

Ancient Near East

Ashmolean Museum

<http://www.ashmolean.org/departments/antiquities/about/ANEast/>

Human skull, eye sockets, cheeks and lower jaw originally made up with plaster and painted; cowrie shells placed over the eyes. c. 7300-6300, from Jericho.

Jericho, Palestine:

<http://sws.geonames.org/284899>

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jericho>

<http://www.israel-a-history-of.com/jericho-archaeology.html>

<http://www.liv.ac.uk/sace/garstang-museum/museumarchives/near-east.htm>

Pre-Pottery Neolithic:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pre-Pottery_Neolithic

Plastered skulls:

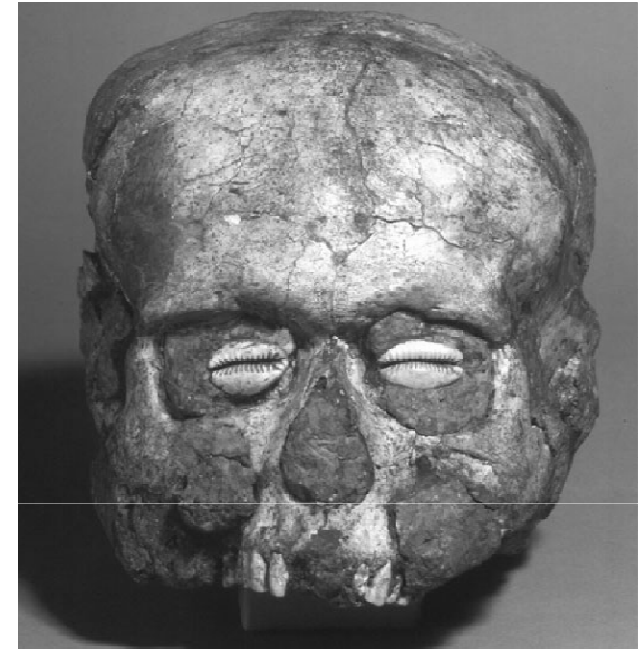
http://www.britishmuseum.org/explore/highlights/highlight_objects/me/p/plastered_skull.aspx

H: 15.2cm; W: 16.7cm; L: 22cm. Bone, clay, shell

Image: Ashmolean Picture Library (1955.565)

<http://www.ashmolean.org/services/picturelibrary>

ANET-11Prehistoric-Catalogue



Brick with impressions of thumbs and fingers, c. 7000-5550, from Jericho.

Jericho, Palestine:

<http://sws.geonames.org/284899>

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jericho>

<http://www.israel-a-history-of.com/jericho-archaeology.html>

<http://www.liv.ac.uk/sace/garstang-museum/museumarchives/near-east.htm>

Pre-Pottery Neolithic:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pre-Pottery_Neolithic

L: 40.5cm; W: 15.5cm. Clay

Image: Ashmolean Picture Library (AN1955.553a)

<http://www.ashmolean.org/services/picturelibrary>



Slab showing horned animals, c.
6500 - 6000, from Dhuweila.

Dhuweila, Jordan:

<http://www.istor.org/pss/124552>

http://findarticles.com/p/articles/mi_go2081/is_4_124/ai_n29153322/

Pre-Pottery Neolithic:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pre-Pottery_Neolithic

Petroglyphs:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Petroglyph>

L: 28cm;H: 19.5cm. Stone (basalt)

Image: Ashmolean Picture Library (AN1987.112)

<http://www.ashmolean.org/services/picturelibrary>



Blade (adze), c. 6000 from Wadi Ghazzeah.

Wadi Ghazzeah, Israel:

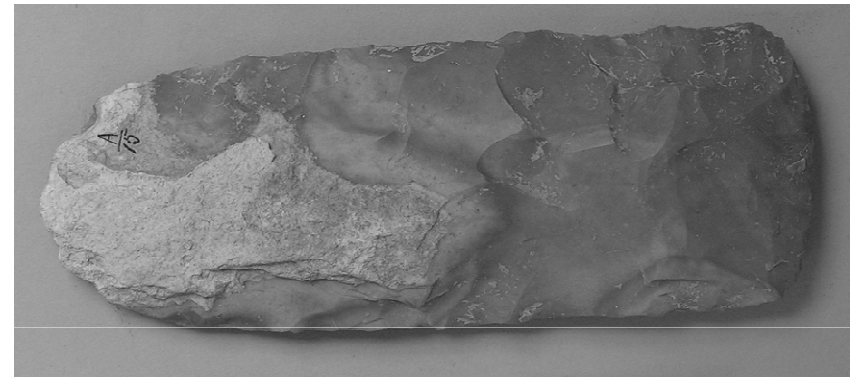
<http://discovery.ucl.ac.uk/1317597/>

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HaBesor_Stream

<http://mediterranee.revues.org/2252>

Pre-Pottery Neolithic:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pre-Pottery_Neolithic



L: 12cm; W: 3.5cm. Flint

Image: Ashmolean Picture Library (AN1930.421.d)

<http://www.ashmolean.org/services/picturelibrary>

Headless figure of a woman, 'Mother Goddess' type, c. 5500-5000 from Cukurkent, southeast of Catal Huyuk.

Cukurkent (Konya), Turkey:
<http://sws.geonames.org/317919>

Neolithic Anatolia:
<http://www.catalhoyuk.com/>
<http://www.ancientanatolia.com/historical/neolithic.htm>

'Mother Goddess':
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mother_goddess

H: 5.8cm. Clay
Image: Ashmolean Picture Library (AN1911.292)
<http://www.ashmolean.org/services/picturelibrary>



Thin-walled vessel decorated with chevron and diamond patterns, c. 4200-3800, from Susa.

Susa, Iran:

<http://sws.geonames.org/114593>

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Susa>

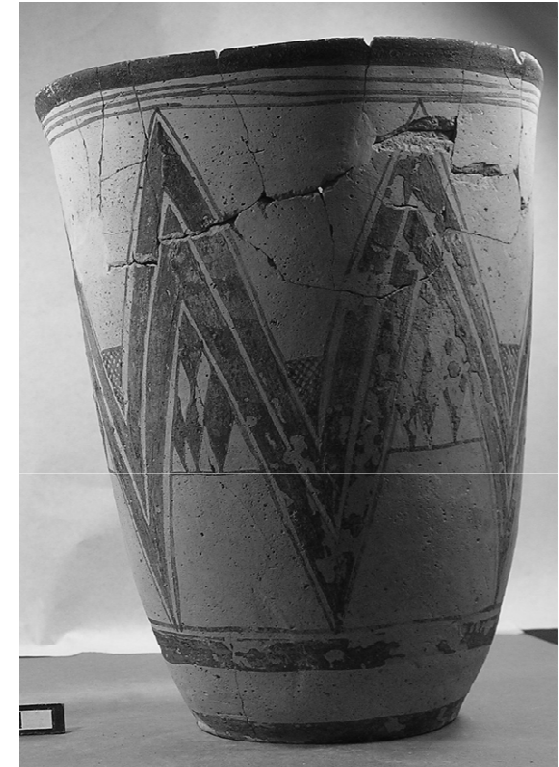
<http://oi.uchicago.edu/gallery/pa iran paai asf/>

<http://www.irantour.org/Iran/city/SUSA.html>

Proto-Elamite:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Proto-Elamite>

<http://cdli.ucla.edu/wiki/doku.php/proto-elamite>



H: 22cm; D: 16.9cm. Clay

Image: Ashmolean Picture Library (LI 1076.1)

<http://www.ashmolean.org/services/picturelibrary>

Bowl , from Geoy
Tepe, c. 3500-3000.

Geoy Tepe, 7 kms south of Urmia, Iran.
<http://sws.geonames.org/121801>

H: 9.7cm; D: 18.2. Clay
Image: Ashmolean Picture Library (1949.218)
<http://www.ashmolean.org/services/picturelibrary>

Squat jar, red-washed, polished, and decorated with patterns in black and red paint, c. 3200-2900, from Jemdet Nasr.

Jemdet Nasr, Iraq:

<http://sws.geonames.org/95275>

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jemdet_Nasr

Uruk period:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Uruk_period



H: 22cm; D: 14.9cm. Clay

Image: Ashmolean Picture Library (AN1927.211)

<http://www.ashmolean.org/services/picturelibrary>

Cuneiform tablet inscribed on both sides with an account of bread and beer, c. 3200-2900, from Jemdet Nasr.

