



2950



- Many historical resources provide rich detail. This atlas satisfies a different need by offering a concise 'big picture' overview.
- Country colors reflect languages. Greens, for instance, indicate Indo-European speaking countries.
- Some societies settled in one place and established farms, cities, and borders. Others moved from place to place. Mobile societies are highlighted by depicting them as circles.
- Names on maps are links to events for that time and place.





2850

- Two kingdoms arose along the Nile River [3100]. One conquered the other [2850] and the united kingdom developed into Egypt. Egyptians developed writing using pictorial symbols [hieroglyphs].
- Sumer and other cities formed near the Euphrates River. Sumerian farmers dug irrigation canals to carry water to their crops.





• Sumerians, who had begun writing by using pictorial symbols, adopted a new method of writing by pressing triangle-shaped [cuneiform] marks into clay [2750].





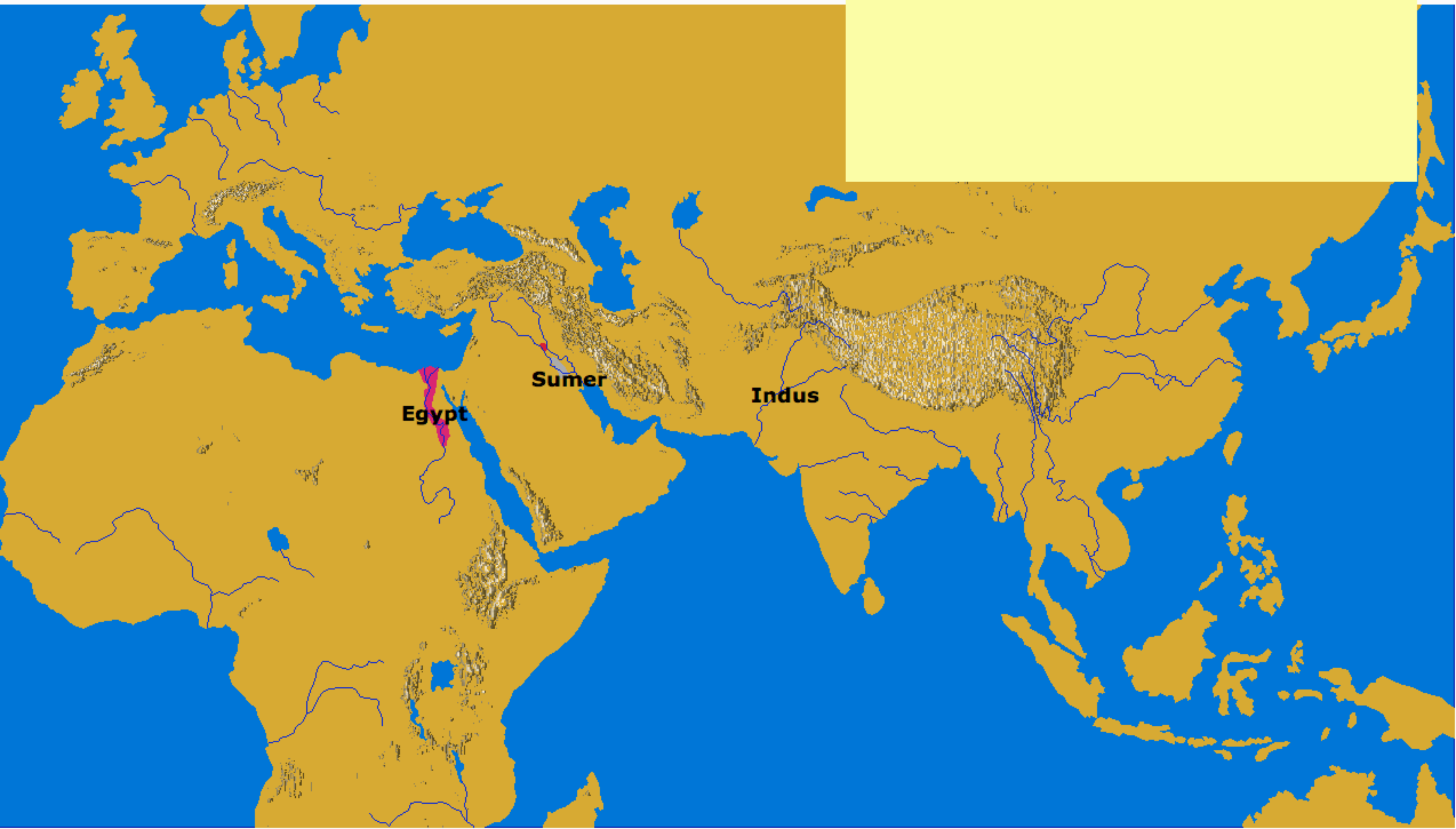
• Egypt's kings grew rich and built expensive pyramids, temples, and monuments [2650/2450, Old Egypt].





2550

• The great pyramids were built in Egypt [2500].





- Harappa, Mojendo-Daro, and other cities developed along the Indus River [2500]. The Harappans, also known as the Indus Civilization, wrote using pictorial symbols. Their writing cannot be understood today.
- Egypt's kings spent too much money on monuments and began to depend on the support of the priests. Religious groups were wealthy because they owned farmland.





2350

• The ruler of a neighboring city conquered Sumer, built a new capital at Akkad, and used his army to create the world's first empire [2350/2180, Sargon]. Profits from conquest and trade paid the government's expenses.





2250



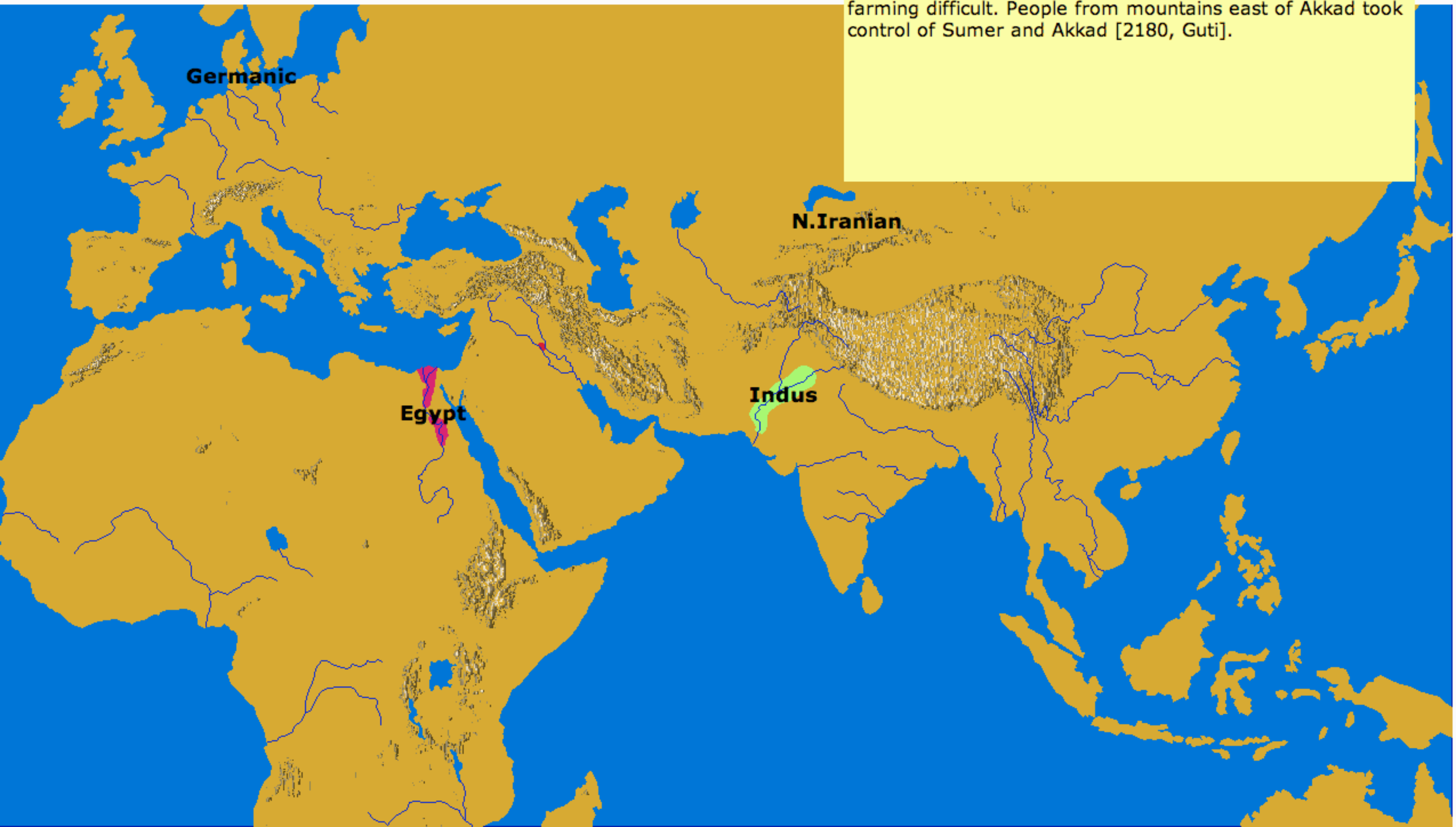
• Regional wars divided Egypt [2315].





2150

• Akkad grew weak because years of sparse rainfall made farming difficult. People from mountains east of Akkad took control of Sumer and Akkad [2180, Guti].



Germanic

N.Iranian

Egypt

Indus



2050

• Sumer rebelled after 100 years of rule by outsiders [Guti] and enjoyed a period of prosperity [2082/1952].

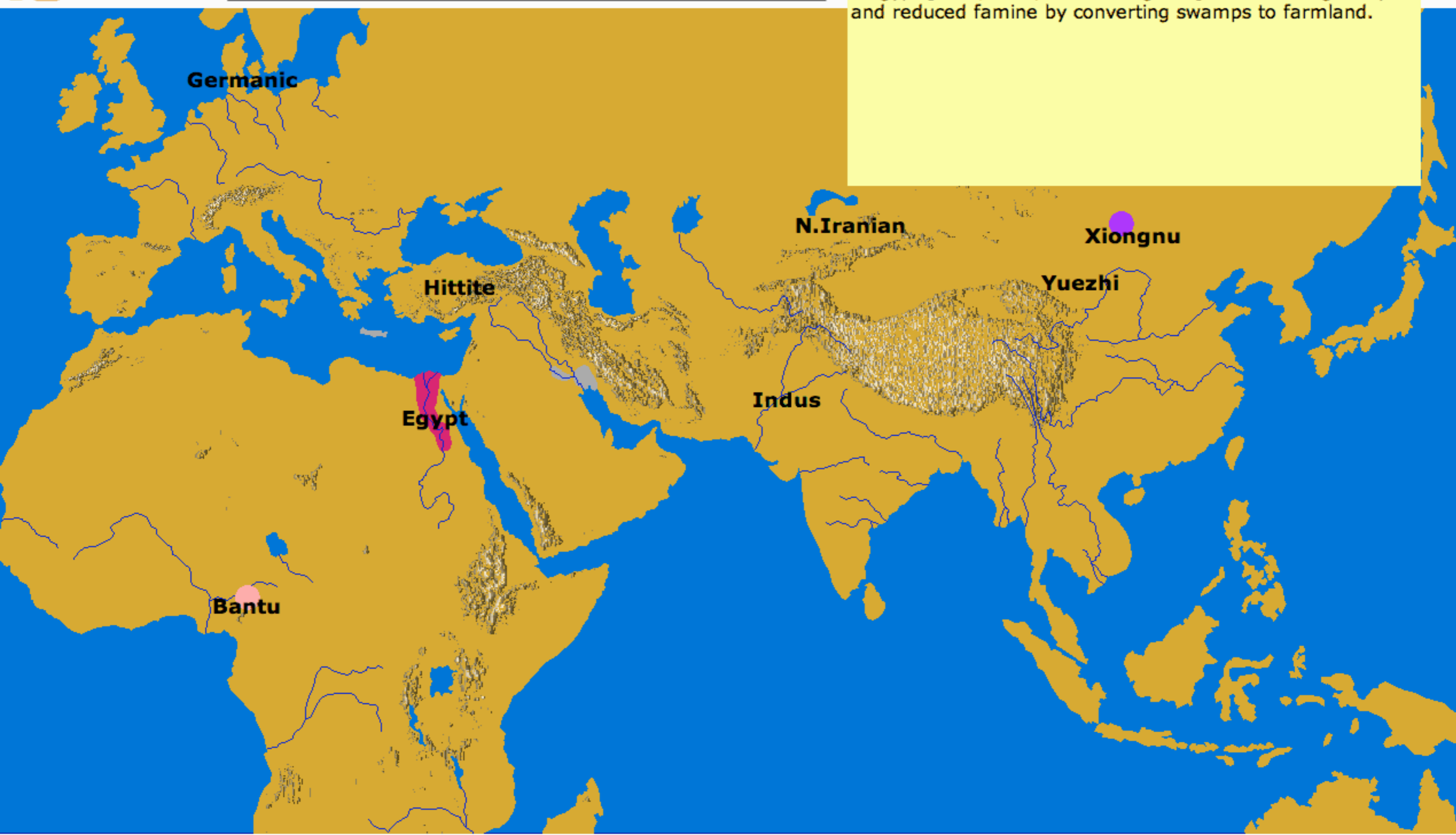




1950



- Egypt [1991/1785, Middle Kingdom] built a strong army and reduced famine by converting swamps to farmland.





