

Early China



The Huang He River (a.k.a. YELLOW River)



starts in the TIBETAN Plateau
and flows 2,900 miles to the Yellow Sea



carries LOESS - a dusty yellow soil



called "China's SORROW" due to
devastating FLOODS which
killed MILLIONS of people



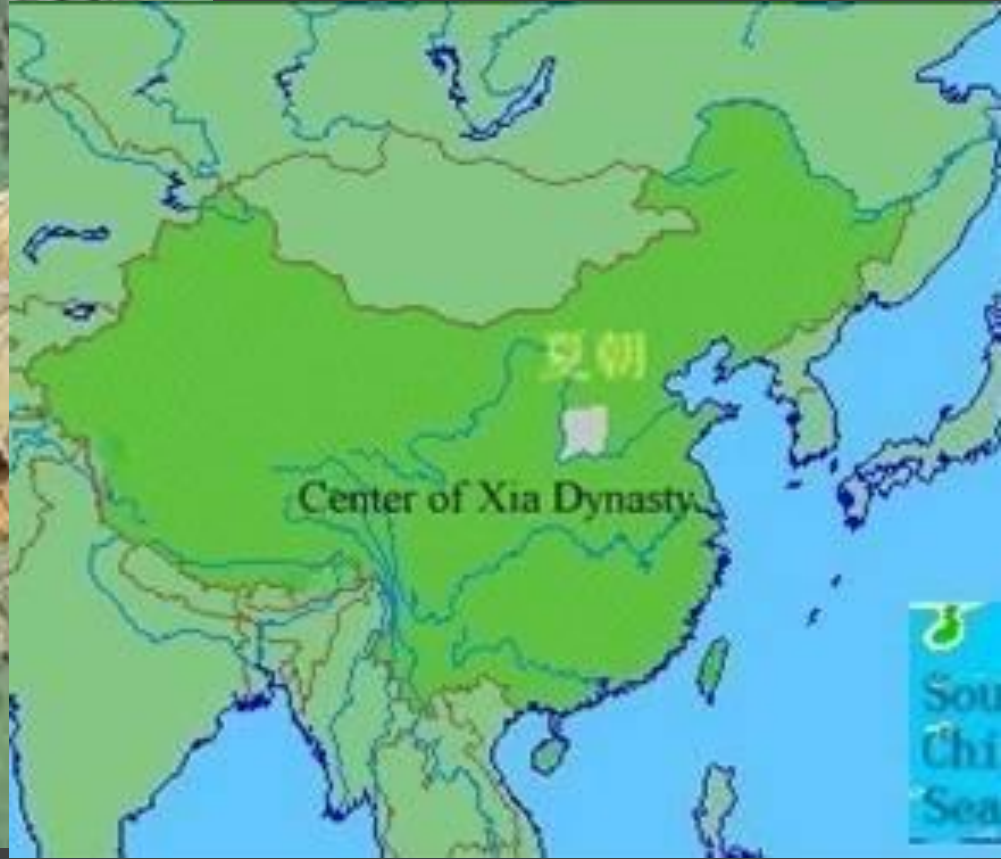
Chang Jiang (LONG River or YANGTZE River) - world's 3rd longest river flows more than 3,900 miles from Tibetan Plateau to EAST CHINA Sea



flows through GORGES which
are mountain passes with steep sides



KUNLUN SHAN Mountains, TIAN SHAN Mountains, the TIBETAN Plateau, and the GOBI Desert



Legend says **XIA** was the first dynasty but there is no historical evidence of it.



