

Autopsy of a Classical Civilization

Civilizations don't tend to last forever. They have a life expectancy – some live longer than others, some get degenerative diseases, and others meet violent ends. Some keep their empire going through artificial supports, while others perish without aid. Some fall entirely, while others are dismembered. You will be using the analogy of an obituary and an autopsy report to depict the success and eventual downfall of a classical civilization (approximately 500 BCE – 500 CE).

You will need to take notes on your assigned empire. Use the textbook pages below to take your notes.

- Persia: pg. 99-103
- Han China: pg. 200-207
- Gupta India: pg. 191-199
- Roman Empire: pg. 160-183
- Golden Age of Athens & Hellenistic Greece: pg. 134-149

So that everyone has the same understanding, we will use the following body parts to represent the different features of each civilization:

- **Head:** Significant leaders, major accomplishments
- **Neck:** Imperial city/cities
- **Arms:** Military, Diplomacy & International relationships
- **Hands:** Art, Architecture & Technological advances
- **Trunk/Torso:** Political Structure/Bureaucracy/Legal Systems
- **Heart:** Religious Beliefs
- **Legs:** Structure of Society (Social Classes, Gender Roles, etc.)
- **Feet:** Trade Routes, currencies, animal transport, and goods traded

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