1850



• Egypt conquered northern Nubia [1887].





- Amorites, whose homeland was the Arabian Desert, destroyed farms near the desert and robbed travelers. Famines began because farmers moved to the cities for protection. Amorite settlers built a wall around Babylon and ruled for 300 years [1830/1531].
- The Yin [Shang] began a 650 year rule in China [1766/1122].
- Regional wars weakened Egypt [1785].

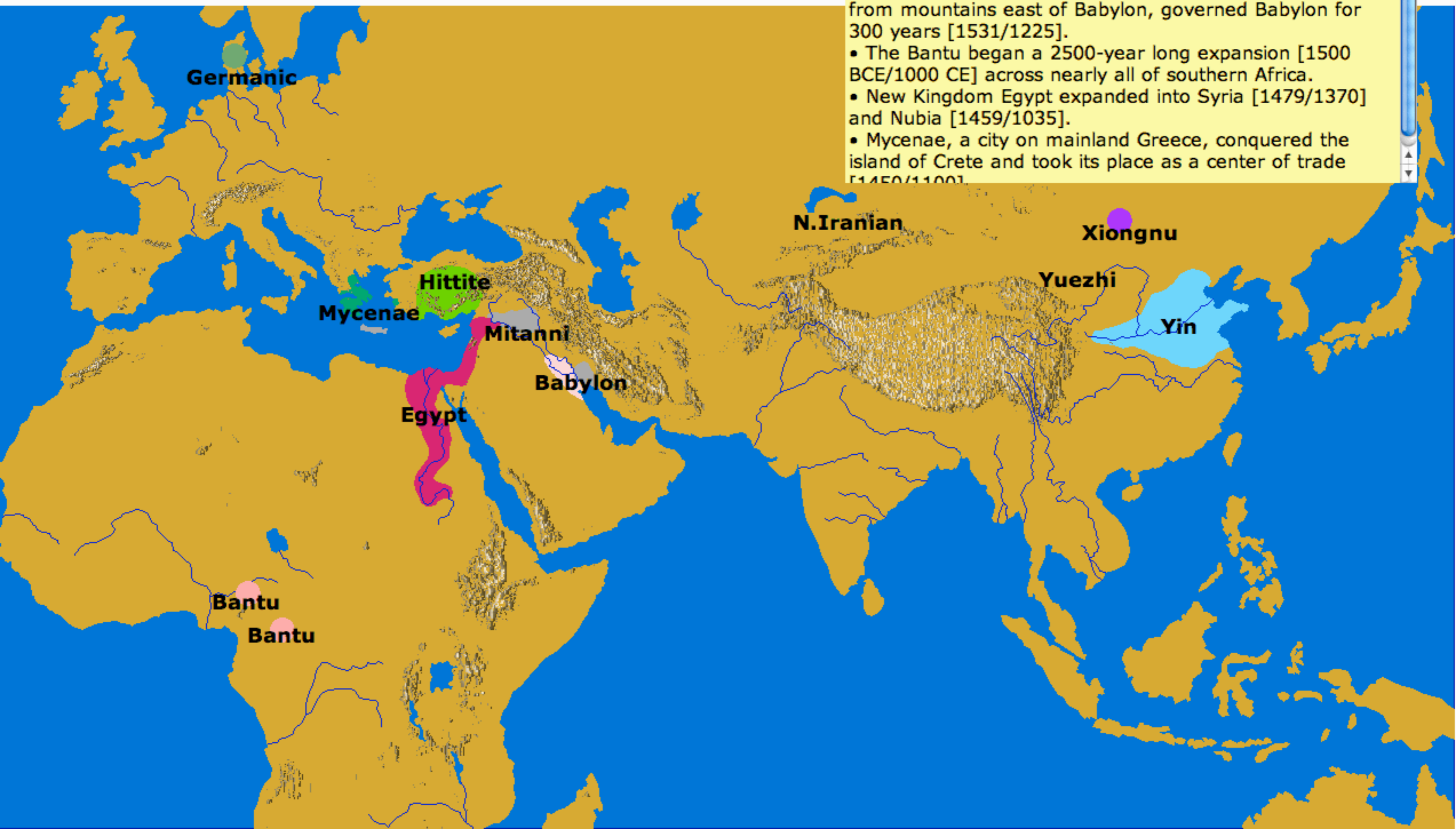
- Outsiders from Syria [Hyksos] controlled northern Egypt [1678/1570].
- Harappans abandoned their Indus Valley cities [1700].





- Minoans from the island of Crete established trading posts and developed a prosperous sea trade [1600].
- The ruler of Egypt's city of Thebes drove the foreigners [Hyksos] out of north Egypt [1570]. This victory inspired Egypt to enlarge its army and expand its territory [1570/1180, New Kingdom].

- Hittites produced the first iron tools and weapons and destroyed Babylon [1531, Iron Age]. Kassites, who came from mountains east of Babylon, governed Babylon for 300 years [1531/1225].
- The Bantu began a 2500-year long expansion [1500 BCE/1000 CE] across nearly all of southern Africa.
- New Kingdom Egypt expanded into Syria [1479/1370] and Nubia [1459/1035].
- Mycenae, a city on mainland Greece, conquered the island of Crete and took its place as a center of trade [1450/1100].

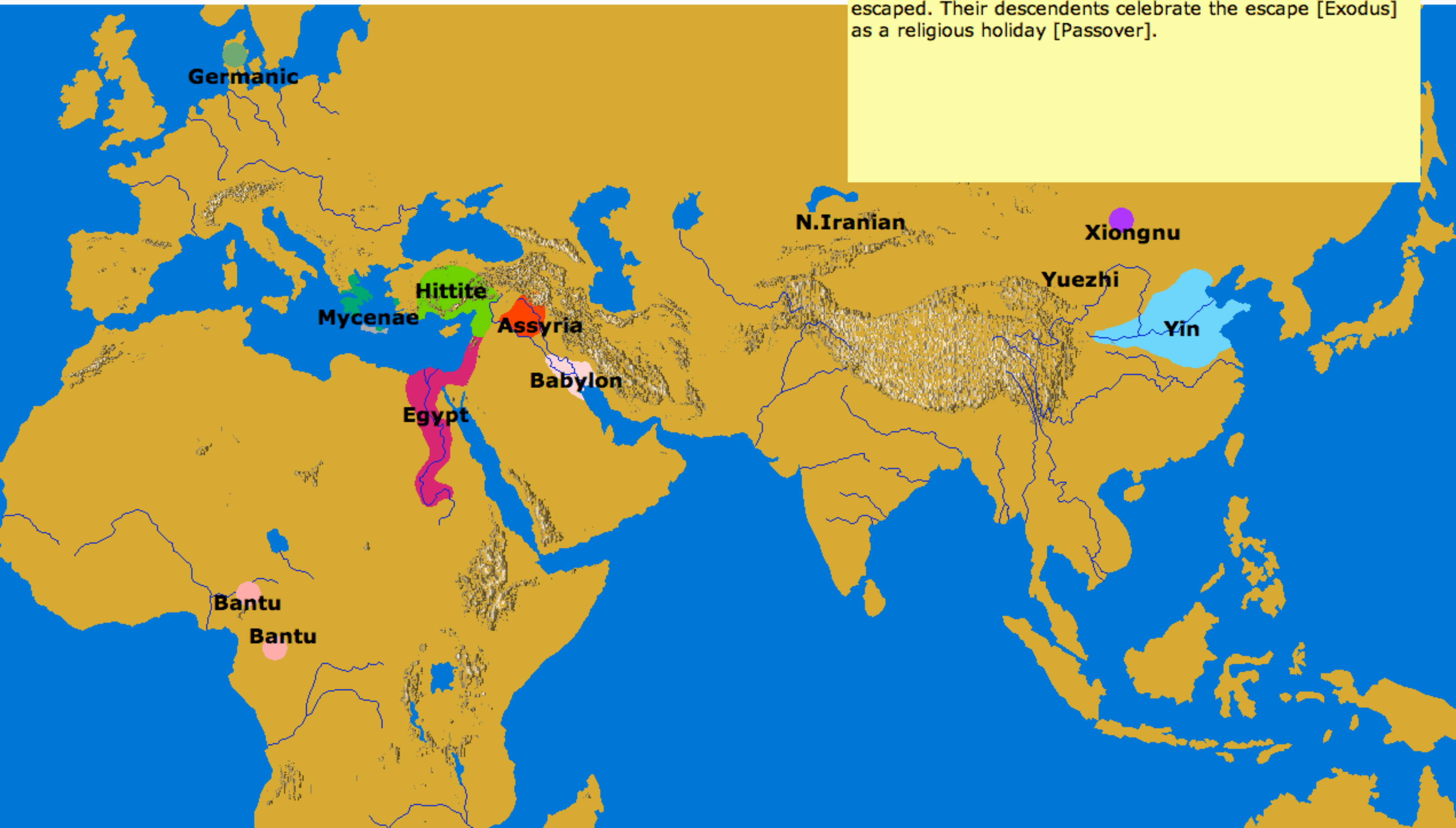


• Egypt's leader focused on religion, imposed monotheism [Aton, sun god], built a new capital city and ignored governing the kingdom. Syria broke away without a battle. The next pharaoh [Tutankhamun] restored the older gods and capital.





• Israelites, who had been taken as slaves to Egypt [1300], escaped. Their descendents celebrate the escape [Exodus] as a religious holiday [Passover].





1150

• The Zhou overthrew the Yin [Shang] and ruled China for 350 years [1122/770]. They wanted to be recognized as legitimate successors of the Yin and justified the change of leadership by claiming that the Yin government had failed: 'If kings fail, the gods bless new leaders.' This principle, the Mandate of Heaven, is important in China's history because it requires rulers to be responsible or be replaced.





- Raiders destroyed Mycenae and other Greek cities [1100]. People fled to mountains, islands, and Asia Minor. Reading and writing, less useful in remote communities, were forgotten [Dark Age].
- Pharaohs ruled north Egypt. Priests governed the south. Egypt grew weak and abandoned Nubia [1035].
- Semitic Arameans from the Arabian Desert attacked farms and cities [1080/970]. The attacks weakened Assyria [Dark Age, 1078/935] and forced the Phoenicians to abandon farming and depend on a sea-based economy.





975



• Malay-speaking sailors reached the Pacific island of Fiji [1000].





- Assyria emerged from a Dark Age [935]. Assyria's kings began yearly military campaigns that produce tribute. They treated conquered peoples harshly.
- A civil war split Israel into two states whose capitals were Jerusalem and Samaria [922]. Egypt attacked, leaving each side too weak to defeat the other [918].



875



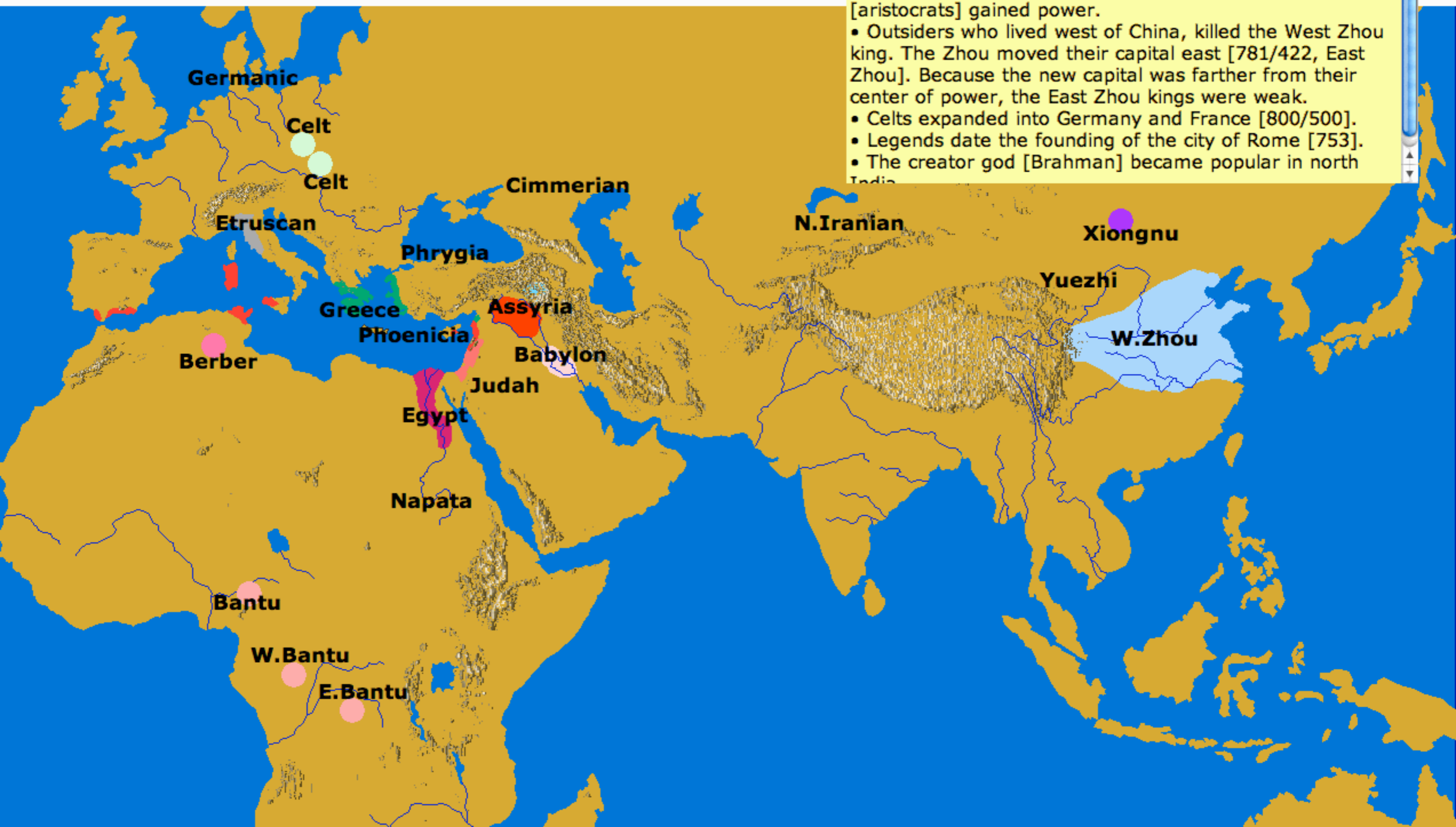
- Iranian Cimmerians moved from Central Asia to the Ukraine [900].
- Semitic Phoenicians built trading outposts in North Africa and Spain [900].
- Nubia, weak since Egypt abandoned it [1035], gained strength with the city of Napata as its center of power [900/715].





