

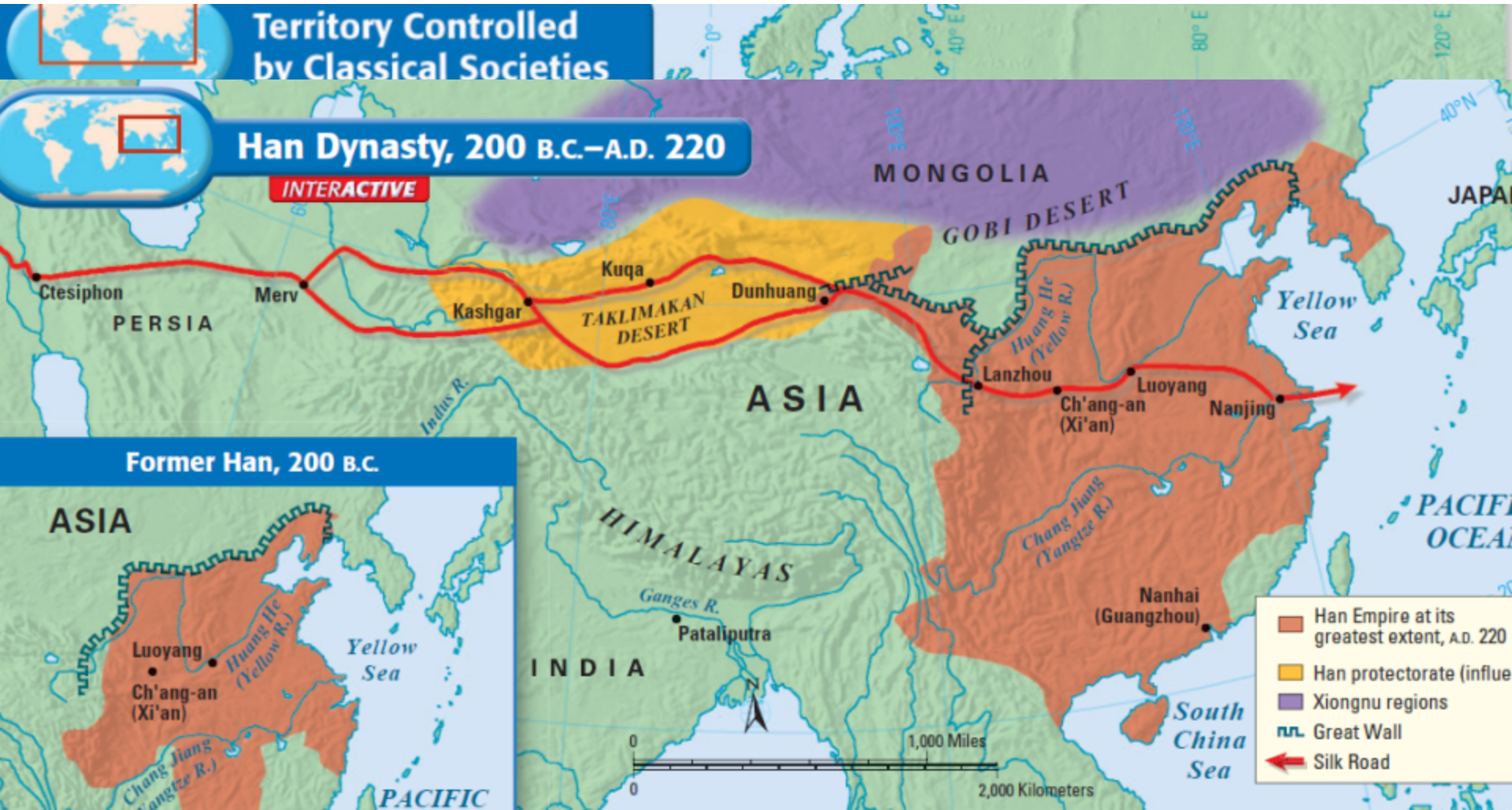


- Essential Questions:

- Why were the Tang & Song Dynasties considered the “golden age” of China?
- What was the impact of the Mongol Empire?

Do Now: Do you consider the term “Dark Ages” to accurately represent the Medieval era (roughly 400 – 1400 C.E.)? Why or why not?

Classical China



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The Silk Road trade route brought Chinese luxury goods to Europe & Asia and increased cultural diffusion



Post-Classical China

Like the Roman Empire, Classical China under the Han Dynasty entered an era of decline & eventually fell

