

Chapter 1 : Göbekli Tepe - Wikipedia

This is a sweeping survey of the ruins to be found in Turkey and the cultures that left them. From the dawn of agriculture through to the Hittites all the way to the fall of the Roman Empire, this work catalogs the major sites.

Layer III – The Hd samples are from charcoal in the fill of the lowest levels of the site and would date the end of the active phase of occupation of Level III - the actual structures will be older. The Ua samples come from pedogenic carbonate coatings on pillars and only indicate the time after the site was abandoned – the terminus ante quem. In the north, the plateau is connected to a neighbouring mountain range by a narrow promontory. In all other directions, the ridge descends steeply into slopes and steep cliffs. Excavations have taken place at the southern slope of the tell, south and west of a mulberry that marks an Islamic pilgrimage, [14] but archaeological finds come from the entire plateau. The team has also found many remains of tools. These are possibly related to a square building in the neighbourhood, of which only the foundation is preserved. Presumably, this is the remains of a Roman watchtower which belonged to the Limes Arabicus. However, this is not known with certainty. Their profiles were pecked into the rock, with the detached blocks then levered out of the rock bank. Their status as quarries was confirmed by the find of a 3-metre piece at the southeastern slope of the plateau. Unequivocally Neolithic are three T-shaped pillars that have not been levered out of the bedrock. The biggest of them lies on the northern plateau. Its weight may be around 50 tons. The two other unfinished pillars lie on the southern Plateau. At the western edge of the hill, a lion-like figure was found. In this area, flint and limestone fragments occur more frequently. It was therefore suggested that this could have been some kind of sculpture workshop. They are near the quarries from classical times, making their dating difficult. This platform corresponds to the complexes from Layer III at the actual tell. Continuing the naming pattern, it is called "complex E. Immediately northwest of this area are two cistern-like pits, believed to be part of complex E. One of these pits has a table-high pin as well as a staircase with five steps. It is the only relief found in this cave. They range from 10 to 30 metres in diameter. Their most notable feature is the presence of T-shaped limestone pillars evenly set within thick interior walls composed of unworked stone. Four such circular structures have been unearthed so far. Geophysical surveys indicate that there are 16 more, enclosing up to eight pillars each, amounting to nearly pillars in all. Whether the circles were provided with a roof is uncertain. Stone benches designed for sitting are found in the interior. The pictograms may represent commonly understood sacred symbols, as known from Neolithic cave paintings elsewhere. The reliefs depict mammals such as lions, bulls, boars, foxes, gazelles and donkeys; snakes and other reptiles, arthropods such as insects and arachnids; and birds, particularly vultures. At the time the edifice was constructed, the surrounding country was likely to have been forested and capable of sustaining this variety of wildlife, before millennia of settlement and cultivation led to the near – Dust Bowl conditions prevalent today. However, some of the T-shaped pillars have human arms carved on their lower half, suggesting to site excavator Schmidt that they are intended to represent the bodies of stylized humans or perhaps gods. Loincloths also appear on the lower half of a few pillars. The horizontal stone slab on top is thought by Schmidt to symbolize shoulders, which means the figures were left headless. Some of the floors in this, the oldest, layer are made of terrazzo burnt lime, others are bedrock from which pedestals to hold the large pair of central pillars were carved in high relief. Carbon dating suggests that for reasons unknown the enclosures were backfilled during the Stone Age. Rectangular buildings make a more efficient use of space compared with circular structures. They are often associated with the emergence of the Neolithic. The several adjoining rectangular, doorless and windowless rooms have floors of polished lime reminiscent of Roman terrazzo floors. Carbon dating has yielded dates between and BCE. A pair decorated with fierce-looking lions is responsible for the name "lion pillar building" by which their enclosure is known. The pole features three figures, the uppermost depicting a predator, probably a bear, and below it a human-like shape. Because the statue is damaged, the interpretation is not entirely clear. Also, an older layer at Gobekli does feature some related sculptures portraying animals on human heads. It is the shallowest, but accounts for the longest stretch of time. It consists of loose sediments caused by erosion and the virtually uninterrupted use of the hill for

