



**Literature in History from The Epic  
of Gilgamesh**

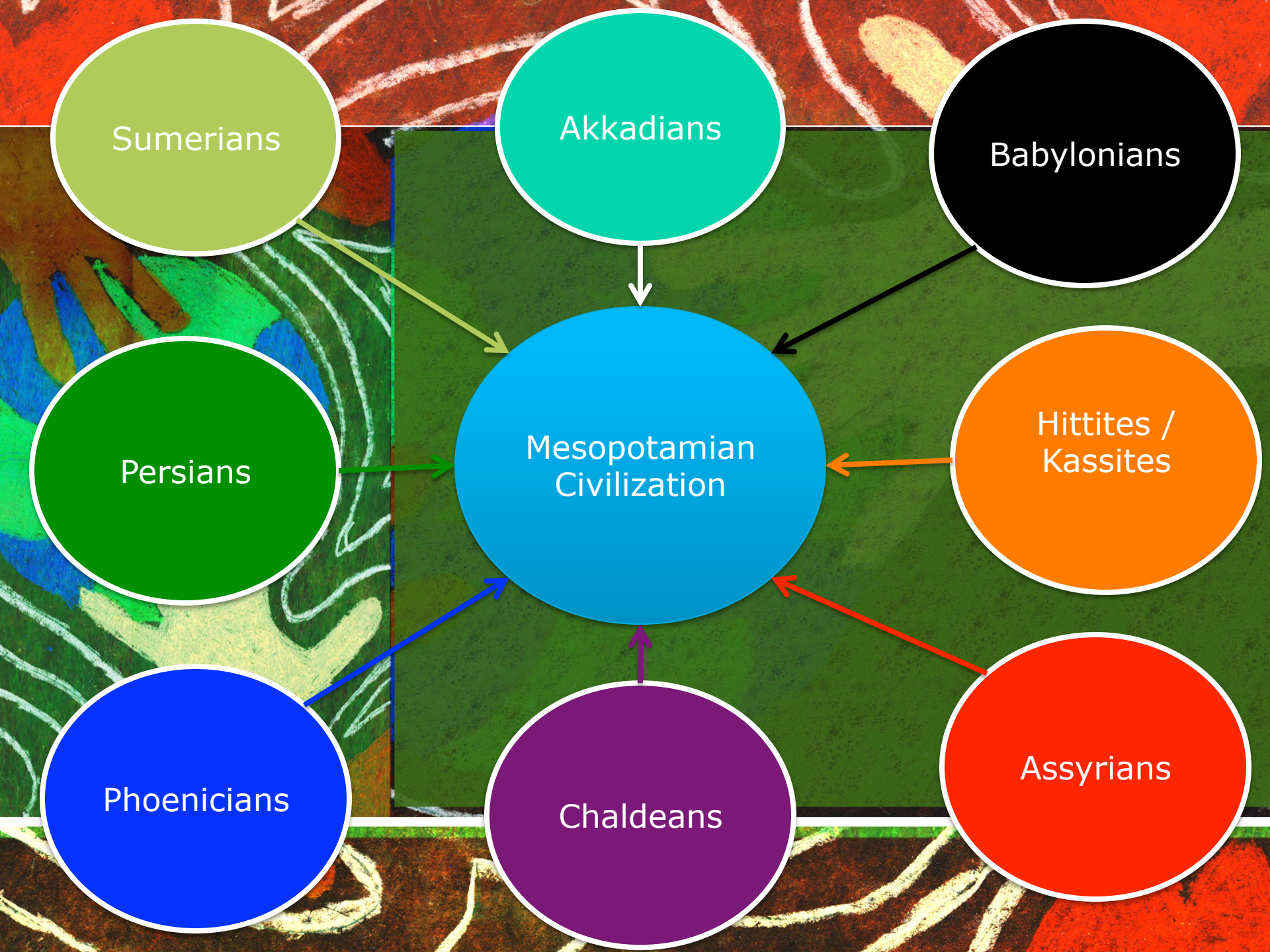


## The Downfall of Sumerians

- Each of the Sumerian city-states had a ruler, and these city-states began fighting each other.
- They fought over land and the use of river water.
- Since the Sumerians were constantly at war with each other, they became weak.
- By 2000 BC, Sumer was a weakened area, and by 1759 BC, Sumer was conquered by another group of people - the Babylonians, who were from the north.



