




Chapter 16 Notes

**The Surprise Ending of the Babylonian Empire
(Hittite Victories and Indo-European
Languages)**



Bellwork

1. Which people group conquered Babylon in 1595 BCE?
2. What was the name of the king of this people group that conquered Babylon in 1595 BCE?
3. Of what family of languages is this people group's language a member?

King Samsuditana

King Samsuditana: must have been smug; though empire had shrunken, though he still had the major power in ancient Near East. By beginning of 16th century BCE, Babylon had not been attacked for centuries.

1595 BCE: Scribal records suddenly stop for generations; no news from Babylon about it or its king.

What Happened?

Archaeologists: impossible to get answers through excavations because water had risen and tablets had turned to mud

Sudden and complete surprise; city was demolished but some people survived

Mesopotamian writer: “Man of Hatti” marched against Akkad

“**Man of Hatti**” from modern-day Turkey, city of Hattusa, 25,000 cuneiform tablets about a people called the “Hittites”

1595: Hatti wasn't yet a great power

controlled small part of central Turkey

small kingdom led by King Mursili conquered the capital of the ancient Mesopotamian empire, Babylon

Continuation

King Mursili's troops also conquered Aleppo in N. Syria, marched down Euphrates river to Babylon

Goals/objectives of Hittites?

Did they just raid the city for its wealth?

Men, women, children taken captive, forced to abandon

