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Ancient Mesopotamian Religion and Mythology - W.G. Lambert 2016-03-17 The late W.G. Lambert (1926-2011) was one of the foremost Assyriologists of the latter part of the twentieth century. His principle legacy is a large number of superb critical editions of Babylonian literary compositions. Many of the texts he edited were on religious and mythological subjects. He will always be remembered as the editor of the Babylonian Job (Ludlul bel nemeqi, also known as the Poem of the Righteous Sufferer), the Babylonian Flood Story (Atra-hasis) and the Babylonian Creation Epic (Enaum elish). The present book is a collection of twenty-three essays Lambert published between the years 1958 and 2004. These endure not only as the legacy of one of the greatest authorities on ancient Mesopotamian religion and mythology, but also because each makes statements of considerable validity and importance. As such, many are milestones in the fields of Mesopotamian religion and mythology.

Ancient Mesopotamian Religion and Mythology - Wilfred G. Lambert 2016 The late W.G. Lambert (1926-2011) was one of the foremost Assyriologists of the latter part of the twentieth century. His principle legacy is a large number of superb critical editions of Babylonian literary compositions. Many of the texts he edited were on religious and mythological subjects. He will always be remembered as the editor of the Babylonian Job (Ludlul bel nemeqi, also known as the Poem of the Righteous Sufferer), the Babylonian Flood Story (Atra-hasis) and the Babylonian Creation Epic (Enaum elish). Decades of deep engagement with these and other ancient Mesopotamian texts gave direction to much of his research and led him to acquire a deep knowledge of ancient Mesopotamian religion and mythology. The present book is a collection of twenty-three essays published by the scholar between the years 1958 and 2004. These endure not only as the legacy of one of the greatest authorities in this specialist field, but also because each makes statements of considerable validity and importance. As such, many are milestones in the fields of Mesopotamian religion and mythology. Survey of contentsPreface and Acknowledgements - Introduction by A.R. George I: Introductory ConsiderationsMorals in Mesopotamia - Ancient Mesopotamian Gods: Superstition, Philosophy, Theology II: The Gods of Ancient MesopotamiaThe Historical Development of the Mesopotamian Pantheon: A Study in Sophisticated Polytheism - Goddesses in the Pantheon: A Reflection of Women in Society? - The Mesopotamian Background of the Hurrian Pantheon - The Pantheon of Mari - The God Assur - Ishtar of Nineveh III: The Mythology of Ancient MesopotamiaDer Mythos im Alten Mesopotamien, sein Werden und Vergehen - The Cosmology of Sumer and Babylon - The Theology of Death - The Relationship of Sumerian and Babylonian Myth as Seen in Accounts of Creation - Ninurta Mythology in the Babylonian Epic of Creation - Myth and Ritual As Conceived by the Babylonians IV: The Religion of Ancient MesopotamiaThe Reign of Nebuchadnezzar I: A Turning Point in the History of Ancient Mesopotamian Religion - Syncretism and Religious Controversy in Babylonia - Donations of Food and Drink to the Gods in Ancient Mesopotamia - The Cult of Ishtar of Babylon - The Qualifications of Babylonian Diviners - Devotion: The Languages of Religion and Love V: Ancient Mesopotamia and IsraelOld Testament Mythology in its Ancient Near Eastern Context - Destiny and Divine Intervention in Babylon and Israel - The Flood in Sumerian, Babylonian and Biblical Sources.

Mesopotamian Gods & Goddesses - Britannica Educational Publishing 2014-01-01 Mesopotamian religion was one of the earliest religious systems to develop with its enduring influence on high civilization. Followed by the Sumerians, Akkadians, Babylonians, and Assyrians, Mesopotamian religion and mythology reflected the complexities of these societies and has been preserved in remnants of their cultural, economic, and political institutions. This absorbing volume provides a glimpse of the cradle of civilization by examining Mesopotamian religious and mythological beliefs as well as some of the many gods and goddesses at the core of their stories and also looks at epics such as that of Gilgamesh and other aspects of Mesopotamian life.

Religion in Ancient Mesopotamia - Jean Bottéro 2004 A well written guide to Mesopotamian religion by one of the world's foremost Assyriologists. Bottéro studies the public and private relationships between the people and the divine, their cosmology, hymns and prayers, rituals, myths and magic.

