

## 1: Chinese Cannons History | Chinese Cannon Invention

*A Longquan Celadon 'Twin Fish' Dish, Southern Song or Yuan, 13th or Early 14th Century. From the Longquan Kilns, Zhejiang Province. The Celadon Glaze of this Dish is a Good Dark Slightly Smoky Green, it is Quite Translucent with the White Body Showing Through Clearly.*

The Song Dynasty " was a period of technological advances and prosperity, preceded by the fractured Five Dynasties and Ten Kingdoms Period " and succeeded by the Mongol-led Yuan Dynasty " It coexisted with the Liao Dynasty " in the northeast and the Western Xia Dynasty " in the northwest. When the second Jin Dynasty " supplanted the Liao, they drove the Song south, dividing the dynasty into the Northern Song " and the Southern Song " eras. The Song empire enjoyed unprecedented economic growth. The Song empire was technologically and scientifically advanced. The cruel custom of foot-binding for women became popular during the Song era. The Song empire proved to be the most difficult for the Mongols to defeat. The Song empire experienced unprecedented economic growth and industrial advance. Scholars think that the population in the region first exceeded million during the Song era. During the Song era, most of the people lived in the south where they used improved techniques of rice cultivation. Rice became the major food crop and this enabled the population to explode. They built some of the biggest cities in the world, such as Kaifeng and Hangzhou. Movable Type Printing The wood block printing technique is said to have been invented during the preceding Tang Dynasty. Chinese written language used tens of thousands of characters. It was tedious to make so many characters. The innovation of movable type printing became a fast and economical method for printing. Gunpowder The Song inventors were especially good at concocting varieties of gunpowder to use for different purposes. The varieties of gunpowder and gunpowder products were important inventions. At the end of the Song Dynasty in , the Song army used landmines against the Mongols. During the Song Dynasty, the religions of Daoism and Buddhism became less popular among the ruling class than in previous eras. Neo-Confucian thought became their dominant philosophy of life. Neo-Confucianism was the religious belief and political philosophy espoused by most of the bureaucrats until the end of the Qing Dynasty " except during the Yuan Dynasty " There were eight small kingdoms in In the year , a general named Zhao Kuangyin from one of the kingdoms called Northern Zhou rebelled against his king and the court officials, and established a new dynasty Song. Zhao Kuangyin proclaimed himself Emperor Taizu and continued to defeat most of the surrounding kingdoms, increasing the institutional buildup. The Southern Song empire controlled only about 60 percent of the land area of the Northern Song empire since the Song clan lost control of the area north of the Huai River. During his 16 years of rule, he instituted successful policies and won his wars of expansion. Expanded Territory In the beginning of the Song era, the land under rule only covered the areas of the Yellow River and the Huai River. Valued Literati Emperor Taizu valued Confucian literati throughout this life. After he took the throne, civil officers were sent to thousands of local, county, and state positions to displace the military officers. By doing so, the situation of local warlords possessing too much power and rebelling frequently during the later period of the Tang Dynasty had been changed. Keju Examination Emperor Taizu set the policy that most of the governing officials should be Confucian literati who passed the imperial exam , which was known as the Keju examination in ancient China. Thanks to this policy, many ordinary people became officials by studying hard. This policy helped to ensure that the officials were very intelligent and loyal to the government. He later changed his name to Zhao Guangyi and named himself Emperor Taizong. Unified the Country In , Emperor Taizong sent a general to besiege the capital of the Northern Han and then led the troops personally before conquering the Northern Han completely. Developed Religion In , Emperor Taizong set up a sutra translation institution in Dongjing modern-day Kaifeng and continued the Buddhist text translation work, which had been interrupted from During his reign, he also constructed many Buddhist temples. Therefore, they kept their territory integrity until Western Xia was a small kingdom in the northwest that controlled access to the strategic Gansu Corridor. The Song Dynasty thought that if they could regain the land of the Western Xia, they could perhaps reestablish the lucrative Silk Road trade that benefited the Han and Tang dynasties. But this expedition was a disaster for the