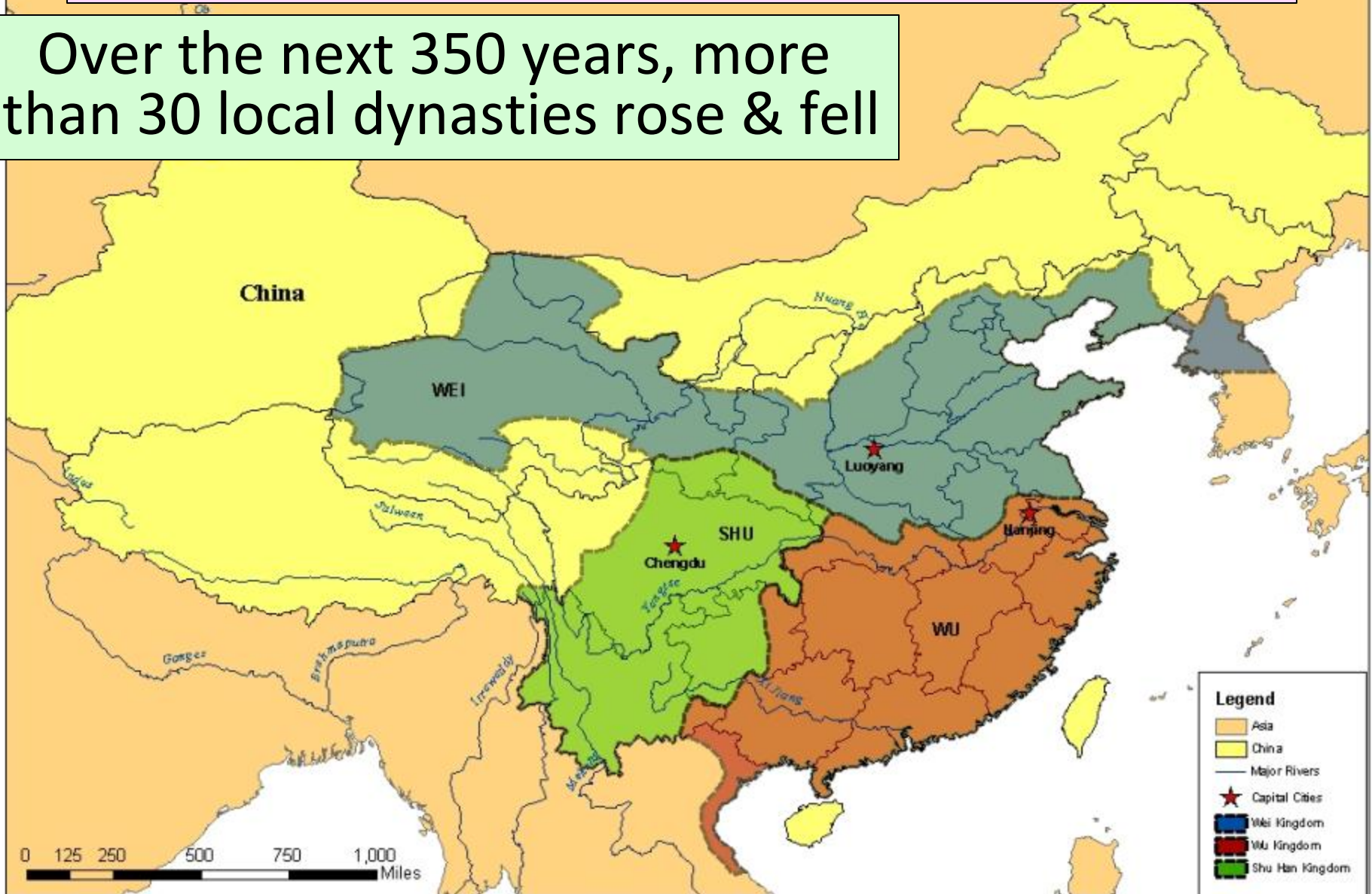


Comparing Two Great Empires: Han China and Rome	
Han Dynasty—202 B.C. to A.D. 220	Roman Empire—27 B.C. to A.D. 476
Empire replaced rival kingdoms	Empire replaced republic
Centralized, bureaucratic government	Centralized, bureaucratic government
Built roads and defensive walls	Built roads and defensive walls
Conquered many diverse peoples in regions bordering China	Conquered many diverse peoples in regions of three continents
At its height—area of 1.5 million square miles and a population of 60 million	At its height—area of 3.4 million square miles and a population of 55 million
Chinese became common written language throughout empire	Latin did not replace other written languages in empire
Ongoing conflict with nomads	Ongoing conflict with nomads
Empire fell apart; restored by Tang Dynasty in 618	Empire fell apart; never restored



After the Han Dynasty collapsed in 220 A.D.,
no emperor was strong enough to unify China

Over the next 350 years, more
than 30 local dynasties rose & fell





In 589, China was unified again & a strong central government was

...the restoration of the examination system allowed intelligent

During the Tang & Song Dynasties, China experienced an extended “golden age” & became the richest, most powerful, & most advanced country in the world