A Companion to the Ancient Near East - Daniel C. Snell 2008-04-15 A Companion to the Ancient Near East offers students and general readers a comprehensive overview of Near Eastern civilization from the Bronze Age to the conquests of Alexander the Great. Covers the civilizations of the Sumerians, Hittites, Babylonians, Assyrians, Israelites and Persians Places particular emphasis on social and cultural history Covers the legacy of the Ancient Near East in the medieval and modern worlds Provides a useful bibliographical guide to this field of study.

Ancient Mesopotamian Religion & Mythology - Elijah Verna 2015-11-02 Mesopotamian religion refers to the religious beliefs and practices followed by the Sumerian and East Semitic Akkadians, Assyrians, Babylonian and later migrant Arameans and Chaldeans, living in Mesopotamia (a region encompassing modern Iraq, Kuwait, southeast Turkey and northeast Syria) that dominated the region for a period of 4200 years from the fourth millennium BCE throughout Mesopotamia to approximately the 10th century CE in Assyria.

An Introduction to Ancient Mesopotamian Religion - Tammi J. Schneider 2011-06-01 In her book, the author offers readers a compact guide to the religion of the peoples living in the region of the Tigris and Euphrates rivers from the beginning of the Bronze Age to the time of Alexander the Great andarius III. Drawing on extant texts, artifacts, and architecture, Schneider uncovers both an intriguing pantheon of deities -- including Marduk, Ishtar, and many others -- and the complex, fluid, and highly ritualized religious experience of the people who spent their lives serving and appeasing them.

Mountains and Trees, Rivers and Springs - Anna Perdibon 2019 The animated picture of myths and magic, prayers and offerings in ancient Mesopotamian Religion, is a reflection of a world where gods and humans were part of a much more complex and multi-layered system, where every single part was closely connected with each other in a dense network of symbolic and ritual meanings. Mountains, rivers, trees, and plants were regarded as cosmic entities, deeply entangled with the sacred landscape, as ‘other-than-human’ persons, and sometimes as deities, who engaged in a multitude of ways with the life of ancient Mesopotamians, and partook of their divine and relational cosmos. AAnna Perdibon explores the modalities of the human-environmental relationships by studying how mountains, rivers, and trees were embedded within the ancient Mesopotamian religious framework. The analysis is based on reading the ancient myths, rituals, incantations, and other textual evidence dealing with religious life, together with iconographical sources, through the lens of the current debate about animism and anthropology of religions, in order to investigate and further explain the connection between nature, the sacred, and the materiality of an ancient religion. The book suggests different understandings of divinity, personhood, and nature on the part of ancient Mesopotamians, and sheds new light on their emic worldviews regarding nature, the cosmos, and the divine. These notions are considered in order to draw a picture of the sacred landscape of the ancient Mesopotamians, while highlighting the actual fluidity and sensuous reality of those ancient polytheisms.

Myths from Mesopotamia - 2008-12-11 The ancient civilization of Mesopotamia thrived between the rivers Tigris and Euphrates over 4,000
years ago. The myths collected here, originally written in cuneiform on clay tablets, include parallels with the biblical stories of the Creation and the Flood, and the famous Epic of Gilgamesh, the tale of a man of great strength, whose heroic quest for immortality is dashed through one moment of weakness. Recent developments in Akkadian grammar and lexicography mean that this new translation, complete with notes, a glossary of deities, place-names, and key terms, and illustrations of the mythical monsters featured in the text, will replace all older versions. ABOUT THE SERIES: For over 100 years Oxford University Press' Classics List has been a leading provider of excellence in classical literature. The Oxford World's Classics Series brings together a wide range of literature from around the globe. Each affordable volume reflects Oxford's commitment to scholarship, providing the most accurate text plus a wealth of other valuable features, including expert introductions by leading authorities, helpful notes to clarify the text, up-to-date bibliographies for further study, and much more.