Jemdet Nasr, Iraq:

<http://sws.geonames.org/95275>

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jemdet_Nasr

Uruk period:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Uruk_period

http://cdli.ucla.edu/wiki/doku.php/uruk_mod.warka

Cuneiform:

http://www.mesopotamia.co.uk/writing/home_set.html

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cuneiform>

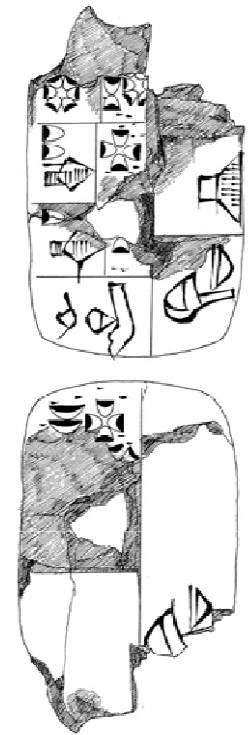
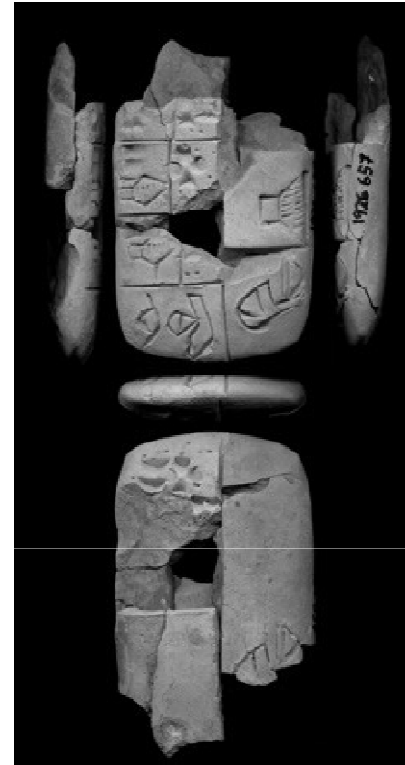
Cuneiform Digital Library:

<http://cdli.ucla.edu/P005207>

L:6.8cm;w:4.2; thickness 1.6

Image: Ashmolean Picture Library (AN1926.657)

<http://www.ashmolean.org/services/picturelibrary>



Model of a boat, c. 3200-2900, from Jemdet Nasr.

Jemdet Nasr, Iraq:

<http://sws.geonames.org/95275>

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jemdet_Nasr

Jemdet Nasr period:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jemdet_Nasr_period

Boats and sea links:

<http://www.ucl.ac.uk/archaeology/kuwait/boats.htm>

<http://www.mesopotamia.co.uk/trade/explore/gulf.htm>

↓

<http://www.egyptorigins.org/mesoboats.htm>

H:7.7cm;L:15cm; W:8.8cm. Clay, greenish buff ware

Image: Ashmolean Picture Library (AN1926.478)

<http://www.ashmolean.org/services/picturelibrary>

ANET-11Prehistoric-Catalogue



Seal in the form of bull lying on its side, c. 3100-3000, from Tell Ingharra, east of Kish in Sumer. Its impression reveals animals (sheep? dogs?) in alternating directions.



Tell Ingharra (Hursagkamma, Iraq):

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kish_\(Sumer\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kish_(Sumer))

<http://www.cemml.colostate.edu/cultural/09476/iraq05-104.html>

Kish:

<http://sws.geonames.org/94277>

Uruk period:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Uruk_period

Impression seals:

http://www.3k3ed.com/wiki/Impression_seal

Image: Ashmolean Picture Library (AN1931.118)

<http://www.ashmolean.org/services/picturelibrary>



Bowl with geometric patterns, c. 3500-3000, from Baluchistan Province, possibly Nal.

Nal, Baluchistan, Pakistan:

<http://sws.geonames.org/7070853>

<http://www.harappa.com/baluch/>

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mehrgarh>

Sohr Damb:

<http://www.dainst.org/en/project/sohr-dambnal?ft=all>

Neolithic/Bronze Age Pakistan:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_Asian_Stone_Age

<http://wondersofpakistan.wordpress.com/2009/02/21/mehrgarh-the-neolithic-period-from-7th-mill-bc/>

H: 8.7cm; D: 14.1cm. Clay

Image: Ashmolean Picture Library (AN1945.5a)

<http://www.ashmolean.org/services/picturelibrary>



String of beads – lapis, carnelian, two long barrel-shaped, two spherical sheet gold, three and a half silver, rock crystal and two carnelians with white inlay. c.2600-2340 from Kish in Sumer.



Kish (Tell al-Uhaymir, Iraq):

<http://sws.geonames.org/94277>

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kish_\(Sumer\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kish_(Sumer))

http://oi.uchicago.edu/gallery/asp_meso_kish/

Early Dynastic period:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sumer>

D: 40cm (est). Lapis lazuli, carnelian, beads and gold

Image: Ashmolean Picture Library (AN1925.261)

<http://www.ashmolean.org/services/picturelibrary>

Jar with female features added in clay to the handle, and incised patterns on the shoulder and beneath the handle, c. 2500-2334, from a grave at Kish in Sumer.

Kish (Tell al-Uhaymir, Iraq):

<http://sws.geonames.org/94277>

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kish_\(Sumer\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kish_(Sumer))

http://oi.uchicago.edu/gallery/asp_meso_kish/

Early Dynastic period:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sumer>

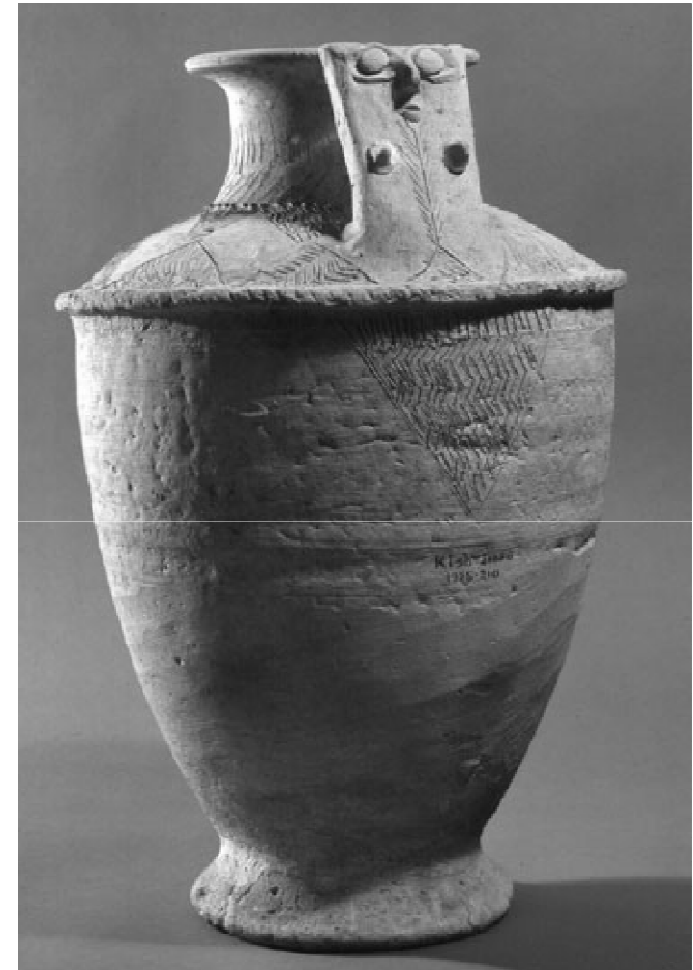
'Mother goddess' jars:

<http://www.jstor.org/pss/4199897>

H: 36cm; D:24cm. Clay

Image: Ashmolean Picture Library (AN1925.211)

<http://www.ashmolean.org/services/picturelibrary>



Statuette of a man with holes drilled into the head to fit a headdress or wig, from Istabalat, near Samarra, c. 2500.

Istabalat, Iraq:

<http://sws.geonames.org/169350>

P.R.S. Moorey, *Ancient Mesopotamian materials and industries: archaeological evidence* (1999) 33.

Early Dynastic period:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sumer>

Early Dynastic sculpture:

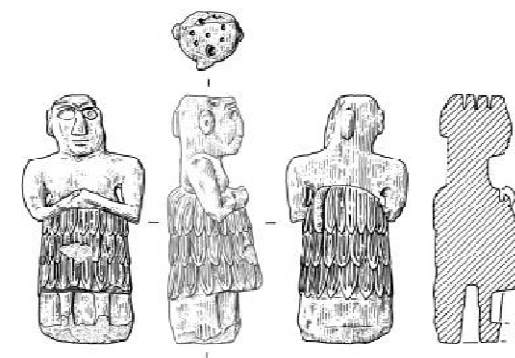
http://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/edys/hd_edys.htm

http://www.baghdadmuseum.org/wmcd_index.htm

H: 20cm. Stone (limestone)

Image: Ashmolean Picture Library (AN1919.65)

<http://www.ashmolean.org/services/picturelibrary>



Pair of gold earrings (two hollow semicircles joined laterally) from the Royal Cemetery at Ur in Sumer, c. 2600-2400.

