

Ancient Empires

Egypt

The Old Kingdom(2700 - 2200BC)

Great Pyramid - 100,000 people - 20 years

The Middle Kingdom(2050 - 1652BC)

Egyptians developed hieroglyphics as their writing style

The Rosetta Stone

The New Kingdom(1567 - 1085BC)

After 1000BC, Egypt never dominated area

eventually conquered by Alexander, then Rome

The Hebrews

Hebrews founded and spread Judaism

wrote the Old Testament of the Bible

had been enslaved by Egyptians

tradition states that Moses leads them out of Egypt("Exodus") into Palestine

by 1100BC, the Israelites are living around Palestine

Saul was the first King

His son David conquered Jerusalem

Solomon builds Temple that housed Ark of the Covenant

Kingdom is split into Israel(north) and Judah(south)

Israel is conquered by the Assyrians

Jews will eventually live under the Persian empire until Greek conquests

Beliefs of Judaism

Jews are monotheistic

they believe there is one god, Yahweh("he causes to be")

Believe that God created everything

God rules the world actively

God expects goodness, or will punish people

The Torah is the law code of the Jewish people

covenant - special bond between Jews and God

covenant fulfilled by obeying laws of God

Prophets sent by God to deliver his word

Judaism set goals of peace and justice for Western Civ.

The Greeks

Greek city-states(750 - 500BC)

Greeks reemerged around the *polis*

Group of citizens who made political, military, social decisions

usually met on a hill in the center of the city

Acropolis in Athens

relied on subservience to the state

Hoplites(Phalanx) made Greeks more effective fighters

highly organized infantry that relied on shields and spears

again relied upon dedication to the group

helped to break power of aristocratic cavalry

Tyrants came to power in fifth and sixth centuries
Polis made kings merely ceremonial figures
aristocrats, merchants, and peasants compete in polis
Tyrants were leaders who unconstitutionally gained power
usually had support of people against aristocrats
Heirs to tyrants were usually spoiled, cruel, and disliked
Tyrants destroyed aristocratic power, paved way for democracy

Classical Greece(500 - 338BC)

The Persian Wars

Athenian Empire

The Great Peloponnesian War(431 - 404 BC)

Classical Greek Culture

History

Herodotus is the “father of history”

writes the History of the Persian Wars

systematic analysis of past events

Thucydides surpassed Herodotus as a historian

writes History of Peloponnesian Wars

did not turn to Gods as explanations

Philosophy

Sophists emphasized the study of human behavior

believed that rhetoric was important skill

served as wandering teachers

Socrates

used question and answer philosophy to teach

questioning of Athenian politics lead to his death

Plato was his most accomplished pupil

Plato

believed that philosophy was purest form of thought

taught that reason was necessary to understand life

wrote The Republic

believed that happiness came from discovering ideal Forms

est. the Academy in Athens

Aristotle was most accomplished pupil

Aristotle

rejected Plato as being too abstract and restrictive

emphasized reason over Forms

studied a wide variety of subjects

served as tutor to Alexander the Great

Alexander the Great

Macedonians take advantage of Greek weakness

Alexander succeeds his father at age 20

already a general and quickly solidifies reign

Conquests of Alexander the Great

conquered Persian Empire, Egypt, and into India
troops then rebel and Alexander agrees to return home
June, 323 BC - Alexander's dies at age 32

Alexander's World

Alexander viewed himself as a god and tried to build a new nation
encouraged settlements of Greeks and mixing cultures
Alexander had cities built across the empire
most named Alexandria
spread Greek(Hellenistic) culture across the ancient world
Alexander's Empire splinters upon his death, but culture remains

Roman Republic

The Republic(509 - 264 BC)

Paterfamilias - Roman family based on strength of male leader
had complete control of family's life
imperium - "right to command"

Roman institutions based on practical reason, not ideals

Two Consuls - annually elected administrators and generals

Two Praetors - governed in absence of consuls and gave justice
also governed conquered provinces

could elect a dictator for up to six months in emergency

The Senate

group of approx. 300 elders who served for life
originally advisors, eventually have force of law

Over time, people(plebians) gain more power in republic

tribunes are created and elected to protect people from nobles
codified Roman Law

Roman Conquest

By 264 BC, Rome has conquered all of Italy

Rome extended citizenship to some conquered peoples
allowed then to control domestic affairs

Built extensive road network throughout empire

used for military travel, trade, and communication
aqueducts

The Punic Wars

Rome first large early struggle was with Carthage
Phoenician city with large trading empire

First Punic War(264 - 241 BC)

Rome and Carthage clashed over Sicily

Rome builds first large navy to move into Med. Sea

Carthage at disadvantage using mercenaries

Rome wins and takes control of Sicily, Sardinia, Corsica

Second Punic War(218 - 201 BC)