Gods, Demons and Symbols of Ancient Mesopotamia-Jeremy Black 1992-05-01 Ancient Mesopotamia was a rich, varied and highly complex culture whose achievements included the invention of writing and the development of sophisticated urban society. This book offers an introductory guide to the beliefs and customs of the ancient Mesopotamians, as revealed in their art and their writings about 3000 B.C. and the advent of the Christian era. Gods, goddesses, demons, monsters, magic, myths, religious symbolism, ritual, and the spiritual world are all discussed in alphabetical entries ranging from short accounts to extended essays. Names are given in both their Sumerian and Akkadian forms, and all entries are fully cross-referenced. A useful introduction provides historical and geographical background and describes the sources of our knowledge about the religion, mythology and magic of "the cradle of civilisation".

Religions of the World: the Religion of Ancient Mesopotamia-Charles River Charles River Editors 2013-09-09 *Includes E.A. Wallis Budge's explanation of the Seven Tablets of Creation, the creation myth that bears striking similarities to the Book of Genesis. *Includes the Ancient Mesopotamian account of the Descent of the Goddess Ishtar into the Underworld. *Explains the role religion played at the national level, city level, and personal level in all aspects of life. *Includes pictures depicting gods and events in the religion. *Includes a Bibliography for further reading. A lot of ink has been spilled covering the lives of history's most influential figures, but how much of the forest is lost for the trees? Throughout time, people have been religious by nature, and billions today adhere to unique faiths across the world. In Charles River Editors' Religions of the World, readers can get caught up to speed on today's religions and yesterday's religions in the time it takes to finish a commute, while learning interesting facts long forgotten or never known. Throughout history, the world's most prominent religions have had intricacies that made them unique, yet many of them have also shared similar characteristics. Nowhere is this clearer than in the religion practiced by people in Ancient Mesopotamia, which also happens to be the oldest documented religion in the world. Ancient Mesopotamian religion continues to captivate people for many of the same reasons today's best known religions and their histories fascinate people. The religion practiced by the Ancient Mesopotamians provides a certain mix between the mundane and the surreal, and at the same time aspects of it are both familiar and bizarre to people today. Some find themselves drawn to it based on its preeminent position in religious history as the oldest documented religion in the world. Others become fascinated with the close connections between some of the Mesopotamian religious texts, which include a flood story, a creation story and a story of the righteous sufferer, and their parallels in the Hebrew Bible. There are also many who learned about the mythological tales of the Greco-Roman world as children and revel in the mythological battles, love affairs and intrigue depicted in the Mesopotamian texts. Today the Ancient Mesopotamians and their religion are a source of curiosity, but thousands of years ago the religion was an integral part of their lives. From their birth to their death, deities surrounded them, and whether their social interactions were on the level of a smaller city or that of a larger nation-state, deities played key roles in the social fabric of their society. In fact, the people and religion were so intertwined that a study of Ancient Mesopotamian religion is a study of Ancient Mesopotamian life. The Religion of Ancient Mesopotamia examines the history and legacy of the religion practiced by the Ancient Mesopotamians, looking at the similarities it shares with other religions and the differences that make it unique. Along with pictures of important figures and places, you will learn about the religion of Ancient Mesopotamia like you never have before, in no time at all.

The God Ninurta-Amar Annus 2002 The current investigation has been divided into three main chapters. In the first two chapters, the primary focus is the relationship between Ninurta and kingship. The first chapter gives a diachronic overview of the cult of Ninurta during all historical periods of ancient Mesopotamia. This chapter shows that the conception of Ninurta's identity with the royal cult was present in the 4th millennium BC, already in the third millennium BC. Ninurta was the god of Nippur, the religious centre of Sumerian cities, and his most important attribute was his sonship to Enlil. While the mortal gods were frequently called the sons of Enlil, the status of the king converged with that of Ninurta at his coronation, through the determination of the royal fate, carried out by the divine council of gods on the king's hoard of destiny. The fate of the king after the investiture. Religious syncretism is studied in the second chapter. The configuration of Nippur cults left a legacy for the religious life of Babylonia and Assyria. The Nippur trinity of the father Enil, the mother Ninil, and the son Ninurta had direct descendants in the Babylonian and Assyrian pantheons, realised in Babylonia as Marduk, Zaramanu, and Nabu, and as Assur, Mulasu, and Ninurta in Assyria. While the names changed, the configuration of the cult survived, even when, from the eighth century BC onwards, Ninurta's name was to a large extent replaced by that of Nabu. In the third chapter various manifestations or hypostases of Ninurta are discussed. Besides the monster slayer, Ninurta was envisaged as farmer, star and arrow, healer, and tree. All these manifestations confirm the strong ties between the cult of Ninurta and kingship. By slaying Asakku, Ninurta eliminated evil from the world, and accordingly he was considered the god of healing. The healing, helping, and saving of a believer who was in misery was thus a natural result of Ninurta's victorious battles. The theologoumenon of Ninurta's mission and return was used as the mythical basis for the royal rituals, and this fact explains the extreme longevity of the Sumerian literary compositions Angim and Lugale, from the third until the first millennium BC. Ninurta also protected legitimate ownership of land and granted protection for refugees in a special temple of the land. The "faithful farmer" is an epithet for both Ninurta and the king. Kingship myths similar to the battles of Ninurta are attested in an area far outside the bounds of the ancient Near East. The conflict myth on which the Ninurta mythology was based is probably of prehistoric origin, and various forms of the kingship myths continued to carry the ideas of usurpation, conflict, and dominion until late Antiquity.

