

# A Short History Of Ancient China

[#ancient China](#) [#Chinese history](#) [#early Chinese civilization](#) [#dynasties of China](#) [#historical overview China](#)

Explore a concise overview of Ancient China's rich past, tracing its origins from early civilizations through key imperial dynasties. This summary highlights significant cultural, technological, and political developments that shaped one of the world's oldest continuous civilizations, offering essential insights into its foundational eras.

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## A Short History of Ancient China

A Brief History of Ancient China adapts a traditional Chinese historical format to present a multi-faceted account of the first two millennia of China's earliest history: from the time of the legendary rulers Yao and Shun (c. 2000 BCE) down to the end of the Qin dynasty (221-207 BCE). Organised into five major sections, it examines the political shifts of the major dynasties, the histories of local states, and the lives of key individuals. Drawing on analysis of textual and visual materials, and a variety of English and non-English sources, Edward L. Shaughnessy offers detailed insight into the contemporary religious and philosophical landscape, governmental and legal practices, and innovations in writing, literature, and music. Incorporating recent developments in the field, this book draws on archaeological discoveries from the last century, and examines the lives of central female figures, and other groups who are often underrepresented.

## A Brief History of Ancient China

The turbulent and chequered past of the world's most populous country is one of the most fascinating in world history, and relatively little known in the West. From the beginnings of Chinese prehistory right through to internet censorship with the 'Great Firewall of China', Gordon Kerr offers a comprehensive introduction to the sprawling history of this enormous country. A Short History of China provides an absorbing introduction to more than 4,000 years of Chinese history, telling the stories of the tyrants, despots, femmes fatales, artists, warriors and philosophers who have shaped this fascinating and complex nation. It describes the amazing technological advances that her scientists and inventors made many hundreds of years before similar discoveries in Europe. It also investigates the Chinese view of the world and examines the movements, aspirations and philosophies that moulded it and, in so doing, created the Chinese nation. Finally, the book examines the dramatic changes of the last few decades and the emergence of China as an economic and industrial 21st century superpower, making Napoleon Bonaparte's words about her ring true: "Let China sleep, for when she awakes, she will shake the world."

## A Short History of China

Ancient China may have existed thousands of years ago, but its civilization was incredibly rich with culture. This book explores the clues that have been left behind from this fascinating civilization. Specifically looking at artifacts, the main text invites readers to analyze items from Ancient China and draw conclusions following the questions and prompts. From the bamboo staff to oracle bones, these items help young learners learn about a culture that existed so long ago, and get them ready for the challenge of thinking like an archaeologist themselves.

### A Short History of Chinese Civilization

By the author of the highly acclaimed *China's Imperial Past* and written in the same lively style, this is a distillation of what every general reader and beginning student should know about the history of traditional Chinese civilization. It weaves together chronologically all aspects of Chinese life and culture, broadly surveying general history, socioeconomic organization, political institutions, religion and thought, and art and literature. The author explains how the Chinese empire emerged in antiquity, how it flourished and declined in successive cycles for thousands of years, and how in the end it found itself unprepared for both the domestic and the external challenges of the modern era. The result is a concise overview that is both absorbing in itself and basic to a more detailed study of China's long and complex evolution. I

### Ancient China

From the beginnings of Chinese prehistory right through to internet censorship, a comprehensive introduction to the sprawling history of this enormous country. An absorbing introduction to more than 4,000 years of Chinese history, this book tells the stories of the tyrants, despots, femmes fatales, artists, warriors, and philosophers who have shaped this fascinating and complex nation. It describes the amazing technological advances that China's scientists and inventors made many hundreds of years before similar discoveries in Europe. It also investigates the Chinese view of the world and examines the movements, aspirations, and philosophies that molded it and, in so doing, created the Chinese nation. Finally, the book examines the dramatic changes of the last few decades and the emergence of China as an economic and industrial 21st-century superpower.

