

Indus River Valley

- ▣ Indus = India (you cannot forget this!!)
- ▣ Indus River starts in Himalaya mountains & flows to Arabian Sea
- ▣ Himalayas natural boundary
- ▣ Unpredictable flooding



Indus River Valley

- ▣ Indus sites not fully discovered yet
- ▣ No kings/queens known
- ▣ Few available records
- ▣ Was largest empire until Persia develops 1000 years later

Indus River Valley

- ▣ Two main cities of the Indus Valley
- ▣ Harappa
- ▣ Mohenjo-Daro
- ▣ Both carefully planned & laid out in a grid pattern
- ▣ Structures built of oven-fired bricks
- ▣ Homes had indoor plumbing

Indus River Valley

- ▣ Archaeologists believe the 2 cities had strong organized government
- ▣ Food seemed to be in good supply
- ▣ City planning indicates development of mathematical skills
- ▣ Indus first to cultivate cotton
- ▣ Polytheistic religious beliefs

Huang He River Valley

- ▣ China's geography has isolated it
- ▣ Chinese developed belief that China was the center of the Earth & source of all civilization
- ▣ China to south & southwest hemmed in by Tien Shan & Himalaya mountains

Huang He River Valley

- ▣ China's history began in Huang He Valley
- ▣ People learned to farm during the Neolithic Age
- ▣ The yellow soil particles in the river give it its name "Yellow"
- ▣ Also known as "China's Sorrow" because of the unpredictable flooding

Huang He River Valley

- ▣ The flooding is due in part to the loess in the water that raises the level of the river
- ▣ Flooding has often been disastrous
- ▣ First Chinese in the valley to develop were the Shang
- ▣ Zhou overthrew the Shang
- ▣ Developed Mandate of Heaven idea

Huang He River Valley

- ▣ Mandate of Heaven says that the gods allowed a dynasty to rule until that dynasty got old & corrupt
- ▣ New dynasty was given new Mandate of Heaven to overthrow old
- ▣ This changing of dynasties is called the Dynastic Cycle

Time goes by; new becomes old

Dynastic Cycle

New Dynasty

- Brings peace
- Builds roads
- Land to peasants
- Protects people

Problems

- Floods
- Quakes
- Revolts
- Invaders

Old Dynasty

- Too many taxes
- No protection
- Unfair treatment
- No building

Huang He River Valley

- ▣ By 1000 BC Chinese had develop silk production
- ▣ Chinese also produced first books under the Zhou
- ▣ Also produced porcelain, writing, coined money and cast iron

Other Civilizations to Consider

- ▣ Indo-European Civilizations
 - Aryans
 - Hittites

Aryans

- ▣ Developed *Caste System*
 - Lighter skin, higher caste
 - Aryans blended cultures
 - Brought in Hinduism
 - ▣ Believed in reincarnation
 - ▣ Karma & dharma
 - ▣ Cows are sacred

Hittites

- ▣ Centered in Anatolia (modern Turkey, Asia Minor)
- ▣ Developed iron technology
- ▣ Developed the chariot which changed warfare dramatically

Other Civilizations to Consider

- ▣ Fertile Crescent
 - Phoenicians
 - Coast of eastern Mediterranean Sea
 - “Pop-Eyes” of the ancient world
 - Carriers of civilization
 - Created alphabet (“Hooked on Phonics”)

Hebrews

- ▣ Centered in the area of modern Israel/Palestine
- ▣ Hebrews are first monotheistic people
 - Torah is holy book (same as Old Testament of Christian Bible)
 - Abraham starts religion
 - God is Yahweh
 - Hebrews are God's "chosen people"
 - Hebrews have a covenant with God

Hebrews

- ▣ Enslaved in Egypt
 - Led out of Egypt by Moses
 - Moses presents Hebrews with God's rules known as 10 Commandments
 - Settled in modern Israel

Hebrews

- ▣ Romans show up in Middle East
 - Jews forced out between 75 & 135 AD
 - Known as period of Diaspora (dispersal)
 - Jews spread from Palestine to eastern Europe