptian art, made of gold and inlaid with semi-precious stones. It is a representation of the sun god Ra, who is depicted as a falcon with a human face, wearing a sun disk and a uraeus. The chariot is pulled by four horses and carries the sun god and his children. The golden chariot is a symbol of power and divinity, and it is believed to have been used by the pharaohs in their chariot battles.

Standard of Ur

- Shell, Limestone, Lapis Lazuli, Bitumen (Natural Asphalt)
- Found in a “royal” tomb



Evidence of
human
sacrifices to
the dead



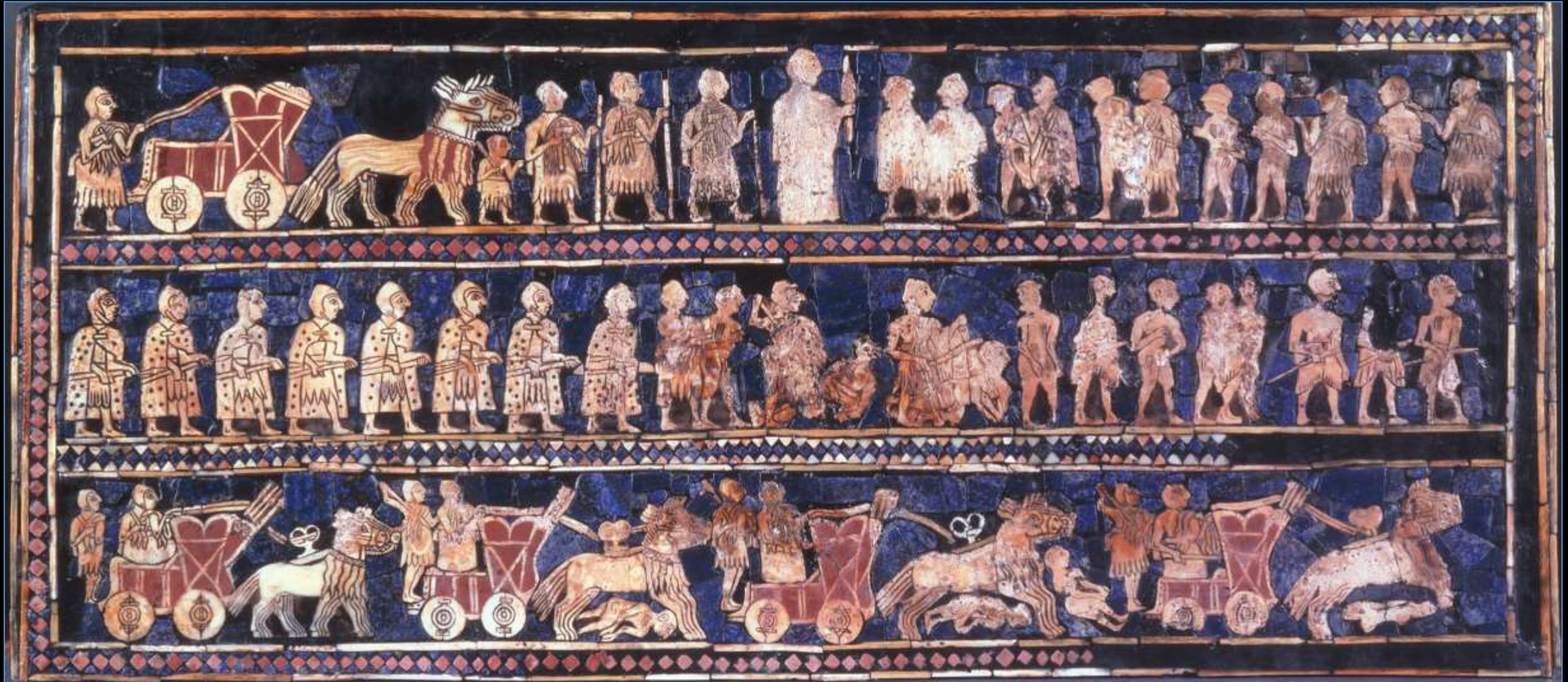
- Unknown function
- War side vs. Peace side
- War and aftermath?

