

Xia, Shang, Zhou Dynasties

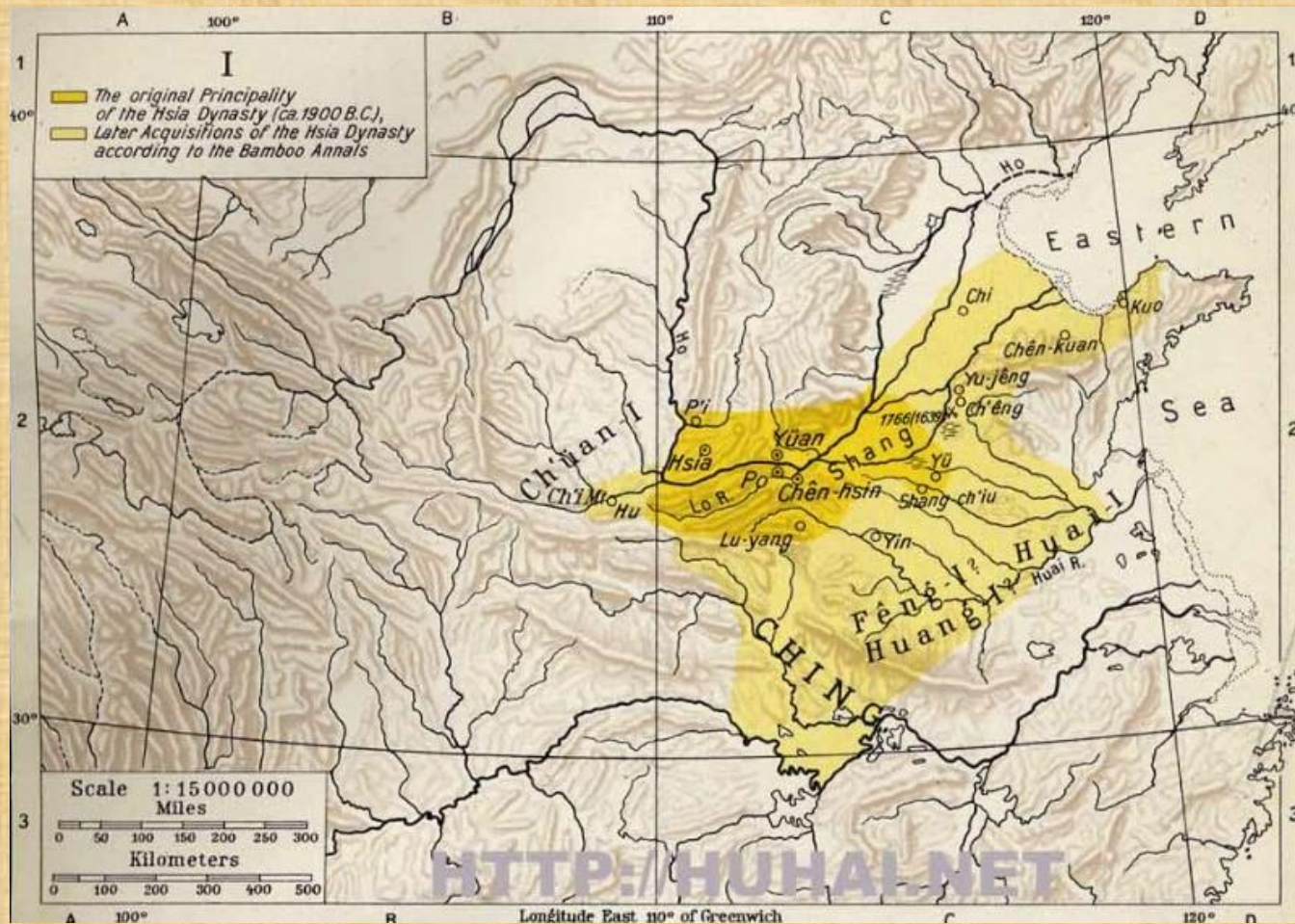
Xia Dynasty

- **2100 BC (est.) – 1600 BC (est.)**

Xia Dynasty



Xia Dynasty



Xia Dynasty



Yu the Great:

- Founder of Xia Dynasty

Xia Dynasty

- recruited Yu as successor to his father's flood-control efforts--began to dredge new river channels
- thirteen years at the task, with the help of some 20,000 workers.
- "Passing his own door three times"--tale of Yu's dedication

Xia Dynasty

- had been married only five days
- first time he passed by hearing that his wife was in labor
- second time, his wife was holding his son's hand as he was learning his first steps
- third time, his son greeted him and enjoined him to come in for rest

Xia Dynasty

- Yu is remembered:
 1. example of perseverance and determination
 2. revered as the perfect civil servant.

Xia Dynasty

1. 禹 Yǔ (Yu the Great)
2. 啟 Qǐ
3. 太康 Tai Kang
4. 仲康 Zhòng Kāng
5. 相 Xiāng
6. 少康 Shào Kāng
7. 杼 Zhù
8. 槐 Huái
17. 桀 Jié