The Shang Dynasty (1750 B.C. – 1045 B.C.)
capital of ANYANG served as a capital
king was **POLITICAL, RELIGIOUS,** and **MILITARY** leader
started with small area of **NORTHERN** China



WARLORDS governed local territories with their armies

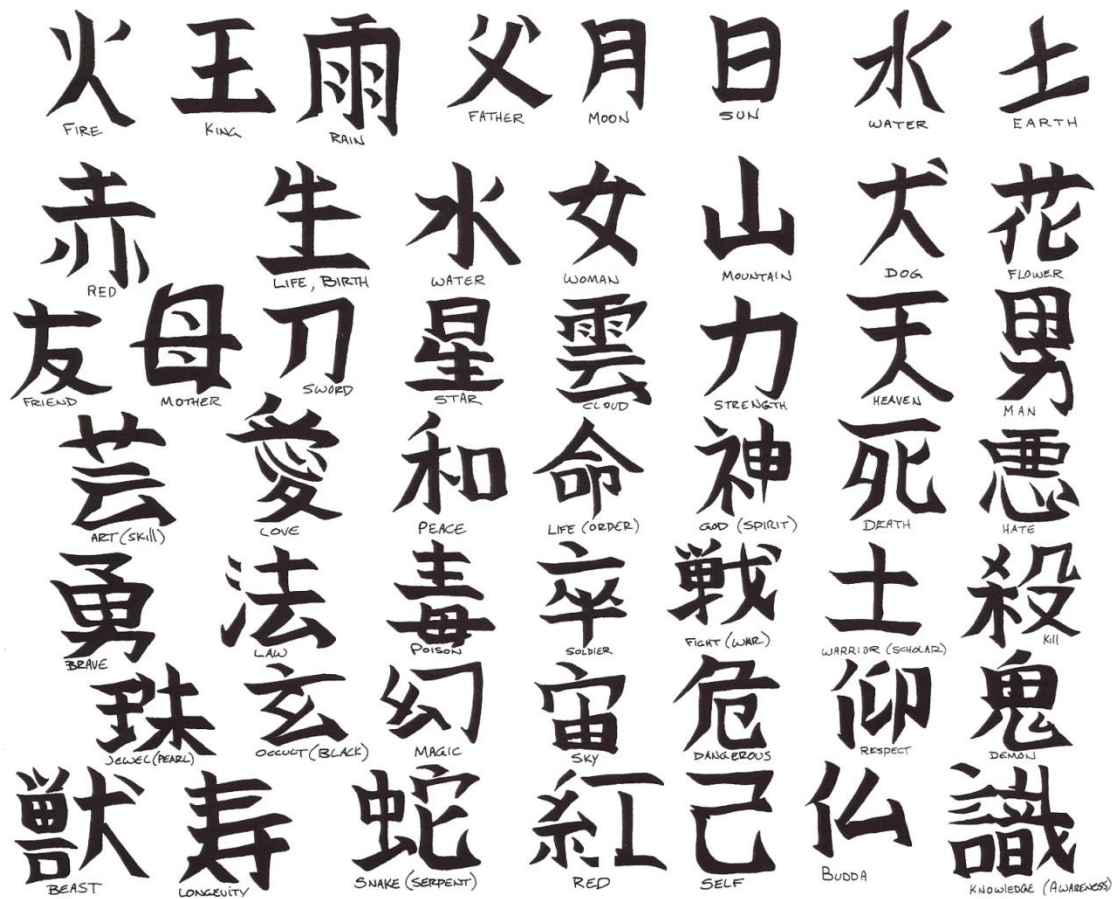
ARISTOCRATS - kings, warlords, and royal officials who passed wealth on to their children



most people were **FARMERS** who lived in **RURAL** villages
raised **CATTLE**, sheep, and chickens; grew **MILLET**, wheat, and rice
smaller groups of **ARTISANS**, **MERCHANTS**, and slaves



believed in **POLYTHEISM**; gods could bring **GOOD** or **BAD** fortune
SHANG TI was the supreme god
honored and made offerings to **ANCESTORS**
used **ORACLE** bones to tell the future



the origins of Chinese **WRITING** date back to this period
PICTOGRAPHS are characters represent objects,
IDEOGRAPHS are 2 or more pictographs that represent an idea
most characters represent entire **WORDS**



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arts included **BRONZE** work, **SILK** weaving,
and statues of ivory and **JADE**



