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Unit Two Review

500 BCE-500 CE

Development of States & Empires

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Persian Empire (558-332 BCE)

• Founded by Cyrus the Great • Persian Religion : Zoroastrianism • Economy: Government coined money
Government divided in three districts ran by satraps Persian wars 500-479BCE (led to decline) • Persian
Society: Women worked in manufacturing Slaves used to complete public works

Qin Dynasty 221-202 BCE

Emperor: ShiHuangdi : conquered all warring states and unified China.
(proclaimed to be the first)

o Legalism= restores order o Land reforms help peasants o Centralized
bureaucracy o Written script, laws, weights and measures contribute to a
unified China o Forced labor used o Ordered burning of books o
Centralized power (built roads and the great wall) o Terra Cotta Army
(protect the emperor in the afterlife)

Han China(202 BCE-9CE)

o Massive territory expansion o First Golden Age (400 year period of
prosperity) o Defeated tribes to the north, signed treaties with the clans to the west, making travel safer:
leading to the establishment of the silk road o Massive cultural developments: Confucianism now the new
state philosophy (officials evaluated on their conduct according to Confucian values) and an imperial
university was established to train them o Buddhism's emphasis on compassion= appealing to the masses
o Used a tribute system o Monopolized iron, salt, liquor **LONGEST DYNASTY IN CHINESE HISTORY!!!!**





Han Wudi (Wu Ti)

o Ruled: 141-87 BCE o Supporter of Legalism o Two Goals : Centralize Government, Expand the Empire

Specific Reforms o Expanded bureaucracy o Started Imperial University o Confucian Examination System
o Expanded Silk Roads





Mauryan Empire

- o Founded by Chandragupta Maurya
- o internal and external trade, agriculture and economic activities, all thrived and expanded across India
- o enjoyed an era of social harmony, religious transformation, and expansion of the sciences and of knowledge.
- o Borrowed directly from Persian Political models
- o Maintained large armies
- o Developed a substantial bureaucracy (even sponsoring a postal service)



Ashoka (268-232 BCE)

- o Conquered most of India (elephants in warfare)
- o Battle of Kalinga
- o Pillars of Ashoka
- o Centralized bureaucracy
- o Expanded agriculture
- o Built roads: trade
- o Supporter of Buddhism
- o Sent Buddhist missionaries to Hellenistic kingdoms in Middle East
- o Worked to improve communication
- o Empire declines after his death

Gupta Dynasty (320-565 CE)

- o Founded by : Chandra Gupta
- o (produced no individual rulers as influential as the two great Mauryan rulers) but may have had greater impact
- o Alliance, tribute and conquest used
- o Preferred to negotiate with local princes and intermarry
- o Coalition of religious kingdoms
- o Local rulers=Policy and administration
- o Eventually destroyed by White Huns

Roman Empire (31 BCE-476 CE)

- o Established by Augustus
- o Continued military expansion
- o Pax Romana
- o Dependent on military strength
- o Tolerated local customs and religions
- o among the most powerful economic, cultural, political and military forces in the world of its time
- o Roman and Greek culture was spread on a worldwide scale
- o the post-Republican



period of the ancient Roman civilization, characterized by government headed by emperors, and large territorial holdings around the Mediterranean Sea in Europe, Africa, and Asia. o The republic which preceded it was severely destabilized in a series of civil wars and political conflict, during which Julius Caesar was appointed as perpetual dictator and then assassinated

