

Chinese Art and Korean Art to 1279



Class Review Activity

Jog your memory from last week (Art of South/Southeast Asia). If you can answer most of these, you're on track.

1. What is a *jataka* tale?
2. What is aniconism? Give an example within the Buddhist visual canon.
3. Who was King Ashoka? What were some of the key ideas we discussed in relation to the Ashokan pillars?
4. How did Hindu and Buddhist beliefs manifest in Southeast Asian art? Use an example of a specific work.
5. What were some of the important aspects of Buddhist architecture we discussed in relation to the Great Stupa at Sanchi and the Buddhist site at Borobudur?



China Timeline

7000-2000 BC: Neolithic China – agriculture, pottery, jade

1700-1050 BC: Shang China – dev. of writing, bronze casting

1050-256 BC: Zhou China – peaceful period for 300 yrs, then Warring States Period, birth of Confucius

221-206 BC: Qin Dynasty – Unification of China

206 BC-220 AD: Han Dynasty – Silk Road development

220-581 AD: Period of Disunity

618-907 AD: Tang Dynasty – golden age of painting

960-1279: Song Dynasty – China becomes world's most technologically advanced society

1279 AD: Mongol Invasion

How were philosophical and political ideas conveyed through early Chinese art?

Zhou Dynasty
1050-256 BC

Warring States Period
475-221 BC

Confucianism

Who was Confucius?

Confucius was a scholar born into an aristocratic society (b. 551 BC – d. 479 BC).

During his lifetime that warfare for supremacy was constant (during the Spring and Autumn period – 8th through 5th centuries BCE - preceding the Warring States period, and similarly unstable)

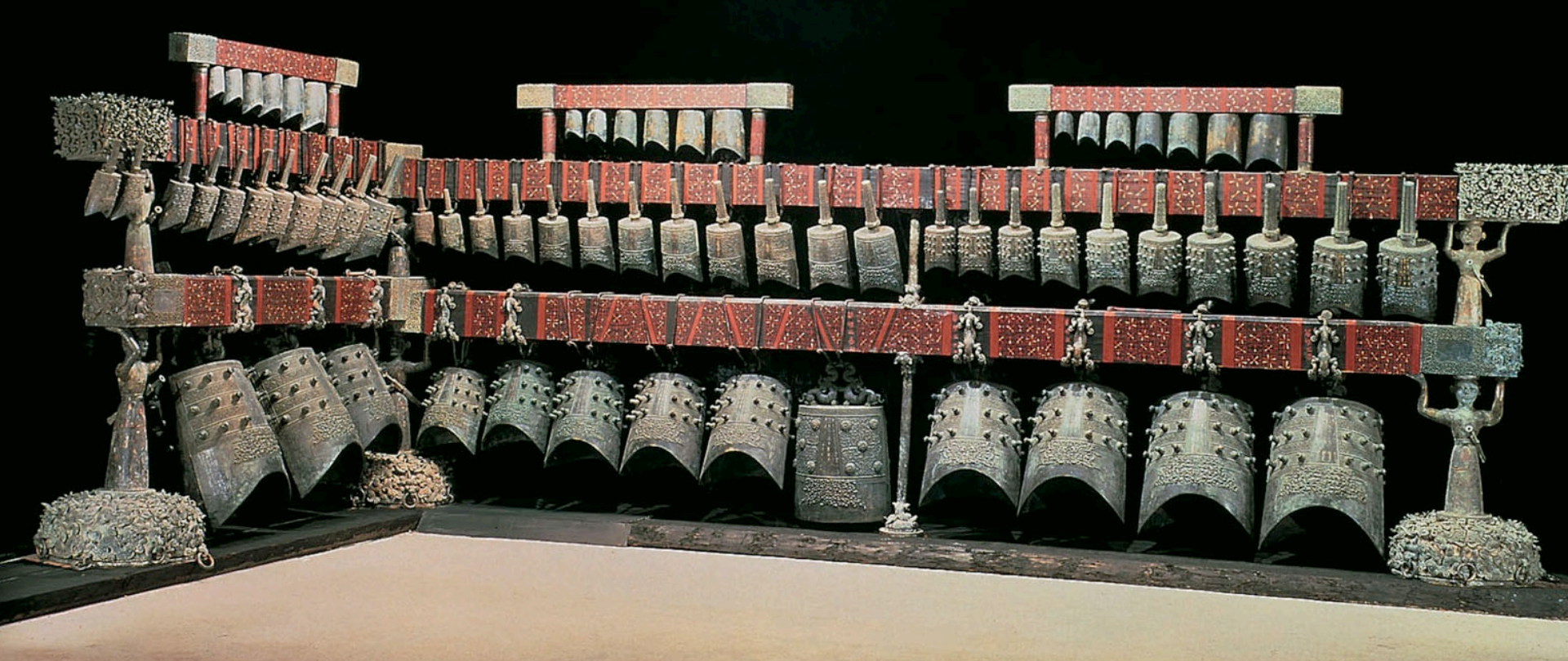
Confucianism: (after Confucius)