agricultural purposes since it ceased to operate as a cult center. The site was deliberately backfilled sometime after BCE: The inhabitants are assumed to have been hunters and gatherers who nevertheless lived in villages for at least part of the year. The surviving structures, then, not only predate pottery, metallurgy, and the invention of writing or the wheel, but were built before the so-called Neolithic Revolution, i. But the complex was not simply abandoned and forgotten to be gradually destroyed by the elements. Many animal, and even human, bones have also been identified in the fill. Radiocarbon dating as well as comparative, stylistical analysis indicate that it is the oldest religious site yet discovered anywhere. Butchered bones found in large numbers from local game such as deer, gazelle, pigs, and geese have been identified as refuse from food hunted and cooked or otherwise prepared for the congregants. Crowded conditions could have led these people to develop common rituals strengthened by monumental gathering places to reduce tensions and conflicts over resources [38], and probably to mark territorial claims. He assumed shamanic practices and suggested that the T-shaped pillars represent human forms, perhaps ancestors, whereas he saw a fully articulated belief in gods only developing later in Mesopotamia, associated with extensive temples and palaces. This corresponds well with an ancient Sumerian belief that agriculture, animal husbandry, and weaving were brought to mankind from the sacred mountain Ekur, which was inhabited by Annuna deities, very ancient gods without individual names. Schmidt identified this story as a primeval oriental myth that preserves a partial memory of the emerging Neolithic. As excavator Klaus Schmidt put it: There are no comparable monumental complexes from its time. However, since its discovery surface surveys have shown that several hills in the greater area also have T-shaped stone pillars. Its T-shaped pillars are considerably smaller, and its rectangular shrine was located inside a village. It remains unknown how a force large enough to construct, augment, and maintain such a substantial complex was mobilized and compensated or fed in the conditions of pre-sedentary society. Scholars cannot interpret the pictograms, and do not know for certain what meaning the animal reliefs had for visitors to the site; the variety of fauna depicted, from lions and boars to birds and insects, makes any single explanation problematic. As there is little or no evidence of habitation, and the animals pictured are mainly predators, the stones may have been intended to stave off evils through some form of magic representation. Alternatively, they could have served as totems. The reason the complex was carefully backfilled remains unexplained. The Ministry of Culture and Tourism responded that no concrete was used and that no damage had occurred.

Chapter 2 : best Archaeological Turkey images on Pinterest in

Ancient Civilizations and Ruins of Turkey. Title: Ancient Civilizations and Ruins of Turkey: Publication Type: Book: Year of Publication: Authors: Akurgal E.

Ephesuson Ephesus Information This enclosure for archaeological remains at Ephesus elegantly reconciles historic conservation with accessibility for visitors. The site of a succession of great ancient civilizations, Ephesus, on the south-west coast of modern Turkey, embodied a peculiarly fertile synthesis of architecture and culture. In BC the Greeks built the Artemesium a colossal Ionic temple dedicated to Artemis the fertility goddess which was one of the Seven Wonders of the ancient world. During the 2nd century BC, Ephesus was the fourth largest city in the eastern Roman Empire, famous for its Artemesium, the Library of Celsus and its medical school. One of the greatest of the Ionian cities, it became the leading seaport of the region. Its wealth was proverbial. The Greek city was near an old center of worship of a native nature goddess, who was equated with the Greek Artemis, and c. To this Croesus, who captured the city, contributed. When Lydians attacked their cities, Ephesians defended themselves by tying a rope from The Temple of Artemis. But it was not a good way to defend a city. Croesus of Lydia captured it easily however he did not destroy. The city reached the "Golden Age" and became a good model to the Antic World in culture and art, as well. Building of the Artemission was going on. Croesus had a great respect to Artemis and he donated 36 columns with sculptures in relief. Some parts of these sculptures are in the British Museum today. From Lydian control Ephesus passed to the Persian Empire. The temple was burned down in the 4th cent. The city continued to thrive during the wars of his successors, and after it passed to the Romans it kept its hegemony and was the leading city of the province of Asia. The great temple of Artemis , or Artemis, called by the Romans the temple of Diana, was considered one of the Seven Wonders of the World. The city was sacked by the Goths in A. The seat of a church council in , Ephesus was abandoned after the harbor silted up. Excavations of the ruins of the temple brought to light many artifacts. Later excavations uncovered important Roman and Byzantine remains. In a Christian version of a widespread story, martyrs immured in a cave near Ephesus during the persecutions by Decius c. Long afterward, in the 5th cent. Their story reassured the emperor, who had been wavering in his faith. The youths returned to their cave, to sleep again until Judgment. The story, thought to be of Syrian origin, was popularized by Gregory of Tours.

