

Ancient China ABC Book

by: Lucas Gonzalez

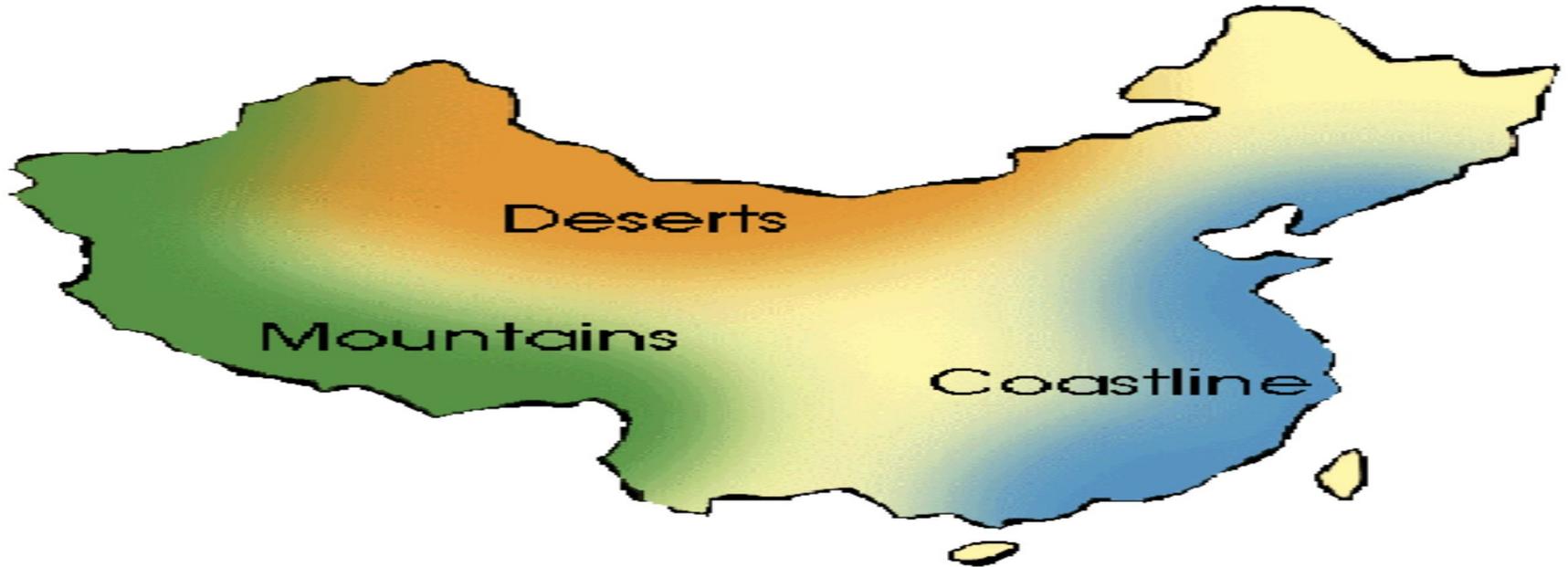
A is for Age

The Han Dynasty is often called the Golden Age of China.



