Unit II

Organization and Reorganization of Human Societies (600 BCE To 600 CE)

Key Concepts

- 2.1 The Development and Codification of Religious and Cultural Traditions
- 2.2 The Development of States and Empires
- 2.3 Emergence of Transregional Networks of Communication and Exchange



Label	
Empires	Persian Empires/Qin & Han Empire/Maurya & Gupta/
	Phoenicia/Greece/Hellenistic/Roman/Teotihuacan/Mayan/Moche
Trade Routes	Eurasian Silk Roads/Trans-Saharan caravan routes/Indian Ocean sea lanes/Mediterranean Sea
Spread of Religions	Buddhism/Hinduism/Christianity
Cities	Persepolis/Chang'an/Pataliputra/Athens/Carthage/Rome/Alexandria/Constantinople/Teotihuacan

Thematic Questions

- 1. How did the continued expansion of agriculture impact the environment? How did environmental damages negatively impact empires/societies?
- 2. How did religion (creation/spread/etc) alter the cultures it encountered? What were peoples & empires motivations for conversion? How did art & architecture influence home cultures and cultures they encountered? How did technological advances influence the spread of culture?
- 3. What comparisons we can make between the rise/administration/fall of Classical empires? How did empires use religion/art/etc to administer over their empires? How did different empires interact with one another?
- 4. Why was trade able to expand during the Classical Era? What changes/continuities do we see in trade between different regions? What are comparisons we can make between different labor systems used during this unit?
- 5. How were gender roles established and reinforced throughout the world at this time? Compare how different empires worked to incorporate the different peoples they brought into their empires?