

Nikias Schoenerstedt

Professor O'Hara

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Research and writing assignment Week 3

In this week we had a closer look at certain models which we will see throughout the course applied to certain civilizations. In this assignment the main focus is on hierarchies and how they differ from societies in the past to today. For my paper, I chose to have a closer look at the Hittite Kingdom, its hierarchy and how it compares to today's society in Germany.

The Hittite Kingdom existed from roughly 1650 BC to 1190 BC and its parts were mainly across the region of today's Turkey. This kingdom's hierarchy had 6 levels:

- 1) On top of the pyramid was the King, he was the leader and ruler of the Kingdom, who held the power over the military, the religion and he was seen as divine.
- 2) Right underneath the King was his family, which meant his wife, children as well as his close relatives.
- 3) The 3rd spot in the pyramid and the first group which didn't include the King's family were the Noble people. This group was made of wealthy, powerful people who held high positions in the military or government.
- 4) Next up in the pyramid were the Bureaucrats, they were very highly educated and their purpose was to manage everything in the kingdom, including things like taxes, legal system and more.
- 5) The second to last part of the pyramid was made up by the military. Their job was to defend the Hittite Kingdom and other military duties.
- 6) The bottom spot were the rest or also called the Peasantry. This was the biggest part of the population and most of them were doing agriculture and they paid taxes.

Overall you can say that the Hittite Kingdom has a similar hierarchy to most other kingdoms and societies from that time, especially the ones from the near east. Some similarities were that the king is divine or semi-divine which was also the case in Egypt for example. Other resemblances which occurred were the noble class, which was a very common class during that time, as well as the bureaucrats who managed most of the kingdoms' administrative stuff and the Peasantry class, which made up most of the populations in most societies.

Lastly I want to list some points in which the Hittite Kingdom was different than other civilizations from that time. One point which distinguished them from others and was a reason for their success was the military strategy, the Hittites had very innovative strategies when it came to their military and that was a big reason why they were able to build such a large empire and also maintain it. Another aspect which put them apart from others was their diplomacy, this was also very helpful, because with that the Hittite Kingdom was able to keep peace and stability within the kingdom. Other aspects where they distinguished themselves

from other civilizations were, the writing system, which was unique and the legal system, which had different laws that helped to keep the kingdom stable.

So the Hittite Kingdom was a very big and strong civilization during its time because they had certain features in their kingdom that helped them to build a strong and powerful kingdom.

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