



Comparison of ancient Chinese and Mediterranean Warfare



China

Area: 9.6 million square km.

Population (2009): 1,331,460,000

This timeline illustrates the major dynasties and historical events of China from 2070 BC to the present. The timeline is divided into several color-coded sections: purple for the early dynasties (Xia to Han), pink for the medieval period (Sui to Yuan), and light blue for the modern period (Ming to present).

Early Dynasties (Xia, Shang, Zhou):

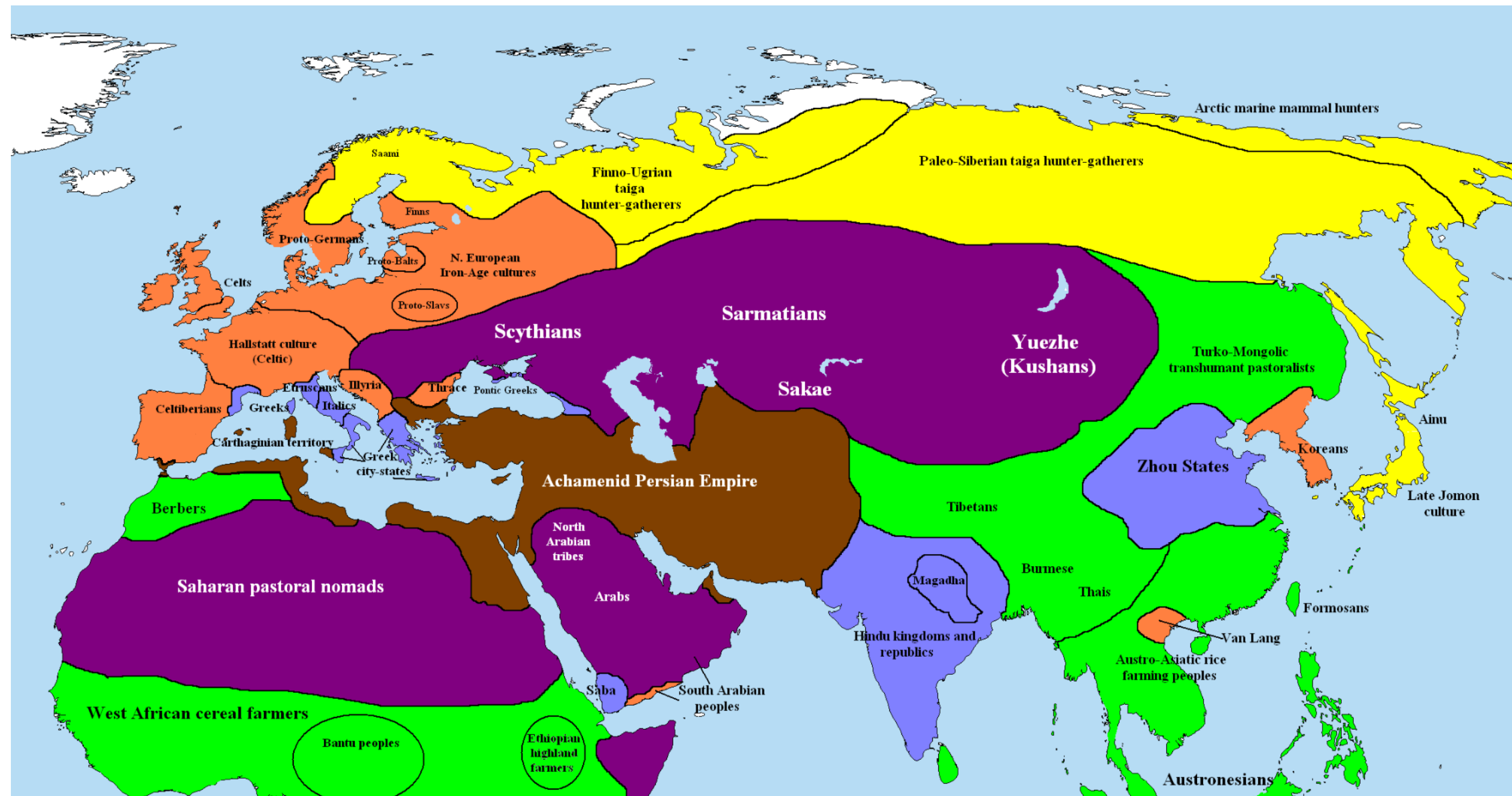
- XIA (2070 BC - 1600 BC):** Yu the Great led people overcame a massive flood.
- SHANG (1600 BC - 1046 BC):** Bronze Age; Walled City; Early forms of writing system.
- ZHOU (1046 BC - 221 BC):**
 - Western Zhou (1046 BC - 771 BC):** Mandate of Heaven; Zongfa and Fengfeng systems.
 - Eastern Zhou (771 BC - 221 BC):**
 - Spring and Autumn (771 BC - 475 BC):** Five Hegemons; Barbarians attacked the capital city.
 - Warring States (475 BC - 221 BC):** Seven Prominent States; Shang Yang's reforms in State Qin.

