

away from it. But the cuneiform was taken over directly from the Sumerian and it just does not fit the Babylonian language. So that was the big problem. Now I spoke of it sometimes as the Assyrian language sometimes as the Babylonian. You go to almost any university in the world today that teaches this and they will tell you they have a course in Akkadian. Because today it is customary to call the language Akkadian after this city ~~in~~ of Akkad because they are the first people known to us of Semetic background to have used this language. So they today call it Akkadian. I don't use the term must because unless a person is working in this field they have no idea ~~what it is~~ what you are talking about if you say Akkadian. But the Akkadian, we speak of the people before the Babylon became an important ~~city~~ city as Akkadians.

There was a Semitic group in a town which was called Babylon which means the gate of God, and this town of Babylon, the king of it, at c. 1700 or 1800 B.C. was a very clever politician, he made close friends with some other cities and fought against others, until they finally had Mesopotamia pretty well in control of his town and another called Mari and then after he had reigned about 35 yrs. then he attacked Mari, and he had the whole region under his control and he made his city so important that Babylon became a city of great prominence and remained so for the next 1500 yrs. If you called the language Babylonian today people would know what you were talking about; if you call it Akkadian nobody does unless they were working in this field. The Babylonians were in S. Mesopotamia. The writings at the time of Hammurabi we call old Babylonian, and the writing has developed a little different. The Akkadian writing -- these letters have developed away from the Sumerian a little. They developed still further into what we call the old Babylonian type of writing. They they developed still further when a people in the north of Mesopotamia conquered Babylon and these people we call the Assyrians.