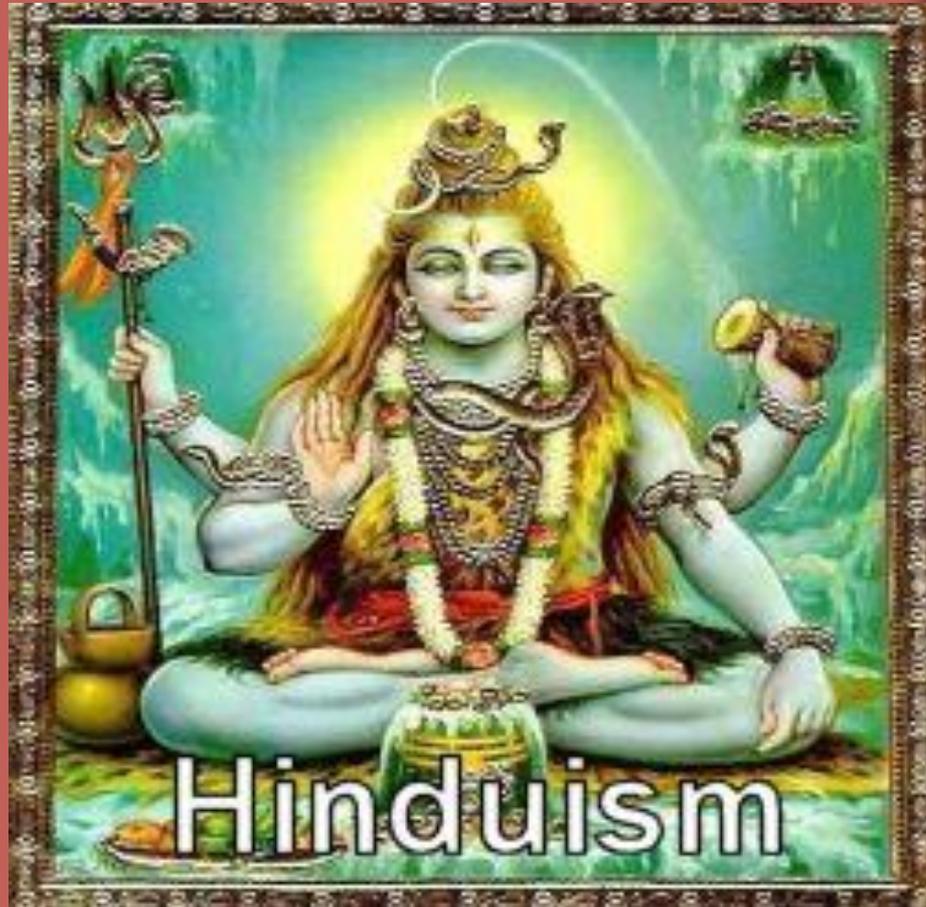


# Chapter 4

## Empires of India



Hinduism



# Hinduism

## I. Origins

- A. Most likely occurred when the Aryans added their own gods to those of the Indus Valley people
- B. Polytheistic
- C. Hinduism has no single founder or sacred text



# Hinduism

## ■ II. Beliefs

■ A. The gods of Hinduism take many forms

■ 2. Three important Hindu gods

■ a. Brahma-The Creator

■ b. Vishnu-The Preserver

■ C. Shiva-The Destroyer



# Hinduism

- 1. Every person has the Brahman within them (atman)
- 2. Ultimate goal of existence is to achieve ***Moksha*** (union with Brahman)
- 3. Moksha can rarely be achieved through one lifetime
  - a. Reincarnation-rebirth of the soul into another bodily form
    - *Allows people to use more than one lifetime to achieve Moksha*



# Hinduism

## III. Karma

- a. karma-all of the actions in ones life that affect his/her fate in the next life
- b. karma determines what you will be reincarnated as
  - Humans-closest to Brahman, only way to improve social class
  - Animals
  - Plants
  - Objects (rocks, mud, etc.)