Imperial Dynasties (Qin, Han, Sui, Tang, Song, Yuan, Ming, Qing):

- QIN (221 BC - 206 BC):** Qin Shi Huang, the first emperor of China.
- HAN (206 BC - 220 AD):**
 - Western Han (206 BC - 9 AD):** Emperor Wu of Han: Defeated Xiongnu; made the Confucianism the official ideology; Creation of Silk Road.
 - Eastern Han (9 AD - 220 AD):** Battle of Red Cliffs; Paper-making Technology.
- SUI (581 - 618):** First Imperial Exams; Grand Canals.
- TANG (618 - 907):** Reign of Zhenguan under Emperor Taizong of Tang; The peak of Tang.
- SONG (960 - 1279):**
 - Northern Song (960 - 1127):** Reform of Wang Anshi; Jingkang Incident.
 - Southern Song (1127 - 1279):** Yue Fei; Paper currency.
- YUAN (1279 - 1368):** The Conquest of Mongols; Oversea trading is banned.
- MING (1368 - 1644):**
 - Early Ming (1368 - 1421):** Sailing of Zheng He; Construction of Forbidden City.
 - Mid Ming (1421 - 1573):** Red Turbans Rebellion.
 - Late Ming (1573 - 1644):** Invasion of Japanese Pirates.
- QING (1644 - 1911):**
 - Early Qing (1644 - 1684):** Li Zicheng's Uprising.
 - Mid Qing (1684 - 1820):** Reign of Kangxi Emperor.
 - Late Qing (1820 - 1911):** First Opium War; Second Opium War.

Modern China (1911 - Present):

- REPUBLIC OF CHINA (1911 - 1949):**
 - Early Republic (1911 - 1921):** Xinhai Revolution.
 - Mid Republic (1921 - 1949):** First Sino-Japanese War; Second Sino-Japanese War.
- PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA (1949 - Present):**
 - Early PRC (1949 - 1978):** Tian'anmen Incident; Cultural Revolution; Deng Xiaoping's Economic Reforms.
 - Mid PRC (1978 - 1997):** The Great Leap Forward Movement; Second Sino-Japanese War.
 - Late PRC (1997 - Present):** Return of Hong Kong; The Chinese Civil War.



