

Chinese Dynasties

1. Shang	<i>1600-1046 BCE</i>
2. Zhou (<i>Joe</i>)	<i>1029-258 BCE</i>
3. Qin (<i>Chin</i>)	<i>221-202 BCE</i>
4. Han	<i>200-BCE – 220 CE</i>
5. Sui (<i>Sway</i>)	<i>589-618</i>
6. Tang	<i>618-907</i>
7. Song	<i>960-1279</i>
8. Yuan	<i>1271-1368</i>
9. Ming	<i>1368-1644</i>
10. Qing (<i>Ching</i>)	<i>1644-1912</i>
11. Republic (<i>not a dynasty</i>)	<i>1912-1949</i>
12. Mao Zedong (<i>not a dynasty</i>)	<i>1949-1976</i>

Dynasty is founded by a powerful leader.

New leader gains Mandate of Heaven



Period of great prosperity and power.

- Restores peace and glory to China
- Builds roads, irrigation systems, bridges; improves lives of citizens

Dynastic Cycle



Period of Decline

- Higher taxes
- Social services decline
- Natural disasters

Leader loses Mandate of Heaven



Period of Rebellion

- Dynasty is overthrown

Confucianism



- **An ethical system, not a religion**
- **Education important**
- **Emph. personal virtue**
- **Analects**

Five basic relationships

1. Ruler and subject
 2. Parent and child
 3. Husband and wife
 4. Elder sibling to younger sibling
 5. Friend to friend
- In each relationship, individuals had duties and responsibilities to one another
 - In first four relationships, one person was view as superior
 - Fifth relationship was one of equality.

Filial Piety

- **Virtue of respect for one's parents, elders, and ancestors**
 - To be good to one's parents; to engage in good conduct not just towards parents but also outside the home so as to bring a good name to one's parents and ancestors; to show love, respect and support
- **Filial piety is central to Confucian role ethics**
- **Also applies to all elders: teachers, professional superiors, or anyone who is older in age—and even the state**
 - Family = building block of society, so the hierarchy of respect also applies to one's rulers and one's country



24. HE WASHED HIS MOTHER'S BEDPAN

Huáng Tíngjiān of the Sòng dynasty... was a government compiler. His nature was filial, and although he was very prominent, he served his mother with deep sincerity. Every evening he himself washed out his mother's bedpan. A moment did not pass in which he did not display the responsibility of a son. A verse praises him saying:

He is prominent enough to be known throughout the world, but All his life he is filial toward his mother; He does not decline to wash out her urine; How could he use maids and let himself be spoiled [by prominence]?

24 Filial Exemplars

Sui Dynasty (589–618)

- **Grand Canal**—connecting food producing south to the gov. in north





Grand Canal—connected north China to the southern food producing Yangtze River Valley

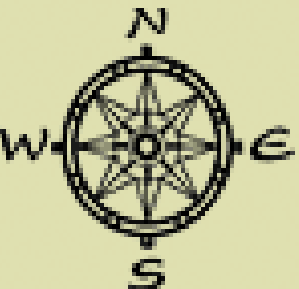


Tang Dynasty (618–907) *"Golden Age"*

Government

- **Scholar-gentry**
- **Jinshi** = title of highest officials (passed exams on philosophy & literature)
- **Civil service exams**
- **Tributary system** = Korea, Vietnam & Japan





Legend:

-  Great Wall
-  Land under the rule of the Han Dynasty
-  Current boundaries of China and Mongolia

