

Paleolithic Era (Old Stone Age)

- nomadic bands of hunter-gatherers
- use of simple, chipped stone tools
- use of fire
- development of language
- creation of cave paintings and figurines
- burial of the dead

Neolithic Era (New Stone Age)

- farming and the domestication of plants and animals
- polishing of stone tools
- settlement of farming villages
- increases in types of activities, trade and differences in wealth
- pottery, weaving, and the plow

The First Cities and Civilizations

- irrigation leads to food surpluses
- development of division of labor
- rise of the first cities and civilizations
- development of government and religious institutions
- emergence of social classes
- invention of record keeping/writing

ECONOMIC SYSTEMS

**QUICK
FACTS**

Traditional Economy	People make economic choices based on customs and traditions.
Command Economy	A central government makes all economic decisions.
Market Economy	Private individuals make economic choices based on competition.
Mixed Economy	Uses a mix of traditional, command, and market economies.

MESOPOTAMIAN ACHIEVEMENTS

QUICK
FACTS

Sumerians

Developed the world's first civilization
Created cuneiform writing
Invented the wheel and the plow
Wrote the *Epic of Gilgamesh*
Built cities and ziggurats

▼ Sumerian model
of a wheeled cart



Akkadians

Established the world's first empire

Babylonians

Wrote Hammurabi's Code

CYRUS AND DARIUS

QUICK
FACTS

Cyrus the Great

- Founded the Persian Empire
- Conquered many lands
- Let people keep their customs

Darius I

- Created a standing army
- Divided empire into satrapies
- Built the Royal Road

Civilization Develops in the Fertile Crescent

Flat land and river floods allow farming.

Complex society with government and religion develops in Sumer.

Military empires conquer and rule parts of the Fertile Crescent.

Societies develop new laws, patterns of trade, and religions.

Main Teachings of Judaism

- Monotheism—the belief in only one God
- Justice and Righteousness—treating others well and always doing what is right
- Ethics—living according to a set standard of behavior
- Obedience—following God's laws as set forth in the Torah

Peoples of the Fertile Crescent

Sumerians

- Created world's first civilization
- Invented cuneiform and the wheel

Akkadians

- Built the world's first empire

Babylonians

- Built the city of Babylon
- Issued Hammurabi's Code

Hittites

- Made iron ornaments

Assyrians

- Formed a military society

Chaldeans

- Rebuilt Babylon

Phoenicians

- Traded across the Mediterranean
- Developed an alphabet

Hebrews

- Practiced Judaism
- Established the Kingdom of Israel

Persians

- Formed a huge empire
- Built roads

EGYPT**Location**

- Along the lower stretches of the Nile and in the Nile delta

Government

- Ruled by pharaohs aided by a bureaucracy

Culture

- Polytheistic religion with emphasis on the afterlife
- Mummification and extravagant burials
- Hieroglyphic writing system
- Distinctive forms of art and sculpture
- Major advances in science and medicine

Nile Civilizations**KUSH****Location**

- South of Egypt along the Nile

Government

- Ruled by kings who adopted Egyptian customs

Culture

- Religion borrowed from Egypt
- Pyramids built in Egyptian style
- As yet untranslated writing system
- Egyptian-influenced art and sculpture
- Powerful trading culture

Major Periods in Egyptian and Kushite History**Early Egypt**

- Upper and Lower Egypt develop.
- Menes unifies all of Egypt.

Old Kingdom

- The first pyramids are built.
- Pharaohs take charge of Egypt.
- Egyptian bureaucracy forms.

Middle Kingdom

- Egypt conquers Kush.
- Trade increases.
- The Hyksos conquer Egypt.

New Kingdom

- Egypt builds an empire.
- Hatshepsut promotes trade.
- Akhenaten introduces monotheism.
- Ramses the Great builds monuments.

Early Kush

- Kush conquers Egypt.
- Kushites adopt Egyptian customs.