Emperors did their best to try to protect the routes along the Silk Road

Chinese merchants relied on ocean routes as well to trade with India & Arabia

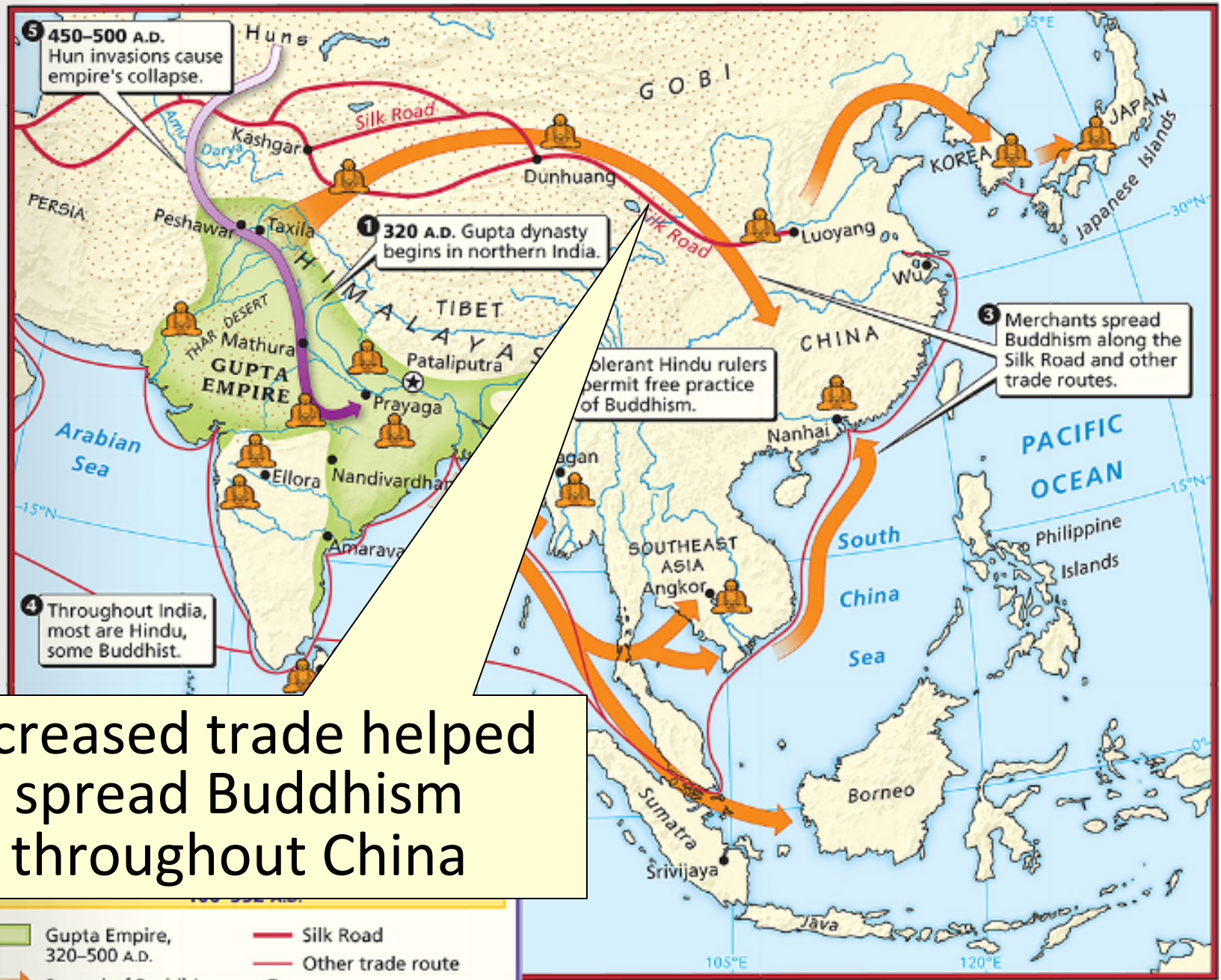


Increased trade led to the spread of Chinese culture (centralized gov't, Confucianism, & writing) to Korea, Japan, & Southeast Asia

Silk Road and Other Trade Routes
400-1500

- Silk Road
 - Other trade route
- Sources of Trade and Cultural Exchange
- | | | |
|-----------------|--------|-----------|
| Frankincense | Cotton | Compass |
| Gems | Silk | Glassware |
| Spices | Horses | Gunpowder |
| Arabic numerals | Plague | Paper |

For the 1st time in China's history, emperors encouraged foreign trade



5 450-500 A.D. Hun invasions cause empire's collapse.

1 320 A.D. Gupta dynasty begins in northern India.