Chapter 3 : turkey | Ancient Origins

Göbekli Tepe (pronounced [É̃ˈbɛkˈli tɛˈpɛ]), Turkish for "Potbelly Hill", is an archaeological site in the Southeastern Anatolia Region of Turkey, approximately 12 km (7 mi) northeast of the city of Şanlıurfa.

Permalink Aizanoi Most tourists coming to Turkey are attracted to its sandy southern beaches, green scenery in the south and beautiful city of Istanbul, but the ruins of ancient Roman and Greek cities offer international and local tourists a chance to explore the footprints of ancient people. Being the crossroads of civilizations for thousands of years, Turkey is a place you cannot visit without tripping over ancient ruins dating back thousands of years. Almost everywhere you visit, you will be within easy reach of reminders of the Romans and Greeks who built magnificent theaters, temples and homes.

Knidos The remains of the ancient Greek city of Knidos are among the most picturesque historic attractions in the region. Founded by Greek settlers, Knidos was an important cultural and political center by the fifth century B. The city was famed for its association with Aphrodite and for its famous stature of the goddess, sculpted by Praxiteles of Athens. Although the statue has not survived, a number of copies exist, one of which can be found in the Vatican Museum. Even though the ruins are not as well preserved compared to other ancient cities in Turkey, Knidos is worth a visit because of its scenic and quaint atmosphere combined with rich history.

Miletus Miletus is an ancient Greek city on the western coast of Anatolia near the mouth of the Meanders River. Miletus eventually became a thriving hub from the eighth and seventh centuries B. It was rebuilt on a new site after this, and once again became an important center. In its heyday, Miletus was a magnificent city renowned for its great philosophers. The 15,seat Roman theater is the main attraction of the site. One fascinating aspect of the theater aside from its superb state of preservation are the inscriptions that are said to reserve seating for certain groups, including one for "Jews and God fearers. Also, make sure you check out the small remains of the colonnaded covered walkway, the Baths of Faustina and the reasonably well-preserved Temple of Apollo. With its ruins straddling the River Penkalas, 1, meters above sea level, the city was once an important political and economic center. Surviving remains from the period include a well-preserved Temple of Zeus, a combined theater-stadium complex, and an ancient indoor market building known as a "macellum" inscribed with a copy of the Price Edict of Diocletian.

Zeugma Zeugma was a city in the ancient Kingdom of Commagene, located in modern-day Gaziantep province. Being one of the most important cities of the Eastern Roman Empire, Zeugma was originally founded around B. The military and commercial importance of Zeugma led to major growth and wealth with as many as 70, people living in the city at its peak. As such a crucial strategic crossing, Zeugma was always a target in times of war. Today, much of the site is now underwater due to modern dam-building projects. Surprisingly, what is left of Zeugma itself has been protected to ensure it will survive the waters and be preserved for the future. The higher areas of the ancient city are also under renewed excavation, and protective structures have been put in place to cover the newly discovered remains of the city. In , an excavation project conducted by Oxford Archaeology and supported by the Packard Humanities Institute of Los Altos, California, and the Culture Ministry unearthed three more ancient Greek mosaics. Those interested in seeing the ruins of this ancient city should head to Gaziantep to the impressive Zeugma Mosaic Museum where an amazing number of brilliantly preserved mosaics from the site are displayed.

