

## NON-WESTERN EVENTS

### *500–1000*

In Africa, in Nubia, the first Christian mission established, 543; Christian cathedral, begun 707; Nubia remains Christian until the thirteenth century, when Egyptian Muslims invade and introduce Islam; rise of kingdom of Ghana; permanent settlements in Madagascar by Southeast Asians; merchant colonies established at Kumbi Saleh, Timbuktu, Jennejeno and Bantu villages in Ife, Nigeria, terra-cotta and bronze sculptures, characterized by two trends, idealized naturalism and extreme stylization, about 500–1000; rock art in Cedar Mountains

In Andean culture, Middle Horizon period, 500–900; Late Intermediate period, 900–1438; collapse of Moche culture, about 600; rise of the Wari people in the southern highlands of Peru and the Tiwanaku peoples near Lake Titicaca in Bolivia, about 500–800; Wari tapestries, ceramics, and monumental sculpture; the capital city of Wari was abandoned in about 800 and remains unexcavated today; the city of Tiwanaku, in grid design, covered four square miles and numbered about 60,000 people at its height; Tiwanaku metalwork, pottery, and ceramics; the Bennett Monolith is the largest (twenty-four feet) Andean stela; end of Tiwanaku culture in about 1000

In China, Period of Disunity, or Six Dynasties, 220–581; the pagoda at the Song Yue temple in Henan, 523; first Chinese roll painting, 535; the square pagoda of Shen-t'ung'ssu in Shantung, 544; Sui dynasty, 581–618, China is reunified and Great Wall rebuilt; Tang dynasty, 618–906; an era of cosmopolitanism and cultural flowering; height of Buddhist influence in China and spread of cult of bodhisattvas, until repressed, about 845; Buddhist cave shrines and marble figures; capital of Changan numbers one million; silver dishes, decorated silks, ceramic figures, including the Tang horse; Tang poetry, the golden age of Chinese poetry with Wang Wei, 699–761, Li Bai, 701–762, Du Fu, 712–770, Bo Juyi, 772–846, and Hanshan, eighth to ninth centuries; renewed trade with the West; Changan connected by canals with Luoyang, a second capital; Tang rulers control the Tarim Basin in central Asia, including the Silk Roads linking China to Persia and the Mediterranean; expansion of China until defeat by Arabs at Talas, 751; period of land reform and good government; use of woodblock printing to mass-produce Buddhist and Daoist texts; the hall of the Nanchan Temple in Shaanxi province, China's oldest surviving wooden structure, 782; earliest evidence of gunpowder in ninth century; adoption of chairs; anti-Buddhist persecutions, 845 and tenth century; the world's first printed book, *The Diamond Sutra*, 868; the Chung-hsing-ssu pagoda at Shantung, about 900, a brick version of a wooden pagoda, which became the prototype of later Liao and Sung pagodas; Five Dynasties, 907–960; sixth period of Chinese literature, 900–1900; northern Sung dynasty, 960–1126; first printing of the classic texts of Confucius, 932; money economy; growth in commerce and trade; urban

growth and technological innovation; 1,000-volume encyclopedia, 978–984; the Bridge of the Ten Thousand Ages, Foochow, 1000

In Himalayan region, in Kashmir, Gonandiyā dynasty, from about 500 B.C. to A.D. 622; Karkota dynasty, 622–about 760; Lalitaditya Muktapida, 724–about 760, the greatest ruler in the Karkota line; conquests in India to the Deccan, in Afghanistan Tibet, and in central Asia; Buddhist complexes at Parihasapura and Pandrenthanm, temples at Loduv, Narastan, Martand, Vantipur, and Patan, between seventh and tenth centuries; development of basic elements of Kashmir architecture: the trilobate arch, the triangular tympanum, and the pyramidal roof; the Utpala dynasty with two strong kings, Avantivarman, 856–883, and Sankaravarman, 883–902, after which decline sets in; in Nepal, end of Licchavi dynasty and founding of Thakuri dynasty by Amsuvarman, 585–650; in Tibet, rise of monarchy and first two kings, K'ri-slon-brtsan, 590–620, and Sron-btsan-sgam-po, 620–645; introduction of Buddhism under latter king; Buddhism made state religion under B'ri-sron-lde-brtsan, 755–797; coming of the magician Padmasambhava and founding of the sect of Red Caps (later opposed by the Yellow Caps); occupation of Changan, China's Tang dynasty capital; Tibetan religious architecture has two types of monuments, the chorten (a funerary monument that is a modified stupa) and the temple; monastic complex at Samye; period of decline, 850–1000

In India, successive invasions of Huns, about 455 to 528; Huns and other central Asian tribes destroyed Gupta empire, 550; Pallava dynasty (about 300–about 800) in south; temple at Deogarh, sixth century; temple of Durga, the goddess of war, at Aihole, by the Chalukya dynasty, sixth century; dictionary, 650; the *Surangama Sutra*, a Mahayan Buddhist text, written in Sanskrit in the first century A.D. and translated into Chinese in A.D. 705; University of Nalanda in Bihar; seventh-and eighth-century mathematicians, Brahmagupta and Lalla, study geometry, trigonometry, and algebra; use of decimals and zero; *The Adventures of the Ten Princes*, by the Sanskrit poet-novelist Dandin, about 700; competing dynasties and clans, from 650 to 1336; Arabs take the city of Sind, 711; the rock-cut temple of Kailasanath at Ellora, built by the Rashtrakuta dynasty, about 650–about 750; Pallava stone sculptures and temples; Temple of the Sun at Martand, eighth century; raids of Mahmud of Ghazni, 997–1027