Creation of
the First
Dynasty

Xia Dynasty



Xia Dynasty



Xia Dynasty

- Remain a mythical dynasty—no written records to prove history

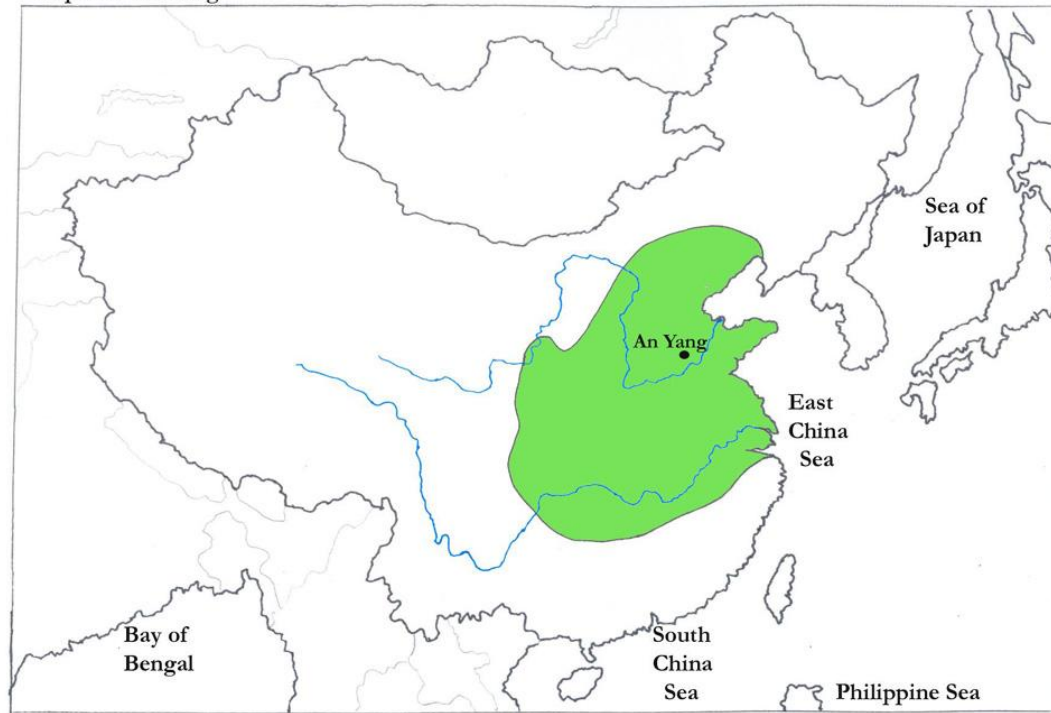
Shang Dynasty

- **1600 BC – 1046 BC**

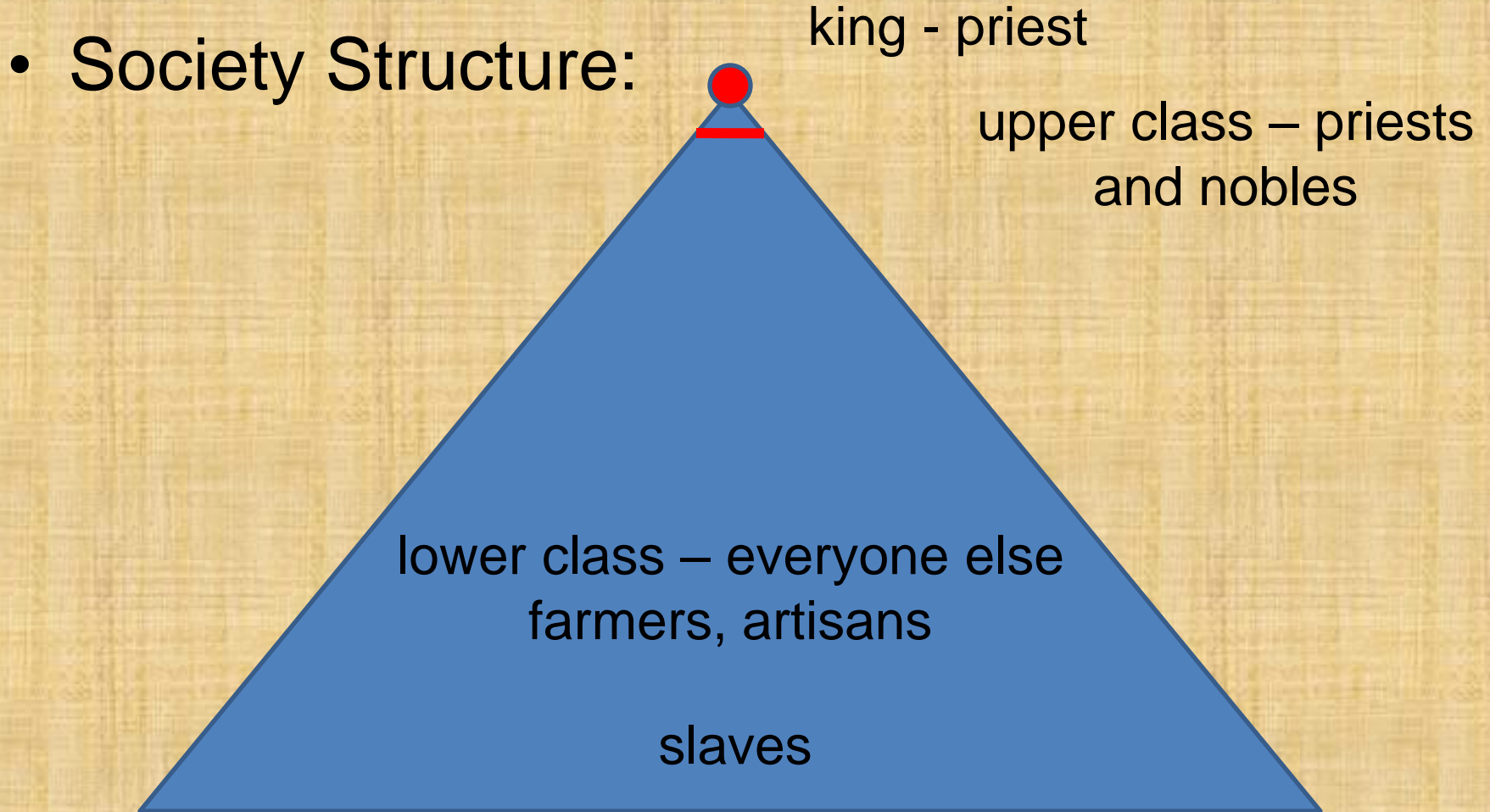
Shang Dynasty

Shang Dynasty (1765-1112 BCE)

Capital: An Yang



Shang Dynasty



Shang Dynasty

- China ruled by strong monarchy
- At capital city, Anyang, kings surrounded by **court**
- Rituals performed to strengthen kingdom, keep safe
- King's governors ruled distant parts of kingdom
- King also had large army at disposal
- Prevented rebellions, fought outside opponents

Shang Dynasty

Agricultural society:

- Shang China largely agricultural
- Most tended crops in fields
- Farmers called on to fight in army, work on building projects—tombs, palaces, walls

Shang Dynasty

1. 湯 (成唐) Tāng a Sage king; overthrew tyrant Jié
2. 太丁 Tàì Dīng
3. 外丙 Wài Bǐng
4. 仲壬 Zhòng Rén
5. 太甲 Tàì Jiǎ
6. 沃丁 Wò Dǐng
20. 盤庚 Pán Gēng golden age of the Shāng dynasty. Oracle bone inscription
31. 帝辛 Dì Xīn

Shang Dynasty

- Warfare: large armies, bronze weapons, collect tribute



Shang Dynasty

Writing:

- inscriptions on bronze or dragon bones
- priests asked questions of ancestors
- hot piece of metal applied to oracle bone resulting in cracks on bone's surface
- specially trained priests interpreted meaning of cracks to learn answer from ancestors
- animal spirits were the messengers

Shang Dynasty

Notion of supreme heavenly power—
Shangdi (god above)

Belief in power of spirits of ancestors to
affect events on earth

Importance of rituals venerating ancestors
and role of king in performing rituals

Shang Dynasty

Therefore rituals

To facilitate ancestor reverence

Manifested in bronzes & oracle bones

Shang Dynasty

Ancestor reverence:

Ultimate source of political power was royal ancestors

Deceased ministers had some influence

Dead went to Heaven

Intercede on behalf of descendants

So ritual life of Shang court was sequence of sacrifices to ancestors

Shang Dynasty

- Complex society
- Often called “civilization”
- Or “state-level” society
- In China shifts toward state-level society began the dynastic phase of Chinese history

Shang Dynasty

Centralized government

Urban city communities

Stratified social classes

Palatial architecture

Distinctive writing system

Elaborate religious rituals

Sophisticated art forms

Shang Dynasty

Bronze metallurgy

Horse drawn chariot

Ability to mobilize human labor for huge projects/corvee labor

Relatively accurate calendar

Money in form of cowrie shells

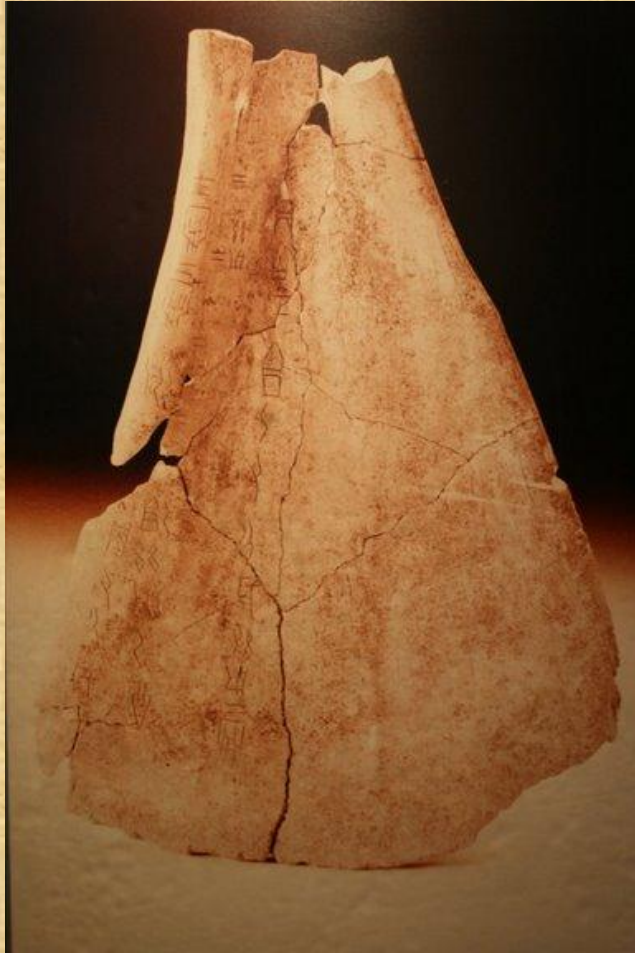
Pantheon of gods

Complex lineage structure

Shang Dynasty



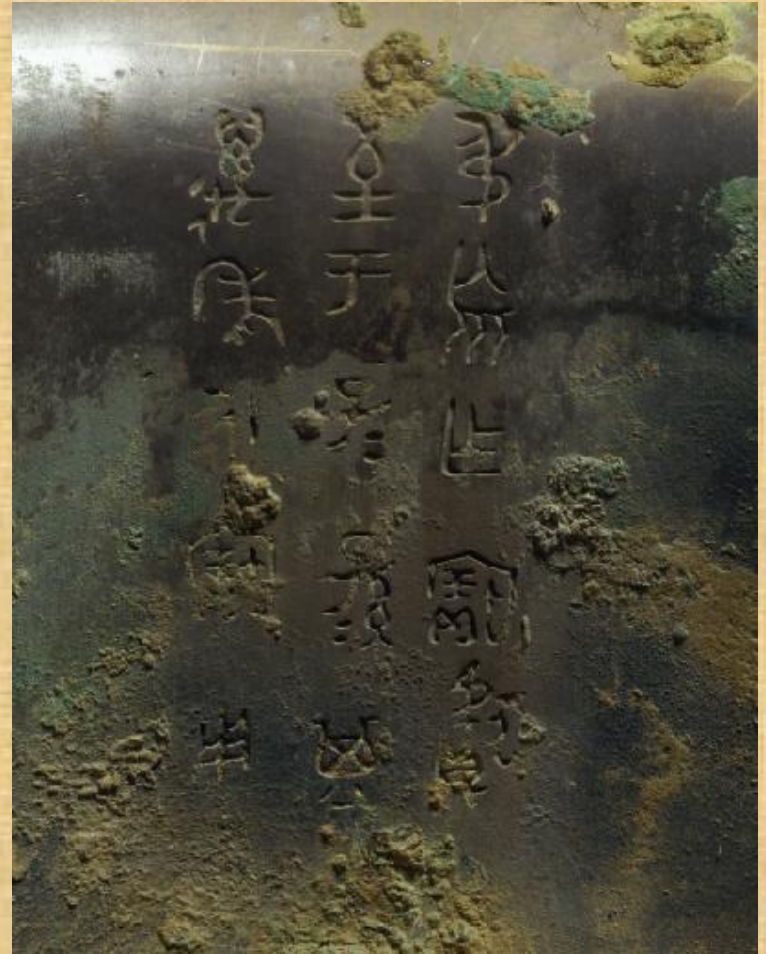
Shang Dynasty



Shang Dynasty



Fig. 1-4 Jiuwen



Shang Dynasty

Bronze metal working:

- used to legitimize dynasty
- metal ore, wood fuel, human labor
- key ritual role in maintaining Shang status



Shang Dynasty

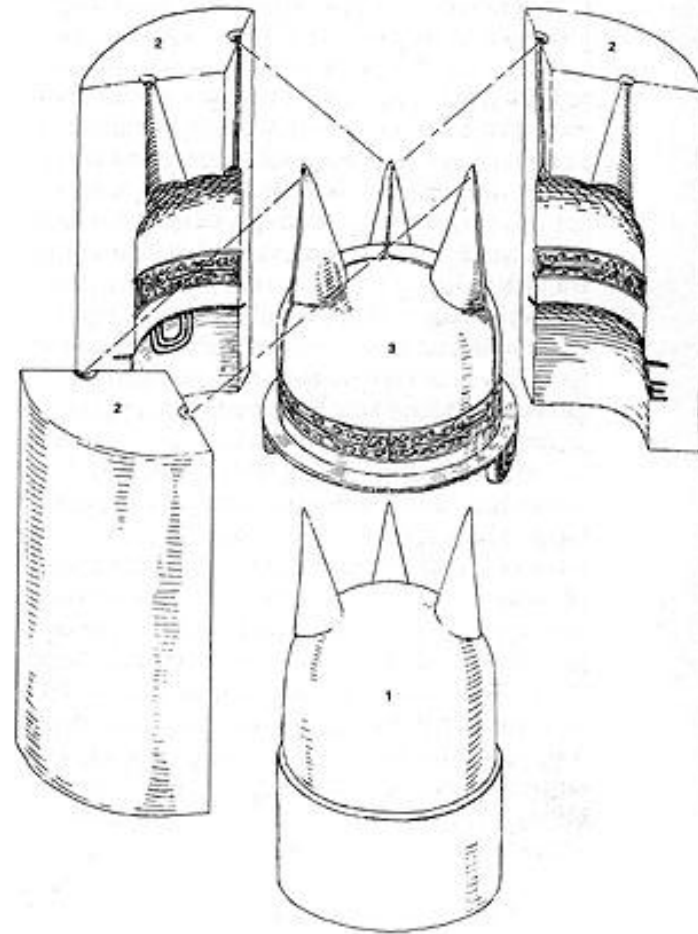
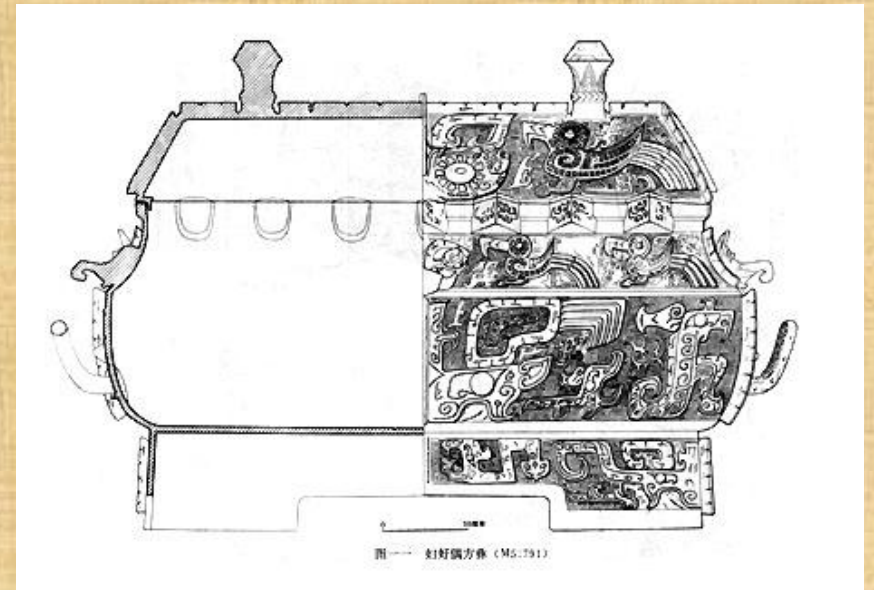


Diagram showing how early Chinese bronzes were formed: the model or core (1), the sections of the mold (2), and the completed vessel (3—the cauldron no. 4)