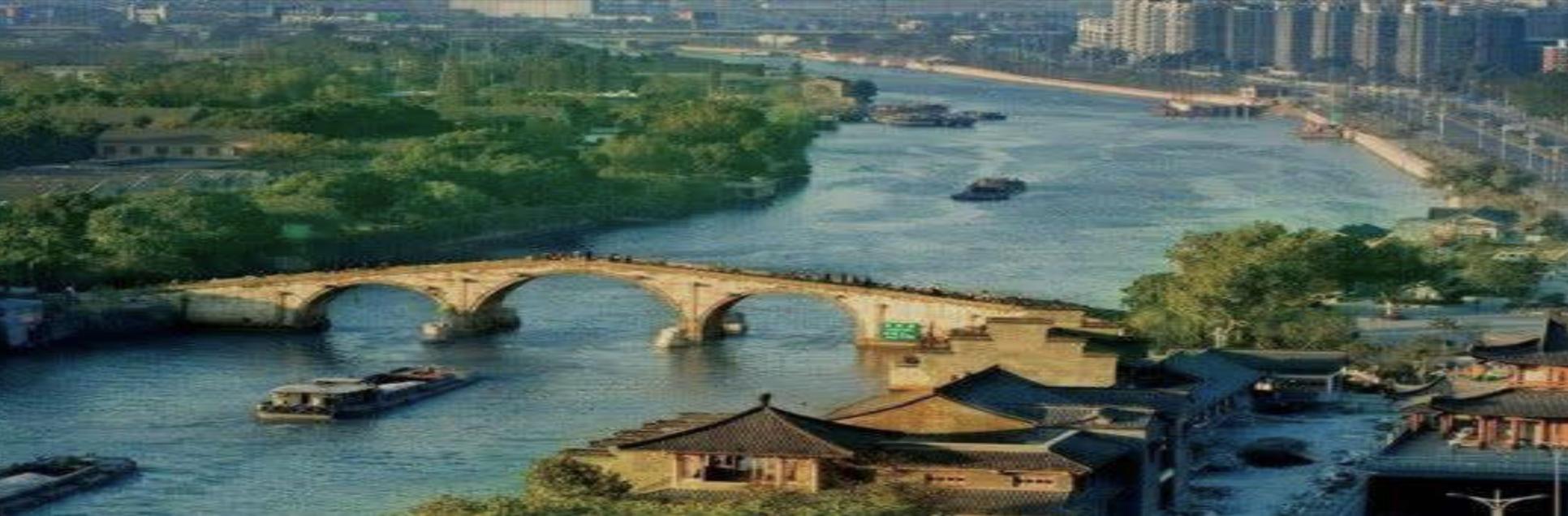
B is for barrier

The natural barriers around China limited contacts between them and other civilizations, and it also protected them from invaders.



C is for Canal

Emperor Shi Huangdi commissioned the construction of the Grand Canal, which connected existing rivers, aiding in transport, food, and soldiers from North to South.



