

Unit # 3: The Rise of Civilizations

Announcements

- Midterm handed out next Thurs.
 - Terms and study guide posted by Monday
 - Review Thursday bring questions!
 - Due with assignment folders 5/16
 - Art on campus assignment and (2) article
 - write ups due in folders– don't forget !!
 - Assignment folder update by Monday also

Wrap up Unit 2

- Earth map update

Unit 3 Lecture:

- Classic Period –
- The rise of the great civilizations
- Chinese Landscape Painting

Video write up – *The Art of Chinese Landscape*



Unit 3: Rise of Civilizations



Unit 3 Lecture Concepts

- **Classic Period:**
 - Cultural impacts of agriculture
 - The rise of the great civilizations
 - What is a civilization?
- **Chinese Landscape Painting**
 - Characteristics
 - Philosophy and process
- **Middle Ages:**
 - Rise of Organized Religion
 - artwork

Unit 3 Activities

- **Connections Concept Map**
 - Classic period
 - Middle ages
- **Video write up**
 - Chinese landscape painting
- **Earth map update**

Unit 3 terms

Civilization

frieze

Polytheism

Seal or stamp

Silk road

Illuminated manuscripts

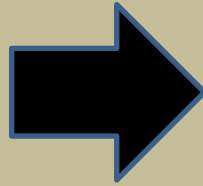
Life way shift

CCM2A. Neolithic era

11,500 – 3,000 years ago

★ **Beginnings of agriculture**

- Shifting ag. in forested areas
- Subsistence agriculture
- Primarily H/G and nomadic pastoralists, agric. supplementary
- Bone, stone and wood
- Energy – human and animal
- Subsistence



CCM3A. Classic period

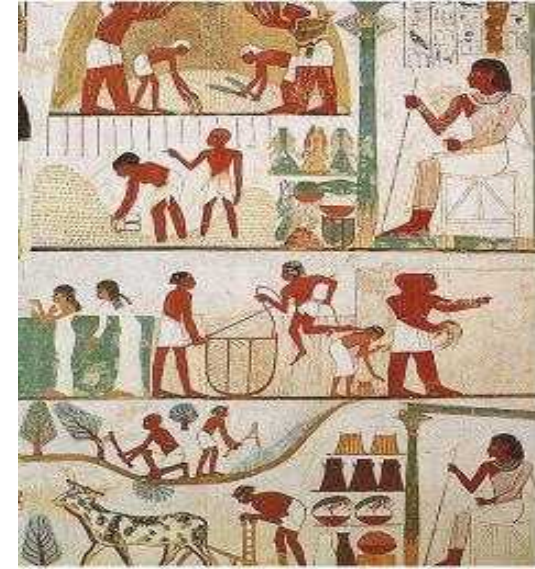
3,000 – 1100 years ago

★ **Rise of the great civilizations**

- Primarily **Settled agriculture**
- metal, bone, wood and stone
- Energy – animal power
- **Trade** and creation of surplus
- Economic specialization- movement away from subsistence
- Cast systems

Cultural impacts of settled agriculture

- Nature of work changed:
more labor intensive
- Permitted and required an increase in population
- Redefined gender relations and position
- Specialization of labor force-
class systems arose
upper classes- increase in
leisure time
- land ownership- new concept



What is a Civilization?

cities- large urban populations in one area facilitate cultural exchange

- Separation between rural and urban areas

trade and specialization rise of craftsmen & merchant classes

surplus of resources

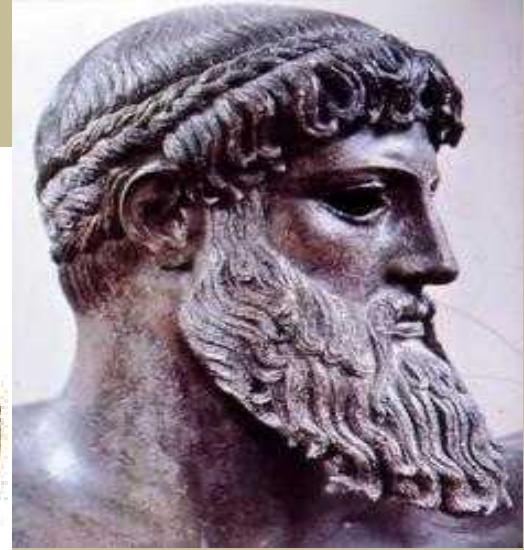
formal political states- leadership with structure and bureaucracy