2 Tolerant Hindu rulers permit free practice of Buddhism.

3 Merchants spread Buddhism along the Silk Road and other trade routes.

4 Throughout India, most are Hindu, some Buddhist.

Increased trade helped spread Buddhism throughout China

- Gupta Empire, 320-500 A.D.
- Spread of Buddhism, 100-552 A.D.
- Hun invasion
- Silk Road
- Other trade route
- Capital
- Major Buddhist site

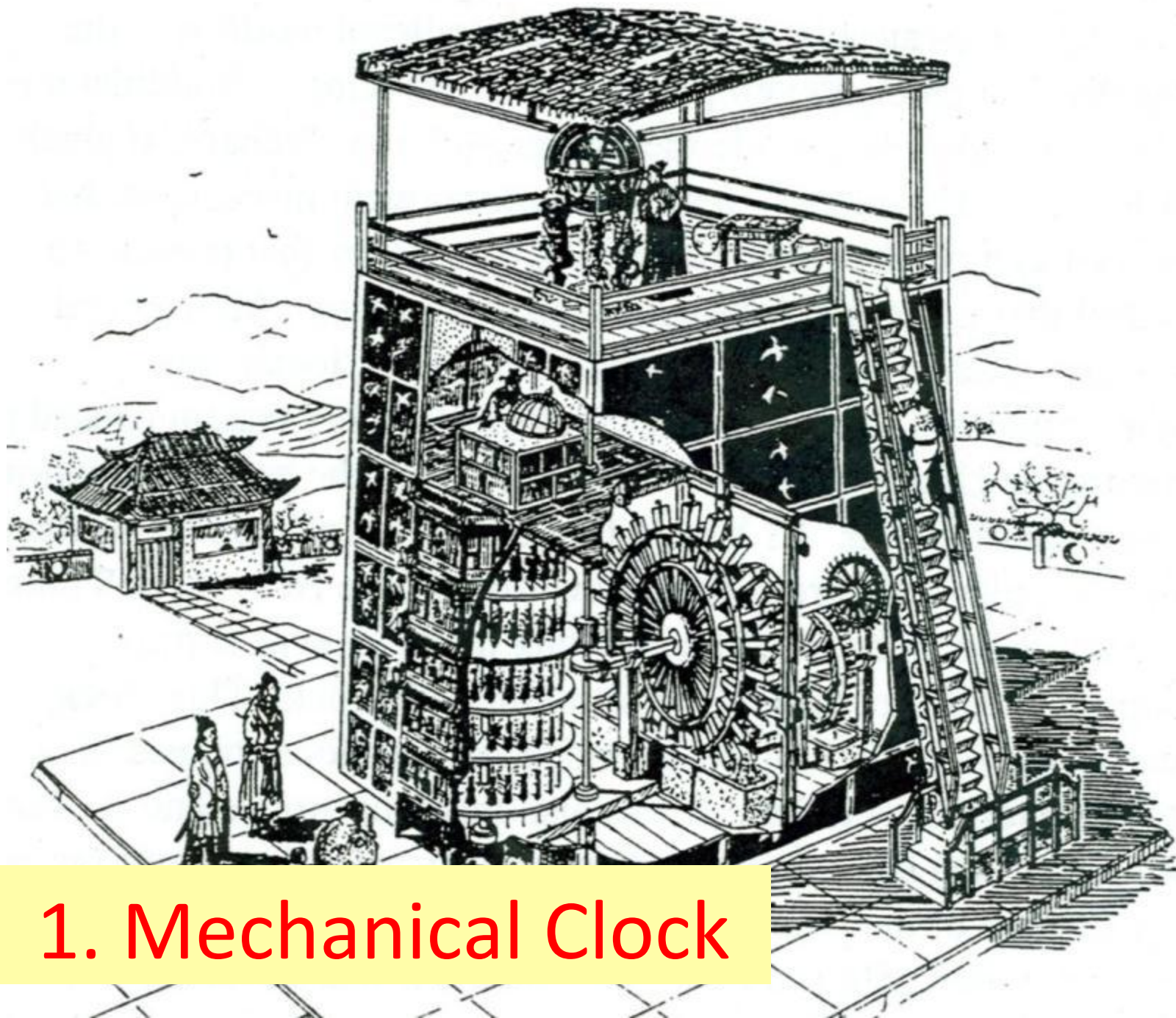
C The Gupta were Hindus, but they also tolerated the spread of Buddhism. Indian traders introduced Buddhism to faraway places.

Chinese Innovations

- The Tang & Song dynasties were eras of major technological advancement:
 - The technologies helped make China the most advanced country in the world
 - Much of China's technology spread to other people across trade routes