The Sumerian World-Harriet Crawford 2013-08-29 The Sumerian World explores the archaeology, history and art of southern Mesopotamia and its relationships with its neighbours from c.3,000 - 2,000BC. Including material hitherto unpublished from recent excavations, the articles are organised thematically using evidence from archaeology, texts and the natural sciences. This broad approach will also make the volume of interest to students looking for comparative data in allied subjects such as ancient literature and early religions. Providing an authoritative, comprehensive and up to date overview of the Sumerian period written by some of the best qualified scholars in the field, The Sumerian World will satisfy students, researchers, academics, and the knowledgeable layperson wishing to understand the world of southern Mesopotamia in the third millennium.

Women's Writing of Ancient Mesopotamia-Charles Halton 2017-10-31 Women's Writing of Ancient Mesopotamia presents fresh and engaging translations of works composed or edited by female scribes and elite women of the ancient Near East. These texts provide insight into the social status, struggles, and achievements of women during the earliest periods of recorded human history (c.3200-540 BCE). In three introductory chapters and a concluding chapter, Charles Halton and Saana Srdv provide an overview of the civilization of ancient Mesopotamia and examine gender by analyzing these different kinds of texts. The translations cover a range of genres, including hymns, poems, prayers, letters, inscriptions, and oracles. Each text is accompanied by a short introduction that situates the composition within its ancient environment and explores what it reveals about the lives of women within the ancient world. This anthology will serve as an essential reference book for scholars and students of ancient history, gender studies, and world literature.

In the Beginning-Jean O'Brien 1982 Addressed to students of classical mythology, religion, and comparative mythology, this volume contains myths of creation from three of the world's major cultural traditions. Selections from the Hebrew Bible, the Mesopotamian Enuma Elish and Atrahasis, and Hesiod's Theogony and Works and Days. The texts are complemented by essays on the cultural contexts in which the myths arose.

The Treasures of Darkness-Thorkild Jacobsen 1976-01-01 "...No one can plausibly deny that the religious development of the peoples of Canaan (and indeed of all the ancient world around the eastern Mediterranean to the Indus river) were affected by the cultural and religious developments in Mesopotamia, the centre of the region, and a fertile region second to none known in the world, on a par with the Nile, around which another major
Ancient Mesopotamian Religion - Ivan Hrubša 2015 The aim of this publication is to provide an overview of the religious world and practice of the inhabitants of ancient Mesopotamia, as it is transmitted to us by the archaeological and, primarily, written Mesopotamian sources. It is not in the first place, a question of reconstructing the history of Mesopotamian religion nor an analysis of theoretical concepts. Rather, the book provides a practical description based on ancient sources and illustrated continuously with passages from Mesopotamian text – Introduction page [13].