In Indochina, in Burma, cultural influence of India, starting in fifth to sixth centuries; introduction of Buddhism from India; conquest of Kyaukse and Pagan regions of north by Tibetan tribes, ninth century; in Cambodia, founding of the Khmer Empire, by Jayavarman II, after 790; stable political and social order and a vigorous art, developed in a series of styles and in imposing architectural monuments; the hydraulic system to bring water to the rice fields, constructed by Indravarman, 877–889, thus ensuring three centuries of prosperity; capital is, first, Angkor, and then, Koh Ker; the basic architectural types of Khmer art are the tower-sanctuary and the temple mountain; the Bakheng, the royal temple-mausoleum, after 910; return to Angkor during the reign of Rajendravarman,

944–968; the five-level pyramid of Ta Keo, the culmination of the temple-mountain form, about 1000

In Japan, Tomb period, about 300–645; birth of feudal nobility, sixth century; introduction of Buddhism, 552–575; supported by Emperor Shotoku, 593–621; Asuka period, 552–645; Chinese influence, by way of Korea, brought new architectural structures and techniques, new ways of arranging building areas, and principles of urban planning; earliest surviving Buddhist temple, Horyuji, consisting of a monastery, cloister, pagoda, pavilion, library, “Golden Hall,” and temple bell, in Nara, 607–670; Taika reform, 645; reforms made largely on Chinese models; writing system, bureaucratic organization, legal theories; Nara period, 645–784; Nara (near modern Osaka) made the first permanent capital, in 710; Nara laid out in a grid borrowed from China; Nara becomes an important Buddhist center; the Toshodaiji, Nara, a temple synthesizing Chinese and Japanese principles, 755 to 770; the Todaiji, the “Great Eastern Temple,” the first Buddhist center built wholly at state expense, commissioned by Emperor Shomu, 701–756; Shomu decreed that each province establish a monastery for men and a convent for women, in 741; *Kojiki* by Yasumaro Onon, earliest work of Japanese literature; *Manyoshu* by Japanese poets, contains 4,516 poems, about 759; Heian period, 794–1185; *Kokinsh-u*, collection of poems; the Heian goal was to escape from the pervasive influence of Buddhism; Emperor Kwammu, 782–805; Kwammu moves capital to Nagaoka, 784; Nagaoka doesn’t work out and a new capital is founded at Heian, or Kyoto, which remained the imperial residence until 1869; classical Japanese culture in the new capital Kyoto; Kyoto’s palaces, temples, and dwellings use the first original Japanese designs; the “phoenix hall” of the Byodoin complex, the only original architecture surviving from about 800; court nobles, especially noblewomen, produced a great body of literature—poetry, diaries, a novel; refined aesthetic sensibility is the hallmark of Heian culture; the first important Japanese painter, Kudawara Kuwanari, d. 853; Kyoto’s Diogo pagoda, 972; *The Gossamer Years*, an autobiographical narrative of a woman married to a high-ranking aristocrat, tenth century

In Korea, Three Kingdoms period, 57 B.C.–A.D. 668; the pagodas of Miruk-sa at Iksankun and of Chong-nim-sa at Puyo in the Pakche kingdom, the oldest stone structures in Korea, seventh century; the Punhwang-sa pagoda at Kyongju, capital of the Old Silla kingdom, seventh century; Great Silla Kingdom, A.D. 668–935; Korea now unified; the capital Kyongju, built on a square grid with high city walls pierced by twenty gates, containing about one million inhabitants; the classic period of Korean architecture, inspired by Chinese Tang style; the Silla type pagoda, with three diminishing stories on a pedestal of two levels and topped by a high finial, such as the twin pagodas of Kam-cun-sa at Wol-ssong Kun, seventh century; the cave temple of Sokkulam, inspired by Indian Buddhist rock construction, eighth century; distinctive glazed pottery; Koryo Kingdom, 918–1392; the medieval phase of Korean culture; imitation of China’s Tang period art and architecture

In Mesoamerica, Classic period, ends 900; burning of Teotihuacán and its collapse, about 650; Mayan Temple of the Inscriptions, about 700, in Palenque; burial offerings, island of Jaina; Toltec ritual sacrifices of enemies; Monte Albán abandoned about 750; Mayan murals depicting human sacrifice at Bonampak, in Chiapas, about 800; metalworking introduced, about 800; general decline of Mayan culture and Mayan cities are deserted by about 900; rise of Mixtec people with the dynasty of the Lords of Tilantoga, 720; Mixtecs conquer Cholula and make it their center; Historic period, 900–1521; trade rising between Toltecs and Anasazi and Hohokam peoples of the American Southwest; Zapotec culture with strong trading; Zapotec tomb painting

In Muslim World (For founding of Islam, consult Chapter 8 in *The Western Humanities.*), *Golden Odes*, the epic lays of the Bedouin tribes, the only great work of Arab literature predating the dawn of Islam, sixth century; the Koran, 646

In Native North America, in Arkansas, the Plum Bayou culture, the most complex structure of the American east, about 900; Hohokam and Anasazi societies expand; Mogollon Mimbres pottery; Hohokam pottery and mosaics; Anasazi pueblos and petroglyphs on cliffs

In Sri Lanka, the founding of Anuradhapura, the capital for one thousand years and home to many Buddhist monasteries, dominated by stupas, such as that of King Mahinda II, eighth century