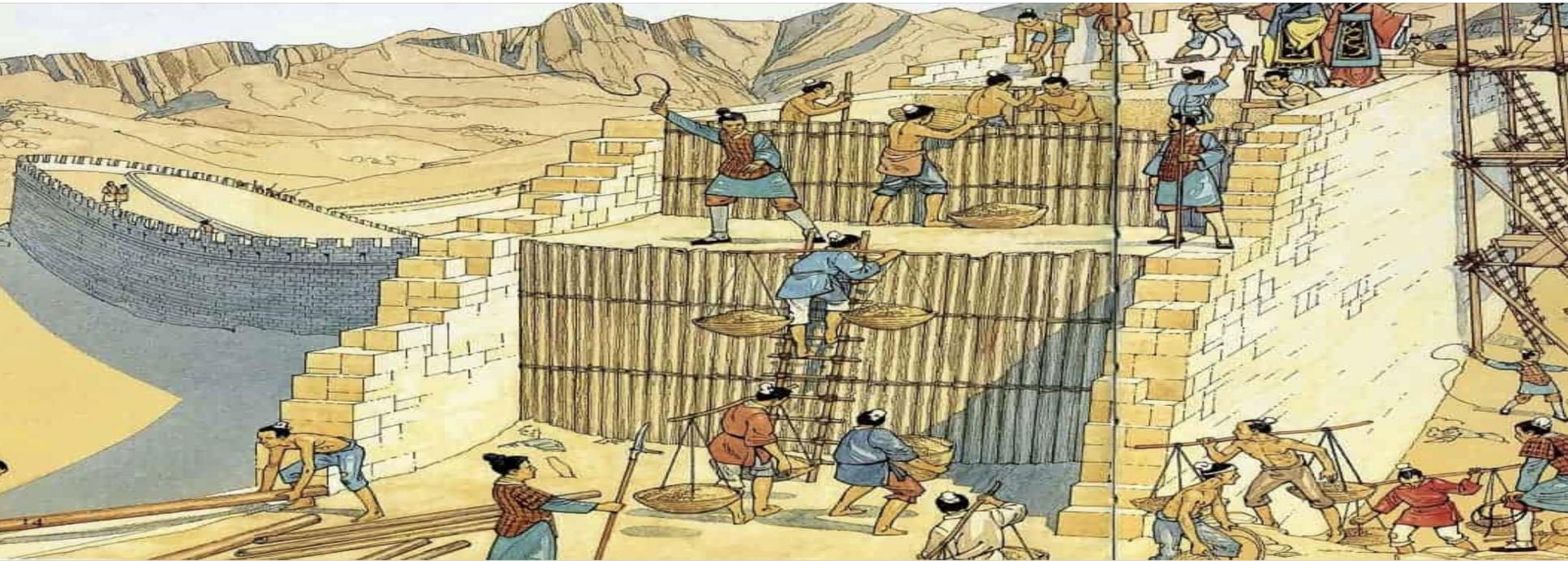
D is for dedicated

Han Wudi, the first strong emperor of the Han Dynasty, recruited dedicated and talented people for civil service, government workers who were chosen on the basis of competitive tests.



E is for empire

The Great Wall of China was built by Shi Huangdi's empire in 771-476 BC for protection against Mongolian nomadic invaders.



F is for first dynasty

Based on historical records, China's first dynasty is the Shang, and the Shang kings ruled from about 1750 BCE to 1045 BCE.



G is for gunpowder

The Ancient Chinese used gunpowder in their fireworks and later to fend off their enemies from the north.



H is for the Huang He River

The Huang He River begins in China's western mountains and stretches east across China for more than 2,900 miles before flowing into the Pacific Ocean.



I is for ideas

Over time, both sea and land trade routes led to an exchange of many different goods and ideas between China and other areas.



J is for justify

Many researchers believe the Xia Dynasty was invented by the later Zhou Dynasty to justify their overthrow of the Shang Dynasty.



K is for kite

The kite was developed around 3,000 years ago by ancient Chinese, and the earliest kites were made of wood, called Muyuan (wooden kite).



L is for longest dynasty

The Zhou ruled China for more than 800 years, which is longer than any other dynasty in Chinese history.