- A civil war weakened Assyria [821]. Babylon helped end the uprising and demanded payment. Assyrians felt that Babylon's price was too high, attacked Babylon, and left it so weak that 'no king could rule'.
- Phoenicia founded the city of Carthage in North Africa [814].
- The Bantu continued their expansion and reached the Congo River.

- Greeks, strong enough to protect farms and rebuild cities, emerged from the Dark Age [800]. Landowners [aristocrats] gained power.
- Outsiders who lived west of China, killed the West Zhou king. The Zhou moved their capital east [781/422, East Zhou]. Because the new capital was farther from their center of power, the East Zhou kings were weak.
- Celts expanded into Germany and France [800/500].
- Legends date the founding of the city of Rome [753].
- The creator god [Brahman] became popular in north India





- Chaldeans [747] and then Assyria [721] controlled Babylon.
- Greek cities began to establish colonies. Sparta, the strongest city in Greece, attacked neighboring cities and forced conquered people to work as slaves [735].
- Nubia helped Egypt's ruler defeat an enemy and then seized control of southern Egypt [715/656].
- In north India worshippers of the god Brahman introduced social classes based on occupation. The social classes became permanent because fathers taught their trade to their sons [caste system].



- Iranian Scythians moved from Central Asia to Europe. Cimmerians, Iranians who had arrived earlier, moved south and conquered the Urartu [690] and Phrygians [690], ending their history.
- Assyria conquered Phoenician cities [677, Sidon; 672, Tyre] and took north [671] and central [663] Egypt.
- Nubia abandoned southern Egypt [656]. Egypt broke away from Assyria [655] and tried to restore the culture of its Great Pyramid era [655/587, Saite Revival].
- Slaves rebelled against Sparta [650]. Fearing additional slave revolts, Sparta adopted a military culture [610].



625



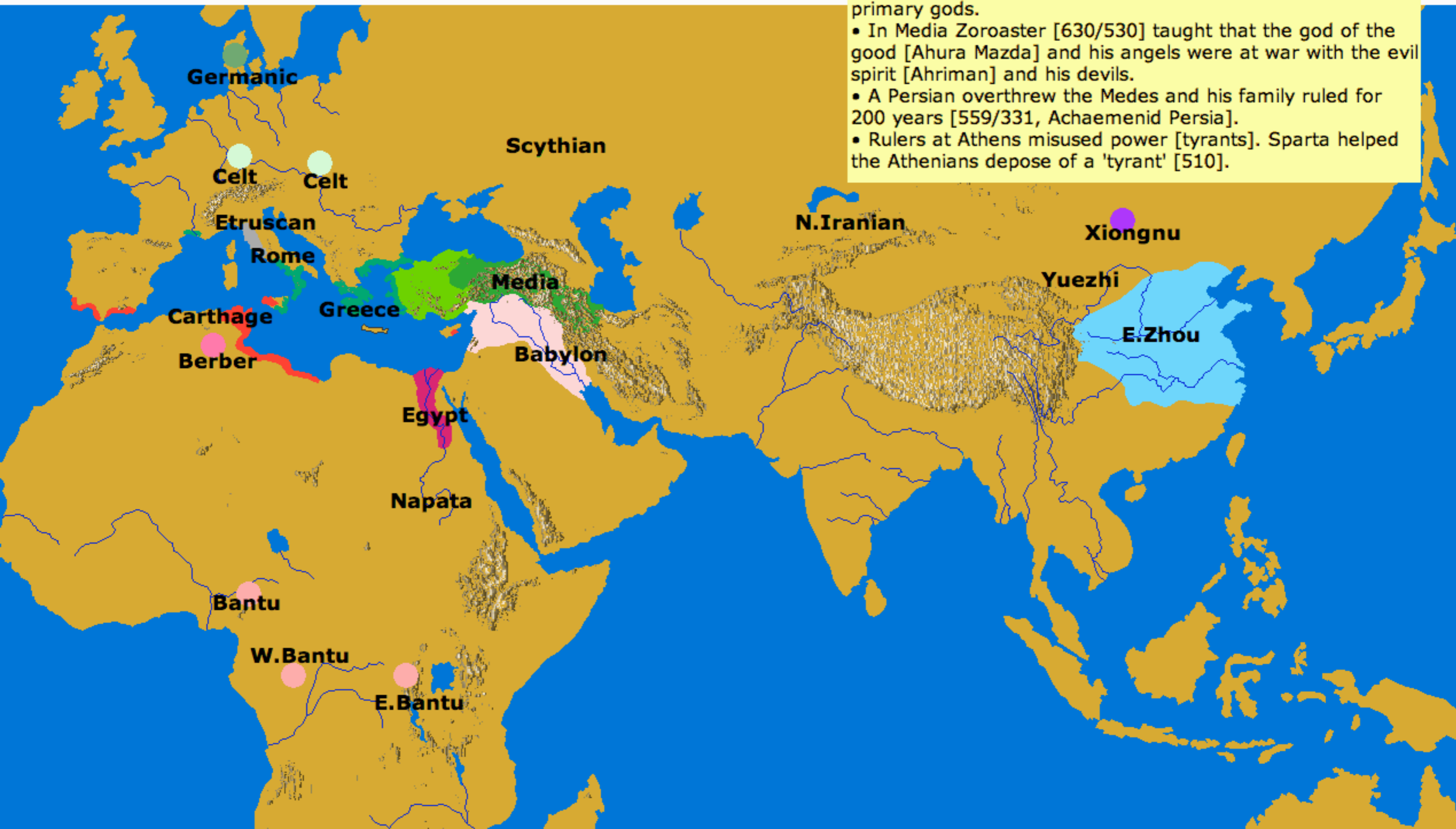
- Assyria's king died and a power struggle weakened the country [626]. Media and Babylon joined forces and conquered Assyria, ending its history [609].
- The North Iranian Shaka moved west into Khazakstan [626].
- Etruscan kings ruled Rome for 100 years [612/506].



575



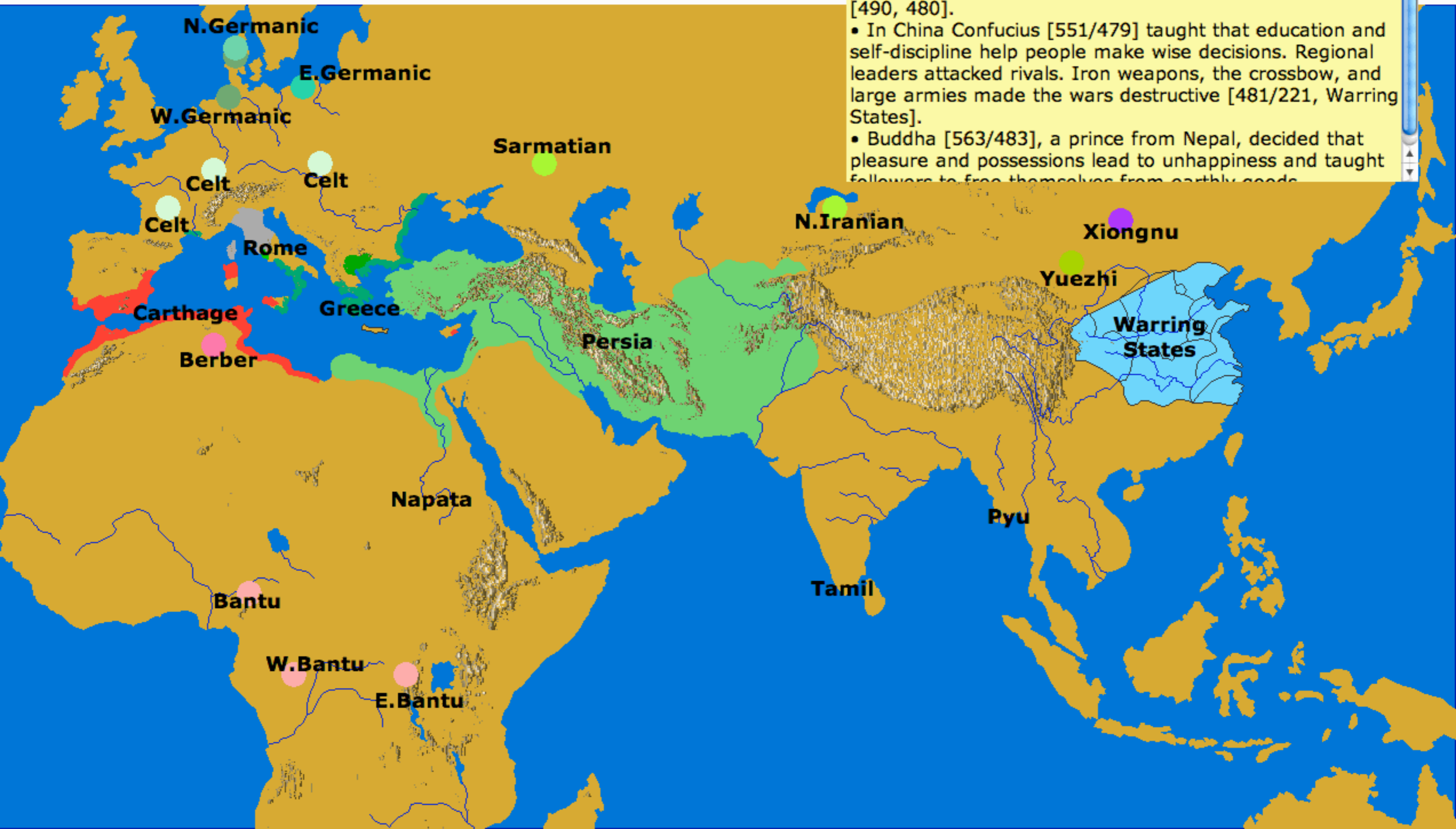
- The Hindu religion emerged in India as Shiva [Destroyer] and Vishnu [Preserver] joined Brahman [Creator] as the primary gods.
- In Media Zoroaster [630/530] taught that the god of the good [Ahura Mazda] and his angels were at war with the evil spirit [Ahriman] and his devils.
- A Persian overthrew the Medes and his family ruled for 200 years [559/331, Achaemenid Persia].
- Rulers at Athens misused power [tyrants]. Sparta helped the Athenians depose of a 'tyrant' [510].





- Persia expanded taking Lydia [546], Babylon [539], Egypt [525/404], and Armenia [519/311].
- Rome expelled its Etruscan king [509] and formed a republic in which landowners [patricians] elected senators who enacted laws. Laborers and farmers [plebians] were not permitted to elect lawmakers.
- The East Bantu reached the highlands of the Lakes Region where they learned to raise cattle and grow cereal crops. Cattle could not survive in Africa's wet lowlands because blood-sucking tsetse flies carried deadly parasites.





- Athens supported a rebellion in Asia Minor against Persia [499]. Persia attacked Athens, but was defeated twice [490, 480].
- In China Confucius [551/479] taught that education and self-discipline help people make wise decisions. Regional leaders attacked rivals. Iron weapons, the crossbow, and large armies made the wars destructive [481/221, Warring States].
- Buddha [563/483], a prince from Nepal, decided that pleasure and possessions lead to unhappiness and taught followers to free themselves from earthly goods.



425



- Sparta [546, Peloponnesian League] and Athens [479, Delian League] gained military strength by joining with other cities. Athens defeated Persia [447] and used money from other cities to build monuments celebrating the victory [432, Parthenon]. Angry, the other cities asked Sparta to help. Sparta won a 30 year war and forced Athens to tear down its walls [404].
- Egypt broke away from Persia [404].
- Celts burned Rome [404]. The Romans rebuilt the city and surrounded it with a wall [378].

