**KEY CONCEPT 2.1: THE DEVELOPMENT & CODIFICATION OF RELIGIOUS & CULTURAL TRADITIONS**

**THE MOST EFFICIENT TOPIC FOR YOUR STUDY BEGINS HERE: RELIGION**

Religion provides both community bonds as well as a moral code. It influences & reinforces social stratification. It often merged with political rulers to justify their reign. Differences in religious beliefs could also lead to conflict.

**TWO RELIGIONS FROM THE LAST PERIOD ARE CODIFIED/CONTINUE DEVELOPING IN THIS PERIOD:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Judaism</th>
<th>Hinduism</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- The FIRST MONOTHEISTIC religion</td>
<td>- Vedic RELIGION codified in Sanskrit by 500 BCE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Holy Book (TORAH) Codified around 500 BCE</td>
<td>- Basis for the CASTE SYSTEM, REINCARNATION</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Reflected MESOPOTAMIAN CULTURE/VALUES</td>
<td>- NOT POLYTHEISTIC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Hebrew communities conquered leading to the DIASPORA</td>
<td>- Many Manifestation of the one Brahma</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**FOUR RELIGIONS/BELIEF SYSTEMS ARE CODIFIED/FOUNDED IN THIS PERIOD:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Buddhism</th>
<th>Confucianism</th>
<th>Christianity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Founded by SIDDHARtha GAUTAMA around 500 BCE</td>
<td>- Founded by Kong Qiu (CONFUCIUS)</td>
<td>- Founded by JESUS of NAZARETH around 30 CE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Taught that DESIRE led to SUFFERING</td>
<td>- Spread by Key Disciples (ex. Mencius)</td>
<td>- Believe that JESUS was the SON of god</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- END SUFFERING by ENDING DESIRES</td>
<td>- Taught Proper relationships from Emperor to local villages</td>
<td>- Spread despite ROMAN persecution by Disciples</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Spread through the work of MAURYAN EMPEROR ASOKA</td>
<td>- Stressed Patriarchy and Filial Piety</td>
<td>- Eventually gained Roman Imperial support via Constantine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Profound effect on Chinese Culture</td>
<td>- Medicine, Poetry, Metallurgy, Architecture</td>
<td>- ALSO, solidified/codified around 500 BCE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Medicine, Poetry, Metallurgy, Architecture</td>
<td>- Key Thinkers</td>
<td>- Questioned a diverse range of topics and ideals:</td>
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Along with the belief systems above, GRECO-ROMAN PHILOSOPHY & SCIENCE also took hold in this era:

- Key Thinkers
  - SOCRATES
  - PLATO (founder of WESTERN PHILOSOPHY)
  - ARISTOTLE

**IN REVIEW**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender Roles</th>
<th>Animism</th>
<th>Ancestor Veneration</th>
<th>Artistic Expression</th>
<th>Distinct Architectural Styles</th>
<th>Greco-Buddhism</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monasticism</td>
<td>- Mainly used outside of the CORE Civiliz.</td>
<td>- Worship of your Ancestors</td>
<td>- Took on Distinctive styles that had repercussions into later eras</td>
<td>- What you stereotypically think of buildings in different areas took root in this era</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- From both Buddhism &amp; Christianity</td>
<td>- Stressed daily reliance on Natural World</td>
<td>- Africa</td>
<td>- Indian Temples, American Pyramids, Greek Temples</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Filial Piety</td>
<td>- Basis of Confucianism</td>
<td>- E. Asia</td>
<td>- Between Alexander &amp; Islam</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Blending of two cultures (Syncretism)</td>
<td>- Andean</td>
<td>- Mediterranean</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### Key Concept 2.2: The Development of States & Empires

**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
  - Mined Coins, made paper, water clocks, scismograph
  - 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** (220-600 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**
- Maritime Trading Culture
- Spread the Alphabet

**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. Mesopotamia**
- 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

**Meso: Aztec**
- 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 reigned
  - Worldwide; in all of the imperial societies

### Collapse:
1. Environmental Damage
   - Excessive use of natural resources led to damage to the surrounding environment
   - i. Deforestation, Desertification, Erosion
2. External Problems
   - 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**
**KEY CONCEPT 2.3: THE EMERGENCE OF TRANSREGIONAL NETWORKS OF COMMUNICATION & EXCHANGE**

**ALL OF THESE NEW HUGE EMPIRES WERE INTERCONNECTED…**

**EASTERN HEMISPHERE TRADE ROUTES:**
- EURASIAN
- SILK ROAD
- TRANS SAHARAN
- INDIAN OCEAN
- MEDITERRANEAN

**NEW TECHNOLOGIES THAT FACILITATED LONG DISTANCE TRADE**

**YOKES**
Wooden beam that allows work animals to pull together.

**SADDLES**
Supportive apparatus to support riders on horses, camels, etc.

**STIRRUPS**
After the Chariot & Saddle, it's the most important advancement in warfare prior to gunpowder.

**LATEEN SAILS**
Triangular sail dating back to the Roman Mediterranean and used heavily in the Indian Ocean trade.

**DOHW SHIPS**
Ships with one or more Lateen sails primarily used in the Indian Ocean trade.

**THINGS TRADED ALONGSIDE GOODS:**

**RICE**
The most important crop for human consumption today.

**COTTON**
Accounts for 2.5% of earth’s arable land today.

**QANAT SYSTEM**
Provides water in arid climates. Spread from Iran to North Africa and the rest of Asia where many people depend on the Qanat for water.

**PLAGUE OF GALEN**
Smallpox killed 5 million people (1/3 of the population) in Rome in 165 CE.

**PLAGUE OF JUSTINIAN**
Bubonic Plague in 541 CE killed 40% of Constantinople & spread killing 25 million worldwide.

**PLAGUE OF CYPRIAN**
Smallpox outbreak in 250 CE that lasted 20 years, killed the Emperor, and was blamed on the Christians.

**CHRISTIANITY**
Took on a structure like the Roman Empire and adding the “Trinity”

**BUDDHISM**
Buddhism took on different characteristics wherever it spread (China, SE Asia, Japan)

**HINDUISM**
SE Asian societies made Hinduism fit their history/society.
Using the FREEMAN-PEDIA website, create your own 600 BCE-600 CE WORLD TRADE-TECHNOLOGY MAP. This should help you visualize the major contacts between people in the world during this period.

**PERIOD II: ORGANIZATION & REORGANIZATION OF HUMAN SOCIETIES**

2.3.1. Land and water routes became the basis for trans-regional trade, communication, and exchange networks in the Eastern Hemisphere.

- Eurasian
- Silk Roads
- Trans-Saharan
- Indian Ocean
- Mediterranean Sea Lanes

Many factors, including the climate and location of the routes, the typical trade goods, and the ethnicity of people involved, shaped the distinctive features of a *variety of trade routes*.

