

■ ISBN pg 64 title: **The Chinese Empire**

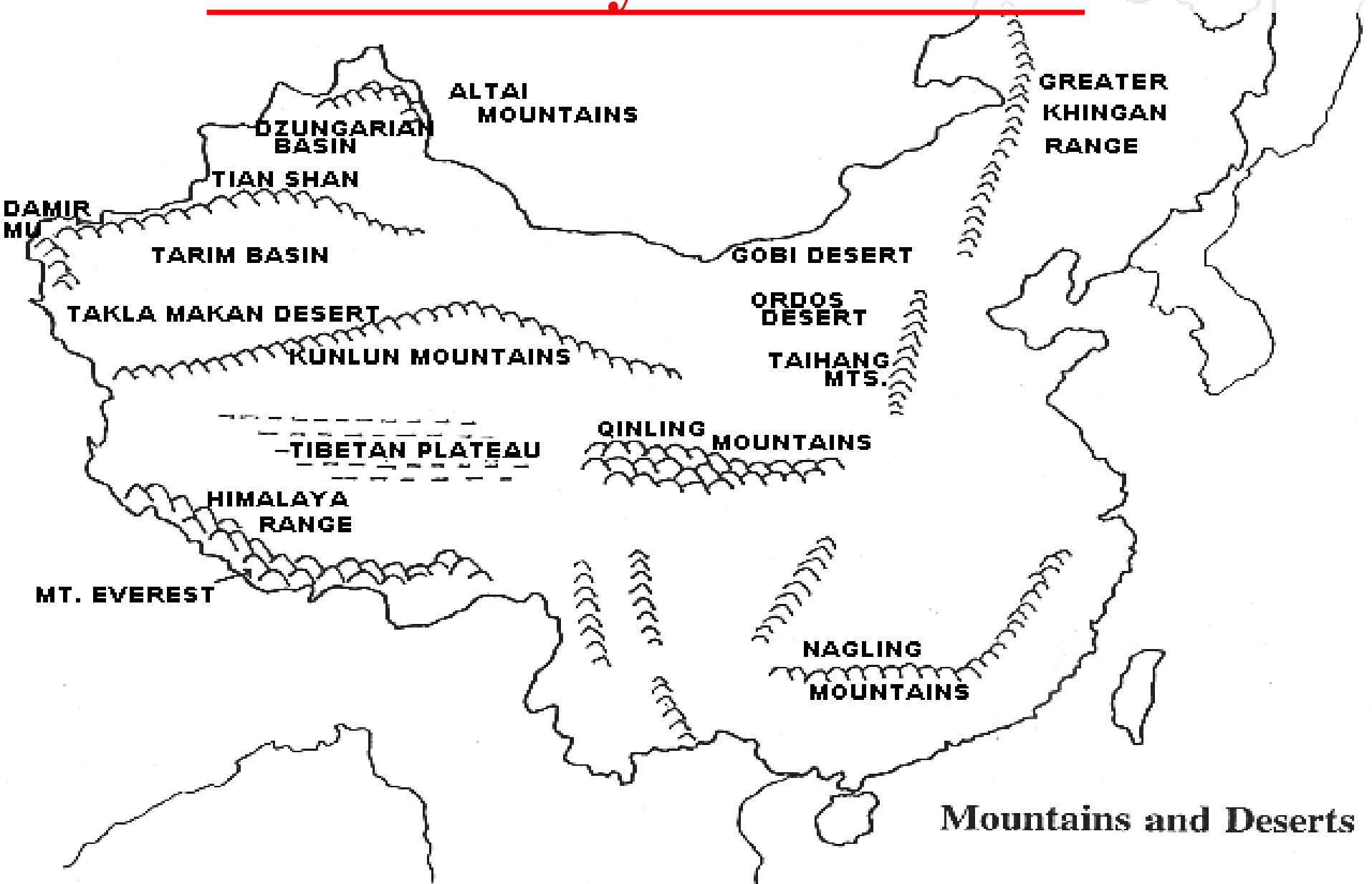
■ Preview: Define each of these terms about China:

— **Mandate of Heaven**

— **Dynastic Cycle**

— **Emperor**

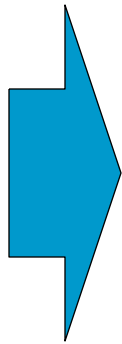
When we last visited China, it was a River Valley Civilization...