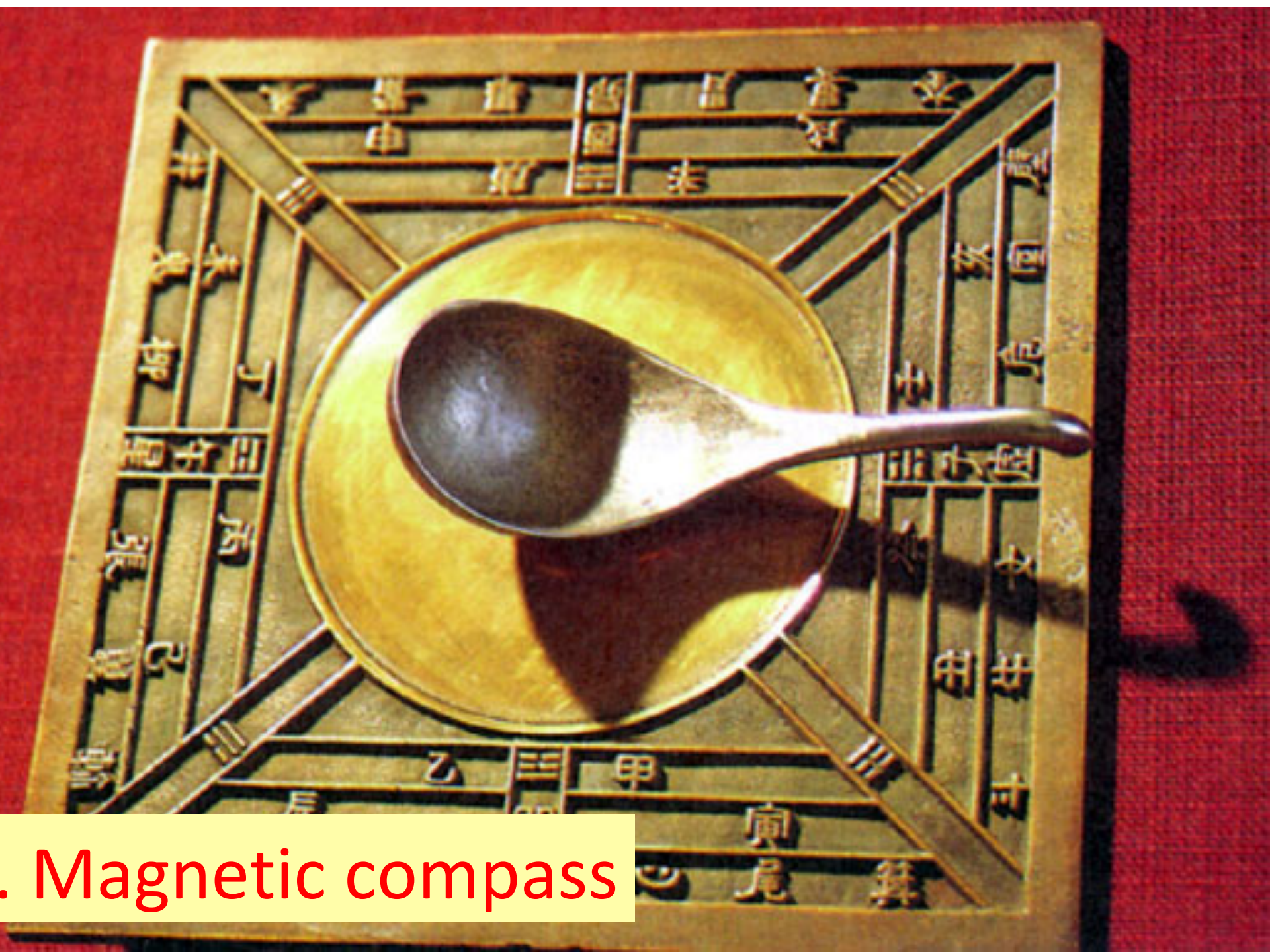
Class Activity:

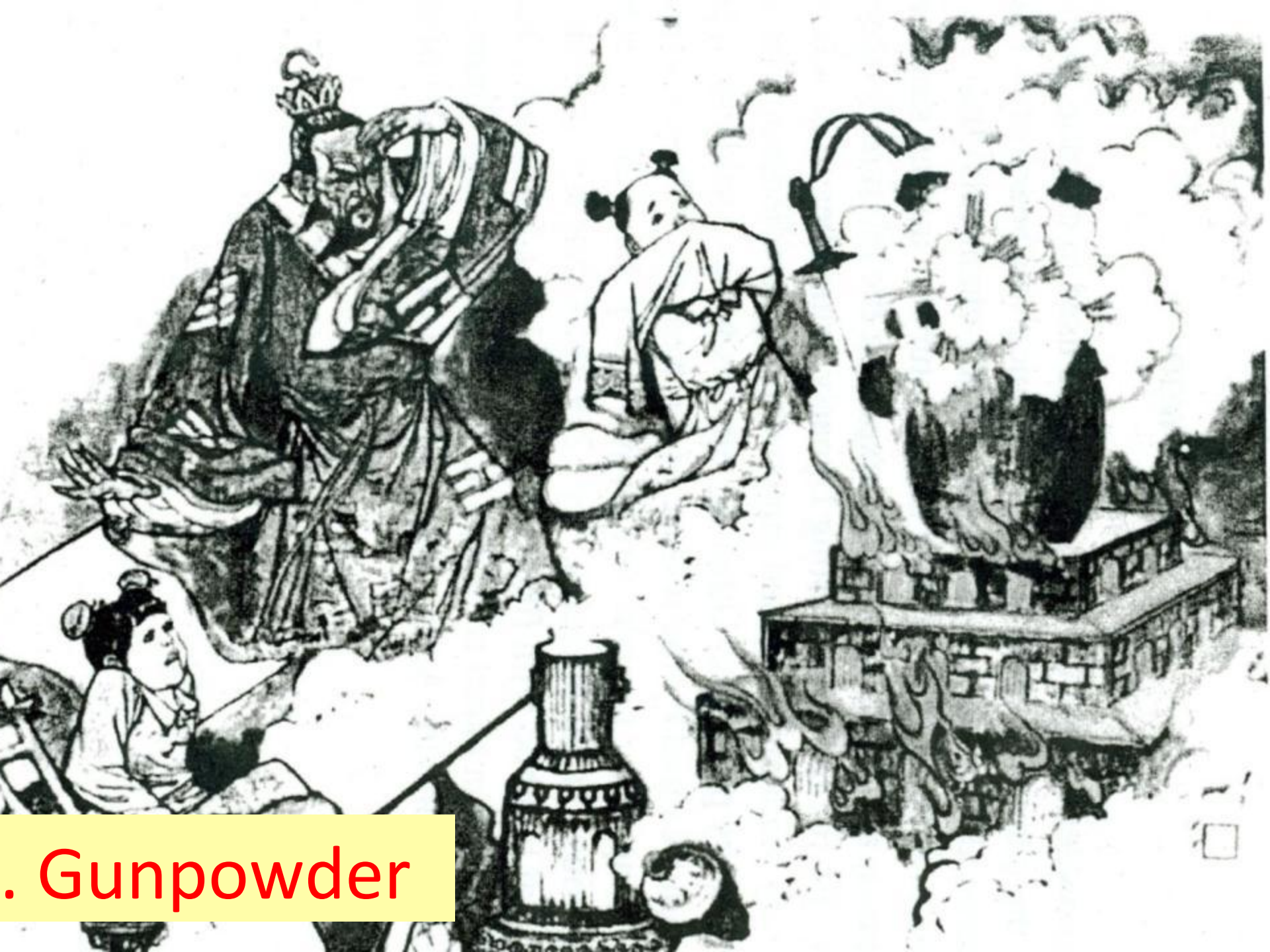
Working with a partner,
guess what each of the following
10 Chinese innovations are