Ephesus, a city that became part of the territory of the Attalids of Pergamum and was later handed to Rome in B. The city was famed for its Temple of Artemis, completed around B. More than anywhere else, the Greco-Roman world comes alive at Ephesus. When visiting, make sure to check out the terraced houses, the incredible homes that have been completely dug up, featuring frescoed walls and mosaic floors. Offering an insight into what life might have been like for citizens in the first and second centuries A.

Chapter 4 : The Ancient Ruins of Pergamon in Turkey : North Aegean Travel

The ancient site of GÃ¼bekli Tepe in Turkey has rewritten the early history of civilization.

To the north are forested mountains. East of the hill lies the biblical plain of Harran, and to the south is the Syrian border, visible 20 miles away, pointing toward the ancient lands of Mesopotamia and the Fertile Crescent, the region that gave rise to human civilization. And under our feet, according to archeologist Klaus Schmidt, are the stones that mark the spotâ€”the exact spotâ€”where humans began that ascent. Standing on the hill at dawn, overseeing a team of 40 Kurdish diggers, the German-born archeologist waves a hand over his discovery here, a revolution in the story of human origins. Schmidt has uncovered a vast and beautiful temple complex, a structure so ancient that it may be the very first thing human beings ever built. The ruins are so early that they predate villages, pottery, domesticated animals, and even agricultureâ€”the first embers of civilization. In fact, Schmidt thinks the temple itself, built after the end of the last Ice Age by hunter-gatherers, became that emberâ€”the spark that launched mankind toward farming, urban life, and all that followed. After a dozen years of patient work, Schmidt has uncovered what he thinks is definitive proof that a huge ceremonial site flourished here, a "Rome of the Ice Age," as he puts it, where hunter-gatherers met to build a complex religious community. Across the hill, he has found carved and polished circles of stone, with terrazzo flooring and double benches. All the circles feature massive T-shaped pillars that evoke the monoliths of Easter Island. Though not as large as Stonehengeâ€”the biggest circle is 30 yards across, the tallest pillars 17 feet highâ€”the ruins are astonishing in number. Last year Schmidt found his third and fourth examples of the temples. Ground-penetrating radar indicates that another 15 to 20 such monumental ruins lie under the surface. The new discoveries are finally beginning to reshape the slow-moving consensus of archeology. All our theories were wrong. The need to build and maintain this temple, he says, drove the builders to seek stable food sources, like grains and animals that could be domesticated, and then to settle down to guard their new way of life. The temple begat the city. This theory reverses a standard chronology of human origins, in which primitive man went through a "Neolithic revolution" 10, to 12, years ago. In the old model, shepherds and farmers appeared first, and then created pottery, villages, cities, specialized labor, kings, writing, art, andâ€”somewhere on the way to the airplaneâ€”organized religion. As far back as Jean-Jacques Rousseau, thinkers have argued that the social compact of cities came first, and only then the "high" religions with their great temples, a paradigm still taught in American high schools. Religion now appears so early in civilized lifeâ€”earlier than civilized life, if Schmidt is correctâ€”that some think it may be less a product of culture than a cause of it, less a revelation than a genetic inheritance. Schmidt speculates that nomadic bands from hundreds of miles in every direction were already gathering here for rituals, feasting, and initiation rites before the first stones were cut. The religious purpose of the site is implicit in its size and location. Most startling is the elaborate carving found on about half of the 50 pillars Schmidt has unearthed. There are a few abstract symbols, but the site is almost covered in graceful, naturalistic sculptures and bas-reliefs of the animals that were central to the imagination of hunter-gatherers. Wild boar and cattle are depicted, along with totems of power and intelligence, like lions, foxes, and leopards. Many of the biggest pillars are carved with arms, including shoulders, elbows, and jointed fingers. The T shapes appear to be towering humanoids but have no faces, hinting at the worship of ancestors or humanlike deities. A Catholic born in Franconia, Germany, Schmidt wanders the site in a white turban, pointing out the evidence of that transition. They were the inventors of cultivated plants, of domestic architecture," he says. The hill was ideally situated for ancient hunters. Wild gazelles still migrate past twice a year as they did 11 millennia ago, and birds fly overhead in long skeins. Animal husbandry also began near hereâ€”the first domesticated pigs came from the surrounding area in about B. The single largest carving shows a vulture poised over a headless human. Schmidt theorizes that human corpses were ex-posed here on the hilltop for consumption by birdsâ€”what a Tibetan would call a sky burial. Sifting the tons of dirt removed from the site has produced very few human bones, however, perhaps because they were removed to distant homes for ancestor worship. There is no water here. Some archeologists, like Hodder, the Neolithic specialist, wonder if Schmidt has simply missed evidence of a village

