

I. First Chinese Dynasty

A. Xia

1. No archaeological evidence

B. Shang Dynasty

1. First Dynasty
2. Began about at 2000 B.C
3. King was most powerful
4. Political religious, military leader of China
5. Social Structure
 - a) King
 - (1) Head of political & religious life
 - b) Nobles
 - (1) Advisors to King
 - (2) Government & religious officials
 - (3) Land Lords
 - c) Warriors & Leaders
 - (1) From far regions
 - (2) Had warlords
 - d) Artisans
 - (1) Pottery
 - (2) Clothes
 - (3) Tools
 - (4) Weapons
 - e) Farmers
 - (1) Worked long hours
 - (2) Little pay
 - (3) Over taxed
 - f) Slaves
 - (1) Lowest
 - (2) Important labor resource
6. Oracle Bones
 - a) Used to write chinese characters
 - b) It was used as a calendar
 - (1) Very precise
 - (2) Like modern day

C. Zhou Dynasty

1. Wu Wang overthrew Shang Dynasty
2. Ruled for 800 years
3. Mandate of Heaven
 - a) The right to rule granted by "heaven"
 - b) Based on the virtue of the ruler - ruling justly, fairly, and wisely