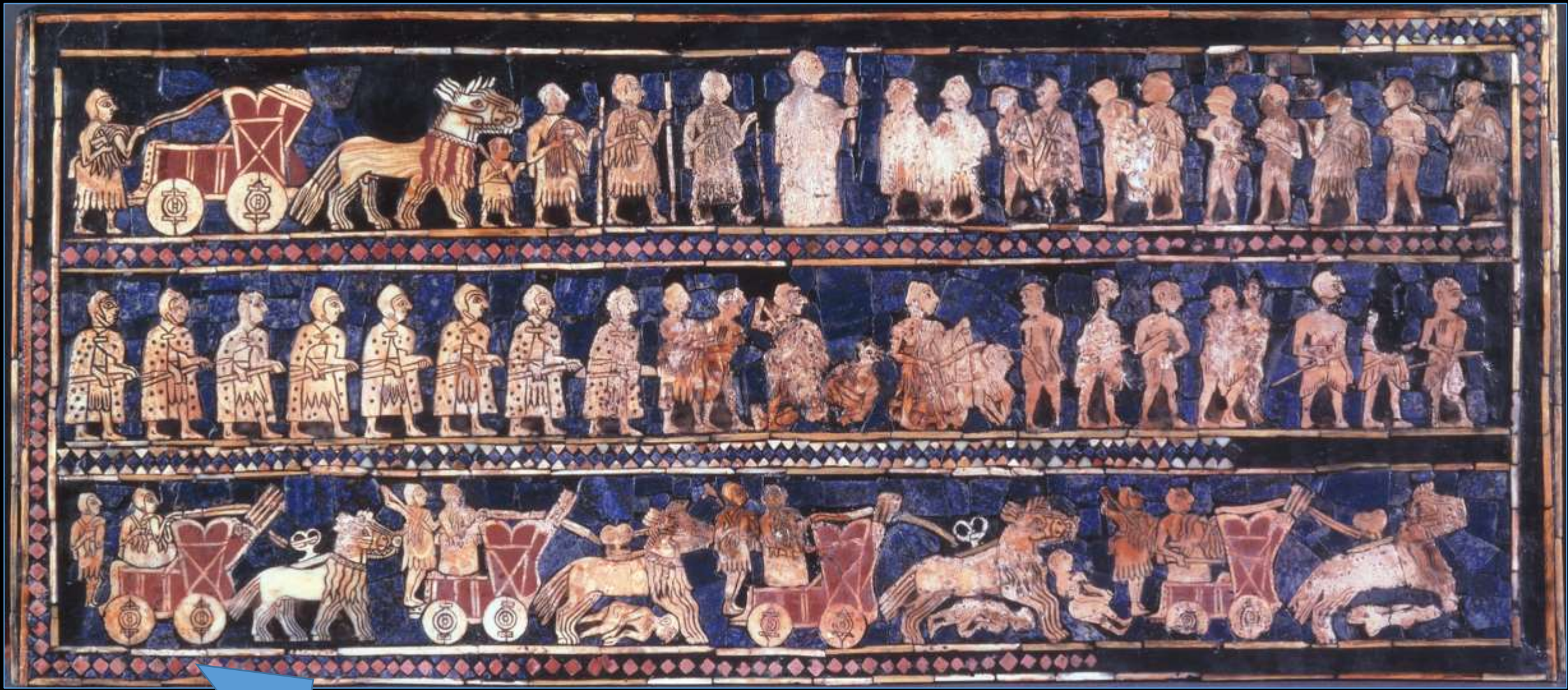


- No inscription – narrative only
- Hierarchical scale – larger figures = greater status

