

**0. Hammurabi and His Code of Laws - Story Preface**

1. WHO WAS HAMMURABI?
2. HAMMURABI'S HOME AND LANGUAGE
3. CUNEIFORM IS DECIPHERED
4. RELIGION of ANCIENT BABYLON
5. HAMMURABI'S LAWS
6. WHERE IS HAMMURABI'S STELE TODAY?
7. BABYLON AFTER HAMMURABI
8. CUNEIFORM AND HIEROGLYPHICS

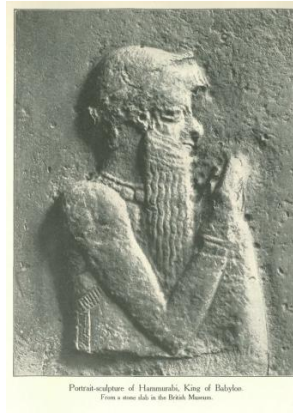


Image of Hammurabi, included in *History of Egypt*, a 1906 multi-volume work by L.W. King and H.R. Hall. PD due to expired copyright.

*That the strong might not injure the weak  
In order to protect the widows and orphans  
I have in Babylon...  
Set up these my precious words  
Written upon my memorial stone...*

Thus ends the famous *Codex Hammurabi*, written by a king 3700 years ago in the world's first great metropolis. Most people have heard about the Code of Hammurabi. It contains such laws as: "An eye for an eye; a tooth for a tooth." But who was Hammurabi? What were his laws? Why did he write them? How did we get them? What language were they written in? Why should they matter today? All of that - and more - is the subject of this story.

See [Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:](http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/Hammurabi-and-His-Code-of-Laws)

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See [Learning Tasks for this story online at:](http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/Hammurabi-and-His-Code-of-Laws)

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**Media Stream**



Ruins of Ancient Babylon

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Portrait-sculpture of Hammurabi, King of Babylon.  
From a stone slab in the British Museum.

## Hammurabi and His Code of Laws

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