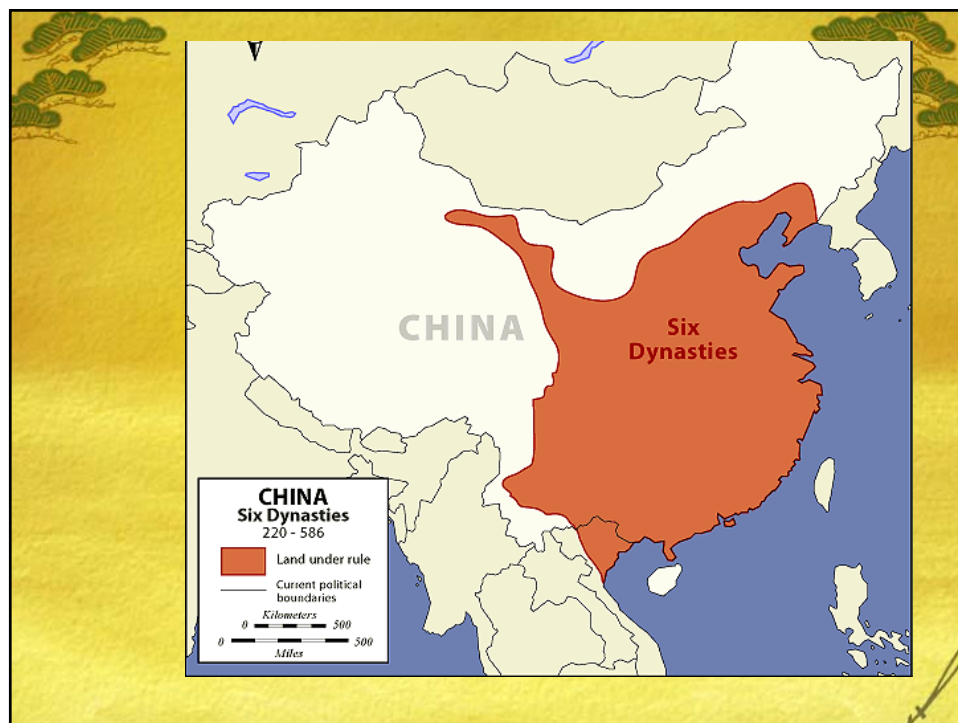


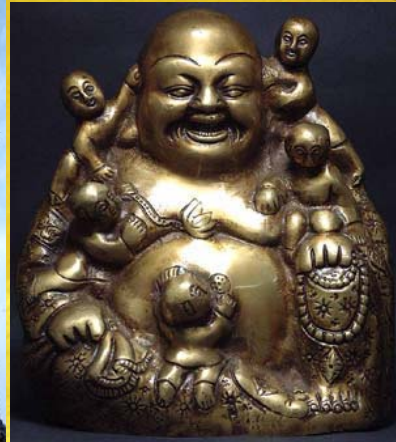
AFTER THE HAN

- Called **Era of Division** or **Six Dynasties Period**—all est. capitals at **Nanjing**
- Period marked by nomadic domination & economic decline
- Confucianism replaced by Buddhism
- Trade & cities decline as nation is decentralized



Spread of Buddhism in China

- Buddhist missionaries spread the faith during this period
- Priests infused Taoist & Confucian principals with the faith—was successful
- Unlike Christianity, it spread from the rich to the poor; provided a synthesis of 3 faiths
- **Mahayana** Buddhism the most prevalent



Foreign Influence & Innovation

- Chinese engage in cross-cultural exchanges during this time; very uncharacteristic
- Tea was 1st imported, later to become a MAJOR cash crop
- Chinese innovators improve gunpowder, porcelain; invent the wheelbarrow
- 1st widespread use of coal as a fuel



