



ANCIENT CHINA:  
Chinese River Valley

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6th Grade Social Studies



- **WHAT CONTINENT IS CHINA ON?**

- **LOCATED IN ASIA**
- **IS THE LARGEST COUNTRY**
- **LARGER THAN THE U.S.A**

- **WHERE IS ANCIENT CHINA LOCATED?**

- **CHINESE RIVER VALLEY & WAS BUILT ALONG THE HUANG HE & CHANG JIANG RIVER.**

- **WAS CHINA ISOLATED?:**

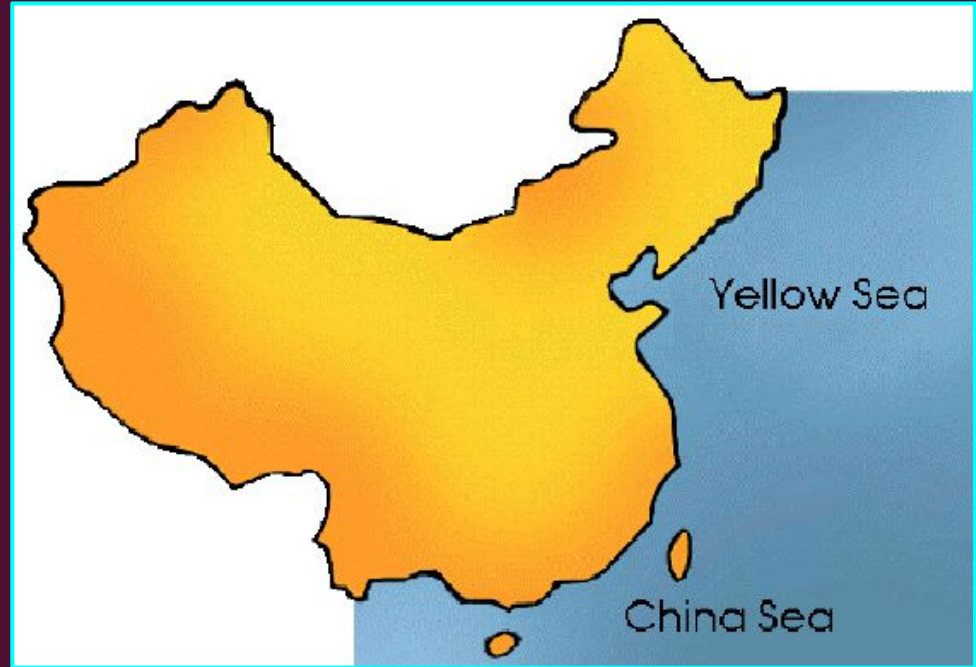
- **IN THE BEGINNING THE CHINESE DIDN'T KNOW THERE WERE OTHER ANCIENT CIVILIZATIONS IN THE WORLD BECAUSE THEY WERE ISOLATED BY NATURAL BARRIERS.**

## WHERE IS CHINA?



## BODIES OF WATER IN CHINA

- **OCEANS AND SEAS:**
  - **CHINA SEA AND YELLOW SEA. PROVIDED FOOD AND WATER ROUTES FOR TRADE. BOTH SEAS ARE LOCATED IN THE PACIFIC OCEAN.**
- **RIVERS:**
  - **CHINA'S RIVERS YANGTZE AND YELLOW, ARE ALL LOCATED TO THE EAST OF THE COUNTRY. THEY PROVIDED FERTILE LAND & SAFE DRINKING WATER.**



# MOUNTAINS & DESERTS

- **MOUNTAIN RANGE:**
  - **CHINA IS SEPARATED FROM INDIA BY THE HIMALAYA MOUNTAIN TO THE SOUTH & SOUTHWEST.**
  
- **DESERTS:**
  - **THE GOBI AND TAKLIMAKAN DESERT ARE LOCATED TO THE WEST OF THE COUNTRY**



# What is a DYNASTY?

- THE CIVILIZATION OF ANCIENT CHINA DATES BACK 1,000'S OF YEARS. OVER THIS TIME, CHINA WAS RULED BY DIFFERENT DYNASTIES.
- A DYNASTY IS A SERIES OF RULERS FROM THE SAME FAMILY OVER TIME.
  - When a new family takes control a new dynasty begins.