Ur (Tell Muqayr, Iraq):

<http://sws.geonames.org/93199>

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ur>

http://globalheritagefund.org/index.php/what_we_do/overview/current_projects/ur_iraq/

Early Dynastic period:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sumer>

Royal cemetery:

http://www.mesopotamia.co.uk/tombs/explore/exp_set.html

L: 1.8cm; W: 3.5. Gold

Image: Ashmolean Picture Library (AN1930.219)

<http://www.ashmolean.org/services/picturelibrary>



Bead necklace, predominantly lapis lazuli, with three groups of gold beads, from the Royal Cemetery at Ur in Sumer, c. 2600-2400.

Ur (Tell Muqayr, Iraq):

<http://sws.geonames.org/93199>

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ur>

http://globalheritagefund.org/index.php/what_we_do/overview/current_projects/ur_iraq/

Early Dynastic period:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sumer>

Royal cemetery:

http://www.mesopotamia.co.uk/tombs/explore/exp_set.html

L: 23cm. Lapis lazuli and gold

Image: Ashmolean Picture Library (AN1930.222)

<http://www.ashmolean.org/services/picturelibrary>



Equid with palanquin on its back, decorated with an incised herringbone pattern, and a figure seated inside. Eyes are punched and a hole through the muzzle, c. 2300-1800, from Beirut.

Beirut, Lebanon:

<http://sws.geonames.org/27681>

Beirut (prehistory):

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Beirut>

Palanquin:

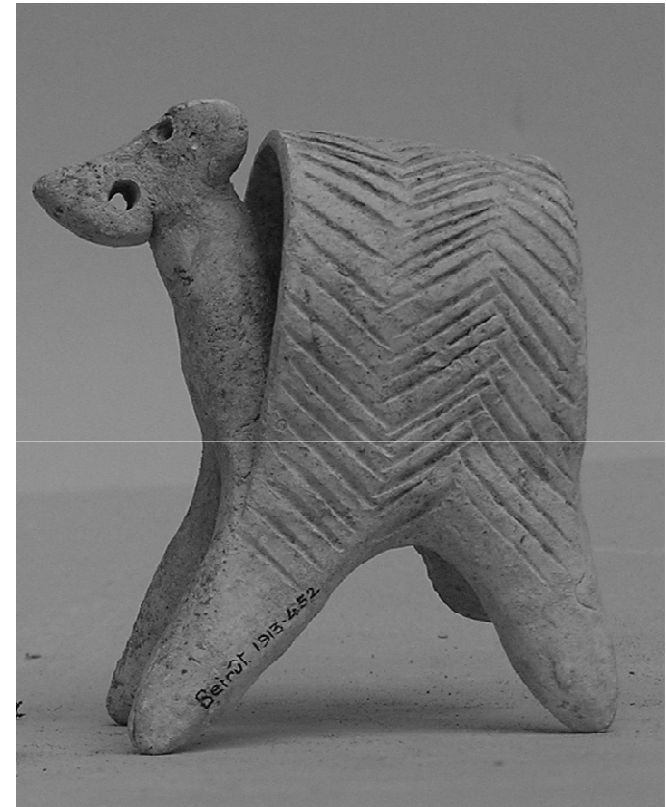
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Palanquin>

H: 7.4cm; L: 6.3cm. Clay

Image: Ashmolean Picture Library (AN1913.452)

<http://www.ashmolean.org/services/picturelibrary>

ANET-29 Bronze2 Syr-Catalogue 1



Drinking vessel (*depas amphikypellion*),
3rd millennium, from Troy.

Hissarlik, Turkey:

<http://sws.geonames.org/298885>

Troy:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Troy>

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hissarlik>

<http://www.cerhas.uc.edu/troy/>

Depas amphikypellion:

<http://www.fhw.gr/chronos/02/mainland/en/eh/technology/pottery/index3.html>

H: 20.5cm. Clay

Image: Ashmolean Picture Library (AN1896-1908 AE.349)

<http://www.ashmolean.org/services/picturelibrary>



Model of a four-wheeled wagon with a hood, decorated with incised trellis pattern, moveable wheels, 'splash board', and loop in front, probably for attachment of a pole. From Hammam, about 2000.

Tell Hammam, Syria:

<http://www.archaeology.leiden.edu/research/neareast-egypt/tell-hamman>

Wheeled transport:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wheel>

H: 15.1; L: 19.2. Clay

Image: Ashmolean Picture Library (AN1913.183)

<http://www.ashmolean.org/services/picturelibrary>

ANET-29 Bronze2 Syr-Catalogue 1



Fragmentary cuneiform tablet with lines from the *Epic of Gilgamesh* recounting the battle waged with Enkidu against the monster Huwawa in the cedar forest, c. 2000-1600, from the library of Ashurbanipal at Kish in Sumer.

Kish (Tell al-Uhaymir, Iraq):

<http://sws.geonames.org/94277>

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kish_\(Sumer\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kish_(Sumer))

http://oi.uchicago.edu/gallery/asp_meso_kish/

Epic of Gilgamesh:

<http://etcsl.orinst.ox.ac.uk/>

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Epic_of_Gilgamesh

<http://www.ancienttexts.org/library/mesopotamian/gilgamesh/>

Library of Ashurbanipal:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Library_of_Ashurbanipal

H: 12.5cm; L: 12.2cm. Clay

Image: Ashmolean Picture Library 1932.155

<http://www.ashmolean.org/services/picturelibrary>



Prism listing the rulers of Sumer from 'before the flood', in cuneiform in two columns on each side, found at Larsa in Sumer and dating from about 1800.

Larsa (Senkereth, Iraq):

<http://sws.geonames.org/91561>

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Larsa>

Sumer:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sumer>

Old Babylonian (Isin-Larsa) period:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/First_Babylonian_Dynasty

King list:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sumerian_King_List

CDLI: P384786

Flood:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flood_myth

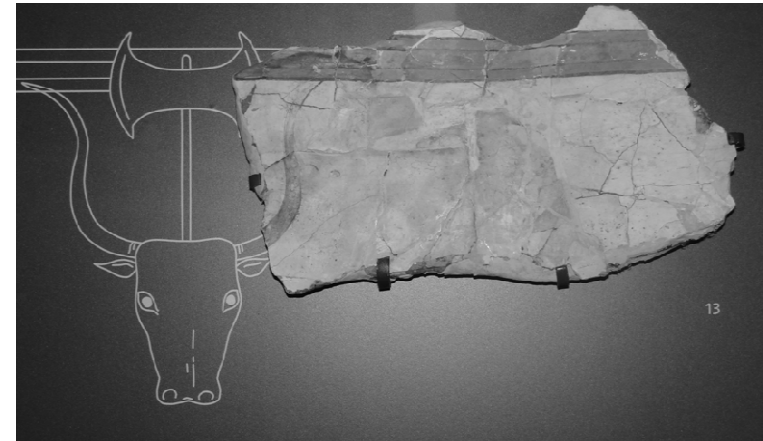
H: 20cm high; W: 9cm. Clay

Image: Ashmolean Picture Library (AN1923.444)

<http://www.ashmolean.org/services/picturelibrary>



Fragments of stucco, white ground with decoration in yellow, brown and purple. Part of a curving horn, and another element above, painted in black (axe?), c. 1600-1550, from Yarim Lim's palace at Tell Atchana.



Tell Atchana (Alalakh, Turkey):

36.2382 / 36.3838

<http://www.une.edu.au/cat/sites/alalakh.php>

<http://www.alalakh.org/>

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/research/projects/amu/alalakh.html>

Yarim Lim:

<http://heritage-key.com/category/tags/yarim-lim>

H: 15cm; L: 28.1. Lime plaster

Image: Ashmolean Picture Library (AN1957.36)

<http://www.ashmolean.org/services/picturelibrary>

Cosmetic container in the shape of a duck from Niqmepa's palace at Tell Atchana. He ruled from 1320-1270.

