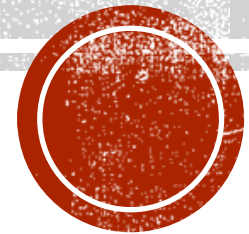


CHAPTER 7 (PART I)

The Emergence of “Globalizing Empires”





BIG PICTURE

- HAN DYNASTY CHINA (Pax Sinica)
- ROMAN EMPIRE (Pax Romano)
- Skill Building: Practicing the “art” of comparative history and developing WHY questions
- Framing Questions: ***In what ways were Han China and Imperial Rome similar? Different? What accounts for these differences? To what extent are these similarities and differences significant? Why or why not?***

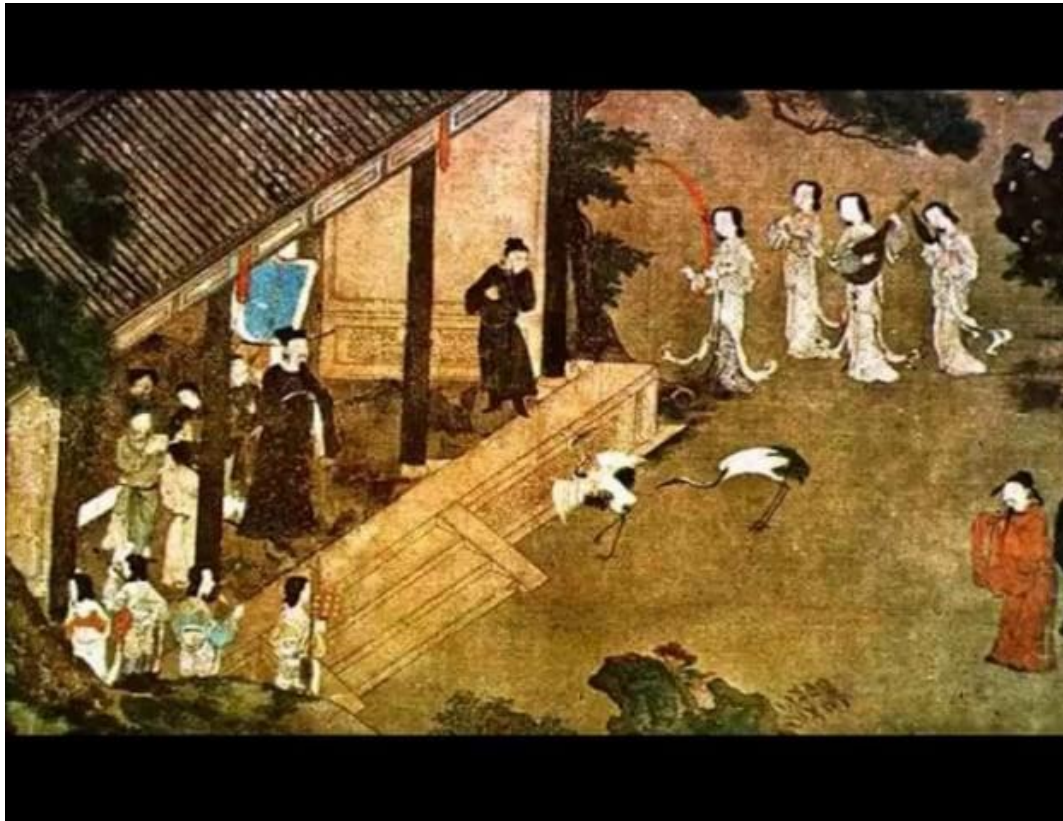


THE QIN FOUNDATION

- Warring States period (c. 403-221 BCE)
- Qin Dynasty (221-207 BCE) (only 14 years, but still crucial)
- Qin distinctiveness:
 - Sichuan region (utilized rich agricultural land and mineral wealth)
 - Developed a vibrant merchant class
 - Silk trade (revenue driver – supported large-scale public works projects)
 - Conscripted military (compulsory military service)
 - Ambitious ruler: King Zheng (Shi Huangdi – “First August Emperor”)
 - Centralized administration (36 provinces, mix of civilian and military oversight)
 - Regulated taxation system
 - Legalism
 - State-directed education (centralized, uniform, censorship)
- **FQ#1: WHY and HOW did the Qin period end?**



