

Aim: How did China reunify after the Han dynasty?
Notes

I. China 220-589

- political turmoil caused many kingdoms to appear after the Han
- Including the period of 6 dynasties
- Each small dynasty had a weak economy and gov't
- Buddhism rose
- Reunification in 589 Sui dynasty

II. Sui Dynasty

- a. Ruler Wendi
- b. Lowered taxes
- c. Created legal code
- d. Built Grand Canal of China
- e. Scholar gentry on rise
- f. 618 Sui declined

III. Tang Dynasty

- a. Li Yuan created the Tang dynasty 618-907
- b. Empire was extended into Tibet, Manchuria, Korea, and Vietnam
- c. Restored bureaucracy and Confucianism
- d. Confucian ideals, the civil service exams and scholar-gentry dominate government
- e. Buddhism was attacked and weakened by Confucians
- f. Monasteries were destroyed, but Buddhism remained in China

IV. Tang Decline

1. Experience golden age under Xuan-zong (arts, literature)
2. Xuan-zong fell in love with concubine, stopped caring about government
3. civil unrest
4. An Lushan rebellion weakened Tang
5. Empire fades out of power.