Tell Atchana (Alalakh, Turkey):

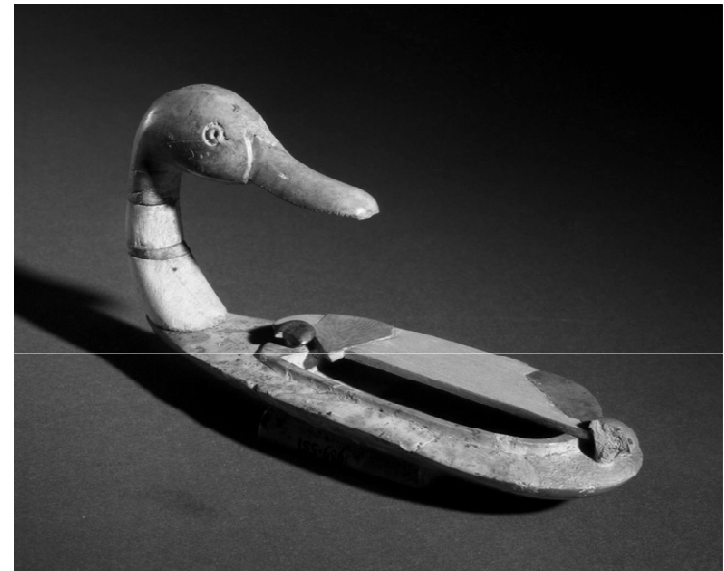
<http://www.une.edu.au/cat/sites/alalakh.php>

<http://www.alalakh.org/>

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/research/projects/amu/alalakh.html>

Niqmepa:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Niqmepa,_King_of_Alalakh



H: 4.4cm; L: 15.1cm. Ivory

Image: Ashmolean Picture Library (AN1939.550)

<http://www.ashmolean.org/services/picturelibrary>

Plaque from a hoard of jewellery, c. 1600-1550, from a Cannanite settlement at Tell el-Ajjul. A 'mother goddess' figure with a head of Hathor and pubic hair below.

Tell el-Ajjul, Palestine:

<http://sws.geonames.org/281073>

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tell_el-Ajjul

http://www.fischerarchaeology.se/?page_id=15

Tell el-Ajjul hoard:

http://www.britishmuseum.org/explore/highlights/highlight_objects/me/p/pendant_tell_el-cajju_hoard.aspx

Mother Goddess:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mother_goddess

Hathor:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hathor>

H: 8cm. Gold

Image: Ashmolean Picture Library (AN1949.305 (top), 306 (bottom))

<http://www.ashmolean.org/services/picturelibrary>



Vessel tapering towards its base (*situla*). Between zones decorated with patterns (half circles and guilloche) a male, wearing a long patterned robe and holding a cup, sits on a high-backed throne decorated with a bird's head. Before him a table with food, another male, and an object on a low stool, c. 1200-800, from Luristan.

Luristan (Lorestan):

<http://sws.geonames.org/125607>

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Luristan>

Luristan bronzes:

<http://www.cais-soas.com/CAIS/Art/porada/porada-luristan.htm>

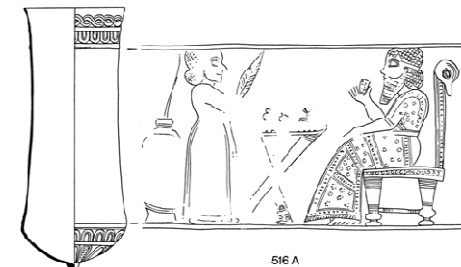
<http://www.iranicaonline.org/articles/luristan-bronzes-i-the-field-research->

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Luristan_bronze

<http://www.worldmuseumofman.org/neluristanbronze.php>

H: 17.2cm; D; 6.2cm (max). Metal, copper alloy

Image: Ashmolean Picture Library (AN1968.2122)



Complete horse-bit in the form of two horses with long head, prominent forelock, long body and short legs, wearing collars decorated with chevrons. Loops for bridle straps and spikes inside cheek-pieces, c. 1200-800, from Luristan.

Luristan (Lorestan):

<http://sws.geonames.org/125607>

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Luristan>

Luristan bronzes:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Luristan_bronze

<http://www.worldmuseumofman.org/neluristanbronze.php>

H: 8.8cm; W. 15.5cm. Metal (copper, silver, gold, alloys)

Image: Ashmolean Picture Library (AN1951.191)

<http://www.ashmolean.org/services/picturelibrary>



Fragmentary sphinx, wearing collar and sun-disc, c. 858-824, from Nimrud, Fort Shalmaneser.

Nimrud (Kalhu, Iraq):

<http://sws.geonames.org/93006>

<http://www.centroscavitorino.it/en/progetti/iraq/nimrud-salmanassar.html>

<http://www.arthistory.upenn.edu/spr03/422/April24/422April24.html>

Shalmaneser III:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shalmaneser_III

http://www.britishmuseum.org/explore/highlights/article_index/s/shalmaneser_iii_assyrian_king.aspx

H: 9.6cm; L: 7.5cm. Ivory

Image: Ashmolean Picture Library (AN1962.306)

<http://www.ashmolean.org/services/picturelibrary>



Plaque fragment showing Huwawa, wearing a feathered headdress, being attacked by Enkidu and Gilgamesh, c. 850 -700 from Nimrud.

Nimrud (Athar Nimrud):

<http://sws.geonames.org/93006>

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nimrud>

http://oi.uchicago.edu/gallery/asp_meso_nimrud/

Gilgamesh:

<http://sites.google.com/site/geokerk/gilgameš>

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gilgamesh>

Enkidu:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Epic_of_Gilgamesh

Huwawa:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Humbaba>

<http://etcsl.orinst.ox.ac.uk/cgi-bin/etcsl.cgi?text=t.1.8.1.5#>

H: 5.3cm; L: 8.5cm. Ivory, carved

Image: Ashmolean Picture Library (AN1962.307)

<http://www.ashmolean.org/services/picturelibrary>



Fragment of a slab with inscriptions in the Luwian language, using Hittite script and mentioning the deities Karhuha and Kababa, c. 800-700, from Carchemish.

Carchemish, Turkey:

<http://sws.geonames.org/309134>

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carchemish>

<http://www.dur.ac.uk/archaeology/research/projects/?mode=project&id=291>

Luwian:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Luwian_language

<http://www.ancientscripts.com/luwian.html>

Hittites:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hittites>

http://www.britishmuseum.org/explore/cultures/middle_east/hittites.aspx

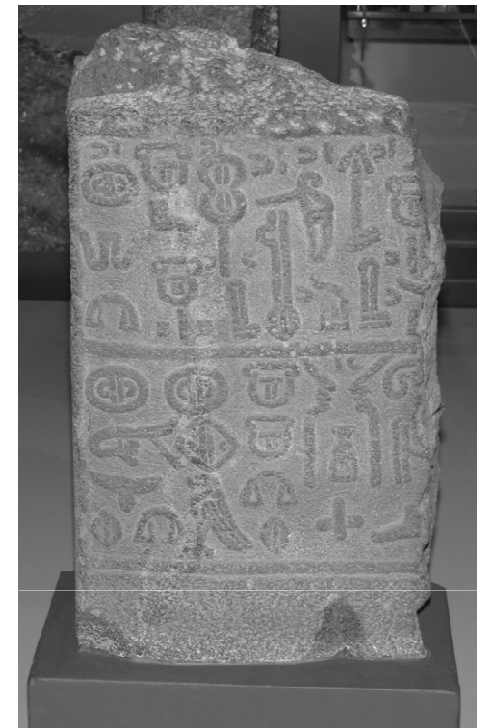
Hittite mythology:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hittite_mythology

H: 3.4cm; L: 3.8cm. Limestone

Image: Ashmolean Picture Library (AN1925.368t)

<http://www.ashmolean.org/services/picturelibrary>



Brick from the reign of Merodach Bladan II recording restoration of Ninlil's Temple in Husag, 721-710, from Kish in Sumer.

Kish (Tell Uhaimir, Iraq):

<http://sws.geonames.org/94277>

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kish_\(Sumer\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kish_(Sumer))

Merodach Bladan II:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marduk-apla-iddina_II

http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/judaica/ejud_002_0014_0_13704.html

Ninlil:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Enlil_and_Ninlil

Architecture and bricks:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Architecture_of_Mesopotamia

L: 25cm; W: 8cm. Clay, baked

Image: Ashmolean Picture Library (AN1929.136)

<http://www.ashmolean.org/services/picturelibrary>



Fragment of a relief showing King Sennacherib in a chariot, beneath a parasol, from his palace at Nineveh, 704-681.