The Western Zhou's Ruling Area Map

Land under the rule of the Western Zhou Dynasty (1046–771 BC)

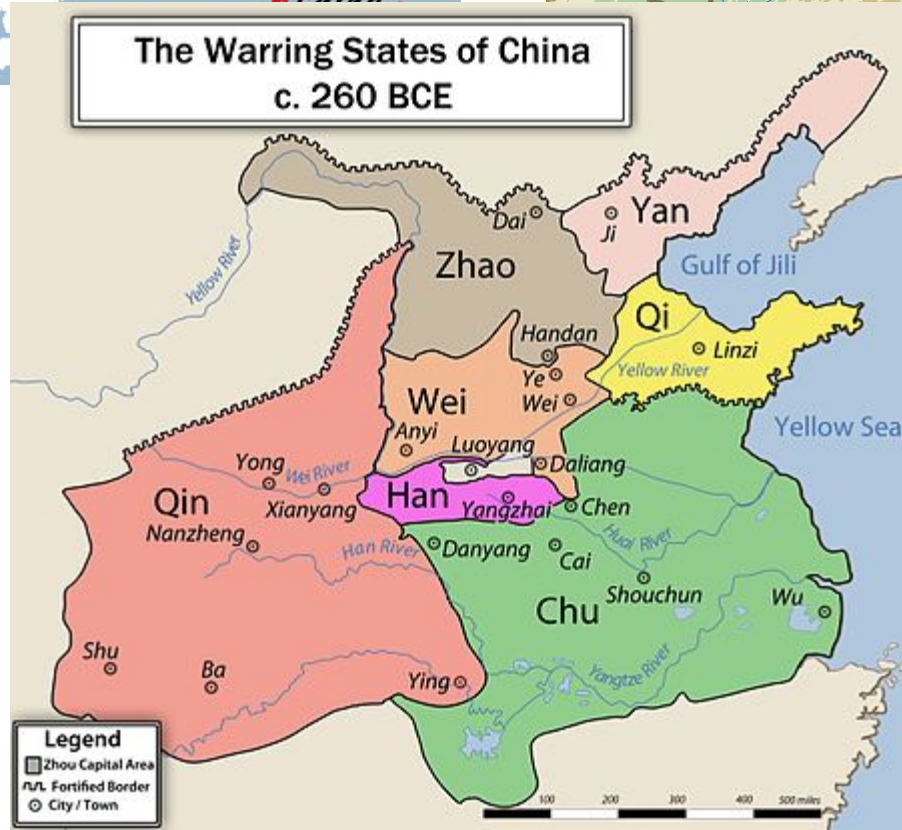


- Land under the rule of the Western Zhou Dynasty
- Capital (modern-day name)
- China's modern-day border

Chinese plain in the late Spring and Autumn period (5th century BC)



The Warring States of China c. 260 BCE





Sun Tzu
Art of War
6th-5th C BCE
Spring and
Autumn Period

Simafa 5 chapters survive
Warring States period

Wuzi by Wu Qi
Warring States period



Together they are the 3 oldest
Of the Seven Military Classics



吴起 (? - 前381) 明人绘

Military Branches

- Chariots
- Infantry
 - Archers/Crossbow men
 - Heavy and light infantry
- Cavalry – a late introduction in Warring States due to pressure from northern tribes

“From the three marquises of Chu, the crossbow was handed down to King Ling, who proclaimed that for generations Chu would use bows made of peach tree wood and arrows made of buckthorn to guard against neighboring states”

