

CHAPTER 7

(including pages 107-109)

**CLASSICAL**  
**EASTERN**  
**CIVILIZATION:**  
**CHINA & INDIA**

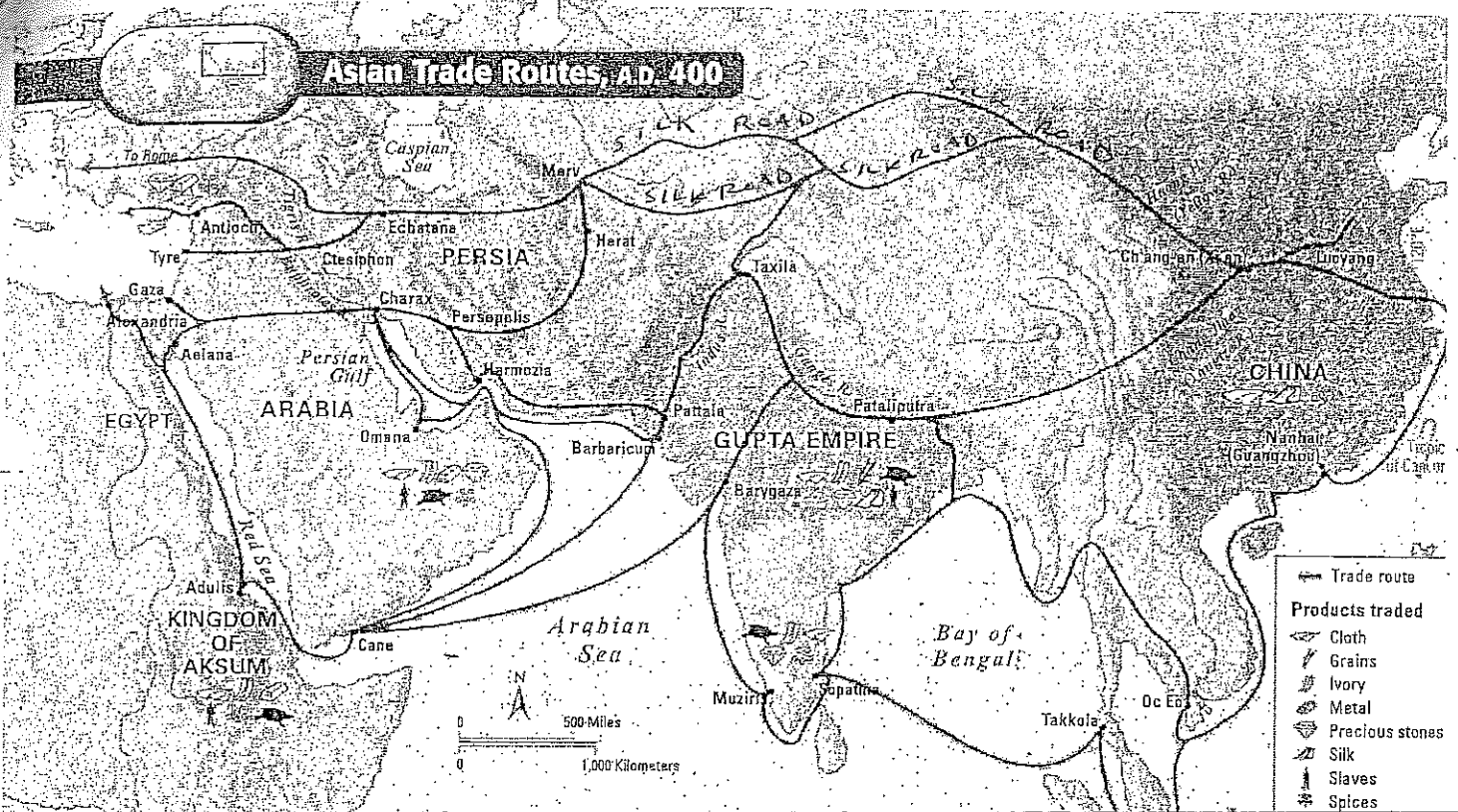
3 WORLD HISTORY I

Mr. George

(1)