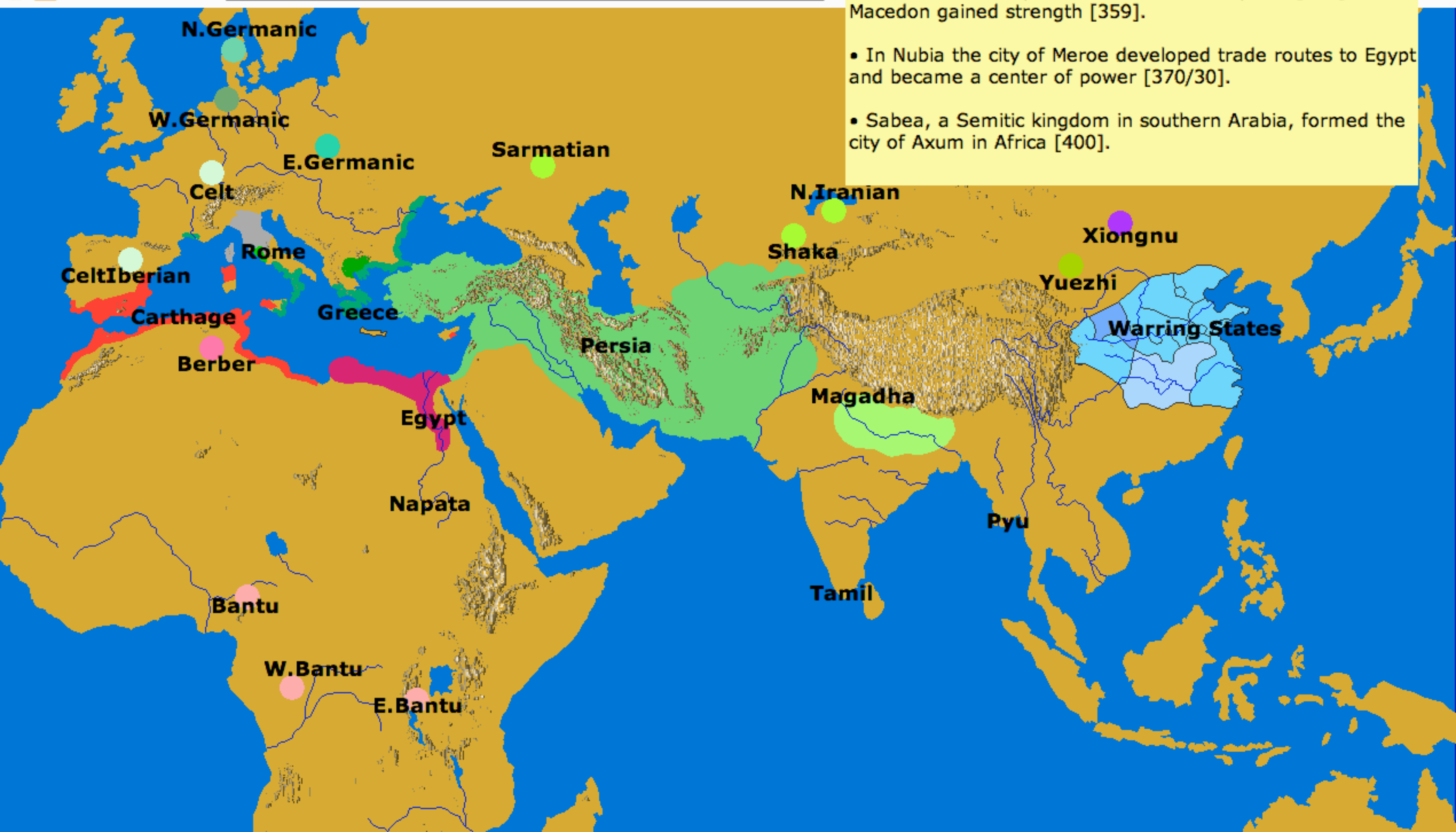




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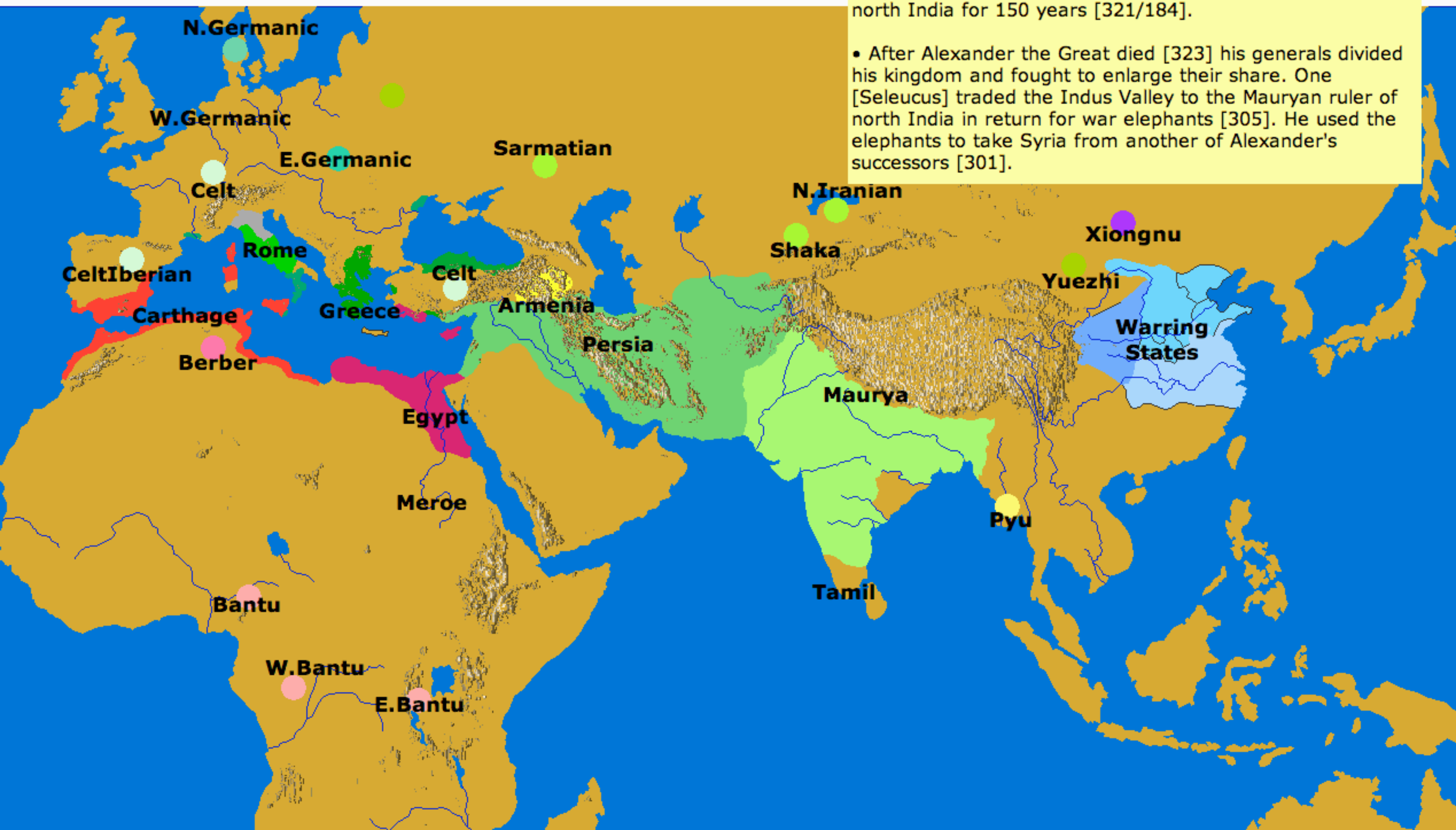


- In Greece the city of Thebes defeated Sparta [371]. Macedon gained strength [359].
- In Nubia the city of Meroe developed trade routes to Egypt and became a center of power [370/30].
- Sabea, a Semitic kingdom in southern Arabia, formed the city of Axum in Africa [400].





- Macedon gained strength [359] and became angry because Persia took Egypt [343]. Alexander of Macedon freed Egypt [332], conquered Persia [331], and took control of territory east to the Indus Valley [327].
- The city of Capua joined Rome as an ally, causing a war in central Italy [343/341].



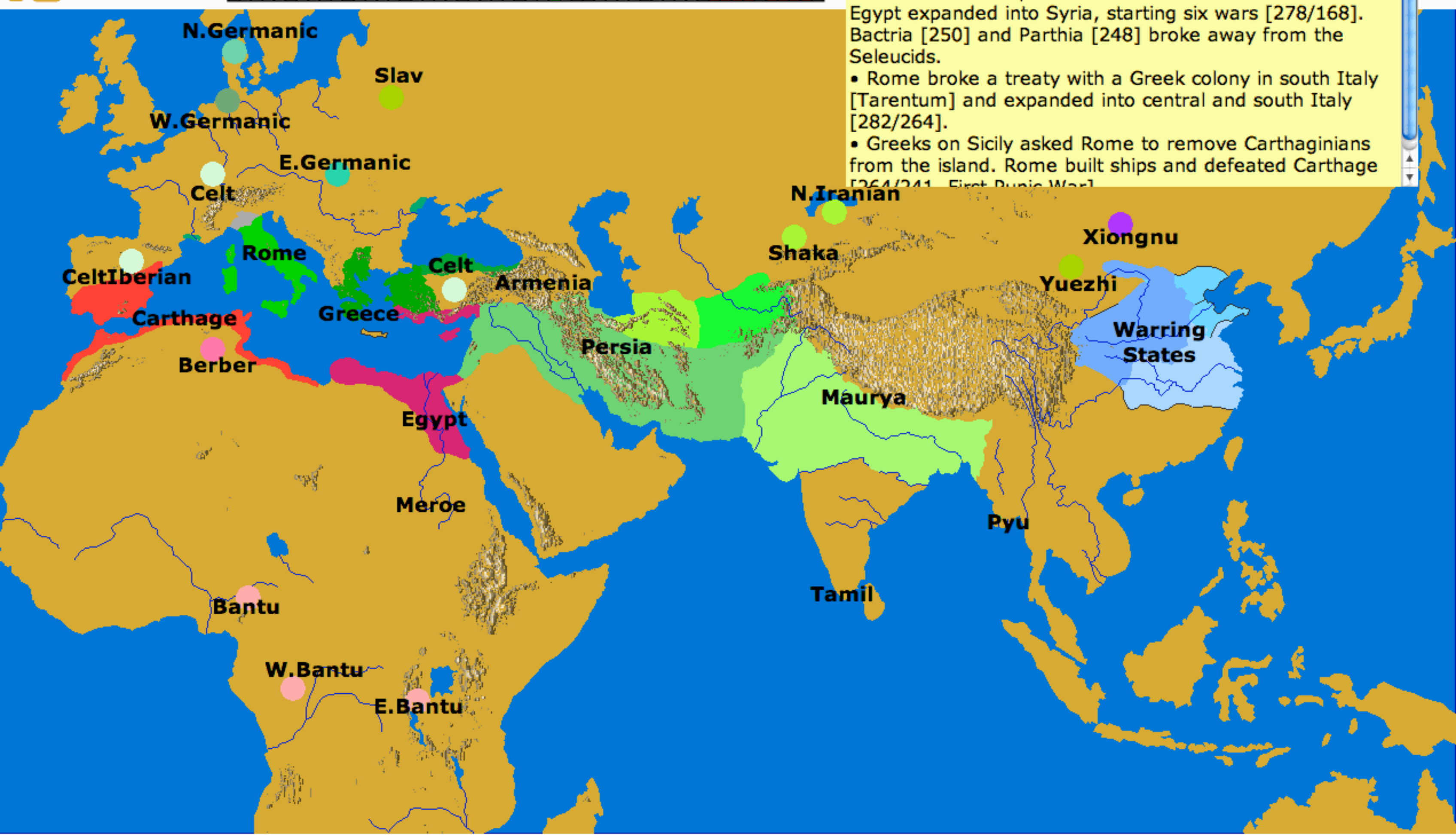
- The Maurya defeated nearby kingdoms and controlled north India for 150 years [321/184].
- After Alexander the Great died [323] his generals divided his kingdom and fought to enlarge their share. One [Seleucus] traded the Indus Valley to the Mauryan ruler of north India in return for war elephants [305]. He used the elephants to take Syria from another of Alexander's successors [301].