or if his dating of the site is too precise. Huge temples did emerge againâ€”but the next unambiguous example dates from 5,000 years later, in southern Iraq. The site is such an outlier that an American archeologist who stumbled on it in the 1950s simply walked away, unable to interpret what he saw. He saw carved flint everywhere, and recognized a Neolithic quarry on an adjacent hill, with unfinished slabs of limestone hinting at some monument buried nearby. He too considered walking away, he says, knowing that if he stayed, he would have to spend the rest of his life digging on the hill. Now 55 and a staff member at the German Archaeological Institute, Schmidt has joined a long line of his countrymen here, reaching back to Heinrich Schliemann, the discoverer of Troy. He has settled in, marrying a Turkish woman and making a home in a modest "dig house" in the narrow streets of old Urfa. Decades of work lie ahead. Disputes are normal at the siteâ€”the workers, Schmidt laments, are divided into three separate clans who feud constantly. Whatever mysterious rituals were conducted in the temples, they ended abruptly before 5,000 B.C. The temples had been in decline for a thousand yearsâ€”later circles are less than half the size of the early ones, indicating a lack of resources or motivation among the worshipers. This "clear digression" followed by a sudden burial marks "the end of a very strange culture," Schmidt says. But it was also the birth of a new, settled civilization, humanity having now exchanged the hilltops of hunters for the valleys of farmers and shepherds. New ways of life demand new religious practices, Schmidt suggests, and "when you have new gods, you have to get rid of the old ones."