0 1000km



Chinese Social Hierarchy



Emperor

Scholar-Gentry

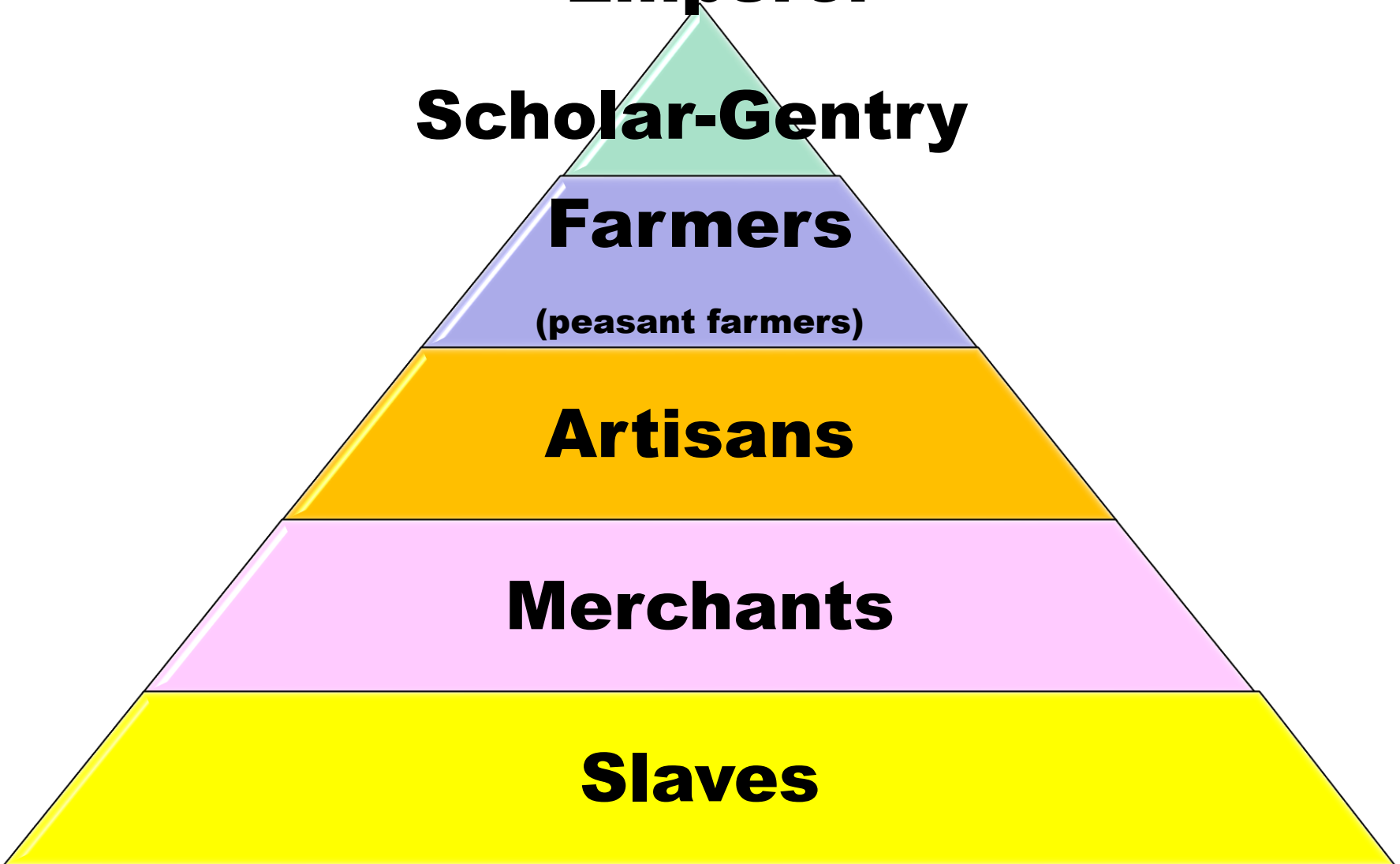
Farmers

(peasant farmers)

Artisans

Merchants

Slaves

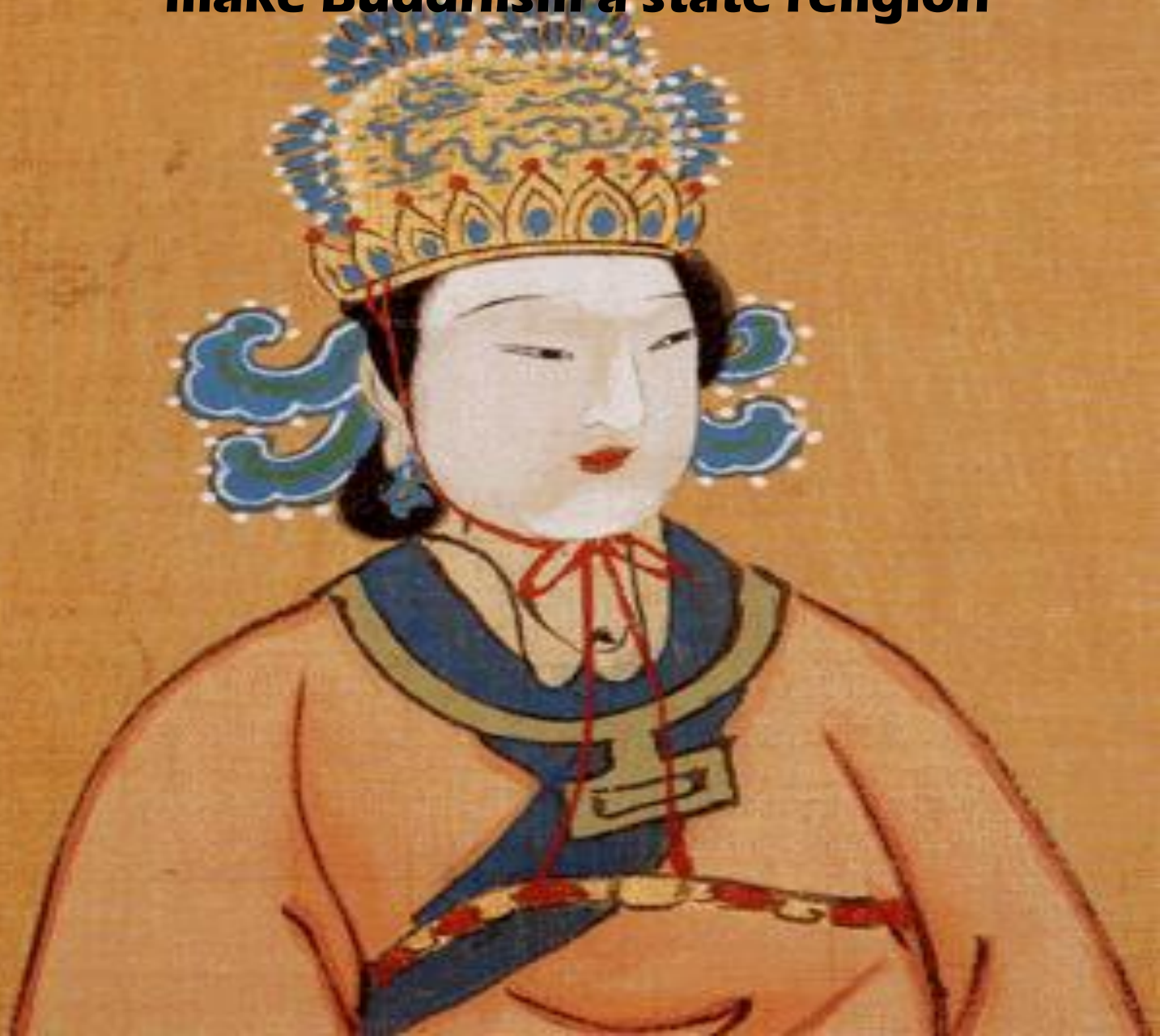


Religion Under Tang

- **Buddhism popular among elite & peasants**
 - Supported by **Empress Wu**
 - Buddhist monks were **tax exempt** & becoming wealthy & powerful (economic threat)
- Tang rulers began to **place restrictions** on land & money gifts given to **Buddhist monasteries**
- As Buddhism declined in power & popularity, **Confucianism increased**