THE DEBATE ON SALT AND IRON



- Read “The Debate of Salt and Iron, 81 BCE” in the Companion Reader (pp. 189-193)
- Answer the three questions on page 193 (write down your answers)



CHINESE EXPANSION



WESTERN HAN DYNASTY (206 BCE-9 CE)

- Period of post-Qin civil war
- Liu Bang (206-195 BCE) – first Han emperor, Mandate of Heaven
- Improving on the Qin Model:
 - Alliance between imperial ruler and scholar-gentry class (“super bureaucracy”)
 - Super Bureaucracy: 130K (central and local)
 - Imperial University founded in 136 BCE
 - trained bureaucratic class
 - Underpinning of Confucian philosophy
 - Natural world, human biology
 - Innovations such as paper and magnetic compass
 - Confucian philosophy:
 - ✓ The wisdom and value of Tradition
 - ✓ The past as a teachable moment
 - ✓ Mandate of Heaven (ruler’s divine duty)
 - **Super Bureaucracy steeped in Confucian philosophy as counterweight to imperial vagaries and impulses**

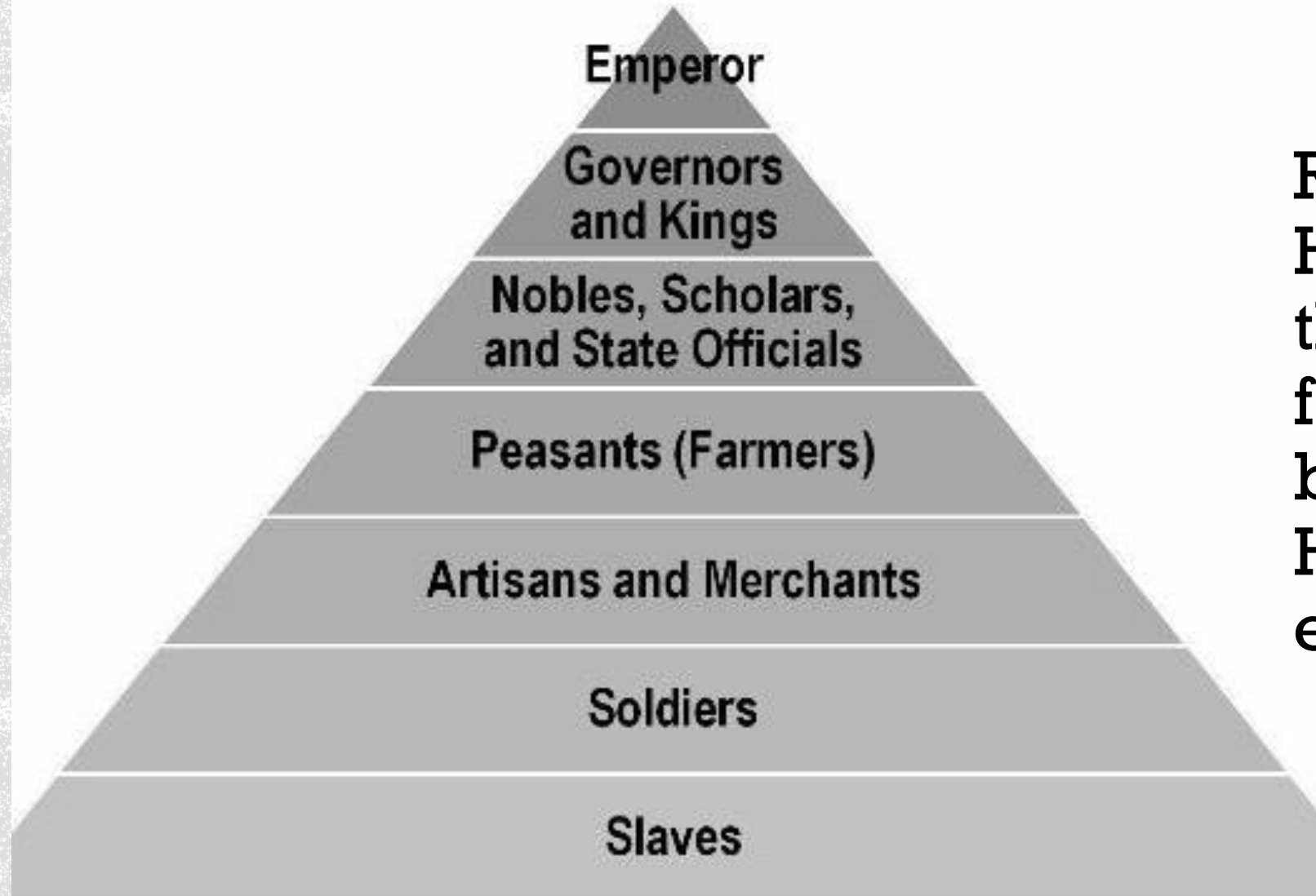


HAN POLITICAL ECONOMY AND SOCIAL ORDER

- Massive and coordinated agricultural production
- Imperial Taxation Schema: real property, mining, surplus crops, household taxes on nobility
- Imperial Monopolies: salt, wine, iron
- Large-scale public works projects w/ *conscripted labor force*
- Regulated money supply (also, vigilant enforcement of anti-counterfeiting efforts)
- Encouragement of Silk Production and Trade (major revenue generator)
- Carefully planned cities (“inner city” for imperial presence)
- Social hierarchy and highly gendered culture
 - **FQ#2: How could one identify elites in Han society?**