Origin of the crossbow from Spring and Autumn
Wu and Yue



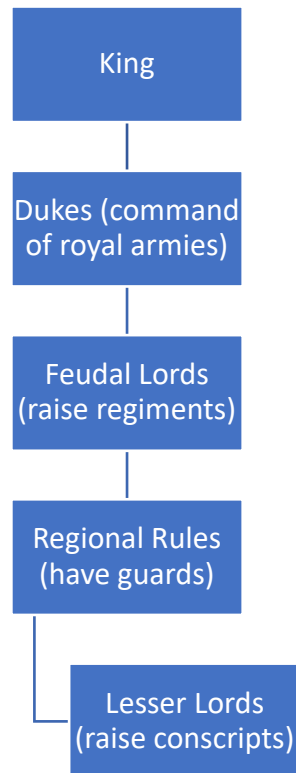
© Feature China / Barcroft Media



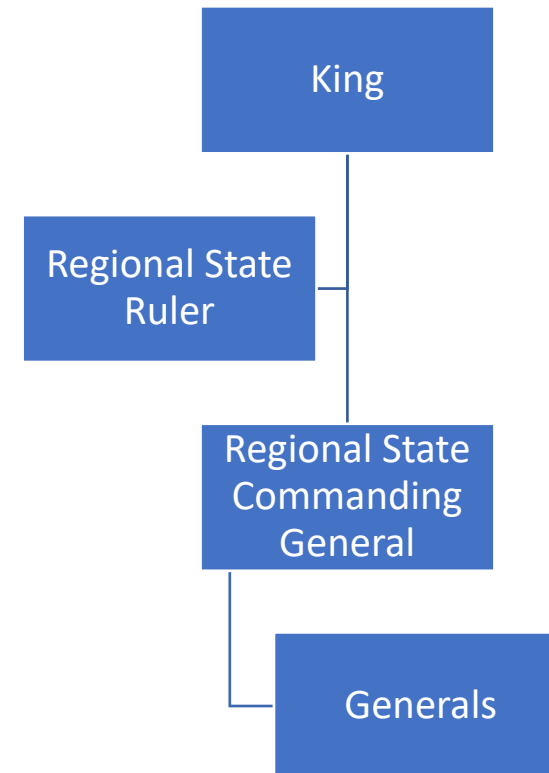
Xiongnu from
Han dynasty

Military organisation, politics and society

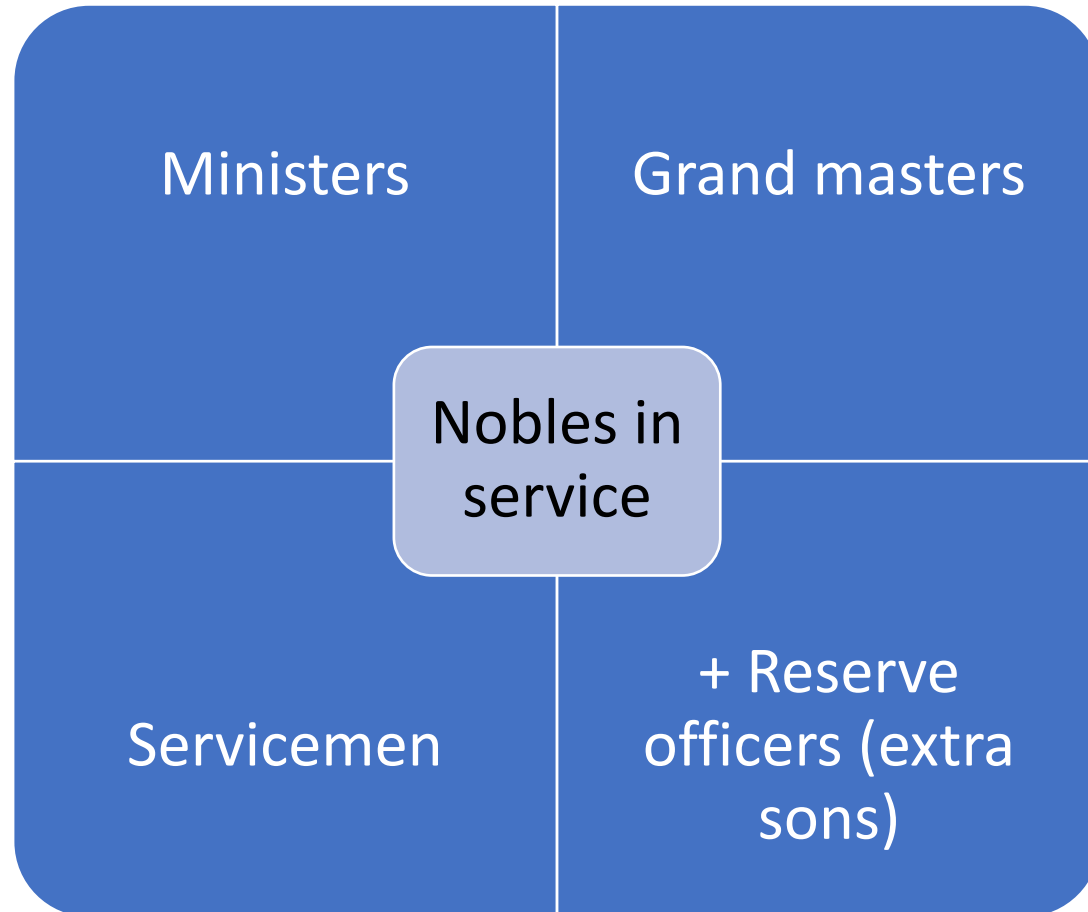
Western Zhou



Warring States



Urban vs Rural (Western Zhou)



- Recruitment from urban areas
- Rural areas provide tribute not troops
- Archers from peasant stock – local contests
- Nobles train in military matters and martial arts

The Peasant Armies (Spring and Autumn, Warring States)

- Land was allocated with the well-field system across the rural areas.