Early depiction of
Sumerian Army

Hierarchical
Proportions



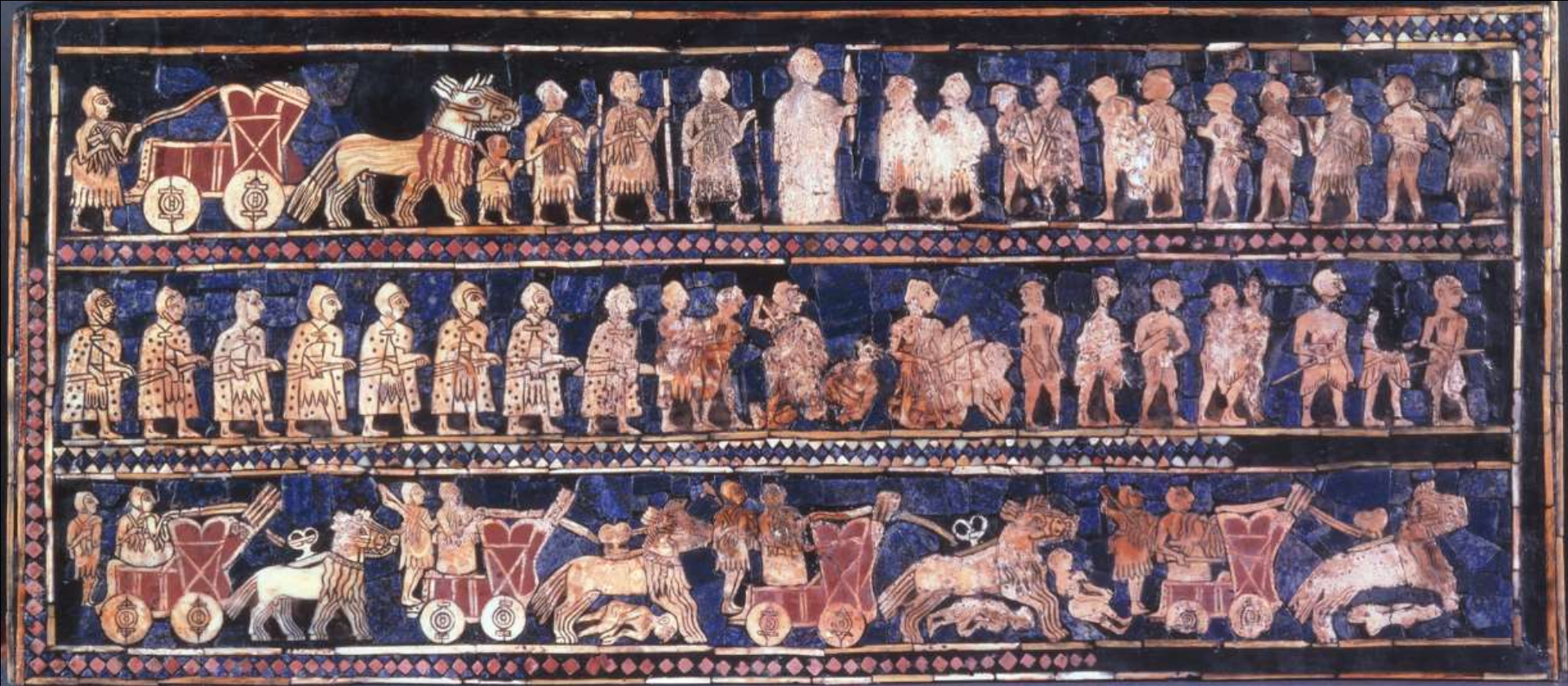


Overlapping Profiles

Horses seem to be running faster as the narrative progresses







[Standard of Ur, c. 2600-2400 B.C.E. 8:48](#)

- Law code and Stele of Hammurabi, Babylon, 1792-1750 BCE, Basalt
 - Stele – stone, rectangular with images
 - Function – Written law code
 - Public work – Text and images communicate to all people



Hierarchical Proportions?

Hammurabi is smaller but still powerful – receiving laws

Head raised and eye contact with the god

Shamash: solar deity, light over darkness and evil, judge of gods and men

Scepter and Ring =
Babylonian
symbols of
kingship



- Naram-Sin
 - Last Akkadian Ruler



- Victory Stele
 - Hierarchical Proportions
 - Other Examples of Stele



- Movement? Explain





- Augustus of Prima Porta.
 - Imperial Roman.
 - Early first century C.E.
 - Marble.







- Code of Hammurabi
 - Babylon (c. 1792-1750 BCE)
 - Basalt
 - Stele

Profile (side view) vs Twisted Perspective – combination of frontal and side view.



Twisted Perspective



Lamassu from the citadel of Sargon II, Dur Sharrukin (modern Khorsabad, Iraq). Neo-Assyrian. c. 720–705 B.C.E. Alabaster.









