AIM: HOW DID ALEXANDER THE GREAT TRANSFORM A STATE INTO AN EMPIRE?
Describe the images

What are the commonalities and differences shared by these images?
HOW ARE TERRITORIES CONQUERED?
THROUGH PEACE
I. ALEXANDER’S EMPIRE

HOW DID ALEXANDER ESTABLISH HIS EMPIRE?
A. **King of Macedonia - Philip II**
(359-336 B.C.E)

1. Sets out to unify all of the Greek city-states by force.

2. Philip conquered all of the major city-states of Greece except for Sparta.

3. He had plans to invade the Persian Empire.

4. Just before Philip attacked the Persians, he was murdered.
B. ALEXANDER THE GREAT (356-323 B.C.E)

1. Succeeds his father Philip.

2. Educated by Aristotle.

3. Conquered the Persian Empire by 331 B.C.

*BURNED PERSEPOLIS—royal capital of Persia.*
4. Conquered Asia Minor, Persia, Egypt (became Pharaoh) Syria, Afghanistan, and northern India.
5. Built city of Alexandria (Egypt) which became the capital of his empire.
Questions:

1. Who was the father of Alexander the Great?

2. Where was Alexander born?

3. At the age of 19, what did Alexander become?

4. What Persian leader did Alexander defeat?

5. What places did Alexander conquer?

6. When Alexander conquered a place, what culture spread?
1. 336 B.C. Alexander becomes ruler of Greece.

2. 331 B.C. Persian army is defeated by Alexander and his troops.

3. 326 B.C. Alexander’s last major battle

4. 326 B.C. Alexander’s troops refuse to march farther east.

5. 323 B.C. Alexander dies.
6. Died at age 33 of a fever.

7. Without his leadership, his empire soon fell apart, and split into four leaderships.
“I am not afraid of an army of lions led by a sheep; I am afraid of an army of sheep led by a lion”.

Alexander the Great

What do you think this quote means?

What was Alexander afraid of?
II. HELLENISTIC PERIOD
(350 B.C.E TO 146 B.C.E)

a. Beginning after the conquests of Alexander the Great: a time of fortune and prosperity.

1. The Hellenistic Era experienced an age of “eclecticism”, a new awakening of multiple knowledge and theories open in Greek ideology, in which people would evaluate and analyze reality.
1. **Cultural Diffusion:** Syncretism of Greek, Egyptian, Persian, & Indian cultures.

2. **Greek** became official language of empire.

3. Gave rise to advancements in math, science, art, & literature.
Lighthouse of Alexandria
Traditional concept
C. THE PERSIAN EMPIRE

a. The Persians influenced many world histories and today’s nation of Iran. About 550 B.C.E. Cyrus the Great established a Persian empire as successor to the Mesopotamian states of the past. The empire tolerated traditional cultures and Persians advanced iron technology. Later Persian rulers expanded the empire and provided much of the Middle East with a long period of peace and prosperity. **Alexander the Great** invaded and dissolved the Persian Empire, but proclaimed himself the legitimate successor of the Achaemenids.

b. Religious leader **Zoroaster** revised Sumerian beliefs to produce a religion emphasizing the importance of choosing between the divine forces of good and evil; a last judgment decided the eternal fate of each person.
GEOGRAPHY SKILLBUILDER: Interpreting Maps
1. Region: What part of the ancient world did Cambyses add to the Persian Empire?
COLLABORATIVE SECONDARY SOURCE ACTIVITY

MIGHTY MACEDONIAN - ALEXANDER THE GREAT
Concluding Journal Entry

Alexander the Great died at the age of 33 and his empire was divided. WHAT IF he didn’t die at such a young age? WHAT IF he lived into his 60’s, how would history be different? DO YOU THINK HE WOULD HAVE BEEN BE ABLE TO CONQUER THE WORLD?