Lost in Translation, Presumption, and Interpretation - Saad D. Abulhab 2020-06-15 This book investigates the Mesopotamian roots of two key monotheist characters, Adam and Noah, and their stories, through an exhaustive reading of relevant texts from the ancient literature, it includes original Arabic transcriptions, and Arabic and English translations of sections from Akkadian and Sumuran inscriptions, and the Hebrew Genesis. The common, biblical beliefs in an initial, single human creation, and a subsequent survival of a punishing, catastrophe flood were among the key forming pillars of the Near East monotheist religions. The other key pillar was, arguably, the belief in the existence of a one, supreme god and creator. However, neither the two stories of human creation and catastrophic flood, nor the belief in one supreme god, were or are introduced by these monotheist religions. Key inscriptions from ancient Mesopotamia have clearly indicated that various versions of these beliefs were commonplace for thousands of years before. Despite the differences in details, and at times ambiguities, the monotheist faiths seem to have derived their defining themes from one source: early Mesopotamian mythology. Unfortunately, several key inscriptionsal facts supporting this hypothesis were lost in the current transliterations, translations, and interpretations of the ancient texts.

Babylonian Religion and Mythology - Leonard William King 1903

Toward the Image of Tammuz and Other Essays on Mesopotamian History and Culture - Thorold Jacobson 2008-05-01 In this volume, William L. Moran has collected seventeen of Jacobson’s widely scattered essays. Dealing with religion, art, culture, government, and grammar, these pieces are representative of all aspects of Jacobson’s work, but stress his studies in history and religion, the fields in which he made his most important contributions to our knowledge of Mesopotamian culture and the origins of Western civilization. Moran has also included a bibliography of and a lexical index to Jacobson’s writings.

Sumerians - Historical Publishing 2020-05-02 Read for FREE with Kindle Unlimited! Sumerians: A Comprehensive Guide to Sumerian Mythology including Myths, Art, Religion, and Culture Do you want to learn about Sumerians? This book is intended for students, and especially for students beginning to study the archaeology and history of the ancient Near East. The changes which took place on the Mesopotamian plain between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers in the fourth and third millennia BC are of crucial importance in understanding subsequent developments in western Asia and beyond. A range of major innovations in both technology and social development is attributed to this period and it is these innovations which will be described in the following chapters. Many of them have their roots in much older periods. Where evidence which complements or extends that from Mesopotamia is available from adjacent geographical areas, it too will be included. Since 1991 it has not been possible to dig in Iraq itself and, as a direct result of this, there has been an explosion of archaeological activity in neighbouring countries such as Syria and the Gulf states. This new evidence has brought important new insights and has led to a reappraisal of the Sumerian world. There are key components of such a study. One is the straightforward chronological account traditionally favoured by historians and archaeologists, which tries to describe a society in its entirety from genesis to extinction. More recently, authors have begun to isolate specific aspects of a society, taking one stimulus such as trade, or one element such as the ecological background. The result is a specific factor in the development of the society is then emphasised. Here is a Preview Of What You'll Learn... Timeline of sumerian civilization Who were the sumerians? Where did the sumerians live Sumerian religion What are sumerian workship gods? Sumerian cosmology Much, much more! ACT NOW! Click the orange BUY button at the top of this page! Then you can begin reading Sumerians: A Comprehensive Guide to Sumerian Mythology including Myths, Art, Religion, and Culture on your Kindle device, computer, tablet or smartphone.

Sumerian Religion - Joshua Free 2017-07-28 The most critically acclaimed and bestselling materials from the Mardukite Research Organization now available in one volume! A master compilation of mythological and religious exploration into the heart of ancient Mesopotamian Mysteries, this easy-to-read post-modern anthology illuminates the ancient world using revolutionary teachings and source materials of the modern Mardukite Chamberlains (Mardukite Research Organization) and edited by Joshua Free, the presiding Neo-Akaba of the administration since its inception. Sumerian Religion DELUXE EDITION is a highly innovative and accessible ‘academic edition’ of the Mardukite Chamberlains “Year 2” research and development, including the complete text from two installments: “Sumerian Religion: Secrets of the Anunnaki & The Origins of Babylon” (Liber 50) & “Sumerian Religion II: Secrets of the Anunnaki in Babylonian Mythology” (Liber 51/52) in a single incredible compilation! Arriving on the surface world from the underground - an amazing insight into the Anunnaki ‘alien gods’ and the establishment of human civilization famously accounted by the Sumerian and Babylonian traditions. Prolific writer, Joshua Free, presents this topic such as the modern world has never before had access to, developed from the revolutionary work conducted by the next generation of Seekers actively using a revival Anunnaki tradition in the present day. Sumerian Religion DELUXE EDITION is not merely the presentation of dry academic rendetings of obscure tablets; this book will take you on a progressive journey that is just as relevant and critical today as it was thousands of years ago! Uncover the mysteries that lay hidden in ancient Sumer, with a message so relevant today, it is no wonder it became the greatest kept secret of Babylon!