- Rational political philosophy emphasizes deference, duty, discipline
- Possible to better ones' self through education (Confucius was a teacher)
- Humanity (reciprocity) is key ideal;
- Confucianism offers an ethical system based on the correct relationship among people.



Chinese bronze bell

Eastern Zhou period, China, about 6th – 5th century BC.



Set of Bells, 433 BCE. Frame height 9' , length 25' .

Qin Dynasty (221-206 BC)



Army of the First Emperor of Qin (Terracotta Army), Lintong, China, Qin Dynasty, c. 210 BC. Painted Terracotta.





Han Empire



Map of the Silk Routes (collectively known as the "Silk Road"), which began during the Han Dynasty in China (206 BC – 220 CE).



Seated Buddha, Cave 20, Yungang.
Northern Wei Dynasty, c. 460. Height 45'.



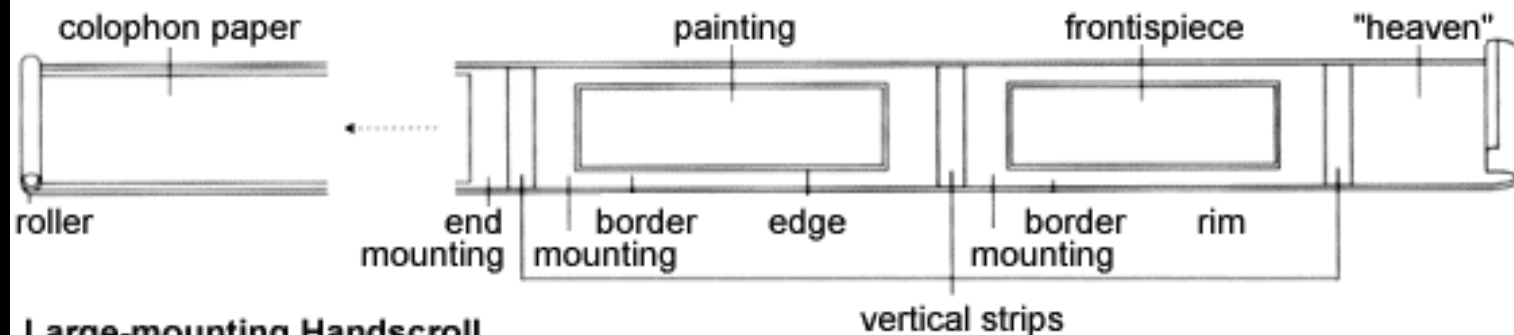
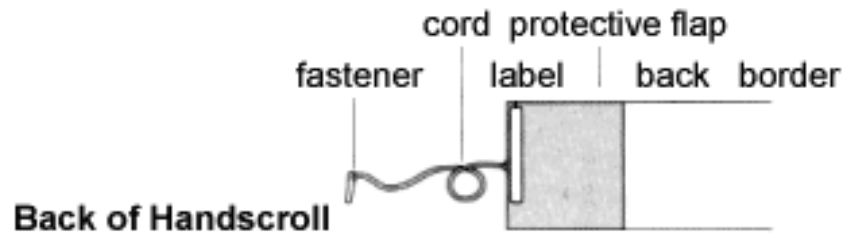


After Gu Kaizhi. **Detail of *Admonitions of the Imperial Instructress to Court Ladies***. Period of Disunity, late fourth century. Handscroll, ink, and colours on silk. 9 3/4" × 11 '5".