Sui Dynasty—A Near Miss

- Founded by **Wen-di** in 581 CE;Est. grain & salt surpluses
- Further centralized under hisSon, **Yang-di**
- Yang-di lavished the nation with expensive public works (i.e. **Grand Canal** & palaces) that required conscript/slave labor
- Waste would lead to quick demise of **Sui**



Tang Dynasty—Getting it Right

- Founded by **Li Yuan**
c.618

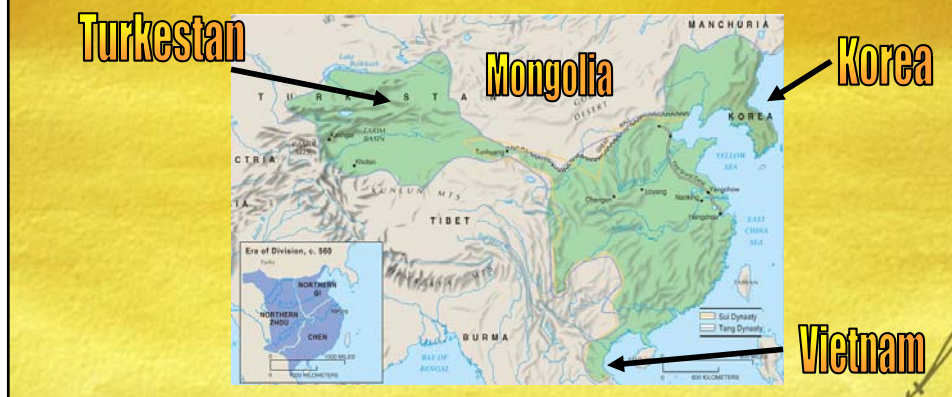
- Took advantage of peasant unrest and rebelled against the Sui



- Immediately began efforts to reestablish Chinese dominance throughout Asia.
- Tang were able to enjoy the structural advances & centralization brought forth by the Sui; regarded as a period of Renaissance

Building A Bigger, Better Empire

- Tang exploited trade along the Silk Road, established territories in Central Asia to protect the goods traveling back & forth



Tang-Song Commercial Revolution

- Initially due to population Growth; tripled in the South
- Agricultural infrastructure was strengthened to allow this growth; technology advances
- Improved irrigation; new strains of fast growing rice (Champa rice from Vietnam)
- Larger population began to rely on cash crops, including cotton and tea



Land Reforms Fuel the Economy

- Land reforms would allow peasants a greater degree of economic freedom than before

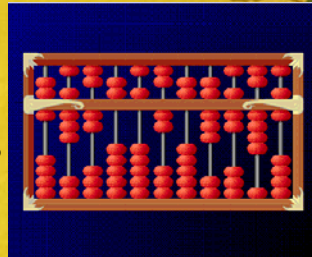


- **Equal Field** system divided land among peasants in return for taxes in grain, textiles, labor (20 days a year), & military service

- Agricultural boom would feed economic innovation in the cities

Tang-Song Commercial Revolution

- China had finished goods to trade as well, incl. silk textiles, lacquered goods & porcelain



- Abacus allowed for more complicated accounting practices; bigger business

- Renewed government centralization allowed for a greater degree of economic organization

Interregional Trade & the Merchants

- Merchants would gain more acceptance as the scholar-gentry became actively involved in commerce
- Merchants could even join the gentry class
- Merchants would foster regional specialization in goods; took advantage of existing infrastructure (roads, Grand Canal)
- No longer limited to govt. marketplaces

Trading Guilds (Hang) & Currency

- Trading guilds (hang) handled the transport & sale of grain, salt, tea, and silk
- Merchant banks 1st issued currency; credit vouchers
- Govt. would issue paper currency of its own; **flying money** vouchers