- Based on irrigation canals, and divided by families of peasants.
- Each “field” (about 300 families) provided 8 parts to the peasants and 1 part in tax-in-kind
 - Either food for the army
 - Or soldiers: a chariot, troops, weapons and equipment
 - Slightly different systems per regional ruler
- Training opened up to soldiers and officers from peasant backgrounds
- Schools built
- Archery training
- Chariot Training provided
- Move towards professional bodies of soldiers – half for agriculture and half for war
 - Wide spread training

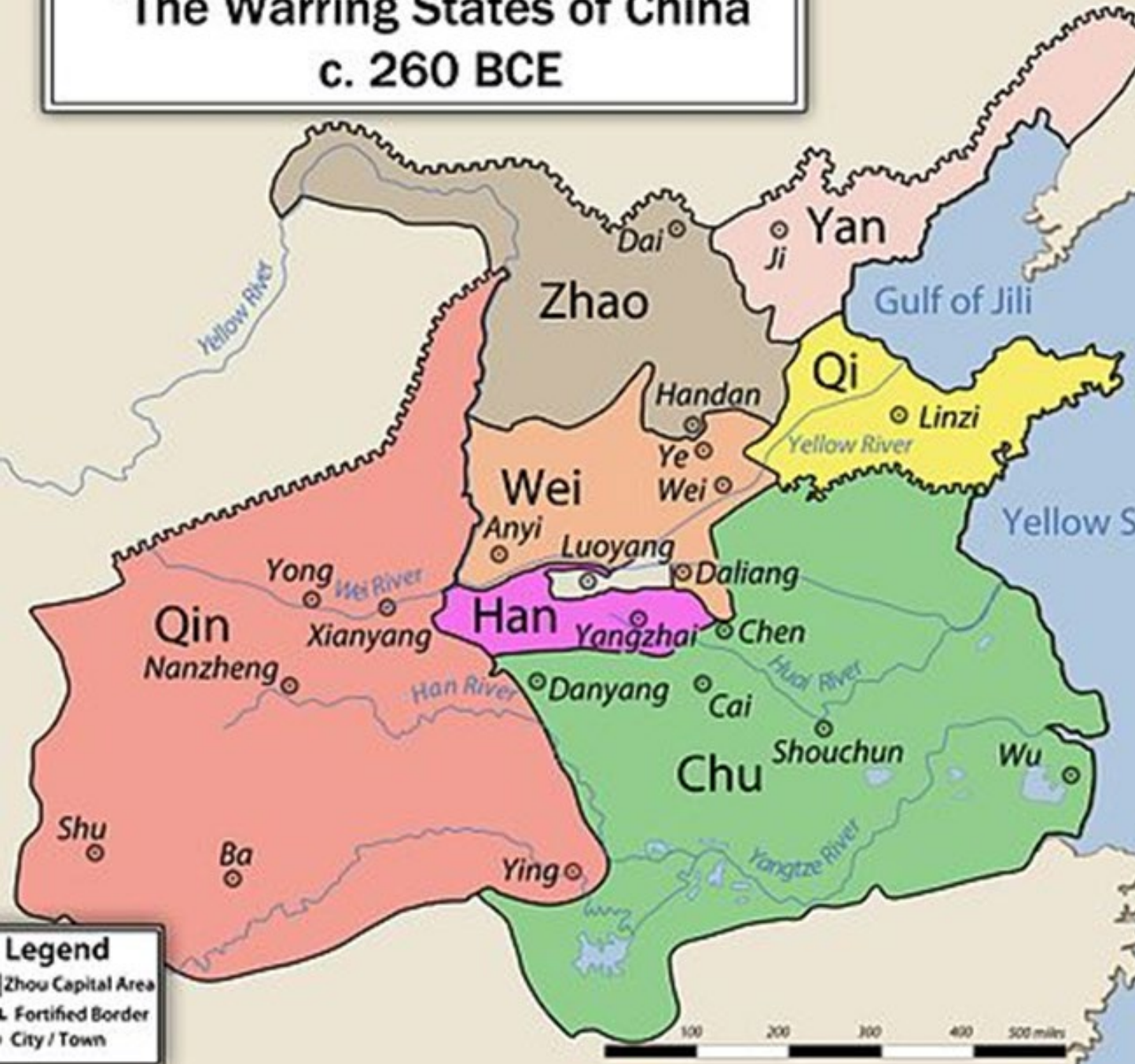
Shang Yang: Military and social reformer in Wei, 390-338 BCE)