225



- The Seleucids of Syria and the Ptolemies of Egypt became the most powerful of Alexander's successors. Egypt expanded into Syria, starting six wars [278/168]. Bactria [250] and Parthia [248] broke away from the Seleucids.
- Rome broke a treaty with a Greek colony in south Italy [Tarentum] and expanded into central and south Italy [282/264].
- Greeks on Sicily asked Rome to remove Carthaginians from the island. Rome built ships and defeated Carthage [264/241 - First Punic War]

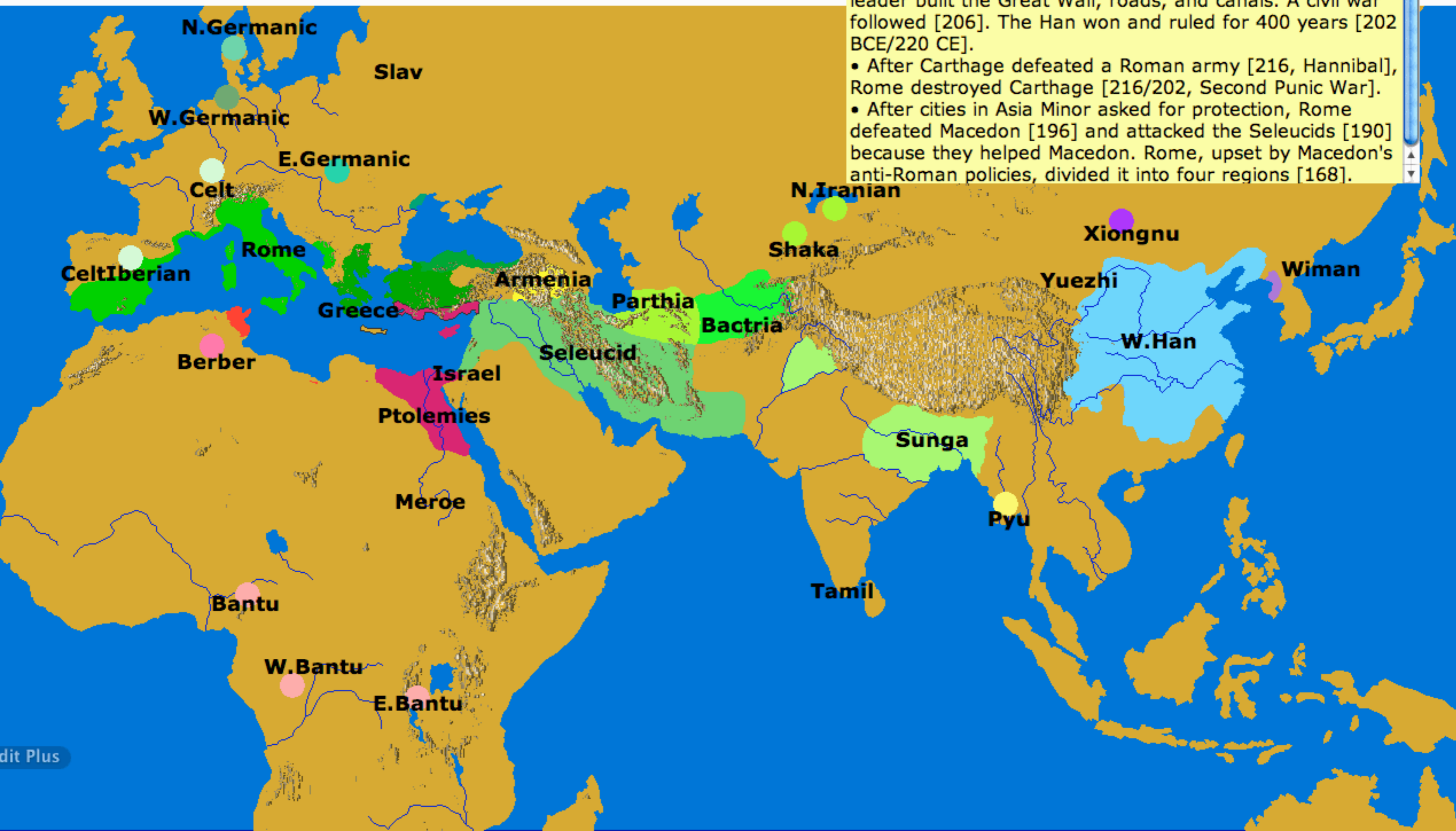




175



- The Qin united China by defeating their warring States rivals [221]. During an oppressive 11 year rule, the Qin leader built the Great Wall, roads, and canals. A civil war followed [206]. The Han won and ruled for 400 years [202 BCE/220 CE].
- After Carthage defeated a Roman army [216, Hannibal], Rome destroyed Carthage [216/202, Second Punic War].
- After cities in Asia Minor asked for protection, Rome defeated Macedon [196] and attacked the Seleucids [190] because they helped Macedon. Rome, upset by Macedon's anti-Roman policies, divided it into four regions [168].



- Hebrews rebelled after Seleucids forced them to make sacrifices forbidden by their religion [164, Hannukah].
- Parthia took Persia [145], Babylon [141], and Media [141] from the Seleucids.
- China expanded west [117/100] and opened east-west trade routes [Silk Roads].
- After being provoked repeatedly, Carthage broke a treaty with Rome by attacking Numidia [150]. Rome destroyed Carthage [149/146, Third Punic War].
- Rome added Macedon [148], Greece [146], and Asia Minor [133] as provinces.



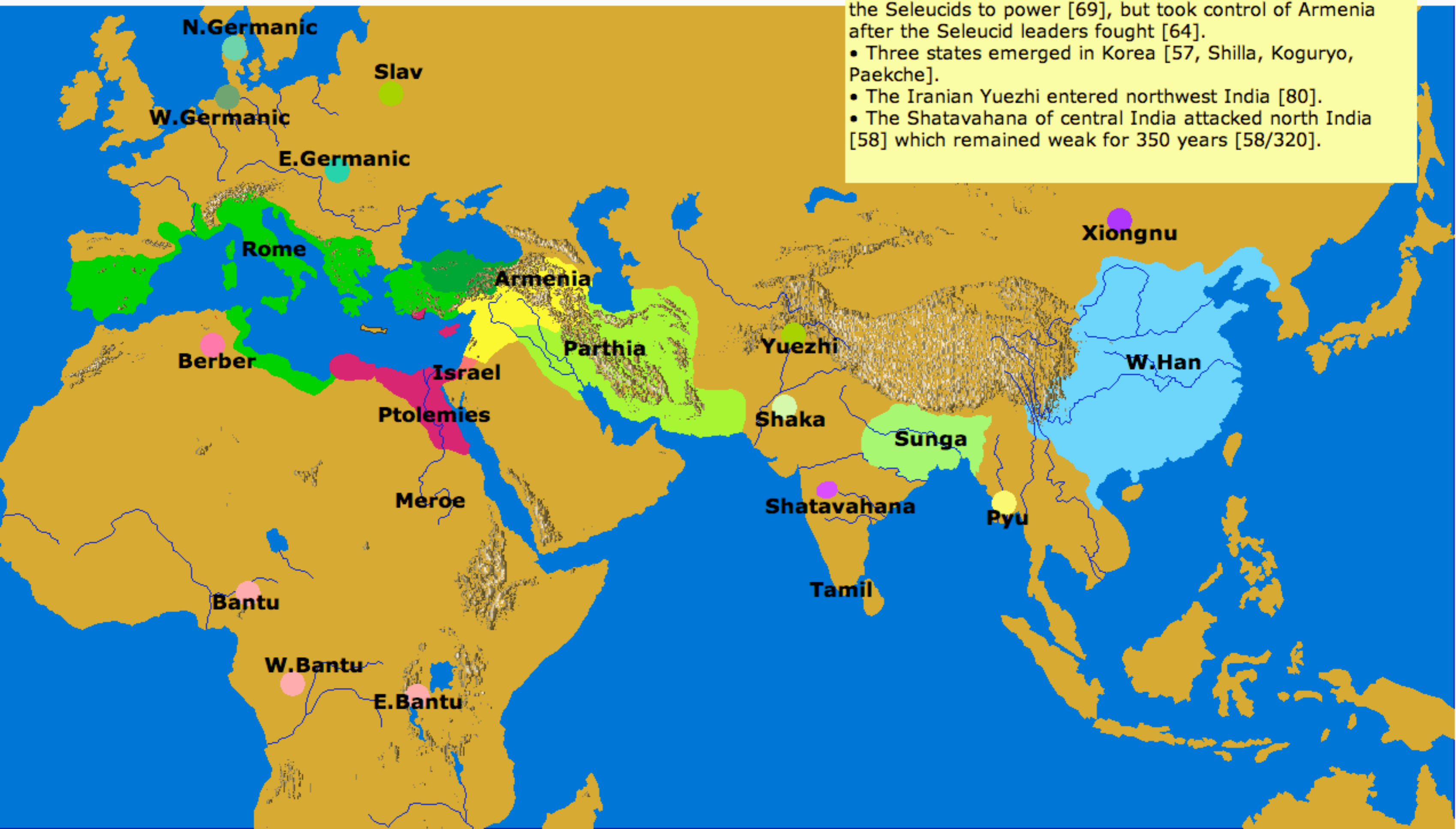
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75



- A strong leader united the two Armenian kingdoms [94/69] and took Syria from the Seleucids [83/69]. Rome restored the Seleucids to power [69], but took control of Armenia after the Seleucid leaders fought [64].
- Three states emerged in Korea [57, Shilla, Koguryo, Paekche].
- The Iranian Yuezhi entered northwest India [80].
- The Shatavahana of central India attacked north India [58] which remained weak for 350 years [58/320].





- Rome took Numidia [50] and began to rebuild the city of Carthage. Rival leaders divided the Roman Empire [40, Brundisium]. One [Antony] failed to conquer Parthia, fled to Egypt, and married the Egyptian queen [36, Cleopatra]. After he gave her sons partial control of the territories, his rival [Octavian] defeated him [31, Actium] and took Egypt [30].
- Jesus Christ was born near Jerusalem. Christians honor Jesus as the Son of God. Christ encouraged his followers to treat everyone with the same fairness that they wanted to receive.





- Rome stopped expanding north after Germanic warriors defeated a Roman army [9 CE]. Rome took Mauretania [40], gaining control of the entire Mediterranean coast.
- Malay sailors became the first inhabitants of the island of Madagascar [50].
- A regent ruling for a child emperor seized power in China [9/25, Xin]. The Han regained power [25/220, East Han].
- Jesus Christ died by crucifixion [30, Good Friday]. Christians celebrate his return to life three days later [Easter].

N.Germanic

Slav

W.Germanic

E.Germanic

Rome

Armenia

Parthia

Berber

Yuezhi

Xiongnu

Koguryo

E.Han

Shaka

Shatavahana

Pyu

Meroe

Tamil

Bantu

W.Bantu

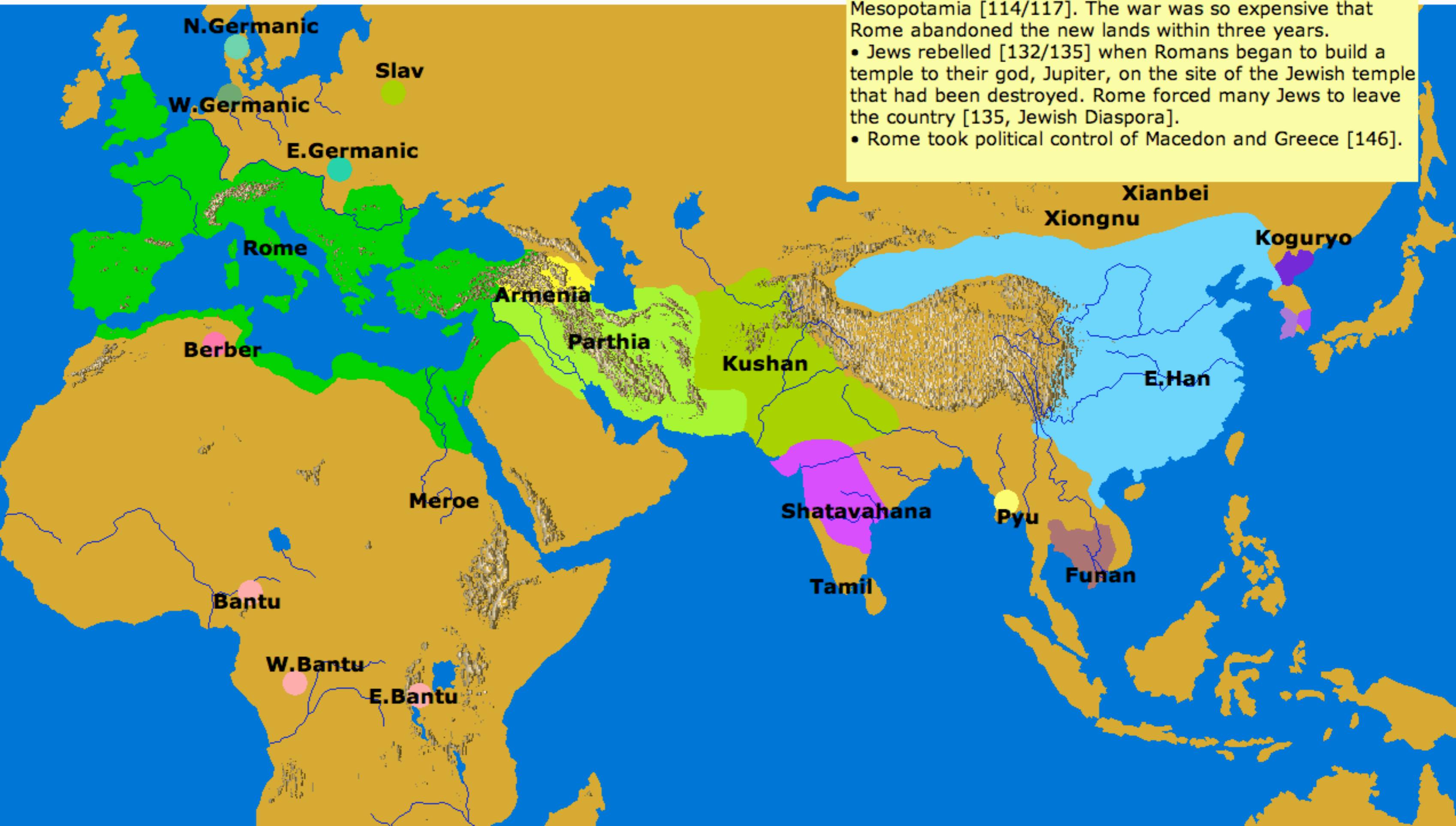
E.Bantu



- The Kushan expanded across north India [68] and sent missionaries to promote Mayahana Buddhism which emphasized lay people and taught that Buddha was divine. An earlier sect, Hinayana Buddhism, emphasized monks and taught that Buddha was a wise teacher.
- Jews, unhappy with Roman control of their lands, rebelled [66]. Rome destroyed the Hebrew temple [70].
- The Christian gospels were written [70/100, New Testament].