Carthage moves into Spain to compensate for losses

Hannibal raises large army and crosses Alps into Italy
defeats Roman army but can't keep Rome

spends years raiding Italy
Romans raise army and take fight to Carthage
Hannibal returns but is defeated
Third Punic War(149 -146 BC)
although no longer a threat, Rome destroys Carthage
Rome destroys city, kills population

Fall of the Roman Republic

Senate had come to dominate Roman life
people came to resent small group dominating society
noblis(nobles)

Tiberius and Gaius Gracchus tried to reform the republic
Tribune brothers tried political and land reform
assassinated by Senate for their efforts
est. dangerous precedent

Marius brings the Roman army into politics
successful general uses army to force land from Senate
dangerous precedent that is followed by Sulla
noblis who removes power from plebians

Civil wars destroy power of people and est Army as road to power

First Triumvirate

Crassas - military commander charged with defeating slaves
rebellion lead by Spartacus

Pompey - given command in Spain, returns hero

Crassas and Pompey elected consuls in 70 BC
return power to the plebians

Julius Caesar - sought consulship after military success in
Spain

blocked by Senate

Three generals join forces against the Senate
all three had more military success and gained power

53 BC - Crassas is killed in battle

Senate fears Caesar and backs Pompey to disarm him

Jan. 10, 49 BC - Caesar conquers Rome

“crossing the Rubicon”

Pompey flees to Greece

49 - 45 BC - Caesar defeats Pompey and Senators in battle

Pompey assassinated by agents in Egypt

Caesar gave the West the 365 day solar calendar

Effectively destroyed the Republic

44 BC - assassinated by group of Senators

The Second Triumvirate

Octavian forms alliance with Mark Anthony and Marcus Lepidus

Lepidus is quickly thrust aside

Anthony allies with Egypt and Cleopatra

Octavian defeats Anthony's armies

Anthony and Cleopatra commit suicide

Octavian had become supreme ruler of all Rome and Republic dies

The Roman Empire

14AD - Augustus dies after 45 years as emperor

possible height of Rome, definite change of direction

The Early Empire

Augustus adopted son, Tiberius replaced him

best practice of adopting new successors

Rome's success highly dependent on strength of dynasty

Caligula(insanity) and Nero(distracted) are worst

Five "Good Emperors"(96 - 180) were other possible height

Pax Romana - period of Roman enforced peace

212 AD - every free person of Empire given citizenship

50 million people over 3.5 million square miles

The Fall of the Roman Empire

3rd Century is beginning of the end of Roman Empire

Emperors increased the size and power of Roman Army

led to fifty years of civil war and struggle for power

Persians(East), Goths(Balkans), Franks(Gaul) all invade empire

conflicts caused breakdown of Roman economy

goods seized and money debased

Rome hires barbarian mercenaries to fight instead of citizens

Diocletian and Constantine try to restore order

Diocletian reorganized empire and divided it East and West

believed that one man couldn't rule empire

324 - Constantine reunites the Empire

gathers more power into emperor's hands

army is again enlarged

builds new capital of Constantinople(Istanbul) for empire

will become center of Byzantine Empire

Taxes fell heavy on working classes

noble classes were exempt

many free peasants became tied to their land, worked for nobles

serfdom

410 - Visigoths sack Rome

455 - Vandals sack Rome

476 - Last Western Roman emperor deposed

Germanic Barbarian leaders began to develop new nations

The Eastern Roman Empire becomes known as Byzantine Empire

Byzantines adopt Greek Orthodox Christianity

conflict over icons leads to split

The Rise of Christianity

Roman religion had always lacked emotional aspect of salvation

6 BC - Jesus of Nazareth is born in Judea

will be executed on orders of Pontius Pilate

preached humility, charity, brotherly love

focus on inner person rather than rules

The Apostles believed that Jesus was resurrected
believe that He died for mankind's sins and would return
Peter founds Christian church in Rome
Paul travels throughout empire converting any person willing
taught that all men could be saved by accepting savior

100 AD - Christian churches appear in most major cities
New Testament Bible helps spread religion
Roman roads and size of empire also assist spread

Many Romans begin to fear spread of Christianity
some rituals seemed barbaric
upset that traditional Roman values were ignored
thousands of Christians were persecuted

Christianity began to form institutions
cities elected bishops as local religious heads

312 - Constantine converts to Christianity, makes it official religion
saw crosses in vision before major battle, and won

Archbishops develop by Roman province to oversee bishops

Bishops of Rome came to be known as "Pope"
head of Catholic Church based on legacy of Peter
Leo I cements position when he turns Attila the Hun back
from Rome

Popes will claim higher authority than kings
spirituality over materialism

Monasticism

monks and nuns devoted their life to God
gave up secular life for prayer, poverty, chastity
St. Benedict wrote the first rules for monks

Rise of Islam

Islam

Muhammad is born in Mecca in 570
was raised as a merchant
at age 40, Gabriel gave him a vision
told him that Allah was the one true God
monotheism
believed that he was the last of the prophets

613 - Muhammad begins to preach in Mecca

Hegira

in 622, Muhammad and followers flee to Medina
Islam, meaning "surrender to God" flourishes

