

المرحلة الثانية

النص 3

الجزء 3

## Civilization of the Middle East

Flooding by the Tigris and Euphrates, which can be sudden and variable in character, follows hard upon the rainy season, giving a long dry period throughout more than half the year, in Egypt, floods as it were complement the rainy season by splitting the year into four shorter seasons- one of slight rainfall, one of flood, and two of drought. Of the two regions, Egyptian conditions, might be considered as more “manageable” and would seem to demand less experience and resource.

At all events, whichever view obtained, it is clear that by about 3500 - 4000 B. C. , both Egypt and Mesopotamia had a highly evolved social life, with organized civil and religious bodies. Copper and bronze were used, although on a limited scale, and trading contacts with other regions had begun.