Nineveh, Iraq:

<http://sws.geonames.org/92878>

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nineveh>

<http://www.digitalnineveharchives.org/>

Sennacherib:

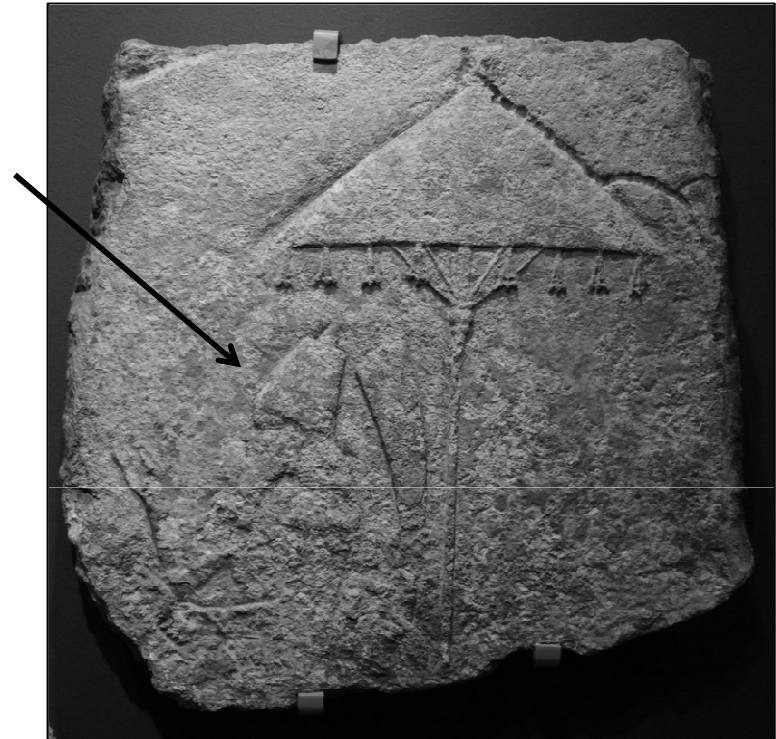
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sennacherib>

http://www.britishmuseum.org/explore/highlights/article_index/s/sennacherib_king_of_assyria.aspx

H: 56cm; W: 54cm. Stone (limestone)

Image: Ashmolean Picture Library (AN1933.1669)

<http://www.ashmolean.org/services/picturelibrary>



Fragments of a wall relief showing an Assyrian bowman leading a horse through rocky landscape with trees. From Sennacherib's Palace at Nineveh, 705-681.

Nineveh, Iraq:

<http://sws.geonames.org/92878>

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nineveh>

<http://www.digitalnineveharchives.org/>

Sennacherib:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sennacherib>

[http://www.britishmuseum.org/explore/highlights/article_index/s/sennacherib, king of assyria.aspx](http://www.britishmuseum.org/explore/highlights/article_index/s/sennacherib_king_of_assyria.aspx)

H: 75cm; W: 72cm. Stone (gypsum)

Image: Ashmolean Picture Library (AN1959.378)

<http://www.ashmolean.org/services/picturelibrary>



Fragment of a relief showing soldiers with captives and loot by a river with fishes. From the Palace of Assurbanipal II (685-c. 627), Nimrud.

Nimrud (Kalhu, Iraq):

<http://sws.geonames.org/93006>

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nimrud>

http://www.britishmuseum.org/explore/highlights/highlight_objects/me/s/stone_relief_nw_palace-1.aspx

Asurbanipal II:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Assurbanipal>

H: 66cms; W: 76cm. Stone, marble (Mosul)

Image: Ashmolean Picture Library (AN1971.994)

<http://www.ashmolean.org/services/picturelibrary>



Cuneiform cylinder recording building works and other acts of Nebuchadnezzar II, 604-561, from Babylon.

Babylon:

<http://sws.geonames.org/98228>

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Babylonia>

<http://www.iraqimage.com/pages/browse/Babylon.html>

http://oi.uchicago.edu/gallery/asp_meso_babylon/

Neo-Babylonian:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neo-Babylonian_Empire

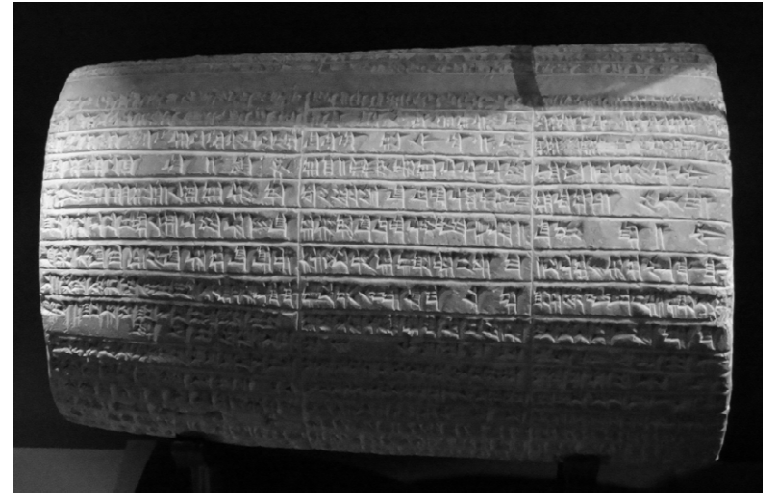
Nebuchadnezzar II:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nebuchadnezzar_II

L: 20cm; D: 13.4cm (max). Clay, baked

Image: Ashmolean Picture Library (AN1939.432)

<http://www.ashmolean.org/services/picturelibrary>



Bowl (*phiale*) with a pattern band of ovolos towards its, c. 550-450, from Sardis.

Sardis:

<http://sws.geonames.org/302043>

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sardis>

http://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/srds/hd_srds.htm

<http://harvardmagazine.com/1998/03/sardis.html>

Persian empire:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Achaemenid_Empire

<http://www.achemenet.com/>

http://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/acha/hd_acha.htm

<http://www.iranchamber.com/history/achaemenids/achaemenids.php>



D: 12.8cm; H: 15.3cm. Silver. Weight: 145.7g

Image: Ashmolean Picture Library (AN1971.897)

<http://www.ashmolean.org/services/picturelibrary>

Relief fragment with the head of a Persian, from Persepolis, perhaps from the Apadama, c. 500-450.

Persepolis, Iran:

<http://sws.geonames.org/110836>

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Persepolis>

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/museum/collections/pa/persepolis/>

<http://www.ichto.ir/Default.aspx?tabid=1218>

<http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/114>

Persians:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Achaemenid_Empire

<http://www.achemenet.com/>

http://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/acha/hd_acha.htm

<http://www.iranchamber.com/history/achaemenids/achaemenids.php>

Apadana:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Apadana>

http://www.persepolis3d.com/control_structures/apadana.htm

H: 12.3cm; W: 15.25cm. Stone (limestone)

Image: Ashmolean Picture Library (AN1982.944)

<http://www.ashmolean.org/services/picturelibrary>

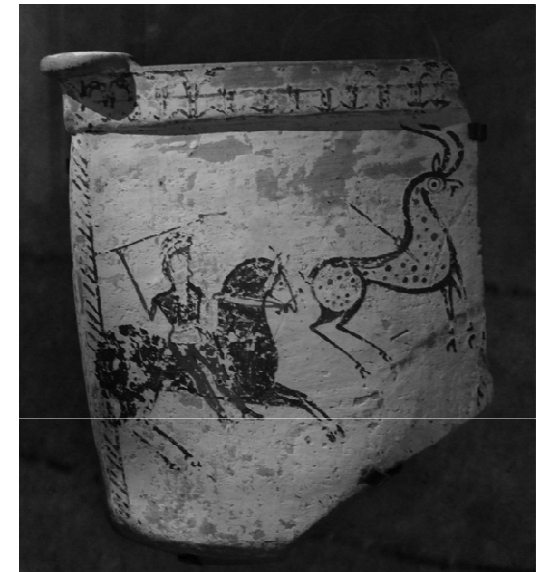


Fragmentary funerary urn, white slipped and painted with a man in Phrygian dress riding a horse side-saddle and aiming a spear at a deer, 5th-4th centuries, from Phrygia.

Phrygians:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Phrygia>

http://www.ancientanatolia.com/historical/phrygian_period.htm



H: 23cm; W: 16cm. Clay

Image: Ashmolean Picture Library (AN1922.1)

<http://www.ashmolean.org/services/picturelibrary>

Statuette of Hercules, nude with his lion skin over his shoulders, holding a club in his right hand and perhaps an apple in his left, c. 330-150 from Uruk.