Song empire, and the Western Xia regained territory they had earlier lost. The Ly Dynasty behaved as vassals, but the Song court thought that the country was weak enough to conquer. In response, the Ly Dynasty sent an army of about 100,000 soldiers to Nanning and soundly defeated three Song armies. From 1075 to 1077, the Ly Dynasty in Vietnam fought them. This war also ended in a stalemate. Captives and captured land were mutually exchanged. In 1125, the Song Dynasty managed to win several military victories over the Liao, and then the Liao sought peace. The two parties signed a peace treaty, which was known as the Chanyuan Treaty. They allied themselves with the Jurchens and started a war that ended in disaster for them. The combined armies defeated the Liao empire, but then the Jurchens turned against the Song empire and captured Kaifeng, the Song capital city. They captured Emperor Hui ruled 1125-1126 and Emperor Qin ruled 1126-1127 as well as much of the ruling clan in 1127, which was known as the Jingkang Incident. Xitang near Hangzhou was a Song era water town. The Southern Song era began. Foreign Trade The early period of the Southern Song was a time of prosperity. Foreign trade was a priority, and the government constructed merchant ships and improved harbor facilities. Quanzhou, Guangzhou, and Xiamen were big seaports, and great wealth flowed through them. Song empire merchant ships sailed as far as India and Arabia. This trade allowed the Southern Song empire to continue to be prosperous although they had lost land. Navy Construction The government built a navy to protect the merchant shipping industry. Paddle-wheel ships were built that were faster than regular boats in the rivers. They carried gunpowder bombs that could blow up enemy boats. They defeated attacks from the Jin empire partly because they had a better navy than the Jin did. The wide Yangtze River was a natural defensive boundary that they controlled. Their joint attack was successful, but this success left the Mongols with only the Song empire to conquer next. The Fall of the Song After about two decades of warfare, the Song capital was taken in 1279, and after three more years of fighting with remnants of the dynastic court, the empire ended in 1279. The Yuan empire began. Song Dynasty Sights and Tours Hangzhou tours: The former Southern Song capital has Song-era ruins and tombs. Two Song era pagodas called Iron Pagoda and Pota Pagoda can be visited along with other ancient sites.

## 2: Song Dynasty, History and Facts of Song Dynasty

*Song dynasty (AD ) Length cms Unearthed in at Longzhuan, Zhejiang province Here are some photographs reflecting Southern Song times, click on the thumbnail to see the photograph in full.*

Like the other Inner Asian peoples, the Mongols followed a pattern of seasonal migration. They lived in felt tents, ate mutton, practiced polygamy, and worshiped the hearth. Their basic social and political units were the patriarchal clans, which further formed tribes bound by blood relationships. Conflicts among tribes over women and territory often resulted in warfare, and the losers consequently became subordinates of the victors. Mongol soldiers were known for their mobility and military prowess. The Mongol cavalry consisted of excellent riders. It was reported they could stay on their saddles constantly for about ten days and nights. In battle the Mongol warriors encircled and harried their enemies, and they then used their heavy bows to kill them. They also utilized tactics of psychological warfare, such as terrorizing their opponents. Their military superiority gave them an edge in fighting against other Inner Asian tribes and the Chinese. In a Mongol boy was born and given the name Temujin. Although of aristocratic origin, Temujin lost his father when he was young, and he subsequently led a hard life. The young Temujin first rebelled against his own lord, then slowly subjugated one tribe after another. Second, the military organization of Genghis Khan proved effective. The Mongol army was organized in units of tens, hundreds, and thousands and was led by aristocratic leaders. In the Mongol army numbered about , men, more than 10 percent of the total population. In addition, Mongol military tacticsâ€”including encirclement, espionage, and terrorâ€”further enhanced their power. In Genghis destroyed the Jin capital. Before his death in , Genghis eliminated the Xi Xia kingdom, thus establishing the basis of a Eurasian empire. He became Great Khan in and made Beijing his winter capital in In the Mongol forces finally destroyed the Southern Song court, bringing the entire area of China under Mongol rule. The Mongol leaders, how-ever, continued warfare against other countries. Both expeditions failed; the Mongols planned a third assault, but they never carried it out. Mongol forces also organized military campaigns against Vietnam and Burma. In and the Mongol fleet attacked Java. These military campaigns expanded Chinese territory and brought local rulers into tribute relationships with China. Kublai Khan was determined to rule all of China. After the conquest of the Southern Song, the Mongols faced the same problem as previous non-Chinese conquerorsâ€”how to rule such a vast land and yet not be inundated by Chinese culture. Previous khans had lived among their herds and in their tents. He was recorded in the histories as Shizu Grand Ancestor following Chinese tradition. Kublai Khan was also careful to preserve Mongol identity. He took only Mongol women into his palace and prohibited Mongols from marrying Chinese. Kublai Khan managed to strike a balance during his thirty-four-year rule as leader of the Yuan. Fairbank and others, *East Asia: Tradition and Transformation* Boston: Herbert Franke and Denis Twitchett, eds. Cambridge University Press, Princeton University Press, Mote, *Imperial China*, Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, Morris Rossabi, *Khubilai Khan: His Life and Times* Berkeley: University of California Press, Cite this article Pick a style below, and copy the text for your bibliography.