Chapter 5 : Gobekli Tepe: The World's First Temple? | History | Smithsonian

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Here are 10 of them. Bhushan Kotakar The Hattians were a civilization which inhabited the area of present-day Anatolia, Turkey from the 26th century to around the 18th century B. Believed to be the earliest urban settlers of the area, their existence can be traced to 24th-century Akkadian cuneiform tablets. Most archaeologists believe that they were indigenous to the area preceding the more famous Hittite civilization, which arrived in the 23rd century B. The two cultures slowly merged together, with the Hittites adopting a variety of Hatti religious beliefs and practices. Many of the largest Hittite settlements, such as Alaca Hoyuk and Hattusa, are believed to have originally been Hattian. While they had their own spoken language, no evidence of a written form of the Hatti language has ever been found. In fact, most of what we know about the Hattians comes from the widespread adoption of their culture by the Hittites. Their population probably existed as a majority for decades—if not centuries—while they were under the aristocratic rule of the Hittites, before they eventually faded away into obscurity. Rod Waddington While most people are familiar with the Aztecs and the Maya of Mesoamerica, the people known as the Zapotec remain relatively obscure. Among the first people in the area to use agricultural and writing systems, they also built one of the earliest recognized cities in North America—Monte Alban. Founded in the fifth century B. In Monte Alban, a privileged class made up of priests, warriors, and artists ruled over the lower classes. Like many of the civilizations of Mesoamerica, the Zapotecs subjugated the surrounding areas through a mix of warfare, diplomacy, and tribute. The sudden downfall of their culture seemed to have no reason, and their largest city was mostly left intact, though it was eventually ruined by years of abandonment. Some scholars believe that a failure of their economic system may have pushed the Zapotecs to find work elsewhere. The rest of the population grouped together into various city-states, which proceeded to fight each other as well as outside forces until they were no more. Beginning in the 55th century B. In addition, they were artistic and fond of children; archaeologists have found various toys, such as animals and rattles, buried among the other artifacts. They were also extremely organized—the houses of the Vinca civilization had specific locations for trash, and the dead were all buried in a central location. Rama Another civilization which influenced the Hittites was the Hurrian people, who lived throughout the Middle East during the second millennium B. Personal and place names written in the Hurrian language were found in Mesopotamian records dating back to the third millennium B. Unfortunately, very few artifacts of their civilization exist; most of what we know about them comes from the writings of other cultures, including the Hittites, Sumerians, and Egyptians. One of their largest cities is known as Urkesh and is located in northeastern Syria. Urkesh is also where the earliest known text in Hurrian, a stone tablet and statue known as the Louvre lion, was found. Long believed to be mainly nomadic, scholars now believe that the Hurrians may have had a much bigger impact than previously thought, mostly due to the way their language differed from other Semitic and Indo-European tongues. However, by the end of the second millennium B. Ji-Elle Named after the area in Nigeria in which artifacts of their culture were first discovered, the Nok civilization flourished during the first millennium B. Whatever the case, scholars believe that they played an important role in the development of other cultures in the area, such as the Yoruba and Benin peoples. Perhaps the best-known examples of their artistic nature are the terra-cotta figures which have been found throughout the area. The reason for this assumption is that no evidence for copper smelting has ever been found, which was a precursor to an iron age in nearly every other civilization. Scholars differ on where they believe the civilization was, with a range from South Africa all the way up the coast to the Middle East. Even though the Egyptians wrote extensively on the land and its people, they never bothered to actually say where it was. A lot of our knowledge of Punt comes from the reign of Hatshepsut, the famed female pharaoh who ruled Egypt during the 15th century B. Reliefs in her mortuary temple contain information on a rather large trade expedition to Punt, as well as more specific details, like pictures of beehive-shaped houses on stilts. A scene showing Hatshepsut receiving wondrous gifts from the exotic land is

also carved into the temple walls. Beginning with its arrival during the third millennium B. Named for the region of present-day Peru which they occupied, they had 20 major cities, with advanced architecture and agriculture making up a large portion of their settlements. They also developed intricate irrigation systems, sophistication which was unheard of in the Americas at that time. Artifacts recognizable as religious symbols have been found throughout the area, especially near the stone pyramids for which the Norte Chico civilization is famous. There is some debate over whether or not they qualify as a civilization, as well as what that term even means. Usually, indicators like a form of art and a sense of urbanization are key, but the Norte Chico civilization possessed neither of these. Whatever the case, there is no denying that they were an influence on later South American cultures, such as the Chavin civilization, which began a few hundred years after the fall of the Norte Chicos. The Elamite civilization consisted mostly of land inside present-day Iran, along with a small portion of Iraq. One of the earliest civilizations, it was founded sometime in the third millennium B. Situated along the borders of Sumer and Akkad, the land of Elam was similar to its neighbors, although its language was altogether unique. Although they lasted as an independent kingdom for at least a millennium, if not longer, very little is known about them because Elamite scribes were not concerned with documenting their mythology, literature, or any scientific advancements. Writing was mostly seen as a way to honor the king or perform administrative duties. Due to this fact, they made a rather small impact on the development of future civilizations, especially when compared to the Egyptians and Sumerians. Rapid Travel Chai An important trading civilization in its heyday, Dilmun encompassed an area consisting of present-day Bahrain, Kuwait, and parts of Saudi Arabia. Saar is still being investigated, but a large number of the artifacts that have already been found there date to the third millennium B. Dilmun was a major commercial player in its day, with control over the Persian Gulf trading lanes and a communication network that reached as far away as Turkey. Numerous water springs flow all across the area, which researchers believe may have led to the legend of Bahrain being the Biblical Garden of Eden. In addition, Enki, the Sumerian god of wisdom, was said to have lived in the underground springs. Gifted with the idea that planning cities in advance would be a good idea, their urban areas were second to none; unfortunately, due to what scientists believe to have been a massive, centuries-long drought, their culture slowly declined, never to rise again. This is currently nothing more than a theory, but it helps explain other cultural declines in the area as well. Beginning sometime in the 25th century B. Their most noteworthy artifacts are seals, usually made of soapstone, which depict various animals and mythical creatures. When it collapsed, the ruins of the Harappan civilization provided a template for the various other cultures which sprang up after it.