Mountains and Deserts

When we last visited China...

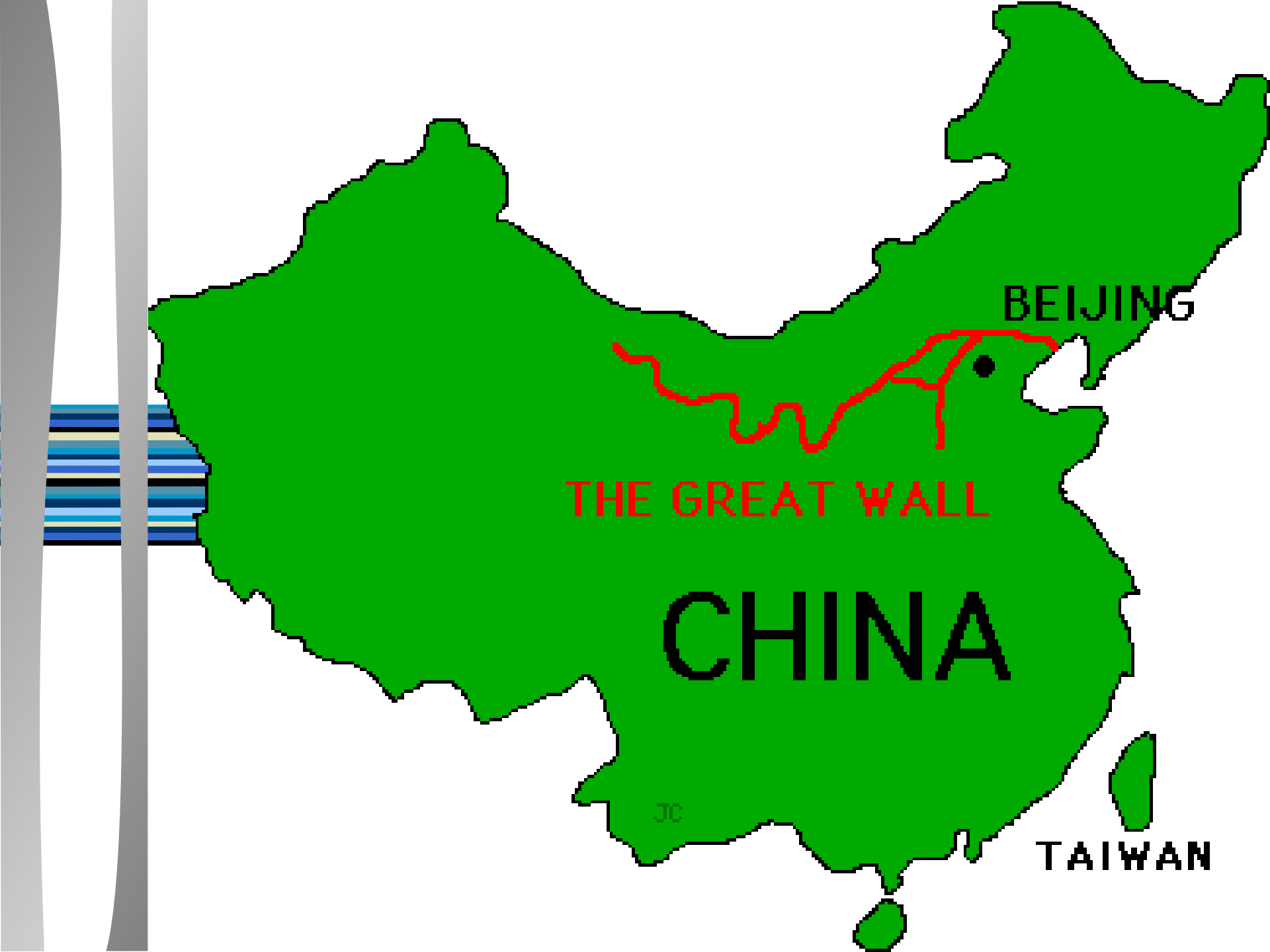
- **Mandate of Heaven**—rulers of China got approval to rule from God & ruled as families called **dynasties**



When we last visited China...

■ Dynastic Cycle:

- Ruler gets approval from God
- Establishes dynasty & strong, successful rule
- Dynasty grows weaker & appears to lose Mandate of Heaven
- New dynasty takes over & gets approval from God



BEIJING

THE GREAT WALL

CHINA

TAIWAN



When we last visited China...