### China to 1850

The classic chronicle of Chinese philosophical thought from the third millennium to the 20th century. From the sage-kings of ancient China to the 1911 overthrow of the oldest monarchical system in the world, Chinese philosophy has evolved and influenced schools of thought around the world. In an accessible voice, *A Short History of Chinese Philosophy* clearly illuminates Confucianism, Taoism, Mohism, Yin-Yang, and more. For those interested in philosophy or Asian studies, this is the perfect window into ancient and modern Chinese ideology.

### The Origins of Chinese Civilization

*Ancient China: A History* surveys the East Asian Heartland Region – the geographical area that eventually became known as China – from the Neolithic period through the Bronze Age, to the early imperial era of Qin and Han, up to the threshold of the medieval period in the third century CE. For most of that long span of time there was no such place as "China"; the vast and varied territory of the Heartland Region was home to many diverse cultures that only slowly coalesced, culturally, linguistically, and politically, to form the first recognizably Chinese empires. The field of Early China Studies is being revolutionized in our time by a wealth of archaeologically recovered texts and artefacts. Major and Cook draw on this exciting new evidence and a rich harvest of contemporary scholarship to present a leading-edge account of ancient China and its antecedents. With handy pedagogical features such as maps and illustrations, as well as an extensive list of recommendations for further reading, *Ancient China: A History* is an important resource for undergraduate and postgraduate courses on Chinese History, and those studying Chinese Culture and Society more generally.

### A Short History of China

By focusing on the key colourful characters of the eight major dynasties, the author brings to life 3500 years of Chinese civilization. His view starts on the borders of myth. It moves on to the greatest achievements of language and thought, the cultural treasures and imperial palaces, wars won and

lands lost to the Mongols, finally to arrive at the 1912 Revolution, which contained within it the seeds of Communism that ensured the overthrow of the last emperor.

### A Short History of Chinese Philosophy

This is a concise, informative, and entertaining account of the long and fascinating history between China and the West. Even before Chinese or Western writings recognized the existence of one another at opposite points of the compass, there was mercantile trade between the two civilizations - with silk being coveted by the ancient Greeks and Romans without knowledge of its origins. At the fall of the Manchu Dynasty in the early twentieth century, when China began its modern restoration as a world power, China and the West had already shared more than two millennia of history. "China and the West"

### Ancient China

This survey begins with the prehistoric period, then discusses the major currents of Chinese history, philosophy, culture and politics — from the reigns of such dynastic rulers as the Shang to the era of Mongol conquests and the Manchu dynasties, culminating with the birth of the Chinese Republic in 1912. 17 maps, 24 illustrations.

### A Brief History of the Dynasties of China

A critical new interpretation of the early history of Chinese civilization based on the most recent scholarship and archaeological discoveries.

### China and the West

A description of life in ancient China written in the form of a travel guide.

### A Short History of the Chinese People

A unique overview of the fashion and dress, diet, hygiene, medicine, and other cultural aspects of the ancient Chinese. This entertaining yet informative book details practices that may seem peculiar to today's students, while respectfully contextualizing another culture and time, especially one as ancient, rich, and foundational as that of ancient China. Readers are drawn in by the sometimes distasteful details—the fun “gross-out” factor—but also gain an appreciation of the inventiveness, sophistication, and practicality of the ancient Chinese. Overall, this title is a lively exploration of the scientific and cultural practices of a pre-modern civilization.

### Early China

Describes daily life in ancient China, discussing life in the country, life in the city, schools, festivals, and other aspects.