Empress Wu—rare female emperor; attempted to
make Buddhism a state religion



1000 Buddha Caves at Luoyang, China built under Empress Wu

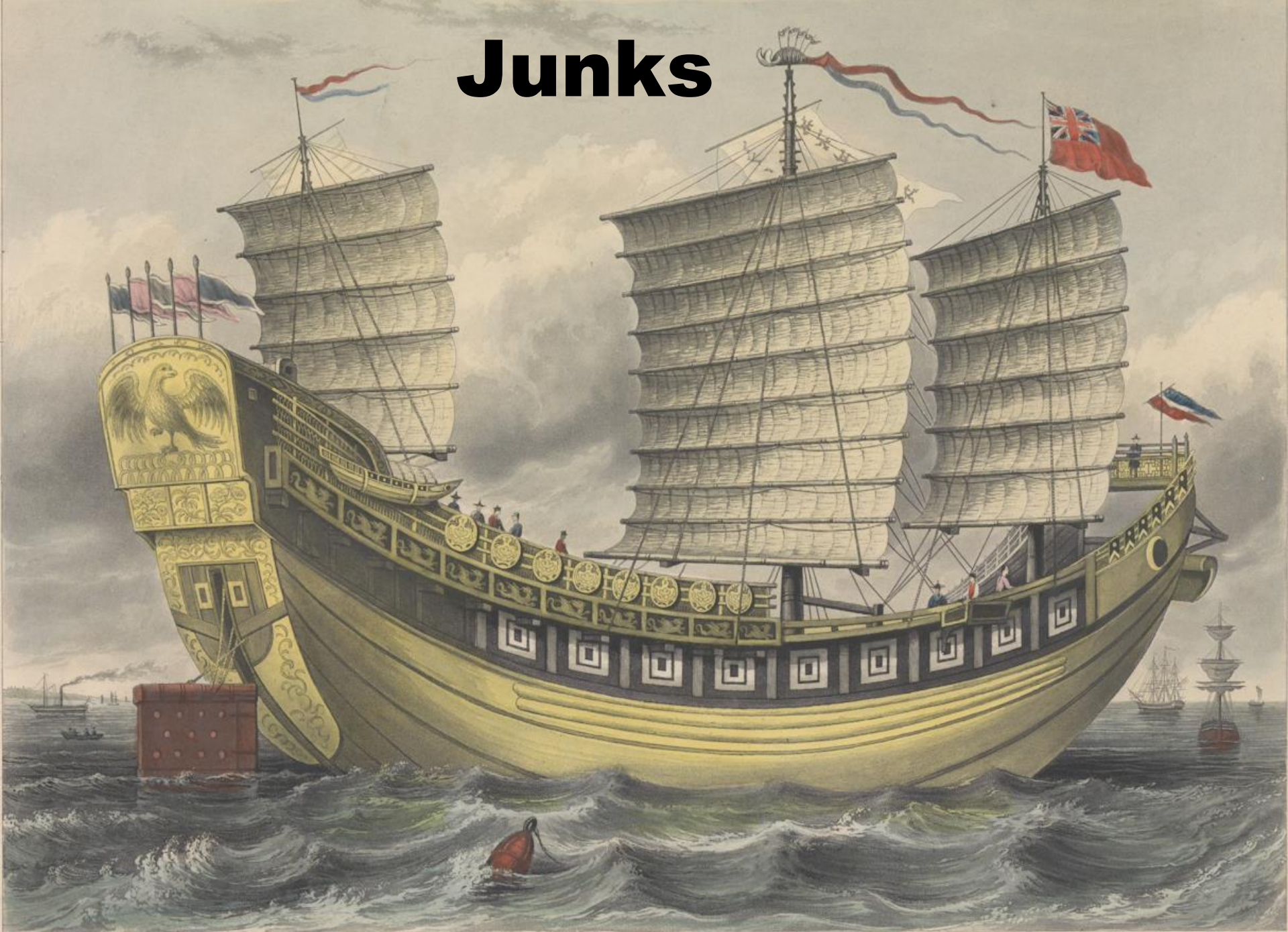




Tang Achievements

- **Economic:**
 - Trade on **Silk Roads** protected
 - Chinese merchants **dominated trade in Indian Ocean**
 - **Paper money**
 - **Flying money**—credit—for long-distance trade
 - Enlarged **market quarters** in all cities & major towns
- **Junks**—
- **Increased contact with Islamic world**
- **Urban areas grew (10% of pop.)**
- **Military domination of seas**
- **Canals & irrigation increased agriculture**
- **Gunpowder**
- **Population in south surpassed north**

Junks





Song Dynasty (960-1279)

- **Never able to control Khitan** (nomads in north)
- **Paid tribute to Khitan** to keep them from conquering China
- **Emphasized scholar-gentry instead of military**





WESTERN XIA

LIAO

K'ai-feng

NORTHERN
SONG



Land under the rule of the Sung Dynasty

Current boundaries of China and Mongolia

0 1000km



Chinese Traditions Strengthened

- Civil service exams
- **Neo-Confucianism** **SYNCRETISM** blend of Confucianism & Buddhism
 - Respect: authority & family
 - Reinforced gender & class distinctions
 - Elite withdrew from contact with other classes



Song Dynasty: Gender

- **Neo-Confucianism limited rights of women**
 - Esp. upper class women
- **Foot binding**



Foot Binding







B 5493 Chinese Girl with Bound Feet - *Lucy* Photo., San Francisco, Cal.



