Shang Dynasty — Y5/6 Knowledge Organiser

Key Vocabulary

dynasty	a sequence of rulers from the same family
invasion	An invasion is the movement of an army into a region, usually in a hostile attack that's part of a war or conflict.
nature gods	A god in charge of forces of nature (e.g. water, vegetation)
oracle bones	Parts of an animal bone used in divination ceremonies in Ancient China, mainly during the late Shang Dynasty.
sacrifice	Surrendering a valued possession, person or animal as an offering to a deity (god)
value	-The importance, worth, or usefulness of something -A principle or standard of behaviour
wealth	a great amount of money or possessions

Empire
The Shang Dynasty ruled during the Bronze Age.
They settled in the City of Yin; they ruled in the middle and lower Yellow River Valley.
Shang society was divided into classes: the king and aristocracy, the military, craftsmen, farmers, slaves and peasants.

Significant Rulers

Tang - the first emperor

Wu Ding - a successful emperor who ruled for 58

Fu Hao - military commander and a wife of Wu Ding

Zhou (Di Xin) - the last emperor (known as a tyrant)

Timeline (Chronology)

Shang Dynasty (1766BC – 1046BC)

2000BC – The Xia Dynasty ruled the Yellow River area of Northeast China.

1766BC – Tang takes control and sets up his capital in Bo.

1737BC – Tang rules for around 29 years and his son succeeds him.

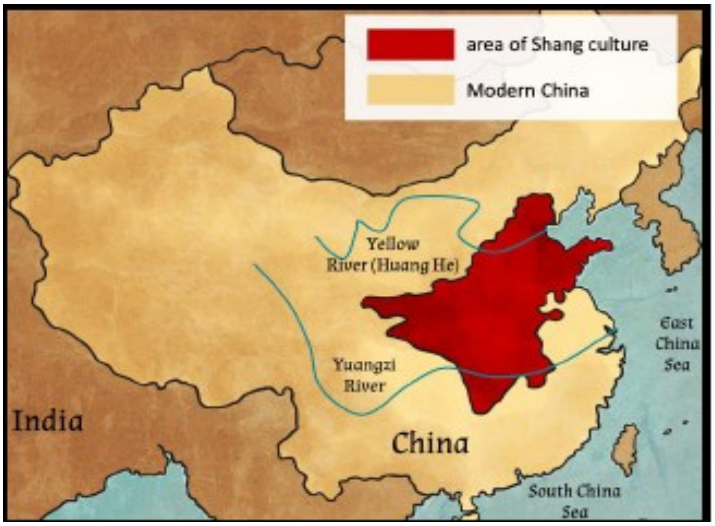
1700BC – Shang Dynasty ushers in the use of bronze into the area (Middle Bronze Age)

1300BC – Pen Geng rules and moves the capital to Yin.

1200BC – Lady Fu Hao, a wife of King Wu Ding, dies. The rulers after Wu Ding can't hold the people together and the dynasty begins to decline.

1046BC – The slaves revolt and join forces with the Chou people of West China.

1046BC – Di Xin (Zhou), the last Shang ruler, is overthrown by WuWang of the Chou family. The Chou dynasty begins to reign.



Achievements

The Shang Dynasty heralded the Bronze Age in China. Dynasty artisans created sophisticated bronze works, as well as ceramics and jade trinkets.	Shang rulers had amazing palaces at Yin. Archaeologists at Anyang have found the remains of royal palaces made up of 53 wooden buildings.
They had their own calendar system: Wan-Nien invented the Chinese Lunar calendar, through his observations of the summer and winter solstices.	The Shang army battled with advanced weaponry and horse-drawn bronze chariots.



The Shang invented their own writing system using oracle bone script.