

## THE CULTURE EPOCHS OF MAN

**Definition:** A culture epoch is defined as an age when a certain level of culture exists among a certain group of people.

### 1. The Paleolithic (Old Stone) Age: (2 mill. B.C.E to 10 000 B.C.E.)

- during this age, man must hunt for a living
- may or may not use fire
- any clothing is made only from animal skins or vegetable matter - no cloth
- uses or makes only crude shelters
- uses tools made from bone, wood, CHIPPED STONE

### 2. Neolithic (New Stone) Age: (often called the POTTERY AGE) (8,000 to 5,000 B.C.E.)

- tools made from wood, bone, GROUND or POLISHED STONE (sandstone is used to grind and shape or sharpen stone tools)
- pottery is invented - man can use clay pots to cook, store or carry
- man learns to plait baskets, cure leather
- towards the end of the Neolithic Age, man learns to farm.

### 3. The Age of Metals: (4,500 B.C.E.) BRONZE AND IRON AGE

- copper and tin first used in smelting process, and then they mixed them to create bronze
- most important metal—iron Why? Strong when mixed with other substances to make steel

### 4. Other Ages:

*What Age or Culture Epoch do you think we are in right now?*