Later Kush

- The capital of Kush moves.
- Kush develops an iron industry.
- A new Kushite culture forms.

THE VARNAS

QUICK
FACTS

During the Vedic period, Indian society was divided into four *varnas*, or classes. Members of each *varna* played specific roles in society.

Brahmins were the highest ranking *varna*, and the smallest numerically. Brahmins were Vedic society's priests and teachers.

Kshatriyas (ksha-TREE-uhs) were warriors and rulers.

Vaisyas (VYSH-yuhs) were the common people of Vedic society—traders, farmers, herders, and so on.

Sudras were servants who waited upon members of the other *varnas*.

FACES OF HISTORY

Chinese Philosophers

CONFUCIUS

551–479 BC



Known in Chinese as Kongfuzi or Master Kong, the man known in the West as Confucius was born to a poor but noble family. From a young age, he was an eager student, constantly asking questions in order to learn more. As an adult, he became a teacher, the first in China to try to make education available to all children, regardless of their social class. He viewed education as the only way to improve oneself.

As he grew older, Confucius held several positions in local government. He also attracted followers to his teachings. By the time he died, Confucius had more than 3,000 followers.

LAOZI

500s BC



Little is known of the life of Laozi, the recorded author of the *Dao De Jing*, the major work of Daoist philosophy. According to one ancient historian who lived four centuries after Laozi is said to have died, Laozi had served as the official historian for a powerful noble. The same historian recorded that Laozi once met Confucius, who was younger than Laozi and quite pleased to meet the older philosopher.

Some historians believe that the *Dao De Ching* was not written by a single person but by several writers over a long period. Nonetheless, Daoists continue to honor the memory of Laozi as its creator.

Compare What similarities can you see in the lives of Confucius and Laozi? How were the two different?

Two River Valley Civilizations

India

Indus Valley

- Urban civilization characterized by large cities, such as Harappa and Mohenjo Daro
- Uniformity of city planning and cultural elements suggests presence of a central authority.
- Traded manufactured goods with people of Central Asia, Arabia, and Mesopotamia
- Writing system never translated

Vedic Period

- Historians unsure where Aryan people came from
- Communities led by *raj*as
- Society divided into four *varnas* and hundreds of smaller castes
- Religious beliefs outlined in the *Vedas*

China

Shang Dynasty

- Developed in the valley of the Huang He with capital at Anyang
- Ruled by emperors
- Religion centered on ancestor worship
- Skilled at working with bronze
- Developed China's first writing system and a lunar calendar

Zhou Dynasty

- Took power from Shang, claiming authority under the Mandate of Heaven
- Learned to work iron, strengthened army
- Confucianism and Daoism helped shape patterns of Chinese thought.

Two Religions

Hinduism

- Brahman, the eternal spirit, created and preserved the world. Manifestations of Brahman called *devas* are active in the world.
- Each person has an *atman*, or soul. The ultimate goal of existence is *moksha*, the reunification of the *atman* with Brahman.
- The likelihood of achieving *moksha* is determined by one's dharma and karma.

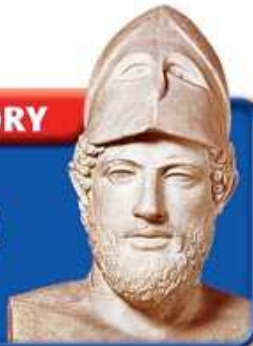
Buddhism

- Suffering is unavoidable for people while they are alive. The only way to escape suffering is to attain enlightenment and nirvana.
- The way to find enlightenment is to follow a life of moderation as set forth in the Eightfold Path and the Middle Way.
- The various branches of Buddhism teach different paths to reaching enlightenment.

FACES OF HISTORY

PERICLES

c. 495–429 BC



Born to a powerful Athenian family, Pericles showed interest in philosophy and art even as a young man. Once he had become an adult,

Pericles became involved with a number of influential politicians who were working to make Athens more democratic. A gifted public speaker, Pericles used his talents to challenge aristocrats who thought their money and influence should allow them to rule the city.