Shang Dynasty

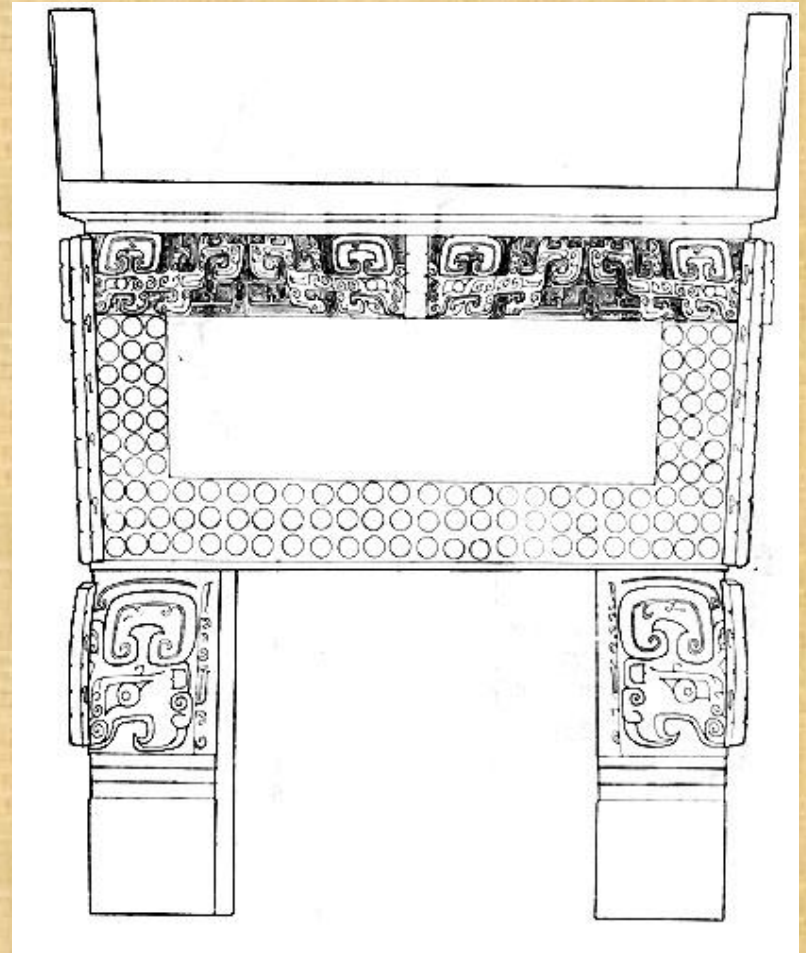


Shang Dynasty



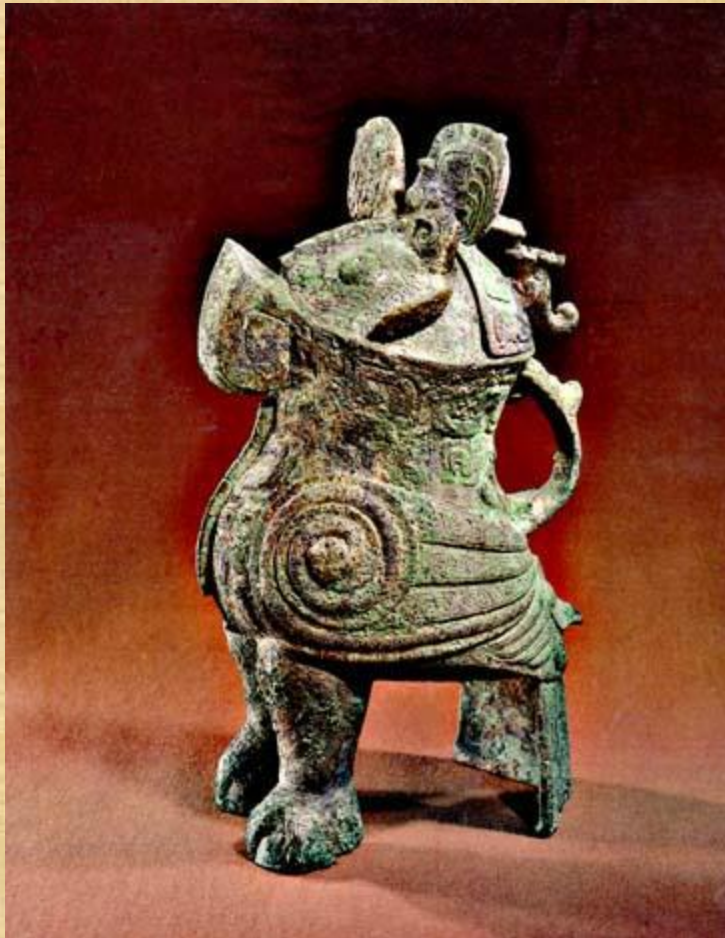
bronze covered container

Shang Dynasty



bronze ding vessel

Shang Dynasty

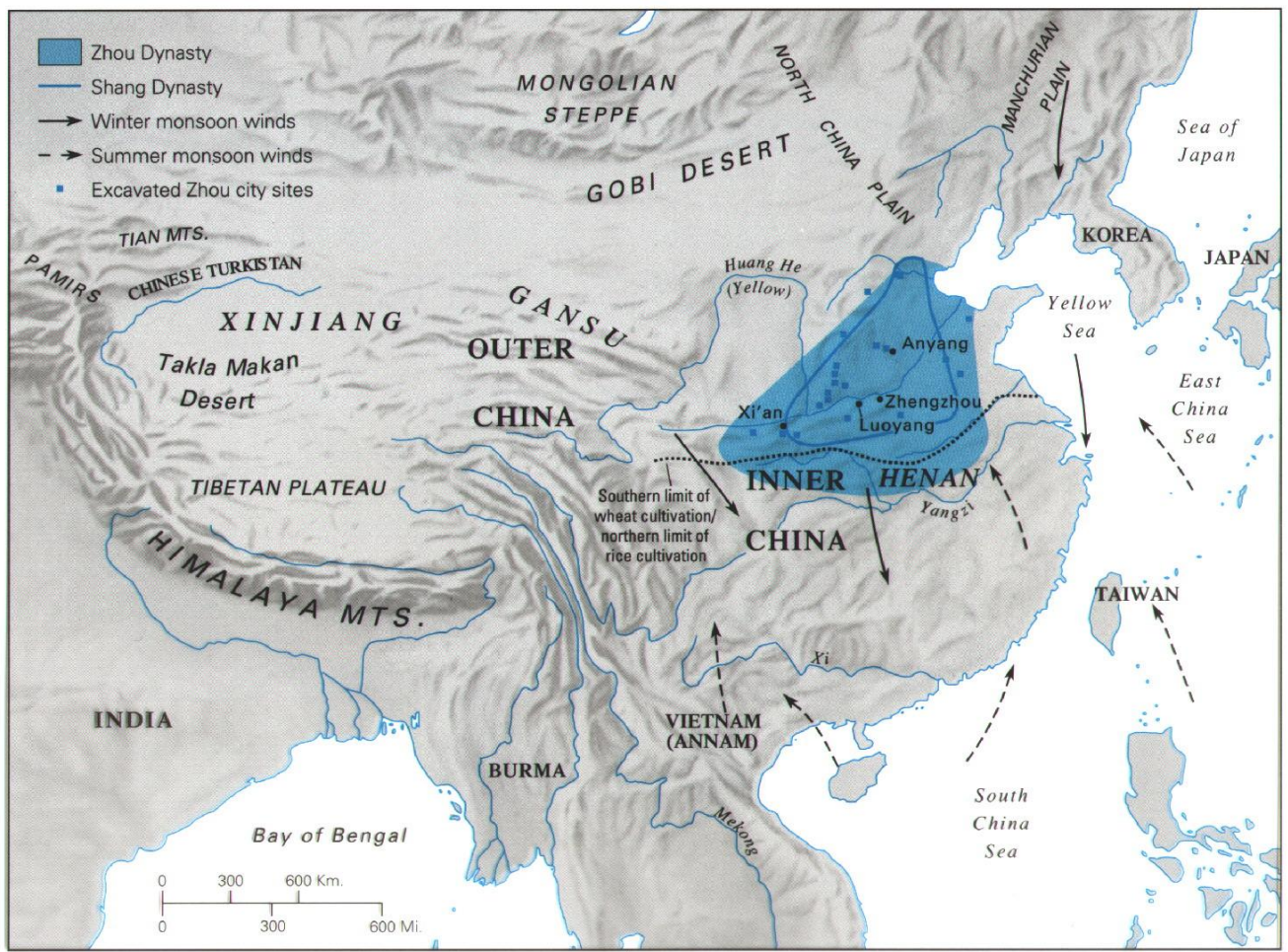


bronze wine vessel

Zhou Dynasty

- **1045 BC – 256 BC**

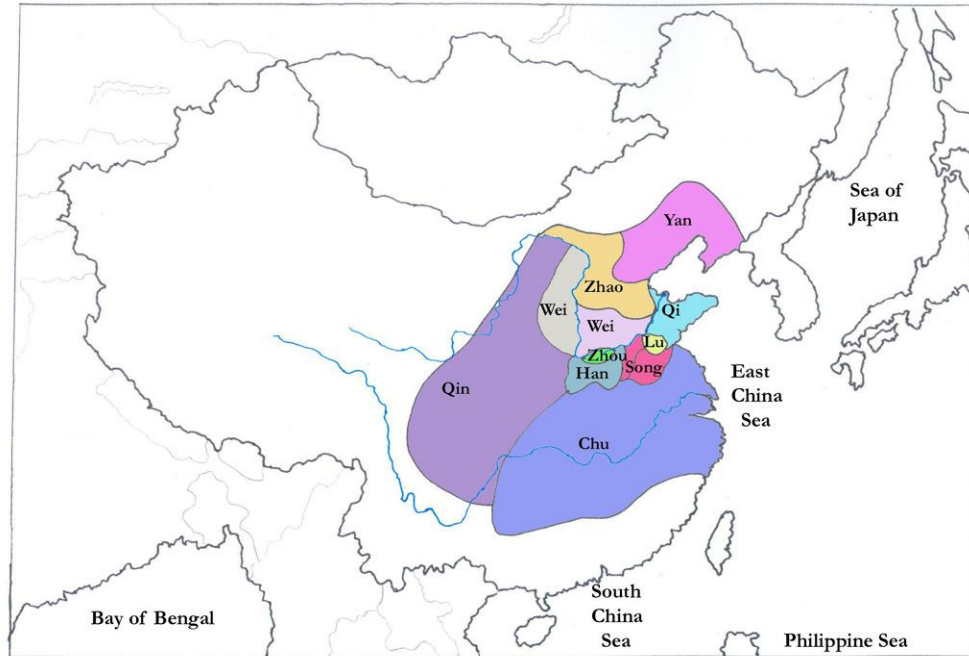
Zhou Dynasty



Zhou Dynasty

Zhou Dynasty

The Warring States Period (463-221 BCE)



Zhou Dynasty

- Tribute people in western part of Shang Kingdom
- Rebelled against tribute payments
- 50,000 vs 700,000

Zhou Dynasty



King Wen Wang

- founder of the Zhou Dynasty

Zhou Dynasty



Duke of Zhou

- Brother of King Wu

Zhou Dynasty

1. Zhou family Dynasty
2. Western Zhou
3. Eastern Zhou:
 - Spring and Autumn Period
 - Warring States Period

Shang Dynasty

Feudalism:
a political system of organized government

King:

- grant
 1. the use of lands that belong to the king
 2. income from lands

Nobles:

- owe
 1. loyalty to the king
 2. military service to the king
 3. protect the people who live on the land

Zhou Dynasty

Government:

- When Zhou conquered Shang, leaders worried Chinese people would not accept them
- Introduced idea they ruled by **Mandate of Heaven**

Zhou Dynasty

Government:

- Gods would support just ruler, not allow anyone corrupt to hold power
- Ruler is the “Son of Heaven” with the Mandate of Heaven

Zhou Dynasty

Government:

- Zhou said Shang overthrown because they lost gods' favor
- Later rulers used Mandate of Heaven to explain **dynastic cycle**, rise and fall of dynasties in China
- If dynasty lost power, it obviously had become corrupt

it was the will of the gods that that dynasty be overthrown and a new one take power.

Zhou Dynasty

Zhou growth:

- Population grew under Zhou
- Farmers learned new techniques, increased size of harvest, created food surpluses; cities also grew
- Roads, canals allowed better transportation, communication
- Introduced coins, use of chopsticks

Zhou Dynasty

Decline of the Zhou:

- Conflict arose during latter part of Zhou dynasty
- Clan leaders within China rose up against king
- As time passed, more and more local leaders turned against Zhou, further weakening rule

Zhou Dynasty

Zhou technology achievements:

1. perfection of bronze casting
2. gold and silver inlays in metal and wooden/lacquered objects
3. begin of iron casting technology and widespread use of iron tools during Warring States Period
4. development of warfare technology like iron weapons, armament, chariots and fortifications

Zhou Dynasty

5. engineering technology for irrigation, drainage, waterways, canals, dikes, dams
6. development of music temperation by pipes and bells
7. dyeing of yarns and woven materials like silk and linen
8. glass production
9. multi-color lacquering of wooden or bamboo objects