Babylonian Creation Myths - Wilfred G. Lambert 2013-10-24 For much of the last half of the twentieth century, W. G. Lambert devoted much of his research energy and effort to the study of Babylonian texts dealing with Mesopotamian ideas regarding creation, including especially Enuma Elish. This volume, which appears almost exactly 2 years after Lambert’s death, distills a lifetime of learning by the world’s foremost expert on these texts. Lambert provides a full transliteration and translation of the 7 tablets of Enuma Elish, based on the known exemplars, as well as coverage of a number of other texts that bear on, or are thought to bear on, Mesopotamian notions of the origin of the world, mankind, and the gods. New editions of seventeen additional “creation tales” are included, including “Enmesharra’s Defeat,” “Enki and Ninnah,” “The Slaying of Lammu,” “The Theogony of Dumuzu.” Lambert pays special attention, of
course, to the connection of the main epic, Enuma Elish, with the rise and place of Marduk in the Babylonian pantheon. He traces the development of this deity’s origin within the context of the various exemplars of Enuma Elish and the others discussed, to the religious and political climate of ancient Babylonia. The volume includes 70 plates (primarily hand-copies of the various exemplars of Enuma Elish) and extensive indexes.

Ancient Mesopotamia-A. Leo Oppenheim 2013-01-31 “This splendid work of scholarship . . . sums up with economy and power all that the written record so far deciphered has to tell about the ancient and complementary civilizations of Babylon and Assyria.”—Edward B. Garside, New York Times Book Review Ancient Mesopotamia—the area now called Iraq—has received less attention than ancient Egypt or other long-extant and more spectacular civilizations. But numerous small clay tablets buried in the desert soil for thousands of years make it possible for us to know more about the people of ancient Mesopotamia than any other land in the early Near East. Professor Oppenheim, who studied these tablets for more than thirty years, used his intimate knowledge of long-dead languages to put together a distinctively personal picture of the Mesopotamians of some three thousand years ago. Following Oppenheim’s death, Erica Reiner used the author’s outline to complete the revisions he had begun. “To any serious student of Mesopotamian civilization, this is one of the most valuable books ever written.”—Leonard Cottrell, Book Week “Leo Oppenheim has made a bold, brave, pioneering attempt to present a synthesis of the vast mass of philological and archaeological data that have accumulated over the past hundred years in the field of Assyriological research.”—Samuel Noah Kramer, Archaeology A Leo Oppenheim, one of the most distinguished Assyriologists of our time, was editor in charge of the Assyrian Dictionary of the Oriental Institute and John A. Wilson Professor of Oriental Studies at the University of Chicago.

Everyday Life in Ancient Mesopotamia-Jean Bott?ro 2001-09-05 Fifteen articles on the history of ancient Mesopotamia explore such topics as women’s rights, architecture, myth, sexuality, and cuisine.

Ancient Mediterranean Religions-John Stephens 2016-06-22 This book offers a clear and concise historical overview of the major religious movements of the ancient Mediterranean world existing from the time of the second millennium BCE up until the fourth century CE, including both the Judeo-Christian traditions and pagan religions. Recognizing the significant role of religious institutions in human history and acknowledging the diversity of religious ideas and practices in the ancient Mediterranean world, “religion” is defined as a collection of myths, beliefs, rituals, ethical practices, social institutions and experiences related to the realm of the sacred cosmos. Without focusing too much attention on technical and complex vocabulary, the book provides an overview for exploring the vast array of religious data permeating the ancient Mediterranean world. Through an examination of literary and archeological evidence, the book summarizes the fundamental religious beliefs and practices of the ancient Near East, focusing on the religious traditions of ancient Mesopotamia, Egypt, and Israel. Turning westward, the fascinating world of ancient Greek and Roman religion is considered next. The discussion begins with a description of Minoan-Mycenaean religion, followed by a consideration of classical Roman and Greek religion. Next, the numerous religious movements that blossomed during Hellenistic-Roman times are discussed. In addition, the fundamental theological contributions of various Greco-Roman philosophical schools of thought, including Orphism, Stoicism, Pythagoreanism, Platonism and Neo-Platonism, are described. Greco-Roman philosophy functioned as a quasi-religious outlook for many, and played a decisive role in the evolution of religion in the classical and Hellenistic period. The theological speculations of the philosophers regarding the nature of God and the soul made a huge impact on religious circles during the classical and Hellenistic era. Moving forward in history from archaic and classical times to the later Hellenistic-Roman period, the old religious order of the past falls by the wayside and a new updated religious paradigm begins to develop throughout the Mediterranean world, with a greater emphasis being placed upon the religious individual and the expression of personal religious beliefs. There are several important social and historical reasons for this shift in perspective and these factors are explained in the chapter focusing upon personal religion in Hellenistic times. Since the entire religious topography of the ancient Mediterranean world is rarely outlined in a single volume, this book will be a welcome addition to anyone’s library.

