

# WHAP master timeline

## Period TWO 600BCE to 600CE

<b>600 BCE</b>	<b>Vedas</b> are written down in South Asia.	The sacred writings in the Vedas allowed the Brahmins to perform sacrifices and rituals. The heavy fees they required led to criticism and the creation of the <b>Upanishads</b> . (800-400 BCE)
<b>600-500 BCE</b>	Life of <b>Zarathustra</b> (Middle East)	Emergence of Zoroastrianism as a major Persian religion.
<b>600-300 BCE</b>	Greek rationalism (Mediterranean)	Emphasis on argument, logic, persistent questioning of received wisdom, confidence in human reasoning.
<b>594 BCE</b>	Reforming leader, <b>Solon</b> , wanted to push Athenian politics in a more democratic direction. (Greek city-states/Mediterranean Basin)	Broke the hold of a small group of aristocratic families. Abolishment of debt slavery, and access to public office was opened to a wider group of men. All citizens were allowed to participate in the Assembly.
<b>558-330 BCE</b>	Persia's <b>Achaemenid</b> Dynasty (Middle East)	Dynasty under which Zoroastrianism first flourished.
<b>557-530</b>	Reign of <b>Cyrus</b> in the Persian Empire under the Achaemenid Dynasty (Middle East)	Growth in power and expansion of the Persian Empire
<b>551-479 BCE</b>	<b>Confucius</b> /emergence of Confucianism (East Asia)	Thinker/teacher who provided the foundation for Confucianism to resolve China's disorder. Confucianism was eventually adopted as the official ideology of the Chinese state and became almost synonymous with Chinese culture. Became a central element in educational systems beginning in the Han dynasty. These educational systems prepared students for the series of examinations required to gain official positions, which required applications of Confucianism to specific principles. As a result, generation after generation of China's male elite was steeped in the ideas and values of Confucianism.
<b>539 BCE</b>	<b>Jews allowed to return from exile</b> into Persia by Cyrus (Middle East)	Example of Persia's general policy of respect for the empire's many non-Persian cultural traditions.
<b>522-486 BCE</b>	Reign of <b>Darius</b> in the Persian Empire under the Achaemenid Dynasty. (Middle East)	Further expansion and growth in the Persian Empire

<b>509 BCE</b>	Establishment of the <b>Roman Republic</b> in the Mediterranean Basin	Domination of patricians (wealthy class)
<b>509-287 BCE</b>	Turmoil between <b>patricians and plebeians</b> in the Roman republic (Mediterranean Basin)	Led to important changes in Roman political life; ideas such as rule of law, rights of citizens, absence of pretension, upright moral behavior, keeping one's word.
<b>507 BCE</b>	<b>Cleisthenes's</b> political reforms in Athens (Greek city-states/Mediterranean Basin)	Extended citizens' rights even further. All holders of public office were chose by lot and paid, and the <b>Assembly</b> became the center of political life.
<b>500 BCE</b>	Buddhism is founded by <b>Siddhartha Gautama</b> (South Asia)	Came to define the Indian way of life and shaped its interactions with foreigners in the future.
<b>499 BCE</b>	Ionian Greek cities <b>revolt against Persian</b> domination (Mediterranean Basin)	Gained support from Athens on the Greek mainland. Persians twice in ten years launched major military expeditions to punish the Greeks.
<b>490s BCE</b>	Romans gradually gain control over the entire Italian peninsula (Mediterranean Basin)	Romans launched their <b>empire-building enterprise</b> .
<b>490-479 BCE</b>	<b>Greco-Persian Wars:</b> Persians lose to Greece in failed military expeditions. (Mediterranean Basin)	Profound impact on Greece: defeating Persians was a source of enormous pride and led to a nation of an East/West divide. Athenian democracy was radicalized.
<b>479-429 BCE</b>	<b>Golden Age of Athens</b> (Mediterranean Basin)	Building of the Parthenon. Athenian democracy, flourishing of Greek culture, rule of <b>Pericles</b> .
<b>470-322 BCE</b>	<b>Socrates, Plato, Aristotle</b> (Mediterranean Basin)	Great thinkers and philosophers in <b>Greek rationalism</b> .
<b>450 BCE</b>	Creation of the <b>Twelve Tables</b> in Rome (Mediterranean Basin)	Rome's first written <b>law code</b> .
<b>431-404 BCE</b>	<b>Peloponnesian War</b> among Greek city-states (Mediterranean Basin)	Sparta took the lead in defending traditional independence of Greek city-states. Magnified the Greeks' distrust towards each other and made the vulnerable to external forces, Macedonia in particular.
<b>403-221 BCE</b>	Chinese age of <b>warring states</b>	A number of Chinese thinkers began to consider how order might be restored, giving rise of classical cultural traditions of Chinese civilization.
<b>369-286 BCE</b>	Zhuangzi/emergence of <b>Daoism</b> (China)	Philosopher who expressed Laozi's Daoist ideas in a more explicit fashion. Daoism, although contrasting with Confucian ideas, was coupled with and integrated into Confucianism by Chinese elites. Daoism provided an ideology for peasant uprisings such as the Yellow Turban