Surinse art

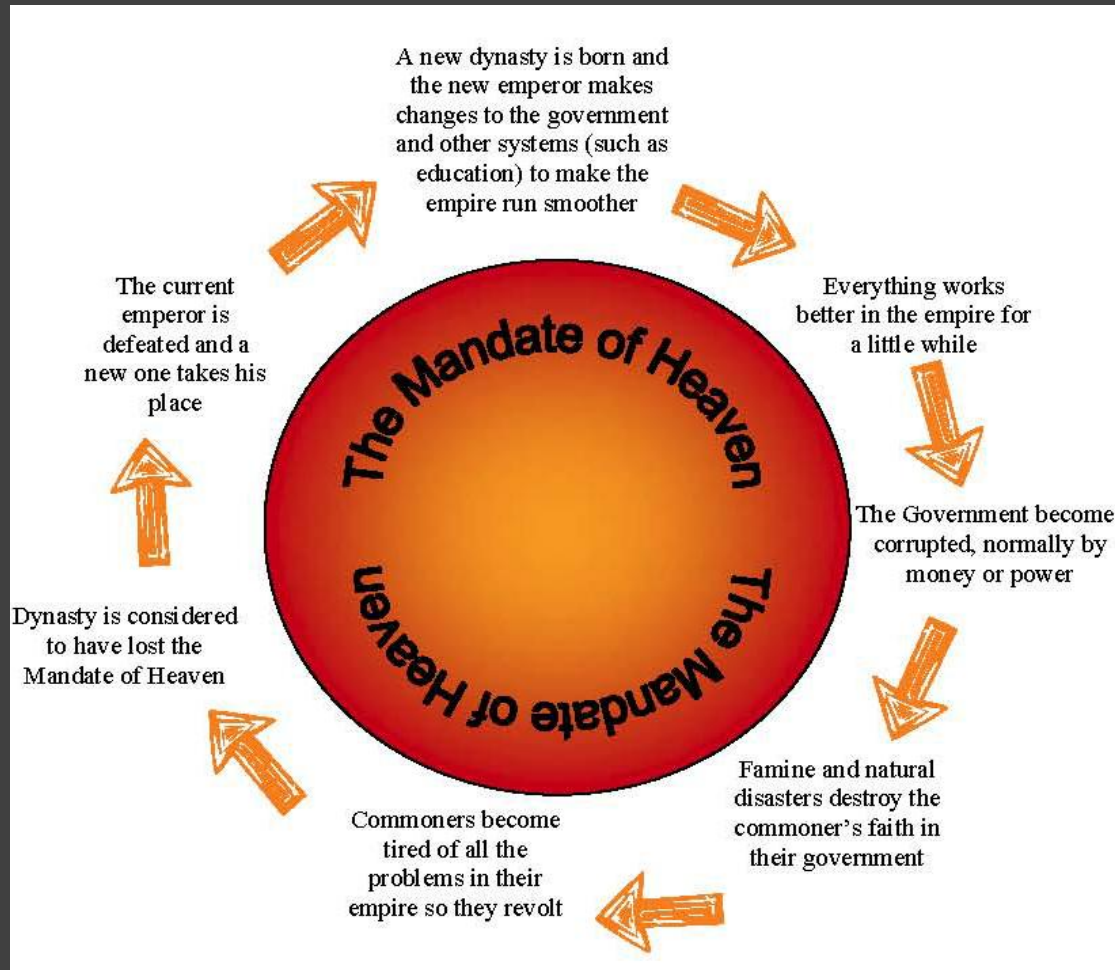


The Zhou Dynasty 1045BC – 256BC (almost 800 years)