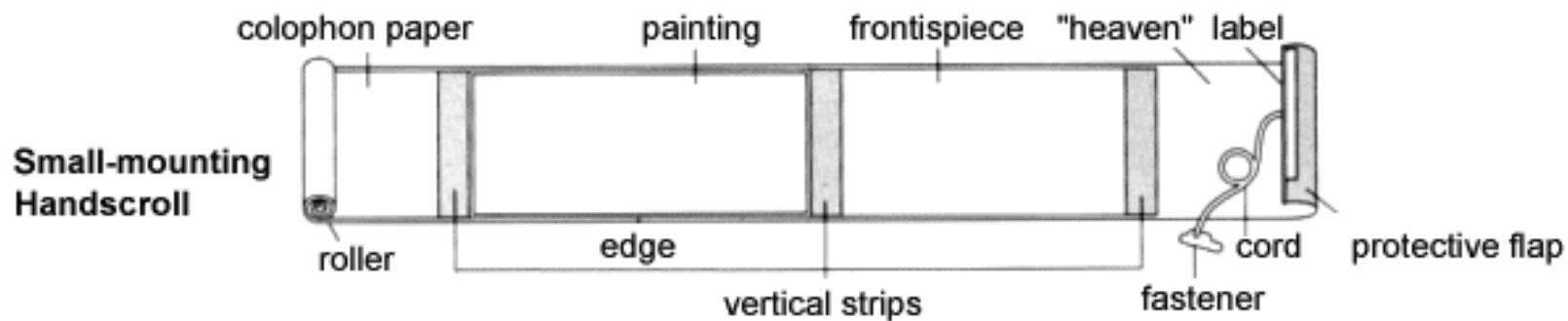


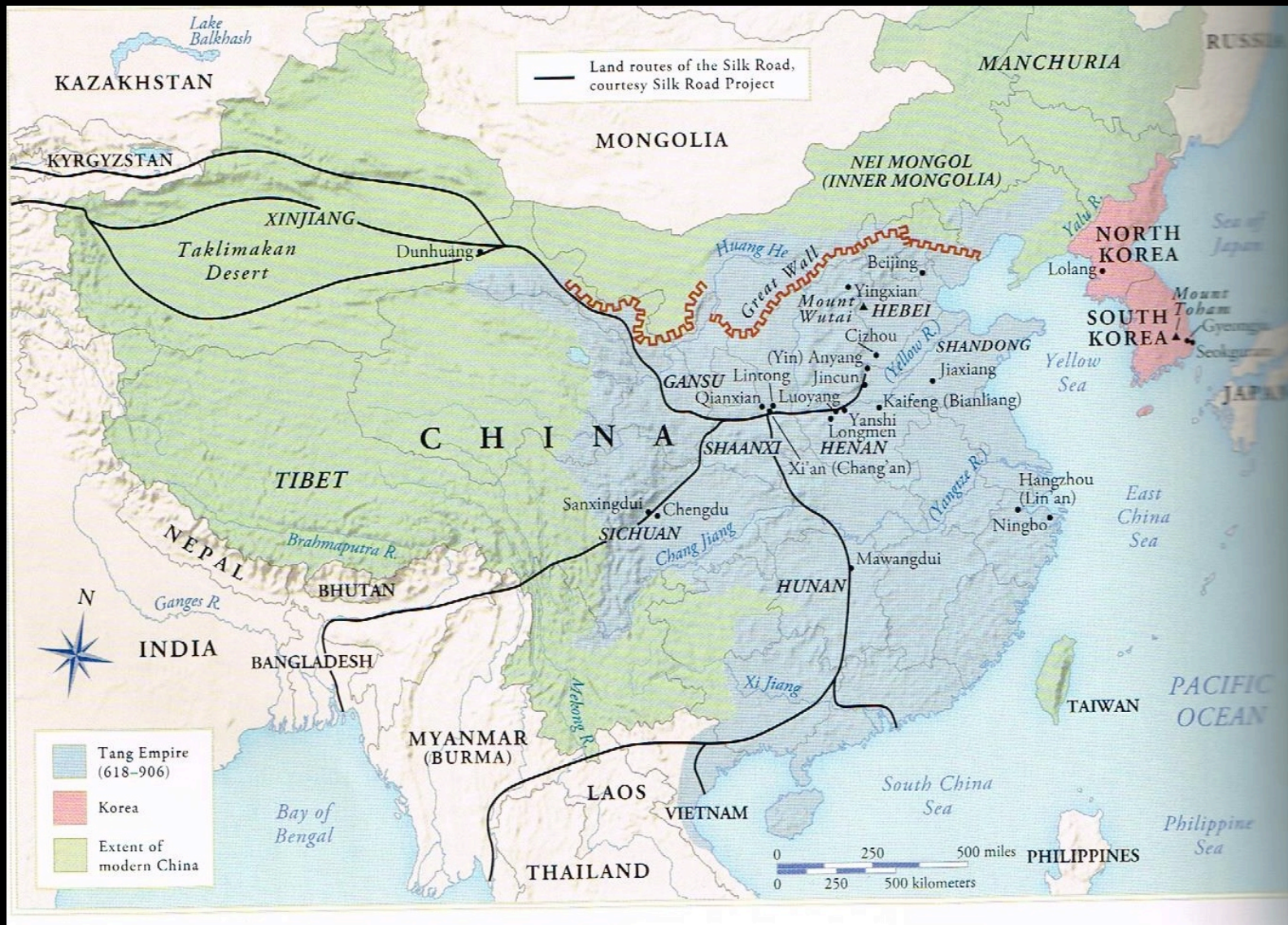
Upper: British Museum, London c. 5th century AD. Lower: Palace Museum, Beijing c. 13th century AD