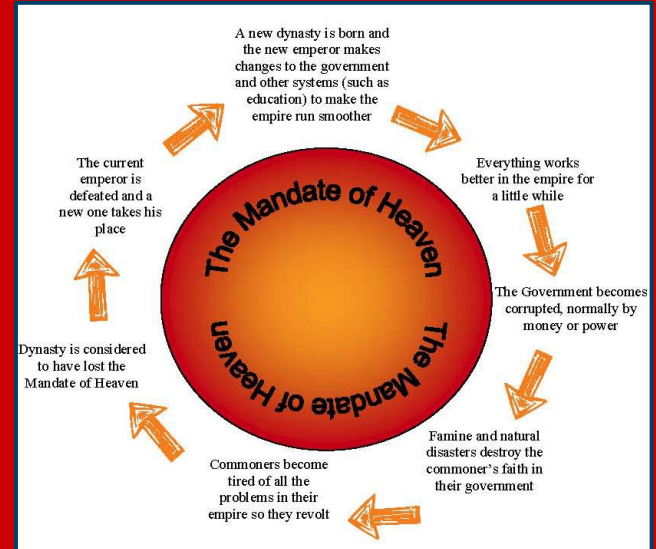


# Mandate of Heaven

- THIS IS WHAT THE CHINESE BELIEVE GAVE THE RULERS THE RIGHT TO BE KING OR EMPEROR.

- THE GODS HAVE BLESSED THAT PERSON WITH THE RIGHT TO RULE.

- The ruler must be good and fair in order to keep the Mandate of Heaven.
- When the dynasty lost power, they lost the mandate of heaven.

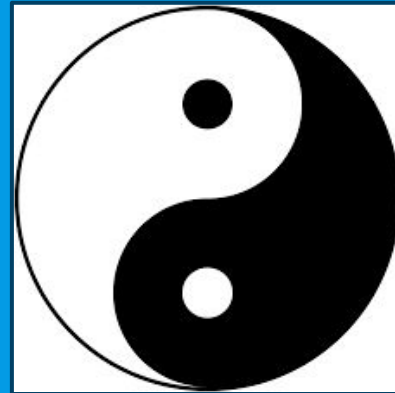


# 3 Philosophies of China

- **CONFUCIANISM**
  - CREATED BY CONFUCIUS
- **LEGALISM**
  - HAN FEIZI
- **TAOISM**
  - CREATED BY LAO-TZU



**KEEP  
CALM  
AND  
RESPECT  
OTHERS**



# CONFUCIANISM

- ❖ CONFUCIUS SAW MANY PROBLEMS IN THE WORLD.
- ❖ THE MOST IMPORTANT IDEAS WERE PEACE AND ORDER.
  - EVERYONE HAD A ROLE IN SOCIETY. IF THEY FULFILLED IT THEN THERE WOULD BE PEACE AND HARMONY
- ❖ TO ESTABLISH ORDER HE CREATED AN OUTLINE OF HOW TO TREAT OTHERS.
  - MOST IMPORTANT RESPONSIBILITIES WERE FOR CHILDREN TO RESPECT AND LISTEN TO THEIR PARENTS & ELDERS.

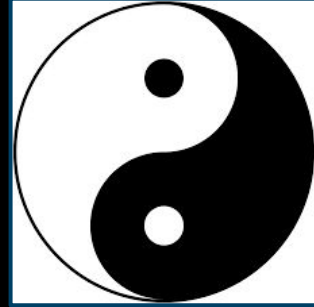


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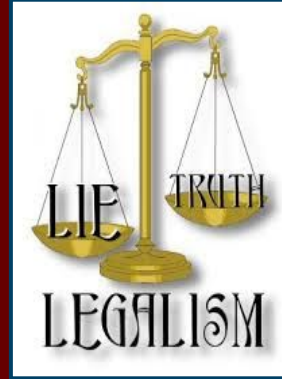
# DAOISM/TAOISM