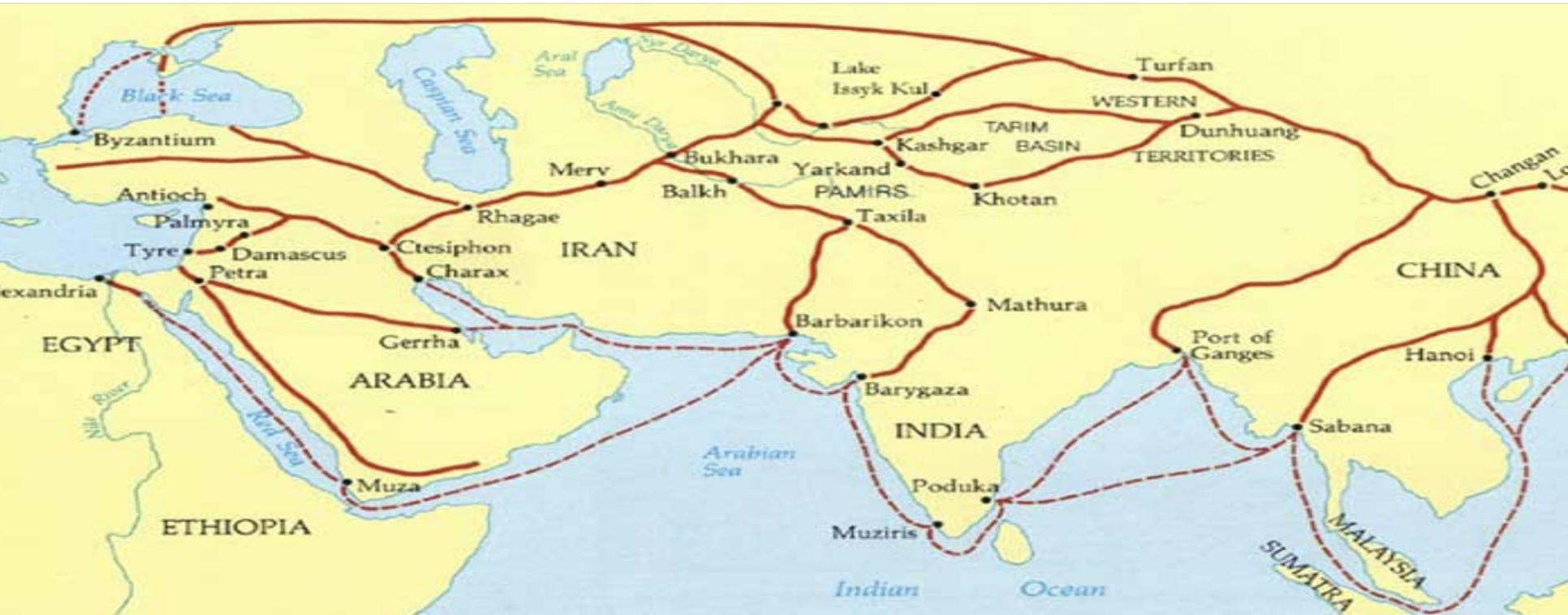
M is for The Mandate of Heaven

The Mandate of Heaven changed what the Zhou people expected from their king, and they started to believe that the king must rule by the proper “way,” known as the Dao.



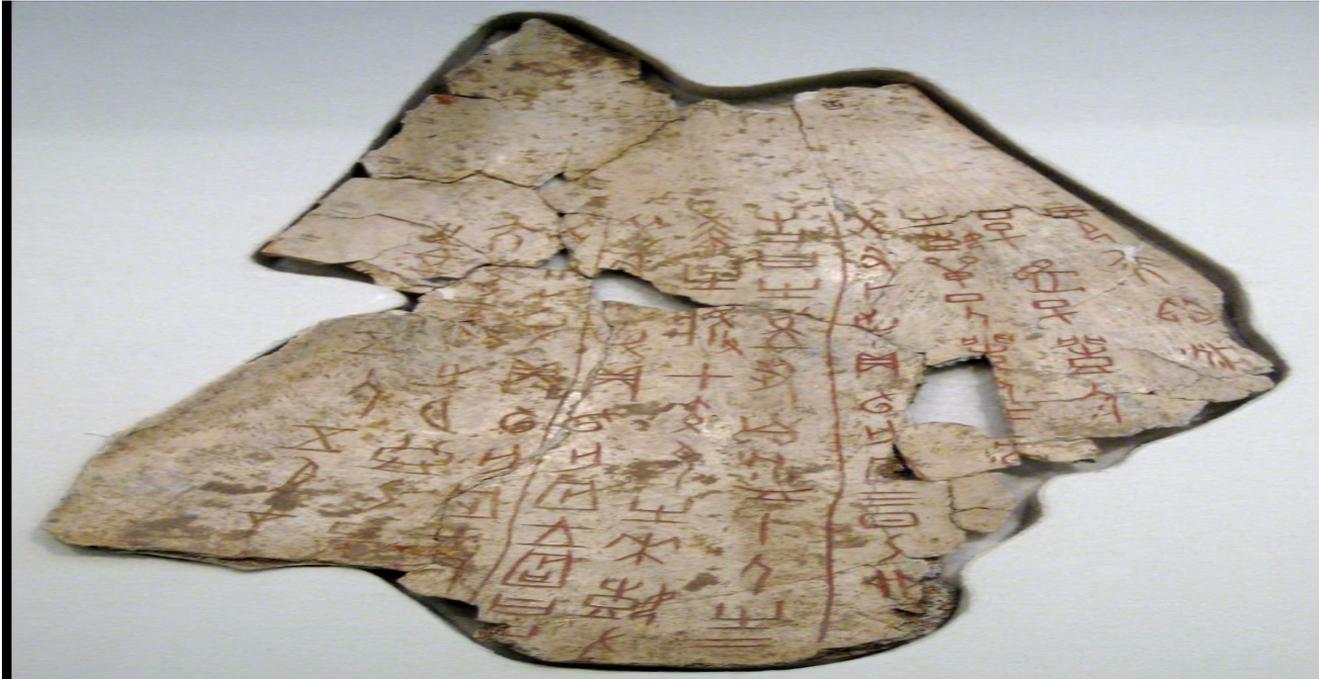
N is for network

The Silk Road was not just one road, but also a network of trade routes.



O is for Oracle bones

Animal bones and shells called Oracle bones held the oldest writings discovered by archaeologists in China, and they were first used by the Shang kings.