Rolled Handscroll



Large-mounting Handscroll





Tang Dynasty



Vairocana Buddha, disciples, and bodhisattvas, Longmen Caves, Luoyang, China, Tang Dynasty, completed 676.





Seated Buddha,
Northern Wei Dynasty, c.
460.



Vairocana Buddha, Tang
Dynasty, completed 676.



Attributed to Yan Liben, *Emperor Xuan and Attendants*, detail of the *Thirteen Emperors*, Tang Dynasty, ca. 650. Handscroll, ink and colors on silk.

Song Dynasty

960-1279 BC

T/Daoism:

- A philosophical or religious tradition in which the basic concept is to establish harmony with the Tao
- The word "Tao" (or "Dao") is usually translated as "way", "path" or "principle"
- Taoist propriety and ethics emphasize the Three Jewels of the Tao: compassion, moderation and humility
- Allows for the cultivation of the mind in private, especially in art
- Taoist thought generally focuses on nature.



Fan Kuan. *Travelers among Mountains and Streams*. Northern Song Dynasty, early 11th century CE.

Hanging Scroll, ink and color on silk. Height 6' 7 1/4" x 3' 4 1/4".







"A virtuous man takes delight in landscapes so that in a rustic retreat he may nourish his nature, amid the carefree play of streams and rocks, he may take delight, that he might constantly meet in the country fishermen, woodcutters, and hermits, and see the soaring of cranes and hear the crying of monkeys.

The din of the dusty world and the locked-in-ness of human habitations are what human nature habitually abhors; on the contrary, haze, mist, and the haunting spirits of the mountains are what the human nature seeks, and yet can rarely find. “