1. Mechanical Clock

. Magnetic compass





. Gunpowder



4. Printing Press

大明通行寶鈔

	<p>文伯貳</p>	
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中書省
 奉准印造
 大明寶鈔與銅錢通行
 使用偽造者斬首捕
 者賞銀貳佰五十兩
 仍給犯人財產
 洪武 年 月 日

5. Paper money

琴

Chin
(Music)

飛錢

Flying Money
(Paper Money)

瓷

Porcelain
(Porcelain)

長城

Great Wall
(Rebuilding of the Great Wall)

驛站

Relay Hostel
(Roads and Relay Hostels)

舟

Ships
(Ships)

天花

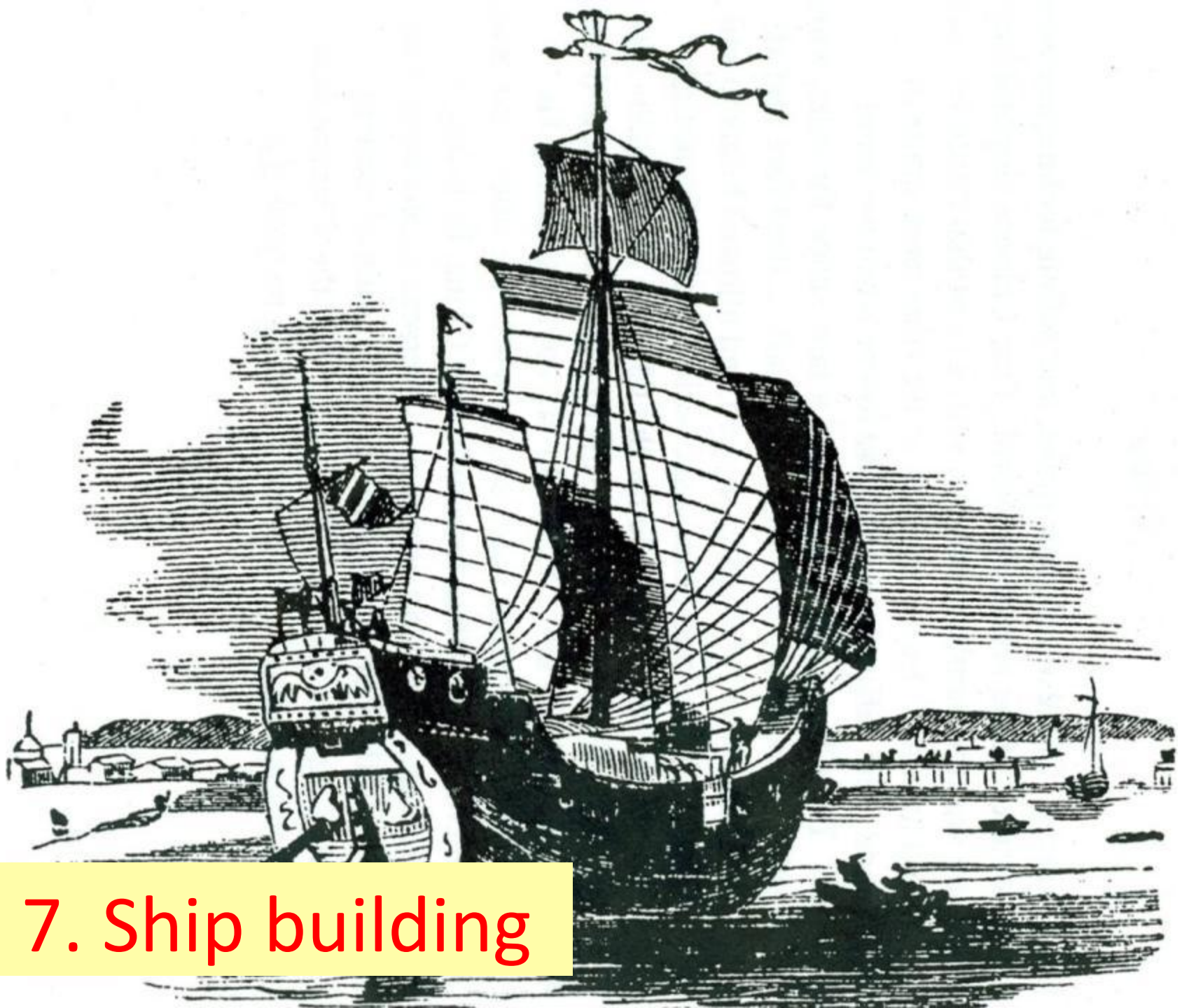
6. Chinese writing
(Smallpox Inoculation)