Revolutionizing a World-Mark Altaweel 2018-02-26 This book investigates the long-term continuity of large-scale states and empires, and its effect on the Near East’s social fabric, including the fundamental changes that occurred to major social institutions. Its geographical coverage spans, from east to west, modern-day Libya and Egypt to Central Asia, and from north to south, Anatolia to southern Arabia, incorporating modern-day Oman and Yemen. Its temporal coverage is from the late eighth century BCE to the seventh century CE during the rise of Islam and collapse of the Sasanian Empire. The authors argue that the persistence of large states and empires starting in the eighth/seventh centuries BCE, which continued for many centuries, led to new socio-political structures and institutions emerging in the Near East. The primary processes that enabled this emergence were large-scale and long-distance movements, or population migrations. These patterns of social developments are analysed under different aspects: settlement patterns, urban structure, material culture, trade, governance, language spread and religion, all pointing at movement as the main catalyst for social change. This book’s argument is framed within a larger theoretical framework termed as ‘universalism’, a theory that explains many of the social transformations that happened to societies in the Near East, starting from the Neo-Assyrian period and continuing for centuries. Among other influences, the effects of these transformations are today manifested in modern languages, concepts of government, universal religions and monetized and globalized economies.

The Epic of Gilgamesh-Maureen Gallery Kovacs 1989 Since the discovery over one hundred years ago of a body of Mesopotamian poetry preserved on clay tablets, what has come to be known as the Epic of Gilgamesh has been considered a masterpiece of ancient literature. It recounts the deeds of a hero-king of ancient Uruk, following him through his adventures and encounters with men and gods alike. Yet the central concerns of the Epic lie deeper than the lively and exotic story line: they revolve around a man’s eternal struggle with the limitations of human nature, and encompass the basic human feelings of loneliness, friendship, love, loss, revenge, and the fear of oblivion of death. These themes are developed in a distinctly Mesopotamian idiom, to be sure, but with a sensitivity and intensity that touch the modern reader across the chasm of three thousand years. This translation presents the Epic to the general reader in a clear narrative.

Gods, Demons and Symbols of Ancient Mesopotamia-Jeremy A. Black 1992 Ancient Mesopotamia was a highly complex culture whose achievements included the invention of writing. This illustrated text offers a reference guide to Mesopotamian religion, mythology and magic between about 3000 BC and the advent of the Christian era. Gods, goddesses, demons, monsters, magic, myths, religious symbolism, rituals and the spiritual world are all discussed in alphabetical entries ranging from short accounts to extended essays.