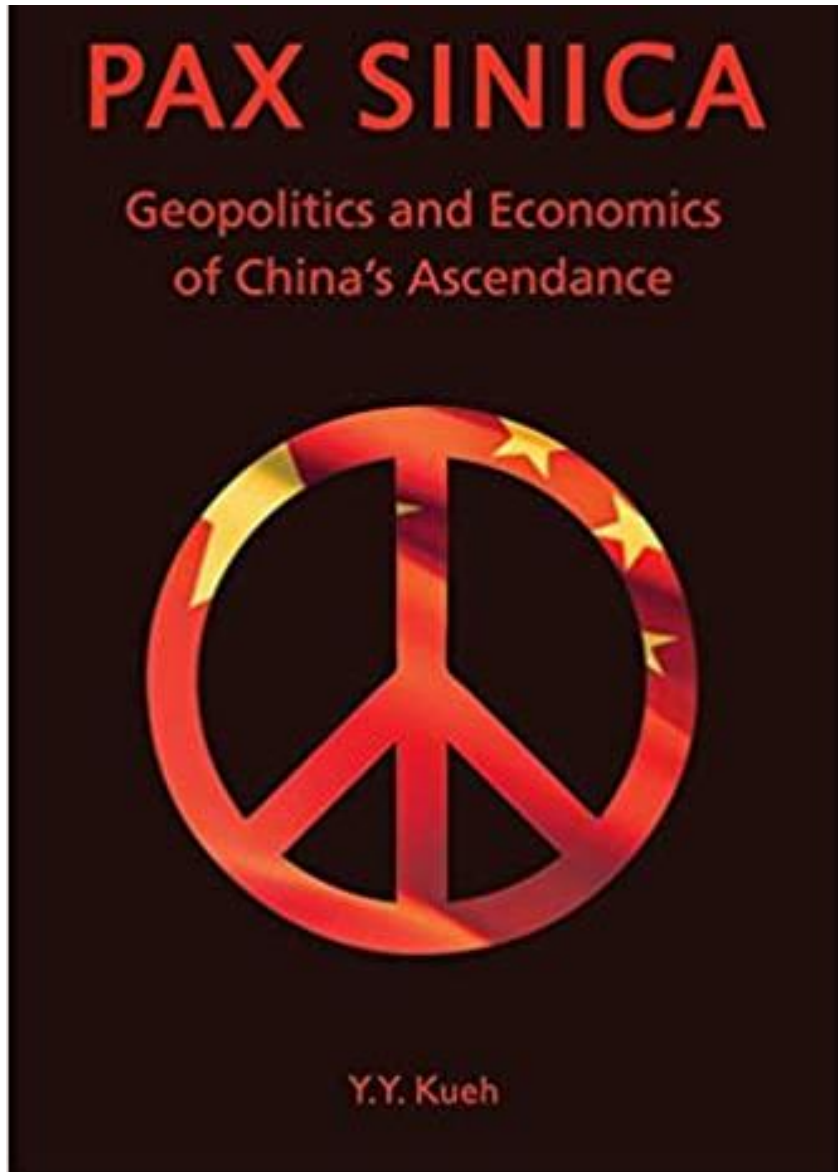


Social Classes under the Han



Rhetorically, the Han elites praised the free, peasant farmers as the backbone of the Han political economy