# Hinduism

## IV. Dharma

- a. Religious and moral duties of the individual
  - successfully completing dharma leads to good karma
  - dharma and karma keep social order among the caste system



 **KARMA IS  
YOUR ACTIONS  
AND DHARMA IS  
YOUR DUTY**



# Hinduism

## V. Caste System

1. Brahmins → Priests
2. Ksatriyas → Warriors and Rulers
3. Vaisyas → Farmers, merchants and artisans
4. Sudras → Laborers
5. Untouchables → outcastes → polluted laborers
  - take life for a living (fishing, hunting)
  - cleaning up after humans and animals



# Hinduism

## ■ VI. Major Beliefs

- 1. Hindu teachings were recorded in sacred texts → **Vedas and Upanishads** → as religion grew
- 2. **Ahimsa** or belief in non-violence
- A. Brahma is in all things therefore all things should be respected



# Powerful Empires of India



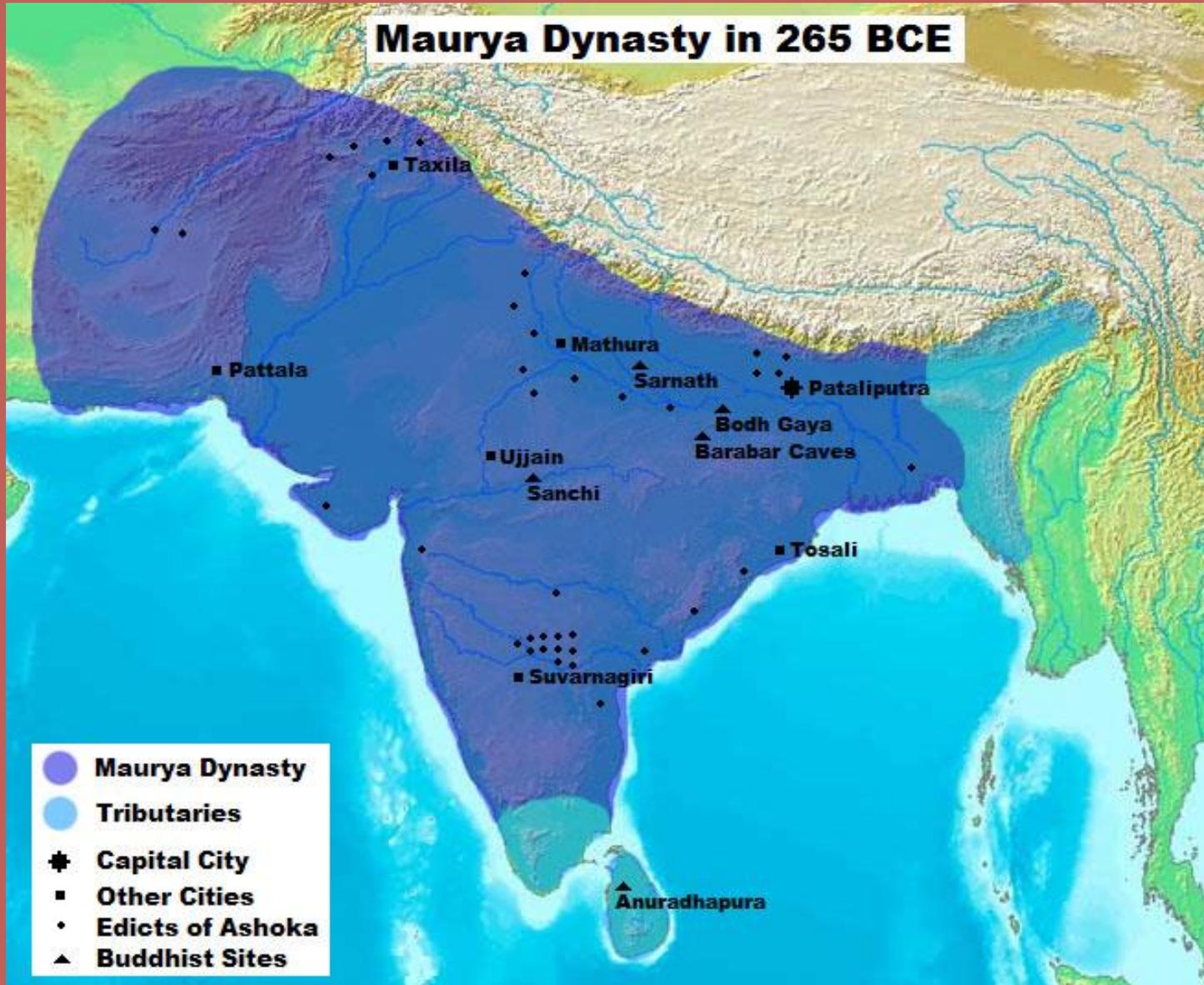
# Maurya Empire

## I. Maurya Empire

- A. Chandragupta → ruler of Ganges Valley → conquered northern India → later generations added land in the south → 321BC-185BC
- B. Knowledge of Chandragupta from a Greek ambassador to the Maurya Court (Magasthense)
  - i. Described the vast cities, schools, parks and libraries
- C. Chandragupta maintained order through well-organized bureaucracy (officials have different jobs, ex. Taxes, roads)
  - i. Harsh rule → women warriors who guarded the palace, secret Police, servants to taste food, and secret passages



# Maurya Dynasty in 265 BCE



# Asoka

## II. Asoka

A. Philosopher King

B. Fought a long, bloody war to conquer Deccan region

i. Horrified at slaughter → converts to Buddhism (rejected violence, and ruled by moral example)

C. Built roads, rest houses for travelers, hospitals and planted trees

D. Became a vegetarian and limited animal sacrifices

E. Spread Buddhism across Asia and practiced religious tolerance

F. Asoka brought peace and prosperity and helped unite the diverse people in his kingdom

G. Asoka dies → rival princes battled for power



# Division and Unity

## III. Division and Unity

- A. India has seldom been united
- B. Deccan south → many cultures → hard to unite
- C. By 100 BC Indian textiles, gems, incense and spices were in high demand → foreign invaders