## 3: Yuan (Mongol) Dynasty -

*southern song celadon Celadons refers to glaze. mostly greens and blues: color of water or the ocean. variations of color: the deeper the cut, the more the color settles in like a puddle, so therefore darker.*

Their rapid conquest westward to the fringes of Europe is evidence of the skill in cavalry warfare mounted archers which no nation had an answer to. Genghis Khan took on the mission of conquering the whole known world; this vision took him as far as Palestine where the Muslim Egyptian kingdom managed to stem the tide. In China the Jin dynasty were forced to move their capital from Beijing to Kaifeng in The center of Chinese cultural activity had by then already moved south, the northern frontier lands were now sparsely populated with peoples which had become integrated with foreign, mainly Muslim tribes. The Yuan or Mongol dynasty was declared in Zhongdu now Beijing in History The institution of Emperor , as head of the Chinese family of people, lasted for thousands of years and to some extent lives on in the Presidency. To early European visitors to China the structure was considered close to the ideal form of society. Southern Song The overthrow of the Southern Song south of the Yangzi was delayed for fifty years by the death of Genghis Khan in and also by the physical barrier: The area controlled by the Chinese Song dynasty is shown with brown stippling on the map. The Mongols started an encircling movement to the west by capturing Tibet and Yunnan. The Chinese military system, little changed since the Qin dynasty was ineffective. Armies were raised on demand from the peasantry when needed, there was no permanent professional army. No city had successfully held out against them for long. The whole population of the city of Changzhou, Jiangsu , over a million people, were slaughtered in As the Mongols were hugely outnumbered by the Han Chinese , they could only govern through existing institutions and they became to some extent absorbed into Chinese culture. There is a question, echoed later in the Qing Manchu dynasty, of whether the real power lay with the Mongols or the Chinese who they supposedly ruled. Battle between Mongols and Chinese Arabs, Persians, Venetians all provided new knowledge and technology that the great Empire utilized. People were divided into a hierarchy of classes of Mongols; Westerners; Northern Chinese and, lowest, Southern Chinese. The Chinese examination system for selecting candidates for official posts was suspended. The conversion of the Western Khans to Islam prevented a single Great Mongol leader ever emerging again because the Great Khan in China was classed as a Buddhist and therefore an infidel. The vastness of the Mongol Empire made exploration by Chinese adventurers and scientists possible; a number of important journeys were made and recorded. Marco Polo reported on many unusual scenes including one where that the Great Khan traveled on a great wooden room built on top of the backs of four elephants. Although we use a few targeted advertisements there are insufficient to maintain the web site. Please consider making a donation of however little or much you can afford. To make a donation, simply click on the Paypal button below, it will take you to the official Paypal web site to make your donation simply and securely. Many thanks, much appreciated. A number of large infrastructure projects began. A paved track between Hangzhou and Beijing alongside the canal cut travel time for Imperial messengers to travel the miles [ kms] in only 40 days. The famous blue and white porcelain began to be produced now that there was access to the blue cobalt glaze from Central Asia. The Mongols promoted the cotton industry as an alternative textile to silk. A new astronomical observatory was set up with foreign help and new detailed maps of their extensive territories were produced. Administration was somewhat hampered by the continued use of both Mongolian and Chinese language and culture. The ancient Civil service examination system was suspended until , court appointments being made by patronage rather than intellectual merit - the military always had the upper hand. However, many of the efficient parts of the administrative system of China were maintained. The punishments for crimes were rather strangely made less severe giving strong evidence for the cruel and deterrent nature of the Chinese criminal system. The excessive expenditure of the Emperor attacks on Cambodia, Japan etc. An old palace building at Beihai Park, Beijing. Kublai Khan redesigned the existing park and built a palace here. Divisions within the Mongol aristocracy fueled the decline in stability. Portrait of Genghis Khan. Painted in the Qing dynasty. Ink and color on silk. Genghis or Genghis Khan had a vision that propelled him to seek to bring all of humanity under one unified

