

# Vocabulary

- Subcontinent
- Plateau
- Monsoon
- Veneration
- Caste
- Brahman
- Mystic
- Loess
- Clan
- Oracle bone
- Calligraphy
- Dynastic cycle
- Feudalism

# Early Civilizations in India and China (9,10)



# Geography

- \*Subcontinent with 3 regions
  - Watered northern plain
  - Dry Deccan plateau
  - Coastal plains
- \* Monsoons
  - Seasonal winds



# The first Indian civilization emerged in the Indus Valley about 2500 B.C.

The two great cities of the Indus Valley civilization

- \* Carefully planned
  - Grid pattern
  - Modern plumbing
  - Uniform weights and measures.



Leading archaeologists to conclude that they had a well-organized government

# Aryan Society

\*Aryan Society divided by occupation into four distinct social classes

- Brahmins or priests
- Kshatriyas or warriors
- Vaisyas or herders
- Sudras or non-Aryans

Gave rise to social and economic roles more than racial differences

- \*Creating 'castes' social groups a person is born into and can not escape
- Polytheistic religious beliefs
  - Measured their wealth in cows and bulls

# A New Indian civilization

- As the Aryans mingled with the people they conquered
  - Gave up nomadic life
  - Settled in towns to raise cattle and crops
  - \*Developed Sanskrit
- About 500 BC a new Indian civilization emerged
  - Aryan traditions and beliefs formed the framework

धन्योऽसि । धन्याः स्मः । हार्दिकं स्वागतं निवेदयामः ।

त्वं अस्माकं ९८४०७ मित्रम् ।

Blessed art thou. Blessed are we.

We extend our hearty welcome.

You are our 98407th friend.

# Summary

Review notes and summarize using at least four sentences

# Early Civilization in China (11,12)

## Geography

- Long distances and physical barriers isolated China from other ancient civilizations
- \* The Chinese to believed that China was the center of the Earth and the sole source of civilization.



# The Huang He and Yangzi river valleys



The need to control the rivers lead to a strong central government

# Chinese Religious Practices



- \*The veneration of ancestors
- \*The universe was balanced between two opposing forces
  - The yin and the yang
    - Yin = Dark
    - Yang = light

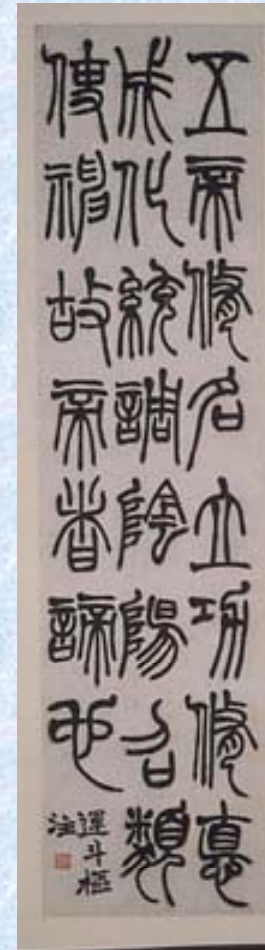


# System of writing

Ideographs expressed thoughts or ideas

Includes tens of 1000's characters

\*Created and art form in writing 'calligraphy'



# Zhou Dynasty

## 1027 to 221 B.C.

- \* Promoted the idea that they ruled by the Mandate of Heaven
  - The divine right to rule
- \* Expanded this idea to explain the dynastic cycle
  - When rulers became weak or corrupt, the Chinese believed, Heaven withdrew its support and gave it to another ruler.



# Feudalism and Economics

- Rewarded supporters with land grants (a form of feudalism)
- Economics
  - Iron replaced bronze
  - Farmers grew more and different crops
  - Populations grew
  - Coinage developed with holes (cash)



# \* Chinese Achievements

- Astronomy
  - 365 1/4 day calendar
- Bronze work
- Made books
  - Developed a complex system of writing
- Learned to make silk
  - China's #1 export
  - Kept the process secret



An interesting fact is that we can unwind one strand of silk, about 1,000 meters long, from one cocoon. 111 cocoons are needed for a man's tie, and 630 cocoons are needed for a woman's blouse.

# Summary

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Coming Soon

Empires of India and China  
(600 B.C. – A.D. 550)