# CLASSICAL EASTERN CIVILIZATIONS

## ANCIENT INDIA AND CHINA



**STUDY GUIDE: CLASSICAL EASTERN CIVILIZATION  
(P. 107-109 and CHAPTER 7)**

KEY TERMS:

Huang He River	Indus River
Yangzi River	Ganges River
"Middle Kingdom"	Ramayana
Qin Dynasty	caste system
Han Dynasty	Maurya Empire
dynastic cycle	Chandragupta Maurya
Mandate of Heaven	Asoka
feudalism	Gupta Empire
Legalism	Chandra Gupta
Shi Huangdi	stupa
Liu Bang	
Wudi	
centralized government	
bureaucracy	
civil service	

KEY CONCEPTS:

You should be able to answer, *in your own words*:

1. How did geography impact early Chinese and Indian civilizations?
2. What were the major contributions of the Qin and Han dynasties?
3. What were the major characteristics of Confucianism, Daoism, Legalism, Hinduism, and Buddhism?
4. How did Shi Huangdi implement Legalism?
5. What does the *Ramayana* tell us about Indian culture?
6. Describe the achievements of the Gupta golden age.
7. How were the empires of the West and East similar and different?
8. How do stories follow the epic hero cycle?

## Chapter 7 & pgs 107-109 Study Guide

Huang He River (Yellow River): in northern China. Deposits yellow silt when overflows. Yields fertile soil (loess).

Yangzi River (Chang Jiung) in Central China.

Middle Kingdom: Chinese referred to itself as the Middle Kingdom because they believed they were in the middle of the earth.

Qin Dynasty: 241 – 202BC. Unified China. Replaced Zhou Dynasty.

Han Dynasty: ruled China for more than 400 years. Divided into two periods:

- Former Han: 200 years/200BC-9AD
- Later Han: 200 years/9AD-220AD)

Dynastic Cycle: historical pattern of the rise, decline & replacement of dynasties (ruling families)

Mandate of Heaven: in Chinese history, the divine approval thought to be the basis of royal authority.

Feudalism: political system in which nobles are granted use of lands that legally belong to the king in exchange for loyalty, military service and peaceful protection of people who live there.

Legalism: government control. Powerful govt. Punishments for social order.

Shi Huangdi: 221 BC; Qin ruler. "First Emperor". Established an autocracy – unlimited govt power used arbitrarily i.e. construction of Great Wall of China.

Liu Bang: First emperor of Han Dynasty. Continued centralized govt. Brought peace and stability to China. Departed from Shi Huangdi's strict legalism.

Wudi (Liu Bang's great grandson): Longest reigning Han emperor called "Martial Emperor" b/c adopted policy of expanding empire through war.

Centralized govt: central authority/ controls running of the state.

Bureaucracy: a trained civil service or those who run the govt.

Civil service: govt jobs that civilians obtained by taking exams.

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Indus River and Ganges River: two rivers in India

Ramayana: Indian epic that explores human values and the concept of dharma (path to righteousness in terms of behavior)

Caste system: social class system in India

- Priests: (Brahmins) ...mouth
- Warriors (Kshatriyas) ...arms
- Traders & Landowners (Vaishyas) ...legs
- Peasants (Shudras) ...feet

Mauryan Empire: In India 321BC – 185 BC (began to decline in 232BC after Asoki's death).  
Stretched 2,000 miles.

500 years of turmoil and invasions....

Gupta Empire: In India 320AD – 535 AD

Chandragupta Maurya: began Mauryan Empire 321 BC. Created a highly bureaucratic govt.

Asoki: Chandragupta's grandson.

Chandra Gupta: ruler of India's second empire (Gupta Empire.)

Stupa: mounded stone structures built over Buddhist holy relics.