- Silk Road connected Chinese trade with Persians & Mediterranean world; (over 4,000 miles)





...but China became a
Classical Civilization

with an
advanced government &
ingenious innovations

A New Dynasty

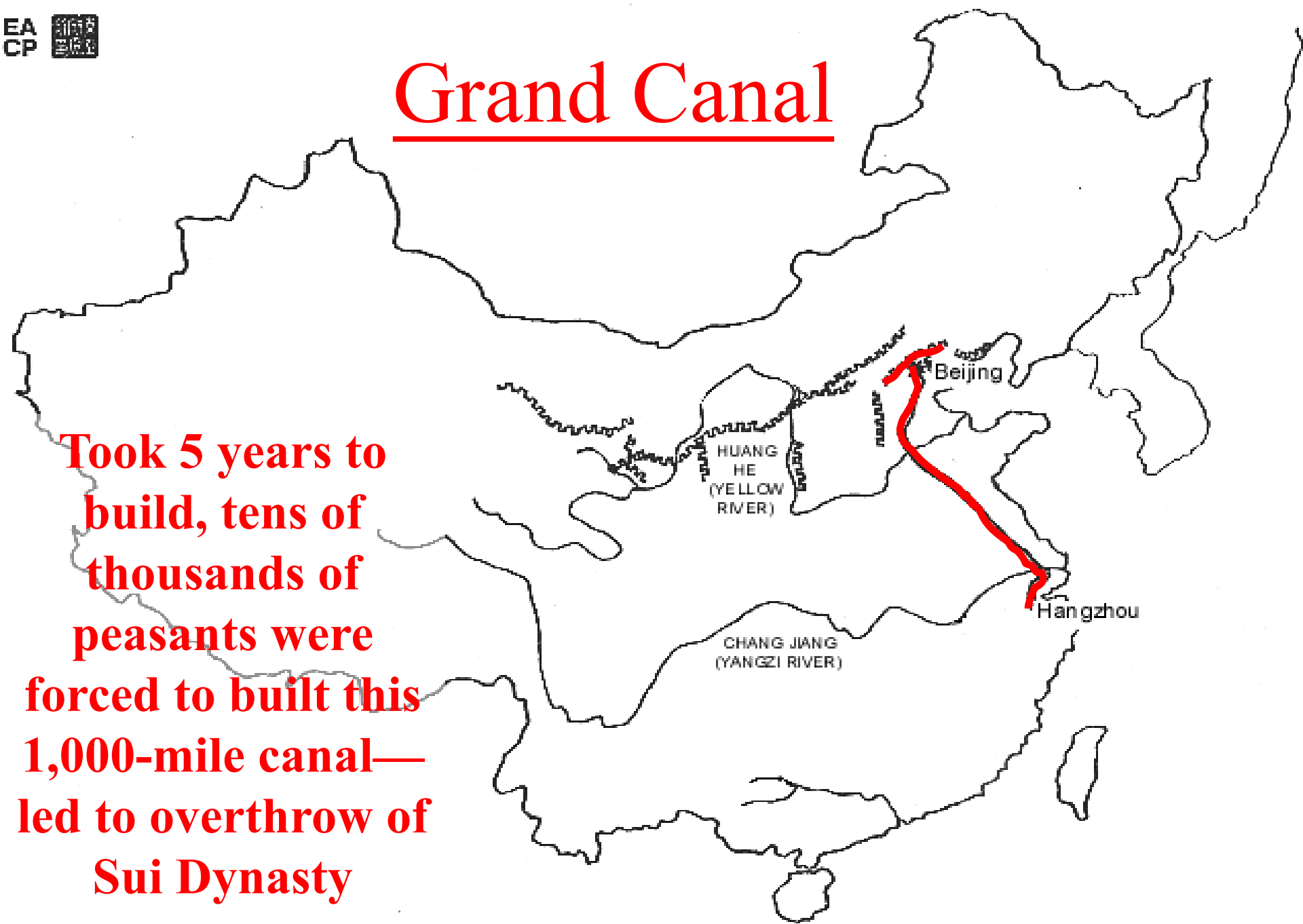
- Around the time the Western Roman Empire was being attacked by Germanic tribes, China was also overthrown by barbarians coming over the Great Wall in 220 A.D.
- For 350 years, China had no central government; but in 581, China was reunited under a new dynasty, the Sui (sway).