  - i. Invasion by Alexander the Great → controlled the Indus Valley → establishment of a trade route between India and Mediterranean



**Golden Age of the Guptas  
320 AD- 550 AD  
(Deccan Plateau)**



# Golden Age

## I. Golden Age

- A. Guptas united much of India
- B. Golden Age → period of great peace, prosperity, and happiness
- C. Power was left in the hands of individual villages and of city governments elected by merchants and artisans





# Advances in Learning

## ■ II. Advances in Learning

- A. Education was located in religious schools
- B. Mathematics → Arabic numerals → still used today
- C. Concept of zero
- D. Developed the decimal system based on the number 10
- E. Doctors → used herbs/set bones/vaccines against smallpox



# Architecture/Literature

## ■ III. Architecture/Literature

- A. Building of stone temples → reflect cosmic patterns → square inscribed in a circle → eternity
- B. Stupas → dome-shaped shrines that housed the sacred remains of Buddha or other holy people
- C. Elaborate carvings
- D. Paintings at Ajanta → revealed Buddhist stories and legends
- E. Collection of fables/folk tales in Sanskrit → carried to Persia, Egypt and Greece



# Pillars of Indian Life



# Complex Caste System

## I. Complex Caste System

- A. Caste was closely linked to Hindu beliefs
- B. Hindus believed different castes were different species of beings
- C. High caste → purer and closer to moksha
- D. Complex rules were developed within caste system
- E. Caste rules governed every aspect of life → where people lived, what they ate, their dress and how they earned a living
- F. Lowest caste → untouchables



# Effects of the Caste System

## ■ II. Effects of the Caste System

- A. Castes provided a stable social order
- B. People believed that the law of karma determined their caste
- C. Could reach a higher caste in another life
- D. Caste provided a sense of identity
- E. Each caste had its own occupation and leaders
- F. Different castes depended on each other for their basic needs



# Village Life

## III. Village Life

- A. Village was the heart of life
- B. Village included cluster of homes made of earth or stone
- C. Farming depended on the rains brought by the summer monsoons → too much rain or too little → famine
- D. Paid taxes to government



