

## Code of Hammurabi

1

If a man accuse a man, and charge him with murder, but cannot convict him, the accuser shall be put to death.

8

If a man has stolen an ox, a sheep, a pig, or a boat that belonged to a temple or palace, he shall repay thirty times its cost. If it belonged to a private citizen, he shall repay ten times. If the thief cannot pay, he shall be put to death.

55

If a man open his canal for irrigation and neglect it and he let the water carry away an adjacent field, he shall measure out grain on the basis of the adjacent fields.

129

If the wife of a man be taken in lying with another man, they shall bind them and throw them into the water. If the husband of the woman spare the life of his wife, the king shall spare the life of [the other man]

135

If a man be taken captive and there be nothing to eat in his house, and his wife enter into another house and bear children; if later her husband return and reach his city, that woman shall return to her husband; the children shall go to their father.

195

If a man strike his father they shall cut off his hand

196

If a man destroy the eye of another man, they shall destroy his eye

197

If he break a man's bone, they shall break his bone.

198

If he destroy the eye of a common man or break a bone of a common man, he shall pay one mana of silver.

199

If he destroy the eye of a man's slave or break a bone of a man's slave, he shall pay one-half his price.

202

If a man smite on the cheek a man who is his superior, he shall receive sixty strokes with an oxtail whip in public.

203

If the son of a gentleman smite the son of a gentleman of his own rank on the cheek, he shall pay one mana of silver.

235

If a shipbuilder construct a boat for a man and he do not make its construction trustworthy, and that boat develop structural weakness the same year (and) have an accident, the shipbuilder shall dismantle that boat and he shall strengthen it at his own expense and he shall give the strengthened boat to the owner of the boat.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** Read the selection of laws from the Code of Hammurabi on the previous page. Use the laws provided to help you answer the following questions about Babylonia.

1. Is it apparent that the Code of Hammurabi is the product of a civilization rather than some early society? Does the code illustrate key elements of what a civilization is? [Look back in your notes about the 8 characteristics of a civilizations CARS/JGWP]

2. What does the code imply about the social structure of Babylonia?

3. Why is it clear this is a patriarchal society (a society run by men)? Which laws demonstrate this?

4. What do you think the value was in making the punishments for the crimes known to all?

6. Do you think the Code of Hammurabi is fair? Why or why not?