**World History Key Terms List #2 River Civilizations and Judaism**

1. **Fertile crescent-** a region in the Middle East with good soil (in modern day Iraq and Syria)
2. **Confluence-**a place where two rivers come together.
3. **Mesopotamia-**“between the rivers,” an area in the Middle East where the first civilizations developed.
4. **Job specialization-**when people concentrate on a specific line of work.
5. **Social mobility-**the movement of a person between social classes in society.
6. **Caste system-**a social class system in India based on Hinduism. Brahmin (priests) are at the top, and the “untouchables” are at the bottom.
7. **Monotheistic-**believing in one god
8. **Polytheistic-**believing in many gods
9. **Covenant-**an agreement
10. **Diaspora-**Jews living outside Israel
11. **Torah-**Jewish holy book. This is also the first five books of the Christian Bible (Genesis, Exodus, etc)
12. **Abraham-**Jews, Christians, and Muslims all believe that they are descendants of Abraham.
13. **Patriarchal-**ruled or controlled by men; men are of central importance
14. **Pharaoh-**title for rulers in ancient Egypt (like a king); considered a god on earth by the Egyptians.
15. **Theocracy-**a system of government where priests rule in the name of God or gods. Egypt was one.