Pericles was a firm believer in the superiority of Athens over other Greek city-states. He was instrumental in forming the Athenian Empire and ordered the building of the Parthenon.

When the Peloponnesian War between Athens and Sparta broke out, Pericles devised the Athenian strategy of withdrawing inside the city walls. The navy could bring food and supplies to Athens even if the Spartans surrounded the city. Ultimately, that plan led to his death. Overcrowding in the city led to the outbreak of plague, and Pericles was among its victims.

Draw Conclusions Why is the 400s BC in Athens sometimes called the Age of Pericles?

CAUSES AND EFFECTS OF THE PELOPONNESIAN WAR

QUICK FACTS

Causes

- After the Persian Wars, Athens used its influence with other city-states to establish the Delian League. Athens took advantage of its position as the head of the Delian League to create what amounted to an Athenian Empire.
- Sparta and its allies, the Peloponnesian League, resented the growing influence of Athens in Greece.
- Over decades, tensions built up between the two leagues.

Effects

- Athens lost its entire navy, most of its army, and most of its allies. For a short time, the city's government was replaced by an oligarchy chosen by Sparta, though democracy was soon reinstated.
- Sparta became the supreme power in Greece. However, the Spartan army was weakened and was defeated by Thebes in 371 BC.
- In the 340s BC, after years of bitter squabbling among city-states, all of Greece was conquered by Macedonia.

GREEK PHILOSOPHY

QUICK FACTS

Three major philosophers who lived in Athens in the 400s and 300s BC laid the foundations for nearly all later Greek philosophy.

Socrates, c. 470–399 BC

- Sought truths about broad concepts such as truth, justice, and virtue
- Thought people could learn best by asking questions
- Believed that philosophers could study human behavior to learn how to improve society as a whole

Plato, c. 428–348 BC

- Thought philosophers were best suited to govern other people
- Believed that every material object in the world was only the reflection of a perfect ideal. For example, all the trees growing in Greece were only reflections of a single ideal tree that did not actually exist.

Aristotle, 384–322 BC

- Pioneered the use of reason and logic to study the natural world
- Believed that the greatest good people could perform was the practice of rational thought
- Contributed to the development of science, especially biology

Drama

Greek Drama

What is it? Greek drama included comedies and tragedies. Hubris, a disregard for the limits that the gods had placed on people, was a key element of the tragedies. A character cursed with hubris offended the gods and suffered as a result. In contrast, the comedies were hilarious, sometimes crude, observations on human shortcomings.

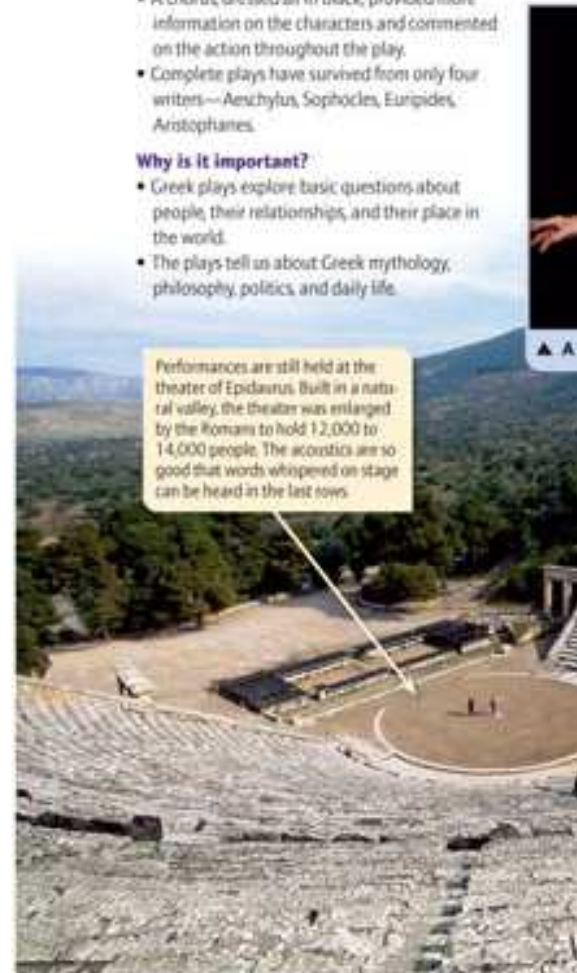
Key facts:

- Greek drama developed from religious festivals.
- Plays were performed in verse and accompanied by music.
- A chorus, dressed all in black, provided more information on the characters and commented on the action throughout the play.
- Complete plays have survived from only four writers—Aeschylus, Sophocles, Euripides, Aristophanes.

Why is it important?

- Greek plays explore basic questions about people, their relationships, and their place in the world.
- The plays tell us about Greek mythology, philosophy, politics, and daily life.

Performances are still held at the theater of Epidaurus. Built in a natural valley, the theater was enlarged by the Romans to hold 12,000 to 14,000 people. The acoustics are so good that words whispered on stage can be heard in the last rows.



Classical Greece

- Greek society was organized into independent city-states, each with its own government, laws, and customs.
- Two of the largest city-states were Athens, the birthplace of democracy, and Sparta, which developed a military society.
- The Greeks established colonies throughout the Aegean and Mediterranean worlds and came into conflict with the Persian Empire.
- Greek mythology taught that there were many gods whose actions controlled the forces of nature.
- The ancient Greeks, especially the Athenians, made huge contributions to many fields, especially the arts, philosophy, and science.

Hellenistic World

- Alexander the Great of Macedonia formed a huge empire that included all of Greece, the former Persian Empire, Syria, and Egypt.
- In his empire, Alexander encouraged the blending of native cultures with Greek.
- After Alexander died, his empire was divided among his generals. The result was three independent kingdoms, each with a Greek-influenced culture.
- Cities that Alexander founded such as Alexandria, Egypt, became great centers of learning and trade. Scholars in these cities made great advances in many fields.

Greek Achievements

Government

- Athens developed the world's first democracy.

Philosophy

- Classical thinkers like Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle laid the foundation for most later Western philosophy.
- Hellenistic thinkers founded new schools of learning.

Literature

- Poets wrote long, sweeping epics and beautiful lyric poems.
- Historians tried to record major events impartially.
- Athenian dramatists wrote the world's first tragedies and comedies.

Architecture

- The ancient Greeks built majestic and stately temples, like the Parthenon, that were characterized by proportional designs and the use of columns.

Art

- Painters used red clay and black glaze to create detailed scenes of daily life.
- Sculptors tried to capture perfect human forms that looked as though they could move.

The Roman Republic

- Founded in 509 BC after the last Etruscan king of Rome was overthrown
- Governed by the Senate, elected magistrates, and popular assemblies working together
- During the Republic, the Romans conquered Italy, Greece, north Africa, and much of the eastern Mediterranean.
- Problems within the government led to the Republic's breakdown.
- Julius Caesar, one of the republic's last rulers, gained great power but was assassinated by his enemies.

The Roman Empire

- Founded in 27 BC when Augustus became the first emperor
- The beginning of the empire was marked by peace and prosperity, a period known as the Pax Romana.
- The empire continued to expand in both the east and west, completely surrounding the Mediterranean Sea and becoming the largest empire in the ancient world.
- Emperors gained more power as time passed, making all important government decisions themselves.

Decline and Fall

- Political and economic problems began to threaten the empire's stability in the late 200s and early 300s.
- Emperors became absolute rulers to try to stop the decline.
- Diocletian divided the empire in half in an effort to prevent its immediate collapse.
- Barbarian invasions and other factors led to the collapse of the Western Empire in 476.
- The Eastern Empire remained strong for several centuries, developing into the Byzantine Empire.