WU WANG overthrew the Shang dynasty

The Zhou Dynasty 1045BC – 256BC

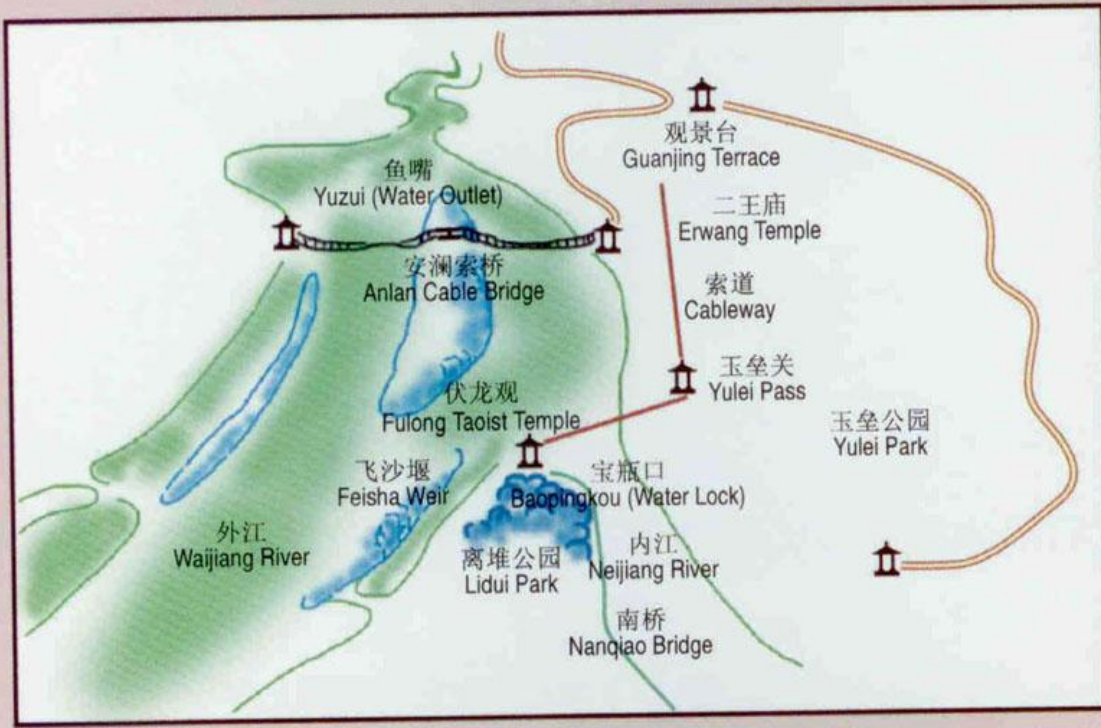


ruled under the “**MANDATE of HEAVEN**”
king chosen by the **GODS** to rule **JUSTLY** and well
king also carried out **RELIGIOUS** ceremonies