1. **LABEL THE MAP TO THE RIGHT, WITH THE ABOVE TRADE ROUTES.**

2. **LABEL THE MAP WITH THE AREAS THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN LINKED BY THESE TRADE ROUTES:**

   - GREECE/ROME
   - MAURYAN/GUPTAN
   - HAN CHINA
   - PERSIAN EMPIRES

3. **LABEL THE MAP WITH THE TECHNOLOGIES FROM THE NEXT PAGE**

   - Yokes, Saddles
   - Stirrups
   - Horses, Llamas*, Camels
   - Lateen Sails/Dhows
   - Qanat
You just came back from Persia. Describe to someone from Not-Persia how to build a Qanat.

**STEP 1:** _____________________________

**STEP 2:** _____________________________

**STEP 3:** _____________________________

**STEP 4:** _____________________________

**STEP 5:** _____________________________

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### It is from:

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### It is better than this because:

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### WHICH PERMITTED THE USE OF DOMESTICATED PACK ANIMALS:

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### FREEMAN-PEDIA

**Mother Well**
The main water source for the qanat

**Access Shaft**
Permits access to the qanat channel for construction and maintenance

**Qanat Channel**
The qanat's water-carrying channel

**Outlet**
A network of dams, gates, and channels is used to distribute the water

**Irrigated Land**

**CHAMPA RICE**
- **Location:** China
- **Significance:** New strain from Vietnam in 1012 (song) that cut cultivation time from 180 to 90 days. Food = Life

**CHINAMPAS**
- **Location:** America
- **Significance:** Unique Meso-American "floating" gardens that were built in shallow lake beds. Provided 2/3 of all food to Tenochtitlan.

**WARU WARU**
- **Location:** America
- **Significance:** Alternating rows of crops & irrigation channels limiting erosion & increasing rain water collection.

**TERRACING**
- **Location:** Earth
- **Significance:** Used to create arable land on mountainsides avoiding erosion. Found from Philippines to Peru.
Whereas the Mediterranean was largely "prehistoric" in 1000 BC, it was definitely "historic" by 500 AD. Roman geographical and population expansion spread methods of agricultural and economic development which encouraged the clearing of forested land. The spread of Roman practices had unintended devastating effects on the environment.

### Causes

**Agriculture**
- The Roman Empire was the leading source for deforestation in the Mediterranean world in the classical era.
- Wood was a primary source of building and used extensively in industry.
- Basic building supply in the Roman period was wood.
- The four major species in Roman grazing were cattle, sheep, goats, and swine.
- They formed a synergistic partnership that was destructive to virtually all vegetation within reach.
- Herds of goats throughout the centuries were everywhere in the Mediterranean and were easy to care for.
- Goats basically destroyed the mountainous regions for its grazing.
- The consumption of hillside plants and young trees caused erosion, stripping hillsides of soils and eventually exposing bare rock (causing severe flooding in many areas).

**Forestry**
- Forest areas around mining centers were deforested first, consuming all natural resources around the area of work.
- Once all the natural resources around the area of production were consumed, wood was then shipped and carried in to supply the furnaces and smelters for the mining centers.
- Forests were also under government regulations and protected for future resources.

**Shipbuilding**
- Shipbuilding was a major contributor to deforestation and was of great economic and military significance.
- The importance attached to the supply of timber for building ships cannot be denied; ships were crucial to the burgeoning economic life of the Mediterranean, and sea power was vital in the exercise of political control.
- Thousands of ships were built during this classical period.
- At times of war, hundreds could be built within a month.

**Military campaigns**
- Military campaigns devastated the countryside.
- Julius Caesar himself ordered troops to cut down forests to prevent sneaking attacks.
- Deforestation ensured that the forests could not provide cover and tools and transportation to carry supplies where needed.

**Urbanization**
- Early urbanization of Rome and surrounding areas was focused around the ability to obtain natural resources and for heat.
- With natural resources dwindling, maintaining a strong military for the conquering of new lands was vital in Rome.
- The importance attached to the supply of timber for building ships cannot be denied.

### Consequences

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SOIL</th>
<th>FLOODING</th>
<th>AWARENESS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>With an increased demand for resources and food, constant pressure was put upon the land and soil to provide food for a growing economy. Regular clearing and plowing exhausted existing soil, which eventually became infertile.</td>
<td>Erosion accelerated up to twentyfold in the 3rd century, creating unusable marshlands, which spread diseases such as malaria. Rains washed away the unprotected earth and greatly altered coastlines, in some cases, pushing them many miles farther out to sea.</td>
<td>Clearing for agricultural needs and for heat was a necessity for long-term survival in Roman times, though there is a debate as to whether the Romans understood the implications of deforestation. Forests were also under government regulations and protected for future resources. Unfortunately, these attempts may have been too little too late.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
END OF AN ERA

ALL GOOD THINGS MUST COME TO AN END.

USING THE INFO PROVIDED TRACK THE DOWNFALL OF THE CLASSICAL CIVILIZATIONS

FREEMAN-PEDIA
In 376 CE, large numbers of Goths crossed the Danube. They sought admission to the territory of the Roman Empire, a political institution which, despite having both new and longstanding systematic weaknesses, wielded effective power across the lands surrounding the Mediterranean and beyond. The Empire had large numbers of trained, supplied, and disciplined soldiers, it had a comprehensive civil administration based in thriving cities with effective control over public finances, and it maintained extreme differences of wealth and status including slavery on a large scale. It had wide-ranging trade networks that allowed even modest households to use goods made by professionals a long way away. Among its literate elite it had ideological legitimacy as the only worthwhile form of civilization and a unity based on comprehensive familiarity with Greek and Roman literature and rhetoric.

By 476, when Odoacer deposed the Emperor Romulus, the Western Roman Empire wielded negligible military, political, or financial power and had no effective control over the scattered Western domains that still described themselves as Roman. While its legitimacy lasted for centuries and its cultural influence remains today, the Western Empire never had the strength to rise again.

The Romans had existed as an important power for over 1000 years. They had brought stability, prosperity, and order to the civilised West. Excellent roads connected the far reaches of the empire with the capital at Rome. These were built originally for military purposes but improved all communications and trade. Roman law kept the internal peace and 20 to 30 Roman legions defended the frontiers.

All was not perfect, however. Emperors held absolute authority. This worked well with good emperors, but incompetent ones could do great harm. The rules for succession to the throne were never clear, and debilitating civil wars often resulted. The bureaucracy that managed the empire on a daily basis grew more corrupt, increasing the dissatisfaction of the common citizen. The wealth of the empire gradually concentrated in the hands of a minority while a large slave population did most of the work. The borders of the empire were immense and put a strain on military resources (500,000 soldiers defended a frontier that required 3 million or more to be secured). Roman conquests had ceased in the second century A.D., bringing an end to massive inflows of plunder and slaves. Taxes increased and production fell as the work force declined. A plague may have killed 20 percent of the empire's population in the third and fourth centuries, further reducing trade and production.