Christianity in the Roman World

- Based on the teachings of Jesus of Nazareth and spread by his disciples
- Taught that people should treat others well and seek forgiveness for their sins to achieve salvation
- Spread throughout the Roman world, especially after Constantine became Christian
- The Christian church began as small close-knit groups and became more complex as time passed.

Rome's Legacy

- Engineering and architecture techniques influenced later building practices.
- Art and literature influenced how people thought and wrote for centuries.
- Latin developed into the Romance languages and influenced English.
- Roman civil law is the basis for many of the world's modern law codes

ROMAN EMPIRE AND NOMADS

QUICK
FACTS

- Had ongoing conflicts with German-speaking tribes living along the frontier.
- Used defensive walls, alliances, and military force to try to stop nomadic raids and invasions.
- Westward movement of nomadic Huns drove German-speaking tribes to invade.
- Nomadic invasions contributed to the fall of the Western Roman Empire.
- The Eastern Roman Empire survived for another 1,000 years.

HAN CHINA AND NOMADS

QUICK
FACTS

- Had ongoing conflicts with steppe nomadic tribes, such as the Xiongnu, living to the north.
- Used the Great Wall, diplomacy, alliances, and military force to try to stop nomadic invasions.
- Nomadic raids contributed to the fall of the Han dynasty.
- Nomadic invaders sacked Chinese cities and formed short-lived kingdoms in northern China.
- Chinese civilization survived, and the empire was later restored.

China

Qin Dynasty, 221–206 BC

- Founded by Shi Huangdi; united China for first time
- Strong, centralized government and harsh laws based on the Chinese philosophy of Legalism
- Persecution of Confucianists; burning of Confucian texts
- Standardization of laws, writing, weights and measures
- Many building projects, including Great Wall of China

Han Dynasty, 206 BC–220 AD

- Founded by Liu Bang; reunited China
- Government and society based on Confucian values
- Under Emperor Wudi, development of a civil service system and expansion of the empire
- Golden age of Chinese civilization
- Growth of trade over Silk Roads and other routes
- Spread of Buddhism from India to China

Period of Disunion, 220–589

- Shift of power from central government to local nobles
- Nomadic invasions by Xiongnu and others
- About 350 years of warfare and chaos
- Continuation of Chinese civilization despite disunity

India

Mauryan Empire, c. 320–185 BC

- Founded by Chandragupta Maurya; united much of India
- Under Chandragupta, strong government control with an organized bureaucracy and spy network
- Under Ashoka, expansion of empire, promotion of Buddhism, and building of new wells and roads
- Declined after Ashoka's death

Regional Kingdoms

- Division of India into many regional kingdoms
- North India: Invaders form small kingdoms; Kushan kingdom (c. 100 BC–c. AD 200)
- South India: Andhra kingdom (c. 100s BC–c. AD 300)
- Far South India: trade-based Tamil kingdoms

Gupta Empire, 320–c. 550

- Founded by Chandra Gupta I; reunited northern India
- Height of empire under Chandra Gupta II
- Golden age of Indian civilization
- Promotion of Hinduism and Hindu temples
- Declined in part because of invasions of White Huns

Christianity

Roman Catholic Church

- After the fall of the Western Roman Empire, Christianity was preserved in the east.
- The head of the church was, and still is, the pope.
- Monks and missionaries helped spread Roman Catholicism throughout western Europe.
- Roman Catholicism was the main form of Christianity in western Europe for centuries.

Orthodox Church

- The Orthodox Church separated from the western church in 1054 over issues of belief and governance.
- Authority is not centralized, and the pope is not the head of the church.
- Many countries have their own Orthodox churches.
- The Orthodox Church remains the main form of Christianity in southeastern Europe.