Chapter 6 : Ancient Civilizations and Ruins of Turkey | Turkish Archaeological News

Six miles from Urfa, an ancient city in southeastern Turkey, Klaus Schmidt has made one of the most startling archaeological discoveries of our time: massive carved stones about 11, years old.

History of Ephesus City There is no complete information about the origins of this city. Androclos fled to Delphi Oracle and was told that a boar and fish will guide him. Many days after, while cooking, a fish fell, alarming a hiding boar. This hiding boar fled, and then Androclos followed and murdered the animal, setting up Ephesus on the place where the animal was killed. Myth aside, it is believed that the Ephesus or Ephesus city was created in 11 century by Ionians, and considered as the oldest Greek civilizations located near the Aegean Sea. Years after it was expanded by the Romanians and became the local place of Roman rule in Asia. The city was made near the Cayster River that was scoured into a full harbour emptying in to the Mediterranean and develops into a great dock, boasting as the most significant Mediterranean seaport for products came from Roman West, Greece as well as Italy. The city was also famous as a core of religious godliness. From earliest periods, it made around an oldest Temple of Artemis , and now regarded as the one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. Before Christian time, the city played a very significant responsibility in the spread of Christianity. With the coming of St. Paul, who utilizes the Ephesus city as the main place to expand Christianity to Greece and nearby cities, the standing or reputation of this city improved and was later place to important cults which includes those of Virgin Mary and Saint John. All through the times, the city was dominated by different empires which take account of Romans, Ionians, Lydians as well as Persians. On the other hand, it managed to keep it liberty with a self-governing system. Ephesus city reached its pinnacle and was infamous for its prosperity between 1 and 4 AD during the time of Augustus, he was one of the most known leader of ancient Ephesus and eventually become the important place of New Asia. By means of economics of an altering world and a bothersome silting harbour, this big and crowded city became the old days of romance, a religious and cultural memory, gradually fading as the time goes by. In spite of, this city has kept one of the best reconstructed cities of the ancient world. Walking the main entrance of the city, the Magnesia gate, you will astounded by amazing sights. Grooved in chariot wheels, streets made of marbles, lead to wonderful temples, frescoes in Terrace Houses , fountains as well as porticoes. According to historian the population at this city was , or more than that made it one of the biggest and crowded city during the time of Antioch and Rome. The wonderful city of Ephesus was incredibly inexpensively and has good trade and business going on. This is also the basis why the city was named the main and important city of New Asia. On the other hand, the progress of the trade and industry was begun to slow down after for a moment. Place of a Wonder: Artemis Temple, regarded as the seven wonders of the ancient world was located in this city. In Ephesus city, there are noticeable relics of a library devoted to Tiberius Julious Celsus Polemeanus which housed 12, to 15, scrolls. The city was regarded as the second biggest place of the Romanian Empire. The city was discovered between and B. The city was shattered and cracked by a strong earthquake in 17 AD and then developed and extended by Tiberius. The city was a significant enough place for previous Christianity; this is also the place where in the 3rd ecumenical council conducted in AD. A finest place for Christians and Pagans, this city contained the usual trappings of Greek and Roman cities that take account of Odeon, theatre, public toilets, state agora as well as huge monument to the leaders and emperors. The city was the place of St. Paul ministry for 3 years Today: The place is now called Selcuk, in Izmir district near Kusadasi - Turkey.