Zhou Dynasty

Zhou science achievements:

1. perfection of the calendar
2. regular observation of the sky, recording of irregular astronomical events
3. maps of the sky; first geographical maps
4. division of China into the Nine Provinces

Zhou Dynasty

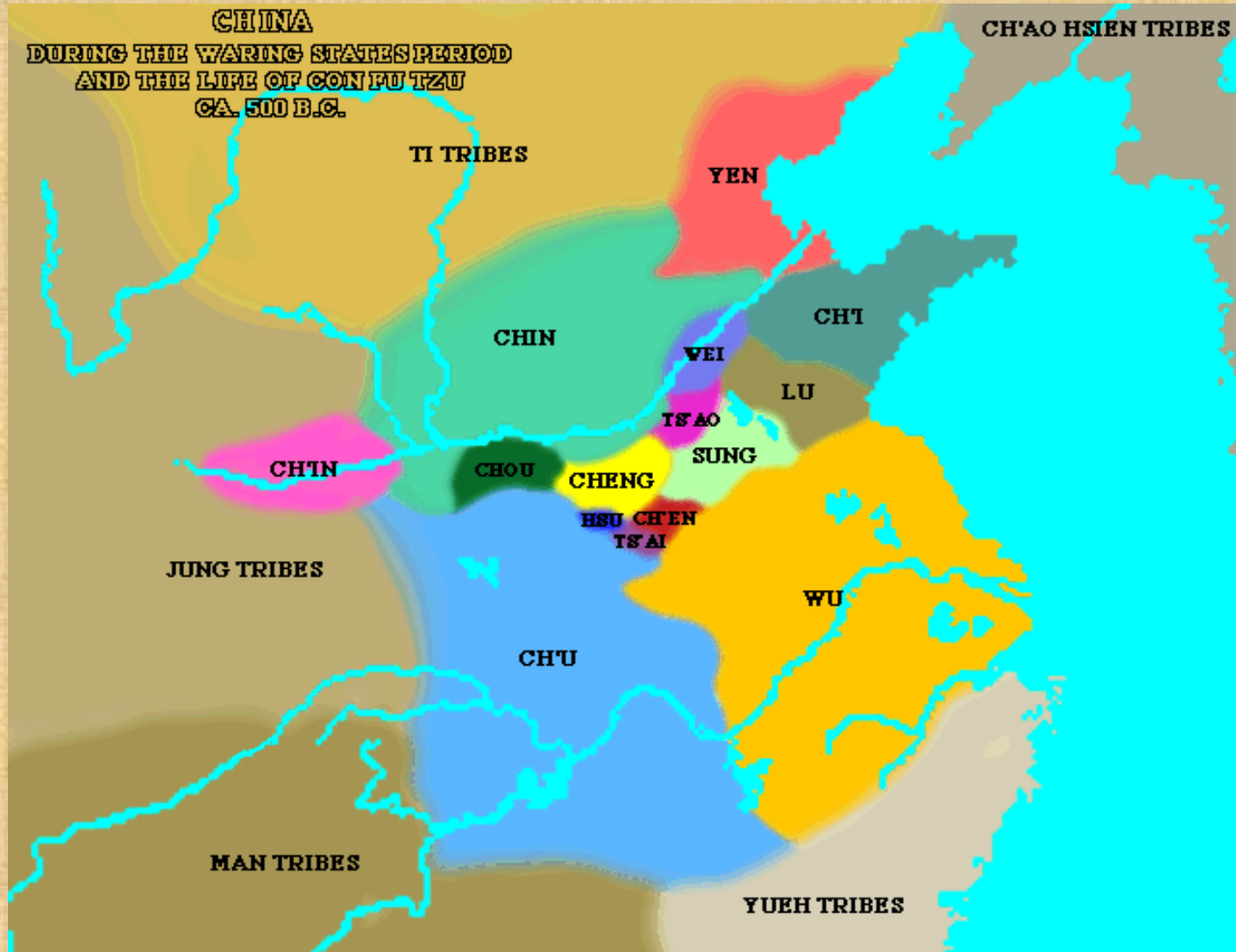
5. discovery of magnetism
6. description of basic arithmetic and fractions
7. calculating with chips or tallies
8. geometry and trigonometry

Zhou Warring States Period

Result of rebellions was Warring States Period

- 403 BC to 221 BC, number of small states fought each other for land, power
- Zhou still nominally in charge, but power almost nonexistent by mid-200s BC
- Qin, new dynasty, arose to bring end to Warring States Period, Zhou dynasty

Zhou Warring States Period



Zhou Warring States Period



Zhou Warring States Period



王可伟油画 - 车战

Zhou Warring States Period



王可伟油画 - 国殇

Artfox Art Series

Zhou Dynasty Spring/Autumn Period

Chinese philosophers:

- **Kong Fuzi (Confucius)**, founder of Confucianism
- **Laozi**, founder of Daoism
- **Mozi (Micius)**, founder of Mohism
- **Mengzi (Mencius)**, a famous Confucian who expanded upon Kong Fuzi's teachings