1. How did geography impact early Chinese and Indian civilizations?
  - a. Chinese: deserts to north, seas to east, mountains to south and west. Geographic isolation. Forced to supply its own goods – no or limited trading with outsiders initially. Then began to face repeated invasions from the north and west.
  - b. India: mountains to the north, seas to the south. Traders used coastal routes to trade. As overland trade routes expanded (Silk Roads) – led to increased trade, spread of religion, culture. India became middle man between China and Rome.
2. Major contributions of Qin Dynasty? (under Shi Huangdi)
  - a. Program of centralization (roads, implemented standards for writing, law, currency, weights, measures), irrigation
  - b. Great Wall of China
  - c. Unified China at the expense of human freedom
3. Major contributions of Han Dynasty? (technology, commerce, culture)
  - a. Improvements in education through invention of paper 105 AD.
  - b. Expansion of trade network
  - c. Expanding empire through conquest and war
4. Characteristics of:
  - a. Confucianism (Confucius): urges harmony, social order around five basic relationships
  - b. Daoism (Laozi): natural order, universal force (“The Way”) guides all things
  - c. Legalism (Hanfeizi & LiSi): highly efficient and powerful govt; use law to end civil disorder and restore harmony. Ideas should be controlled by govt.
  - d. Hinduism (no one founder): as a move to monotheism, three important Gods (Brahma, Vishu, Shiva); search for perfect understanding (moksha); reincarnation; karma.
  - e. Buddhism (Siddhartha Gautama): follow Eightfold Path to enlightenment; reach nirvana.
5. How did Shi Huangdi implement Legalism?
  - a. Implemented through an autocracy (use of unlimited govt power used arbitrarily)
6. What does Ramayana tell us about Indian culture?
  - a. It is a great epic of India that is more than a story. It presents Indians with a way to live through values and relationships.
7. Describe the achievements of the Gupta Golden Age? 320-415 AD
  - a. Arts: growth in literature and drama
  - b. Religious thought: spread of Buddhism
  - c. Science: astronomy (assisted with sea trade, proved round earth through lunar eclipse); mathematics (modern numerals, zero, decimal system, pi); medicine (medical guides, surgery)
8. How were the empires of the West (Greece, Rome) and East (India, China) similar and different?
  - a. Page 206 in textbook – contrasts Rome and Han Empires
9. How do stories follow the epic hero cycle?

**EARLY ANCIENT CHINA**

<p>Shang Dynasty (1650-1027 B.C.)</p>		<p>Zhou Dynasty (1027-256 B.C.)</p>
<p>took control of Huang He river valley</p> <p>started Chinese civilization</p>	<p>Rise to Power</p>	<p>conquered Shang</p>
<p>kings &amp; nobles led important clans</p> <p>most people peasants – farmed, helped flood control projects</p>	<p>Government</p>	<p>feudalism</p>
<p>noble ancestors important since only their spirits could speak to gods</p> <p>universe has balance two forces, yin &amp; yang NOT in opposition yin – Earth, darkness, female yang – Heaven, light, male</p>	<p>Ideas and Beliefs</p>	<p>Mandate of Heaven</p> <p>dynastic cycle</p>
<p>system of writing united Chinese people</p> <p>pictographs &amp; ideographs</p> <p>10,000 different characters</p>	<p>Inventions and Legacies</p>	<p>silkmaking – led to economic growth, Silk Road to Middle East</p> <p>first books – thin strips of wood or bamboo</p> <p>Book of Songs – poems of everyday life</p>
<p>conquered by Zhou</p>	<p>Decline</p>	<p>lost control of feudal lords, descended into years of internal wars</p> <p>eventually unified by Qin</p>

# Shi Huangdi and the Qin Dynasty

In 245 B.C., Ying Cheng became the king of the Qin (Ch'in) when he was only thirteen years old. As he grew in age, wisdom and power, he developed the dream of unifying China under one ruler. He declared himself Shi Huangdi, First Emperor, establishing the Rule of Emperors that would last in China until 1911. The name China comes from the time of his rule, when Qin brought China from a feudal state into a powerful kingdom with a centralized government.