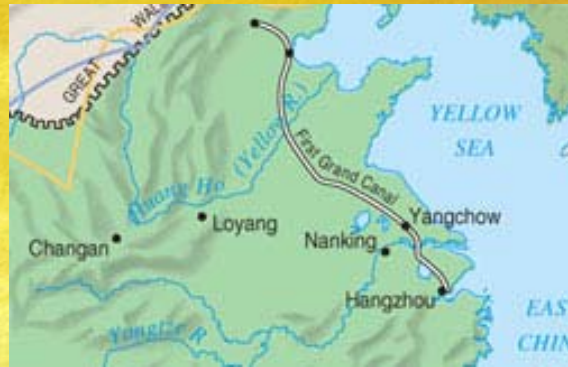


Rise of Commercial Capitals

- **Changan & Hangzhou** became commercial centers; early industrial centers

- Urban population grows to nearly 10%

- **Hangzhou** was an important port city; had goods from all over the world



Song City Life—Spring Festival Scroll



Industrial Production

- Silk/cotton textiles, metal, ceramics and printing industries important
- Govt. benefits from increased tax revenues; population benefits from increased economic opportunities in the major cities
- Plantations industrialize agricultural prod.
- Govt continues to subsidize **grain & salt** prices to ensure their accessibility

Rise of Commercial Capitals

- Chinese **junks** would cross the same waters as Arab **dhow**s



- Trade with India & (eventually) the Swahili Coast was vibrant; into Malaysia & Indo.
- Compass allowed for more complex navigation, technology transferred to Arabs

Buddhism Takes A Beating

- Daoist & Confucian officials resent the tax & military exemptions for Buddhist monasteries



- **Wuzong** c.845 persecutes Buddhists; monks forced to abandon land and monasticism

- Monasteries permanently lost their influence over politics, but the faith would endure

Rise of Neo-Confucianism

- Revival of Confucian principals during Song

- Wary of foreign faiths (i.e. Buddhism)

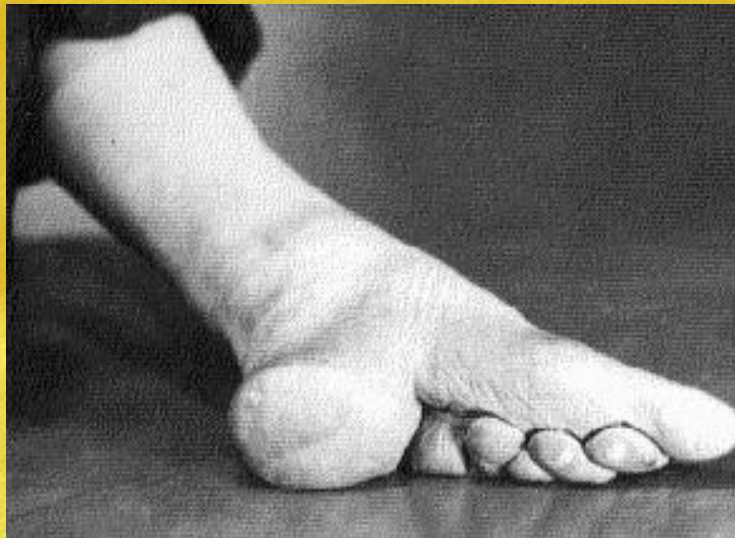
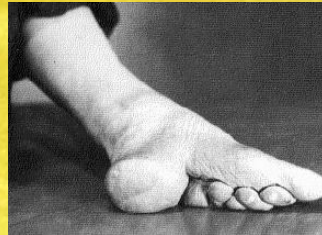
- Emphasized tradition and the pursuit of virtuous morality through ancient texts and the teachings of wise men