### Ancient China

A comprehensive, yet entertaining look at China's history through a modern lens. For millennia, China was the largest and richest nation on earth. Two centuries ago, however, its economy sank into a depression from which it had not fully recovered--until now. China's modern resurgence as the world's largest nation in terms of population and its second-largest economy--where 800 million people have been lifted out of poverty in the space of a few decades--is the greatest untold story of the 21st century. A Brief History of China tells of the development of a rich and complex civilization where the use of paper, writing, money and gunpowder were widespread in ancient times and where silk, ceramics, tea, metal implements and other products were produced and exported around the globe. It examines the special conditions that allowed a single culture to unify an entire continent spanning 10 billion square kilometers under the rule of a single man--and the unbelievably rich artistic, literary and architectural heritage that Chinese culture has bequeathed to the world. Equally fascinating is the story of China's decline in the 19th and early 20th century--as Europeans and Americans took center stage--and its modern resurgence as an economic powerhouse in recent years. In his retelling of a Chinese history stretching back 5,000 years, author and China-expert Jonathan Clements focuses on the human stories which led to the powerful transformations in Chinese society--from the unification of China under its first emperor, Qinshi Huangdi, and the writings of the great Chinese philosophers Confucius and Laozi, to the Mongol invasion under Genghis Khan and the consolidation of Communist rule under Mao Zedong. Clements

even brings readers through to the present day, outlining China's economic renaissance under Deng Xiaoping and Xi Jinping. What really separates this book from its counterparts is the focus on women, and modern themes such as diversity and climate change. Chinese history is typically told through the stories of its most famous men, but Clements' telling gives women equal time and research--which introduces readers of this book to equally important, but less commonly-known facts and historical figures. Often seen in the West in black or white terms--as either a savage dystopia or a fantastical paradise--China is revealed in the book as an exceptional yet troubled nation that nevertheless warrants its self-description as the Middle Kingdom.

### The Totally Gross History of Ancient China

Relations between Inner Asian nomads and Chinese are a continuous theme throughout Chinese history. By investigating the formation of nomadic cultures, by analyzing the evolution of patterns of interaction along China's northern frontiers, and by exploring how this interaction was recorded in early Chinese historiography, this book explores the origins of the cultural and political tensions between these two civilizations through the first millennium BC. The main purpose of the book is to analyze ethnic, cultural, and political frontiers between nomads and Chinese in the historical contexts that led to their formation, and to look at cultural perceptions of 'others' as a function of the same historical process. Based on both archaeological and textual sources, this book also introduces a new methodological approach to Chinese frontier history, which combines extensive factual data with a careful scrutiny of the motives, methods, and general conception of history that informed the Chinese historian Ssu-ma Ch'ien.

### Ancient China

Explains the development of ancient China, with maps showing where the civilization was and how it expanded over time, short biographies of key historical figures, and a timeline of important events.

### Money and Credit in China

Spend 24 hours with the ancient Chinese. Travel back to AD 17, during the fourth year of the reign of Wang Mang of the Han dynasty, a vibrant and innovative era full of conflicts and contradictions. But as different as the Han culture might have been to other great ancient civilizations, the inhabitants of ancient China faced the same problems as people have for time immemorial: earning enough money, coping with workplace dramas and keeping your home in order . although the equivalent in this era was more about bribing inspectors, avoiding bullying from abusive watchmen and trying to keep your house from being looted by Huns. In each chapter we meet one of 24 citizens of this ancient culture, from the midwife to the soldier, the priest to the performer and the bronze worker to the tomb looter, and see what an average day in ancient China was really like.

### A Brief History of China

Go to the Middle Kingdom and learn all about their dynasties and stories. This educational resource is filled with fun facts about Ancient China. The use of appropriate images only furthers your child's interest and fuels the absorption of knowledge, too. So what are you waiting for? Grab a copy of this book today!

### Ancient China and Its Enemies

Confucius, the Great Wall, silk, oracle bones, writing, and paper are among the topics explored here. This book starts with Emperor Qin Shi Huangdi's life size terracotta army of soldiers, chariots, and horses. The photographs show the army as it looks today and in the broken disarray of its discovery. The following chapters deal with early development, early dynasties, the unification of China, and the achievements, gifts, and inventions of the ancient Chinese.