**Later Peoples of the Fertile Crescent**



Sumerians

Akkadians

Babylonians

Hittites /  
Kassites

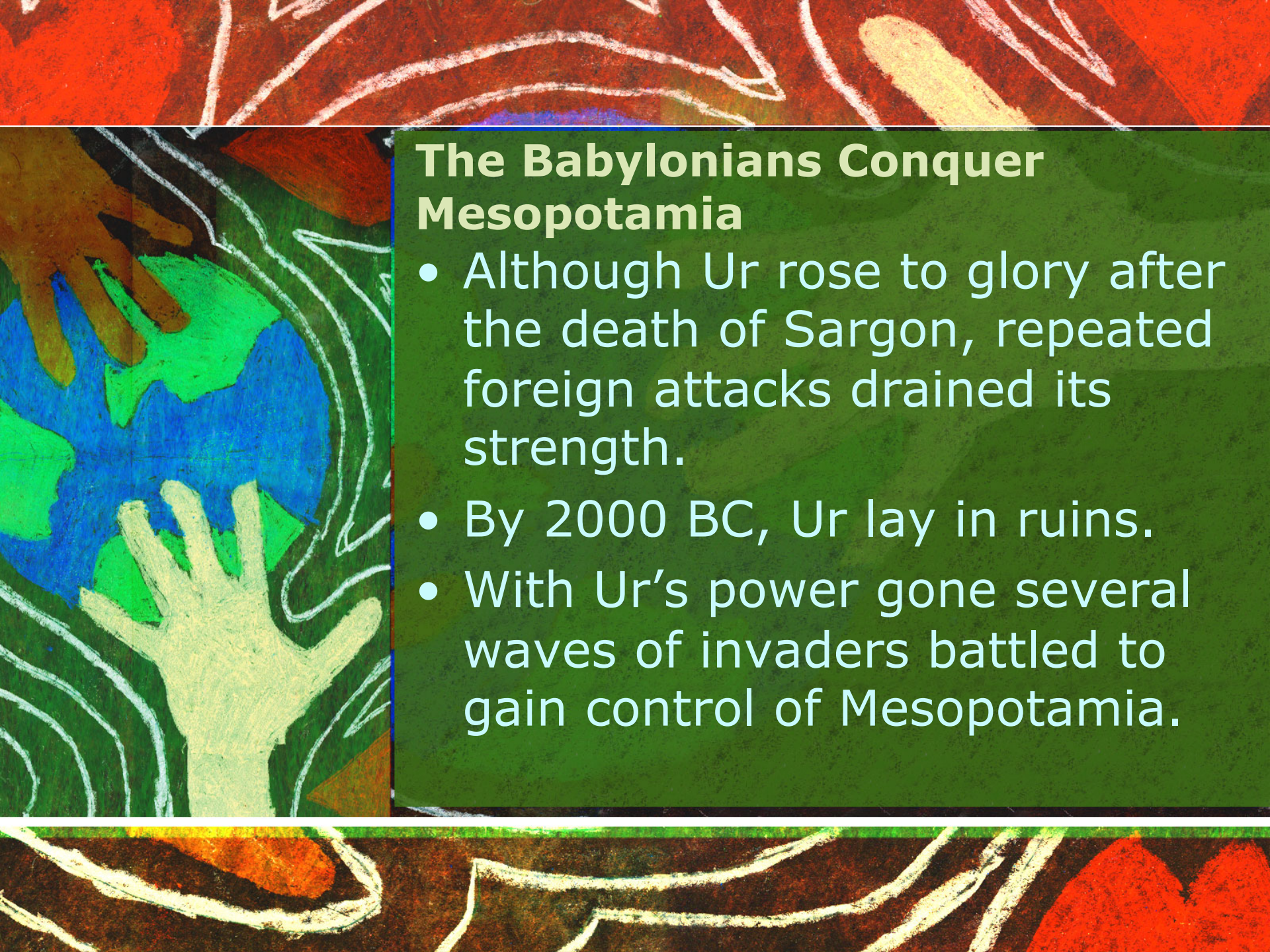
Mesopotamian  
Civilization

Assyrians

Chaldeans

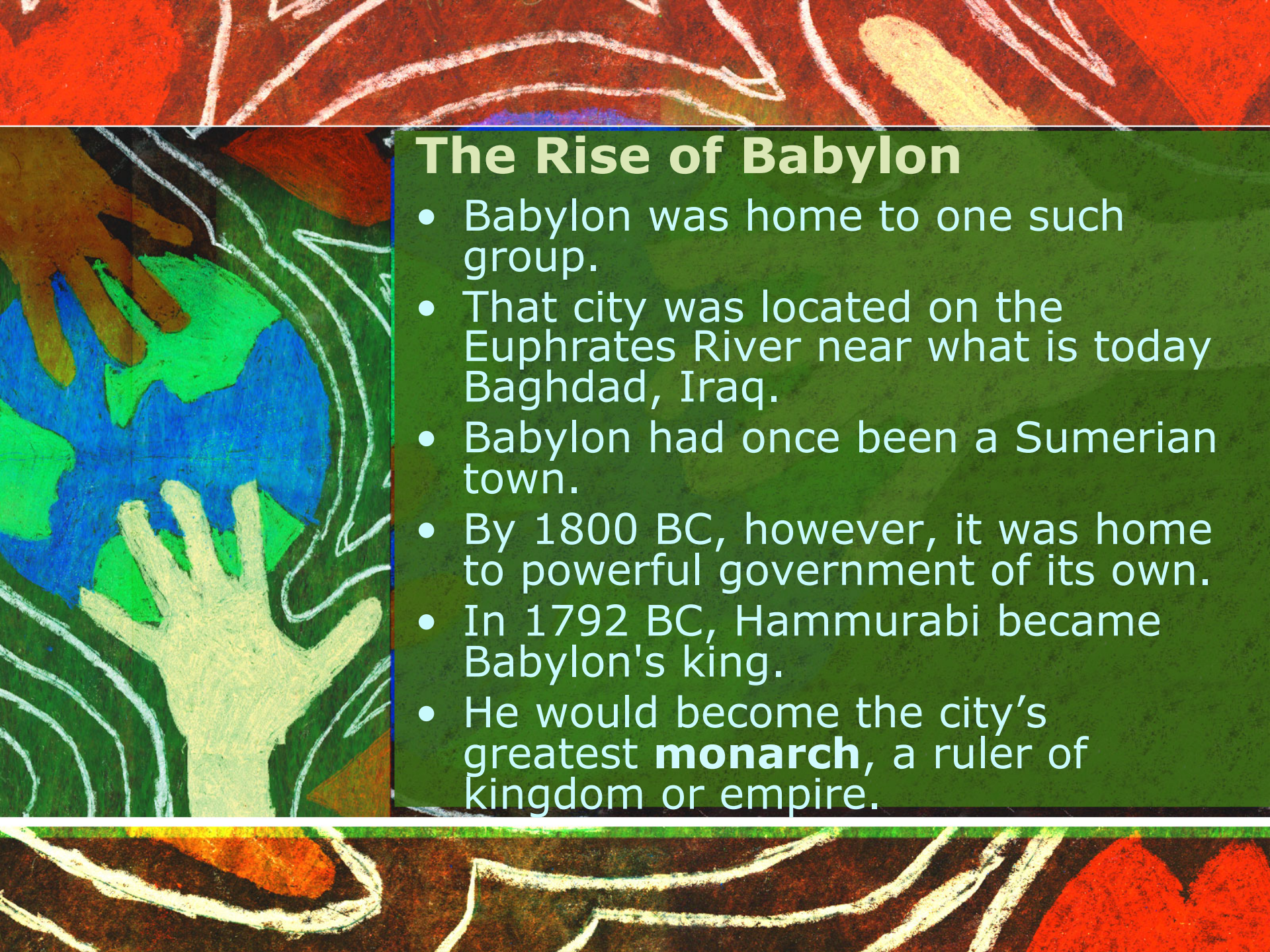
Phoenicians

Persians



## The Babylonians Conquer Mesopotamia

- Although Ur rose to glory after the death of Sargon, repeated foreign attacks drained its strength.
- By 2000 BC, Ur lay in ruins.
- With Ur's power gone several waves of invaders battled to gain control of Mesopotamia.