# Family Life

## ■ IV. Family Life

- A. Basic family unit → joint family → parents, children, grandchildren, uncles and their offspring shared a common dwelling
- B. Joint families were only the wealthy → poor families died young
- C. Indian family was patriarchal → father or oldest male headed the household



# Children and Parents

## ■ V. Children and Parents

- A. Fostered a sense of security and unity
- B. Family interests came before the individual
- C. Children worked in fields or family trade
- D. Son learned rituals to honor the family's ancestors
  - i. Link between living and the dead → deepened family bonds across generations
- E. Parents had important duty → arrange good marriages for their children
- F. Dowry → or payment to bridegroom (also financed the wedding festivities)



# Women

## ■ VI. Women

- A. Upper-caste Hindu women could move freely in society and were well educated
- B. Women had the *shakti* or creative energy that men lacked
- C. Husband's duty was to channel his wife's energy in the proper direction



# Growing Restrictions

## ■ VII. Growing Restrictions

- A. By late Gupta times → upper class women were restricted to the home
- B. Outside → had to cover themselves from head to foot
- C. Lower-class women labored in the fields or worked at spinning and weaving
- D. High-caste widow was forbidden to remarry → sati → joining her husband on the funeral fire



# Three Schools of Chinese Thought



# Confucianism

## I. Confucius

- A. Born 551 BC to a noble but poor family → scholar → teacher
  - i. After his death followers collected sayings in Analects
- B. Developed philosophy or system of ideas that concerned worldly goals, how to ensure social order and a good government





先師孔子行教像  
楊靖欽捐刻

孔子是中國歷史上偉大的人，也是  
世界最偉大的思想家、教育家。他  
一生為社會的進步和發展，勤  
勞苦幹，為後人樹立了楷模。



# Five Relationships

## ■ II. Five Relationships

■ A. Harmony results when people accepted their place in society

## ■ Five Relationships

- 1. Father to son
- 2. Elder brother to younger brother
- 3. Husband to wife
- 4. Ruler to subject
- 5. Friend to friend (only equal relationships)
  - i. Older people were superior to younger and men were superior to women
  - ii. Everyone in relationships had responsibilities
  - iii. Superiors should care for inferiors, inferiors owed loyalty to superiors

■ B. **Filial Piety** → respect for parents above all duties



# Government

## III. Government

- A. A ruler had the responsibility to provide good government
- B. In return, people would be respectful and loyal subjects
- C. Best ruler lead by example
- D. Rulers and officials should be well educated and should take advice of wise men



# Spread of Confucianism

## III. Spread of Confucianism

- A. Ideas influenced every area of Chinese life
- B. Korea, Japan and Vietnam accepted Confucian beliefs



# Legalism





# Legalism

## I. Legalism

- A. Grew out of the teachings of Hanfeizi who died in 233
  - ❖ “The nature of man is evil. His goodness is acquired”
  - ❖ Greed was the motive for most actions and the cause of moral conflicts
  - ❖ Only way to achieve order was to pass strict laws and impose harsh punishments
  - ❖ Name Legalism came out of emphasis on law
  - ❖ Many feudal rulers chose Legalism as the most effective way to keep order



# Daoism (Taoism)



# Daoism (Taoism)

## I. Daoism (Taoism)

- A. Laozi → "The Way of Virtue" → not concerned with bringing order to Chinese life but rather living in harmony with nature
- B. Focus on the "Dao" or the way of the universe
- C. Reject conflict and strife
- D. Wanted to end conflict between human desires and the simple ways of nature
- E. Virtue of yielding → water yields to outside pressure → but is an unstoppable force
- F. Some believers became hermits, artists or poets



# Government

- II. **Government** → unnatural and the cause of many problems
- A. Best government is one that governs the least
- B. Evolved into a popular religion with gods and goddess and magical practices
- C. Blended with Confucianism  
(Confucianism showed them how to behave and Daoism influenced their view of the world)