紡車

Spinning Wheel
(Spinning Wheel)

運河

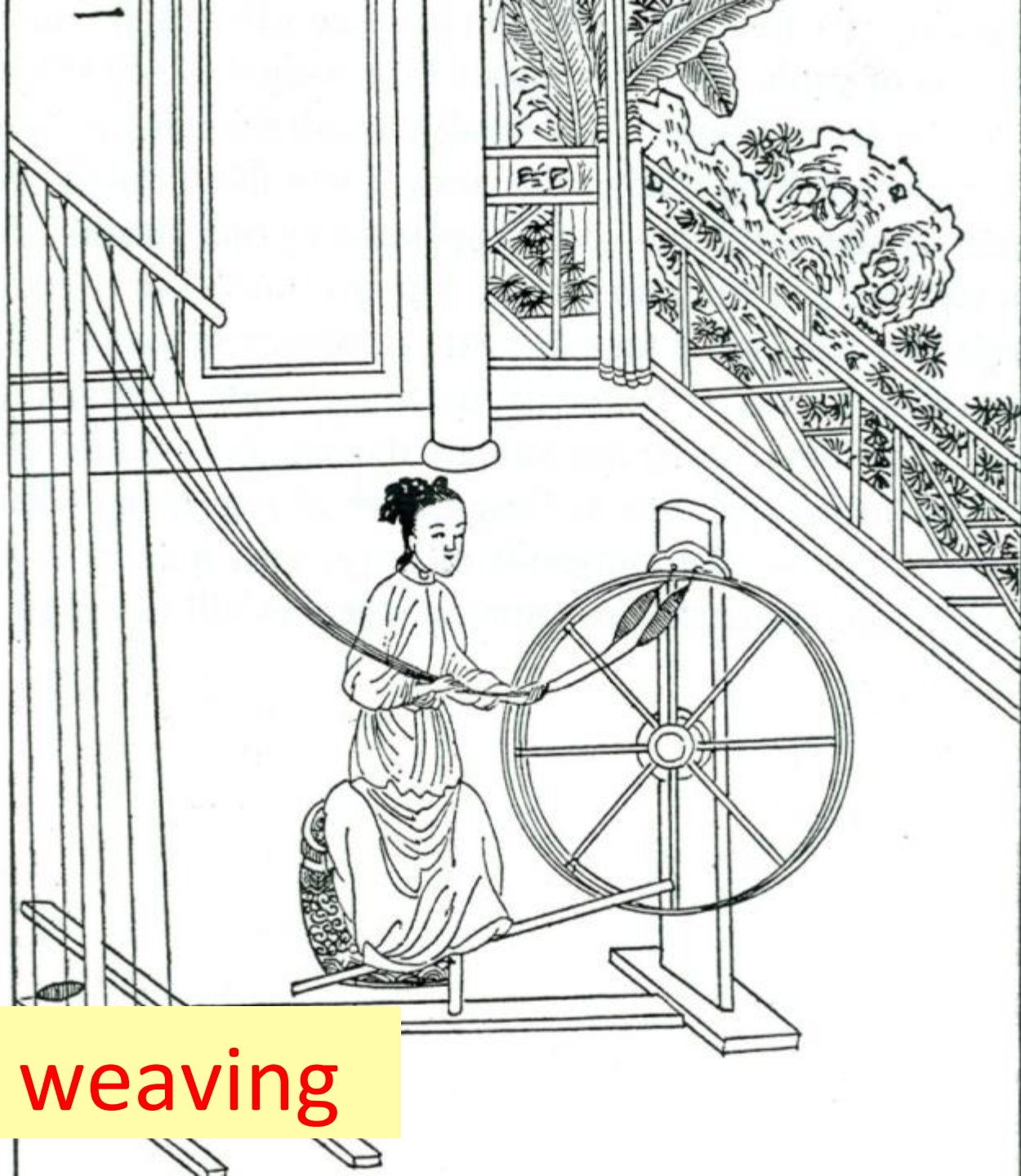
Canal
(Waterways)