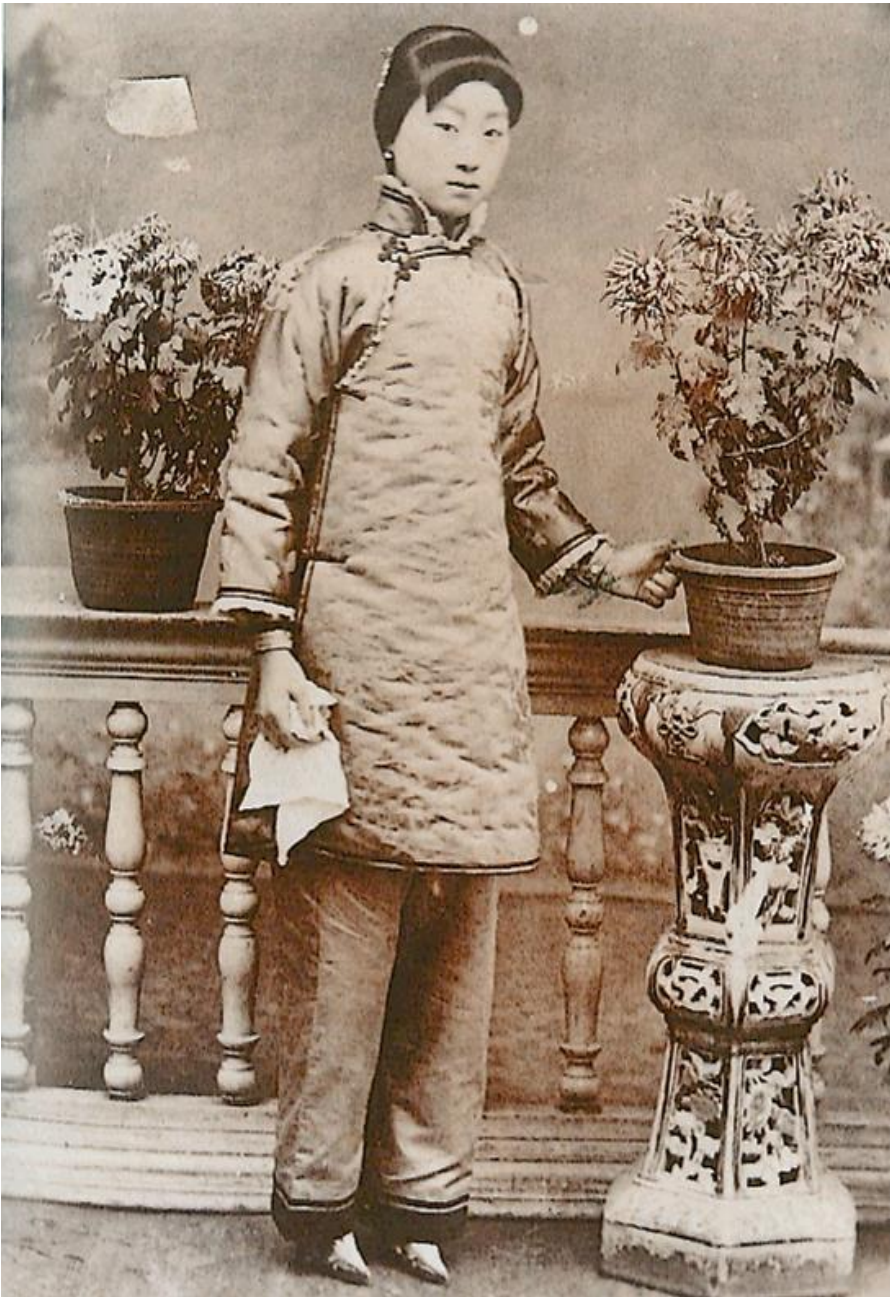












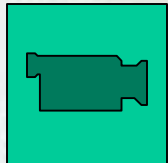
Young woman
with wide-
legged pants.

1909-1911

***A Daughter of Han: The Autobiography of a Chinese Working Woman* by Ida Pruitt From the Story Told Her by Ning Lao T'ai-t'ai (Stanford CA: Stanford UP. [1945] 1990. P. 22):**

"They did not begin to bind my feet until I was seven because I loved so much to run and play. Then I became very ill and they had to take the bindings off my feet again. I had the 'heavenly blossoms' and was ill for two years and my face is very pockmarked. In my childhood everyone had the illness and few escaped some marking. When I was nine they started to bind my feet again and they had to draw the bindings tighter than usual. My feet hurt so much that for two years I had to crawl on my hands and knees. Sometimes at night they hurt so much I could not sleep. I stuck my feet under my mother and she lay on them so they hurt less and I could sleep. But by the time I was eleven my feet did not hurt and by the time I was thirteen they were finished. The toes were turned under so that I could see them on the inner and under side of the foot. They had come up around. Two fingers could be inserted in the cleft between the front of the foot and the heel. My feet were very small indeed. A girl's beauty and desirability were counted more by the size of her feet than by the beauty of her face. Matchmakers were not asked, 'Is she beautiful?' but 'How small are her feet?' A plain face is given by heaven but poorly bound feet are a sign of laziness. My feet were very small indeed. Not like they are now. When I worked so hard and was on my feet all day I slept with the bandages off because my feet ached, and so they spread."