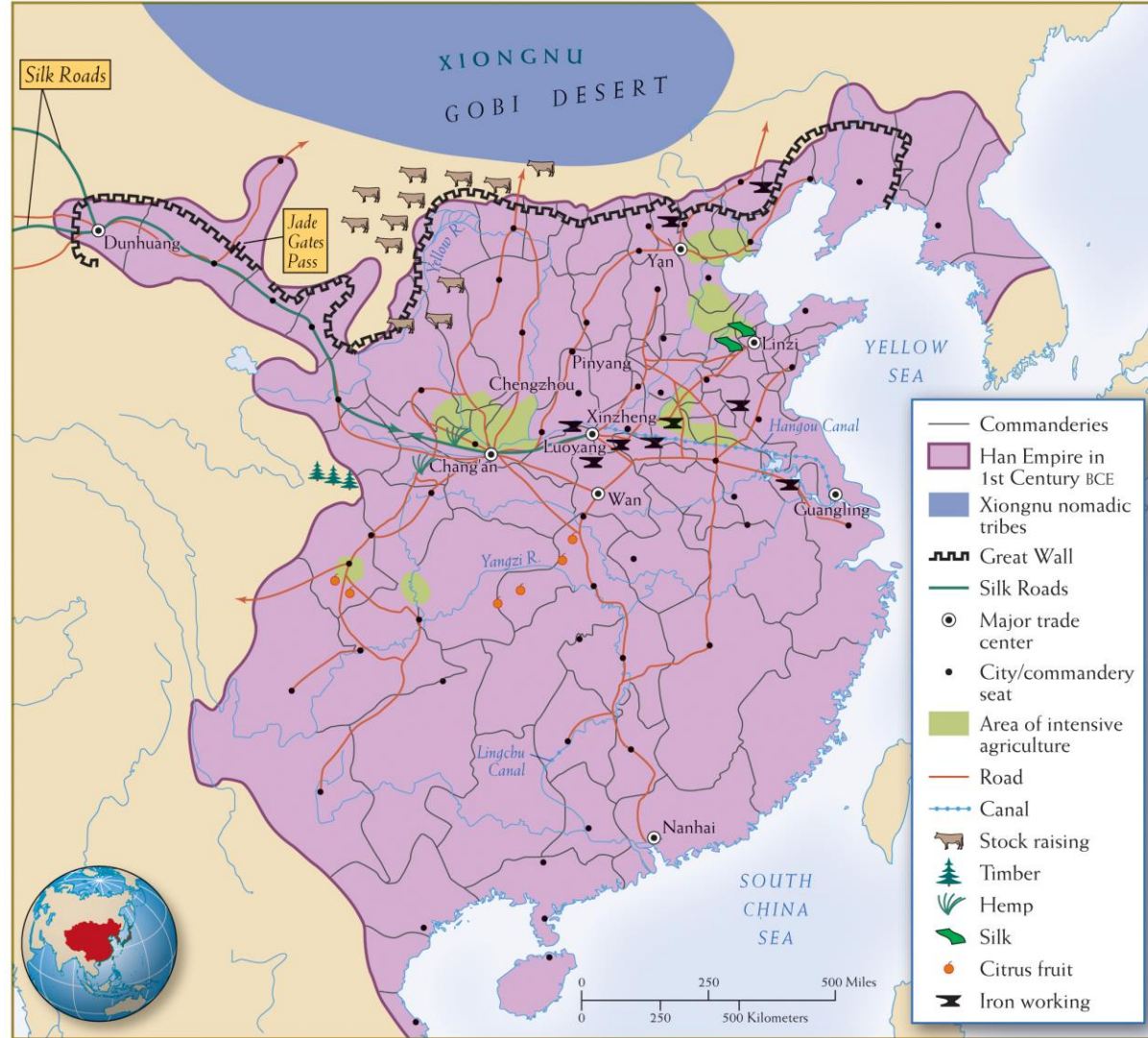




HAN EXPANSIONISM & EMPIRE

- ***Pax Sinica*** (Chinese Peace): 149-87 BCE
- ***DQ#1: Describe this period of Pax Sinica. What does “peace” mean in this context?***



