

12: THE DERIVATIVE EAST ASIAN CIVILIZATIONS: THE PASTORAL NOMADS AND EARLY KOREANS (9/96e): Tutorial

- Much of Zone A began to enter its postpluvial stage of the postglacial era not long after around
 - 1,000 BC.
 - 4,000 BC.
 - 10,000 BC.
 - 20,000 BC.
 - 30,000 BC.

b: and it has mostly been becoming drier ever since.
- The Zone A shift to pastoralism, much more often than not came about before hunting-gathering cultures had had time to evolve into agricultural societies.
 - True.
 - False.

b: There were exceptions, but most of the pastoralists had earlier become farmers.
- The horse-drawn chariot
 - came after riding of horses in East Asia.
 - appeared first in Western Eurasia.
 - used the native horse of Zone A.
 - “b” and “c,” but not “a.”
 - “a,” “b” and “c.”

d: In East Asia, at least, the chariot shows up before horseback riding. A non-Chinese design of chariot appeared in the West c. 3,000-2,500 BC, more than a millennium before chariots show up in the Chinese archaeological record. Apparently the West Asian horse did not accompany the idea of building chariots.
- The Xanyun coalition of pastoral-nomadic raiders of subzone B1
 - raided China on a regular basis.
 - raided China on foot.
 - comprised mostly Mongols.
 - comprised mostly Turks.
 - were of unknown ethnic type.

e: We have no evidence on their ethnic group. They came on horseback, but on no fixed schedule.
- The Xiongnu coalition of pastoral-nomadic raiders of subzone B1
 - raided China on a regular basis.
 - rode West Asian (Arabian) horses.
 - comprised mostly Mongols.
 - comprised mostly Turks.
 - created a large territorial state.

a: Presumably they had had time to become familiar with the manpower needs of long seasonal migrations. This allowed them to divert manpower to local hunting expeditions and then to seasonal forays into B1. Their ethnic group is unknown. Their horses were likely hybrids of the Central Asian and Arabian breeds.
- China’s “long walls” of antiquity ran unbroken for thousands of miles along the Zone A-B border.
 - True.
 - False.
- b: That is the myth. In reality no state could afford so extended a wall. Like the Maginot Line, long walls were built only at strategic choke points.*
- When long walls proved inadequate to keep the Xiongnu out, during early Han the Chinese authorities turned to
 - building even longer walls.
 - invading Zone A.
 - a policy of appeasement.
 - using barbarians to control barbarians.
 - surrendering all power to the Xiongnu.

c: This at the time seemed to be the cheapest policy. Later on the Chinese turned to a forward policy which eventually required building longer walls and playing balance of power politics in Zone A. After several more centuries, the Xiongnu fell apart before Han went bankrupt.
- The Xiongnu never quite made it past the threshold of high civilization. Crossing that threshold seems to have required a pastoral-nomad people to conquer and settle down within a substantial portion of northern China.
 - True.
 - False.

a: In effect a pastoral-nomadic people to cross over to that stage had to return to a sedentary life. Such shifts, in either direction, are common along the borderlands between sedentary and nomadic peoples.
- The Japanese evolved high civilization
 - entirely on their own.
 - exclusively from Korea.
 - from China, by way of Korea.
 - exclusively from China.
 - as the Xianbei had done.

c: In some respects, the Japanese ruling class was Korean. The Xianbei caught high civilization by turning sedentary after conquering North China. The Japanese merely sent tribute missions to China to learn and gain as gifts the appropriate tools of high civilization.
- In the western reaches of Zone A during most of the first millennium AD, the role played by _____ in the eastern reaches was played by _____.
 - China, Persia
 - Persia, China
 - China, the Arabs
 - the Xianbei, India
 - the Mongols, Persia

a: Even when conquered by Muslim Arabs, Persia retained its own culture. Some argue Persia changed Islam more than Islam changed it.
- The subzone A2 and A3 states of Western Xia, Liao and later on Jin all managed to become second stage high civilizations while straddling the Zone A-B border zone both geographically and socio-culturally.
 - True.
 - False.

