

# **MESOPOTAMIA**

## **SOCIAL CLASSES**

**The very first monarchy was developed by the Sumerians. This monarchy was led by a king, who was at the top of the social pyramid.**

**Below the king were the priests and military commanders. They were very important because they helped advise the king.**

**Below the priests and military commanders were the middle class. In Sumer, this consisted of the merchants, farmers, scribes, and artisans.**

**At the bottom of the social pyramid were the slaves. The slaves were captured from neighboring mountain cities.**

**Fortunately for the slaves, there were opportunities for them to advance in society, and move their way up the pyramid.**

**Women in Mesopotamia had many rights, unlike other regions of the world. They could purchase land, own businesses, and even divorce their husbands.**

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## SOCIAL CLASSES

Illustrate and describe the different levels of the Mesopotamian social pyramid in the space below.

