## **CHINESE**

## **TIMELINE**



## **Taken From**

# **Tong Sing**

The Book of Wisdom based on The Ancient Chinese Almanac

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#### Introduction

From the "Tong Sing", The Book of Wisdom based on The Ancient Chinese Almanac, the following time line is taken.

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#### **Chinese Element Character Traits**

The following tables overview Chinese history.

### **Older Chinese History**

Date	Dynasty
Pre 2100 BC	Legendary Period
	Civilization begins in the fertile valleys of the Huangde (Yellow River).
	Little is known about the period before the Xia dynasty because, on the orders of the first emperor, all written records were destroyed.
	Archaeological evidence supports the existence of the early emperors.  Additionally, there is evidence of two Neolithic civilizations in the regions near Xian, in the Shaanxi province, and Jinan in the Shandong province.
	Pottery, weaving, simple tools and cultivation.
	Fuxi divines with "oracle bones"

Date	Dynasty
	Xia
2100-1600 BC	Legendary emperors Shen Hong, Huang Di Wu and Yu the Great.
	Calandar, wheel and plough.
	Shang
1600-1100 BC	Herbal medicines.
	King Wen compiles "I Ching" and devises Pa Kua.
1100-770 BC	Western Zhou
	Eastern Zhou (Spring and Autumn Period)
	The period of the Zhou (or Chou) dynasty was one of warfare and political and social unrest, but it was also one of great intellectual development.
770-476 BC	This was the Golden Age of Chinese philosophy, when Taoism evolved and medical practice became more sophisticated.
	Lao Zi (b.604 BC) and Confucius (551-479 BC).
	Confucius studies "I Ching".
	Warring Kingdoms
476-221 BC	Civil war and invasions.
	Mencius (c.372-289)
	Qin
221-206 BC	Qin Shi Huang Di (259-206 BC) is regarded as the 1st Emperor of China, because his reign introduced a system of language, culture, and centralised bureaucracy which became the basis of the system of government in the later dynasties.
	Qin Shi Huang Di orders burning of all books.
206 BC - 24	Western Han
25-220	Eastern Han
25-220	Buddhism introduced.
220-265	Three Kingdoms (Wei, Shu and Wu)
220-205	220-589 - a time of Disunited Empire with civil war and invasions.
265-316	Western Jin Dynasty
317-420	Eastern Jin
420-589	North and South Dynasties
581-618	Sui
	Tang
618-907	The Tang dynasty was another period of great advances, which included the completion of the Grand Canal between Beijing (Peking) and Hangzhou.
	Li Po (poet), Wu Taozi (artist).
907-960	Five Dynasties
	Great unrest.
	Invasion by Mongols.
960-1279	Song
	Genghis Khan (c.1162-1227).
916-1125	Liao (Khitan)

Date	Dynasty
1038-1227	Western Xia
1115-1234	Jin
	Yuan (Mongol)
1271-1368	Kublai Khan (1215-1294) - Mongol.
	Marco Polo (1254-1324) - Italian
1368-1644	Ming
	The Ming period also was one of great political and cultural development, reaching the height of its power under Emperor Yong Le, at which time a large Chinese fleet, commanded by the eunuch Zheng. He, explored the west coast of Africa.
	Agriculture was improved, irrigation was introduced, and weaving, spinning, porcelain manufacture and other handicrafts were developed, and maritime trade with the west was established.
	Firearms, building of Temple of Heaven and Forbidden City.
	Li Shizhen Compiles herbal.
	Qing (Manchu)
	The most recent of the Chinese dynasties - its main features include:
	Its 1st Emperor, Fu Lin, was a prince of the Manchu tribe
	The whole of China was conquered
1644-1911	Confucianism was adopted as the start religion
	Western medicine, science, and technology entered China
	European powers forced China to open up to free trade
	There were several wars with European nations in which China lost territories by unfair treaties
1908-1912	The Last Emperor
	The last emperor of China, and of the Qing (Manchu dynasty, was Pu Yi (1906-1967).
	He reigned from 1908 to 1912 when he abdicated and the Republic of China was established under the presidency of Dr Sun Yatsen.
	Later, Pu Yi served as emperor (1934-1945) of the Japanese puppet state of Manchukuo.

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# **Recent Chinese History**

Date	Event
1839-1852	Opium War
	This arose from China's refusal to allow the British to import opium from India.
	Hong Kong is ceded to Britain.
1850-1864	Taiping Rebellion
	This was a revolt against Manchu rule.
	20,000,000 lives were lost.
	Rebels were defeated by Western troops under General Gordon (1835-1885).

Date	Event
1856-1858	Arrow War
	A British-French victory which led to free trade in Chinese ports.
1894-1895	War with Japan
	China is defeated.
	Boxer Rebellion
1900	The Boxers, a secret society, rebelled against foreign intervention in Chinese affairs.
	The revolt was crushed by joint Western forces.
	Republic of China
1912	The Republic of China is established by Sun Yatsen (1866-1925) after the abdication of Emperor Pu Yi (the last emperor).
1919-1928	Civil War
1919-1920	Civil war with fighting between warlords.
	United China
1928	China is united under control of Kuomintang (Nationalist Party).
	Capital set up in Nanjing.
1930	Communist Split
1550	The communists split with Kuomintang
1931	War with Japan
	Manchuria seized by Japan.
1937-1945	War with Japan
	Japan defeated by allies
	Civil War
1945-1949	Civil war between Kuomintang, let by Chiang Kaishek (1887-1975), and Communists, led by Chou Enlai (1868-1976).
	Kuomintang defeated, and takes refuge in Taiwan (Formosa).
	People's Republic of China
1040	People's Republic of China established by Mao Zedong (1893-1976).
1949	Mao Zedong introduced New Democracy, which was a class-alliance between peasants, labourers and enlightened capitalists, who were those who had not collaborated with foreign powers.
1951	Annexation of Tibet
1951	Tibet is annexed by China.
1950-1953	Korean War
	China supports North Korea.
	United Nations support South Korea.
1954	First Five-year Plan
	The first five-year plan and Soviet-Stalinist economic policy came into operation.
	People's Communes came into being in 1958.

Date	Event
1957	The Great Leap Forward
	In the Great Leap Forward of 1957, many people were engaged in labour projects.
	In 1959, Mao Zedong, the first president, relinquished his position to Liu Shaoqi.
1965	Tibetan Autonomous Region
	Chinese government establishes Tibetan Autonomous Region (TAR)
1976	Mass Demonstrations
	Mass demonstrations take place to express the peoples dissatisfaction with the political leadership.
	<ul> <li>Agricultural and political reforms were introduced and the people's communes were abolished</li> </ul>
	Open markets were allowed
	Private property was limited but not entirely prohibited
	Private enterprise was allowed in commercial and service industries
1976	Death of Mao Zedong
	After the death of Mao Zedong in 1976, China began a long period of liberalization, technological expansion and friendlier relations with Western powers, under the leadership of Deng Xiaoping.

End

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