



# Roman Empire and Han Dynasty

## A Short Comparison

AP World History



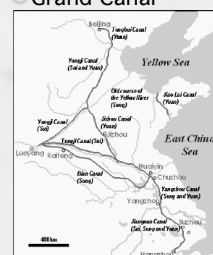

### Characteristics

<p><b>Han China</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Well organized bureaucracy based upon Confucian ideas and education</li> </ul> 	<p><b>Roman Empire</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Well organized bureaucracy founded on Roman law and classical learning</li> </ul> 
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### Characteristics

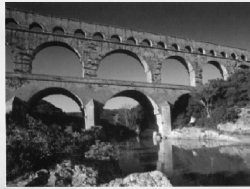
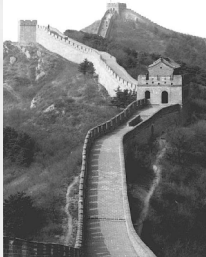
<p><b>Han China</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Emphasis on Family ancestors: patriarchal</li> <li>Reliance on landed gentry</li> <li>Engineering accomplishments: roads, canals, the Great Wall</li> </ul>	<p><b>Roman Empire</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Emphasis on family: <i>pater familias</i></li> <li>Reliance on patricians</li> <li>Engineering accomplishments: roads, aqueducts, amphitheatres, domes, sewage systems, central heating</li> </ul>
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### Characteristics

<p><b>Grand Canal</b></p> 	<p><b>Roman Roads</b></p> 
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## Characteristics

- Great Wall
- Roman Aqueduct



## Characteristics

- Han China
  - Religion: Confucianism, Daoism, native gods, intro to Buddhism
- Roman Empire
  - Religion: Emperor as god, paganism, intro to Christianity

## Decline of Han Dynasty

- Infighting among ruling elites
- Inequitable distribution of land - tax burden fell on peasants rather than on large landowners
- Series of peasant rebellions
- Generals usurp political power - become warlords

## Decline of Han Dynasty


- 220 CE generals divide empire into three kingdoms.
- Emigration of nomadic peoples into N. China kept country disunited

## Decline of Roman Empire

- Internal opposition - barrack emperors
- Difficulties in administering vast empire creates rivalries and divisions of authority
- Eastern and Western Empire - capital moved to Constantinople

## Decline of Roman Empire

- Germanic invasions by Vandals, Ostrogoths, and Visigoths
- 476 Odacer deposes final Western Roman Emperor
- Eastern Roman Empire becomes Byzantine Empire - lasts another 1000 years



## Shared Characteristics

- Decline in Morals and Values
  - Decline in those values that have upheld this particular society together
- Public Health and Urban Decay
- Political Corruption
- Unemployment and Inflation
- Inferior technology
- Military Spending