Sui (589-618), Tang (618-907) and Song (960-1279) China

A Golden Age
Quick Partner Question

• What happened to the size of China from the Tang to the fall of the Song? What might have caused this change?
I. Introduction

A. Changes during Tang/Song
   1. Population
   2. Trade / Economics
   3. Urban Expansion
   4. Artistic and Literary
   5. Technological Advancements
I. Introduction

B. China that emerged from Tang and Song was more:

1. Wealthy
2. Bureaucratic
3. Urban
4. Cosmopolitan
II. Unified China

A. After fall of Han China

1. Unified by Sui
   a. Wendi
   b. Son’s ministers assassinate him in 618

2. Li Yuan, one of the government ministers, creates the Tang Dynasty
II. Unified China

B. Grand Canal

1. Built by the Sui
2. Connected north China plain (Yellow River) with Yangtze River basin
3. Control by North
4. Amazing engineering accomplishment
5. Increased Trade... HOW???
   a. Replaced Expensive Overland Routes
III. Commercial Expansion

A. Canal System

B. Tang territory
   1. Reopened and protected Silk Routes
   2. Promoted cultural exchanges
      a. Buddhism and Islam gain influence

C. Late Tang and Song increasingly used overseas trade
   1. Junks
   2. Dominate Asian South Seas
Partner Discussion Question

• From looking at the following pictures, what characteristics do you think set the Junks apart for other boats?
III. Commercial Expansion

D. Heightened Role of Commerce

1. Governments supervised marketplaces
   a. Set hours and marketing methods
   b. Guilds
      1) Promote merchants and artisans interests

2. Increase in Commercial Credit Forms
   a. Early banks (deposit shops)
   b. Paper money
   c. Government issued paper money (11th Century)
IV. Urbanization

A. Chang’an
   1. Tang capital
      a. Population was over 2 million
      b. Largest in world at time

B. Hangzhou
   1. Song capital
      a. Canals/Bridges
      b. Focal point for trade

C. Urban Growth
   1. Cities mushroomed and created
      a. Spread outside of
V. Weakening of Aristocracy and Rise of Scholar-Gentry

A. Tang try to weaken aristocracy – WHY???
   1. How???
      a. Distribute land to Peasants
      b. Eliminates aristocracy threat

B. Leads to rise of Scholar-Gentry – WHY???
   1. Desire to still have influence
      a. Must pass Civil Service Exam
      b. Later they dominate government bureaucracy
Partner Discussion Question

Who made up the VAST majority of the bureaucracy of Tang and Song China? Why? What are some possible negative results of this structure? How might you counteract those negative aspects?
VI. Family and Society in Tang/Song China

A. Examination System

1. Promoted most qualified
   a. Created bureaucracy

2. Confucian Classics and Chinese Literature

3. Open to all BUT???
   a. Birth and family status WHY???
      1) Access to learning and success
      2) Some commoners could rise BUT ???
VI. Family and Society in Tang/Song China

B. Buddhist and Confucian Conflict

1. Early Tang embrace Buddhism
   a. Empress Wu (690-705)
      b. Built over 50,000 monastaries
VI. Family and Society in Tang/Song China

2. Confucians claim Buddhism poses threat to China
   a. WHY???
      1) Religious Reason:
         a) Foreign religion
      2) Economic Reason:
         a) Monasteries
         b) Tax exempt
      3) Social Reason:
         a) Undermined social structure (Confucian relationships)
         b) Monks and Nuns did not participate in beneficial economic activity (agriculture)
VI. Family and Society in Tang/Song China

3. Persecution of Buddhists
   a. Destruction
   b. Forced to return to secular life
   c. Heavy taxes
   d. Confucianism
   e. Turmoil
VI. Family and Society in Tang/Song China

4. Neo-Confucianism
   a. What is Neo-Confucianism???
      1) Strengthening
      2) Leadership
      3) Exclusionary
         a) Who does it exclude???
      4) Reinforced social structure
VI. Family and Society in Tang/Song China

C. Women

1. Upper-class women
   a. Tang and Early Song

2. Subordinate... but women could:
   a. Divorce by mutual consent
   b. Wealthy women took “complimentary husbands”

3. Overall condition worsening
   a. Independence and rights ONLY for???
Group Discussion Question

• Why did the status for the vast majority of Chinese women get worse during the rule of the Song?
VI. Family and Society in Tang/Song China

4. Neo-Confucian ideas of woman
   a. Stressed roles – EXPLAIN
      1) Attacked Buddhist opportunities for women
      2) Excluded women from taking the Civil Service Exam
         a) WHY???

5. Foot Binding
   a. WHY???
小腳的腳骨

正常人的腳骨
VII. Inventions and Advancements

A. Economic growth

B. Engineering Advancements
   1. Grand Canal
   2. Explosive Powders
   3. Everyday items
   4. ???
VII. Inventions and Advancements

5. ???

a. Who uses this ???

6. Printing

a. Highest level of literacy in world
Partner Discussion Question

• Which of the Chinese inventions had the biggest impact on the world today?
VIII. End of the Golden Age

A. Retreat south
   1. Southern Song
   2. Ghengis conquers
      a. Survive after Ghengis by:
         1) Tribute
         2) Common Enemies

B. 1260 Kubilai Khan
   1. Defeats last Song emperor
   2. Begins Yuan Dynasty
IX. Legacy of the Two Great Dynasties

A. Strengthening
   1. Scholar-Gentry dominate over aristocrats
   2. Continue after fall

B. Chinese civilization
   1. North and South

C. Economy
   1. Dominant

D. Inventions
   1. Changed development of **ALL** other civilizations
      a. ???
      b. ???
      c. ???

E. Mixing new advances and changes with ancient traditions