In the late third century, the Roman Empire was split into eastern and western halves in an attempt to make for easier rule and better control. In 323 Constantine became emperor after a civil war and established his eastern capital at Byzantium, which he renamed Constantinople. During the next century the eastern and western parts of the empire gradually established separate identities, although nominally the same empire. These identities were partially due to the different pressures brought to bear on them from the outside and the local culture. The Western Empire was predominantly Latin; the Eastern Empire was predominantly Greek (although they referred to themselves as Romans). The Eastern Empire survived the cataclysm of the third and fourth centuries because it had a larger population (70 percent of the empire's total), better emperors, more money, and a far better army and navy.
THE GERMANIC PEOPLE TO THE NORTH/EAST

In the 4th century A.D. most Germanic peoples in Europe were living east of the Rhine and north of the Danube. These groups were seminomadic, herding their flocks and tilling the soil. Large and vigorous, the people prized strength and courage in battle.

For hundreds of years the Germans had exerted pressure on the frontiers of the empire. In 105 B.C. German warriors inflicted a terrible defeat on a Roman army, but four years later, a capable Roman leader, Marius, became a national hero when he outmaneuvered the Germans and defeated them. Again in Julius Caesar's time, German invaders tried to conquer part of Gaul but were defeated. During the reign of Augustus, the Romans launched a drive against the restless German tribes between the Rhine and the Elbe rivers, but in 9 A.D. the Roman legions suffered a crushing defeat in the Battle of Teutoburg Forest. Three legions were completely wiped out. From then on the Romans were content to hold the frontier on the Rhine-Danube line, and quiet continued for a long period. Again, in the reign of Marcus Aurelius, from 161 to 180 A.D., and for 120 years afterward, the Romans had difficulty holding the Germans at the Frontier. But after 300 A.D. peace was maintained for some seventy-five years.

THE ROLL OF THE HUNS IN ASIA

In Asia, during the 4th century, restless nomads called Huns were on the march from the east. Mounted on swift horses, they attacked with lightning ferocity all tribes in their path. Crossing the Volga River, they conquered the Ostrogoths in eastern Europe. Fearing that the Huns would attack them also, the Visigoths implored Roman authorities for sanctuary in the empire. The Roman officials agreed, promising them lands for settlement provided they came unarmed.

FALL

Neither side lived up to the agreement, however, and the Visigoths, without land and facing starvation, began to sack Roman settlements. When the Roman emperor Valens led a great army against the Visigoths, to the astonishment of Romans and Germans alike, the imperial force was scattered and the emperor slain. This battle on the field of Adrianople in 378 A.D. is considered one of the decisive battles in world history because it rendered the Roman Empire defenseless. German tribes outside the frontiers began to round up their cattle, mobilize their fighting men, and move toward the Roman borders.

THE END...

Meanwhile, the power of the emperors in Rome had fallen to a point where they had become merely puppets of the legions, many of whom were of German birth. In the 476 A.D., Odoacer, a commander of the Roman armies, deposed the last of the Roman emperors and became the first German ruler of Rome. This date--476 A.D.--is often cited as the date for the “fall” of Rome.
The End of the Han Dynasty refers to the period from 189 to 220, which roughly coincides with the reign of the Han Dynasty's last ruler, Emperor Xian. During this period, the Han Empire’s institutions were destroyed by the warlord Dong Zhuo, and fractured into regional regimes ruled by various warlords, some of whom were nobles and officials of the Han imperial court. Eventually, one of those warlords, Cao Cao, was able to gradually reunify the empire, ostensibly under Emperor Xian's rule, but the empire was actually controlled by Cao Cao himself. Cao Cao's efforts to completely reunite the Han Empire were rebuffed at the Battle of Red Cliffs in 208 / 209, when his armies were defeated by the allied forces of Sun Quan and Liu Bei. The Han Dynasty formally ended in 220 when Cao Cao's son and heir, Cao Pi, pressured Emperor Xian into abdicating in his favour. Cao Pi became the emperor of a new state, Cao Wei.

By the 180s the Han court had grown weak, with debauched or disinterested emperors who lived only for amusement. Court eunuchs vied for power with the scholar-officials and army generals, at times even leading to massacres within the palace. In 189 CE, the warlord Dong Zhuo went so far as to assassinate the 13-year-old Emperor Shao, placing Shao's younger brother on the throne instead. Economically, the Han government had trouble collecting enough tax revenue to fund the court and to support the armies that defended China from external threats. The scholar-officials generally exempted themselves from taxes, and the peasants had a sort of early-warning system by which they could alert one another when the tax collectors came to a particular village. The peasants would scatter to the surrounding countryside, and wait until the tax men had gone. As a result, the central government was chronically short on money.

One reason that the peasants fled at the rumor of tax collectors is that they were trying to survive on smaller and smaller plots of farm land. The population was growing quickly, and each son was supposed to inherit a piece of land when the father died. Thus, farms were quickly being carved into ever-tinier bits, and peasant families had trouble supporting themselves, even if they managed to avoid paying taxes.

Externally, the Han Dynasty faced the same threat that plagued every indigenous Chinese government throughout history - the danger of raids by the nomadic peoples of the steppes. To the north and west, China borders on desert and range-lands that have been controlled by various nomadic peoples over time, including the Uighurs, Kazakhs, Mongols, Jurchens (Manchu), and the Xiongnu.

During prosperous times, the settled agricultural people of China would simply pay tribute to troublesome nomads, or hire them to provide protection from the other tribes. Emperors even offered Chinese princesses as brides to the "barbarian" rulers in order to preserve the peace. The Han government, however, did not have the resources to buy off all of the nomads.

One of the most important factors in the collapse of the Han Dynasty, in fact, may have been the Sino-Xiongnu Wars of 133 BCE to 89 CE. Over more than two centuries, the Chinese and the Xiongnu fought throughout the western regions of China - a critical area that Silk Road trade goods had to cross to reach the Han Chinese cities. In 89 CE, the Han crushed the Xiongnu state, but this victory came at such a high price that it helped to fatally destabilize the Han government.

Interestingly, half of the Xiongnu moved west in the wake of their defeat, absorbing other nomadic groups, and forming a formidable new ethnic group known as the Huns. Thus, the descendants of the Xiongnu would be implicated in the collapse of two other great classical civilizations, as well - the Roman Empire, in 476 CE, and India's Gupta Empire in 550 CE. In each case, the Huns did not actually conquer these empires, but did weaken them militarily and economically, leading to their collapses.
The Gupta Empire (320 to 550 CE) in India was one of the world's great classical civilizations, marked by amazing advances in science, art and literature. Creator of India's Golden Age, it was likely founded by a member of a lower Hindu caste, the Vaishya or farmer caste, in reaction to abuses by previous princely rulers.

