

## Chapter 5 – Ancient India

### Section 3 – Warring Kingdoms Unite Notes

#### Qin Dynasty

Shi Huangdi unified China as its first emperor

Ruled the Qin, who lived along China's western edge

By 221 B.C., he had extended his rule over most of what is modern-day China

He was a strong and harsh Ruler

Had the Great Wall of China built to keep nomads from invading across China's northern border

Had roads built within the empire so armies could travel quickly to put down internal rebellions

Shi Huangdi tried to unify China's economy by creating one currency, a common system of weights and measures, an improved system of writing, and a law code

He also tried to create a common culture by outlawing the ideas of Confucius and other thinkers, and required that people learn the philosophies of Qin scholars

After Shi Huangdi's death, civil war erupted in China

Qin dynasty lasted only 15 years

#### Han Dynasty

Liu Bang, rebel who helped overthrow Qin dynasty, became first emperor of Han dynasty

First ruler of China who was born a peasant

Created a stable government

Han rulers set up the civil service system based on Confucianism

Wudi, which means "Warrior Emperor," was Liu Bang's great-grandson; came to power in 140 B.C.

Wudi made improvements to the Great Wall and strengthened the army

Increased his empire to stretch west into Central Asia, east into present-day northern and central Korea, and south into present-day Vietnam

China's stability and prosperity continued after Wudi died

Eventually, the empire began to weaken

Han Dynasty ended in A.D. 220

The dynasty had lasted about 400 years