Formal written language- enabled innovation and communication



Ancient Greece and Western Civilization

800 BC - ~7c.AD ya --at its height
Nomadic past. Settled agriculture.
Beginning of Western civilization.
Birth of advanced abstract thought:
philosophy, literature, art, politics
and democracy
Humanism- earth was created for
“civilized” humans
Birth of the scientific method
Sought to answer questions about
the world.



CCM3B. Art of Classic Civilizations

- Art became socially, politically, spiritually and culturally important
- Sculpture, architecture, murals, **friezes** etc.
- anthropomorphic figures persisted
- Animals represented deities – symbolic
- Mythical creatures depicted
- accurate depictions but with unrealistic features



Chimera, Etruscan



Horus, god of Kings, Egypt



Chinese Landscape painting

CCM3c Attitude towards nature – Classic Period

- **class differences**

Rural vs. urban

- **Spirituality-**

abstract otherworldly

- **Polytheism-**

multiple gods and goddesses

- **Role of Nature-** plants/animals/elements

- became tools of the God's - symbols

- **Superiority to nature began**

“civilized humans” taming of the wilderness-

- **separation from nature**

- controlling physical environment



Chinese Landscape painting

907 – 1127 AD

Great Age of Chinese Landscape Painting



Chinese Landscape painting

Oldest continuous painting tradition in the world-
as early as 450 BC

One of the Earliest agricultural traditions

- Illustrated their struggles with nature – but with reverence
- Sought balance with nature not superiority
- A strong, independent and persistent style that was passed from generation to generation, virtually unchanged for 100's of years.

Culturally isolated – surrounded by less advanced nomadic tribes

Silk road – 220 BC trade route

- earliest contact between East and West-
- Chinese cultures resistant to outside influences



Wintery Forest - Li Cheng 919 - 967

Chinese Landscape painting

Taoist philosophy:

- Nature and humanity are one.
- Never been in the direct service of religion except for the earliest tomb paintings.

Characteristics:

- Majestic landscapes with water and mountains – from a great distance
- monochromatic – black and white
- Negative space is just as important as positive space
- A spiritual journey - A different journey taken with each viewing
- Not a replication of a landscape but an impression.



Nine Pearly Peaks - Huang Gong Wang 1269 - 1354

霞士瀕湖此
估意居於此
史樂三餘姓
名不現稱潛
德圖書瑞庭





Chinese Landscape painting



Captures

- a moment in time
- transience – fact of life that everything is temporary and fleeting
- First focus is the dense detailed areas to the sparse
- Composition moves the viewers eye into the distance

"Ascend a peak, rest on a rock outcropping, look down on the clouds, watch a waterfall..."

Chinese Landscape painting

Materials:

- Ground- silk – 1482 BC neolithic era
rice paper- 1st c. AD
- Brush – Neolithic era-pottery
- Ink – 3500 ya
 - Pine soot bound by glue into cakes
 - Traditionally black

Seals: stamps made of carved stone

- Identify the owner

Calligraphy- poems and impressions

- became a medium of expression for the owner – emotions the image gave etc.
- Later became an offense to the piece

Format:

- Screens
- Fans
- Hanging and hand scrolls



Chinese Landscape painting

Process:

- Learn calligraphy first to master the control and movements.
- Beginners learn by replicating the masters
- Adhering to strict conventions
- Masters would sign work that they approved of.
- Many years of work to attain master status.



