

AP WORLD HISTORY

Telescope or microscope
– or a bit of both?

5 THEMATIC PERIODS OF HISTORY

1. Foundations (8,000 B.C.E. to 600 C.E.)
2. Post Classical (600 – 1450)
3. Early Modern Period (1450-1750)
4. Modern Period (1750-1914)
5. Contemporary Period (1914-present).

Foundations (8,000 B.C.E. to 600 C.E.)

- ▶ Divergence vs. convergence tension
- ▶ 10,000 B.C.E. :
 - 5-10 million people spread all over the globe (diverse)
 - 10-15,000 languages (today: 5-6,000 languages).

Theme 1 of Foundations: Development of Agriculture

Conditions – when and why?

- ▶ 3 early agricultural revolutions:
 1. Middle East (barley, millet, wheat)
 2. China
 3. Central America

Theme 1 of Foundations: Development of Agriculture

▶ Paleolithic vs. Neolithic

▪ NEOLITHIC:

▶ More patriarchal

▶ Contagious disease more important

▶ Higher birth rates – subordination of women

▶ Largely peasant – rural villages

Theme 2 of Foundations period: Civilizations

- ▶ 3500 B.C.E. first civilization
 - Wheel, bronze, writing
 - Also nomadic groups

First Civilizations:

- Mesopotamia, Egypt, Indus River Valley (Harappan), Shang China (Huang Ho), Mesoamerica

Theme 2 of Foundations period: Civilizations

► Questions:

- What are the components of a civilization?
- What is the difference between a civilized society and a non-civilized society?

► FOR AP EXAM: know where each is and characteristics, go in depth into one civilization.

Theme 3 of Foundation: Classical Civilizations

▶ 800 B.C.E. – 600 C.E.

- China, India, and the Mediterranean world.

How are these different from earlier civilizations?

1. Geographically larger than earlier civilizations → expansionist

How are these different from earlier civilizations?

2. Issues of integration and convergence:

A. Stress cultural convergence / integration, especially for elites (i.e. Chinese use of Mandarin language).

Issues of integration and convergence:

B. Stress internal economic integration (i.e. China – wheat in north; trading for rice in south)

C. Integration politically – empires

D. Social integration (not as much though).

Issues of integration and convergence:

- ▶ E. 1500 B.C.E. – iron.
 - Use of iron used by the classical societies – another difference from old civilizations.

Collapse of Classical Period (200 C.E. to 600 C.E.)

- ▶ Collapse of Han, Rome, Gupta (in that order - 5th and 6th centuries).
 - Han – internal
 - Gupta – external
 - Rome - both

Classical comparisons

▶ Similarities:

- All agrarian
- All “Classical”
- All expanding
- All work hard on integration
- All patriarchal
- All: lower classes – most of pop.

Classical comparisons

- ▶ In all, the elites were comfortable with social inequality.

Classical comparisons

- ▶ Which society was the most distinctive in religion?

India

- ▶ Toward merchants?

China

- ▶ In military expansion?

Rome

Classical comparisons

Women and education:

- ▶ China: women were not to be educated – Confucius: prepare women for housework
- ▶ Upper class women in all had more possibilities
- ▶ Possibly Roman women had best education of all 3.

Classical comparisons

Women and property ownership:

- ▶ Greece – Sparta (yes), Athens (no)
- ▶ Better in Rome (late Republic)
- ▶ China – Women COULD NOT own property.

Classical comparisons

► Decline: Where was it most severe?

Rome (Western)

► Least severe?

Probably India → Gupta to 1947 – no significant decline in culture, economy

Classical comparisons

- ▶ China and Eastern Rome changed only temporarily – then same structures are put in place.

Classical comparisons

► Which of the 3 was most likely to encounter social protest?

China!!!

– Confucianism a double edged sword – higher classes deserve to be where they are UNLESS they don't take care of the people.

Classical comparisons – social protest

- ▶ Next, the Mediterranean
- ▶ Least likely to have social protest: India → Caste system / Hinduism kept you in your place with hope after reincarnation

Classical comparisons

Economic comparisons:

- ▶ Which was least effective in production technology?

Mediterranean

Slaves, latifundia (large estates),
Greek scientists separated
themselves from technology

North Atlantic Ocean

EUROPE

ROMAN EMPIRE

ASIA

HAN EMPIRE

AFRICA

GUPTA EMPIRE

North Pacific Ocean