Although the Gupta Empire survived after other famous classical states, such as China's Han Dynasty and the Roman Empire, it collapsed under some of the same pressures.

Politically, the Gupta Dynasty grew weak from a number of succession disputes. As the emperors lost power, regional lords gained increasing autonomy. By 500, many were declaring their independence and refusing to pay taxes to the central Gupta state.

By the later Gupta era, the government was having trouble collecting enough tax money to fund both its hugely complex bureaucracy, and constant wars against foreign invaders like the Pushyamitras and the Huns. In part, this was due to the common people's dislike of the meddlesome and unwieldy bureaucracy. Even those who felt personal loyalty to the Gupta Emperor generally disliked his government, and were happy to avoid paying for it if they could.

As mentioned above, the Gupta Empire faced constant threats of invasion from the north. The cost of fighting off these invasions drained the Gupta treasury, and the government had difficulty refilling the coffers for the internal reasons noted above. Among the most troublesome of the invaders were the White Huns, who had conquered much of the northwestern section of Gupta territory by 500 CE.

Although none of the invading groups managed to completely overrun the Gupta Empire, the financial hardship helped hasten the end of the dynasty. Almost unbelievably, the Huns or their direct ancestors the Xiongnu had the same effect on two of the other great classical civilizations in earlier centuries: Han China, which collapsed in 221 CE, and the Roman Empire, which fell in 476 CE.
2.1.5. The convergence of Greco-Roman culture and Buddhist beliefs affected the development of unique sculptural developments.

Greco-Buddhism is the name given to the SYNCRETISM (the combining of different (often contradictory) beliefs, often while melding practices of various schools of thought) of Hellenistic and Buddhist cultures sometime between the 4th & 5th Centuries BCE. This was most commonly seen around the Indian Subcontinent (from Afghanistan through India). It’s influences eventually spread as far east as Japan (Japan developed a Hercules-god that defended the Buddha known as Nio).

It began with Alexander the Great’s incursion into the India Subcontinent. It was carried on after Alexander by the Indo-Greek rulers during the Hellenistic Era. It had profound influence on the development of Buddhism (particularly Mahayana Buddhism).

**Examples**

**Greco-Roman**

- The latest of the three orders of Greco-Roman architecture, Corinthian columns derive their name from Corinth.
- Atlas was a Greek Titan who held up the celestial spheres (although today he is often depicted holding up the earth).
- Toga was the distinctive Roman garment worn over a tunic. It was made of wool and only worn by Roman (male) citizens.

**Greco-Buddhist**

- Typical Buddhist relief on a wall in India. Notice how he is prominently featured in the new Greco-Buddhist column.
- Typical base of a statue of Buddha from India. Buddha is often seen sitting beneath the Bodhi tree.
- There are no statue representations of Buddha pre-1st Century CE. Other statues show humans in loin cloths.

**Buddhist**

- Typical relief on a wall in India. Notice how he is prominently featured in the new Greco-Buddhist column.
2.1.2. The core ideas in Greco-Roman philosophy and science emphasized logic, empirical observation, and the nature of political power and hierarchy.

**PRE-SOCRATICS**

**ANAXIMANDER**

611 BCE-546 BCE

*First philosopher to write down his ideas.

“Anaximander of Miletus considered that from warmed up water and earth emerged either fish or entirely fishlike animals. Inside these animals, men took form and embryos were held prisoners until puberty; only then, after these animals burst open, could men and women come out, now able to feed themselves”

1. Where does ANAXIMANDER say humans come from?
2. What theory is this similar to today?

**POST-SOCRATICS**

**ZENO**

334 BCE-262 BCE

*Founder of the School of STOICISM

“In the life of an individual man, virtue is the sole good; such things as health, happiness, possessions, are of no account. Since virtue resides in the will, everything really good or bad in a man’s life depends only upon himself. Therefore every man has perfect freedom, provided he emancipates himself from mundane desires.”

6. What other world belief system does this mirror?

7. Briefly describe STOICISM.

**SOCRATICS**

**PLATO**

428 BCE -348 BCE

*Student of SOCRATES

“Behold! human beings living in a underground den, which has a mouth open towards the light and reaching all along the den; here they have been from their childhood, and have their legs and necks chained so that they cannot move, and can only see before them, being prevented by the chains from turning round their heads. Above and behind them a fire is blazing at a distance, and between the fire and the prisoners there is a raised way; and you will see, if you look, a low wall built along the way, like the screen which marionette players have in front of them, over which they show the puppets.
And if they were able to converse with one another, would they not suppose that they were naming what was actually before them?

3. What is the only thing these prisoners have ever seen before them?
4. What might happen if one of them left the Cave and went out into the real world?

5. Aristotle is the first to write on this topic (that was later mastered by Islamic thinkers) what is he describing?

**ARISTOTLE**

384 BCE -322 BCE

*Student of PLATO & Teacher of ALEXANDER

“We suppose ourselves to possess unqualified scientific knowledge of a thing, as opposed to knowing it in the accidental way, when we think that we know the cause on which the fact depends, as the cause of that fact and of no other, and, further, that the fact could not be other than it is.

What I now assert is that at all events we do know by demonstration. By demonstration I mean [the logical reasoning] productive of scientific knowledge, a [logical reasoning], that is, the grasp of such knowledge. Assuming then that my thesis as to the nature of scientific knowing is correct, the premises of demonstrated knowledge must be true, primary, immediate, better known than and prior to the conclusion, which is further related to them as effect to cause. Unless these conditions are satisfied, the basic truths will not be ‘appropriate’ to the conclusion.

5. Aristotle is the first to write on this topic (that was later mastered by Islamic thinkers) what is he describing?
ROMAN PHILOSOPHY

Since this is a history course…

HERODOTUS/THUCYDIDES

484 BCE -425 BCE
The Greek writer
Herodotus is considered the
world's first historian, “the
father of history.”
Herodotus explored
centuries of contacts be- between
the ancient Greeks and the
Persian Empire, culminating in
the Persian Wars of the early
fifth century B.C.
In dramatic land and sea
battles, the Greeks managed to
repel invaders from the much
larger, richer, and more
powerful Persian Empire to the
east. Later historians have said
these Greek victories saved
Western Civilization.

To compile his history,
Herodotus relied on oral
accounts and he included gossip,
myths, and rumors. Sometimes
he would provide conflicting
accounts of events and invite the
reader to decide which to
believe.

Herodotus wrote, "No one is so
foolish as to prefer war to peace:
in peace children bury their
fathers, while in war fathers
bury their children.”

460 BCE -395 BCE
The Greek writer
Thucydides (thoo-SID-uh-dees) is credited with
writing the first
"scientific" history.
Gods and legends
played no role in his
history of the
Peloponnesian War
between Athens and
Sparta, which took place
in the late fifth century
B.C. After 27 years of
conflict, Sparta won
and Athens went into decline.