To solidify his power, Shi Huangdi built a mobile army of cavalry and chariots armed with iron swords and bows. He moved the old aristocrats and feudal lords to the capital and demanded the surrender of their weapons. To defend China against the barbarian invasions from the north, he built the Great Wall of China which was 1500 miles long.

The establishment of a central government was used to standardize weights and measures, coinage, roadways, legal codes, and a standardized, written script that could be read not only by speakers of China's many regional dialects, but later also by the Japanese, the Koreans, and the Vietnamese. To finance the building and operation of this central government, Shi Huangdi also implemented national taxation.

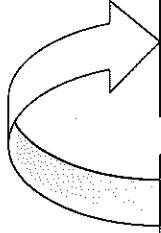
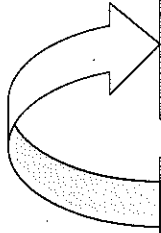
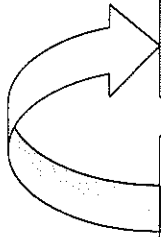
The adage that power corrupts, however, proved true and the first emperor became a totalitarian ruler. He created a system of spying through his military governors and civil administrators in the provinces, and monopolized all basic goods. In an effort to produce intellectual conformity, in 213 B.C. he ordered the burning of books, especially Confucian classics. But he saved works of medicine, legal philosophy, and magic, which reflects his utilitarian attitude towards learning, ironically balanced with his interest in superstition. After barely escaping three attempts on his life, the First Emperor launched a quest for immortality. He scoured the land for the eight immortals who were said to know the secret of eternal life and avoided the public and moved secretly through tunnels connecting his palaces.

The discovery in 1974 of his burial site in Shensi, China, has unearthed 7,000 life-size terra-cotta soldiers. The main tomb, not yet excavated, is expected to rival the tomb of King Tut in Egypt for splendor, art and cultural artifacts.

1. What is one specific action Shi Huangdi took to achieve social order?
2. What Legalist idea may have influenced the action most?
3. How do you think Shi Huangdi would describe himself as a ruler? List evidence from the document to support your answer.



HAN DYNASTY



**THE HAN RESTORE  
UNITY TO CHINA**  
The Founding of the  
Han Dynast  
"The Martial Emperor"

**A HIGHLY STRUCTURED  
GOVERNMENT**  
Structures of Han  
Government  
Confucianism, the Road  
to Success

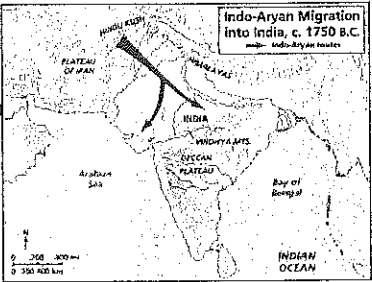
**HAN TECHNOLOGY,  
COMMERCE AND CULTURE**  
Technology  
Revolutionizes Chinese  
Life  
Agriculture Versus  
Commerce

**REBELLION AND  
RESTORATION**  
The Rich Take  
Advantage of the Poor  
Wang Mang Overthrows  
the Han

# Mauryan & Gupta Empires

## Early History

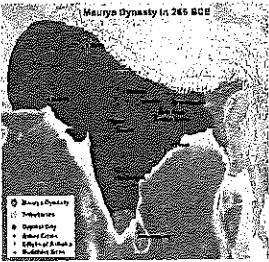
- 2000 B.C. Aryan migrations
- 600 B.C. Small kingdoms develop
- 326 B.C. Alexander the Great conquered Indus Valley



The map shows the migration route of Indo-Aryans from the Plateau of Iran, through the Hindu Kush and Himalayas, into the Indian subcontinent. Key geographical features labeled include the Arabian Sea, Bay of Bengal, and Indian Ocean. A scale bar indicates 0, 250, 500 km.