Tools for footbinding (cloth, medicine, cage for fuming cloth)



STEPS IN BINDING



A. Bind the four toes once around.



B. Then pull the binding cloth toward the outside; turn it toward the sole, folding the four toes toward the underside of the arch.



C. From the inside of the foot, pull the binding toward the front point and turn it tightly around the big toe.



D. Wrap the heel from the outer side of the foot, and pull the binding cloth toward the front point. Wrap the front, except for the big toe.



E. Wrap over the instep, go around the ankle, and return to the instep.



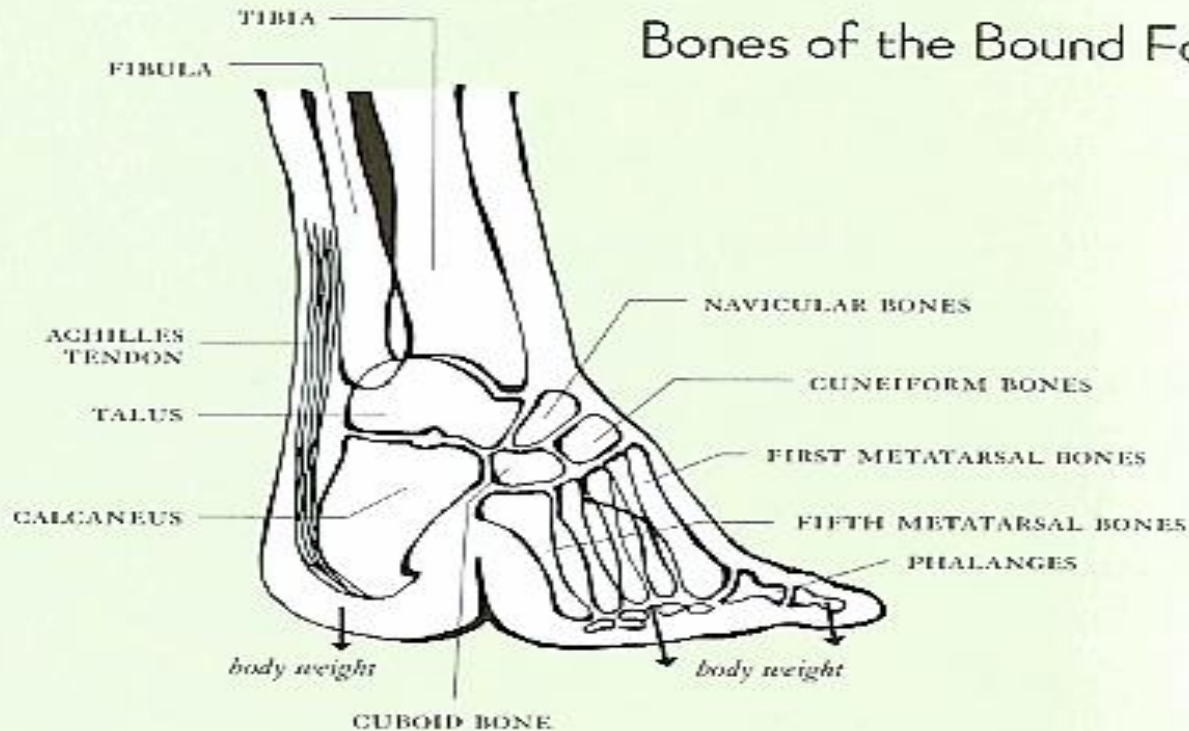
F. Turn toward the heel and wrap the binding cloth from the inner side of the foot to the front point.



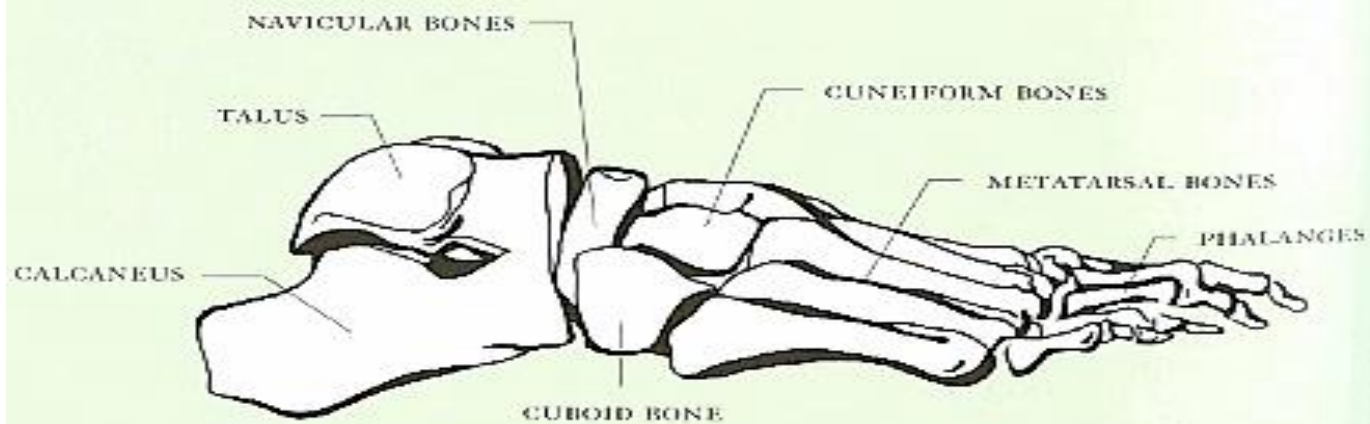
G. Wrap from the inner side and over the instep to the outer side. Wrap around the heel and pull the binding cloth back toward the instep.