# Strong Rulers Unite China



# Strong Rulers Unite China

## I. Shi Huangdi (Qin Dynasty)

### A. Determined to end divisions that split China

- i. Spent 20 years conquering most of the warring states → centralized power with help of Legalists (harsh rule) → QIN DYNASTY
- ii. Began his rule of age of 13





# Unity Imposed

## ■ II. Unity Imposed

- A. Shi Huangdi abolished feudalism in China → replaced with military districts and appointed loyal officials to be in charge
- B. Spies to inspect local officials and report back to Emperor
- C. Forced royal families to live in capital so he could monitor them
- D. Distributed land to peasants → still had to pay high taxes and serve in the army
- E. Standardized weights and measures → replaced old coins with single Qin currency
- F. Uniformed Chinese writing
- G. Repaired and extended roads and canals → cart axles had to be same width



# Dissent

## III. Dissent

### A. Move harshly against critics

- ❏ i. Jailed, tortured and killed those who opposed his rule
- ❏ ii. Approved ruthless campaign of book burning, ordering the destruction of all works of literature and philosophy



# Great Wall of China

## ■ IV. The Great Wall of China

- A. Ordered that the small walls built to defend individual feudal states be linked together
- B. It is estimated that over one million workers labored to build this wall
- C. Its length is about 4000 miles long (from Washington DC to Denver, Colorado)
- D. Did not keep invaders out but showed strength of human resources



