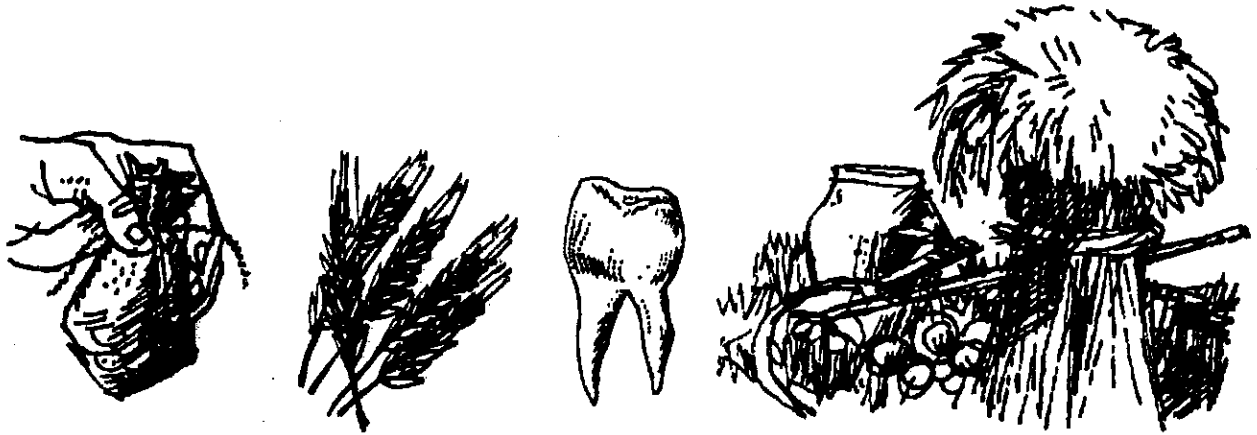


# Conquests and Empire Building

Hammurabi believed his code of laws would bring peace and security to the people of Babylon. Some of Hammurabi's laws are given below. Read them carefully. Then follow the directions on the next page.



## On Stealing

- If a man has stolen a child, he shall be put to death.
- If a man has committed highway robbery and has been caught, that man shall be put to death.

## On Farming

- If a man has rented a field to cultivate and has not grown any grain on the field, he shall be held responsible for not doing the work and shall pay rent.
- If a man owes a debt and a storm has flooded his field or destroyed his crop, in that year he shall pay nothing.

## On Harming Others

- If a man has knocked out the eye of a nobleman, his eye shall be knocked out.
- If a man has knocked out the eye of a poor man, he shall pay one mina of silver. (A mina equals about 2 pounds.)
- If a nobleman has knocked out the tooth of a man who is his equal, his tooth shall be knocked out.
- If a nobleman has knocked out the tooth of a poor man, he shall pay one-third of a mina of silver.

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(continued)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions** Read the statements below. Underline *True* or *False* to show whether each statement agrees with what you have learned about Hammurabi's laws. Explain your answers.

- 1 Stealing was not a very serious crime.  
True/False

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- 2 Farmers were treated fairly.  
True/False

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- 3 Laws against harming others were fair for people within the same class.  
True/False

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- 4 Laws against harming others favored the poor.  
True/False

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- 5 **Directions** Now write <sup>three (3)</sup> ~~several~~ sentences to answer this question: What do these laws from Hammurabi's Code tell you about Sumerian society?

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