Uruk:

<http://sws.geonames.org/90377>

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Uruk>

[http://cdli.ucla.edu/wiki/doku.php/uruk mod. warka](http://cdli.ucla.edu/wiki/doku.php/uruk_mod.warka)

Seleucid empire:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Seleucid_Empire

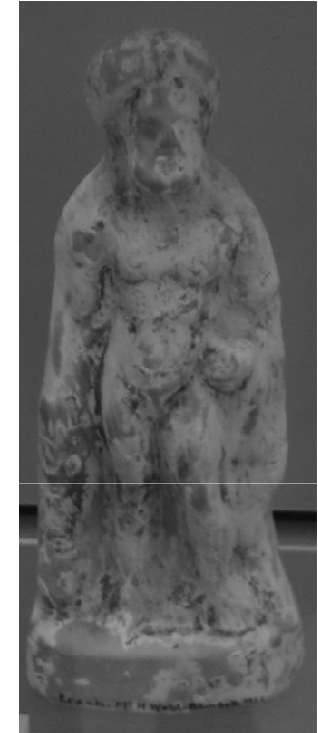
http://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/sleu/hd_sleu.htm

<http://www.iranchamber.com/history/seleucids/seleucids.php>

Hercules:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hercules>

http://warburg.sas.ac.uk/vpc/VPC_search/subcats.php?cat_1=5&cat_2=52



H: 18.1cm; W: 7.7cm. Clay

Image: Ashmolean Picture Library (AN1923.303)

<http://www.ashmolean.org/services/picturelibrary>

Statuette of a nude woman, from Hillah, c. 247-224.

Hillah (Iraq):

<http://sws.geonames.org/99347>

Parthian Empire:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parthian_Empire

<http://www.iranchamber.com/history/parthians/parthians.php>

<http://www.parthia.com/>

<http://www.parthia-aramaic.org/>



H: 20.7cm. Stone (alabaster)

Image: Ashmolean Picture Library (AN1896-1908 E.3446)

<http://www.ashmolean.org/services/picturelibrary>

‘Ticket’ for the theatre at Ephesus with raised characters XII on the reverse. Built by the Greeks, the theatre was enlarged by the Romans, c. 27BC-263AD.

Ephesus (Turkey):

<http://sws.geonames.org/7522155>

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ephesus>

Theatre:

<http://www.whitman.edu/theatre/theatretour/ephesus/ephesus.home.htm>

http://www.ephesus.us/ephesus/the_great_theatre_of_ephesus.htm

D: 3.3m. Bone (ivory)

Image: Ashmolean Picture Library (AN1884.235))

<http://www.ashmolean.org/services/picturelibrary>



Upper part of a female funerary statue. She wears a shawl over her head and shoulders, 'jewelled' head band, pendant earrings, necklace and brooch, c. 80-100 AD, from the 'Valley of the Tombs' at Palmyra.

Palmyra (Syria):

<http://sws.geonames.org/163808>

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Palmyra>

Cemeteries of Roman Palmyra:

<http://users.unimi.it/progettopalmira/english/project.html>

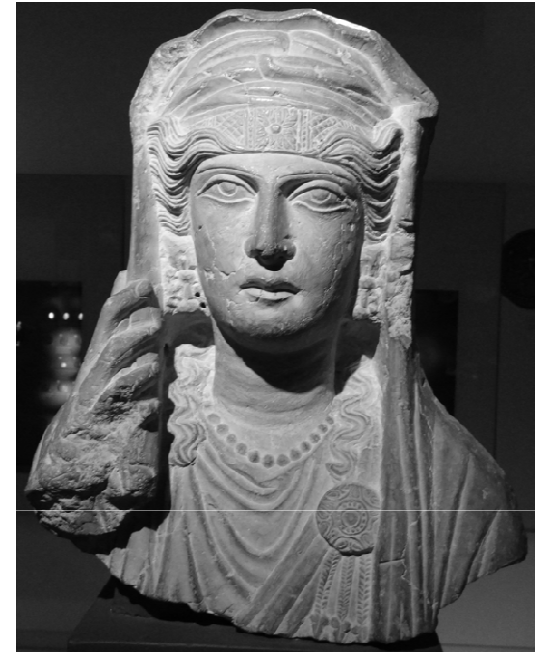
http://www.metmuseum.org/TOAH/hd/palm/hd_palm.htm

<http://www.traveladventures.org/continents/asia/palmyratombs.shtml>

H: 58.5cm: W: 33.5cm. Stone

Image: Ashmolean Picture Library (AN1965.884)

<http://www.ashmolean.org/services/picturelibrary>



Greek letters for the name of the Roman Emperor Trajan with projections behind for insertion into marble. From the Triumphal Arch of Hadrian at Antalya, c. 130 AD.



Antalya (Turkey):

<http://sws.geonames.org/323776>

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Antalya>

Hadrian's Gate:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hadrian's_Gate

H: 14cm. Metal (bronze gilt)

Image: Ashmolean Picture Library (AN1884.531a)

<http://www.ashmolean.org/services/picturelibrary>

Open-work plaque or belt-fitting decorated with the heads of griffins or cocks and palmettes, c. 226-651AD, from Turkmenistan.



Sassanian Empire:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sassanid_Empire

<http://ecai.org/sasanianweb/>

<http://www.humanities.uci.edu/sasanika/>

http://www.iranchamber.com/art/articles/art_of_sassanians.php

H: 6.8cm; W: 17.2cm. Metal (bronze)

Image: Ashmolean Picture Library (AN1971.973)

<http://www.ashmolean.org/services/picturelibrary>

Bowl with greenish-blue glaze, c. 226-651AD, from Kish.

Kish (Tell al-Uhaymir, Iraq):

<http://sws.geonames.org/94277>

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kish_\(Sumer\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kish_(Sumer))

http://oi.uchicago.edu/gallery/asp_meso_kish/



Sassanian Empire:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sassanid_Empire

<http://ecai.org/sasanianweb/>

<http://www.humanities.uci.edu/sasanika/>

http://www.iranchamber.com/art/articles/art_of_sassanians.php

D: 16cm. Clay.

Image: Ashmolean Picture Library (AN1967.1003)

<http://www.ashmolean.org/services/picturelibrary>

Bowl with faceted bosses cut in relief, c. 226-651, from Tell Barguthiat.

Tell Barguthiat, Iraq:

Sassanian Empire:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sassanid_Empire

<http://ecai.org/sasanianweb/>

<http://www.humanities.uci.edu/sasanika/>

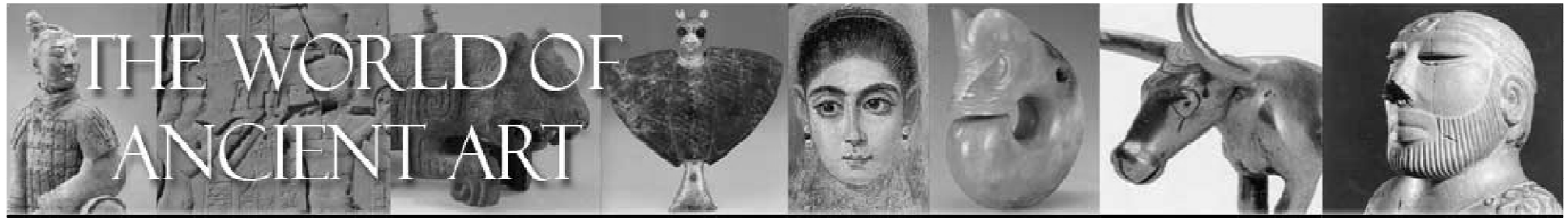
http://www.iranchamber.com/art/articles/art_of_sassanians.php



H: 8.4cm; D: 12.7cm. Glass

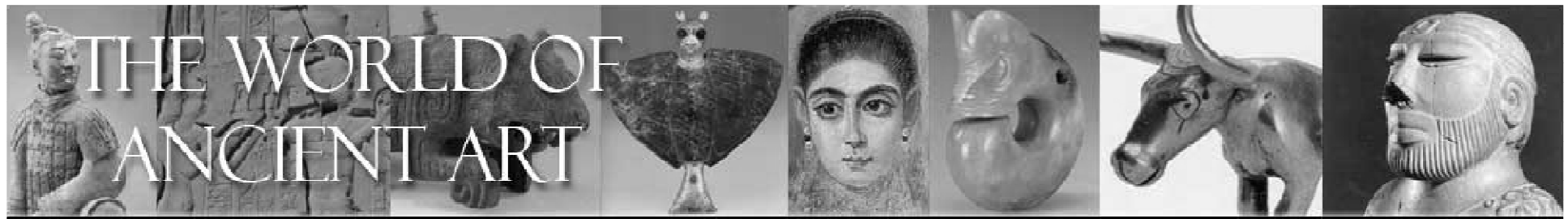
Image: Ashmolean Picture Library (AN1958.116)