FIGURE 25
Adapted from Howard S. Levy,
Chinese Footbinding, pp. 24–25.

Bones of the Bound Foot



Bones of the Unbound Foot





**Bound and
Unbound
feet**

Padded boots, snow shoes, straw sandals



video

The more things change...



Taiwanese 20th Century Lotus Shoe



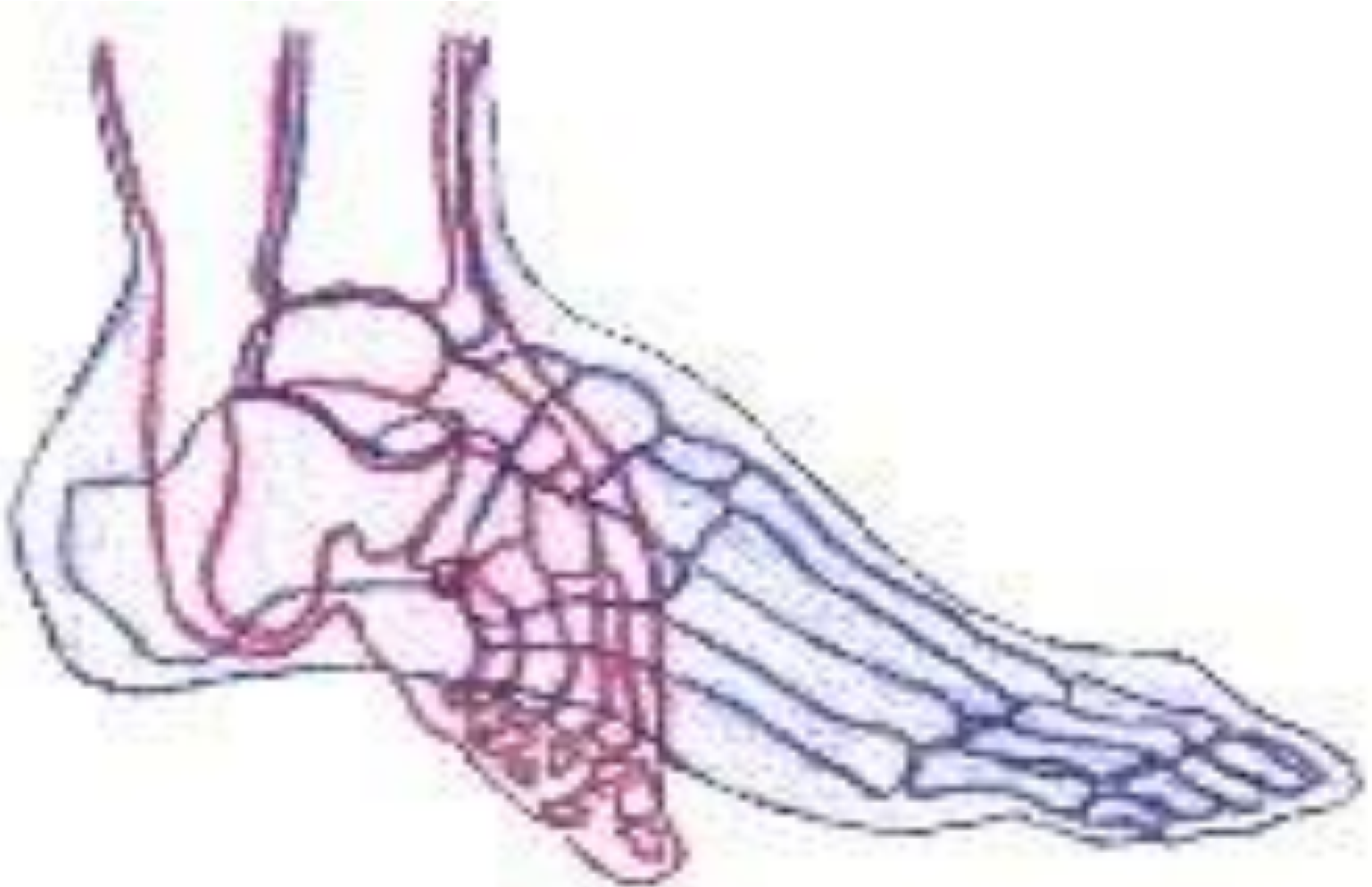
**Yves Saint Laurent 2004 Fall Collection
“Lotus Pump”**