### Ancient China

If you want to discover the captivating history of ancient China, then keep reading... To understand present-day China, its politics, society, and culture in general, we have to go back to the beginnings of the Chinese civilization. In this book, you will be led on a journey through almost 2,000 years of Chinese history, showing you all the ups and downs of those ancient times, the sufferings and joys of the Chinese people, along with their greatest achievements and failures. Dynasties will change, people will

be killed and born, art made and destroyed, but the Chinese civilization will prevail, rising from humble beginnings to an empire that at some points outshined any other in the world at that time. And yet it won't be only a tale of kings and queens, emperors and rulers. Of palaces and forts, of swords and shields. It will also tell a story of farmers and merchants, artisans and artists, philosophers and scientists. And hopefully by the end of this introductory guide, you will gain a sense of what, who, and how the Chinese civilization was made as great as it was and still is. From that, a better understanding of this amazing Far Eastern culture and its history should arise as well as a greater appreciation of its achievements and contributions to the world. And with a better knowledge of history, a clearer understanding of the world will come as well. In *Ancient China: A Captivating Guide to the Ancient History of China and the Chinese Civilization Starting from the Shang Dynasty to the Fall of the Han Dynasty*, you will discover topics such as Chinese Lands and Birth of China Shang and Zhou Dynasties and the Rise of Royal Power Disintegration of Royal Power Birth of Imperial China Rise and Fall of the Han Dynasty Society of Ancient China The Ancient Chinese Culture Inventions and Innovations of the Ancient Chinese And much, much more! So if you want to learn more about Ancient China, scroll up and click the "add to cart" button!

### 24 Hours in Ancient China

Along China's Yellow River, a mighty and technologically advanced civilization grew and flourished for thousands of years without any contact from the rest of the world. *Life in Ancient China* explores the daily lives of early the Chinese people, profiles the great dynasties that ruled China over the centuries, and introduces important religious and philosophical contributions, such as Confucianism, Daoism, and Buddhism. Enduring Chinese innovations, such as writing, papermaking, and The Great Wall are also featured.

### A Short History of China

The year 842 B.C. may be considered the first accurate date in Chinese history, and in this year the Emperor had to flee from his capital on account of popular dissatisfaction with his tyrannical ways: he betook himself northward to an outlying settlement on the Tartar frontier, and the charge of imperial affairs was taken over by a regency or duumvirate. At this time the confederation of cultured princes called China or, to use their own term, the Central Kingdom was a very different region from the huge mass of territory familiar to us under those names at the present day. It is hardly an exaggeration to say that civilized China, even at that comparatively advanced period, consisted of little more than the modern province of Ho Nan. All outside this flat and comparatively riverless region inhabited by the "orthodox" was more or less barbaric, and such civilization as it possessed was entirely the work of Chinese colonists, adventurers, or grantees of fiefs in partibus infidelium (so to speak). Into matters of still earlier ancient history we may enter more deeply in another chapter, but for the present we simply take China as it was when definite chronology begins.

### Chinese Dynasties! Ancient History for Kids

A richly empirical discussion of ethnic identity formation in the ancient world, presenting the peoples of China's southern frontier.

### Discover Ancient China

This illustrated Chinese history book takes the reader on a visual journey of the most brilliant and significant segments of Chinese civilization over the course of five thousand years. As a cradle of human civilization, China has maintained its cohesion and cultural identity for thousands of years. With China's historical evolution as a backdrop, each section focuses on the outstanding achievements of the period it covers and sets out the long-established and profound cultural development of the Chinese nation.

### Ancient China

John Farman, the genius (for want of a better word) responsible for the best-selling *A VERY BLOODY HISTORY OF BRITAIN (WITHOUT THE BORING BITS)*, now tackles all the great periods of history - in less than 10,000 words. *History in a Hurry* is so short that there just isn't room for any boring bits! All you need to know (and a little bit less\*) about the Ancient China. (\*Quite a lot less, actually. Ed.)

## Life in Ancient China

Go to the Middle Kingdom and learn all about their dynasties and stories. This educational resource is filled with fun facts about Ancient China. The use of appropriate images only furthers your child's interest and fuels the absorption of knowledge, too. So what are you waiting for? Grab a copy of this book today!

