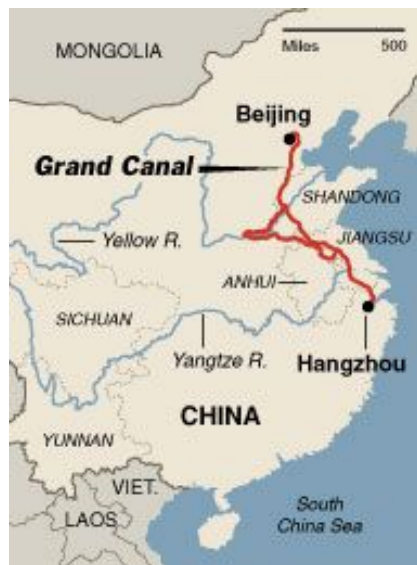
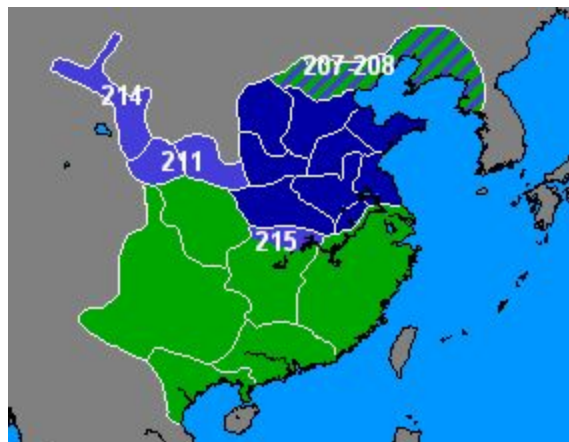


7.20 Describe the reunification of China under the Tang Dynasty and reasons for the cultural diffusion of Buddhism

Background

- Han Dynasty
 - Ruled China from 206 BCE-220 CE
 - Dynasty collapsed, China divided into rival kingdoms
- Sui Dynasty
 - Built Grand Canal to connect northern and southern China
 - Increased trade
 - Forced peasants to work on canal (many died)



Tang Dynasty

- Tang ruled China from 618-907 CE
 - Started by Tang Taizong in 618
- Expansion and contact with Japan led to increased foreign trade and economic prosperity
- Established a strong central government after bringing multiple kingdoms of China under one ruler

Tang Dynasty

- Government workers were required to pass civil service exams
- Schools were built to prepare civil service workers
- Ideals of Confucianism reflected in government





Buddhism

- Collapse of Han Dynasty led to disorder, war, and starvation
- People were attracted to Buddhism's message of hope and salvation
 - Life is full of suffering
 - The way to end suffering is to end all desires

Buddhism

- Brought to China by traders and missionaries
- Attracted many Chinese seeking comfort and peace
- Emperor Taizong gave money to monasteries and sent representatives to India to retrieve Buddhist texts



INDIA

CHINA

KOREA

JAPAN