# Great Wall of China

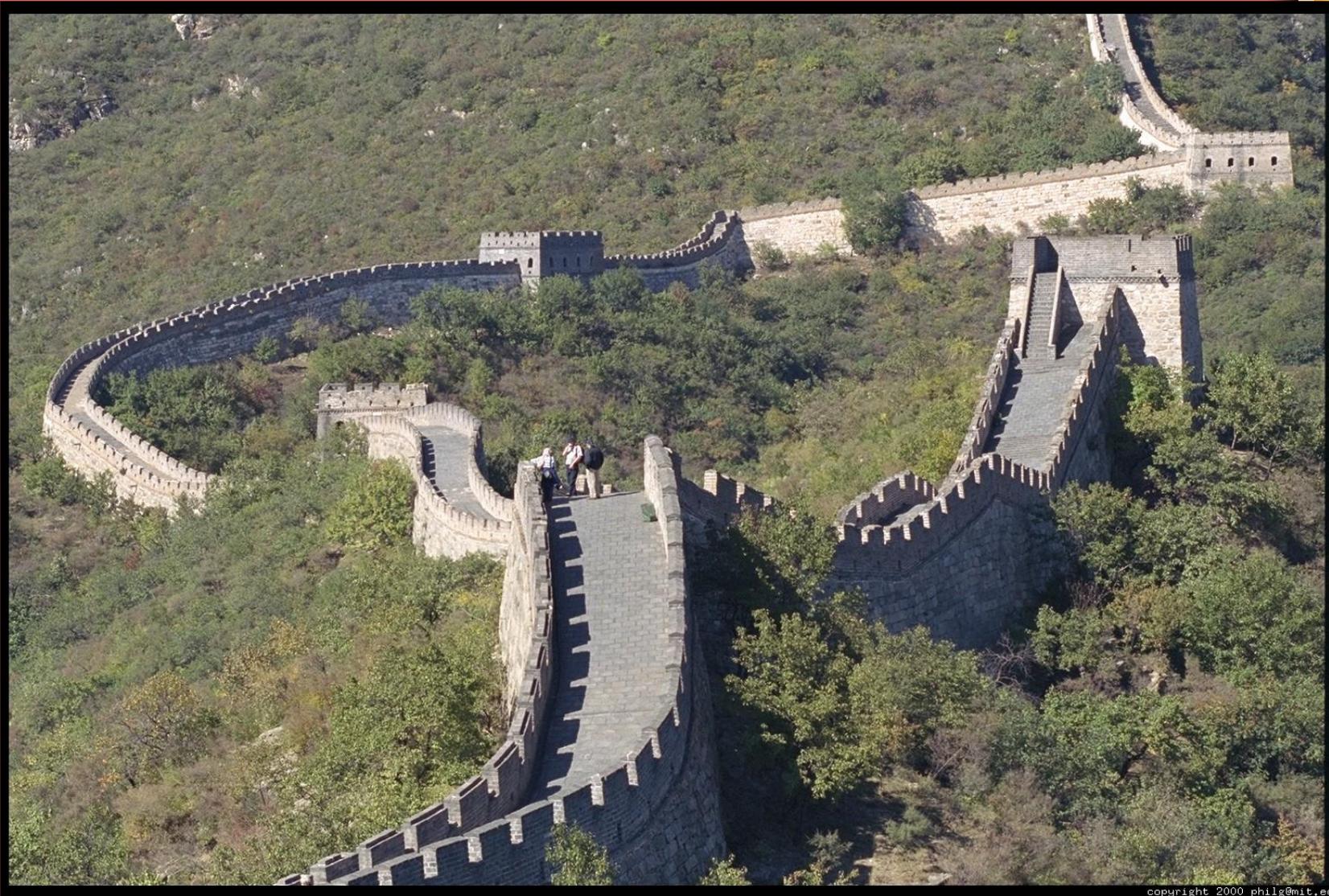






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# Collapse of Qin Dynasty

## ■ V. Collapse of Qin Dynasty

- A. Shi Huangdi → obsessed with finding immortality → buried with terracotta soldiers
- B. Those who knew the secrets of the burial tomb were killed
- C. Collapsed → 210 BC → peasants revolt over high taxes, forced labor and cruel policies
- D. Liu Bang → peasant founded the Han Dynasty





# Han Dynasty (Golden Age)





# Han Dynasty

## I. Han Dynasty (Golden Age)

- A. Liu Bang took the title Gao Zu → wanted to restore order and justice to his empire
  - i. Lowered taxes and erased harsh Legalists' policies
  - ii. Appointed Confucian scholars as advisors
  - iii. Han Dynasty lasted from 206 BC to 220 AD



# Government

## ■ II. Strengthening the government

■ A. Most famous ruler → Wudi

■ B. He strengthened the government and economy

■ i. Improved canals and roads

■ ii. Established granaries across the empire

■ iii. Government monopoly on iron and salt

■ a. Monopoly is the complete control of a product or business by one person or group



# Silk Road

## ■ IV. Silk Road

- A. Desire for horses → expansion
- B. Sent silk to tribes in hopes of securing horses
- C. ESTABLISHED A TRADE ROUTE → SILK ROAD → linked China to the West (would eventually stretch 4,000 miles)





# Civil Service Exam

- **V. Han Society (Civil Service Exam)**
- A. Confucianism → official belief system of the state
- B. Relied on well-educated scholars to run the bureaucracy
- C. CIVIL SERVICE EXAM → officials should win positions by merit (system of exams) rather than by family background



# Women

## VI. Han Society (Women)

- A. Banned from taking the civil service exam
  - i. Received education as a nun or member of the imperial court
  - ii. *Lessons for Women* → book on behavior for women and equal education for both boys and girls



# Achievement

## ■ VII. Han Achievements

■ A. Texts on chemistry, zoology, botany and other subjects

■ B. Observed and measured the movements of the stars and planets → improved calendars and timekeeping devices



# Achievements

## VIII. Han Achievements (Technology)

-  A. Durable paper out of wood pulp
-  B. Shipbuilding
-  C. Rudder
-  D. Bronze and iron stirrups, fishing reels, wheelbarrow and suspension bridges



