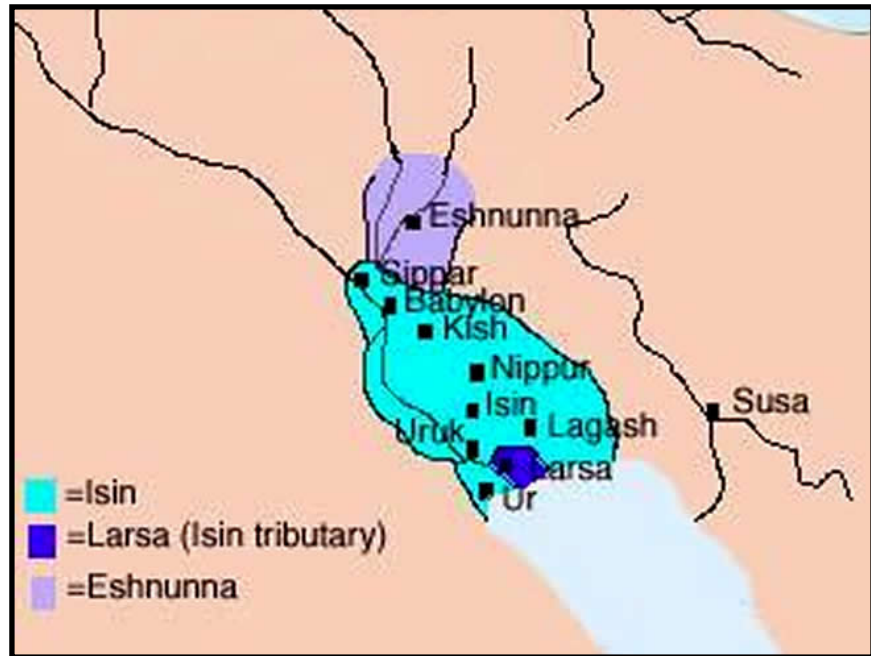
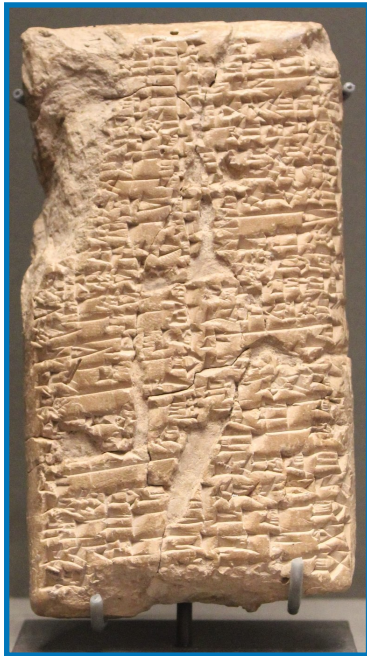


The *Code of Lipit-Ishtar*



When the gods An & Enlil made An's daughter the Queen of Sumer & Akkad,
they called upon me, Lipit-Ishtar, to be her viceroy!

They called upon me to eliminate enmity, violence, and injustice
from the land of Sumer & Akkad!

They called upon me to bring fairness to the land of Sumer & Akkad!

Answering their call,

I established justice in the land of Sumer & Akkad!

I liberated the children of Nippur, Ur, and Isin!

I liberated the children of Sumer & Akkad!

I decreed that every parent should support their children, and

I decreed that every child should support their parents!

I imposed service equally on all of the men of the land!

These are my laws:

- If a man sinks someone else's boat, he shall replace the boat.
- If a man kills a pregnant woman, he shall be put to death.
- If someone falsely accuses an innocent person of a crime, the accuser shall suffer the punishment for the crime that they falsely have accused the innocent person of doing.
- If a man rents an ox and breaks its horn or tail, he shall pay the ox's owner one-quarter of the ox's value in silver.
- If a man rents an ox and cuts its hoof's tendon, he shall pay the ox's owner one-third of the ox's value in silver.
- If a man rents an ox and destroys its eye, he shall pay the ox's owner one-half of the ox's value in silver.
- If a man cuts down a tree in someone else's orchard, he shall pay 20 shekels of silver to the owner of the orchard.
- If a man rents a garden to a gardener, the gardener is entitled to one-tenth of whatever grows from the garden.

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