Zhou Dynasty Spring/Autumn Period

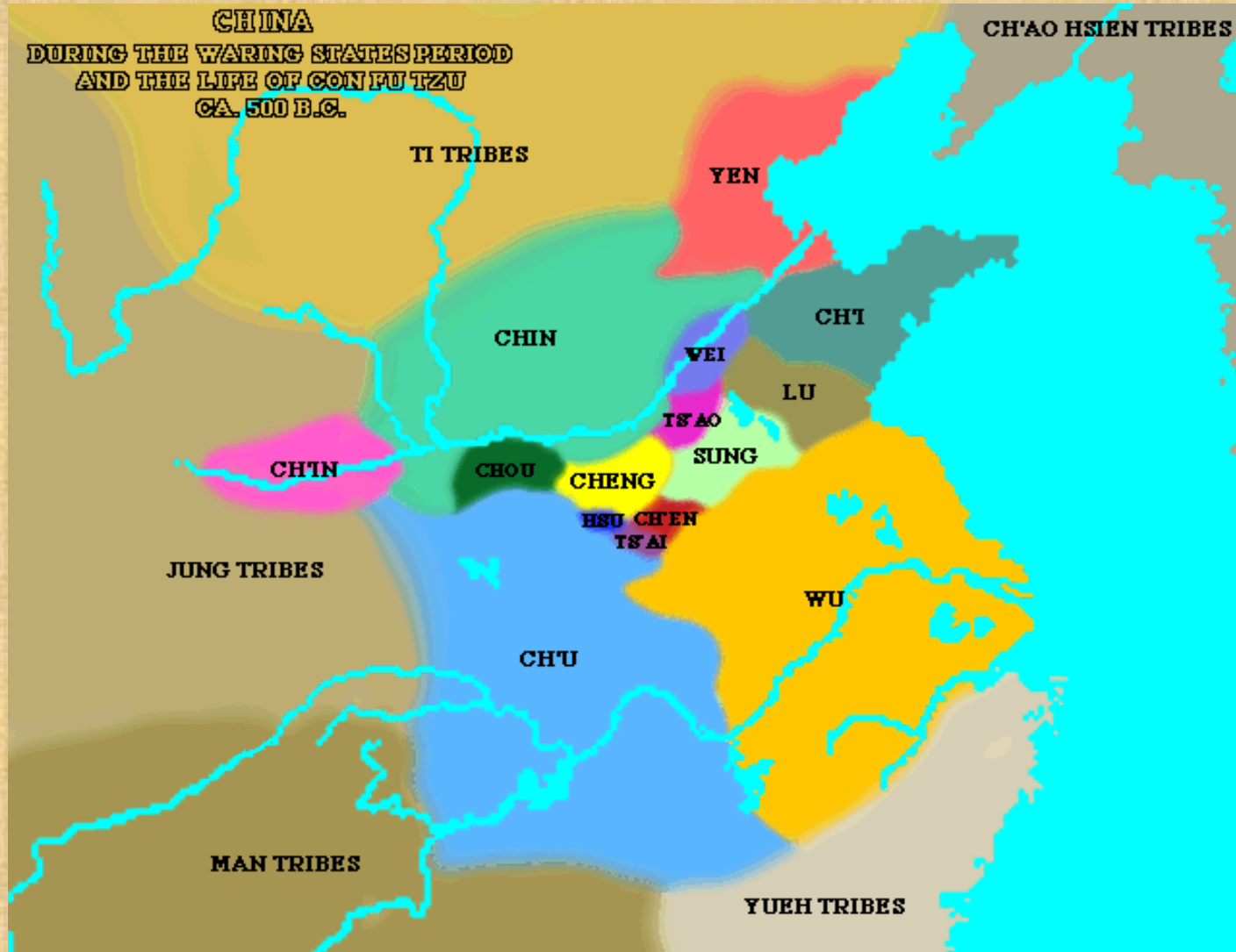
- **Shang Yang** and **Han Feizi**, responsible for the development of ancient Chinese Legalism
- **Xunzi**, who was arguably the center of ancient Chinese intellectual life during his time

Zhou Dynasty Spring/Autumn Period

100 Schools of Thought:

- private schools established during the Spring/Autumn Period as well as Warring States period (around 500 BC till 220 BC)

Zhou Dynasty Spring/Autumn Period



Zhou Dynasty Spring/Autumn Period

100 Schools of Thought:

- private schools established during the Spring/Autumn Period as well as Warring States period (around 500 BC till 220 BC)
- school was led by a teacher or a philosopher who represented the particular thoughts
- 20 different streams of thought

Zhou Dynasty Spring/Autumn Period

- Golden Age of Chinese philosophy
- different schools debated the best ways to resolve the violence of the period

Zhou Dynasty Spring/Autumn Period

100 Schools of Thought:

- Confucian School (孔家)
- "Taoism" or "Daoism" School (道家)
- Mohism School (墨家)
- Legalism School (法家)
- Yin Yang School (阴阳)
- School of Agriculture (农家)
- Dialecticians School (名家)
- Military School (兵家)

100 Schools of Thought

Confucian School (孔家)

- focused on teaching of ethics such "Li, Yue, Ren, Yi" (礼乐仁义) or "Ritual, Benevolence and Righteous" as a way of creating a good society
- ruler must be benevolent and use morality when ruling his kingdom

100 Schools of Thought

Confucian School (孔家)

- relationship of respect between the ruler and subject in the so-called "Jun Jun Chen Chen" (君君臣臣) and filial piety in the family
- Han Dynasty Confucianism became the state philosophy.

100 Schools of Thought

"Taoism" or "Daoism" School (道家)

- stresses "Dao" (道) or "way" in universe
 1. guiding principle that controls every aspect of the universe
 2. not an unseen spiritual thing that people can recognize

100 Schools of Thought

"Taoism" or "Daoism" School (道家)

- stressed "Wuwei"(无为) (i.e. do nothing), listen to nature, 'give up on benevolence and righteousness'
- let nature take its course
- later became a religious sect

100 Schools of Thought

Legalism School (法家):

- stressed the use of law (i.e. legalism) and reform to create a powerful state
- reform a state in areas of politics, economy and society
- transform the state from slavery society to a feudalist society
- Han Fei Zi (韩非子), Li Si (李斯).

100 Schools of Thought

Mohism School (墨家):

- opposed the teaching of Confucianism
- used natural science to support its teaching

100 Schools of Thought

- Yin Yang School (阴阳):
- stressed dualism "Yin Yang" (two opposing forces "Yin" and "Yang")
- five elements (Gold, Wood, Water, Fire, Earth)
- used to explain natural phenomenon, society and dynasty change

100 Schools of Thought

School of Agriculture (农家):

- taught farmers the farming method and agriculture production
- importance of ruler putting emphasis on agriculture as the basis for development
- gathered past farming methods and experiences
- researched new methods of increasing productivity

100 Schools of Thought

Dialecticians School (名家):

- focus on study of logic, meaning of words, concepts, arguments

Zhou Dynasty