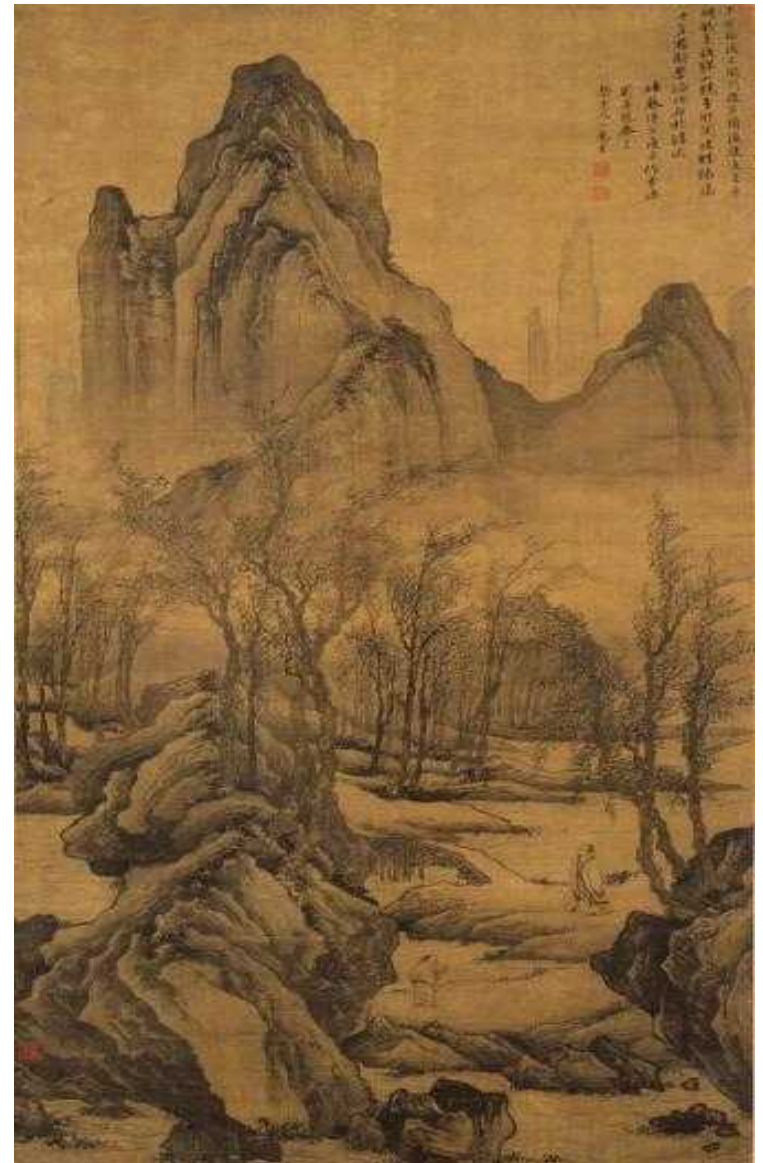
The Art of Chinese painting

Video write up

Write notes touching on the major points discussed in the video ie. Major changes in the subject matter, status of artists and elements of the art work over time.

Put into your assignment folder.

<http://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLM4S2hGZDSE73458zMfiiWeqr7G9bqjWC>



Strolling by the Sea - Tang Yin 1470 - 1524

Middle Ages 5th - 15th centuries

★ The Rise of Organized Religion

- Technology advanced
- Long distance travel- exploration
- Trade routes to Asia- linking East with West
Silk road
- Well-developed artistic, religious and literary classes—increase spare time for upper classes, resources and motivation to advance



The rise of Organized Religion



CCM4A. Middle Ages: 5th to 15th century— settled agriculture

★ Rise of organized religions

- Period of upheaval resulted in the rise of church of Rome & settled states of Europe.
- Christian Catholic Church gained power – socially and politically
- Feudalism and cast systems—few owned most of land
- Rise of monarchies
- Urban and rural areas well established
- Creativity and individualism was stifled and conformity was encouraged.