kingdom. At the time, the nomadic people of Mongolia were divided into many tribes with strong family loyalties. Genghiz lived through hard times as a boy, after his father was murdered the family had to subsist on wild plants and the occasional mouse. Soon enough, under his leadership, the massed horde of Mongol warriors on horseback became an unstoppable force wherever they went. After five years he began an invasion of northern China with an army of , Northern China at this time was under the control of the Jin dynasty and the Western Xia kingdom. The , strong Chinese army and formidable city wall defenses could not repulse his attacks for long. Two armies attacked and besieged Beijing at that time called Zhongdu in and the city was systematically looted and burnt to the ground in His tactic for conquest was simple: If a city held out against him, then all the inhabitants were put to the sword. The Southern Song dynasty based at Hangzhou felt themselves safe beyond the natural defenses of mountains and rivers. Although invincible on open plains the Mongol horsemen could not so easily launch attacks over the steep mountains and the wide rivers of central and southern China. The defeat of their foes, the Jurchen Jin , in northern China did not seem necessarily a bad thing to the Song people. Indeed the Mongol invasion could have given opportunity for the Song to retake some land in the north. Although boats were duly made China refused to take delivery of them and Anglo-Chinese relations went into a further decline. He could certainly claim that he ruled over most of the known world. Marco Polo [ - ].

### 4: Yuan Dynasty ǎ...f, ([www.enganchecubano.com](http://www.enganchecubano.com))

*The Oriental Ceramic Society of London and The British Museum. "Chinese Ivories from the Shang to the Qing," May 23, August 19, New York. The Metropolitan Museum of Art. "Extravagant Display: Chinese Art in the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries," December 14, May 1,*

By repute, Lord Matsudaira Fumai , a tea master and daimyo of Izumo province. Fushimiya, a prominent antique dealer in the Edo period. At its finest, as on the current vase, Longquan celadon glaze is thick, translucent and has a rich texture reminiscent of jade. The glaze on the current vase also displays the ideal soft bluish-green color, which was so difficult for potters to achieve, but has always been greatly admired by connoisseurs. The particular version of the mallet-shaped vase represented by the current vase is rare among surviving Southern Song and Yuan dynasty Longquan wares. In the Northern Song dynasty the mallet form with wide flattened mouth was made in two of the ceramic wares associated with the imperial court. A small number of Ding wares were made in this form, and an example with reduced mouth is in the collection of the Percival David Foundation. Perhaps more significantly, Ru wares of the type made specifically for the Northern Song court, have been found in this form. A mallet-shaped Ru ware vase with wide flattened mouth was excavated in at the kiln site of Qingliangsi, Baofengxian, Henan province, while the National Palace Museum, Taipei has two similar Ru ware vases with damaged mouths. In this vase form was among the pale celadon vessels, related to Ru ware, excavated from a kiln site at Zhanggongxiang, Ruzhou, Henan, just south-east of Ruzhou City. It has been suggested by several scholars that this shape, despite resembling a paper mallet, may in fact have been introduced to China as a glass vase or bottle from the Islamic west, possibly Iran. Fragments of glass vessels of this shape were found in among the excavated material from the cargo of the Intan wrecked ship excavated off the Indonesian coast. This ship is believed to date to the Northern Song period. The Northern Song ceramic vessels of this mallet form have no handles, and some Southern Song Longquan examples are also handleless. For example, a Longquan vase without handles was excavated in from a Southern Song tomb in the Sima Bridge area of Chengdu in Sichuan province. Links with the Northern Song imperial Ru wares are also suggested by the fineness and bluish tone of the glaze on Longquan mallet-shaped vases like the current example, and by the fact that this form was also produced in Southern Song imperial Guan ware at the Laohudong kilns, in Hangzhou, Zhejiang province. However, the potters at the Longquan kilns in the Southern Song dynasty began to embellish the form by adding decorative handles on either side of the columnar neck. Most frequently these handles were in the shape of birds, which are usually identified as phoenixes. An example of this type is preserved in the collection of the Palace Museum, Beijing. Much rarer are Longquan vases with the type of handles seen on the current vessel. These are in the shape of yulong dragon-fish with fish-like bodies and dragon-like heads. Dragon-fish are mentioned in Chinese literature as early as the Bronze Age, and appear in legends related in the Shanhaijing Classic of Mountains and Seas. They were included in painted and incised decoration on ceramics of the Tang dynasty, from kilns such as Changsha and Yue, but do not seem to occur in three-dimensional ceramic form until the Song and Liao dynasties. By the Song dynasty handles such as these depicted a carp in the process of turning into a dragon. This evokes a legend, which dates from at least as early as the Eastern Han dynasty, that tells of the carp swimming up river to the Dragon Gate. If it is successful in leaping over the gate it turns into a dragon. This legend soon came to represent the success of the Chinese scholars, who studied hard to pass the civil service examinations, and if they achieved the highest grade would attain an official post. As mentioned above, vases with dragon-fish handles are quite rare, and the current vase is even more rare for being unusually large, as well as having an unusually fine glaze. The majority of Longquan mallet vases are significantly smaller. A Longquan mallet vase with dragon-fish handles, excavated in from a Southern Song tomb in Songyangxian, is only 16 cm. The example in the Meiyintang collection is Two other known examples of dragon-fish-handled Longquan vases are of similar size to the second Kempe vase. One from the Njoo collection is 26 cm. Japanese patrons admired fine Chinese Longquan celadon wares from the time they were made, in the Southern Song dynasty. There was an active trade in ceramics between China and Japan in