Thucydides wrote
only about events that
occurred during his
lifetime that he could
verify through
examination of written
records and eyewitness
accounts. He strived for
complete objectivity, and
in this way he pioneered
the historical method used
by historians today.

CICERO
106 BCE-43 BCE

“Therefore, as the farmer knows agriculture and the scribe knows
penmanship, and both seek in their respective sciences, not mere
amusement only, but practical utility; so our statesmen should be
familiar with government and legislation, even in their profoundest
principles. But he should not embarrass himself in debating,
arguing, lecturing, and scribbling. He should rather employ
himself in the actual administration of the government, as a skillful
superintendent, and become a farmer of the revenue, so as to make
the state as flourishing as possible by a wholesome political
economy”

8. What does Cicero say the statesmen should focus on?

9. What does he warn the statesmen to stay away from?

WORDS TO LIVE BY…
Meditations from your friendly neighborhood Emperor

Read the following from Marcus Aurelius’ Meditations. Rank
the words of advice from the last of the 5 Good Emperors.

___ Do not act as if you were going to live ten thousand years.
Death hangs over you. While you live, while it is in your power, be
good.
___ You are a little soul carrying about a corpse
___ Be like the cliff against which the waves continually break, but
which stands firm and tames the fury of the water around it.
___ Soon you'll be ashes or bones. A mere name at most—and
even that is just a sound, an echo. The things we want in life are
empty, stale, trivial.
___ The best way of avenging yourself is not to become like the
wrongdoer.
___ Every moment think steadily as a Roman and a man to do
what you have at hand with perfect and simple dignity, and feeling
of humanity, freedom, and justice; free your mind from all other
thoughts.
___ Not to feel exasperated or defeated or despondent because your
days aren't packed with wise and moral actions. But to get back up
when you fail, to celebrate behaving like a human—however
imperfectly—and fully embrace the pursuit you've embarked on.

Sincerely,

MARCUS AURELIUS
121 CE-180 CE

Sincerely,

FREEMAN-PEDIA
Key Concept 2.1
As states and empires increased in size and contacts between regions multiplied, religious and cultural systems were transformed. Religions and belief systems provided a bond among the people and an ethical code to live by. These shared beliefs also influenced and reinforced political, economic, and occupational stratification. Religious and political authority often merged as rulers (some of whom were considered divine) used religion, along with military and legal structures, to justify their rule and ensure its continuation. Religions and belief systems could also generate conflict, partly because beliefs and practices varied greatly within and among societies.

FOCUS ON THE FOUR RELIGIONS/BELIEF SYSTEMS FOUNDED IN THIS ERA

When it comes to the foundation of BUDDHISM, there are two key people you need to focus on: BUDDHA & ASOKA.

Setting into motion the WHEEL OF LAW...

BUDDHA’S FIRST SERMON c. 520

“When the Blessed one thus addressed the five [monks], ‘There are two extremes, O [monks], which he who has given up the world, ought to avoid. What are these two extremes?’ A life given to mortifications [asceticism]; this is painful, ignoble, and profitless. By avoiding these two extremes, O [monks], the Tathagata [a title of Buddha meaning perhaps ‘he who has arrived at the truth’] has gained the knowledge of the Middle Path which leads to insight, which is painful, ignoble, and profitless. By avoiding these two extremes, O [monks], he who has given up the world, ought to...

Four Noble Truths

1. “In the history of the world there have been thousands of kings and emperors who called themselves 'their highnesses,' 'their majesties,' and 'their exalted majesties' and so on. They shone for a brief moment, and as quickly disappeared. But Asoka shines and shines brightly like a bright star, even unto this day.”

2. “Beloved-of-the-Gods, King [Asoka], conquered the Kalingas eight years after his coronation. One hundred and fifty thousand were deported, one hundred thousand were killed and many more died (from other causes). After the Kalingas had been conquered, [Asoka] came to feel a strong inclination towards the Dharma (Buddhism), a love for the Dharma and for instruction in Dharma. Now [Asoka] feels deep remorse for having conquered the Kalingas.”

3. “King [Asoka], desires that all religions should reside everywhere, for all of them desire self-control and purity of heart. But people have various desires and various passions, and they may practice all of what they should or only a part of it. But one who receives great gifts yet is lacking in self-control, purity of heart, gratitude and firm devotion, such a person is mean.”

4. “Asoka's edicts are mainly concerned with the reforms he instituted and the moral principles he recommended in his attempt to create a just and humane society. Two of them are below.

- ‘To study the ancients,’ replied Confucius. Lao-tze began to berate him with questions of his own. ‘What do you want?’ asked Lao-tze. ‘To study the ancients,’ replied Confucius. Lao-tze then asked, ‘Why study the Ancients, whose bones have turned to dust?’ As Confucius tried to respond, he was cut off by Lao-tze, ‘Put away your polite airs and fine robes. The wise man does not display his treasure.’ Confucius later referred to the Librarian as the ‘Old Dragon.’

Little is known of the “Old Dragon”. Just before he left China (on the back of a water buffalo) he wrote down his ideas in the Tao te Ching, a concise ambiguous book describing his belief system. Unfortunately, the main idea of the book is that the Tao cannot be described in words.

The Dao (this spelling is the closest to the way it is pronounced in Chinese) is the ultimate creative principle in the universe. It is, literally, “the Way or the Road”. All things are connected to the Dao. It is not a God and should not be worshipped as one. It follows the Yin & Yang or the Good and Bad.

In contrast to Confucianism, the goal of Daoism is to achieve harmony or union with nature. Whereas Confucianism relies on RITUAL & ORDER, Daoism espouses wild nature and individualism.

If you are having trouble understanding DAOISM, don’t worry. That seems to be by design as Laozi said, “The Dao that can be told is not the eternal Dao.”

BUDDHA’S FIRST SERMON c. 520

“And the Blessed one thus addressed the five [monks], ‘There are two extremes, O [monks], which he who has given up the world, ought to avoid. What are these two extremes?’ A life given to mortifications [asceticism]; this is painful, ignoble, and profitless. By avoiding these two extremes, O [monks], he who has given up the world, ought to...

BUDDHA & ASOKA.

The Development and Codification of Religious and Cultural Traditions
CONFUCIANISM is the set of beliefs based on the teachings of K’ung Fu-tse (Confucius) c. 500 BCE.

Confucianism, with a few exceptions, will be the main source of Chinese thought after the Qin Dynasty.

The same century that produced the Buddha, and Laozi, produced Confucius. He was not of princely birth or a son of nobility. Although legend later claimed that he was of Royal lineage, Kung himself stated that he was “without rank and in humble circumstances.”