## The Rise of Babylon

- Babylon was home to one such group.
- That city was located on the Euphrates River near what is today Baghdad, Iraq.
- Babylon had once been a Sumerian town.
- By 1800 BC, however, it was home to powerful government of its own.
- In 1792 BC, Hammurabi became Babylon's king.
- He would become the city's greatest **monarch**, a ruler of kingdom or empire.



## Hammurabi's Code

- Hammurabi was a brilliant war leader.
- His armies fought many battles to expand his power.
- Eventually, he brought all of Mesopotamia into his empire, called the Babylonian Empire, after his capital.
- Hammurabi's skills were not limited to the battlefield, though.



## Hammurabi's Code

- He was also an able ruler who could govern a huge empire.
- He oversaw many building and irrigation projects and improved Babylon's tax collection system to help pay for them.
- He also brought much prosperity through increased trade.
- Hammurabi, however, is most famous for his code of laws.





## Hammurabi's Code

- Hammurabi's Code was a set of 282 laws that dealt with almost every part of daily life.
- There were laws on everything from trade, loans, and theft to marriage, injury, and murder.
- It contained some ideas that are still found in laws today.

## Primary Source

### QUICK FACTS

## HISTORIC DOCUMENT

# Hammurabi's Code

*The Babylonian ruler Hammurabi is credited with putting together the earliest known written collection of laws. The code set down rules for both criminal and civil law, and informed citizens what was expected of them.*

196. If a man put out the eye of another man, his eye shall be put out.

197. If he break another man's bone, his bone shall be broken.

198. If he put out the eye of a freed man, or break the bone of a freed man, he shall pay one gold mina.

199. If he put out the eye of a man's slave, or break the bone of a man's slave, he shall pay one-half of its value.

221. If a physician heal the broken bone or diseased soft part of a man, the patient shall pay the physician five shekels in money.

222. If he were a freed man he shall pay three shekels.

223. If he were a slave his owner shall pay the physician two shekels.

—Hammurabi, from the Code of Hammurabi, translated by L. W. King

### ANALYSIS SKILL

## ANALYZING PRIMARY SOURCES

**How do you think Hammurabi's code of laws affected citizens of that time?**






## The Fall of Babylon

- Hammurabi ruled for 42 years. During his reign, Babylon became the most important city in Mesopotamia.
- However after his death, Babylonian power declined.
- The kings that followed faced invasions from people Hammurabi had conquered.
- Before long, the Babylonian Empire came to an end.



## Invasions of Mesopotamia

- Several other civilizations also developed in and around the Fertile Crescent.
- As their armies battled each other for fertile land control of the region passed from one empire to another.



## The 4 main people of Mesopotamia

1. Sumerians (ancient Sumer's city-states)  
(3000 BC – 1800 BC)
2. Babylonians (Babylonian Empire)  
(1800 BC – 1200 BC)
3. Assyrians (Assyrian Empire)  
(1200 BC – 539 BC)
4. Persians (Persian Empire)  
(539 BC – 330 BC)



# Summative Assessment



## Summative Assessment

- Part 1 (worth 30 points): Each of you will need to pick one of the civilizations that once lived in Mesopotamia and write a 1 page report about the country.
- Only pick one to write about:
  - Sumerians (ancient Sumer's city-states)
  - Akkadians
  - Babylonians (Babylonian Empire)
  - Assyrians (Assyrian Empire)
  - Persians (Persian Empire)