7. Ship building



8. Vaccination



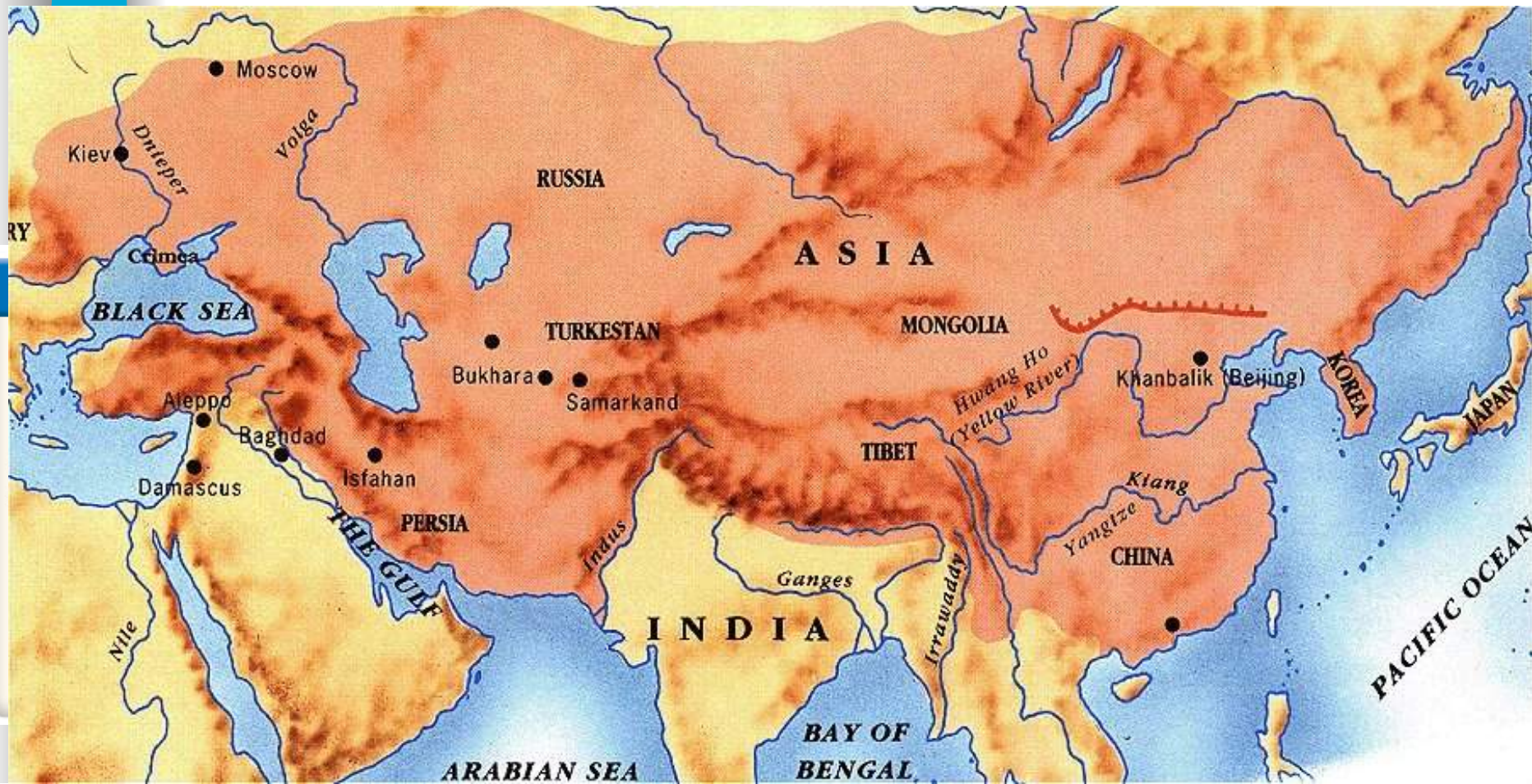
9. Silk weaving



10. Porcelain

The End of the Golden Age

Despite the wealth & culture during under the Tang & Song Dynasties, the Chinese were briefly overthrown by the Mongols



Who were the Mongols?



Christians develop two cultures.

Adopts Chinese culture and Indian religion

Nomads adopt culture of lands they conquer.

Influences India

The Mongols were among the numerous nomadic tribes who lived in Central Asia

Influenced by China and India