Period 2 – Organization and Reorganization of Human Societies, c. 600 B.C.E. to c. 600 C.E.

# **Key Concept 2.1.** The Development and Codification of Religious and Cultural Traditions

As states and empires increased in size and contacts between regions multiplied, religious and cultural systems were transformed. Religions and belief systems provided a bond among the people and an ethical code to live by. These shared beliefs also influenced and reinforced political, economic, and occupational stratification. Religious and political authority often merged as rulers (some of whom were considered divine) used religion, along with military and legal structures, to justify their rule and ensure its continuation. Religions and belief systems could also generate conflict, partly because beliefs and practices varied greatly within and among societies.

2.1.I - Explain how codifications and further developments of existing religious traditions provided a bond among the people and an ethical code to live by.

2.1.I.A. - How did Mesopotamian cultural and legal traditions influence the codification of the Hebrew Scriptures in the monotheistic faith of Judaism?

2.1.I.A. - How did Assyrian, Babylonian, and Roman conquests of various Jewish states lead to the growth of Jewish diasporic communities around the Mediterranean and Middle East?

2.1.I.B. - How did the core beliefs outlined in the Sanskrit scriptures form the basis of Vedic religions (later known as Hinduism)?

2.1.I.B. - Describe how Hinduism contributed to the development of the social and political roles of the caste system.

2.1.I.B. - How did the multiple manifestations of Brahma promote teachings about reincarnation?

2.1.II.A. - Describe how the core beliefs about desire, suffering, and the search for enlightenment preached by Buddha were, in part, a reaction to the Vedic beliefs and rituals dominant in South Asia.

2.1.II.A. - Describe how Buddhism changed over time as it spread through Asia (use examples including Ashoka, efforts of missionaries and merchants, and educational institutions).

2.1.II.B. - Explain how Confucianism’s core beliefs promoted social harmony through rituals and social relationships.

2.1.II.C. - How did major Daoist writings reflect the belief that the Chinese political system should be altered?

2.1.II.C. - Explain how Daoism influenced Chinese culture using examples in the areas of medical theories/practices, poetry, metallurgy, and architecture.

2.1.II.D. - Christianity, based on core beliefs about the teachings and divinity of Jesus of Nazareth as recorded by his disciples initially rejected Roman and Hellenistic influences. Where did the influences of Christianity come from and what impacts did it have on the faith?

2.1.II.D. - Despite initial Roman imperial hostility, Christianity spread through many parts of Afro-Eurasia, and eventually gained Roman imperial support by the time of Emperor Constantine. How did this happen and who was responsible for the spread?

2.1.II.E. - The core ideas in Greco-Roman philosophy and science emphasized logic, empirical observation, and the nature of political power and hierarchy. Explain this and provide examples.

2.1.II.F. – How did Hindu art and architecture reflect the values of their religion?

2.1.II.F. – How did Buddhist art and architecture reflect the values of their religion?

2.1.II.F. – How did Christian art and architecture reflect the values of their religion?

2.1.II.F. – How did Greco-Roman art and architecture reflect the values of their religions and belief systems?

2.1.III. - Explain the impact that Christianity and Buddhism had on gender roles.

2.1.III. - How did Buddhism and Christianity encourage monastic life?

2.1.III. - How did Confucianism emphasize filial piety?

2.1.IV. - Describe how Shamanism and Animism continued to shape the lives of people within and outside of core civilizations because of their daily reliance on the natural world.

2.1.IV. - Describe how ancestor veneration persisted in many regions of the world, including Africa, the Mediterranean region, East Asia, and the Andean Areas.

# Key Concept 2.2.

## The Development of States and Empires

As the early states and empires grew in number, size, and population, they frequently competed for resources and came into conflict with one another. In quest of land, wealth, and security, some empires expanded dramatically. In doing so, they built powerful military machines and administrative institutions that were capable of organizing human activities over long distances, and they created new groups of military and political elites to manage their affairs. As these empires expanded their boundaries, they also faced the need to develop policies and procedures to govern their relationships with ethnically and culturally diverse populations: sometimes to integrate them within an imperial society and sometimes to exclude them. In some cases, these empires became victims of their own successes. By expanding their boundaries too far, they created political, cultural, and administrative difficulties that they could not manage. They also experienced environmental, social, and economic problems when they overexploited their lands and subjects and permitted excessive wealth to be concentrated in the hands of privileged classes.

2.2.I. - As the Roman Empire grew, how did they impose political unity in areas where there had once been competing states?

2.2.I. - As the Persian Empires (Achaemenid, Parthian, Sassanid) grew, how did they impose political unity in areas where there had once been competing states?

2.2.I. - As the Qin and Han Empires grew, how did they impose political unity in areas where there had once been competing states?

2.2.I. - As the Mediterranean region (Phoenicia and its colonies, Greek city-states and colonies, and Hellenistic and Roman Empires) grew, how did they impose political unity in areas where there had once been competing states?

2.2.I. - As the Mesoamerican Empire (Teotihuacan, Maya city-states) grew, how did they impose political unity in areas where there had once been competing states?

2.2.I. - As the Andean South American (Moche) Empire grew, how did they impose political unity in areas where there had once been competing states?

2.2.I. - As the North American (Chaco to Cahokia) Empire grew, how did they impose political unity in areas where there had once been competing states?