## Summative Assessment

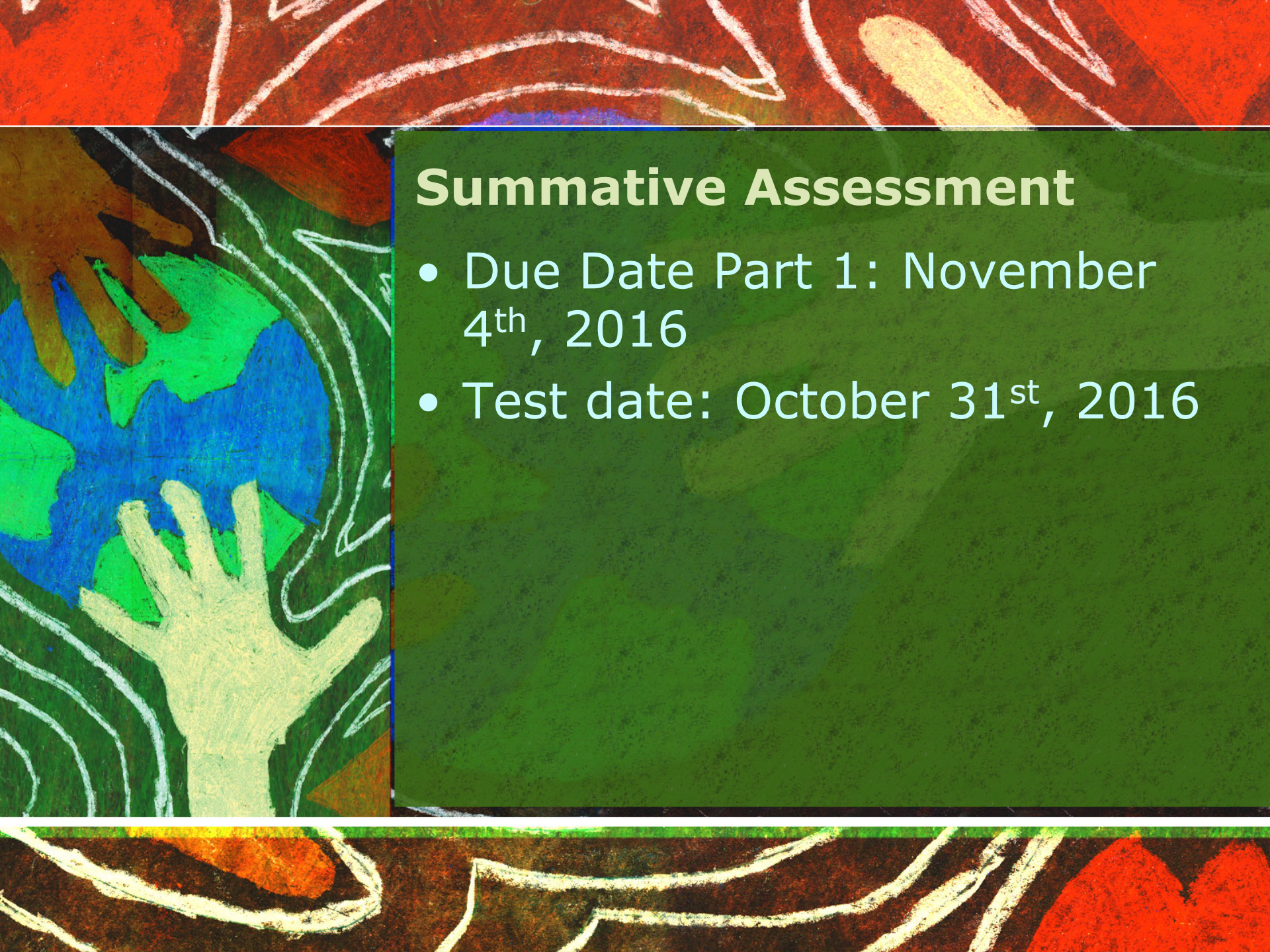
- What does your 1 page report need to contain:
  - What was the civilization?
    - When was the Civilization?
    - Where was the Civilization?
    - Who was the leader(s) of the Civilization?
    - Why was this civilization important?
    - What was this Civilization known for?
    - How did this Civilization end?





## Summative Assessment

- Part 2: Unit Exam (worth 20 points)
  - This examination will be on everything from the stone age to the growth of nations. (so everything you learned this unit)
  - There will be 5 multiple choice questions
  - 5 True and False
  - 2 questions will be essay type questions (you will need to write answer the question).



## Summative Assessment

- Due Date Part 1: November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016
- Test date: October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2016