- Rome took Dacia [106/272, 'Rumania']. After a dispute with Persia over Armenia Rome took Armenia and Mesopotamia [114/117]. The war was so expensive that Rome abandoned the new lands within three years.
- Jews rebelled [132/135] when Romans began to build a temple to their god, Jupiter, on the site of the Jewish temple that had been destroyed. Rome forced many Jews to leave the country [135, Jewish Diaspora].
- Rome took political control of Macedon and Greece [146].





- After Parthia took part of Syria [155] Rome took Armenia and Syria [166]. Roman soldiers returned home with a plague causing widespread deaths [166/167].
- China's East Han rulers had trouble managing services as the population grew. Peasants revolted [184]. Soldiers accused members of the emperor's staff with selling jobs and killed them [190].



- China split into three kingdoms [220, Wei, Wu, and Shu].
- A rebel killed Parthia's king and his family ruled Perisa for 400 years [227/651, Sassanid Persia]. Persia took Armenia [232], attacked Kushan [240], and fought with Rome over Syria [241/244 and 256/260].
- China divided Nam Viet and took its north as a province [203].

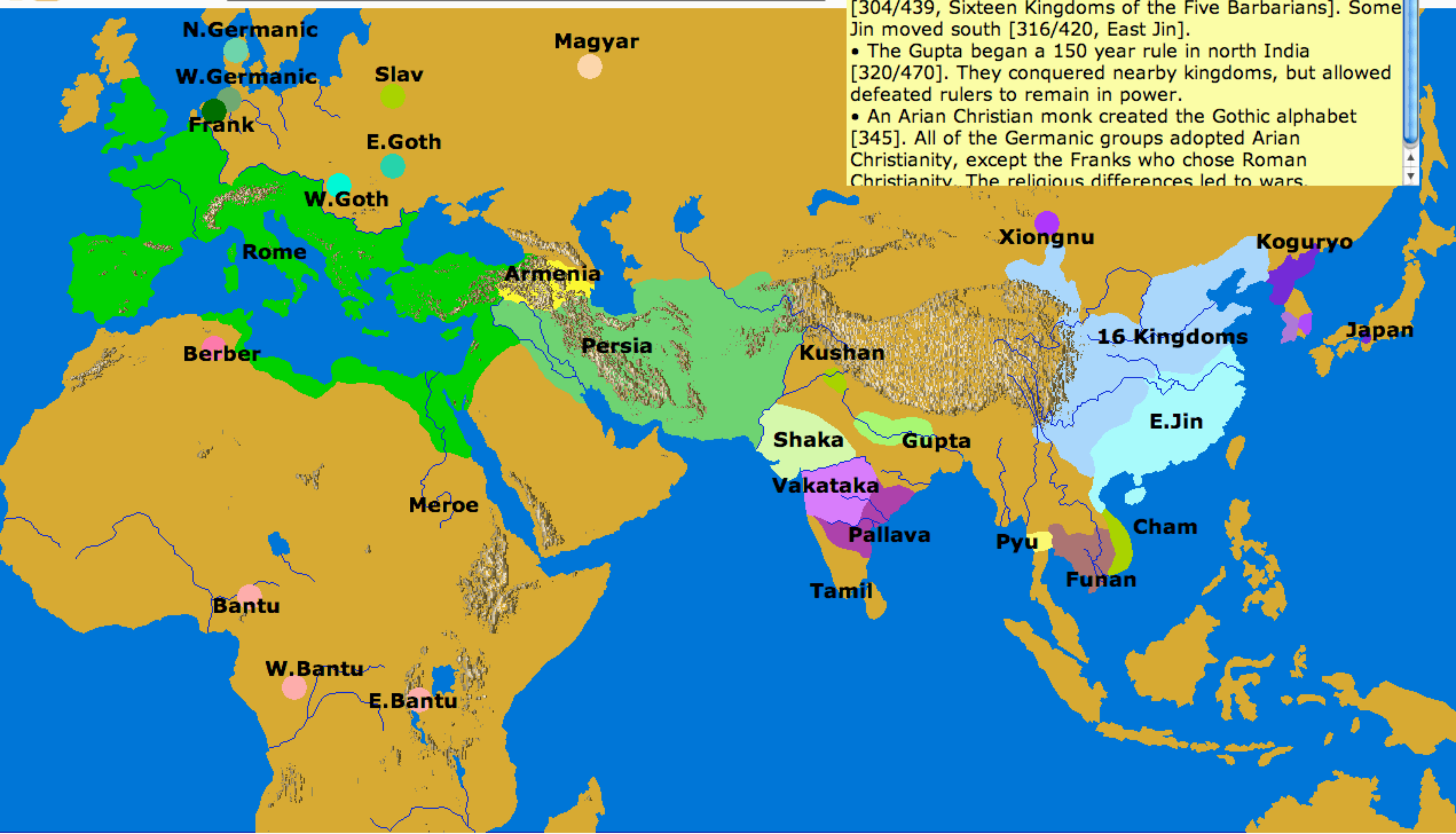




- Rome lost nearly half its territory. France, Spain, and Britain formed the Gallic Empire [260]. Syria and Egypt broke away and formed Palmyra [267]. Rome recovered the lost lands by abandoning Dacia and relocating troops [272] and then defeating Palmyra and the Gallic Empire [273].
- Wei China attacked Koguryo [259], but suffered such large losses that the Chinese overthrew their king. The West Jin assumed power [265].

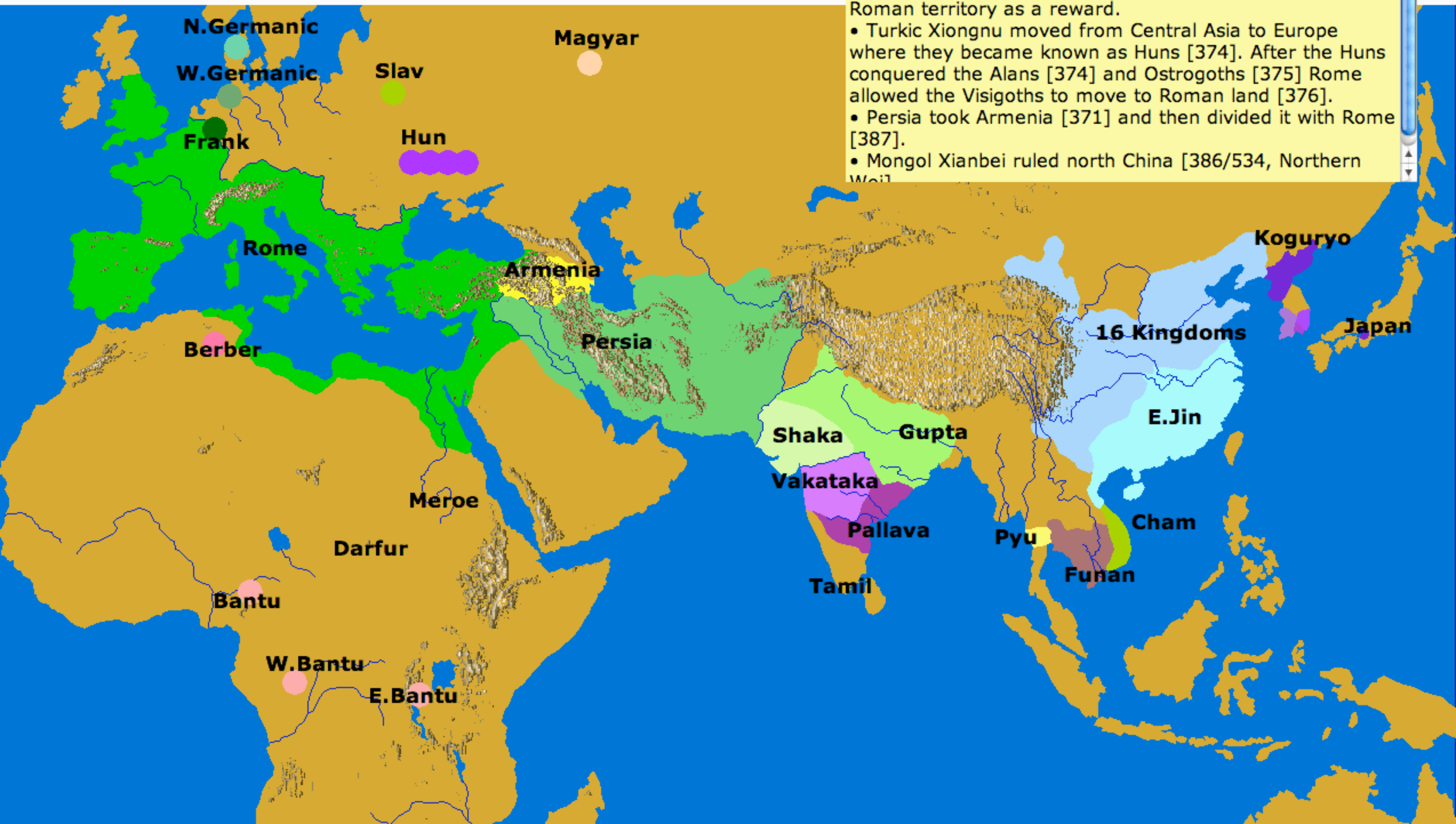


325



- The Jin rulers of China fought [291/307, War of the Eight Princes]. Mongol, Turk, and Tibetan groups took control [304/439, Sixteen Kingdoms of the Five Barbarians]. Some Jin moved south [316/420, East Jin].
- The Gupta began a 150 year rule in north India [320/470]. They conquered nearby kingdoms, but allowed defeated rulers to remain in power.
- An Arian Christian monk created the Gothic alphabet [345]. All of the Germanic groups adopted Arian Christianity, except the Franks who chose Roman Christianity. The religious differences led to wars.

- West Germanic Franks helped Rome defeat the East Germanic Alemanni [357] and were permitted to enter Roman territory as a reward.
- Turkic Xiongnu moved from Central Asia to Europe where they became known as Huns [374]. After the Huns conquered the Alans [374] and Ostrogoths [375] Rome allowed the Visigoths to move to Roman land [376].
- Persia took Armenia [371] and then divided it with Rome [387].
- Mongol Xianbei ruled north China [386/534, Northern Wei]

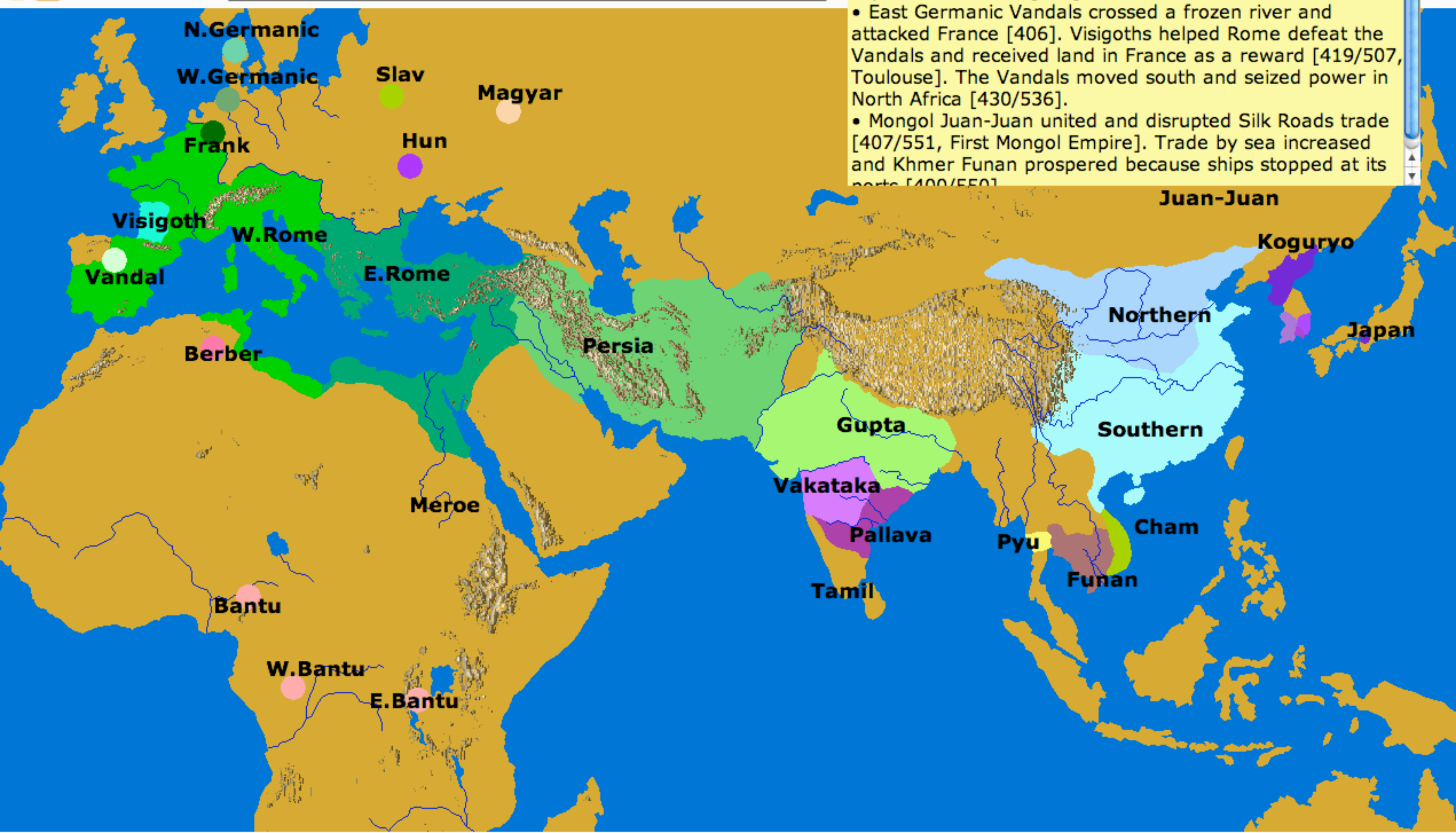




425



- Visigoths attacked Italy [398/402]. Rome moved its capital to Ravenna [402].
- East Germanic Vandals crossed a frozen river and attacked France [406]. Visigoths helped Rome defeat the Vandals and received land in France as a reward [419/507, Toulouse]. The Vandals moved south and seized power in North Africa [430/536].
- Mongol Juan-Juan united and disrupted Silk Roads trade [407/551, First Mongol Empire]. Trade by sea increased and Khmer Funan prospered because ships stopped at its ports [400/550].