## Ancient China Simplified

The turbulent and chequered past of the world's most populous country is one of the most fascinating in world history, and relatively little known in the west. From the beginnings of Chinese prehistory right through to internet censorship with the 'Great Firewall of China', Gordon Kerr offers a comprehensive introduction to the sprawling history of this enormous country. A Short History of China provides an absorbing introduction to more than 4,000 years of Chinese history, telling the stories of the tyrants, despots, femmes fatales, artists, warriors and philosophers who have shaped this fascinating and complex nation. It describes the amazing technological advances that her scientists and inventors made many hundreds of years before similar discoveries in Europe. It also investigates the Chinese view of the world and examines the movements, aspirations and philosophies that moulded it and, in so doing, created the Chinese nation. Finally, the book examines the dramatic changes of the last few decades and the emergence of China as an economic and industrial 21st century superpower, making Napoleon Bonaparte's words about her ring true: 'Let China sleep, for when she awakes, she will shake the world'

## Ancient China and the Yue

The Oxford Handbook on Early China brings 30 scholars together to cover early China from the Neolithic through Warring States periods (ca 5000-500BCE). The study is chronological and incorporates a multidisciplinary approach, covering topics from archaeology, anthropology, art history, architecture, music, and metallurgy, to literature, religion, paleography, cosmology, religion, prehistory, and history.

## An Illustrated Brief History of China

New in the Short History of Asia series, edited by Milton Osborne, this is a readable, well-informed and comprehensive short history of China's relationships with its Southeast Asian neighbours from ancient times to the present day.

## A Short History of China

Here is a spectacular and informative guide to the history of the great Chinese empire and the customs and traditions of its people. Stunning real-life photographs and lifelike models offer a unique "eyewitness" view of life in imperial China, from its earliest beginnings in the Bronze Age to its final days in the early years of the 20th century. See the stunning bronzework of the ancient Chinese, an early irrigation machine, a set of antique acupuncture needles, the beautiful implements used for Chinese calligraphy. Learn why the First Emperor created the terra-cotta army, what kinds of goods were carried along the Silk Route, who invented paper, how a Chinese house was constructed, why tombs were filled with pottery figures, and what a civil servant's job entailed. Discover why emperors were known as Sons of Heaven, what kinds of weapons were used in early battles, why families worshiped their ancestors, how fishermen used bivas to catch fish, and much, much more.

## History in a Hurry: Ancient China

The late Ming Dynasty (1572-1644) and the early Qing Dynasty (1644-1722) saw the true splendour of short essays in China. No other period in the history of short essays in ancient China can match them in the quality and number of works, literary schools, or the variety of styles. Compared with those written before or after, the short essays in these periods were richer in the choice of topics, and freer in form, focusing not only on real social life, but also on worldly experience and life's little delights. They are a rich and vital part of China's literary and cultural heritage. The 127 short essays in this wonderful book are considered to be the very best examples from an era of China's history that's synonymous with beautifully crafted short essays. 82 essays are from the Ming Dynasty and 45 essays are from the Qing Dynasty, written by more than a hundred different Chinese authors from both dynasties. These are arranged in the order of the authors' birth dates and tenderly translated into English by leading Chinese translators Wang Hong and Zhang Shunsheng, who have faithfully represented the

styles and literary achievements made by the featured essayists. It's a wonderful book that will delight fans of classic Chinese short essays, as well as providing the perfect introduction to readers new to the genre. Professor Wang Hong is a prolific and accomplished translator of ancient Chinese classics. Many of his translations have been included in the Library of Chinese Classics, such as Mozi, Brush Talks from Dream Brook (also publishing by Paths International), The Discourses of the States and The Classic of Mountains of Seas. This is the first ever English language version of The Short Essays of the Ming and Qing Dynasties to be published either inside or outside of China.

#### Chinese Dynasties! Ancient History for Kids

Discusses major currents of Chinese history, philosophy, culture and politics, beginning with the Shang, Chou and Han dynasties, and culminating with the birth of the Chinese Republic in 1912. 17 maps, 25 illustrations.

#### Short History of China

A sketch of Chinese history, ancient and modern