Grand Canal

- One problem in China was that kingdom was divided into cultural north & agricultural south
- Yellow River & Yangtze River both ran West to East, so travel was difficult to get from northern China to southern China
- The emperor forced Chinese to build 1,000 mile canal to north & south—known as Grand Canal

Grand Canal

**Took 5 years to
build, tens of
thousands of
peasants were
forced to build this
1,000-mile canal—
led to overthrow of
Sui Dynasty**



Grand Canal of China 運河



T'ang Dynasty

- After the fall of the Sui, the Tang Dynasty (618-907) ruled China.

Actors dressed like ancient guards, lay down a hanging bridge during an re-enactment of Tang Dynasty city gate opening ceremony. In Tang Dynasty, the city gate was opened in the morning and shut in the evening.



The Examination System

- Chinese emperors created the examination system to hire government workers like tax collectors & project designers
 - Very difficult test was based on Confucian teachings
 - Intelligence & talent more important than social status to get jobs now

Sung Dynasty & Cool Innovations

- China had a Golden Age under the Sung dynasty that lasted more than 300 years: (900-1279)

Created 1st paper money

- Traded silk & porcelain across Silk Road—made lots of \$\$
- 1st moveable-type printing press
- 1st magnetic compass
- Invented gunpowder



Gunpowder



Steel and Porcelain





But...the Golden Age
ended when the Mongols
conquered China

Mongol Invasion

- Mongols were nomads who lived in north China steppe (area of dry grassland) along with Huns, Turks, & other tribes; Mongols used horses & raised cattle & sheep; were excellent warriors
- In 1206, Genghis Khan united Mongols & used cruelty to expand into huge empire from Asia to Europe