Chapter 7 : Turkey: Archeological Dig Reshaping Human History

Ancient Persian Ruins Discovered In Turkey Come As A Big Surprise by Abbas Djavadi 1 month ago 3 comments Recent excavations by Turkish archeologists near the northern Anatolian city of Amasya have unveiled the remains of a 2,500-year-old Persian Achaemenid palace, a reception hall, a throne chamber, and a fire temple, Turkish media has reported.

It spans over 20,000 kilometers from Shanhaiguan in Hebei province in the east to Jiayuguan in Gansu province in the west. The Great Wall is the only man-made structure on earth that can be seen from the moon. Visitors can admire the watchtowers and ramparts that Chinese soldiers used as a vantage point centuries ago. The Badaling section of the Wall is easily accessible from Beijing, but it tends to be overrun by tourists. The Great Wall at Mutianyu is less crowded and offers spectacular views. Guatemala A jungle city built by the Mayans, Tikal reached the height of its power in the eighth century before it was mysteriously abandoned around A.D. It remained engulfed by the jungle for nearly 1,000 years, unnoticed by the Spanish conquistadors searching for gold. In the late 1800s, archeologists began to uncover the massive temples once covered in stucco and painted bright red and green to honor the Mayan gods. Temple IVâ€”the tallestâ€”stands an impressive 140 feet high tall. Visitors to the archeological site can go camping on the grounds of the Tikal National Park or stay at a hotel nearby. Cambodia The largest religious monument in the world, Angkor Wat is the best preserved and most impressive of the Khmer temples that make up the Angkor Temple Complex. Bas-reliefs depicting the creation of the world, an audience given by the king, and epic battles from Hindu mythology are especially impressive. Many travelers hire a car and driver or a tuk-tuk, but bicycles and electric bikes are available too. It takes the form of a stepped pyramid, and each ascending level represents a stage of enlightenment. Toward the bottom, intricately carved bas-reliefs depict the Buddhist sutras. The higher terraces feature statues of Buddha inside bell shaped stupas. Built between 802 and 1137 A.D. If you can get up early enough, sunrise is the most serene and magical time of day to visit Borobudur. We know that it was begun around B.C. Archeological excavations have revealed that it was once a burying ground. The mystery lies in how the sarsen stones, weighing as much as 45 tons, were transported across great distances before the invention of the wheel. The incredible prehistoric monument is especially moving at sunrise and sunset, when you can feel its mystical presence. A new visitor center recently opened and displays over 100 artifacts, including the reconstructed face of an early Neolithic man. Easter Island, Chile Like Stonehenge, the monolithic human figures carved by the Rapa Nui peopleâ€”the native Polynesian inhabitants of Easter Islandâ€”puzzle archeologists. They were placed atop family burial grounds, transmitting their manaâ€”powerâ€”to the living family chief. No one is sure how or why they were toppled either, but they stand tall today thanks to 20th-century archeologists.

Chapter 8 : Ancient Ephesus City Ruins in Turkey

Being the crossroads of civilizations for thousands of years, Turkey is a place you cannot visit without tripping over ancient ruins dating back thousands of years. First time visitors are often astonished to discover Turkey's wealth of Roman and Greek ruins.

Chapter 9 : 10 Ancient Civilizations That History Forgot - Listverse

Ancient ruins of Turkey Ephesus, Turkey by Esther Lee Creative Commons Attribution Turkey has been a crossroads of civilisations as long as civilisations have existed, meaning you can't visit the country without tripping over amazing ancient ruins seemingly everywhere you go.