Little is known about his early life. It is believed that he was the youngest of twelve children (ten of which were girls). His father died when he was young and his mother struggled to keep the family alive. She was able to afford K’ung an education. He quickly found that education requires “Good teachers and good students.” Born into a turbulent era in Chinese history, K’ung devoted his studies to how a peaceful, honest government might be attained.

He got a government post and began to study everything he could find. He quickly picked up the nickname “K’ung-fu-tse” or K’ung the Philosopher (from which we get name Confucius). He quit his job to devote his time to study. People came from all around to study with K’ung. By his 30s, he had over 3,000 followers.

K’ung taught on all types of subjects. However, he never spoke on gods, the Universe, or the afterlife.

THE FIVE CONFUCIAN RELATIONSHIPS

RULER & SUBJECT:
“Let the ruler be a ruler, the subject a subject, the father a father, the son a son… To govern is to correct. If you set an example be being correct, who would dare to remain incorrect?

FATHER & SON:
“Being good as a son and obedient as a young man is, perhaps, the root of a man’s character…Nowadays for a man to be filial means no more than that he is able to provide his parents with food. Even hounds and horses are, in some way, provided with food. If a man shows no reverence (respect), where is the difference?”

ELDER BROTHER & YOUNGER BROTHER:
“Should one immediately put into practice what one has heard?” “As your father and elder brothers are still alive, you are hardly in a position immediately to put into practice what you have heard.”

HUSBAND & WIFE:
“The woman follows the man. In her youth she follows her father and elder brother; when married, she follows her husband; when her husband is dead, she follows her son”

FRIEND & FRIEND:
“Make it your guiding principle to do your best for others and to be trustworthy in what you say. Do not accept as friend anyone who is not as good as you”

Jesus of Nazareth (4 BCE-33 CE) was a Jewish carpenter who claimed to be the son of god. A ND seeing the multitudes, he went up into the mountain:

2 And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying, 3 Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
4 Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.
5 Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.
6 Blessed are they that hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.
7 Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.
8 Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.
9 Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called sons of God.
10 Blessed are they that have been persecuted for righteousness’ sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
11 Blessed are ye when men shall reproach you, and persecute you, and say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.
12 Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.
13 If ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt has lost its savor, wherewith shall it be salted? It is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out and trodden under foot of men.
14 Ye are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hid.
15 Neither do men light a lamp, and put it under the bushel, but on the stand; and it shineth unto all that are in the house.
16 Even so let your light shine before men, that they may
17 Think not that I came to destroy the law or the prophets; I came not to destroy, but to fulfill.
Throughout the AP framework, possible examples of historical content are provided as an illustration of the key concept, but these illustrative examples are not required features of the course or required knowledge for the exam. Instead, the illustrative examples are provided to offer teachers a variety of optional instructional contexts that will help their students achieve deeper understanding. In this way the framework provides teachers freedom to tailor instruction to the needs of their students and offers flexibility in building upon their own strengths as teachers.

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<tr>
<th>ITEM/TERM</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ARCHITECTURE</strong></td>
<td>Taoism pursues the harmonious unity of humans and nature. Taoists skillfully built temples that conformed to the contours of the land. Starting with inherited Chinese traditional ideas of construction, they added their own concepts. Splendid symmetric architectural complexes are composed of many ordinary yards spreading orderly along a central axis. In every single yard, there are neatly located attached architectural structures. The whole layout reflects Taoists' emphasis on order and equability.</td>
<td><img src="image_url" alt="Image of Taoist Architecture" /></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>POETRY</strong></td>
<td>In spite of the fact that the first verse of Laozi’s Daode Jing states that “the name that can be spoken is not the eternal name”, poetry has always been an important aspect of Taoist practice. In Taoist poems we find expressions of the ineffable, praises of the beauty of the natural world, and playful paradoxical references to the mysterious Tao.</td>
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<td><strong>MEDICINE</strong></td>
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<td><strong>METALLURGY</strong></td>
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<th><strong>ANCESTOR VENERATION</strong></th>
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### LITERATURE & DRAMA

#### GRÆΣΚ PLAYŒS

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#### INDIAN EPICS

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### DISTINCTIVE ARCHITECTURAL STYLES

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#### ROMAN

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#### MESO-AMERICA

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The set of architectural traditions produced by pre-Columbian cultures and civilizations of Mesoamerica, traditions which are best known in the form of public, ceremonial and urban monumental buildings and structures. Mesoamerican architecture is mostly noted for its pyramids which are the largest such structures (outside of Ancient Egypt).
**Key States & Empires**

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<th>Item/Term</th>
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<td><strong>Achaemenid</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Sassanid</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Qin</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Teotihuacan</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Moche</strong></td>
<td>Northern Peruvian culture (100CE-800CE) agriculturally-based, sophisticated civilization</td>
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<td><strong>ADMINISTRATIVE SYSTEMS</strong></td>
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<td><strong>RANGE OF METHODS TO MAINTAIN FOOD SUPPLIES</strong></td>
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<td>CORVÉE</td>
<td>cor-vée [kɔrˈvaː; kɔrˈvɑː] noun historical a day’s unpaid labor owed by a vassal to his feudal lord.</td>
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<td>SLAVERY</td>
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<td><strong>FRONTIER SECURITY ISSUES</strong></td>
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<td>BETWEEN ROME &amp; North/East</td>
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<td><strong>DOMESTICATED PACK ANIMALS</strong></td>
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<td>LLAMAS</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAMELS</td>
<td>Used mostly in N. Africa, but also used in the Arabian Peninsula. Used in both the Trans-Saharan trade &amp; the Silk Road.</td>
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</table>
The stirrup, which gives greater stability to a rider, has been described as one of the most significant inventions in the history of warfare, prior to gunpowder. As a tool allowing expanded use of horses in warfare, the stirrup is often called the third revolutionary step in equipment, after the chariot and the saddle.
## Irrigation Technologies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qanat System</th>
<th><img src="https://example.com/qanat_system.png" alt="Image" /></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A water management system used to provide a reliable supply of water for human settlements and irrigation in hot, arid and semi-arid climates</td>
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## Spread of Disease Pathogens

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<th>Disease in the Roman Empire</th>
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## Transformed Religious Traditions

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Persia holds a unique spot in the scope of World History. Persia’s story is far too often only told as it interacts with the histories of other empires in its region (Greece, Rome, etc.) Persia (modern day Iran) historically became an entity under the Medes, a Bronze Age civilization credited with uniting the area in the 7th century BCE. The Medes, however, were conquered by Cyrus the Great in 550 BCE establishing the Achaemenid Dynasty. So, let’s give credit where credit is due. The Persians are more than just an invading force that battled with the Greeks. They are more than people who were in the way of Alexander’s ever-expanding empire. They are more than the people who (allegedly) poured gold down Crassus’s throat. Below is the key Persian Empire that the AP requires you to know during the Classical Era, the Achaemenid.