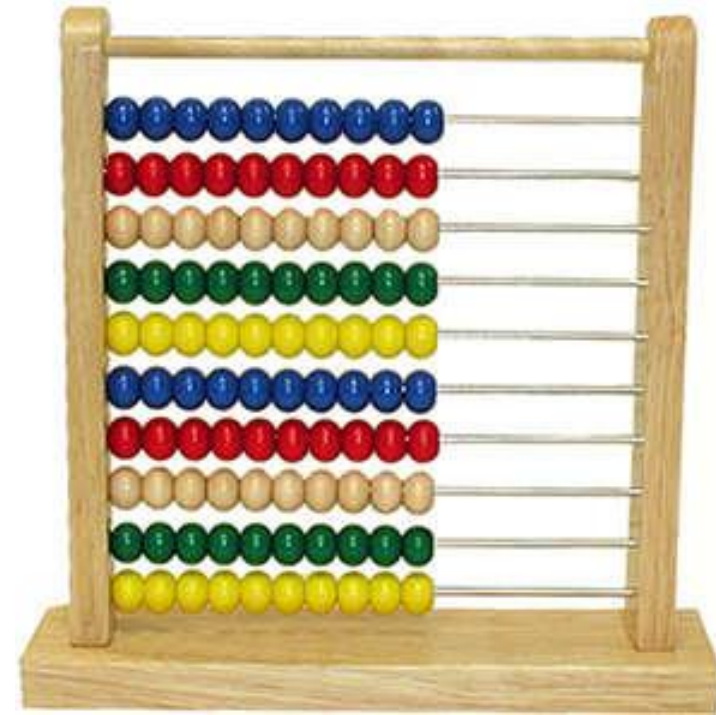


X-ray of a normal foot & a bound foot



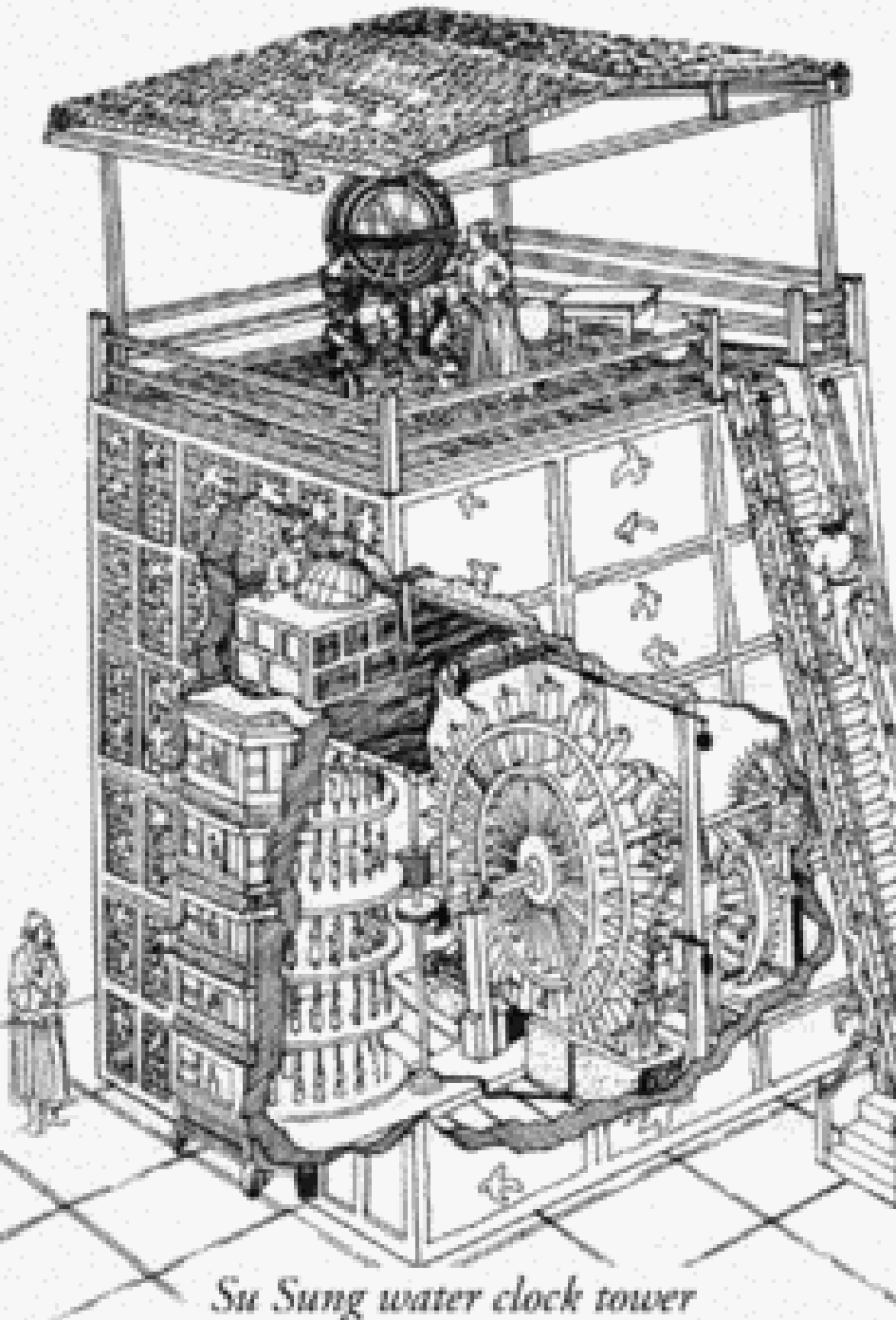
Song Achievements

- **Landscape paintings** (by political elite)
- **Movable type**
- **Enlarged market quarters in all cities & major towns**
- **Canton**—port city—1 of world's largest
- **Catapult, flame-throwers, & rocket launchers**
- **Compass** used in ocean navigation
- **Abacus**
- **Coal** used for fuel
- **Water clock**
- **Population doubled (100 million)**



