

## KEY CONCEPT 2.2: THE DEVELOPMENT OF STATES & EMPIRES

NOW YOU NEED TO FOCUS ON THE POLITICS OF THESE CIVILIZATIONS:  
 (THERE IS WAY TOO MUCH INFO TO GO OVER **IN REVIEW** SO, HERE IS A BASIC GUIDE TO THE POLITICS OF THESE PLACES:

### Persia

#### Achaemenid (550-330 BCE)

- Founded by Cyrus the Great
- Largest Empire in the World
- As % of Earth's population, it was the largest ever (44%)
- Zoroastrian religion
- Postal/Road System
- Conquered by Alexander

#### Parthian (247 BCE-224 CE)

- Center of Trade
  - Located on Silk Road
- Defeated Roman Crassus
  - Often warred with Rome

#### Sassanid (224-651 CE)

- Last Pre-Islamic Persian empire
- Considered a world power during this era along with Rome/Byzantine
- Peak of Pre-Islamic Persian culture
  - "Persian Renaissance"
- Heavily influenced Islam

### CHINA

#### QIN (221-206 BCE)

- Short Lived
  - 15 Years!
- Founder: Qin Shi Huangdi
  - Unified China
  - Legalist
  - Centralized Government
  - Started the Great Wall
- Huge influence in Chinese History (especially Han!)
- Ex. Eur. word for China

#### HAN (206 BCE-220 CE)

- Golden Age of China
  - China's largest ethnic group today=Han
- Emperor Wu
  - Defeated the Xiongnu
- Silk Road
  - Started by Han
  - Linked to Europe
- Minted Coins, made paper, water clocks, seismograph
- Capital: Chang'an was the size of Rome
- Highly educated Bureaucr.

### INDIA

#### MAURYAN (322-185 BCE)

- Founder: Chandragupta Maurya (not Chandragupta)
  - Took advantage of disarray of Alexander the Great's retreat
- Largest Empire at the Time
- Grandson: Asoka Maurya
  - United Indian Subcontinent
  - Converted to Buddhism
  - Sent out missionaries
    - Rock Pillars, Stupas

#### GUPTAN (320-600 CE)

- Golden Age of India
  - Peaceful era
  - Allowed for science & artistic endeavors
- Strong trade ties
- Earliest Indian Epics written during this era
- Concept of Zero, Heliocentricity, Chess, base 10 numerals, round Earth
- Highpoint of Sanskrit Lit.

### MED.

#### PHOENICIAN (1200-539 BCE)

- Maritime Trading Culture
- Spread the Alphabet
- City States

#### GREEK/HELLENISTIC (740-146 BCE)

- Foundation of the West
- Architecture, Politics, Democracy, Philosophy, Drama, Science, Math, etc.
- Greco-Persian Wars
- Peloponnesian Wars
- Conquered by Alexander

#### ROME (509 BCE-476 CE)

- Romulus & Remus...
- Conquered surrounding areas
- Monarchy, Republic, Empire
- Versus Carthage
- Augustus/Constantine
- Downfall

### AMER.

#### MESO:

#### TEOTIHUACAN (200-600 CE)

- NE of Mexico City today
- Largest Pre-Columbian city
- Architecture, Pottery, etc.

#### MESO:MAYAN (250-900 CE)

- Only fully developed writing system in the New World
- Known for their Calendar
- Influenced the entire region
- Pyramid Architecture

#### ANDE: MOCHE (100-700 CE)

- Northern Peru
- Known for Gold work, Architecture, and irrigation systems

### COMMON ATTRIBUTES TO THESE CLASSICAL REGIMES:

#### ADMINISTRATION:

- Large Empires required advanced bureaucracies to administer them
- China
  - Early Civil Service system in both the Qin & Han
  - Meritocracy
- Rome
  - 12 Tables/Code of Justinian
- Administering an Empire
  - Diplomacy, supply lines, fortifications, roads, military recruitment

#### SOCIO-ECONOMIC:

- First Major Trade centers developed:
  - Ex. Persepolis, Athens, Chang'an, Rome, Constantinople, Teotihuacan
- Social hierarchies often based on occupation
  - Caste Systems
- Food production was paramount
  - Slavery was widespread
- Patriarchy reined
  - Worldwide; in all of the imperial societies

## COLLAPSE

1. Environmental Damage
  - a. Excessive use of natural resources led to damage to the surrounding environment
    - i. (Deforestation, Desertification, Erosion)
2. External Problems
  - a. AKA Invaders; generally Nomadic
    - i. Han v. Xiongnu
    - ii. Gupta v. White Huns
    - iii. Romans v. Germans

There are many more reasons for this, but the AP only lists the above two.



FREEMAN-PEDIA