

Hammurabi's Code

Hammurabi's Code, approximately 1754 B.C.E

Law 21: If a man has broken through the wall [to rob] a house, they shall put him to death and pierce him, or hang him in the hole in the wall which he has made.

Law 23: If the robber is not caught, the man who has been robbed shall formally declare whatever he has lost before a god, and the city and the mayor in whose territory or district the robbery has been committed shall replace for him whatever he has lost.

Law 196: If a man has knocked out the eye of a free man, his eye shall be knocked out.

Law 197: If a man has knocked out the eye of a slave...he shall pay half his value.

Guiding Question

1. Using evidence from the documents, explain the importance of the Code of Hammurabi.