the 12th centuries, and even today sherds from Chinese celadon vessels can be found along the shore at Kamakura - testament to the large numbers of such pieces that were shipped to Japan in that period. Many of the Chinese ceramics sent to Japan would have been shipped from the port of Ningbo in Zhejiang province, and a neck sherd of a Longquan celadon vase with dragon-fish handles of the same type as the current vase, has been found at the site of the ancient wharf at Dongmenkou in Ningbo. While Tang dynasty Chinese ceramics had been admired in Japan, the Kamakura period AD, coinciding with the Southern Song dynasty, saw a renewed vogue in Japan for Chinese art. Indeed, one Japanese scholar has noted that in the Kamakura period: Excavated evidence for their popularity can be seen in profusion not only in Kamakura itself, but at a variety of historical sites throughout Japan. Significant numbers of Song and Yuan dynasty Chinese ceramic sherds have been excavated at the Ichijo-dani site in Fukui prefecture, the Kusadosengen site in Hiroshima, several sites in Kyoto, and the port city of Hakata. In addition, some of the major Japanese temples still have in their possession Song dynasty Chinese ceramics, which have been preserved over the centuries. It is interesting to note that the Daitoku-ji temple in Kyoto has in its collection a Longquan celadon vase of the same form as the current example, with dragon-fish handles. It is particularly significant since this temple also has a long association with the tea ceremony and was much visited by the great 16th century tea master Sen no Rikyu AD. Longquan vases of this mallet shape, but of the slightly more numerous version with bird handles, have also been preserved in Japanese collections, and some have been given particular status by the Japanese authorities. Another of the bird-handled Longquan mallet vases, now preserved in the Museum of Oriental Ceramics, Osaka, has been designated an Important Cultural Property. The latter has also been designated an Important Cultural Property by the Japanese authorities. The current vase is accompanied by two letters, one of which notes that the vase had been in the possession of the "lord of Unshu province," Matsudaira Fumai, the seventh daimyo of the Matsue fiefdom in Izumo province an alternate name for Unshu province, and also a renowned tea master who amassed an extensive and highly regarded art collection. The two letters record an attempt by an individual, acting as negotiator on behalf of the actual owner of the vase, to sell it to a prospective buyer. The first letter Fig. The vase was once owned by the lord of Unshu province, who purchased it from the antique dealer Fushimiya in Edo. It has a small section repaired in gold lacquer, but it is extremely rare. Tonight after your return I will come over and let you handle the piece. I tried to negotiate to lower the price, but he did not give me any discount. I made the deal and the price is eight hundred and forty bu. He made some flattering remarks, that when flowers are arranged in the vase it glows, despite the blemish. As this is a flower vase of Kitade type, it will be admired more than others. If there are any questions, I am happy to discuss. Bokushin is the pseudonym of Sousen Kizu, a late Edo tea master and chief priest at Gansenji, a temple in Osaka. Following his tenure as chief priest, Sousen Kizu moved to Edo city, at which time he met Matsudaira Fumai and learned about the tea ceremony. He became a tea tutor of the Wakayama clan in Kishu province in Sousen Kizu, along with Fushimiya, is recorded as among those who helped Matsudaira Fumai build his famous art collection. When young he had been critical of certain aspects of the tea ceremony, but later he reviewed it and decided to undertake a careful study of tea utensils. Matsudaira Fumai made a painstaking study in which he divided the utensils into omeibutsu great famous utensils, and chukomeibutsu rediscovered famous utensils. This study prepared him to make his own collection of tea utensils, of which some items are recorded in the Unshu Kuracho. These items are highly esteemed and are known as Unshu Meibutsu. Matsudaira Fumai developed his own personal style of tea ceremony, Fumai style, which in turn inspired a school known as Fumaiha, which remains influential to the present day. Several tea houses are associated with Matsudaira Fumai, including the Meimei-an in Matsue City, and the Kanden-an, a mountain retreat which was built in to his specifications in the grounds of a villa belonging to the Arisawa family. The Kanden-an is particularly admired and has now been designated an Important Cultural Property by the Japanese authorities. Both the Meimei-an and the Kanden-an are thatched buildings distinguished by their compact elegance, and the graceful use of shadow within. It is fascinating to imagine that the current beautiful vase may have been used by Matsudaira Fumai in one of these famous tea houses. Zhejiangsheng wenwu kaogusuo xuekan, , pl. Interpretation and Display, S. Daitoku-ji no meihō, Kyoto, , pl. Goto bijutsukan meihin zuroku, Tokyo, , pl.