2.2.II.A. - Describe the use of imperial administrative techniques such as centralized governments and/or elaborate legal systems and bureaucracies in ruling various regions like China, Persia, Rome, and South Asia.

2.2.II.B. - Imperial governments promoted trade and projected military power over larger areas using a variety of techniques, including: issuing currencies; diplomacy; developing supply lines; building fortifications, defensive walls, and roads; and drawing new groups of military officers and soldiers from the location populations or conquered populations. Give examples of how this was applied in this society.

2.2.III.A. – How did imperial cities such as Persepolis serve as a center of trade, public performance of religious rituals, and political administration for its state/empire?

2.2.III.A. – How did imperial cities such as Chang’an serve as a center of trade, public performance of religious rituals, and political administration for its state/empire?

2.2.III.A. – How did imperial cities such as Pataliputra serve as a center of trade, public performance of religious rituals, and political administration for its state/empire?

2.2.III.A. – How did imperial cities such as Athens serve as a center of trade, public performance of religious rituals, and political administration for its state/empire?

2.2.III.A. – How did imperial cities such as Carthage serve as a center of trade, public performance of religious rituals, and political administration for its state/empire?

2.2.III.A. – How did imperial cities such as Rome serve as a center of trade, public performance of religious rituals, and political administration for its state/empire?

2.2.III.A. – How did imperial cities such as Alexandria serve as a center of trade, public performance of religious rituals, and political administration for its state/empire?

2.2.III.A. – How did imperial cities such as Constantinople serve as a center of trade, public performance of religious rituals, and political administration for its state/empire?

2.2.III.A. – How did imperial cities such as Teotihuacan serve as a center of trade, public performance of religious rituals, and political administration for its state/empire?

2.2.III.B. – How did the social structure of this empire display hierarchies that included cultivators, laborers, slaves, artisans, merchants, elites, or caste groups.

2.2.III.C. - ) Imperial societies relied on a range of methods to maintain the production of food and provide rewards for the loyalty of the elites. From the following list, identify and explain the method used for this civilization.

* Corvée labor
* Slavery
* Rents and tributes
* Peasant communities
* Family and household production

2.2.IV.A. - Through excessive mobilization of resources, explain how the Roman imperial government generated social tensions and created economic difficulties by concentrating too much wealth in the hands of elites.

2.2.IV.A. - Through excessive mobilization of resources, explain how the Han imperial government generated social tensions and created economic difficulties by concentrating too much wealth in the hands of elites.

2.2.IV.A. - Through excessive mobilization of resources, explain how the Persian imperial government generated social tensions and created economic difficulties by concentrating too much wealth in the hands of elites.

2.2.IV.A. - Through excessive mobilization of resources, explain how the Mauryan imperial government generated social tensions and created economic difficulties by concentrating too much wealth in the hands of elites.

2.2.IV.A. - Through excessive mobilization of resources, explain how the Gupta imperial government generated social tensions and created economic difficulties by concentrating too much wealth in the hands of elites.

2.2.IV.B. – How did the security issues along their frontier and threat of invasion from the Xiongnu challenge the imperial authority of Han China?

2.2.IV.B. – How did the security issues along their frontier and threat of invasion from the White Huns challenge the imperial authority of the Gupta?

2.2.IV.B. – How did the security issues along their frontier and threat of invasion from the northern and eastern neighbors challenge the imperial authority of the Romans?

# **Key Concept 2.3.** Emergence of Transregional Networks of Communication and Exchange

With the organization of large-scale empires, the volume of long-distance trade increased dramatically. Much of this trade resulted from the demand for raw materials and luxury goods. Land and water routes linked many regions of the Eastern Hemisphere. The exchange of people, technology, religious and cultural beliefs, food crops, domesticated animals, and disease pathogens developed alongside the trade in goods across far-flung networks of communication and exchange. In the Americas and Oceania localized networks developed.

2.3.I.A. – Explain and give examples of how the following factors shaped the distinctive features of the Eurasian Silk Roads. (Climate and location of the routes, the typical trade goods, and ethnicity of the people)

2.3.I.A. – Explain and give examples of how the following factors shaped the distinctive features of the Trans-Saharan caravan routes. (Climate and location of the routes, the typical trade goods, and ethnicity of the people)

2.3.I.A. – Explain and give examples of how the following factors shaped the distinctive features of the Indian Ocean sea lanes. (Climate and location of the routes, the typical trade goods, and ethnicity of the people)

2.3.I.A. – Explain and give examples of how the following factors shaped the distinctive features of the Mediterranean sea lanes. (Climate and location of the routes, the typical trade goods, and ethnicity of the people)

2.3.II.A. – Give examples of the new technologies that permitted the use of domesticated pack animals to transport goods across longer routes.

2.3.II.B. – Give examples of the innovations in maritime technologies that stimulated exchanges along maritime routes from East Africa to East Asia.

2.3.III. – Explain the impact of the extensive trade networks in Afro-Eurasia.

2.3.III.A. – Explain how the spread of crops, including rice and cotton from South Asia to the Middle East, encouraged changes in farming and irrigation techniques. Use the qanat system as your example.

2.3.III.B. – What impact did disease have on the Roman Empire?

2.3.III.B. – What impact did disease have on the Chinese empires?

2.3.III.C. – Explain how religious and cultural traditions – including Christianity, Hinduism, and Buddhism – were transformed as they spread.