## Mauryan Empire

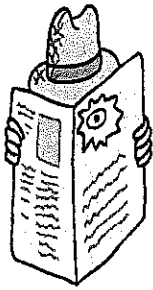
- 321 B.C. Chandragupta Maurya
  - Indian military leader
  - Seizes power
- Claims land from Magadha to Indus River
- 305 B.C. Battle against Seleucus
  - Former general of Alexander the Great
  - Tried to reestablish Macedonia control over Indus Valley
- 303 B.C. Chandragupta Maurya defeats Seleucus
  - Unites northern India for the 1st time



The map shows the extent of the Maurya Empire in 265 BCE, covering most of the Indian subcontinent. A legend identifies symbols for the Maurya Dynasty, Seleucids, Seleucus, Seleucid Empire, and Seleucid Satrap.

## Managing the Empire

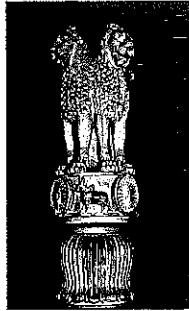
- Wars of conquest depended on
  - 600,000 foot soldiers, 30,000 cavalry & 9,000 elephants
- Military required high taxes
  - 1/2 of value of crops to king
- Kautilya → Advisor to Chandragupta
  - Member of the Brahmin caste
  - Arthashastra - ruler's handbook
    - Proposed tough minded policies
    - Allowed spying & political assassinations
- Bureaucratic Government
  - Empire divided into 4 provinces w/ royal prince
  - Local districts run by officials
    - Assessed taxes & enforced laws



The illustration shows a scroll with a crown on top, symbolizing royal decrees or laws.

## Asoka's Reign

- 269 B.C. Chandragupta Maurya's grandson assumes throne→ Asoka
  - Brought Empire to greatest heights
  - Ruled for 32 years
- Battle at Kalinga
  - Asoka continued plans to expand empire
  - 100,000 soldiers slain in victory
  - Due to grief over loss of life, Asoka turned to Buddhism
- Spread of Buddhism
  - Asoka built stone pillars with new policies inscribed on them
  - Guaranteed fair and equal treatment of his subjects
  - Religious toleration
  - Built roads for easy communication
  - Every 9 miles rest houses & wells



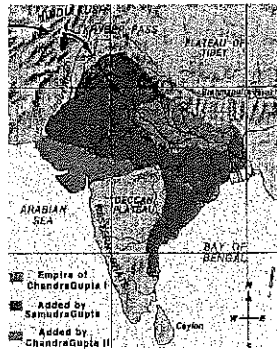
## Period of Turmoil

- 232 B.C. Asoka's death left power vacuum
- Northern India
  - 185 B.C. Absorbed people fleeing political instability in Asia
  - Disrupted Indian society
  - New languages & customs added to traditional culture
- Central India
  - Andhra Dynasty
  - Profited from trade between North & South
- Southern India
  - Home to 3 Kingdoms
  - Spoke Tamil language
  - Often at war with each other



## Gupta Empire

- 320 A.D. Chandra Gupta becomes king
  - Gains throne through marriage not warfare
- Establishes Gupta Empire
  - India's second empire
- 335 A.D. Son Samudra assumes throne
  - Expanded empire through 40 years on conquest
- 375-413 A.D. Chandra Gupta II
  - Defeated Shakas to the west
  - Allowed for trade to Mediterranean region



## Gupta Empire Achievements

- Reign of the three Guptas
  - India experienced period of greatness
    - Arts
    - Religious Thought
    - Expanding trade
    - Literature
    - Education
- Gupta Empire
  - First period with information about daily life
  - Family life-Patriarchal
  - Tamil region-Matriarchal
- 535 A.D. Decline
  - New invaders threatened Northern India→ Hunas
  - Empire broke into small kingdoms