<http://www.ashmolean.org/services/picturelibrary>



Map

Chronological charts



Map of major areas of ancient near east

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ancient_Near_East



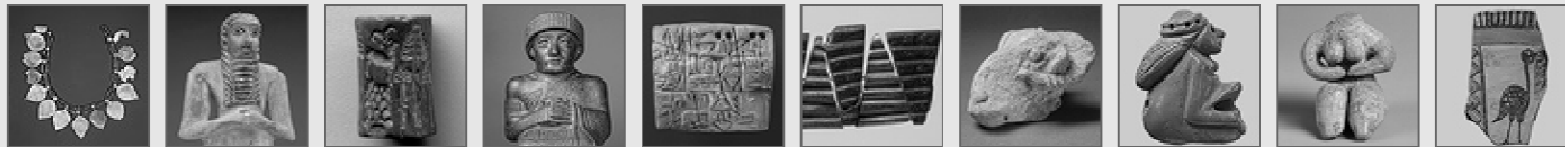
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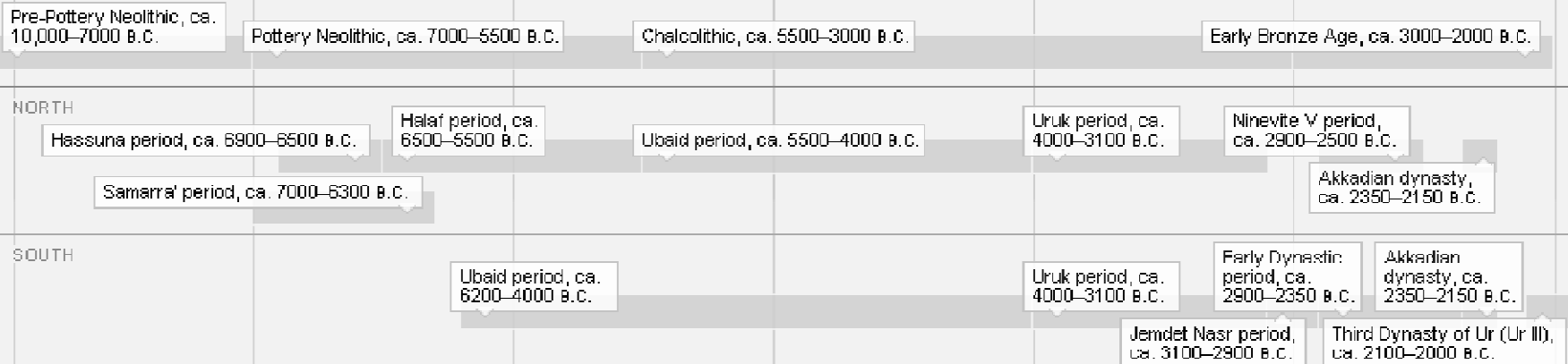
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Mesopotamia, 8000–2000 B.C.



VIEW SLIDESHOW

8000 7000 6000 5000 4000 3000 2000



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Mesopotamia, 2000–1000 B.C.



VIEW SLIDESHOW

2000 1900 1800 1700 1600 1500 1400 1300 1200 1100 1000

Middle Bronze Age, ca. 2000–1600 B.C.

Late Bronze Age, ca. 1600–1200 B.C.

Iron Age, from ca. 1200 B.C.

NORTH

Old Assyrian period, ca. 2000–1600 B.C.

Mitanni period, ca. 1600–1350 B.C.

Middle Assyrian period, ca. 1350–1100 B.C.

SOUTH

Old Babylonian period, ca. 2000–1600 B.C.

Kassite dynasty,
ca. 1574–1157
B.C.

Middle Babylonian period, ca. 1400–1100 B.C.

<http://www.metmuseum.org/toah/ht/?period=03®ion=wam>



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Mesopotamia, 1000 B.C.–1 A.D.



VIEW SLIDESHOW

1000 900 800 700 600 500 400 300 200 100 1

Neo-Assyrian empire, ca. 911–612 B.C.

Persian rule: Achaemenid dynasty, ca. 539–331 B.C.

Hellenistic rule: Macedonian and Seleucid dynasties, ca. 331–138 B.C.

Neo-Babylonian period, ca. 1000–539 B.C.

Parthian rule: Arsacid dynasty, ca. 138 B.C.–224 A.D.

Assyrian rule, ca. 750–625 B.C.

Neo-Babylonian empire, 612–539 B.C.

Neo-Babylonian kingdom, ca. 625–612 B.C.

<http://www.metmuseum.org/toah/ht/?period=04®ion=wam>



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Mesopotamia, 1–500 A.D.



VIEW SLIDESHOW

100

200

300

400

500

Parthian rule: Arsacid dynasty, 138 B.C.–224 A.D.

Sasanian rule, 224–636/7 A.D.

<http://www.metmuseum.org/toah/ht/?period=05®ion=wam>



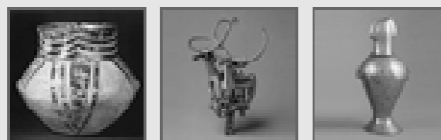
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Anatolia and the Caucasus, 8000–2000 B.C.



VIEW SLIDESHOW

8000 7000 6000 5000 4000 3000 2000

Pre-Pottery Neolithic, ca. 11,000–6900 B.C.

Pottery Neolithic, ca. 6900–6400 B.C.

Chalcolithic, ca. 6400–3800 B.C.

Early Bronze Age, ca. 3000–2000 B.C.

ANATOLIA WEST

Trojan Early Bronze Age, ca. 3000–1900 B.C.

ANATOLIA CENTRAL

Catal Höyük, ca. 6900–6500 B.C.

Hattian culture, ca. 2350–2150 B.C.

ANATOLIA EAST

Halaf culture, ca. 6000–5500 B.C.

Ubaid culture, 5000–4200 B.C.

Trialeti culture, ca. 2200–1500 B.C.

Kura-Araxes culture (Early Transcaucasian Culture), ca. 3500–2200 B.C.

Amuq G, H, I, J, ca. 3100–2000 B.C.

CAUCASUS

Shulaveri-Shomu culture, ca. 6000–4000 B.C.

Maikop culture, ca. 3500?–2000 B.C.?

Trialeti culture, ca. 2200–1500 B.C.

Kura-Araxes culture (Early Transcaucasian Culture), ca. 4000–2200 B.C.

<http://www.metmuseum.org/toah/ht/?period=02®ion=waa>



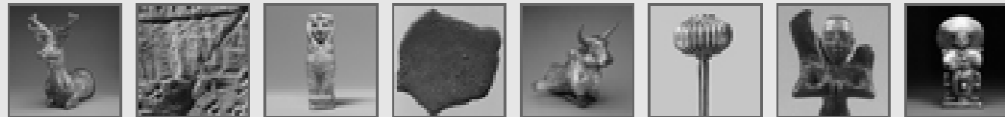
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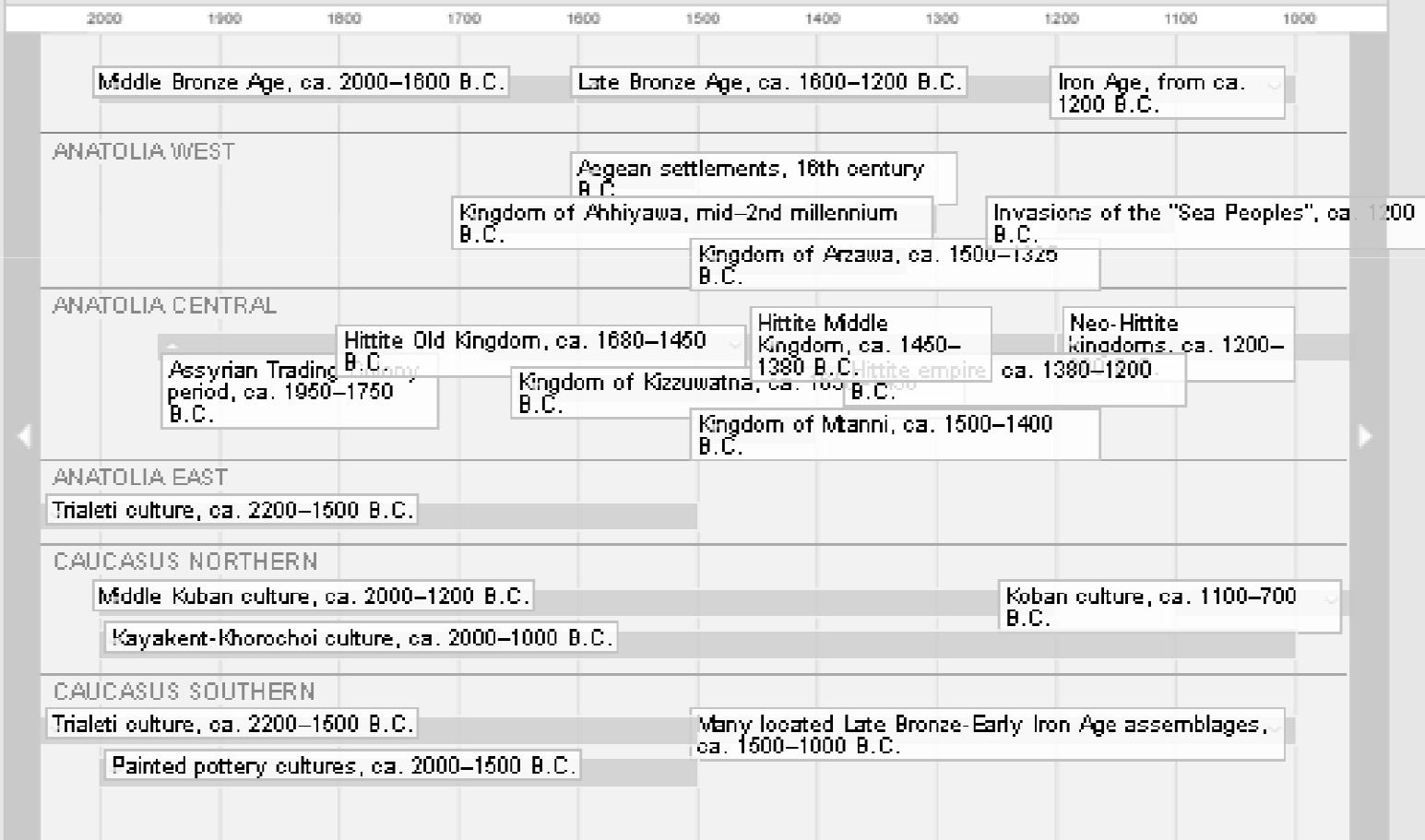
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Anatolia and the Caucasus, 2000–1000 B.C.