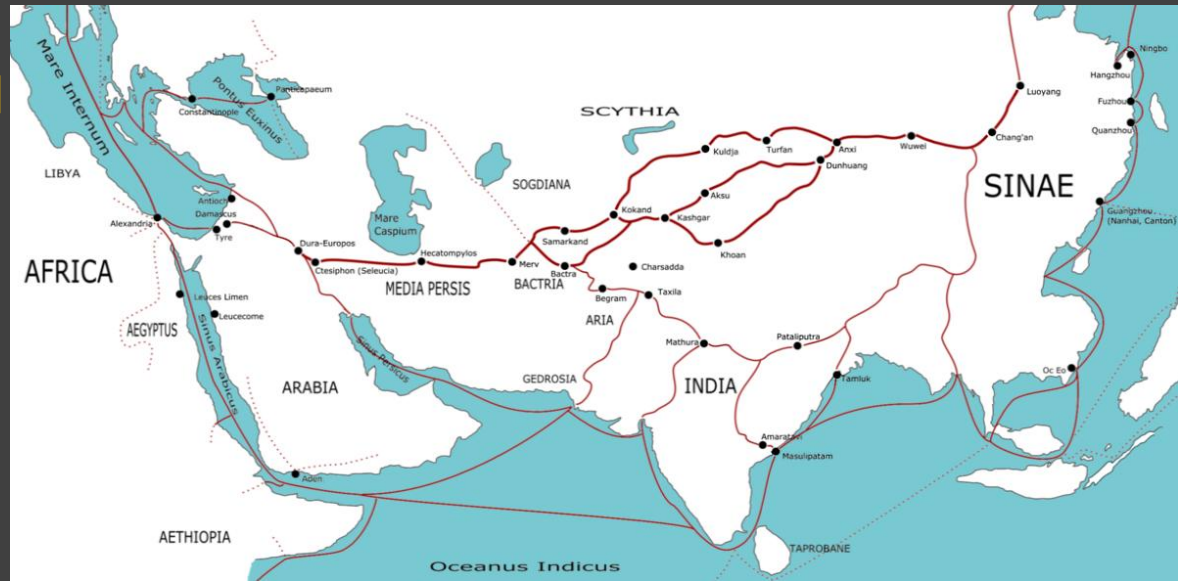


king ruled with the help of a **BUREAUCRACY**
aristocrats ruled their own local **TERRITORIES**

都江堰 The Dujiangyan Irrigation System



advancements include:
 developed new **IRRIGATION**
 expanded **TRADE**
 (archaeologists found **SILK**
 as far away as **GREECE**)





WARRING STATES Period lasted from ca 475 B.C. to 221 B.C.
Local rulers frequently fight with each other
became skilled at riding **HORSES** during battles



III. Society and Culture in Ancient China

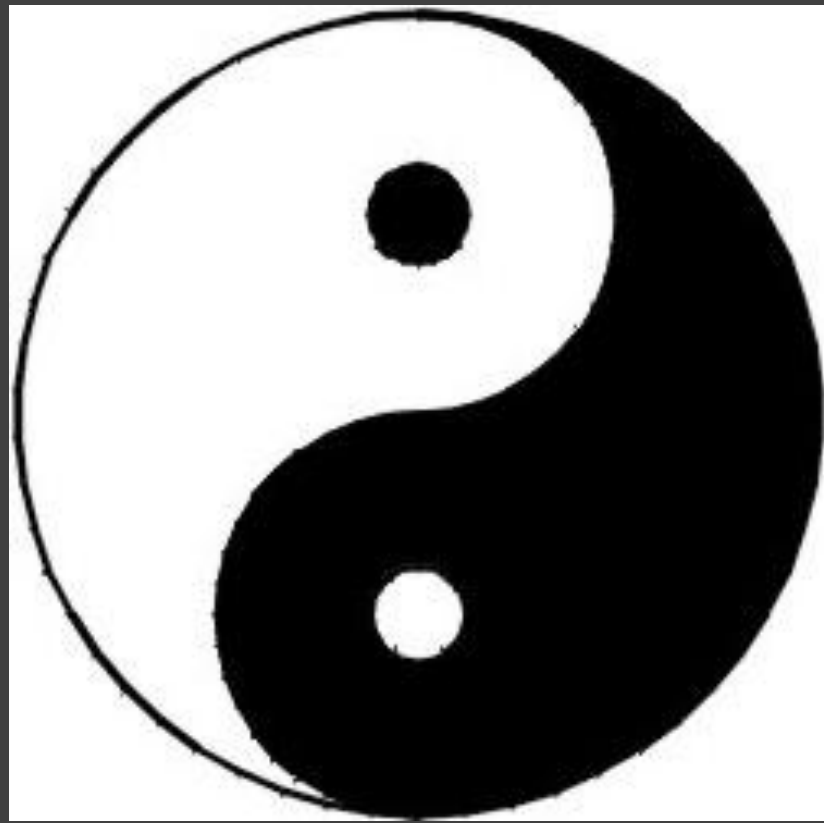
- A. the teachings of CONFUCIUS** (born around 550 BC)
1. if individuals did their duties, **SOCIETY** would do well
 - a. parents **LOVE** children; children **RESPECT** parents
 - b. husbands **SUPPORT** wives; wives **OBEY** husbands
 - c. kings rule "**JUSTLY**"; the people are **LOYAL** to the king
 - i. education develops **BENEVOLENCE**
- the quality of always treating others fairly



III. Society and Culture in Ancient China

A. the teachings of CONFUCIUS (born around 550 BC)

2. "What you do not wish for yourself, do not do to others"
3. urged people to seek GOOD
4. influenced rulers to seek gov. officials from civil service tests
5. teachings gathered in a book known as the ANALECTS



