

TIMELINE

II. Classical: 1000 B.C.E.–450 C.E.

1000–600	Epic age in India; beginnings of early Hinduism; <i>Upanishads</i>
933–722	Kingdom of Israel
933–605	Assyrian Empire
8th–7th centuries	The emergence of Greek city-states; population increased in Greece and Greeks established colonies overseas; Homeric epics, <i>Iliad</i> and <i>Odyssey</i> ; beginnings of Rome
753–509	Roman monarchy
ca. 735–715	Sparta defeated Messenia and enslaved the Messenians
700	Zhou dynasty decline
Late 7th to 6th centuries	Rise of Greek reformers and tyrants: Solon (ca. 630–560), Peisastratus (546–510)
ca. 563–483	Gautama Buddha
551–478	Confucius
509–450	Beginnings of Roman republic; Twelve Tables of Law
500–449	Greek defeat of Persia; spread of Athenian Empire
ca. 500	Lao-tzu and Taoism; editing of the Five Classics
490–479	Persian War
477–431	The golden age of Athens; democracy under Pericles; Phidias, Sophocles, Socrates, etc.
431–404	Peloponnesian War
338	Philip I of Macedon conquers Greece

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334–326	Alexander the Great conquers Egypt and the Persian Empire
300–100	Hellenistic period
322–184	Maurya dynasty in India
290–270	Roman domination and control of central and southern Italy
264–146	Rome's Punic Wars
221–202	Ch'in dynasty, Great Wall
202 B.C.E.–220 C.E.	Han dynasty
140–87 B.C.E.	Rule of Wu Ti in China; increased bureaucracy, examinations; spread of Confucianism
133ff.	Decline of the Roman republic
ca. 100	Invention of paper in China.
88	Sulla as consul marches on Rome with six legions; beginning of civil war and power struggle between military commanders
73–71	Slave revolt led by Spartacus almost topples Roman state
47–44	Julius Caesar dictator in Rome
30 B.C.E.–220 C.E.	Kushan rule in India; Hindu beliefs develop
27 B.C.E.	Augustus Caesar and the rise of the Roman Empire
27 B.C.E.–180 C.E.	Pax Romana (the great Roman peace)
20–30 C.E.	Beginnings of Christianity
52 C.E.	Height of gladiatorial games in Rome
ca. 1st century C.E.	Beginning of Bantu migration
180	Decline of Marcus Aurelius in Rome; beginning of the empire's decline
ca. 200	Use of camel for trans-Saharan trade
200ff.	Spread of Indian influence in Southeast Asia
220–589	Nomadic invasions of China; disorder; considerable spread of Buddhism
312	Constantine I tolerant and patronizes Christianity
320–535	Gupta dynasty in India

• THE CLASSICAL PERIOD, 1000 B.C.E.–450 C.E. •

- 395 Roman Empire divided into east and west
- 400 Gladiatorial games outlawed in Roman Empire
- 453 Fall of Rome