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Anatolia and the Caucasus (Asia Minor), 1000 B.C.–1 A.D.

VIEW SLIDESHOW

1000 900 800 700 600 500 400 300 200 100 1

Region	Period	Key Historical Entities
ANATOLIA WEST	1000–700 B.C.	Greek colonization, ca. 1000–700 B.C.
	559–331 B.C.	Achaemenid empire, ca. 559–331 B.C.
	305–80 B.C.	Seleucid empire, ca. 305–80 B.C.
ANATOLIA CENTRAL	1200–800 B.C.	Neo-Hittite kingdoms, ca. 1200–800 B.C.
	885–547 B.C.	Lydian kingdom, ca. 885–547 B.C.
	800–700 B.C.	Phrygian kingdom, ca. 800–700 B.C.
ANATOLIA EAST	830–640 B.C.	Urantian kingdom, ca. 830–640 B.C.
	559–331 B.C.	Achaemenid empire, ca. 559–331 B.C.
	305–80 B.C.	Seleucid empire, ca. 305–80 B.C.
CAUCASUS NORTHERN	1100–700 B.C.	Koban culture, ca. 1100–700 B.C.
	1200–850 B.C.	Late Kuban culture, ca. 1200–850 B.C.
	700 B.C.	Steppe nomads (Cimmerians/Scythians/Sarmatians), ca. 700 B.C.
CAUCASUS SOUTHERN	830–640 B.C.	Urantian kingdom, ca. 830–640 B.C.
	559–331 B.C.	Achaemenid empire, ca. 559–331 B.C.
	305–80 B.C.	Seleucid empire, ca. 305–80 B.C.

Other historical entities shown in the timeline include: Alexandrian empire, 334–ca. 301 B.C.; Roman Republic, 133–27 B.C.; Roman empire, 27 B.C.–330 A.D.; Neo-Assyrian empire, ca. 883–612 B.C.; Median empire, ca. 614–550 B.C.; Many small areas of local rule, ca. 300–130 B.C.; Orontid dynasty, 6th–1st century B.C.; Kingdom of Kartli (Iberia), 3rd–1st century B.C.; Kingdom of Egrisi (Colchis), 6th–1st century B.C.

<http://www.metmuseum.org/toah/ht/?period=04®ion=waa>



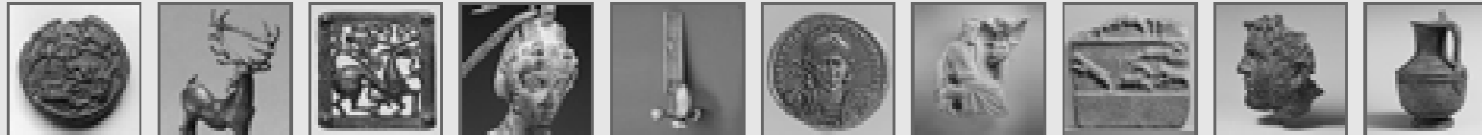
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Asia Minor (Anatolia and the Caucasus), 1–500 A.D.



VIEW SLIDESHOW

100 200 300 400 500

ANATOLIA

Roman empire, 27 B.C.–330 A.D.

Byzantine empire, 330–1453 A.D.

CAUCASUS

Tribal groups including the Sarmatians and the Alans, ca. 1–500 A.D.

CAUCASUS SOUTHERN

Arsacid (Parthian) kings, 12–63 A.D.

Sasanian empire, 224–636 A.D.

Semi-autonomous Georgian Kingdom, ca. 4th century–975 A.D.

Semi-autonomous Armenian Kingdom, ca. 3rd–9th century A.D.

Intermittent Byzantine rule, 4th–15th century A.D.

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Iran, 8000–2000 B.C.



VIEW SLIDESHOW

8000 7000 6000 5000 4000 3000 2000

Pre-Pottery Neolithic, ca. 8000–7500 B.C.

7500–5000 B.C.

Chalcolithic, ca. 5000–3500 B.C.

Early Bronze Age, ca. 3500–2000 B.C.

Proto-Elamite period, ca. 3100–2900 B.C.

Old Elamite period, ca. 2700–1500 B.C.

Susa II, ca. 3500–3100 B.C.

Susa III, ca. 3100–2700 B.C.

Susa IV, ca. 2700–2500 B.C.

<http://www.metmuseum.org/toah/ht/?period=02®ion=wai>



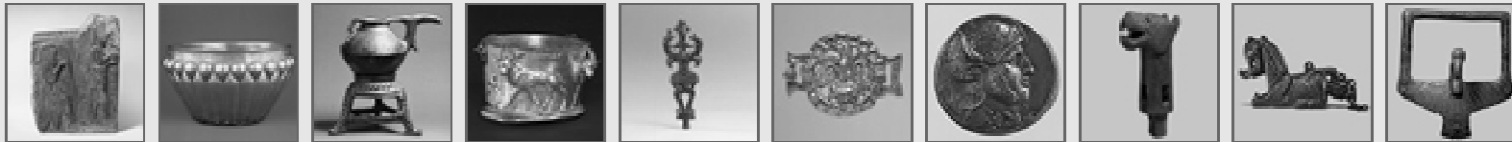
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Iran, 1000 B.C.–1 A.D.



VIEW SLIDESHOW

1000 900 800 700 600 500 400 300 200 100 1

Iron Age II, ca. 1250–800 B.C.

Iron Age III, ca. 800–550 B.C.

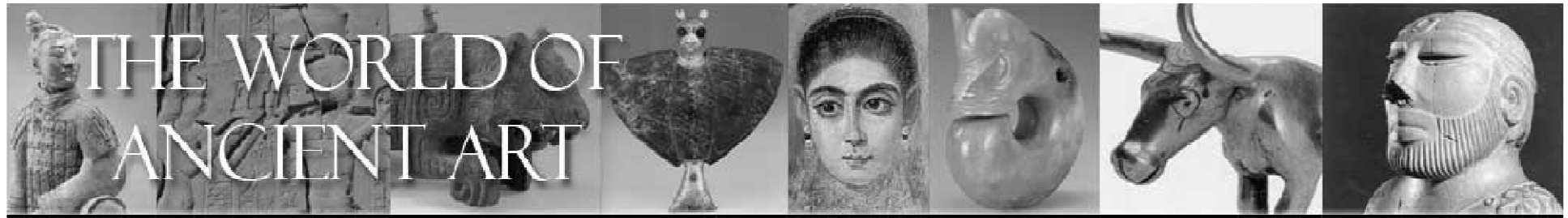
Neo-Elamite period, ca. 1000–539 B.C.

Achaemenid (Persian) period, ca. 559–330 B.C.

Seleucid period, 323–247 B.C.

Parthian period, 247 B.C.–224 A.D.

<http://www.metmuseum.org/toah/ht/?period=04®ion=wai>



Ancient Near East

Ashmolean Museum

<http://www.ashmolean.org/departments/antiquities/about/ANEast/>