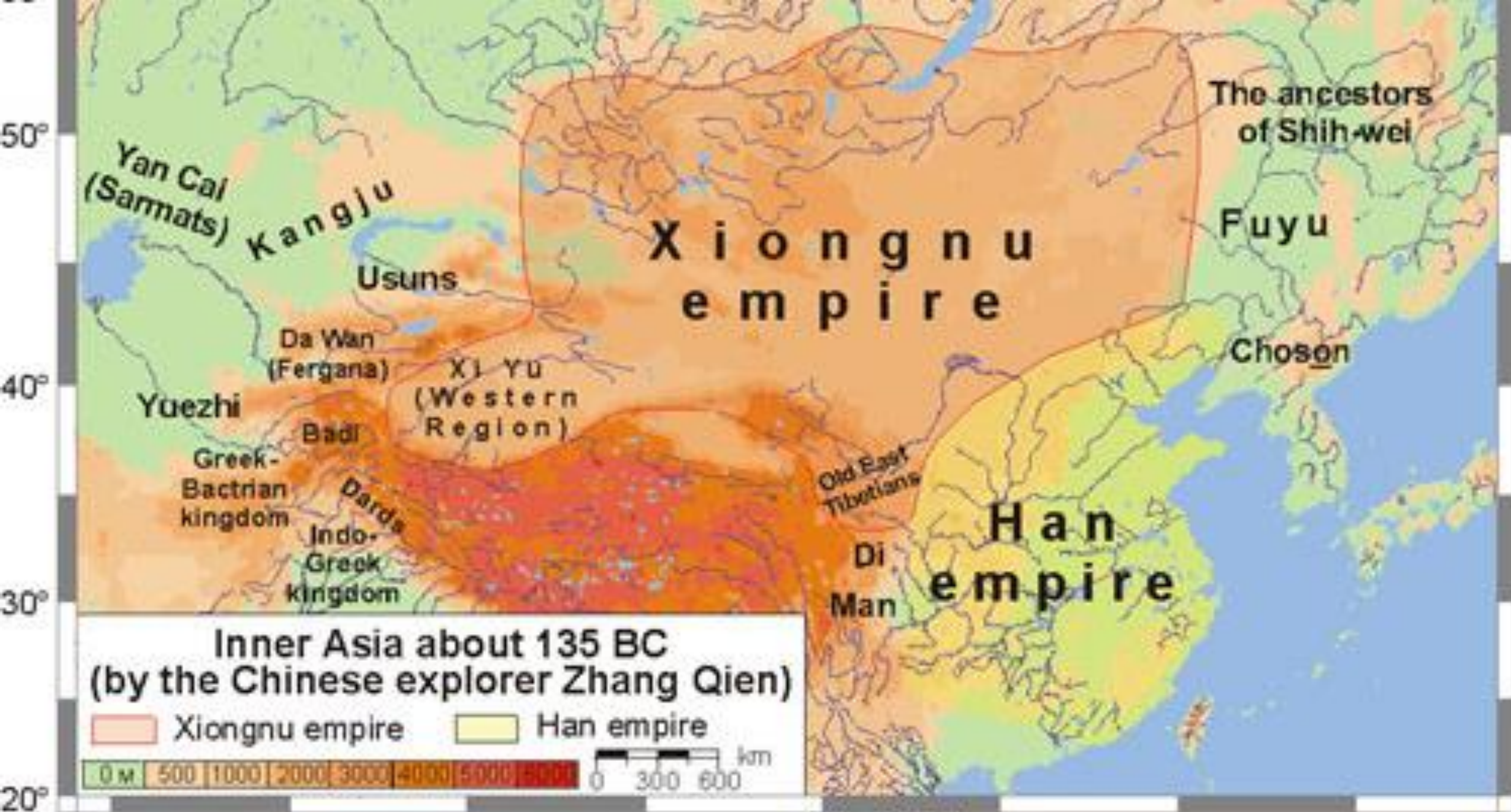




THE HAN FRONTIER

- *DQ#2: Describe the Han dynasty's complex relationship with the nomadic people to the north, the Xiongnu.*





EASTERN HAN AND TO THE DYNASTIC END



- *DQ#3: According to the authors, WHY did the Han dynasty decline during the second century CE? What replaced it?*



EASTERN HAN AND TO THE DYNASTIC END

- Deregulated economic policies benefitted landowners, business, trade
- Later Han tax system manipulated by landed elites
- Increased ***social inequality*** leads to rebellion
 - Rebellion in 184 CE
 - Daoist Master Laozi championed new ideas
 - Yellow Turbans
 - Champion Daoist ideals in millenarian movement
 - Demand fairer treatment by Han state and equal distribution of all farm lands
- Widespread famine and disintegration of economy
- Three states replace Han
 - Northwest: Wei
 - Southwest: Shu
 - South: Wu
- No reunification for several centuries