Q is for Qin

The Qin Dynasty became the first Chinese empire, conquering the northern states of the country through the use of iron weapons and horses.



R is for Road

The Silk Road was 4,000 miles long and linked Ancient China to the Mediterranean Sea.



S is for similar

To Confucius, the right way to live was similar to the idea known as the Golden Rule: “Do unto others as you would have other unto you.”



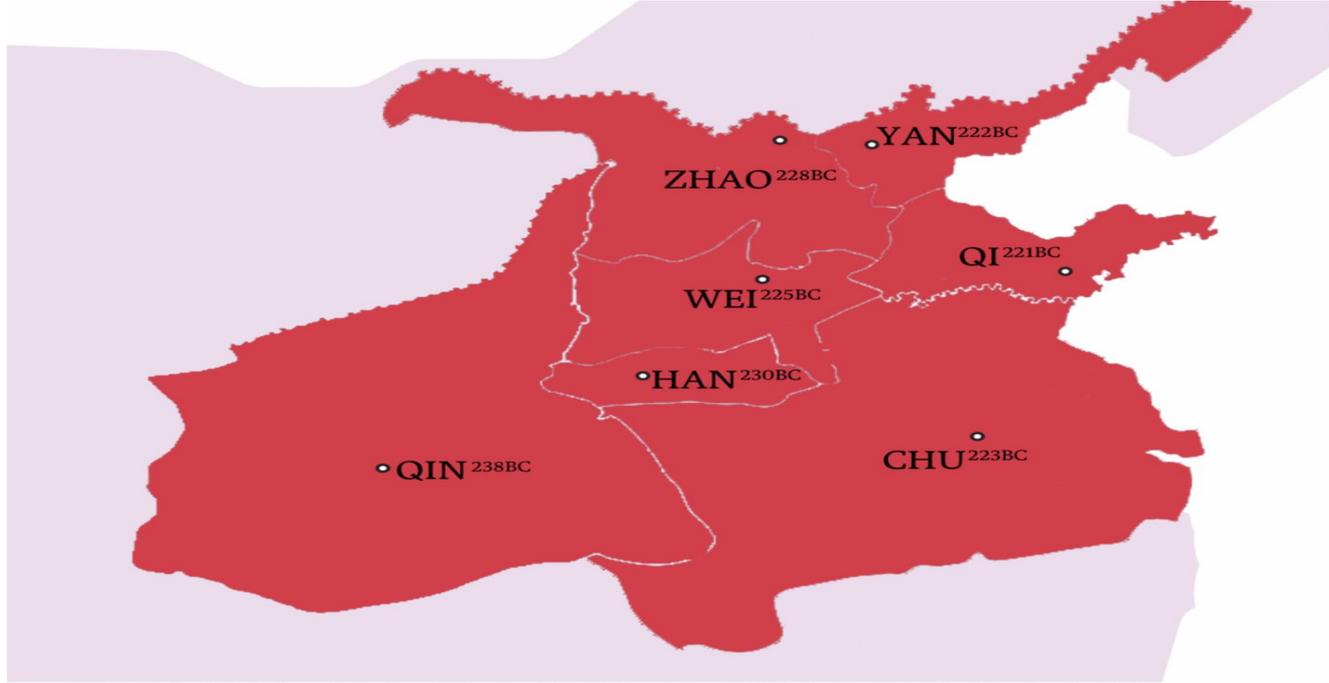
T is for talent

Han Wudi adopted to Confucian philosophy that government officials should be moral men with education and talent.



U is for unify

Qin wanted to strengthen and unify China, so he took direct control of China's provinces to do it.



V is for vast

A vast desert known as the Gobi used to be on the edge of China's northern border.



W is for water wheel

Millers invented water wheels to grind more grain.



X is for Xia

Many researches have seen the Xia Dynasty as a semi-mythical period of rule because there are little to no historical records of it.



Y is for Ying Zheng

The son of king Zhuangxiang of Qin and a concubine, Ying Zheng, the first emperor of China, took the throne at age 13 following his father's death.



Z is for Zhou

Under Zhou kings, the Chinese developed new systems to irrigate the land, and with a better water supply, farmers were able to grow more crops than ever before.