		Rebellion.
<b>338 BCE</b>	Macedonian conquest of Greece (Mediterranean Basin)	Achieved political unification of Greece but at the cost of much of the prized independence of various city-states.
<b>333-323 BCE</b>	Conquest of <b>Alexander the Great</b>	Widespread dissemination of Greek and Persian culture and stimulated the creation of the Mauryan Empire. Created a Greek Empire from Egypt and Anatolia in the west to Afghanistan and India in the east. Thorough defeat of the Persian Empire.
<b>330-115 BCE</b>	Persia's <b>Seleucid</b> Dynasty (Middle East)	Greek rule of Alexander's Empire. Zoroastrianism temporarily declined in exchange for <b>Greek culture's</b> flourishing.
<b>323 BCE</b>	Death of Alexander the Great	Divided Alexander's empire into <b>three kingdoms</b> , each ruled by Macedonian generals.
<b>323-30 BCE</b>	<b>Hellenistic Era</b> in the Mediterranean Basin	Widespread dissemination of Greek culture. Penetrated lands of First Civilizations.
<b>321-185 BCE</b>	<b>Mauryan</b> Empire (South Asia)	India's first large-scale political system. Had a population of 50 million, a civilian bureaucracy, and multiple industries.
<b>300 BCE-100 CE</b>	<b>Meroe</b> flourishes in East Africa.	Meroe had an all-powerful and sacred monarch, human sacrifice, and a variety of economic specialties. People did not need to concentrate around the Nile and were therefore less controlled by the capital. Meroe had long-distance trading connections and a reputation for great riches.
<b>300 BCE-900 CE</b>	<b>Cities along the Niger River</b> rise in West Africa	Cities, the most well-known of which was <b>Jenne-jeno</b> , emerged along the Niger with no corresponding state structure. They had clusters of economically specialized settlements that became occupational cast and acted as an African alternative to an oppressive state.
<b>268-232 BCE</b>	Reign of <b>Ashoka</b> in the <b>Mauryan</b> Empire (South Asia)	Created a philosophy of nonviolence and toleration for the many religions in India. Integrated the kingdom's economy. His policies were not successful in the long run, as the Mauryan Empire fell apart.
<b>264-146 BCE</b>	<b>Punic Wars</b> in the Mediterranean Basin between Rome and Carthage.	Extended Roman control over the Mediterranean Basin, making Rome a naval power.

<b>247 BCE-224 CE</b>	Persia's <b>Parthian</b> dynasty (Middle East)	Zoroastrianism flourished.
<b>221-210 BCE</b>	Reign of First Emperor <b>Qin Shihuangdi</b> in China	Launched a military campaign to <b>reunify China</b> and successfully defeated its warring states in ten years. Established Chinese boundaries far to the south into the northern part of Vietnam, to the northeast in Korea, and to the northwest, pushing back nomadic peoples inhabiting that area and laying the foundations for a unified Chinese states.
<b>206 BCE</b>	China's <b>Han</b> dynasty	Centralized features of Shihuangdi's rule remained, but the harshness of his policies were moderated. Rulers of the Han dynasty <b>consolidated China's imperial state and established the political patterns that lasted into the twentieth century.</b>
<b>200 BCE</b>	North India is <b>invaded</b> by Central Asia	Smashed state and prevented any large empire from forming.
<b>200 BCE-400 CE</b>	<b>Hopewell</b> culture emerges. (Americas)	Featured geometric earthworks, a wide variety of artifacts, elaborate burial rituals, and knowledge of astronomy.
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> century BCE</b>	Greece comes under Roman control (Mediterranean basin)	Served as a vehicle for continued spread of Greek culture.
<b>141-87 BCE</b>	Reign of Han emperor <b>Wudi</b> in China	Established an imperial academy for training officials for an emerging bureaucracy with a curriculum based on the writings of Confucius. This marked the beginning of a civil service system, which integrated the Chinese empire and lasted into the twentieth century.
<b>111 BCE-939 CE</b>	Cultural heartland of Vietnam in the Red River Valley fully incorporated into the Chinese state (Southeast Asia)	Chinese-style irrigated agriculture was introduced; Vietnamese elites were brought into the local bureaucracy and educated in Confucian-based schools; Chinese replaced the local language in official business; Chinese clothing and hairstyles became mandatory; large numbers of Chinese, some fleeing internal conflicts, flooded into what they referred to as the "pacified south" while despising the local people. Chinese presence also generated periodic rebellions by the Vietnamese, who became a separate state following a particularly large rebellion.
<b>49-44 BCE</b>	<b>Civil war in Rome</b> (Mediterranean Basin)	<b>Julius Caesar</b> appointed as dictator then assassinated. Abandonment of republic ideas/values: Rome was becoming an empire.