## 5: Southern Song Dynasty

Hammers, Roslyn, "The Fabrication of Good Government: Images of Silk Production in Southern Song () and Yuan () China" (). *Textile Society of America Symposium Proceedings*.

In lieu of an abstract, here is a brief excerpt of the content: Man Xu Beverly Bossler. *Courtesans, Concubines, and the Cult of Female Fidelity: Gender and Social Change in China*, Harvard University Asia Center, The year was an exciting one for Song historians in America. In , Bossler impressed us with her careful analysis of kinship [End Page ] relationships in *Powerful Relations: Kinship, Status, and the State in Sung China* and contributed to the prevailing discussion on localism in the Song. The book also shed light on the significance of women in family networks. It inspired her further interest in gender history, which engendered the publication of considerable women-centered articles in the ensuing fifteen years. In addition to wives in regular family complexes, she has devoted much time and effort to reconstruct the lives of marginalized heroines—prostitutes and concubines—who were theoretically excluded from the balanced husband-wife cosmos but participated in the definition of domesticity. Bossler is a Song historian who knows Tang literature as well. The first part of *Courtesans, Concubines, and the Cult of Female Fidelity* relies heavily on her rich knowledge of the Tang. Focusing on the Northern Song, Bossler shows how the development of courtesan-related institutions and the practices and views of courtesans, concubines, and exemplary women departed from those of Tang predecessors. Government and private courtesans appealed to customers of varied social and economic status. A booming economic market in women substantiated the prosperity of entertainment culture. The boundary between government-courtesans and private ones was further blurred. Their ubiquitous presence in cities and countryside was well-documented, arousing unfavorable moral concern and occasionally humane sympathy. The commodification of women became increasingly prominent. The fashion of pursuing concubines spread to the non-office-holding class and caused new social and family problems. The Song empire was conquered by the Mongols in the late thirteenth century. The Yuan has not yielded much scholarship in English because of its non-Han Chinese rulership and accompanying language barrier. You are not currently authenticated. View freely available titles:

## 6: Chinese Collection | Kimbell Art Museum

*an important and very rare longquan celadon mallet-shaped 'kinuta' vase southern song dynasty ().*