- ❖ LAOZI TAUGHT THAT A FORCE KNOWN AS THE DAO REPRESENTED ALL LIVING THINGS.
- ❖ THE MOST IMPORTANT THING YOU CAN DO IT REJECT THE WORLD & THEIR DESIRES. SEEK WORLDLY POSSESSIONS, POWER, & NATURE.
  - ❑ MANY PEOPLE IN CHINA PRACTICE BOTH CONFUCIANISM AND DAOISM.
  - ❑ CONFUCIANISM TAUGHT THEM HOW TO BEHAVE TOWARDS ONE ANOTHER.
  - ❑ DAOISM TAUGHT THEM HOW TO BEHAVE TOWARDS THE NATURAL WORLD & WITHIN THEMSELVES PERSONALLY.



# LEGALISM

- ❖ LEGALIST BELIEVED THAT SOCIETY FUNCTIONED BEST THROUGH STRONG GOVERNMENT CONTROL
- ❖ PEOPLE MUST BE OBEDIENT TO AUTHORITY
- ❖ LAWS WERE CREATED THAT ORDER STRICT PUNISHMENTS & REWARDS FOR BEHAVIOR.
  - EMPEROR QIN SHI HUANGDI WORKED WITH LEGALIST TO BAN BOOKS ABOUT THE HISTORY OF CHINESE'S PAST RULERS AND IDEAS. BOOKS ABOUT CONFUCIUS WERE DESTROYED.
  - SCHOLARS WERE PUT TO DEATH BECAUSE OF THEIR BELIEFS OTHER THAN LEGALISM.



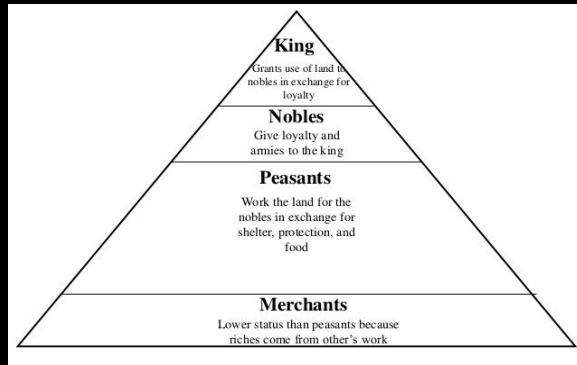
# 1ST DYNASTY: SHANG

- Ruled the area along the Yellow River. The first civilization of Ancient China.
- ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE SHANG:
  - ◆ Writing began
  - ◆ Used oracle bones to predict the future
  - ◆ Developed bronze
  - ◆ Glazed pottery
  - ◆ Silk



# 2ND DYNASTY: ZHOU

- The longest ruling dynasty in the history of China.
- First dynasty to use the Mandate of Heaven
- Land was ruled by feudal lords who were relatives of the Zhou family.



# WARRING STATES

- After the Zhou dynasty fell everything became chaotic.
- For 250 years these 8 states battled for control over who would rule China.
  - ◆ The states were created during the Zhou dynasty to help govern the large amount of land.
- The wars ended when the Qin state conquered them all.



# 3RD DYNASTY: QIN

- Emperor Shi Huangdi becomes the first emperor of China.
  - ◆ He unified [brought together] China after the time period of the Warring States.
- He changed the way China was ruled:
  - ◆ He followed the philosophy of Legalism → strict law with harsh punishments
  - ◆ Established a military dictatorship.
  - ◆ Destroyed the Nobles feudal power
  - ◆ Created taxes



# 3RD DYNASTY: QIN

- These advancements would be used in future dynasties to make China strong.
- The dynasty didn't last long, but there were many accomplishments:
  - The Great Wall
  - Standardized money
  - Roads and canals were built
  - Standardized writing & language
  - Terra Cotta Army
  - Multiplication Table



# 4TH DYNASTY: HAN

→ **CREATED THE SILK ROAD TO TRADE GOODS FROM CHINA TO ROME [EUROPE]**

→ **ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF HAN DYNASTY**

- ◆ **Created a civil service exam to create a strong and organized government.**
- **Paper and porcelain were also invented during this time.**
- **Followed the philosophy of Confucianism**
- **Poetry and literature**
- **Compass**
- **Seismograph**
- **Silk**

