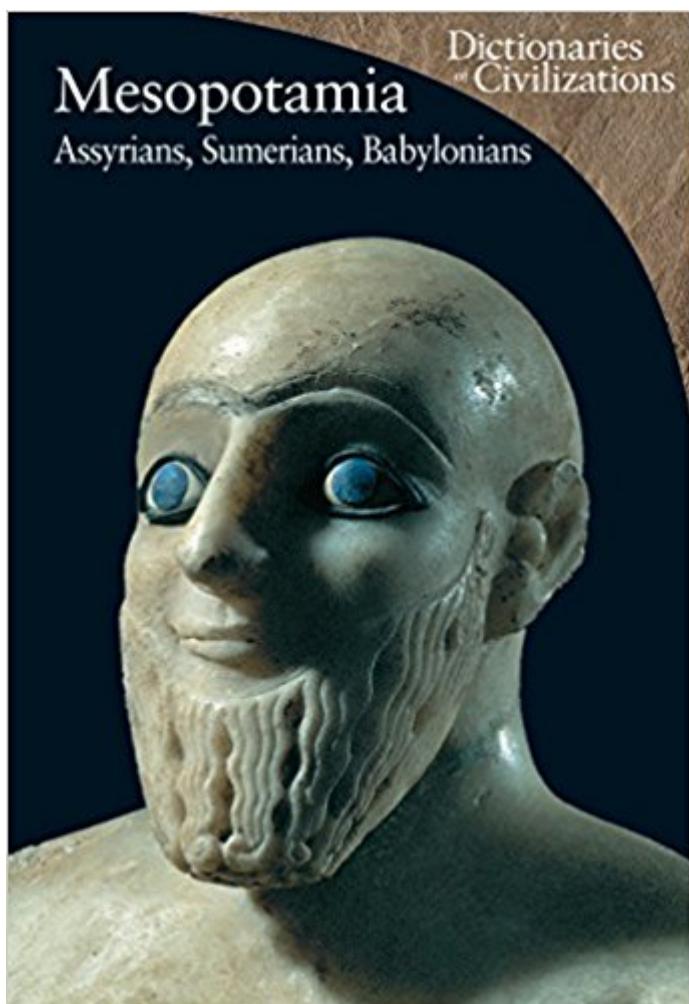


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Mesopotamia: Assyrians, Sumerians, Babylonians (Dictionaries Of Civilization)



Synopsis

This beautifully illustrated guide to the ancient civilization of Mesopotamia, the region between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers, is the perfect companion for travelers and armchair travelers alike. It provides a concise survey of three ancient cultures that have often been misunderstood, both because of Biblical and neoclassical traditions, and because of twentieth- and twenty-first-century events. Lavishly illustrated in full color on every page, the book is arranged topically to cover the broad areas of life, such as people, politics, religion, the world of the dead, and important places and monuments. The text emphasizes the archaeological and literary evidence pertaining to Mesopotamia during the period before the arrival of Alexander the Great, beginning with the written sources, including the list of Sumerian kings and the epic of Gilgamesh, and continuing with the major personages, such as the Akkadian monarchy from Sargon through Nabonido. The book also brings together the principal Mesopotamian works of art that have been dispersed in museums worldwide - notably the materials from the Baghdad Museum that were damaged or lost in the present war. Packed with information, images, maps, diagrams, and reconstructions, Mesopotamia is the perfect companion to an important ancient civilization. Copub: Mondadori Electa

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

These are visual, broadly oriented guides. (Choice 2008-01-01) A fascinating collection. . . . All you have ever wanted to know about ancient Mesopotamian civilization is here and so well done! (European Legacy 2009-09-08)

Enrico Ascalone is an archaeologist specializing in Oriental studies. He has taken part in Italian archaeological missions to Ebla (Syria) and Tell Tuqan (Syria) since 1993 and has been a member of the Italo-Palestinian Archaeological Mission to Jericho/Tell es-Sultan (PNA) since 1998. He lectures in archaeology and art history at Rome University and at the University IULM (Istituto Universitario Lingue Moderne) in Milan.

Thank you for your excellent product and service.

A great resource to use to research the area and the times. I've used it a small degree and enjoy the brevity of the entries and the ease in finding them. The downside is the brevity of the entries, but can be quickly made up with further research online.

This edition offers a well printed and well illustrated review (with a substantial bibliography) of the three great (yes!) civilizations of ancient Mesopotamia. Of special interest for Bible studies are the many reproductions of Assyrian and late Babylonian reliefs, statues, and paintings--some of them eerily redolent of contemporary Middle Eastern types (a reminder of the shameful falsifications promulgated by Hollywood's biblical forays). Well translated from the Italian text with good color and full legend for each illustration (tho, alas, attribution for the superb Sumerian statue adorning the cover is tucked away in the text). Humbling in its reminder of the great achievements of these ancient civilizations (while Europe was doing what?...) that have so profoundly influenced Western culture, beliefs, science (flood stories and dear ol' Gilgamesh; astronomy; divisions by 60 of minutes, seconds, etc., etc.). The reader should bring a rudimentary knowledge of the time sequence of these civilizations. Father Abraham's splendid Ur of the Chaldeans receives a nicely illustrated discussion. A basic and valuable text, a labor of love and scholarship. By the way, a poignant entry describes the National Museum of Iraq, in Baghdad, as "the leading museum in the Near East. Before it was damaged and sacked...."

This is a very good informational book with lots of good color photos. This is a very fascinating book on Sumerian, Assyrian and Babylonian history and culture. The only problem I have with this book is this that it does not contain the photos of Assyrian genies or winged bull men. Other than that this is a very rare good book on Mesopotamian history.

Good quality.

The beautiful photos of so many priceless artifacts and concise background explanations make this an excellent visual reference guide--especially for the superb books by Samuel Kramer and other Sumerian and Mesopotamian experts. This is definitely worth adding to your collection.

Excellent.

well done

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