a: at least for one or two centuries. Still, nothing on earth is forever.
- The earliest state in East Asia (and the world) to go over to a pure fiat paper money system was
 - the Qidans’ Liao Dynasty.
 - the Ruzhens’ Jin Dynasty.
 - the Tanguts’ Western Xia Dynasty.
 - Northern Song.
 - Southern Song.

b: If this constitutes having a fully modern financial structure, then this supposed “barbarian” dynasty was more advanced than Song China.
- The Mongols’ Yuan Dynasty
 - ruled all of the Mongols’ conquests.
 - was defeated and expelled from China.
 - resisted turning sedentary.
 - resisted new technology.
 - ruled China for three centuries.

c: and left China to avoid doing so less than a century after completing their conquest of South China. By the time the Mongols had conquered southern China the rest of their Eurasian empire had been divided among the founder’s descendants. The Mongols were technological neophiliacs.
- Once back in Mongolia after withdrawing from China, the Mongols
 - were emasculated by Lamaist Buddhism
 - became poorer than they had been.
 - were cut off from cross-Asia trade.
 - had to turn to farming.
 - had to regress from high civilization.

b: That is normal for a pastoral-nomadic people. They have to conquer sedentary people to become well off. There was never enough moisture to support many people in farming in Mongolia, and the Mongols preferred pastoral life even at a lower income. The residual overland trade was enough to support a churchly ruling class dominating a poor but theologically sophisticated second stage high civilization. (By the way, no one has so far regressed out of high civilization except transiently.)
- The Manchus were the Zone A people who managed to straddle the Zone A and B styles of life longest.
 - True.
 - False.

a: but even they eventually resedentarized. Originally they were scratch farmers in northeastern A3. They adopted pastoral-nomadic ways of waging war in the process of conquering China and A1-2.
- In geographic terms, Korea is a part of
 - Zone B.
 - Zone A.
 - Zone C.
 - Zones A and C.
 - Zones A, B, and C.

d: Its crenellated west coast belongs to Zone C, the rest to Zone A.
- Sedentary agriculture appears to have been present in Korea
 - by 6,000 BC, simultaneous with China.
 - by 3,000 BC, well after China.
 - by 1,000 BC, long after China.
 - by 500 BC, via contact with China.
 - by 100 BC, brought in by Wiman.

b: Korea’s earliest agriculture may have been derived from the Zone C pattern. In 6,000 BC Korea was likely still preagricultural, Zone A style bronze-making came in c. 1,000 BC; Chinese-style iron-

making by 500 BC. Wiman brought in Chinese culture when he imperialized part of Korea shortly after 200 BC.