CCM4B. Art of the Middle Ages

Religion Based themes:

- Architecture—elaborate Gothic
- wall murals -
 - -Frescos and mosaics
- Stained glass
- Show devotion to the church



CCM4B. Art of the Middle Ages

Depictions of nature:

- Mythological creatures- life's mysteries were explained through myths and scriptures.
- inaccurate representations
- Nature/animals used as symbols
- anthropomorphic
- Stylized
- Not drawn from life



Illuminated Manuscripts

- Hand written books
- Written primarily by Christian monks
- Written on vellum or parchment
- With gold or silver embellishments
- Focus on Christian scripture or practice
 - Also help preserve the literature of Greece and Rome
- Use of animal images as symbols



Middle Ages

CCM4C. Attitudes toward nature

- Human superiority over nature.
- Monotheism – single god predominates
- Nature/wilderness viewed as evil – where the devil lurks
- Taming wilderness becomes a moral act.
- Controlling nature instead of interacting with it... didn't consider ourselves part of the natural system.
- People looked to scriptures to answer questions about the world, nature, life and death and our place in it.
- Exploring the natural world, self expression and questioning life was discouraged and deemed sacrilege
- Any religion outside of the church was considered heretical. (pagan, nature-based)



Samson Killing the Lion, Albrecht Durur, woodcut

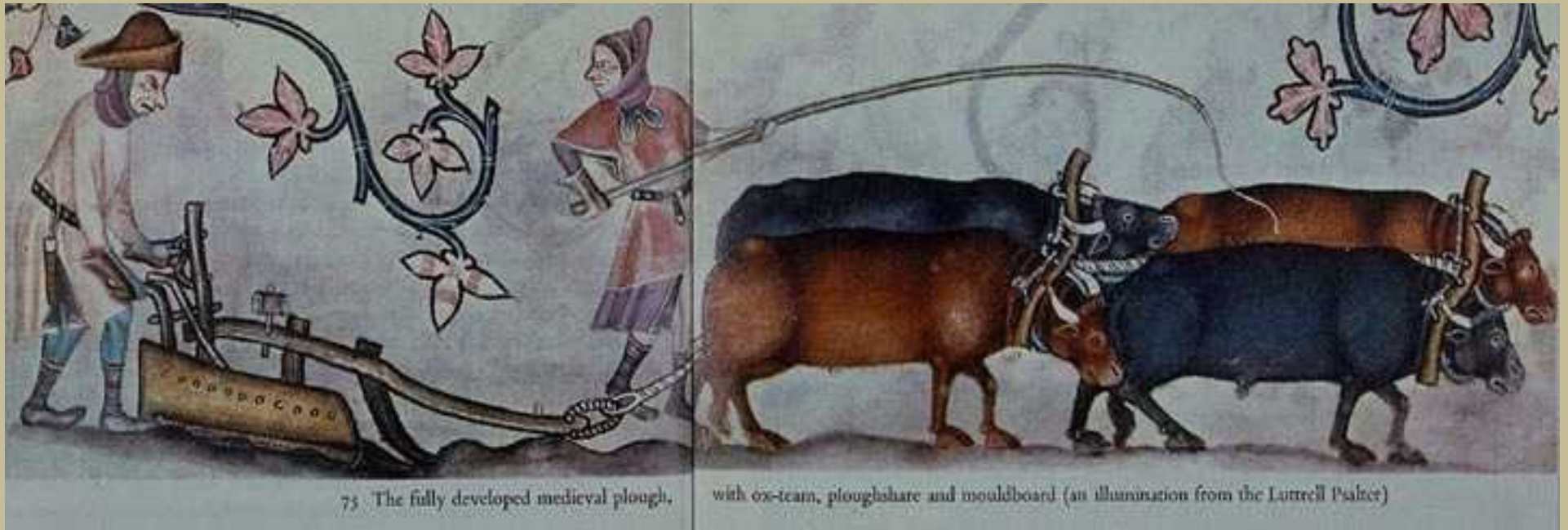
Settled Agriculture



Byzantine Empire or Late Roman empire 1261- 1453

Mosaic of the Grape harvest

SETTLED AGRICULTURE



Medieval Europe
500 AD - 1509

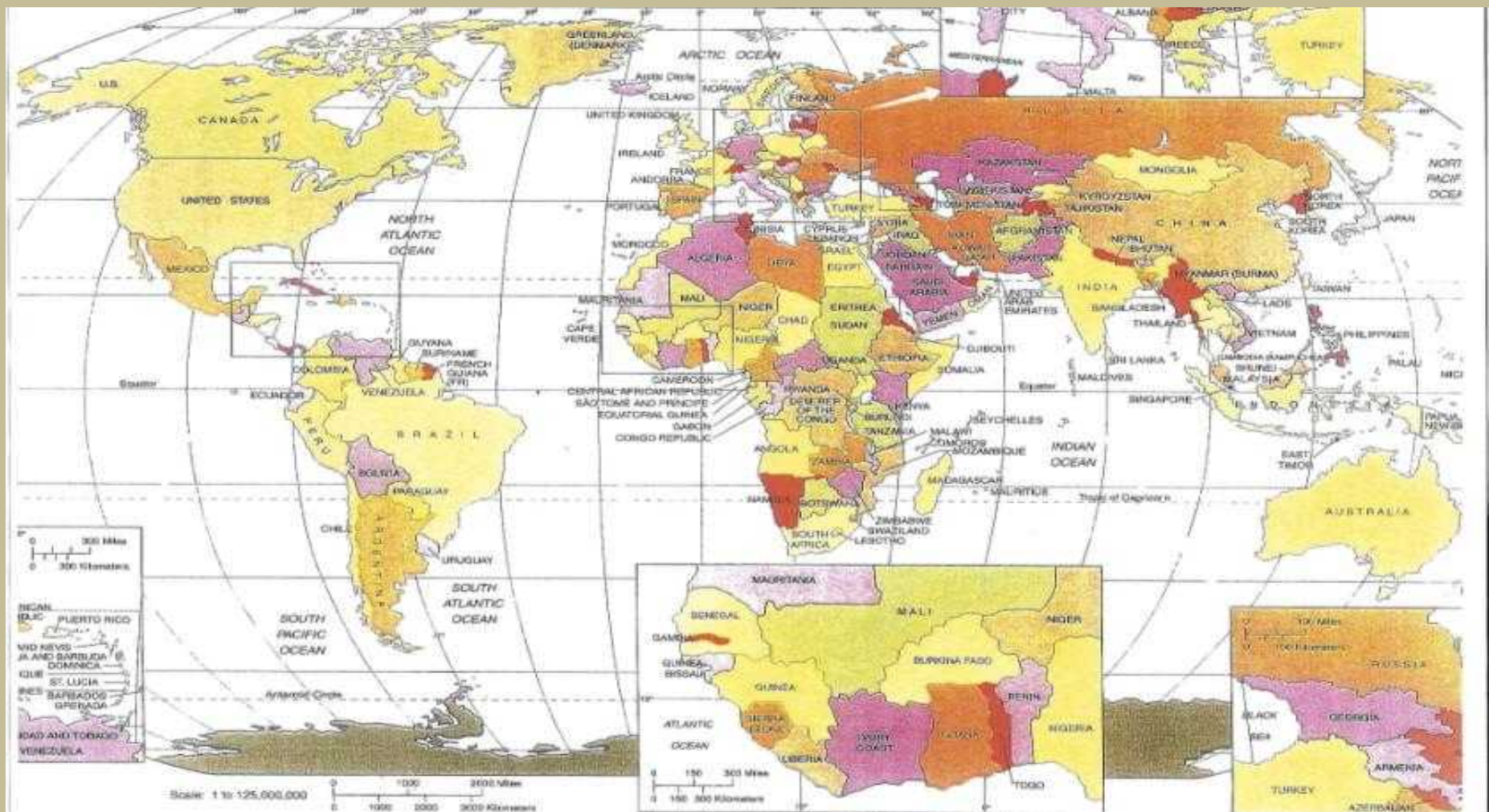
Middle Ages-- settled agriculture



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Religious Portraits of the Middle Ages





3A. China- Silk Road trading route

3B. Greece- Birth of Western Civilization