



The Ancient Mesopotamian City

By Marc Van De Mieroop

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Urban history starts in ancient Mesopotamia. In this volume Marc Van de Mieroop examines the evolution of the very earliest cities which, for millennia, inspired the rest of the ancient world. The author argues that the city determined every aspect of Mesopotamian civilization, and the political and social structure, economy, literature, and arts of Mesopotamian culture cannot be understood without acknowledging their urban background.

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Review

'offers a starting point to the cities of Mesopotamia for both the lay reader and the undergraduate student.'

E.J. Owens, The Classical Review, 2000.

'Van de Mieroop's thoroughgoing treatment of the subject can be read to advantage by every kind of ancient historian ... a splendid work of synthesis.'

A R George, Bulletin of the SOAS 62:3 1999

'His comparison and contrast of southern versus northern cities and planned versus unplanned cities gives a sense of the complexity, and his intelligent analysis of the multiple loci of social power offers insights into the contradictions ... frequent references to archaeological material are well integrated. This book deserves a wide audience.'

Anthony Sinclair, Antiquity

This work is the survey of a city in Mesopotamian history by an author who has studied Old Babylonian Ur with distinction and it is a welcome addition to our understanding of Mesopotamian society, economics and politics. The book is attractive and well illustrated. - Daniel Snell -

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About the Author

Marc Van De Mieroop is at Columbia University.

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