Western Christendom

- Establishment of small kingdoms by Germanic groups
- Anglo-Saxon kingdoms in England
- Alfred the Great and the Danes
- Franks in France, Christianized under Clovis
- Missionaries—example: Patrick
- Theologians—example: Augustine of Hippo
- Gregory the Great and power of the papacy
- Growth of monasticism
- Two types of monasteries—Benedictine and Celtic

Byzantine Empire

- Capital at Constantinople—well-situated for trade and defense
- Justinian and Theodora—territorial expansion, Nika Revolt, Justinian's Code
- Emphasis on religion in society and the arts
- Iconoclast movement
- Schism in church in 1054
- Golden age under Macedonian dynasty
- Decline due to internal problems and invasion
- Conquered by Ottoman Turks in 1453

Russia

- The Rus invited to rule over the Slavs on the Dnieper
- Kievan Rus under rule of Yaroslav the Wise
- Cyril, Methodius, the spread of Christianity, and Cyrillic alphabet
- Christianity made state religion under Vladimir I
- Mongol conquest
- Threats from Swedes and German knights averted by Alexander Nevsky
- Decline of Kiev and rise of Muscovy

CHARLEMAGNE'S ACHIEVEMENTS

QUICK FACTS

As emperor, Charlemagne made sweeping changes to many aspects of Frankish society.

Politics

- Unified Europe for the first time since the fall of Rome

Education

- Built schools and preserved ancient writings

Religion

- Spread Christianity among conquered people

Law

- Developed a written legal code

HISTORY CLOSE-UP

A Typical Manor

Manors were large estates owned by wealthy lords. Peasants and serfs lived and worked on manors. Most manors produced most of the food and other goods that people living there needed.

The manor house or castle provided protection from attack for all people of the manor.

Peasants worked on the lord's lands and also farmed their own. They had to give the lord part of their crop.

In return for the privilege of living on the lord's land, peasants often had to pay a tax on grain ground at the mill.

Even people's spiritual needs were provided for on a manor, which typically had its own church.

New farming tools, such as the heavy plow, and techniques, such as crop rotation, helped farmers grow more food in the Middle Ages.

Skills Focus

INTERPRETING VISUALS

Peasants and lords had different duties and obligations on a manor.

Compare and Contrast How was life on a manor similar and different for peasants and lords?

See *Skills Handbook*, p. H28

Political Changes in the Early Middle Ages

Charlemagne and the Frankish Empire

- Charles Martel leads the Franks to victory at the Battle of Tours
- Pope Leo III crowns Charlemagne Emperor of the Romans
- Charlemagne unites much of Western Europe into a Christian empire
- Viking, Magyar, and Muslim invasions and migrations bring change to the Frankish Empire
- After Charlemagne, the Frankish Empire declined

Monarchies Grow and Change

- William the Conqueror takes England by force and increases the power of the king
- Henry II and Eleanor of Aquitaine rule all of England and about half of France
- Magna Carta limits the English monarchy
- Hugh Capet extends of the French monarchy
- Otto the Great starts the Holy Roman Empire
- Christian monarchies in Spain and Portugal unite to drive out the Moors

The Church in the Early Middle Ages

Everyday Life

- Church officials serve as teachers and record keepers
- Religious ceremonies important to everyday life
- Christianity unifies most parts of western Europe

Popes Gain Power

- Replace corrupt bishops
- Threaten to excommunicate
- Raise armies
- Call kings and nobles to council
- Rule the Papal States

Monasteries Change

- Wealthy monasteries spark reform
- Benedictine Rule regains followers
- New, stricter, orders form
- Monks retreat from politics

Feudalism

Lords

- Provide fief, or land
- Offer protection
- Resolve disputes between knights



Vassals

- Provide military service
- Remain loyal and faithful
- Give money on special occasions

Manorialism

Lords

- Own manors
- Provide protection from attacks
- Provide land for farming



Peasants

- Live on the lord's land
- Give a portion of their crops to the manor lord
- Farm the lord's land