-- Guo Xi





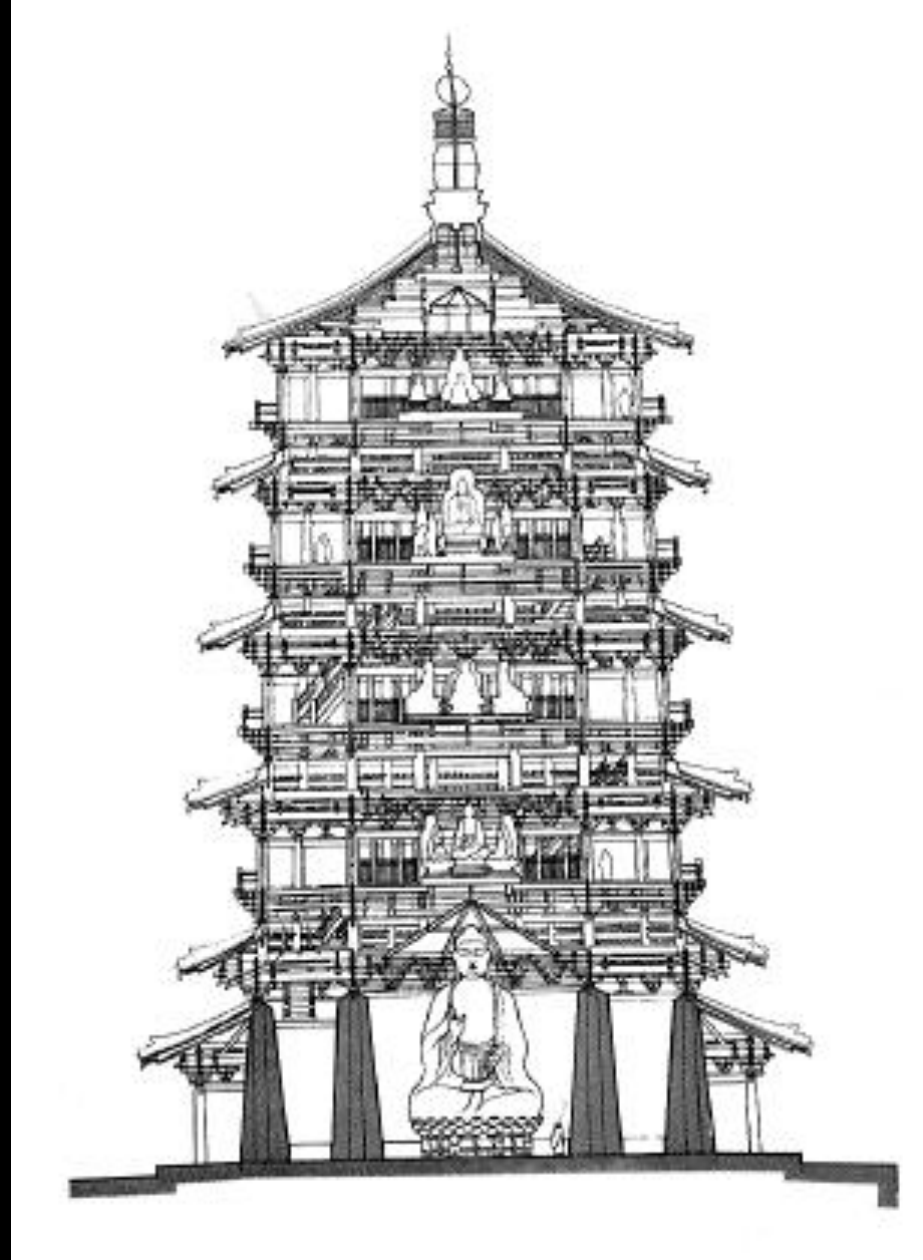
Chan (Zen) Buddhism:

A Chinese (Japanese) Buddhist sect and its doctrine, emphasizing enlightenment through intuition and introspection rather than the study of scripture

Liang Kai, *Sixth Chan Patriarch Chopping Bamboo*, Southern Song period, early 13th century.
Hanging scroll, ink on paper, 2' 5 ¼" high.



Foguang Si Pagoda,
Yingxian, China, Liao
dynasty, 1056.





Korea

Three Kingdoms Period
(57 BC-688 AD)



Crown, from
Cheonmachong tomb,
near Gyeongju, Korea,
Three Kingdoms Period,
fifth to sixth century. Gold
and Jade.



Shakyamuni Buddha, in rotunda of the cave temple of Seokguram, Korea, Unified Silla Kingdom, 751-774. Granite.