18. Early Choson was a large, powerful state operating somewhere between the Liao and Taedong Rivers during c. 1,000-200 BC.
a. True. b. False.
b: *More likely it was a collection of small local states at the early civilization stage, one of which may have been called Choson.*
19. Korea's transition into high civilization
a. did not start with its iron age.
b. involved Chinese imperialism.
c. did not involve Wiman's invasion.
d. was hurt by Han's withdrawal.
e. used a Confucian vision of Heaven.
b: *both indirect (via Wiman's invasion) and direct (Han Wudi's invasion and takeover). Korea's iron age marks its first contact with China, and in that sense begins its transition into a high civilization derived from China's. The Confucian vision of Heaven did not take during Han's occupation. The Buddhist vision of Heaven did, after Han's withdrawal.*
20. Emperor Wu initially wanted Korea and southern Manchuria
a. to secure his flank against the Xiongnu.
b. for its ginseng root medicine.
c. for its phosphorus-free iron ore.
d. as a base for invading Japan.
e. because he admired Korean culture.
a: *The Chinese only realized the value of ginseng and Korean iron ore after taking over the place. China never did think Japan worth the trouble of conquering. Emperor Wu and his successors thought of the Koreans as incompletely evolved Chinese and did not take their culture very seriously.*
21. Korea's experience under Chinese colonialism demonstrates the useful aspects of imperialism.
a. True. b. False.
a: *At least the Koreans got to derive high civilization from the experience, though at a price reflecting the sick joke's punch line: "But aside from that, Mrs. Lincoln, how was the play?"*
22. Ginseng
a. comes only from Korea.
b. does not resemble Mandrake root.
c. was never grown in Staten Island.
d. supposedly restores male sexual vigor.
e. is consumed only in East Asia.
d: *The root is also found in Staten Island, New Jersey and Wisconsin. Like Mandrake root, it resembles a human body. It is also now consumed by dirty old men in the West.*
23. The fall of Han Korean colony, Lolang, during the 3rd century AD actually encouraged the spread of Chinese culture ever further south down the Korean peninsula.
a. True. b. False.
a: *Think of it as something analogous to the metastasis of a (benevolent) cancer, when the operation to excise the tumor accidentally spills cancer cells into the blood stream.*
24. Of the major states of the Korean Three Kingdoms era, the least deeply influenced by Chinese culture but the one with the most robust links between its state and society was
a. Koguryo.
b. Paekche
c. Silla.
d. Puyo.
e. the Kaya League.
c: *That was because Silla in the southeast was the most remote from China geographically. Its native vision of Heaven was robust enough to keep its state and society linked harmoniously while Buddhism provided a vision of Heaven large and complex enough to be re-presented as a first stage high civilized state and culture.*
25. The initially most powerful state of the Korean Three Kingdoms period was
a. Paekche.
b. Silla.
c. Puyo.
d. Koguryo.
e. the Kaya League.
d: *Its northern location exposed it to constant military challenges. These stimulated it over the short run, but wore it down over the long run, leaving the field to latecomer Silla.*
26. In what order did the major powers on the peninsula of the Korean Three Kingdoms period turn officially Buddhist?
a. Paekche, Silla, Koguryo
b. Silla, Paekche, Koguryo
c. Silla, Koguryo, Paekche
d. Koguryo, Paekche, Silla
e. Paekche, Koguryo, Silla
d: *Koguryo got it first via the same Zone A pastoral-nomads who were bringing it into northern China. Paekche got it more intensely via the sheltered coastal sea route from northern China. The more remote Silla got it last, filtered through the other two powers, which partly Koreanized it, so that Silla did not have to change as much as the other two to adopt it.*
27. The most strategic region on the Korean peninsula, control of which all but guarantees control of the whole peninsula, is
a. the Taedong River valley.
b. the Naktong River valley.
c. the Han River valley.
d. the Yalu River valley.
e. the Tumen River valley.
c: *the Han bisects the peninsula just about midway down from the Yalu. Its tributaries outflank most key positions to its north and south. The Taedong defends the narrow waist of the northern half of the peninsula against encroachment from the north. The Naktong defended ancient Silla's (and MacArthur's summer 1950 Pusan perimeter) left flank against invaders from the north. One must first take the Han (either by sea or land) to take over the whole peninsula. The Yalu and Tumen were not originally really cultural boundaries between Koreans and non-Koreans. Recent Chinese expansion into Manchuria has done that.*
28. Unified Silla's tributary relationship with Tang China allowed Silla an independent foreign policy.
a. True. b. False.
b: *It was allowed internal autonomy, with a Chinese-style constitutional order, but had to subordinate itself to Chinese needs abroad.*
29. The earliest sign of the crisis of Unified Silla's first stage of high civilization was
a. the fall of the Tang Dynasty.
b. Chang Pogo's mercantile empire.
c. the murder of Chang Pogo.
d. Silla's dearth of internal markets.
e. Japanese piracy at Silla's expense.
c: *That showed the inability of the ruling class to permit a plutocracy to supplement the existing aristocracy. Tang's fall came after Chang's murder. In the 9th century, Japanese travelers were still just passengers on Korean vessels.*
30. What Korea needed to eventually get out of the crisis of the first stage of high civilization Silla had fallen into was to finally attach a Confucian vision of Heaven to the Buddhist vision they already had. This was the reverse of the order China had followed earlier to resolve its crisis of civilization.
a. True. b. False.
a: *Note Korea's lag behind China in getting into the second stage of high civilization.*