

| Highlights Of Chinese History |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Year | Period | Development/Event |
| 1.6 <br> Million BCE | YuanMou Man |  |
|  | LanTian Man, Peking Man | Earliest human findings. Stone tools and use of fire. |
| $\begin{aligned} & 20,000 \\ & \text { BCE } \end{aligned}$ | Upper Cave Man |  |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { 5,000 } \\ & \text { BCE } \end{aligned}$ | YangShao Culture | Farming villages in the Yellow River Valleys, Painted pottery. |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { 2,500 } \\ & \text { BCE } \end{aligned}$ | LongShan Culture | East China and Central River Valleys. Wheelmade pottery. Divination and Ancestrial worship. |
| $\begin{aligned} & 2852- \\ & 2205 \\ & \text { BCE } \end{aligned}$ | Three Rulers \& Five Emperors | Mythical rulers, credited with inventing farming, building, medicine, silk culture. |
| $\begin{aligned} & 2205- \\ & 1766 \\ & \text { BCE } \end{aligned}$ | Xia Dynasty | China's legendary first dynasty. Emperor Yu, is credited with flood control and irrigation systems. |
| $\begin{aligned} & 1766- \\ & 1122 \\ & \mathrm{BCE} \end{aligned}$ | Shang Dynasty | First verifiable dynasty. Ritual bronze vessels and "oracle bones" calligraphy. Evidence of a relatively sophisticated medical system using acupuncture needles and medical observations inscribed. |
| $\begin{aligned} & 1122- \\ & 256 \\ & \text { BCE } \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Zhou } \\ & \text { Dynasty } \end{aligned}$ | Western Zhou later cited as a model period. Capital city near Xian. Confucius born in 551 BCE. Flowering in classical literature, arts, and |

#  



| $770-256$ <br> BCE | Eastern Zhou | philosophy; Confuciansim, Taoism. Lao Tze and Chuang Tze lived around this period. The first transporation canals were built. Internal alchemy, meditation, and breathing techniques were developed. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 722-481 <br> BCE | Spring and Autumn |  |
| $403-221$ <br> BCE | Warring States |  |
| $\begin{aligned} & 221-206 \\ & \text { BCE } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Qin } \\ \text { Dynasty } \end{gathered}$ | Unification of China. State walls are joined to form the Great Wall. Palace and mausoleum near Xian, standardization of weights, measures, calligraphy. |
| $\begin{aligned} & 206 \\ & \text { BCE- } \\ & 220 \text { CE } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Han } \\ & \text { Dynasty } \end{aligned}$ | Capitals at Changan and Luoyang rivals that of Rome. Buddhism enters China from India. Birth of Confucian civil service. Paper invented. |
| $\begin{array}{\|l\|} \hline 206 \\ \text { BCE-9 } \\ \text { CE } \end{array}$ | Western Han |  |
| $\begin{aligned} & 25 \mathrm{CE}- \\ & 220 \mathrm{CE} \end{aligned}$ | Eastern Han |  |
| $\begin{aligned} & 220-280 \\ & \mathrm{CE} \end{aligned}$ | Three Kingdoms Wei, ShuHan, Wu | Han generals divide empire. This period is romanticized as a time of chivalry and heorism in later literature. |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { 265-316 } \\ & \mathrm{CE} \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | Western Jin | China briefly united under one Emperor. Capitals at Luoyang, Changan. |
| $\begin{aligned} & 317-589 \\ & \text { CE } \end{aligned}$ | Southern and Northern Dynasties | Succession of numerous dynasties, including 24 short-lived ones, on the north and south sides of the Yangtze. Developing period for Buddhism. Cave temples at Dunhuang, Yungang, and Longmen. |
| $\begin{array}{\|l} \hline 317-420 \\ \mathrm{CE} \\ \hline \end{array}$ | Eastern Jin |  |
| $\begin{aligned} & 386-534 \\ & \text { CE } \end{aligned}$ | Northern Wei |  |


| 386-535 <br> CE |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| Bohidarma (TaMo) arrives in China. Shaolin <br> Monastery built and Shaolin boxing develops <br> in the temples |  |
|  | Continued on next page |