Mesopotamia-Historical Perspective 2020-05-02 Read for FREE with Kindle Unlimited!Mesopotamia: A Comprehensive Guide to Mesopotamian Mythology including Myths, Art, Religion, and Culture. Do you want to learn about Mesopotamia? Mesopotamia is a region of southwest Asia in the Tigris and Euphrates river system that benefited from the area’s climate and geography to host the beginnings of human civilization. Its history is marked by many important inventions that changed the world, including the concept of time, math, writing, calendars, and governments. Mesopotamia is also defined by a changing succession of ruling bodies from different areas and cities that seized control over a period of thousands of years. This book focuses on certain local powers in Old Babylonian Mesopotamia (ca. 2000 - 1595 B.C.), namely the chief of the city (rahiunum), the elders, the “city,” and the assembly. This is a novel approach to Old Babylonian history that allows us to understand the constituency, activities, and sphere of influence of local institutions of authority, and the way they coped with state officials and royal policies. Focusing on local powers changes the traditional manner of looking at the state. This is so because far from being a monolithic entity that unilaterally made decisions concerning people, water, land, and other resources, the state had to deal with local institutions that were not always willing to accept royal decisions passively. The state was often unable to penetrate deeply into traditional social and economic practices that were controlled by local leaders, as is most apparent in the conflict of jurisdiction related to land distribution. However, the state did surreptitiously co-opt local leaders into the royal domain. The methodology and conclusions of this study are essential for understanding Mesopotamia and will also be useful for those studying other ancient states and complex societies. Here Is A Preview Of What You’ll Learn... Timeline of mesopotamian civilization Economy and agriculture Where did the mesopotamian live Mesopotamia’s religion Government, philosophy and culture Kings, power and laws Much, much more! ACT NOW! Click the orange BUY button at the top of this page! Then you can begin reading Mesopotamia: A Comprehensive Guide to Mesopotamian Mythology including Myths, Art, Religion, and Culture on your Kindle device, computer, tablet or smartphone.
The God Enki in Sumerian Royal Ideology and Mythology
Peeter Espak 2015
This study analyzes the divine concept of the Sumero-Akkadian deity Enki in its literary and mythological development through different periods of Mesopotamian history. Sumerian myths and theology related to the god Enki are influential throughout the history of the Ancient Near East. Several mythological motives from the Sumerian cultural area later reach the creation stories of the Old Testament and beyond. Through the Biblical narratives the ancient Sumerian mythology of Enki reaches the later Christian world, and therefore this mythology has become a part of the collective memory and culture of the present day world. Seven chapters give a diachronical overview of the relevant source materials (royal inscriptions, hymns, etc.) related to the god Enki and other close divine figures and religious phenomena from the period of about 2500-1700 BC. The last two chapters concentrate on the aspects of comparative mythology and archaic Sumerian religion. The relations of Enki and the Mother Goddess in the Mesopotamian religion and YHWH and Eve in the Old Testament are briefly analyzed. Some aspects about the decline of the cult of the Mother Goddess and several details of the political history of the Ancient Near East reflected in the relevant texts are discussed in the book. It is claimed that there is no direct conflict between the theologies of Nippur and Eridu (Enlil and Enki), at least when analyzing the available source material.

The Ancient Orient
Wolfram von Soden 1994
This book represents the first comprehensive, interdisciplinary presentation of ancient Near Eastern civilization. The author’s study includes treatments of the history of language and systems of writing, the state and society, nutrition and agriculture, artisanry, economics, law, science, religion and magic, art, music, and more.

Sumerian Tradition
Joshua Free 2015-05-31
"Sumerian Tradition: Secrets of the Anunnaki in Babylonian Mythology" -- an amazing insight into the Anunnaki ‘alien gods’ credited with the establishment of human civilization as accounted for on ancient cuneiform tablets preserving Sumerian and Babylonian traditions. Here is the much anticipated follow-up to Sumerian Religion: Secrets of the Anunnaki & The Origins of Babylon (Liber-50). Joshua Free, world renown authority on the Anunnaki, completes his “Mesopotamian Religion” series with this newly revised edition of the “Sumerian Religion II” (Liber-51/52) materials. Today, we consider these materials to represent Sumerian Tradition at its finest. This new revision of the classic tome reveals the influential power of the Anunnaki of Mesopotamia (Sumerian, Babylonian, Akkadian, Chaldean, Assyrian, etc.) of which the public has only known through nearly insubstantial communications and pop-culture presentations that provide few answers. Uncover the mysteries that lay hidden in ancient Mesopotamia, with a message so relevant today, it is no wonder it became the greatest kept secret of Babylon!

Handbook to Life in Ancient Mesopotamia
Stephen Bertman 2005-07-14
Modern-day archaeological discoveries in the Near East continue to illuminate man’s understanding of the ancient world. This illustrated handbook describes the culture, history, and people of Mesopotamia, as well as their struggle for survival and happiness.

Mesopotamian Myths
Matt Clayton 2020-01-19

THE SUMERIANS THEIR HISTORY. CULTURE, AND CHARACTER
SAMUEL NOAH KRAMER 1963