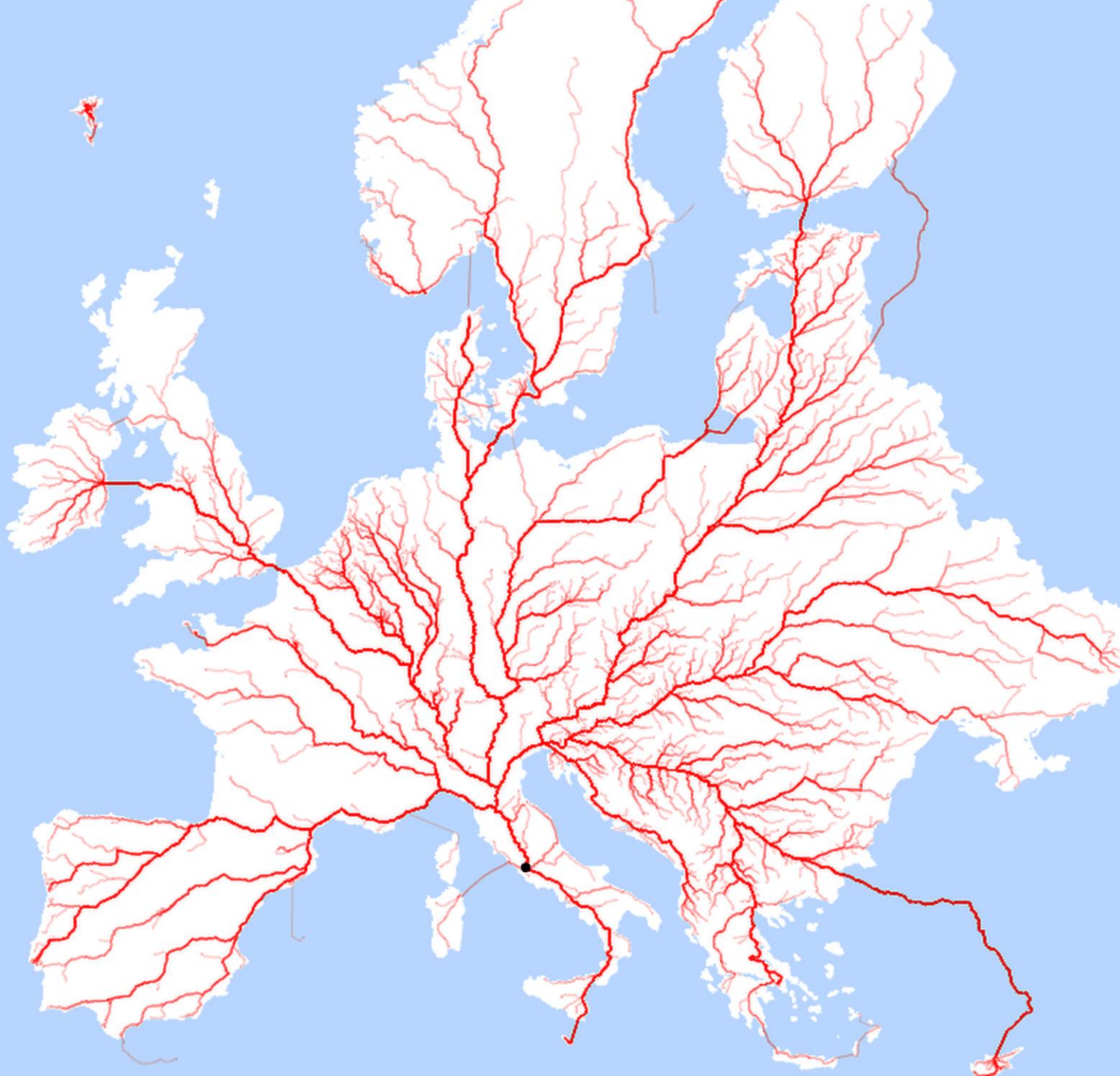


ANALYZING THE DEBATE ON SALT & IRON



- Who were the literati?
- What problems do the literati blame on state monopolies? Conversely, what benefits do the officials attribute to them?
- How does each side defend its preferred policies?
- The passage ends with the officials criticizing the literati, not just their proposals. Why is this significant? Why might a pro-literati chronicler have included this detail?
- What else is significant about the political culture depicted in this reading?





NEXT CLASS

- R 10/15: LD 13: *The Roman Empire*
- READ WTWA, Chapter 7 (Part II): 256-277
- **Homework:** In lieu of FQs, each student will write a 500-600 word essay comparing and contrasting Han China and Rome in one of the following areas: (1) political order (structure, ruler(s), bureaucracy and administration, legitimacy); (2) economic policies and trade; (3) social order and hierarchy; (4) expansionism and militarism; and (5) rise and fall (how and why each gained and lost power). Each student will be assigned an area of focus for this assignment. This assignment will count as two FQs and will be assessed according to a rubric available on the course Moodle page. Students must submit it by noon on 10/22 via the course Moodle page using the appropriate folder.

