

Now that you have a sense of the code of Hammurabi, it is time to write your own code. Pretend you were Hammurabi making laws for today's society, and today's crimes. How might he punish the following crimes? Pick any 3-4 and make up your own Hammurabi-style punishments.

- 1) Stealing the identity of a person (social security number, credit cards, bank accounts, etc.)
- 2) Hacking into someone's computer
- 3) Stealing someone's cell phone
- 4) Kidnapping
- 5) Car theft
- 6) Illegal music downloads
- 7) Shoplifting

**Homework:** Choose a crime and punishment from Hammurabi's Code. Imagine you are found guilty of that crime and will suffer the punishment. Write King Hammurabi a letter and tell him what you think. This will be at least 2 paragraphs (1 paragraph = 5-7 sentences).

\*\*\*For full credit, you must...

- 1) Describe the law and punishment given. (do not say "I broke Law #8," instead, *describe* the law)
- 2) Tell your story about what happened. ("see, what had happened was... \_\_\_\_\_")
- 3) Write your opinion (Do you agree or disagree with the law?).

Examples of Hammurabi's Code:

8. If a rich man has stolen ox, sheep, ass, pig, or ship, whether from a temple, or a house, he shall pay thirtyfold. If he be a poor man, he shall return tenfold. If the thief cannot pay, he shall be put to death.

15. If anyone takes a male or female slave from the court, or a male or female slave of a freed man, outside the city gates, he shall be put to death.

25. If fire breaks out in a house, and someone who comes to put it out cast his eye upon the property of the owner of the house, and takes the property of the master of the house, he shall be thrown into that self-same fire.

55. If anyone opens his ditches to water his crop, but is careless, and the water floods the field of his neighbor, then he shall pay his neighbor corn for his loss.

195. If a son has struck his father, his hands shall be cut off.

196. If a rich man has knocked out the eye of another rich man, his eye shall be knocked out.

200. If a man knock out the teeth of his equal, his teeth shall be knocked out.

229. If a builder builds a house for someone, and he does not construct it properly, and the house which he built falls in and kills its owner, then that builder should be put to death.