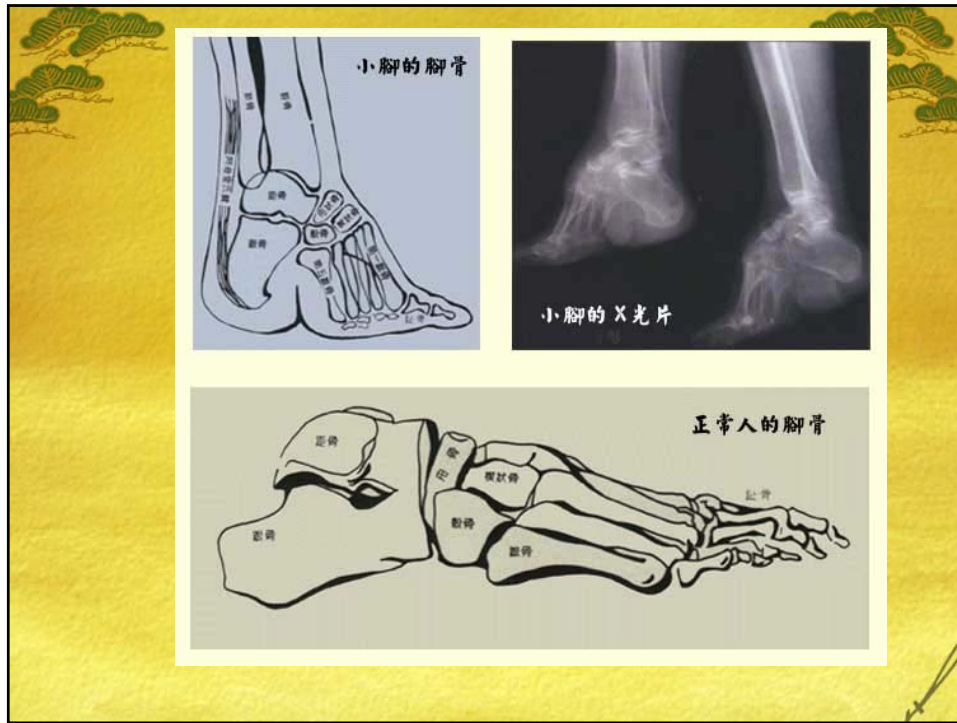
- Stressed Confucian social stratification!

- The past is man's best example for future

Neo-Confucian Ideas About Women

- Women were to be homemakers and mothers; Buddhist notions of a “career” woman discouraged
- Practice of **footbinding** personified subjugation of women
- Curtailed movement; was a source of beauty
- Rich & poor participated





The Visual Arts of the Tang-Song Era

- Landscape art became very popular; dedicated to natural depictions

This section features two traditional Chinese landscape paintings. The larger painting on the left is a horizontal scroll painting in ink and light color, depicting a figure standing under a large, gnarled tree with a weeping willow branch. A small inscription in vertical Chinese characters is visible in the upper right corner of the painting. The smaller painting on the right is a vertical scroll painting, showing a misty landscape with a prominent rock formation and a small structure, rendered in a more textured style.

The Poetry of Li Bo

- Landscape art was complimented by the literary style of the time
- Poetry commonly included natural imagery
- Li Bo** is commonly referred to as a master poet of the time



CLEARING AT DAWN

The fields are chill, the sparse rain has
stopped;
The colors of Spring teem on every side.
With leaping fish the blue pond is full;
With singing thrushes the green boughs droop.
The flowers of the field have dabbled their
powdered cheeks; The mountain grasses are
bent level at the waist.
By the bamboo stream the last fragment of
cloud
Blown by the wind slowly scatters away.
--Li Bo

Music of the Tang-Song Era

- The music of the era also contained an emphasis on the natural world
- Used a combination of wood-wind, string, and percussion instruments



An Era of Invention & Innovation

- The advent of **movable woodblock mass printing** during Tang-Song Era increased literacy and preserved Chinese writings
- Later the technology is transferred from China To Dar al-Islam to Europe by the 16th c. (Gutenberg Press)
- Japanese add color to traditional printing



An Era of Invention & Innovation

- Gunpowder was further developed; use moved from fireworks to simple offensive missiles
- Use of coal introduced
- Arch & suspension bridge engineering influenced other countries