Fractioning power, Expanding Armies

- Early Western Zhou: 30,000-140,000
 - Mid-ninth century BCE: 75,000
 - Early Sp/Aut (Lu state): 30,000, 1000 chariots
 - Early 5th C BCE (Wu state): 30,000
 - Early 5th C BCE (Yue state): 49,000
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- Power in the Spring/Autumn moves from the king to the states
 - Late Sp/Aut:
 - Chu state 300,000
 - Jin state 150,000
 - Qin state 60,000

The Warring States of China c. 260 BCE



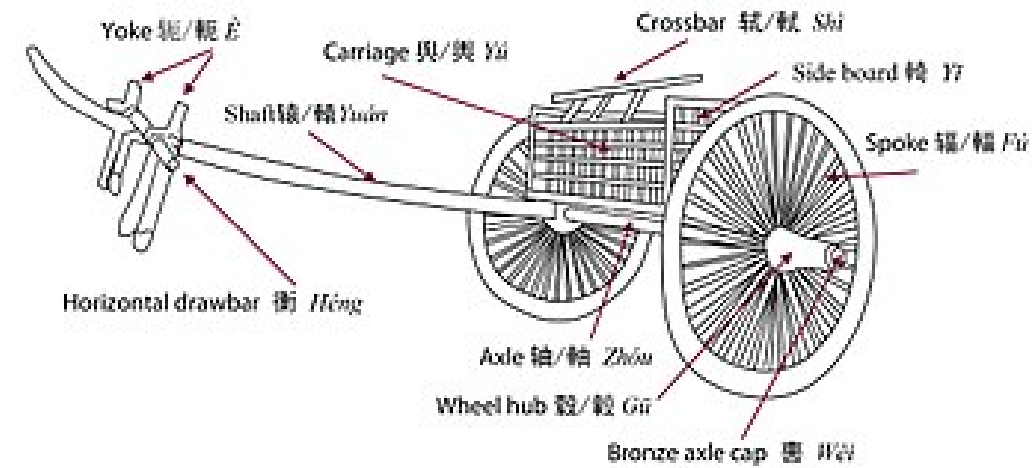
Explosion of the Warring states

- Qin = 1,000,000 troops, 1,000 chariots, 10,000 cavalry
- Chu = 1,000,000 troops, 1,000 chariots, 10,000 cavalry
- Wei = 750,000 troops, 600 chariots, 5,000 cavalry