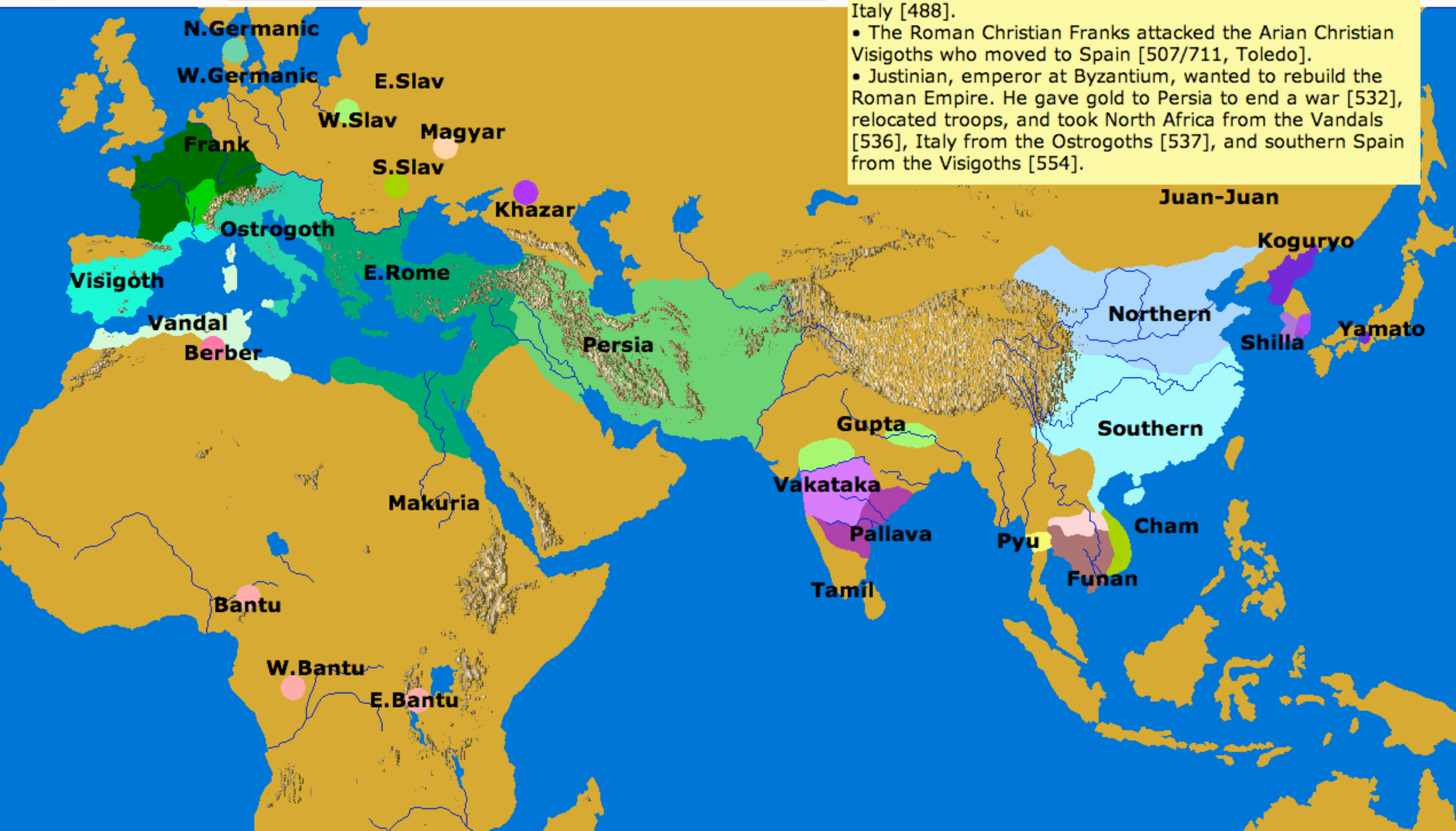
- The Roman emperor at Constantinople stopped paying tribute to the Huns [450]. They attacked Italy and France, decided not to fight an army of Romans and Germanic soldiers [451, Chalons], and returned to Hungary. Gepids, who lived as subjects of the Huns, rebelled [454]. The Huns scattered allowing the Slavs to emerge and be recognized as a separate people.
- Vandal raiders sailed from North Africa and sacked Rome [455].



- After their subjects revolted the Mongol Juan-Juan moved from Asia to Europe [559] and became known as 'Avars' [559]. The Avars lived in Central Europe for more than 200 years [573/808], cutting off the West, South, and East Slavs from contact with each other. As a result the three Slav groups developed different cultures.
- Raiders [White Huns] weakened northern India, which broke into small kingdoms [550].



- The emperor at Constantinople asked the Ostrogoths to depose a rebel at Rome and rewarded them with land in Italy [488].
- The Roman Christian Franks attacked the Arian Christian Visigoths who moved to Spain [507/711, Toledo].
- Justinian, emperor at Byzantium, wanted to rebuild the Roman Empire. He gave gold to Persia to end a war [532], relocated troops, and took North Africa from the Vandals [536], Italy from the Ostrogoths [537], and southern Spain from the Visigoths [554].





625



- Power struggles weakened Persia after Persians and Avars failed to conquer Byzantium [626].
- Muhammad encouraged followers to worship Allah, do good works, and help the poor [610]. Opponents forced him out of the city of Mecca [622, Hejira]. Muhammad returned and united Arab tribes [630/634, War of the Ridda]. His successor conquered Syria, Egypt, and Persia [634/656, War of the Jihad].
- Rebels killed China's king after a military loss in Korea [614]. The Tang ruled for 300 years [618/907].

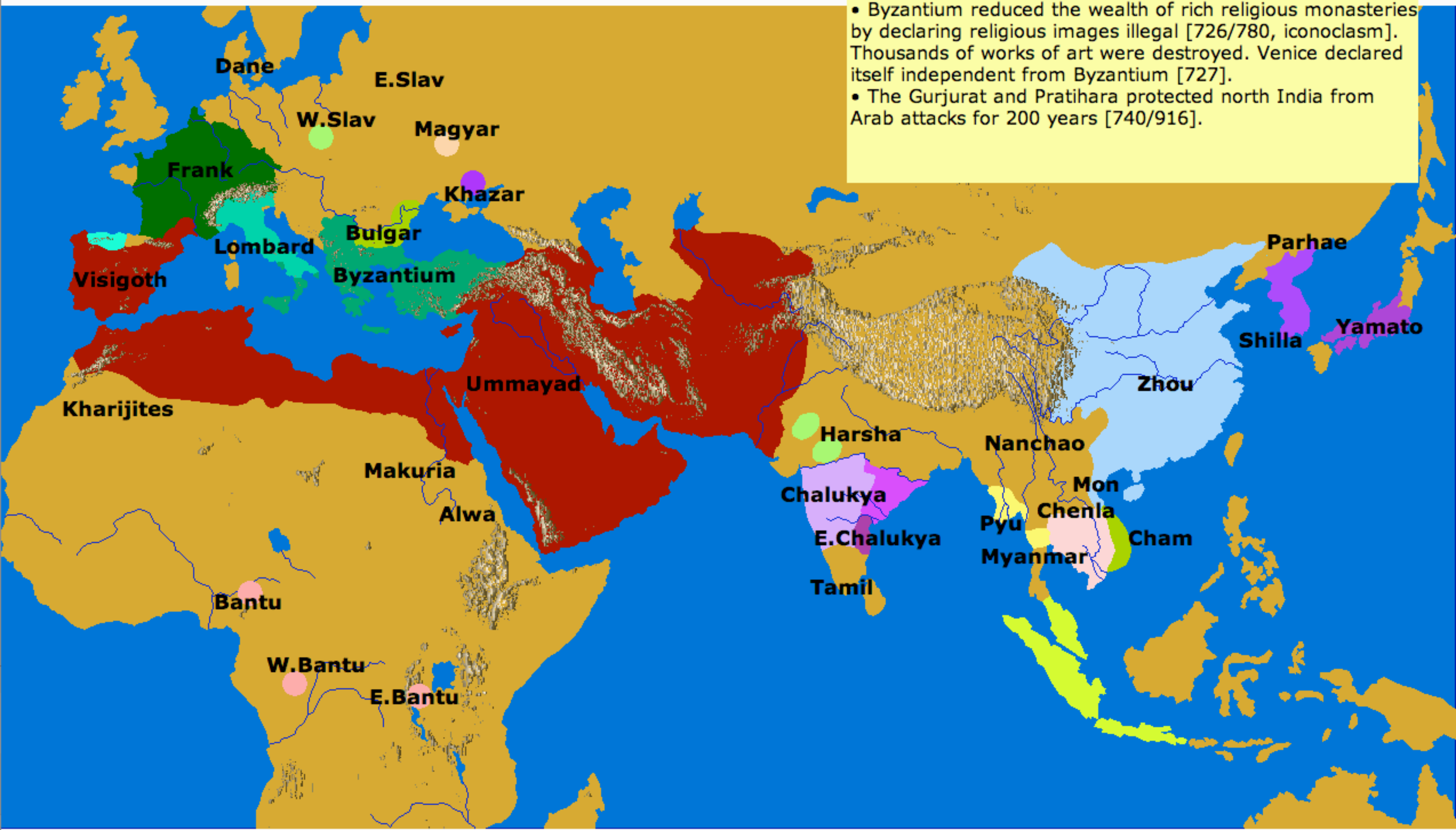


• The first four successors of Muhammad were his relatives. An opponent, not a relative, became the fifth caliph and first Umayyad leader. Muslims divided. Shias believed that the caliph should be a descendent of Muhammad. Sunnis maintained that caliphs should be elected. The Umayyads expanded west into North Africa [670] and east beyond the previous Persian border [673]. A five year Umayyad naval blockade of Byzantium failed when the Greeks burned Umayyad ships [678, Greek fire].

