

Readings: Day 6 = chap 5 p.97-110

- The Qin Dynasty 321-306BC
 - Rise began in 352BC

 - Qin Xiaogong selects Shang Yang as chief minister
 - Believed in rule of law

 - Considered loyalty to state to be above that of family.

 - Shangs implemented reforms
 - Develops two legal theories: *Ding Fa* & *Yi Min*

 - Implements laws & punishments for criminal acts

 - Ends traditional feudalism

 - Creates new political elite (meritocracy)

 - Weakened nobility

- Grants peasants ownership of plots
 - Requires payment of taxes directly to state

 - Allows Qin to centralize their power over their people

 - Implements wide-spread military reforms

 - Creation of huge peasant infantry
- These foundations allowed Qin to achieve victory

 - Qin Shih Huangdi
 - Born Ying Zheng

 - King Zhuang Xiang; Queen Zhao Ji; Lu Buwei

 - Shih Huangdi's forces easily defeats last of Warring States

 - Took title Shih Huangdi - "First August Supreme Ruler"

 - Centralized authority

- Moved leading members of nobility to capital - Ch'anyang

 - Ordered entire civilian population disarmed

 - Replaced all local laws

 - Entire population was organized into groups of 10 families

 - Entire realm divided into 40 commanderies
- Imposed two of Lord Shang's reforms
- 1) Private ownership of land by peasants

 - 2) emperors agents collected taxes
- Also transformed very nature of China
- Public works projects

 - Universal spoken & written language

- Weights & measurements
- Trade restrictions removed
- Attempted to enforce intellectual conformity
- Book burnings
- Intellectual revisionism

— Emperor's Tomb

- Terra-cotta army
- Emperor's demise was far from August
 - He feared death
 - Obsessed w/ acquiring immortality
 - While on an inspection tour Shih Huangdi died

- Li Si & Zhao Gao conspired against Fusu
 - Selected Huhai - Qin Er Shi
 - Proved inept
- Civil war erupted
 - Qin defeated in Valley of Wei by Liu Bang
 - Declared himself Emperor – Han Gaozu
 - Founded a new dynasty

The Han Dynasty 206BC – 220AD

- Han were moderate & gradual
 - Reestablished feudalism
 - Reduced peasant discontent
 - For merchants

- Enlistment of Confucian intellectuals
 - Lifted ban on Confucian classics
 - Opened way for an intellectual revival
 - Blended Legalist principles w/ ethical standards of Confucianism

- Established bureaucracy

- Created examination system
 - Five Confucian Classics

- Han reached its high point under Wu Ti
 - Primary concern = conquest
 - Increased peasant taxes
 - Increased amount of labor/military service

- Imposed state monopoly

- Unleashed forces

— Pushed border to Pamir Mountains

- Justified expansionist policies as self-defense against Xiung-nu

- Reinstated wall-building

- Outflanked Xiung-nu

- Completed conquest of South China

— Pax Sinica

- As costs increased, taxes increased

- Problems increased

- Succession of weak rulers

— Brief removal of Han in 8AD

— Wang Mang seized control

- Goal was rejuvenation of society
- Sought to improve life of peasants
- Abolished debt slavery
- Redistributed all usable farmland
- Tried to solve economic problems

— Reform programs failed

- Powerful landowners rebelled
- Captured & executed Wang Mang

— Later Han Dynasty

- Warlords seized more power
- Widespread peasant rebellions

- 220AD the Yellow Turbans removed Han
- Overthrew of Hàn Líng-di
- Three Kingdoms period
- Chinese today remember Han period as a period of prosperity
 - Scholarship flourished
 - Confucius considered ideal thinker
 - Scholars produced *Shih Chi*
 - Also *Shoo Wen*
 - Han art
 - Technological development
 - Began to trade with barbarians

— Silk Road

— West suffered an adverse balance of trade