# Achievements

## ■ IX. Han Achievements (Medicine)

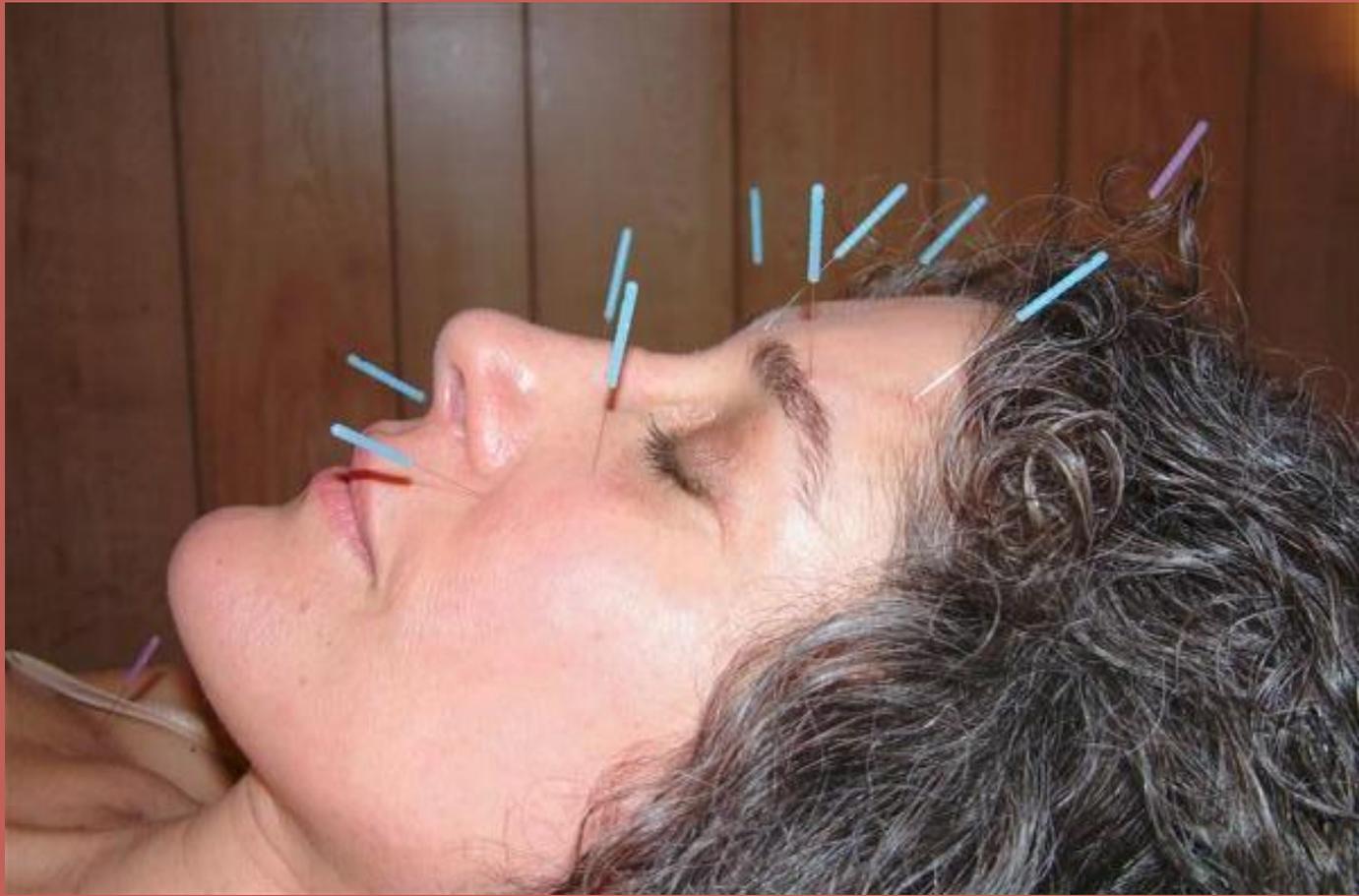
■ A. Diagnosed diseases

■ B. Experimented with herbal remedies and other drugs

■ C. Developed anesthetics

■ D. Acupuncture





# Achievements

## ■ X. Han Achievements (The Arts)

- A. Poets and historians described their grandeur
- B. Produced delicate jade and ivory carvings
- C. Bronze workers and silk makers improved on earlier techniques



# Collapse

## ■ XI. Collapse of the Han Empire

- A. Weak rulers let canals and roads fall into disrepair
- B. Heavy taxes → peasants revolt
- C. Revolt → China broke up into several kingdoms
- D. Invaders poured over the Great Wall and attacked the cities
- E. End of Han Dynasty 220 AD