**Cyrus the Great**

(c. 600-530 BCE)

Cyrus the Great reigned for about 30 years. His military campaigns built the largest empire the world had yet seen to that point (from the Indus River in the East to the Nile River in the West) and ranks 13th all-time with 8 million square kilometers (smaller than Brazil but larger than the Japanese Empire.) It was Cyrus who allowed the Hebrews to return from exile, earning him the title of “Lord of the Faith, or Messiah” amongst the Jewish peoples. His personality as seen by the Greeks influenced them and Alexander the Great and, as the tradition was transmitted by the Romans, may be considered to influence our thinking even now. In the year 1971, Iran celebrated the 2,500th anniversary of the founding of the monarchy by Cyrus.

The Achaemenid rulers were enlightened despot who ruled a huge empire via a system of administration that featured Satrapies. A satrapy was an administrative unit that was organized based on geography (20 for the whole empire). The satrap (governor) ruled the region and a general recruited for the military and maintained order. The entire empire was linked with a 2,500 km highway with postal stops throughout the kingdom. Information could reach the furthest reaches of the empire in 15 days! The king had a personal bodyguard unit of 10,000 known as the Immortals. Trade was so prosperous under the Achaemenids that many Persian words associated with trade and items traded are still used in English today. (Bazaar, turquoise, tiara, orange, lemon, etc.)

Besides Cyrus II the Great, the other great Achaemenid ruler was Darius. Darius organized a new monetary system and instated the official language: Aramaic. He also helped in the building of the great city of Persepolis. However, he is often remembered for his attempted conquests of Greece including his loss in the Battle of Marathon.

Internal succession struggles after the death of Cyrus led to instability that eventually made way for Alexander to conquer the Achaemenid Empire in 330 BCE. Alexander’s respect for the Achaemenids (and his hero Cyrus) was so great that he actually bowed before them against the wishes of his Macedonian generals. The Achaemenid culture would endure throughout the Hellenistic era until the Iranians once again gained independence in the 2nd century BCE.

Although there is much debate, it is believed that around the time of Cyrus, Zaros or Zoroaster laid down the foundation for Zoroastrianism and the focus on the Wisdom god Ahura Mazda and the distinct beliefs in good and evil. Zoroastrianism became the state religion for the Achaemenids until Alexander invaded ending both the Achaemenid Empire as well as Zoroastrianism as a state level religion. (The biggest blow to Zar. was the rise of Islam in the 7th century CE).

“It is a testimony to the capability of the founder of the Achaemenian empire that it continued to expand after his death and lasted for more than two centuries. But Cyrus was not only a great conqueror and administrator; he held a place in the minds of the Persian people similar to that of Romulus and Remus in Rome or Moses for the Israelites. His saga follows in many details the stories of hero and conquerors from elsewhere in the ancient world. The manner in which the baby Cyrus was given to a shepherd to raise is reminiscent of Moses in the bulrushes in Egypt, and the overthrow of his tyrannical grandfather has echoes in other myths and legends. There is no doubt that the Cyrus saga arose early among the Persians and was known to the Greeks.”

**550 BCE-330 BCE**

Cyrus the Great (see left) conquered the Median Empire c. 550 BCE. After Cyrus died in battle, his successor spread the Empire even further by conquering Egypt. The Achaemenids are most often remembered in Western circles as a group that was conquered by Alexander the Great.

The Achaemenids were a great civilization in their own right. One estimate states that as many as 50 million people, or 45% of the earth’s population lived in the Achaemenid empire in the 5th Century (making it the largest empire in the history of the world in terms of %). The Achaemenids were religiously tolerant; allowing all of their citizens to practice whichever religion they chose. This culminated in the Edict of Restoration which freed the Hebrews from 50 years of captivity in Babylon. This story is retold in the Book of Isaiah.

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**Professor Richard N. Frye**

Harvard University
The next 10 chapters concentrate on the time period that runs from the 5th to the 15th century c.e., or from about 40 to about 1450. Most of the chapters deal with specific civilizations; many changes were occurring in old civilization centers (in the aftermath of the decline of the great classical empires) and in newer ones. Before we turn to individual cases, however, it is vital to get a sense of some overall patterns in this 1000-year period. The postclassical period witnessed the emergence of a coherent interregional framework. From this point onward, regular, explicit exchange became a standard part of world history.

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**The Chronology of the Postclassical Era**

What “set the stage” for the Postclassical Period?

List 3 Invasions that hastened the end of the Classical Era

1. ______________________
2. ______________________
3. ______________________

What invasion dominated the Postclassical Era?

What civilizations collapsed at the end of this era?

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**The Postclassical Millennium and the World Network**

One of the most striking developments in the postclassical period was the formation of more regular connections among major societies in Asia, Africa, and Europe. This world network focused on a series of trade routes. Major routes ran east-west, but a series of north-south routes linked in as well.

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**The Postclassical Era**

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**The Rise of Islam**

Leading Civilization of the Postclassical Era=

Who spread Islam? ______________________

Where did Islam spread? ______________________

What was the “Definite World Leader”? ______________________

---

**The Expansion of Civilization**

List 5 Places to which Civilization spread.

1. ______________________ 2. ______________________
3. ______________________ 4. ______________________
5. ______________________

---

**Table of Invasions that Hastened the End of the Classical Era**

1. ______________________
2. ______________________
3. ______________________

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**Timeline**

- 527-565 CE
- 589-618 CE
- 618-907 CE
- 570-630 CE
- 661-750 CE
- 800-814 CE
The Postclassical Era

THE WORLD RELIGIONS
HINDUISM SPREAD TO ___________________
BUDDHISM SPREAD TO ___________________
ISLAM SPREAD TO ___________________
CHRISTIANITY SPREAD TO ___________________

How did people’s fundamental view of Christianity change from the Foundations era to the Postclassical era?
___________________________________________
___________________________________________
___________________________________________
___________________________________________

Why did so many people convert to a new religion?
1. __________________________
2. __________________________
3. __________________________
4. __________________________

THE WORLD NETWORK
List some of the trading networks that developed?
1. __________________________
2. __________________________
3. __________________________
4. __________________________

Trace Paper from its origin to Europe.

Trace Indian numbers from its origin to Europe.

World Trade remained _____ products (for the most part)

EXCHANGE & IMITATION IN THE POSTCLASSICAL WORLD
What three ways show the importance of imitation in the Postclassical Era?
1. __________________________
2. __________________________
3. __________________________

What negative often spread with trade?

WORLD HISTORY THEMES
What was the main factor that affected environmental change?
The role of _____ in history peaked with the ______ Invasions.