<b>27-14 BCE</b>	Reign of <b>Caesar Augustus</b> (Rome/Mediterranean Basin)	First emperor of Rome
<b>1-100 CE</b>	<b>Bantu speaking peoples</b> move southward in Africa	400 related languages were generated and brought cultural and linguistic commonality to Africa south of the equator, making it a distinct region.
<b>1-200 CE (first and second centuries CE)</b>	<b>Buddhism enters China</b> via the Silk Road trading network.	Stability and prosperity of the Han dynasty meant that Buddhism, being a “barbarian” religion, held little initial appeal. Following the collapse of Han China, Buddhism began to take root within elite and popular culture, becoming a permanent, fluctuating presence in Chinese life. It remained a link among China, Korea, Tibet, Japan, and other parts of Southeast Asia.
<b>1-200 CE</b>	<b>Pax Romana</b> (Rome/Mediterranean Basin)	Era of imperial Rome’s greatest extent and greatest authority.
<b>8 CE</b>	<b>Wang Mang</b> , a high court official of the Han dynasty, usurps the emperor’s throne in an effort to counteract the growing power of large landowners.	Great private estates were nationalized and divided up among the landless. <b>Reform program</b> included government loans to peasant families, limits on the amount of land a family might own, and an end to private slavery. These reforms were impossible to enforce, however, due to opposition from wealthy landowners, nomadic invasions, poor harvests, floods, and famines, which eventually led to Mang’s assassination in 23 CE.
<b>10-65 CE</b>	<b>Saint Paul’s</b> missionary journeys	Transformed Christianity from a small Jewish sect to a world religion.
<b>50 CE</b>	Emergence of <b>Axum</b> in Africa	Highly productive agriculture, served as a center of monumental building and the arts.
<b>100 CE</b>	Chinese traders reach <b>India</b> , a <b>fulcrum</b> of a growing commercial network.	Contributed to an increasing amount of commercial activity in the area and marked the beginning of Chinese access to the Indian Ocean world.
<b>100-800 CE</b>	<b>Moche</b> suffers extended ecological disruption. (Americas)	Made Moche vulnerable to neighbors and internal tensions, causing its <b>collapse</b> .
<b>184 CE</b>	<b>Yellow Turban Rebellion</b> (peasant revolt in China)	Contributed to the fall Han China. Reflected China’s issues: growth of large landowning families enabled them to avoid paying taxes, turning free peasants into impoverished tenant farmers, decline in the authority of the central government.

<b>212 CE</b>	Extension of <b>Roman citizenship</b> to all free subjects (Mediterranean Basin)	Roman Empire offered assimilation to its subjects.
<b>220 CE</b>	<b>Fall of China's Han</b> dynasty	Following the fall of the Han dynasty, centralized government vanished, Confucianism was discredited, Buddhism and Daoism attracted a growing following, and pastoral/nomadic peoples invaded northern China and ruled a small number of states that replaced the Han government. These new conditions resulted in some loosening of the strict patriarchy of classical China. Political fragmentation also signaled the rise of powerful and locally entrenched aristocratic families and the adoption of Chinese culture by northern nomads. In the centuries following, a Chinese migration southward toward the Yangzi River Valley occurred as well as a vast environmental transformation.
<b>224-651 CE</b>	Persia's <b>Sassanid</b> dynasty (Middle East)	<b>Zoroastrianism</b> flourished.
<b>250-900 CE</b>	Classical phase of <b>Mayan</b> civilization (Americas)	The Mayans advanced math and astronomy and developed an elaborate writing system.
<b>300s CE</b>	<b>Axum</b> (Africa) is introduced to Christianity	Linked Axum religiously to Egypt until the Islamization of Egypt
<b>300-400 CE</b>	Camel-owning dwellers initiate <b>trans-Saharan</b> commerce.	Made possible the journey across the Sahara, turning it from a barrier to an international trade route that enabled relationships among distant peoples.
<b>300-600 CE</b>	<b>Teotihuacán</b> influences the rest of Mesoamerica.	Tribute was exacted from other areas, and its armies gave it a presence in the Maya heartland. Teotihuacán placed collaborators on the thrones of other civilizations and also engaged in diplomatic relationships and long-distance trade. Many across Mesoamerica attempted to imitate the architectural and artistic style of Teotihuacán.
<b>301-500 CE (4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> centuries CE)</b>	<b>Barbarian invasions</b> in Rome (Mediterranean Basin)	Weakened the Roman Empire internally, making it vulnerable to collapse.
<b>312 CE</b>	<b>Constantine</b> converts to Christianity. (Rome /Mediterranean Basin)	Became <b>official religion of the Roman Empire</b> , ended previous persecution of Christians, and Christianity was used as a glue to hold together a very diverse population in a weakening imperial state.
<b>320-550 CE</b>	<b>Gupta</b> Empire in India (South Asia)	A short-lived imperial experiment that eventually fell apart, in keeping with India's pattern of competing regional states that rose and fell with some regularity.