Chinese Steppe





a typical modern day yurt of the Mongols

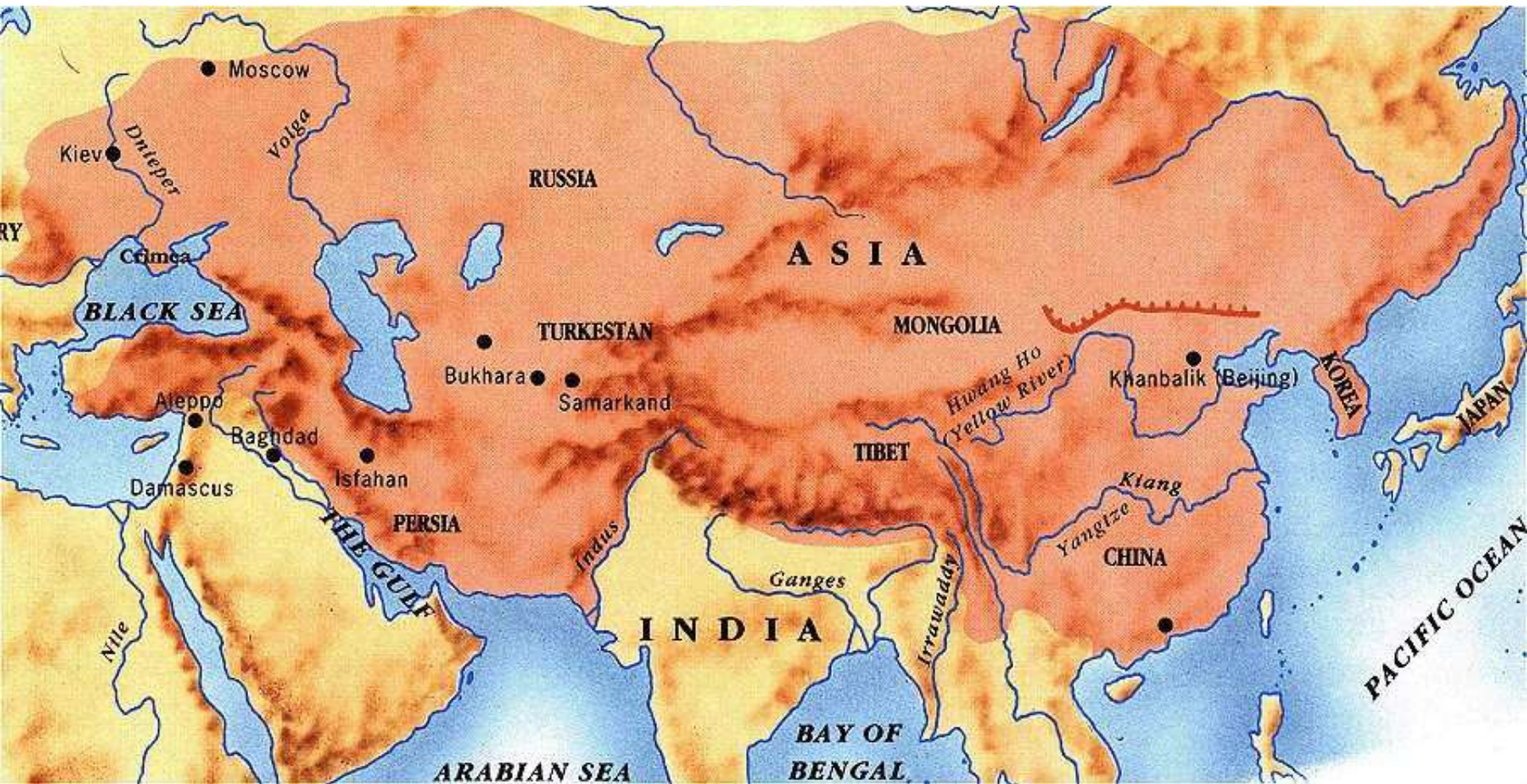
Mongol Invasion

- Genghis' grandson Kublai Khan expanded the Mongol empire & conquered China

- ~~Kublai was so~~ impressed with the luxury of China, he lived there & never left



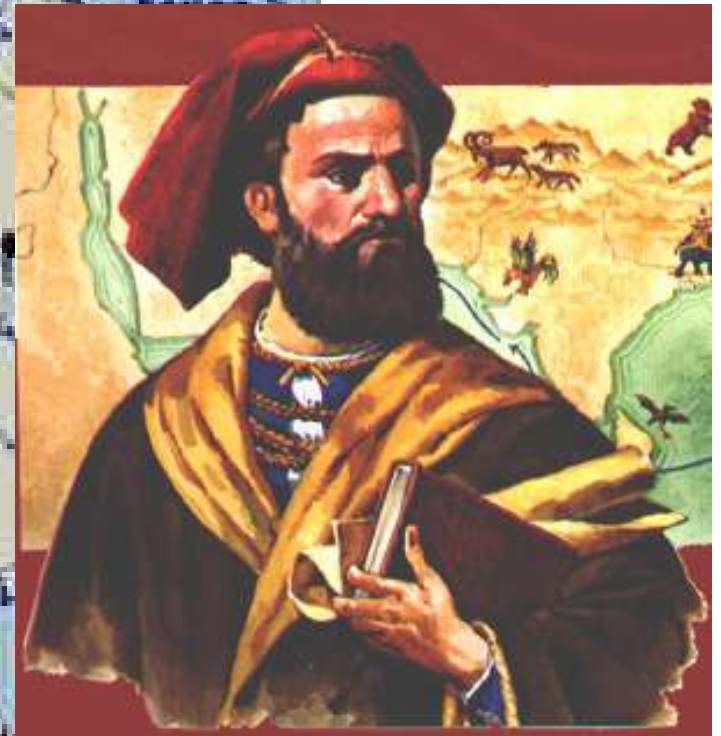
WOW!! The Mongol Empire is huge!!



Marco Polo visits Kublai Khan

- During the reign of Kublai, Marco Polo traveled from Europe to the “East”
- He was made an official in Kublai’s government & served
- When he returned to Italy in 1292 his stories were made into a book that led to great interest in





A New Dynasty Kicks Out the Mongols

- Mongol rule weakened & was taken over by Chinese; created a new Chinese Dynasty in 1368, the Ming.
- Built Forbidden City (Peking) where emperor lived to protect from attacks
- Emphasized education (public schools) & history (2000 scholars compiled encyclopedia of Chinese writings & history)

Symbolized power
and might of the
Ming dynasty!

Took
14 years
to
construct!

“Forbidden
City” because
commoners
& foreigners
were not
allowed
inside!





