Middle East

Epipaleolithic

Location: Levant and Mesopotamia.
Description: Semi-nomadic hunter / gatherers living in small, egalitarian communities.
OAT code: 6205  OWC code: M080

Years BP: 40000 - 10500

Natufian

Location: Levant.
Description: Sedentary hunter / gatherers with supplemental agriculture living in small egalitarian communities.
OAT code: 6210  OWC code: M082

Years BP: 12000 - 10500

Aceramic Neolithic

Location: Levant and Mesopotamia.
Description: Settled village agriculturalists, some living in very large villages, some with social differentiation or stratification present. Ends ca. 8000 BP in the Levant.
OAT code: 6215  OWC code: M084

Years BP: 10500 - 7500

Ceramic Neolithic

Location: Levant and Mesopotamia.
Description: Settled village agriculturalists with animal husbandry. Some very large villages with stratified social organization present. Begins ca. 7500 BP in Mesopotamia.
OAT code: 6220  OWC code: M087

Years BP: 8000 - 6100

Chalcolithic

Location: Levant.
Description: Settled village agriculturalists living in complex societies with craft specialists, markets, and social stratification.
OAT code: 6225  OWC code: M090

Years BP: 6100 - 5500

Early Bronze Age

Location: Levant.
Description: Settled agriculturalists living in large villages and cities with chieftain or simple state forms of political organization.
OAT code: 6230  OWC code: M093

Years BP: 5500 - 4000
Middle Bronze Age

Location: Levant.

Description: Settled agriculturalists living in large villages and cities with state forms of political organization. Ends in the historic period with the expansion of the New Babylonian empire.

OAT code: 6235  OWC code: M095

Years BP: 4000 - 3595

Halafian

Location: Northern Mesopotamia.

Description: Settled village agriculturalists. Some villages are very large. Good evidence of social stratification. Replaced by Ubaid ca. 7000 BP.

OAT code: 6245  OWC code: M086

Years BP: 7500 - 7000

Ubaid

Location: Mesopotamia.

Description: Settled agriculturalists living in large villages with temple complexes and social stratification. Moves from south to cover all of Mesopotamia by 7000 BP.

OAT code: 6250  OWC code: MH55

Years BP: 7500 - 6000

Late Chalcolithic Mesopotamia

Location: Mesopotamia.

Description: Settled agriculturalists living in city-states. Expands northward during the time period.

OAT code: 6255  OWC code: MH60

Years BP: 6000 - 5100

Jemdet Nasr

Location: Southern Mesopotamia.

Description: Continuation of Uruk, but with more unified political organization between the city-states.

OAT code: 6260  OWC code: MH62

Years BP: 5100 - 4900

Early Dynastic Mesopotamia

Location: Mesopotamia.

Description: Unification of Mesopotamian city states into the Sumerian empire by the end of the tradition.

OAT code: 6265  OWC code: MH64

Years BP: 4900 - 4334

Akkadian

Location: Mesopotamia.

Description: Expanding, militaristic empire. Conquers the Sumerians and expands north and west.

OAT code: 6270  OWC code: MH66

Years BP: 4334 - 4112
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Era</th>
<th>Years BP:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arabian Upper Paleolithic</td>
<td>40000 - 11000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location: Western parts of the Arabian peninsula.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description: Nomadic hunter / gatherers living in small, egalitarian bands.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OAT code: 6300</td>
<td>OWC code: MJ50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early Arabian Pastoral</td>
<td>11000 - 5750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location: Arid regions of the Arabian peninsula.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description: Nomadic pastoralists with supplemental hunting and gathering.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OAT code: 6305</td>
<td>OWC code: MJ53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle Arabian Pastoral</td>
<td>5750 - 4200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location: Arid regions of the Arabian peninsula.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description: Nomadic pastoralists living in small communities. Ends in the historic period with the rise of the New Babylonian empire.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OAT code: 6310</td>
<td>OWC code: MJ55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Late Arabian Pastoral</td>
<td>4200 - 3595</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location: Arid regions of the Arabian peninsula.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Description: Nomadic pastoralists living in small communities. Ends in the historic period with the rise of the New Babylonian empire.</td>
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<tr>
<td>OAT code: 6315</td>
<td>OWC code: MJ57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early Arabian Littoral</td>
<td>11000 - 7000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location: East coast of the Arabian peninsula.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description: Semi-sedentary hunter / fisher / gatherers living in small, egalitarian communities.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OAT code: 6320</td>
<td>OWC code: MJ63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle Arabian Littoral</td>
<td>7000 - 3300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location: East coast of the Arabian peninsula.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description: Sedentary agriculturalists with hunting / fishing / gathering remaining important. Some evidence of social differentiation.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OAT code: 6325</td>
<td>OWC code: MJ65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Late Arabian Littoral</td>
<td>3300 - 2300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location: East coast of the Arabian peninsula.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description: Sedentary agriculturalists living in large villages and cities with a stratified social system. Fishing and marine resources remain important. Ends in the historic period.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OAT code: 6330</td>
<td>OWC code: MJ67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Asia Upper Paleolithic</td>
<td>40000 - 12000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location: Southern and southwestern Asia.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description: Semi-nomadic hunter / gatherers living in small, egalitarian communities.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OAT code: 6340</td>
<td>OWC code: MA35</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Iranian Mesolithic

**Years BP:** 12000 - 8000

**Location:** Iran.

**Description:** Semi-sedentary hunter / gatherers living in small, egalitarian communities.

*OAT code:* 6350  
*OWC code:* MA40

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Iranian Neolithic

**Years BP:** 8000 - 7000

**Location:** Iran.

**Description:** Sedentary village agriculturalists with some animal husbandry.

*OAT code:* 6355  
*OWC code:* MA44

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Iranian Chalcolithic

**Years BP:** 7000 - 5000

**Location:** Iran.

**Description:** Sedentary agriculturalists living in large villages with a chiefdom or simple state form of political organization.

*OAT code:* 6360  
*OWC code:* MA47

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Iranian Bronze Age

**Years BP:** 5000 - 3500

**Location:** Iran.

**Description:** Sedentary agriculturalists living in villages and cities, some very large, and with a state form of political organization. Pastoral nomads from the north begin spreading into the region ca. 4000 BP.

*OAT code:* 6365  
*OWC code:* MA50