Chariots in action

Each chariot was accompanied by
infantry troops
Infantry 10-100 men per chariot

Thus what motivates men to slay the enemy is anger; what stimulates them to seize profits from the enemy is material goods. Thus in chariot encounters, when ten or more chariots are captured, reward the first to get one. Change their flags and pennants to ours; intermix and employ them with our own chariots. Treat the captured soldiers well in order to nurture them for our use. This is referred to as “conquering the enemy and growing stronger.” Sun Tzu Art of War 2



Deployments and tactics

- In general, there are ten deployments: square, circular, diffuse, concentrated, Awl, Wild Geese, hooked, Dark Rising, incendiary, and aquatic. Each of them has its advantages: The square deployment is for cutting. The circular deployment is for unifying. The diffuse deployment is for rapid, flexible response. The concentrated deployment is to prevent being cut off and taken. Deployment into the Awl Formation is for decisively severing the enemy. Deployment into the Wild Geese Formation is for exchanging archery fire. Deployment into the hooked formation is the means by which to change targets and alter plans. The Dark Rising deployment is for causing doubts in the enemy's masses and difficulty for his plans. The incendiary deployment is the means to seize enemy encampments. The aquatic deployment is the means to inundate the solid. Sun Bin Art of War 16

Fortifications

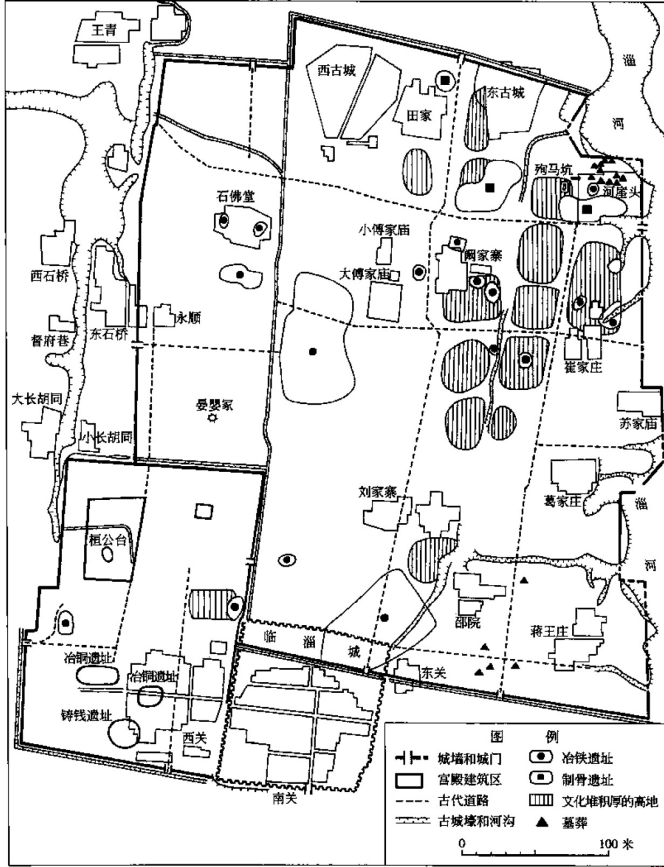


图 7-9 临淄齐国都城平面图



If fords and bridges have not yet been constructed, strategic barriers not yet repaired, dangerous points in the city walls not yet fortified, and the iron caltrops not yet set out, then even though they have a fortified city they do not have any defense! Wei Liaozi 2

Linzi, Capital of Qi state

Precursors to the Great Wall