Mechanical Water Clock— 1090

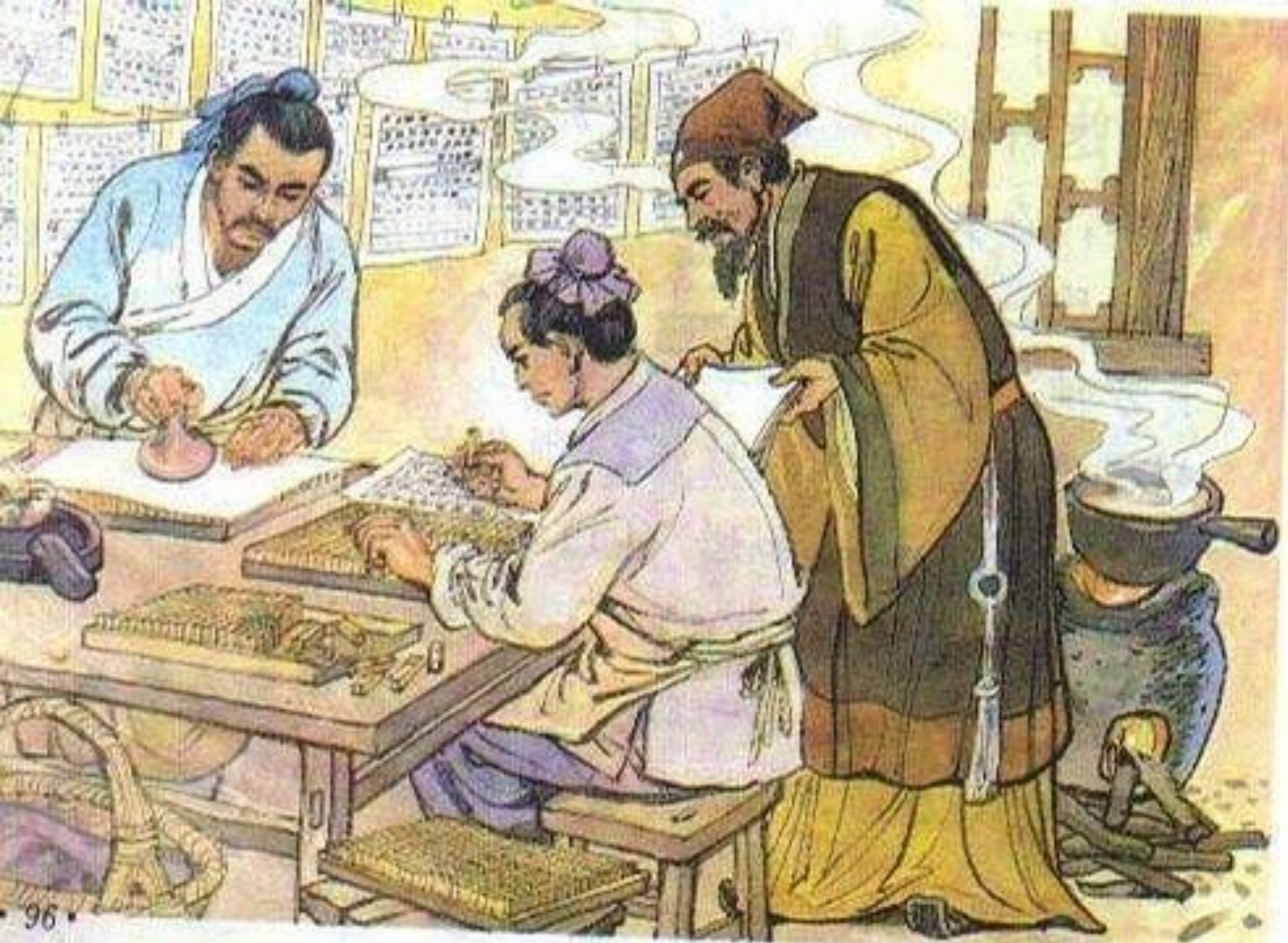
- movements driven by water in the waterwheel
- every 15 minutes bells & gongs
- every hour revolving figures appeared at windows
- 80 ft. tall
- told time of day, day of month, position of sun, moon, planets



Su Sung water clock tower

Movable Type Printing





中国古代
活字印刷术
发明者

毕昇
北宋





EMPIRES OF THE EAST

Tang/Song Arts

- **Scholar-Gentry: (inspired by Confucianism)**
 - Wrote literature and poetry
 - Painted landscapes (similar brush strokes to writing)
 - Wrote music

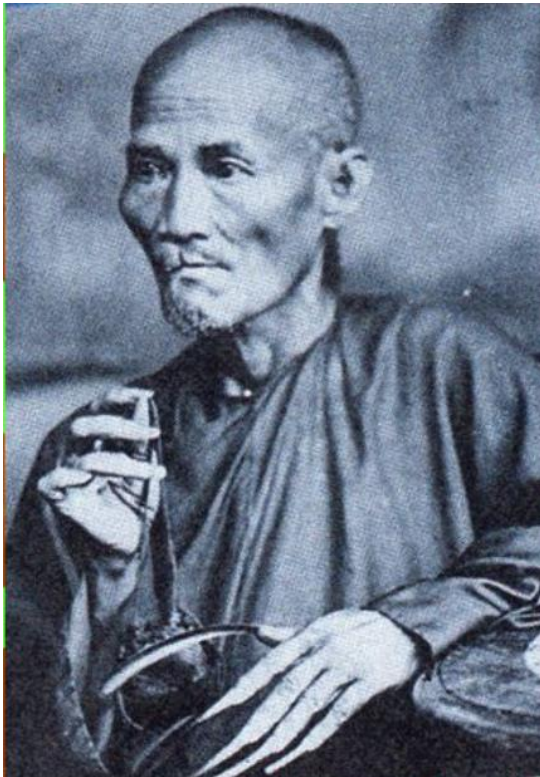


Li Cheng (919-967)



Scholar-Gentry

- **New upper class**
- **Many began to grow nails long (2 inches— to show they didn't do manual labor)**



Song Decline

- Threat from **Jurchens** (who overthrew Khitan in north)
- Dominated most of **Huang He River Valley** in the north
- Song **retreated south**
- **South eventually falls to Mongols under Kubilai Khan in 1279**



Yuan Empire (1271-1368)

- **Mongol control of China**
- **Mongols adapt to Chinese ways (Buddhism, Mandarin Chinese lang.)**
- **1300s suffered from bubonic plague**
 - **Economic decline & civil war followed**

