

# ***Hammurabi's law***

***(Mesopotamia, around 1700 BC)***

## **§ 229**

If a builder build a house for some one,  
and does not construct it properly,  
and the house which he built fall in  
and kill its owner, then that builder shall be put to death.

## **§ 230**

If it kill the son of the owner  
the son of that builder shall be put to death.

## **§ 231**

If it kill a slave of the owner,  
then he shall pay slave for slave to the owner of the house.

## **§ 232**

If it ruin goods,  
he shall make compensation for all that has been ruined,  
and in as much  
as he did not construct properly this house  
which he built and it fell,  
he shall re-erect the house from his own means.

## **§ 233**

If a builder build a house for some one,  
even though he has not yet completed it;  
if then the walls seem toppling,  
the builder must make the walls solid from his own means.