Muhammad begins to conquer Bedouin lands

630 - captures Mecca

The Koran

After Muhammad's death, his followers began to collect his prayers
only written in Arabic

Arabic spreads throughout the Middle East

Islam spread East and West

723 - Islam spreads from Spain to India

Jihad - holy war, warriors killed in battle went to heaven

Arabian peninsula was overpopulated (more warriors)

resistance from Byzantines & Persians was weak

Islamic Culture

Baghdad was the center of the empire

first chemical laboratories

medical treatment of disease

discovered Algebra

passed along numeric system

Architecture of mosques dominates Middle East

Carolingian Empire

732 - Charles Martel defeats Muslims at the Battle of Tours

751 - Martel's son, Pepin becomes king of the Franks to est. dynasty

anointed by priests in fusion with church

campaigns in Italy and won lands for papacy

768 - Charlemagne (Charles the Great) crowned king of Franks

fought in 54 military campaigns

conquered Lombardy, Northern Italy, Saxony, and Brittany

depended on royal estates for finances

Counts administered royal lands

had gradually become hereditary lands

Charlemagne transferred counts and traveled to lands

system worked with powerful ruler

oversaw Catholic church by filling offices and ensuring service

gave Carolingians influence with the church

Dec. 25, 800 - Leo III crowns Charlemagne Holy Roman Emperor

Charlemagne gains prestige, pope gains defender

Charlemagne encouraged scholars to study and copy classic works

source of much of our info of ancient empires

Carolingian Empire falls apart after Charlemagne's death

843 - Treaty of Verdun splits empire amongst three grandsons

Western Franks became the French

Eastern Franks became Germans

Feudalism

disintegrating central power changed social-political roles in Europe

Lord-Vassal relationship

Vassals provided military service to lord

Lord provided vassals with land and protection

fiefdoms or manors

local manors were worked by serfs

serfs subject to noble justice

provided everything needed for population

often included small village
Jewish traders provided rare items
wealth was necessary to outfit warriors
knights
relationships were complicated, spider web relationships

High Middle Ages(1000-1300)

Reform of the Catholic Church

papal power declined because of Italian crisis'
secular powers came to dominate the church
caught up in feudal relationships

Cluniac Reforms

monasteries rededicated themselves independently

Gregorian Reforms

Pope Gregory VII(1073 -1085) reformed the papacy
See Manchester

Pope Urban VII(1088 - 1099) developed church structures

Pope - cardinal - archbishop - bishop

Pope Innocent III(1198 - 1216) was the most powerful of popes

believed in spiritual supremacy over secular power
dominated French King Philip II and King John of England

New Monastic Orders

St. Francis est. the Franciscan order

friars took vows of poverty and traveled to convert

St. Dominic est. the Dominican order

monks who stressed scholastic work over manual labor

Sacraments brought the church into daily life

baptism, marriage, Eucharist, penance, last rites
saints and relics also took on large roles

Church began to punish heretics

Inquisition tortured and killed those who deviated from church

began by targeting new cults and Muslims

Jews were persecuted and killed in Western Europe

Homosexuality is condemned as a "sin against nature"

The Crusades

First Crusade(1095 - 1099)

French and Norman knights responded to Constantinople
reconquer Holy Land

Jerusalem falls in June of 1099

est. feudal style monarchies in Middle East

eventually recaptured by Turks

Third Crusade(1189 - 1192)

reconquest of Jerusalem motivates new crusade

Richard the Lionheart of England

some success but can't expel the Turks

Richard negotiates access to Holy Land for Christians

Crusades of the thirteenth century fail horribly
lack support of popes
Crusades served to stabilize Western aristocracies
also promoted economic growth of Italian city-states
1350 - Ottoman Turks capture Middle East
will initiate a new wave of invasions of SE Europe

Growth of European Kingdoms

England

Edward the Confessor(1042 - 1066) reclaims throne from Danes
Norman Invasion
William of Normandy and Harold Godwinson fight over succession
Oct 14, 1066 - William victorious at Battle of Hastings
William I organizes England as a classic feudal state
new king of England also Lord of Normandy in France
Henry II(1154-1189) expands royal power
brings Ireland into Great Britain
ruled Anjou, Aquitaine, and Normandy in France
strengthened royal treasury and royal courts
Henry's son, King John, faces revolt by nobles
1215 - forced to sign Magna Carta
jury of peers, no taxation without consent
Edward I(1272 - 1307) brings Wales and Scotland into G.B.
English Parliament is first established
formed to approve taxes
will evolve into legislature
House of Lords: barons and clergy
House of Commons: knights and merchants

Holy Roman Empire

German princes and lords remained powerful
Holy Roman Emperor elected by princes and pope
usually selected weak rulers
princes tried to extend their power into Italy, opposed by popes
failure left Germany in chaos as well
1273 - Rudolf of Hapsburg elected HRE
birth of powerful ruling family