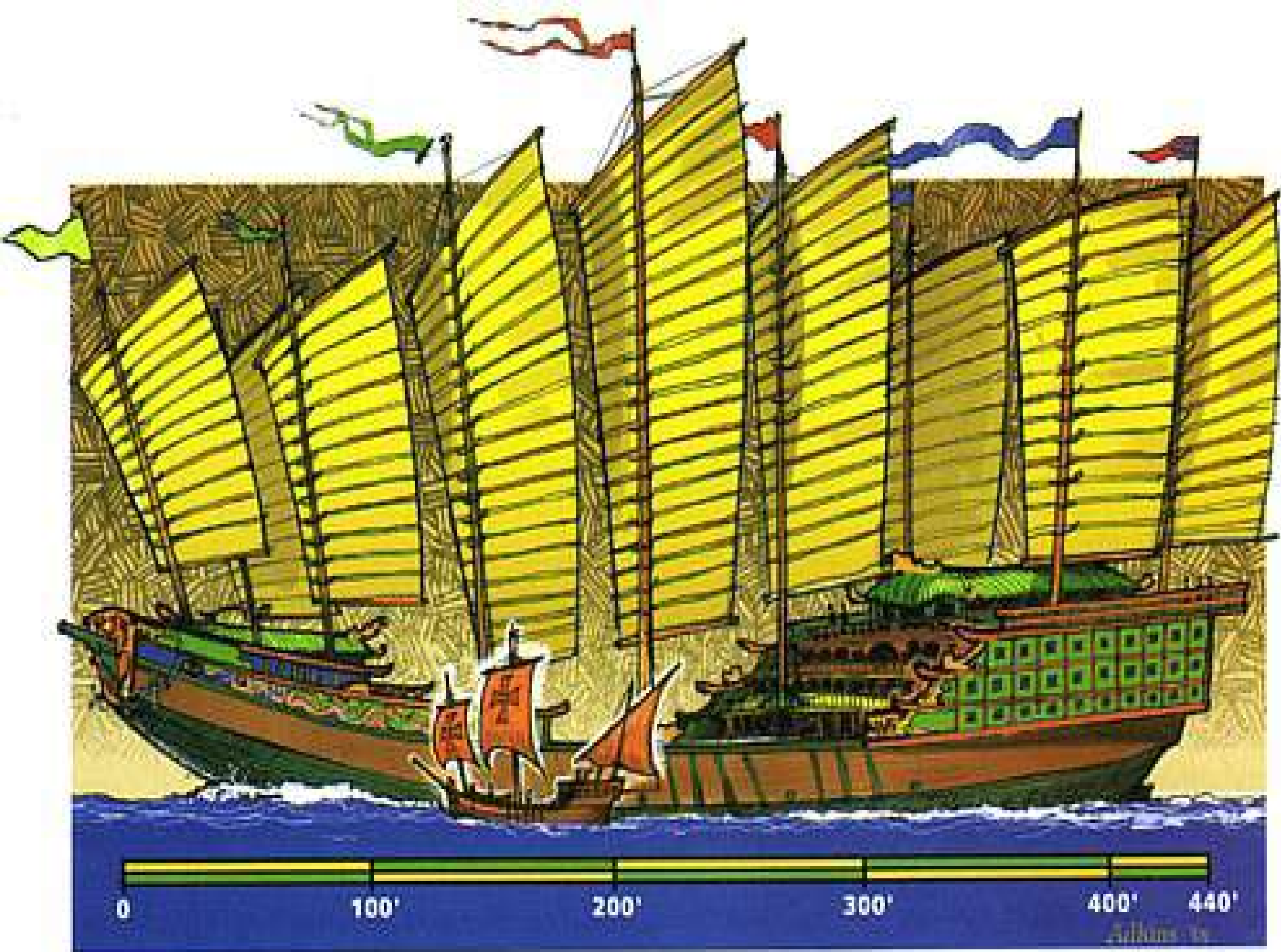
Zheng He & the Treasure Fleet

- During this new dynasty, China sponsored the greatest sea exploration under leadership of Zheng He.
- Fleet of 100 ships explored Indian Ocean & Africa to expand trade & collect tribute from foreigners
- Had better ships & traveled farther than any European explorers would for 100 years

Over 27,000
on crew!!



