**SHANG DYNASTY (1500 B.C.-1028 B.C.)**

* United more than **200 city-states** in China.
* Used war chariots and advanced weapons to protect their kingdom.
* Captured new territories and spread Chinese civilization.
* People began to keep written records for the first time.
* Over 10,000 characters made it hard to read and write.
* A **calendar** was invented based on phases of the moon and had **365 days** a year.

**ZHOU DYNASTY ( 1028 B.C.-256 B.C.)**

* Control by this dynasty was the longest in Chinese history.
* Copper and gold coins used for the first time.
* Local princes owned the land but owed military service and other support to the king.
* China became the world's most populated country during these years.
* Ruled by the “**Mandate of Heaven**” the divine right to rule through orders from the gods.

**QIN DYNASTY (256 B.C.-206 B.C.)**

* Name **China** derived from the Qin or Ch'in Dynasty.
* Shih Huang Ti- "**First Emperor**" captured new territories and set up the first Chinese empire.
* Completed work on the **Great Wall** which guarded against invasion.
* System of writing was simplified and a uniform set of **weights** adopted.

**HAN DYNASTY (206 B.C. - 220 A.D.)**

* Empire expanded into Manchuria, Mongolia and central Asia.
* Invented **silk**, **sundials** and **water clocks**.
* Doctors used a new method called **acupuncture** - piercing skin with needles to relieve pain.
* Wrote the world's first **dictionary**.