III. Society and Culture in Ancient China

B. LAO ZI promotes a PEACEFUL society

1. developed DAOISM - a belief in "the way" or "the path"
 - a. resist material desires; let NATURE guide people in their lives
 - b. this would allow one to enjoy a HAPPY life



III. Society and Culture in Ancient China

C. Philosophy of LEGALISM (a.k.a. "School of Law")

1. HANFEIZI believed humans are naturally EVIL
2. harsh PUNISHMENT needed so people follow laws



III. Society and Culture in Ancient China

D. Chinese Life and Society

1. ARISTOCRATS - wealthy people who owned LAND
 - a. wealth passed down to MALE heirs
 - i. "heirs" - people who inherit something



III. Society and Culture in Ancient China

D. Chinese Life and Society

2. FARMERS - included 9 out of 10 people in ancient China

a. lived in RURAL villages; farms owned by ARISTOCRATS

b. in the North grew wheat & MILLET; in the South grew RICE

c. paid TAXES, worked on government projects, serve military



III. Society and Culture in Ancient China

D. Chinese Life and Society

3. ARTISANS - skilled workers who made things

a. made IRON tools, SILK cloth, statues of IVORY or JADE

b. also included artists, woodworkers, and even ARCHITECTS



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4. **MERCHANTS** - lived in town; provided services to aristocrats
 - a. included shopkeepers, traders, and **BANKERS**
 - b. some became **WEALTHY** but not highly **RESPECTED**
 - i. believed by many to only work for their own good



III. Society and Culture in Ancient China

D. Chinese Life and Society

5. Chinese society greatly valued FAMILY
 - a. took care of members in need – OLD, young, and SICK
 - b. believed in "filial piety" - people obeying their PARENTS
 - c. oldest MALE was head of the family



III. Society and Culture in Ancient China

D. Chinese Life and Society

6. men more respected for their "more IMPORTANT" work
 - a. men grew crops, fought wars, and ran the government
 - b. women raised children and managed the household



III. The Qin and Han Dynasties

- A. Qin Shihuangdi becomes EMPEROR of Qin empire in 221 BC
 1. unified China by appointing GOVERNORS of provinces
 2. PUNISHED anyone who disagreed with him (see Legalism)



III. The Qin and Han Dynasties

A. Qin Shihuangdi becomes EMPEROR of the Qin empire

3. "standardized" the Qin empire across CHina

a. single system of MONEY for the entire empire

b. single system of WRITING for reports & recording TAXES



III. The Qin and Han Dynasties

A. Qin Shihuangdi becomes EMPEROR of the Qin empire

4. project to protect the empire = the GREAT WALL of CHINA



III. The Qin and Han Dynasties

A. Qin Shihuangdi becomes EMPEROR of the Qin empire

5. his tomb = one of greatest construction projects of Qin empire

a. the famous "CLAY ARMY" was found in here

i. included 8,000 soldiers and horses, all were different!



