**Continuities/Patterns in Chinese History**

Unit 2

**1. Ethnocentrism**

 Chinese believed their culture superior to others

 China as “Middle Kingdom”

**2. Xenophobia**

 Fear and distrust of foreigners

**3. Creativity and innovation**

 Science and technology/inventions

 Art and literature

 Infrastructure projects

**4. Importance of family**

 Patriarchy

 Ancestor worship and veneration

**5. Low status of women**

 Social and economic

 Submissive

**6. Conflict with nature**

 Floods, earthquakes, typhoons, droughts, insect infestations sometimes led to mass starvation

**7. Authoritarian, strong central bureaucratic government (not initially)**

**8. Dynastic cycle**

 Revolts against strong, often abusive, central government

**9. Cultural conservatism**

 Limited cultural change over 3500 years

**10. Education valued**

 Confucian influence

 Scholar-gentry

**11. Hard lives of peasants**

 Large portion of population