Hammurabi’s Code: Was it Just?

When reading the document and answering the question for society with these measurements sticks in mind, fairness to the victim and fairness to society were considered. In this way, you are asked to consider the legal codes. Often have found them to be quite different. Some aspects of Babylonian law have been lost in translations. The code also reflects a society that was hierarchical. There were different classes of people and different types of labor. Hammurabi was not the first Mesopotamian leader to issue written codes. In fact, several of these inscribed stone tablets have been discovered. Together, these laws called a code (from Greek, meaning “law”). In the Old Testament, Hammurabi’s laws were considered a model for justice. In the Bible, these laws were included in the Ten Commandments.

Hammurabi’s Code reflected these values in several ways. First, the laws were written in a standardized language, making them accessible to all. Second, the code was enforced by a system of courts and judges. Finally, the laws were applied consistently to all citizens, regardless of social status. Hammurabi’s Code was not just a collection of laws, but a reflection of the values of the Babylonian society.

Hammurabi’s Code was a significant step in the development of law and justice. It provided a framework for resolving disputes and ensuring fairness. The code’s influence can be seen in the legal systems of many cultures, including those in the Middle East and Europe. While the specific laws of Hammurabi’s Code may have changed over time, the principles of justice and fairness that it embodies continue to be relevant today.