<b>330 CE</b>	Founding of <b>Constantinople</b> as the “New Rome” (Rome/Mediterranean Basin)	New capital of the Roman Empire, which was now Byzantium.
<b>340s CE</b>	<b>Axum</b> conquers Meroe’s Nubian civilization. (Africa)	<b>Meroe fell</b> , and three separate Nubian states emerged, operating as a Christian civilization until the penetration of Islam.
<b>350 CE</b>	<b>Malay sailors</b> open an all-sea route between India and China through the Straits of Malacca (Southeast Asia)	As a result, the small ports along the Malay peninsula and the coast of Sumatra competed intensely to attract the growing number of traders and travelers journeying through the straits. Thus emerged the Malay kingdom of <b>Srivijaya</b> , which dominated this point of Indian Ocean trade from 670-1025.
<b>395 CE</b>	<b>Roman Empire split</b> into Eastern and Western halves. (Mediterranean Basin)	East: continued traditions of classical Roman Empire. West: Roman imperial order largely vanished, greatly weakened.
<b>476 CE</b>	<b>Collapse</b> of the western half of the <b>Roman Empire</b> (Mediterranean Empire)	Dissolved into a highly decentralized political system. Decline of urban life, contracting population, less area under cultivation, diminishing international trade, vast insecurity.
<b>500-1500 CE</b>	Bantu-speaking peoples create a variety of societies and cultures. (Africa)	Bantu religions ranged from those with no political specialists to substantial kingdoms. Their religions focused on ancestral or nature spirits and the supernatural. They believed in “continuous revelation” and had no missionary impulse.
<b>500-1600 CE</b>	A series of state, empires, and city-states are created in Western Africa.	These West-African ( <b>Niger River Valley</b> ) civilizations were monarchies with elaborate court life that drew upon the wealth of trans-Saharan trade and gained a reputation for great riches.
<b>501-600 CE (sixth century CE)</b>	Knowledge and technology for producing raw <b>silk</b> spreads beyond China.	Promoted contact across all of Eurasia, facilitating the spread of disease. Smallpox and measles devastated the population of both the Roman and Han China, contributing to their political collapses. At the same time, they strengthened the appeal of Christianity in Europe and Buddhism in China.
<b>527-565 CE</b>	Reign of <b>Justinian</b> in Rome (Mediterranean Rome)	Attempted reconquest of Western Roman Empire.
<b>552-965 CE</b>	Turkic-speaking nomads migrate from Mongolia (Central Asia) to the south.	China, Persia, and Byzantium were either raided or allied with Turks; facilitated the spread of Turkic language and culture.
<b>570-632 CE</b>	Life of <b>Muhammad</b> (Middle East)	Birth of Islam as a world religion.

572-622 CE	Shotoku Taishi (Japan)	Japanese leader who was the first to set out to systematically transform Japan into a <b>centralized bureaucratic state</b> on the Chinese model. Sent hundreds of Japanese monks, scholars, artists, and students to mainland China to practice what they learned, issued the Seventeen Article Constitution to encourage Buddhism and Confucianism. In the following decades, court rituals, a system of court ranking for officials became based on Chinese models, the Chinese calendar was adopted, and two capital cities, Nara and Heian, were modeled on the Chinese capital Chang'an.
581-604 CE	Reign of Sui dynasty emperor <b>Wendi</b>	Used Buddhism to justify military campaigns, identified the religion with Chinese culture, and constructed monasteries at the base of China's five sacred mountains. As a result, <b>Buddhism</b> during Sui's reign began to acquire state support.
589-618 CE	China's <b>Sui</b> dynasty	China regained its <b>unity</b> . Emperors solidified that unity by vastly extending the country's canal system, which linked northern and southern China economically and contributed much to the prosperity that followed. However, the ruthlessness of Sui emperors and an unsuccessful military campaigns to conquer Korea exhausted the state's resources and alienated many people, prompting the overthrow of the dynasty.