Emperor Taizu of Song r. The establishment of this capital marked the start of the Northern Song period. He ensured administrative stability by promoting the civil service examination system of drafting state bureaucrats by skill and merit instead of aristocratic or military position and promoted projects that ensured efficiency in communication throughout the empire. In one such project, cartographers created detailed maps of each province and city that were then collected in a large atlas. From its inception under Taizu, the Song dynasty alternated between warfare and diplomacy with the ethnic Khitans of the Liao dynasty in the northeast and with the Tanguts of the Western Xia in the northwest. The Song were forced to provide tribute to the Khitans, although this did little damage to the Song economy since the Khitans were economically dependent upon importing massive amounts of goods from the Song. The idealist Chancellor , Fan Zhongyan â€” , was the first to receive a heated political backlash when he attempted to institute the Qingli Reforms , which included measures such as improving the recruitment system of officials, increasing the salaries for minor officials, and establishing sponsorship programs to allow a wider range of people to be well educated and eligible for state service. With the backing of Emperor Shenzong â€” , Wang Anshi severely criticized the educational system and state bureaucracy. Seeking to resolve what he saw as state corruption and negligence, Wang implemented a series of reforms called the New Policies. These involved land value tax reform, the establishment of several government monopolies , the support of local militias , and the creation of higher standards for the Imperial examination to make it more practical for men skilled in statecraft to pass. The Jurchen , a subject tribe of the Liao, rebelled against them and formed their own state, the Jin dynasty â€” Because of the removal of the previous defensive forest, the Jin army marched quickly across the North China Plain to Kaifeng. After their fall to the Jin, the Song lost control of North China. Now occupying what has been traditionally known as "China Proper," the Jin regarded themselves the rightful rulers of China. The Jin later chose earth as their dynastic element and yellow as their royal color. According to the theory of the Five Elements wuxing , the earth element follows the fire, the dynastic element of the Song, in the sequence of elemental creation. Therefore, their ideological move showed that the Jin considered Song reign in China complete, with the Jin replacing the Song as the rightful rulers of China Proper. The western and southern borders remain unchanged from the previous map, however the north of the Qinling Huaihe Line was under control of the Jin dynasty. In the southwest, the Song dynasty bordered by a territory about a sixth its size, Dali dynasty. Although weakened and pushed south beyond the Huai River , the Southern Song found new ways to bolster its strong economy and defend itself against the Jin dynasty. It had able military officers such as Yue Fei and Han Shizhong. During these battles the Song navy employed swift paddle wheel driven naval vessels armed with traction trebuchet catapults aboard the decks that launched gunpowder bombs. A century after the navy was founded it had grown in size to 52, fighting marines. A head sculpture of an arhat , 11th Century. A seated wooden Bodhisattva statue, Jin dynasty â€” The Mongols , led by Genghis Khan r. The last remaining ruler, the 8-year-old emperor Emperor Huaizong of Song , committed suicide, along with Prime Minister Lu Xiufu [52] and members of the royal clan. Society and culture Main articles: Society of the Song dynasty and Culture of the Song dynasty A city gate of Shaoxing , Zhejiang province, built in during the Song Dynasty The Song dynasty [54] was an era of administrative sophistication and complex social organization. Some of the largest cities in the world were found in China during this period Kaifeng and Hangzhou had populations of over a million. Although women were on a lower social tier than men according to Confucian ethics , they enjoyed many social and legal privileges and wielded considerable power at home and in their own small businesses. Tansen Sen asserts that more Buddhist monks from India travelled to China during the Song than in the previous Tang dynasty â€” There were entertainment quarters in the cities providing a constant array of amusements. There were puppeteers, acrobats, theatre actors, sword swallows, snake charmers, storytellers , singers and musicians, prostitutes, and places to relax, including tea houses, restaurants, and organized banquets. Civil service examinations and the gentry Main article: Society of the

## THE SOUTHERN SONG (1127-1279 AND YUAN (1279-1368) pdf

Song dynasty Clockwise from upper left: During this period greater emphasis was laid upon the civil service system of recruiting officials; this was based upon degrees acquired through competitive examinations , in an effort to select the most capable individuals for governance. Selecting men for office through proven merit was an ancient idea in China. The civil service system became institutionalized on a small scale during the Sui and Tang dynasties, but by the Song period it became virtually the only means for drafting officials into the government.