- Main route of all seven expeditions
- - - Route of secondary fleet on 4th, 5th and 6th expeditions
- . - Route of secondary fleet on 7th expedition
- - - Route of main fleet on 4th, 5th and 7th expeditions
- . . Return route of secondary fleet on 6th expedition

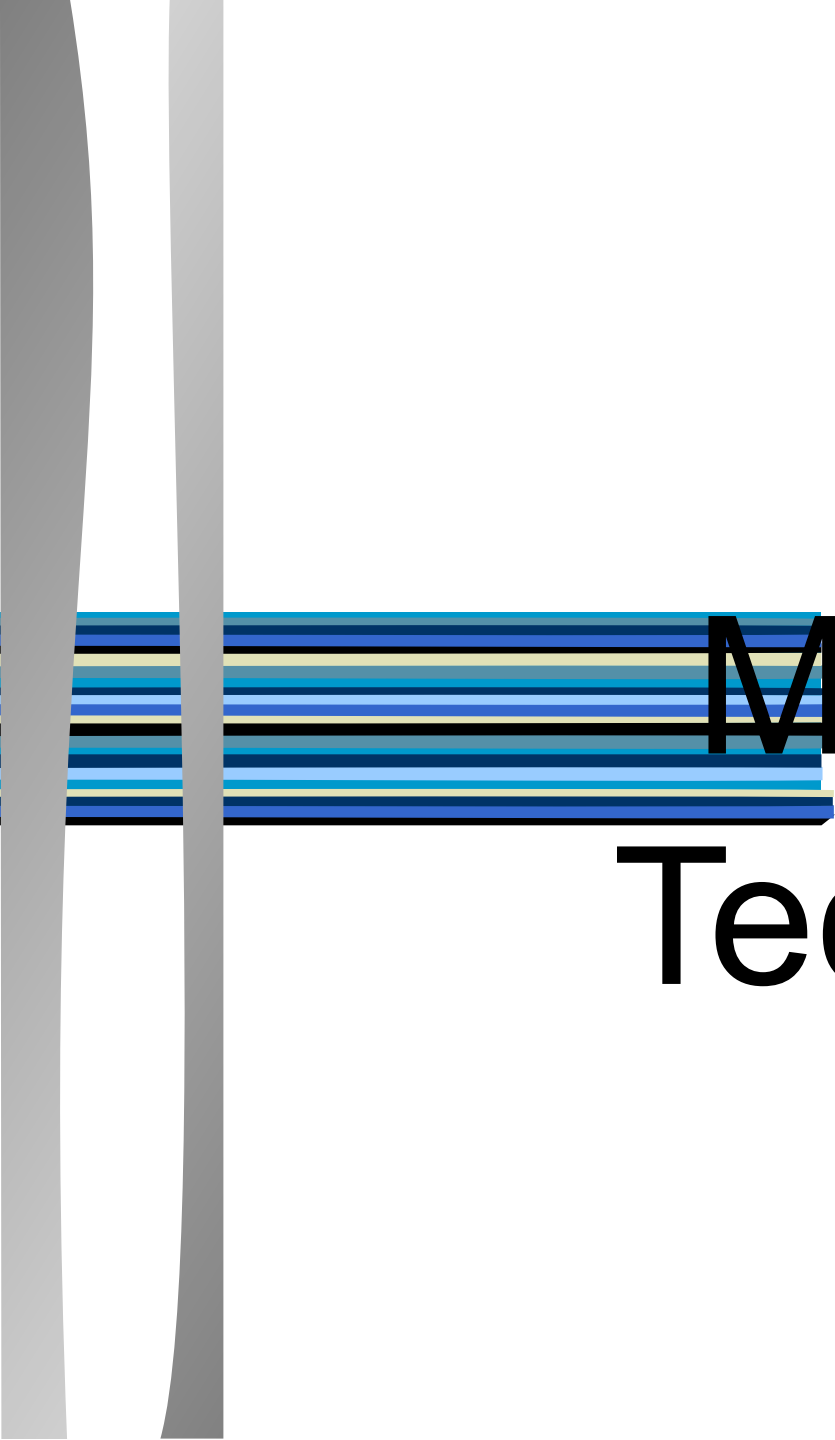


0 100' 200' 300' 400' 440'

Adkins Co.

Voyages of Zheng He

- Everywhere he went he distributed silver and silk to show Chinese superiority.
- Scholars argued the voyages were a waste of resources that were needed to defend against barbarian attacks.
- So after the 7th voyage in 1433, China withdrew into isolation.



Maritime Technology