EXCHANGE & IMITATION IN THE POSTCLASSICAL WORLD
What three ways show the importance of imitation in the Postclassical Era?
1. __________________________
2. __________________________
3. __________________________

What are the newer civilizations?
POST CLASSICAL DIFFUSION OF RELIGION LED TO SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN GENDER RELATIONS & FAMILY STRUCTURE

BUDDHISM

CONFUCIAN IDEALS OF PATRIARCHY CLASHED WITH BUDDHIST SPIRITUAL EQUALITY WITH LITTLE LASTING GENDER CHANGE. (*FOOTBINDING DID BEGIN IN THIS PERIOD IN CHINA*)

CHRISTIAN CONVENTS (LIKE IN BUDDHISM) PROVIDED WOMEN A WAY OUT OF THE CYCLE OF MARRIAGE/CHILD REARING AND PROVIDED A PATH TO LITERACY & LEARNING.

ISLAM

ISLAMIC TEACHINGS OF GENDER EQUALITY (see KHADIJAH) WERE OVERSHADOWED BY PERSIAN TRADITIONS OF VEILING, SILENCE, & THE HAREM

NEOCONFUCIANISM

WOMEN WERE SUBORDINATE TO MEN.

NEOCONFUCIANIST QUOTES:

- "DISORDER IS PRODUCED BY WOMEN"
- "A WOMAN IS A HEN CROWING"
- "WOMAN'S GREATEST DUTY IS TO PRODUCE A SON"
- "WOMEN ARE TO BE LED AND TO FOLLOW OTHERS"
RELIGIOUS AND CULTURAL TRADITIONS WERE TRANSFORMED AS THEY SPREAD.

In the wake of the decline of the Classical Empires, both Buddhism & Christianity expanded rapidly. So, when you think of the end of the Classical era, match that with the rise of Buddhism & Christianity as major world religions. One reason for their growth was the onset of plague that devastated Classical populations. Political instability turned people inward in a search for spiritual solace. Hinduism also changed as it spread through the subcontinent of South Asia. **Syncretism** (the blending of the old beliefs with the new beliefs) was common as Christianity and Buddhism simply added local traditions to their dogma. Some common characteristics of Christianity, Buddhism, and Hinduism include:

- Emphasis on inner devotion/piety
- Stress on Spiritual concerns over Secular
- Better life in the Afterlife
- Response to political instability/poverty

**BUDDHISM**

Although it was founded in India (see the map ➔), Buddhism remained but a small minority in its homeland. The main way that Buddhism spread was through the work of Monks (known as Bhikku, literally “beggar”; a person devoted to living a simple life and attaining Nirvana). Buddhism was divided among a small number of devoted monks and a large number of those who continued about their daily lives while trying to meet their spiritual obligations.

A new idea that arose within Buddhism in this era was the doctrine of Bodhisattvas. These are people who reached nirvana but chose to stay in this world as a kind of Saint. These Bodhisattvas would then serve as an example to others and aid them in prayers.

Buddhism changed from its focus on ethics to a devotional, emotional cult stressing popular salvation. Bodhisattvas were crucial in guiding people towards this salvation.

**PROLIFERATION OF BUDDHISM**

The East Asian form of Buddhism that emerged was Mahayana Buddhism. Known as the “Greater Vehicle” because more people could reach salvation, Mahayana Buddhism would often see the Buddha as divine. This runs contrary to early Buddhist teachings. **Theravada** Buddhism required the follower to devote their life to Buddhist teachings (something fewer people were able/willing to do). Buddhism never dominated a society; rather, it co-existed alongside other dominant religions leaving its largest impact in Korea, Vietnam, and Japan.

**SYNCRETISM:** Buddhism should have changed Chinese Patriarchy (Buddhism teaches that women have souls!) They changed Buddhist phrases from “Husband supports wife” to “Husband controls wife”.

**BODHISATTVAS**
HINDUISM

The Classical/Post-Classic era saw changes come to the ancient religion of Hinduism. The new devotional focus was led by Hymnodists. The Hymnodists composed music and taught in the local vernacular (the language spoken by the people).

Another change to Hinduism was the addition of personal, devotional gods or Bhakti. These had existed since the Upanishads (commentaries on the Vedas), but now took on a larger role. They were now highly charged with emotion with special focus on the relationship between the worshipper and the divinity.

The new Tamil “Saints” stressed this intense love for the Bhakti in poetry or hymns. These poems were often accompanied with song and dance. They often encouraged the virtues of love, humility, and brotherhood. This new intense focus on spiritualism further weakened Buddhism, already in decline in India. Occasionally, resulting in aggressive persecution of the Buddhist Minority.

Christianity

While Buddhism spread east from its birthplace, Christianity spread west. Christianity (although much slower to spread/convert) would end up having the largest impact of any of the Classical religions. Christianity was the driving force in the development of both Post-classical Eastern Europe and Western Europe. Christianity and Buddhism did share some similarities (emphasis on Salvation and spiritual guidance of the Saints). However, there are far more differences.

Christianity put more of a focus on the hierarchy and organization of the church itself (basing this on the Roman Empire’s structure… Pope=Emperor, etc.) Missionary work played an even larger role in Christianity than it did in Buddhism. One key feature of Christianity, more than any other religion, was the exclusive nature of its beliefs and the intolerance of others beliefs (initially the Romans, later the Jews).

200 years before Jesus, several reactionary groups to the rigidities of Jewish priesthood arose. Many of these taught of the coming of a Messiah (Savior) who would bring about the Final Judgment. This movement culminated in Jesus of Nazareth.

Jesus taught around Israel and gathered a small, loyal group of followers or Disciples. Once Jesus crucified, his followers expected his return, and with his return, the End of the World. When this did not happen, the disciples spread out across the Roman Empire.

Greek/Roman religion had grown stale, especially to the poor. Christianity’s emphasis a simple life and the spiritual equality of everyone (not to mention the rituals the early Christians developed, Communion, etc.) gained it attention all over the Empire. The Roman Empire’s reach allowed for easy travel across its great size for the missionaries. They even went beyond to Axum, Persia, and Ethiopia. As the Empire fell, people turned to this new religion for comfort/spiritual solace.

Paul of Tarsus (an early convert, but not an original Disciple), led this effort to spread the teachings of Jesus and helped solidify it into a true religion (rather than a Jewish reform movement). This included the establishment of a formal church organization, with a Bishop appointed for each region. The writings of early converts and other stories were collected into what would become the New Testament (in the early 4th century).

Early on, the Christians had to compete with other “Mystery religions” After years of persecution (from a normally tolerant Imperial government), the Roman Emperor Constantine converted. This was the first huge convert (later followed by Clovis (France), Vladimir (Russia)).

Early Christian ideas to develop include the Trinity (God, Jesus, Holy Spirit), and the tying of Classical philosophy to Christian beliefs. Also, Monasticism developed under Benedict in Italy with peasants he converted from the worship of Apollo. Syncretism: Christmas=Roman Winter Solstice Holiday. Churches built using Roman architectural styles.