## 7: ASIA SOCIETY: THE COLLECTION IN CONTEXT

*Bodhisattva Manjushri (Wenshu). Period: Southern Song () - Yuan () dynasty. Date: 12th century. Culture: China. Medium: Mammoth ivory.*

**Fundamentals** Simply put, a cannon is a hollow tube containing gunpowder and a projectile inside the tube and a hole or fuse where the user can get fire to the gunpowder and set off an explosion. Gases from the lit gunpowder force the projectile through the tube and into the air. But how did the Ancient Chinese come up with the idea to create cannons? Well, first they developed gunpowder, which when lit, causes an explosion. Searching for a way to make their emperor live forever, Daoist scholars found that a combination of potassium nitrate, sulfur, and charcoal would explode when lit. These first gunpowder-filled tubes were attached to a spear and then thrown at the enemy. This weapon was known as a fire lance. The soldiers had to be close to the enemy for an accurate hit. The gunpowder would explode, which would result in burns, and other wounds would be suffered from the spear and shards of bamboo from the hollow bamboo tube. During the Northern Song (960-1127) CE, Southern Song (1127-1279) CE, and Yuan (1279-1368) CE dynasties, the armies began adding small objects, such as stones, pieces of pottery or metal to the gunpowder-filled fire lance. When the gunpowder was lit, the exploding gas would project the small objects onto the enemy soldiers. No spear was needed as the Ancient Chinese had now invented a gun or a bombard. Crude but effective, these early weapons were the beginning of modern cannons. Additional early weapons were: Early Chinese Cannons Early Chinese cannons were small guns or bombards, which were made from bronze a mixture of copper, tin, and minerals such as phosphorus and magnesium. These small weapons were about 14 inches (34 centimeters) long, had an inner diameter muzzle bore of 1 inch (2.5 centimeters). They were handheld or placed on a wheeled cart. In the Yuan dynasty, the bombards remained about the same length, but the inner diameter was bigger approximately 4 inches (10 centimeters) and the weight was about twice as much 15 pounds (7 kilograms) as the earlier style bombard. As the bombards became bigger, the term cannon took over. Early Chinese cannons were vase shaped (rounded bottoms with a long narrow neck, which provided for a thicker wall of iron around the gunpowder in the bottom of the cannon. After the Ancient Chinese had a better understanding of how to smelt iron in the late Yuan dynasty, the cannon shape changed to a long tube and sometimes, the iron was shaped into rings or bands around the longer iron tube shape. The iron rings may have been molded onto the cannon tube to support metal spikes that were used to anchor the cannon to the ground during firing of the gunpowder. These early Chinese cannons were over 2 feet (60 centimeters) long and weighed about 48 pounds (22 kilograms). The cannons were aimed at the enemy with the hope that the projectile would hit its target. Cannon balls were filled with gunpowder so that when they struck an object, the resulting explosion would cause more harm. They were also filled with chemicals that were poisonous arsenic, created smoke, burns or blindness ammonia. For example, two cannons were placed on a movable table or cart. After the first cannon was fired at the enemy, the table or cart was moved around into position and the second cannon fired. Other rapid-fire cannon included a seven-barreled cannon attached to a cart, which had a large central cannon surrounded by six smaller cannons and nine cannons stacked on a stand and lit by one fuse, which fired stone cannon balls weighing Military Use and Trade Although Chinese cannons were placed on ships during the Yuan dynasty, they really took off as a military weapon during the Ming (1368-1644) CE dynasty. Ancient Chinese generals fighting against the Vietnamese in southern China and the Mongols and tribes in northern China, requested cannons to be used. You might also like:

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*This particularly fine glaze type is often known by the Japanese name kinuta, which in fact is the term for a mallet, and refers to mallet-shaped vases such as the current example that were imported into Japan in the Southern Song () and Yuan () dynasties, and became associated with this, the most desired glaze color.*

## THE SOUTHERN SONG (1127-1279 AND YUAN (1279-1368) pdf

### 9: Song dynasty - Wikipedia

*Southern Song period (), late 12th-early 13 th century Stoneware with glaze (Ge ware) The delicate gray-green color of the glaze on this piece shows the influence of the earlier Northern Song imperial taste that carried into the preferences of the Southern Song court.*

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