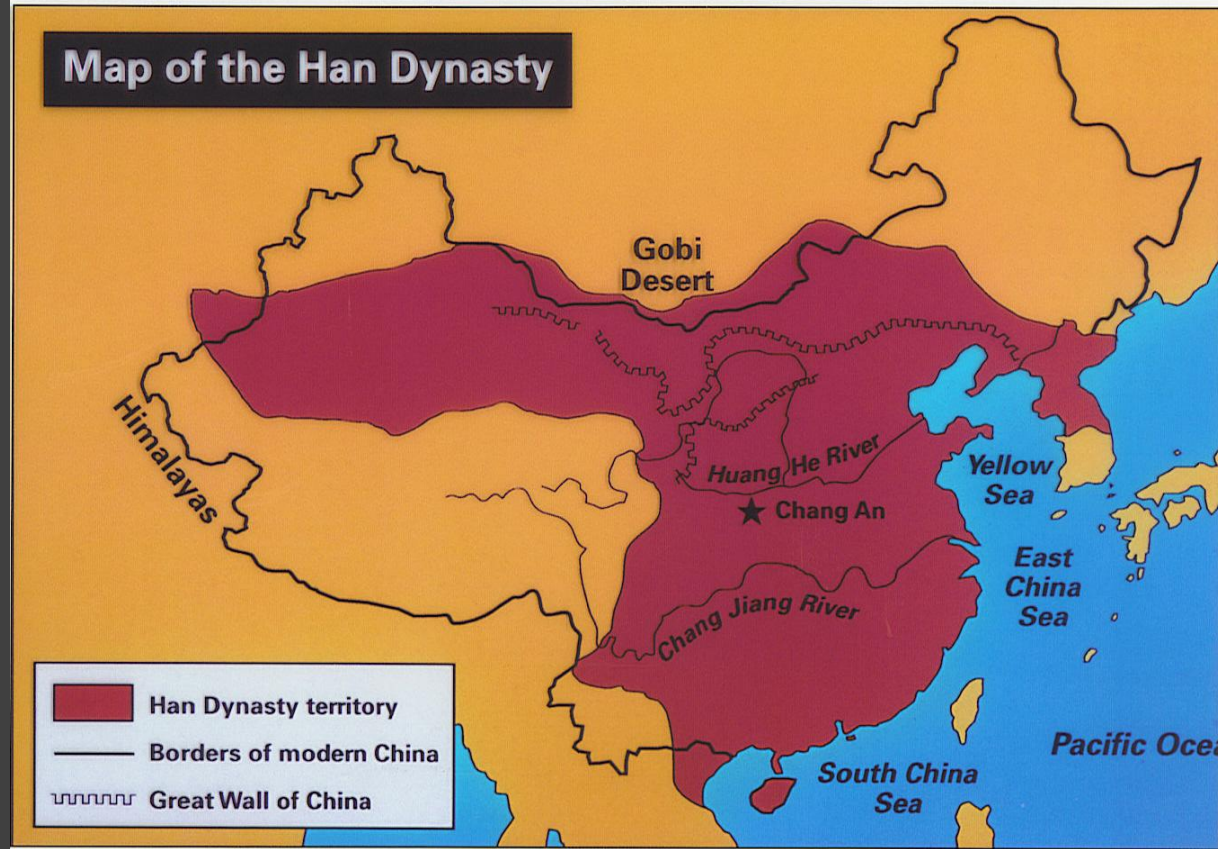
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B. Liu Bang (a farmer turned SOLDIER) founds Han Dynasty in 202BC

1. Han Wudi becomes first STRONG emperor of Han Dynasty

a. changed how bureaucrats were given their jobs

i. jobs no longer given to friends and family

ii. people found for CIVIL SERVICE through tests



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 - b. **SCHOOLS** formed to prepare people for government jobs
 - i. studied **LAW**, history and teachings of **CONFUCIUS**



III. The Qin and Han Dynasties

B. Liu Bang founds the Han Dynasty in 202BC

3. there were many inventions during the Han Dynasty
 - a. the cast-IRON plow, iron tools, & new irrigation methods
 - b. WATER WHEEL to grind grain



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c. WHEEL BARROW used to carry materials to building sites

d. developed SILK manufacturing



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 - e. invented PAPER first for wrapping, later for writing
 - f. boats included RUDDER & SAILING technology



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g. medical improvements included:

- i. discovering certain FOODS that prevent disease
- ii. using HERBS to treat illnesses
- iii. ACUPUNCTURE



III. The Qin and Han Dynasties

C. The Silk Road - a network of roadways used for TRADE

1. more than 4,000 miles from western China to GREECE
2. sent peaches & pears to INDIA for COTTON & spinach
3. technology (paper, silk, etc.) spread around Asia & even ROMAN Empire



III. The Qin and Han Dynasties

C. The Silk Road - a network of roadways used for TRADE

4. BUDDHISM comes to China

- a. people were anxious and fearful after fall of Han Dynasty
 - i. this religion helped them feel "safer"
- b. ideas worked well with Confucianism and DAOISM
- c. Buddhism becomes one of China's major religions