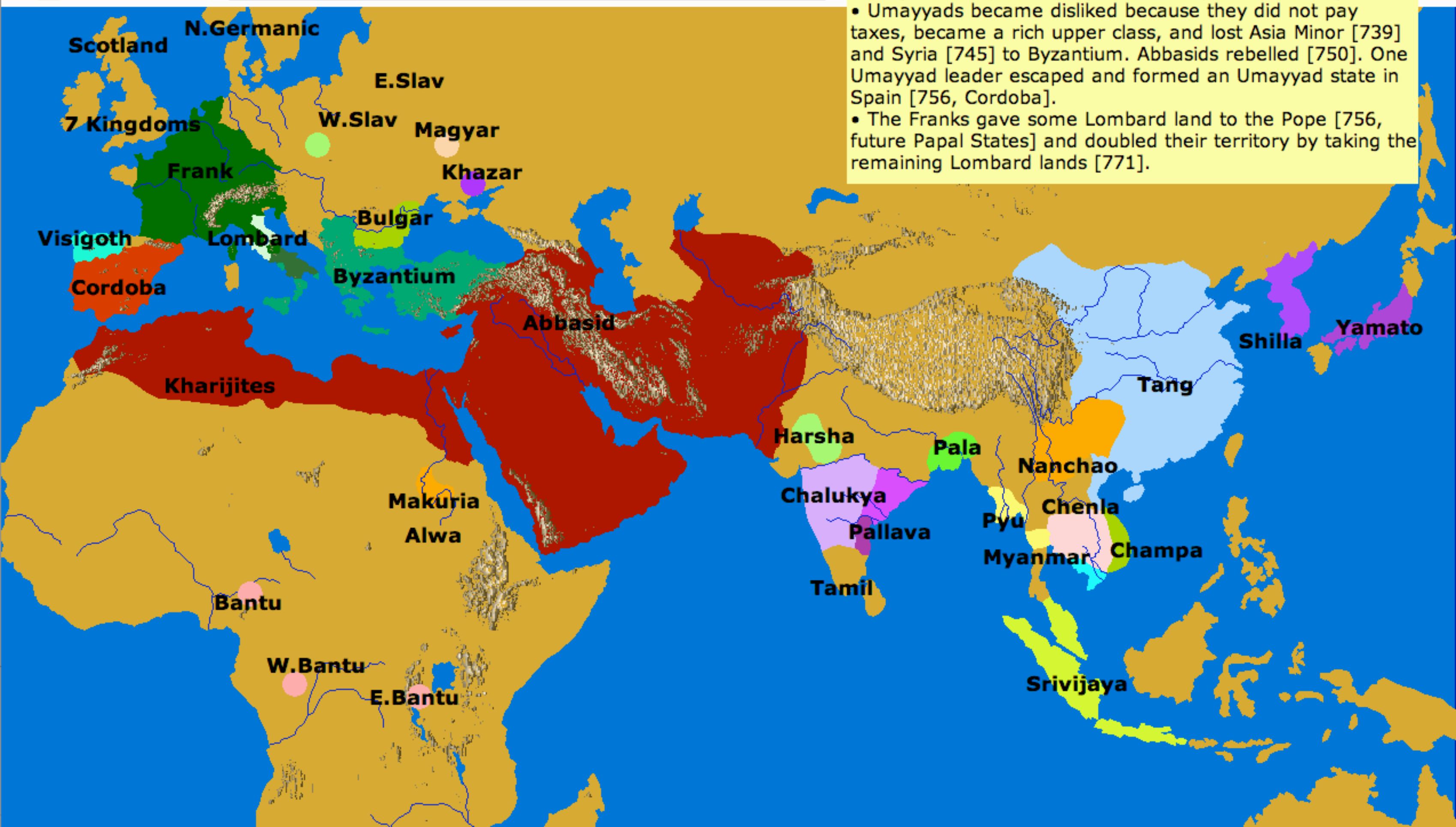


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- Umayyads took most of Spain [711] and entered France where their expansion was stopped [732, Tours].
- Byzantium reduced the wealth of rich religious monasteries by declaring religious images illegal [726/780, iconoclasm]. Thousands of works of art were destroyed. Venice declared itself independent from Byzantium [727].
- The Gurjrat and Pratihara protected north India from Arab attacks for 200 years [740/916].



- Rebels forced the Tang to move their capital west [757, Chengdu]. They never regained their previous strength.
- Umayyads became disliked because they did not pay taxes, became a rich upper class, and lost Asia Minor [739] and Syria [745] to Byzantium. Abbasids rebelled [750]. One Umayyad leader escaped and formed an Umayyad state in Spain [756, Cordoba].
- The Franks gave some Lombard land to the Pope [756, future Papal States] and doubled their territory by taking the remaining Lombard lands [771].



- Romans forced the Pope to leave the city. Franks helped the Pope return [799] and he crowned the Frank leader as emperor [800, Charlemagne]. Byzantium refused to recognize a second Roman emperor until the Franks gave Venice and Dalmatia to Byzantium [812].
- The Bulgars defeated the Avars [807], burned Byzantine cities [809/813], but were defeated by Byzantium [815] after their leader died. West Slav Moravia formed on land the Avars had lost [833/906].
- Dane pirates attacked Frank cities [810/840]. The cities had no walls because the Frank king was afraid of losing

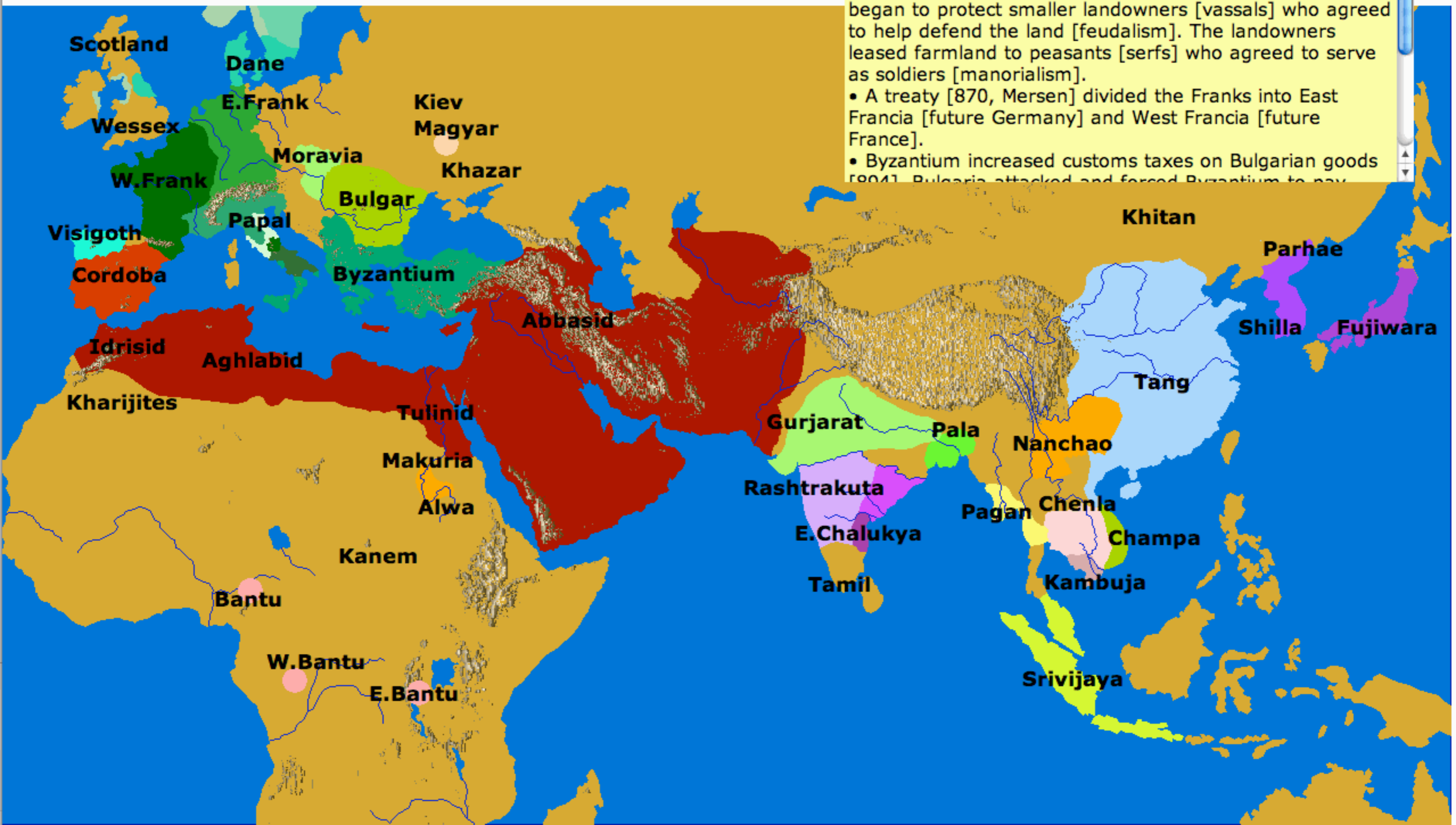




after their leader died. West Slav Moravia formed on land the Avars had lost [833/906].

- Dane pirates attacked Frank cities [810/840]. The cities had no walls because the Frank king was afraid of losing control.
- Byzantium outlawed religious images for a second time [815/843].
- When Frank kings died, their land was divided among their sons. Three sons signed a treaty that defined their lands in French and German, evidence that their language had split into two [843, Strasbourg].
- Norse sailors settled Iceland [870].

- Danes attacked England and France. Because their king was unable to stop the attacks, Frank landowners [lords] began to protect smaller landowners [vassals] who agreed to help defend the land [feudalism]. The landowners leased farmland to peasants [serfs] who agreed to serve as soldiers [manorialism].
- A treaty [870, Mersen] divided the Franks into East Francia [future Germany] and West Francia [future France].
- Byzantium increased customs taxes on Bulgarian goods [904]. Bulgaria attacked and forced Byzantium to pay...





- Byzantium increased customs taxes on Bulgarian goods [894]. Bulgaria attacked and forced Byzantium to pay tribute [896].
- Uralic Magyars moved into Hungary [889]. This separated the Czechs and Slovaks, causing them to develop different cultures.
- Muslim slaves rebelled against their Abbasid rulers [869/883]. The rebellion contributed to the end of Abbasid rule [936].
- Kambuja expanded [877] and built huge reservoirs that enabled an extra crop of rice each year [green revolution].

Scotland

Dane

E. Frank

Wessex

W. Frank

Moravia

Kiev
Magyar

Khazar

Bulgar

Papal

Byzantium

Abbasid

Cordoba

Idrisid

Aghlabid

Kharijites

Tulinid

Makuria

Alwa

Kanem

Bantu

W. Bantu

E. Bantu

Gurjarat

Pala

Nanchao

Tang

Parhae

Shilla

Fujiwara

Rashtrakuta

E. Chalukya

Tamil

Pagan

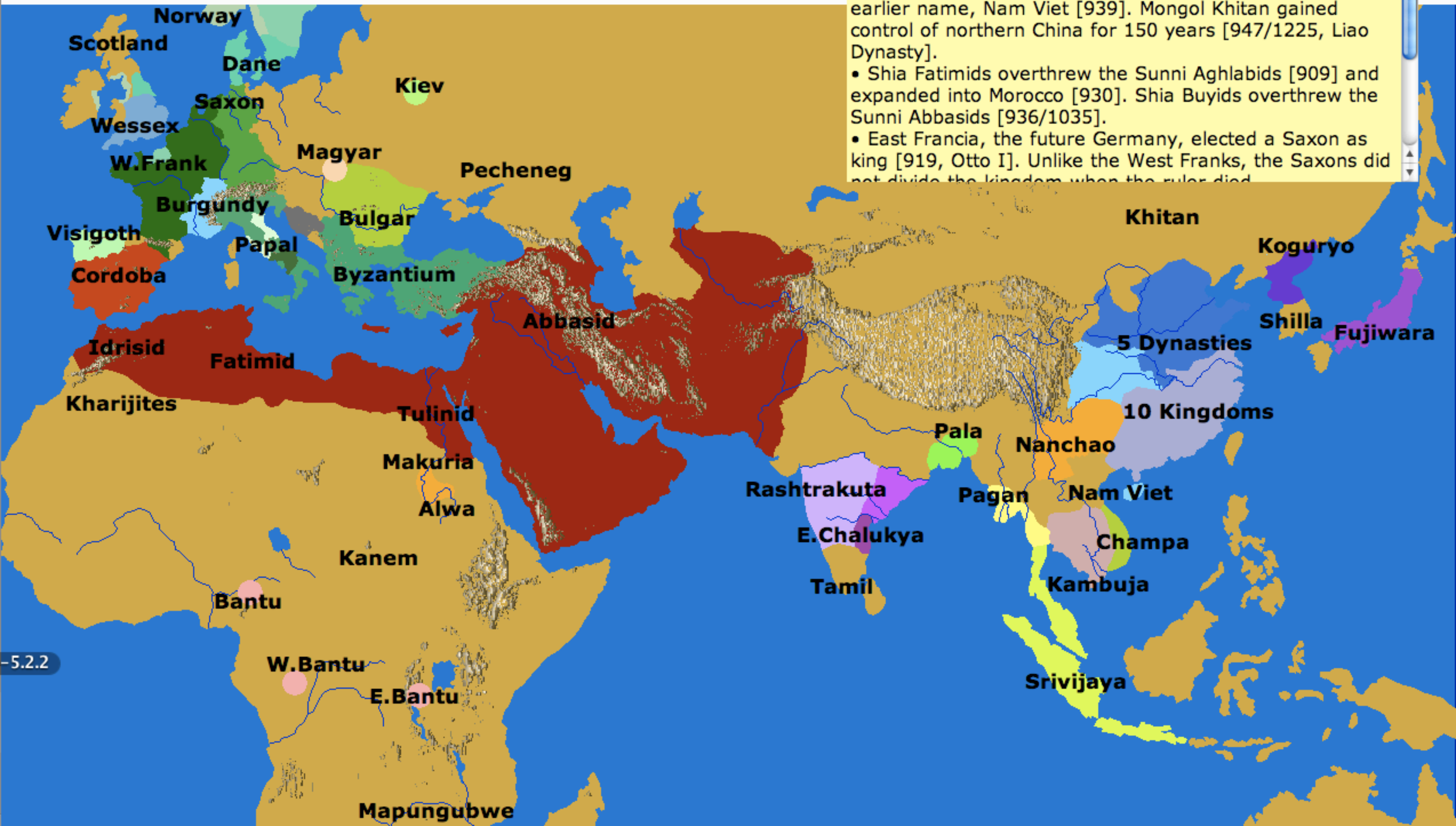
Chenla

Champa

Kambuja

Srivijaya

- China became divided [907/960, Five Dynasties and Ten Kingdoms]. Annam broke away [907] and restored its earlier name, Nam Viet [939]. Mongol Khitan gained control of northern China for 150 years [947/1225, Liao Dynasty].
- Shia Fatimids overthrew the Sunni Aghlabids [909] and expanded into Morocco [930]. Shia Buyids overthrew the Sunni Abbasids [936/1035].
- East Francia, the future Germany, elected a Saxon as king [919, Otto I]. Unlike the West Franks, the Saxons did not divide the kingdom when the ruler died.

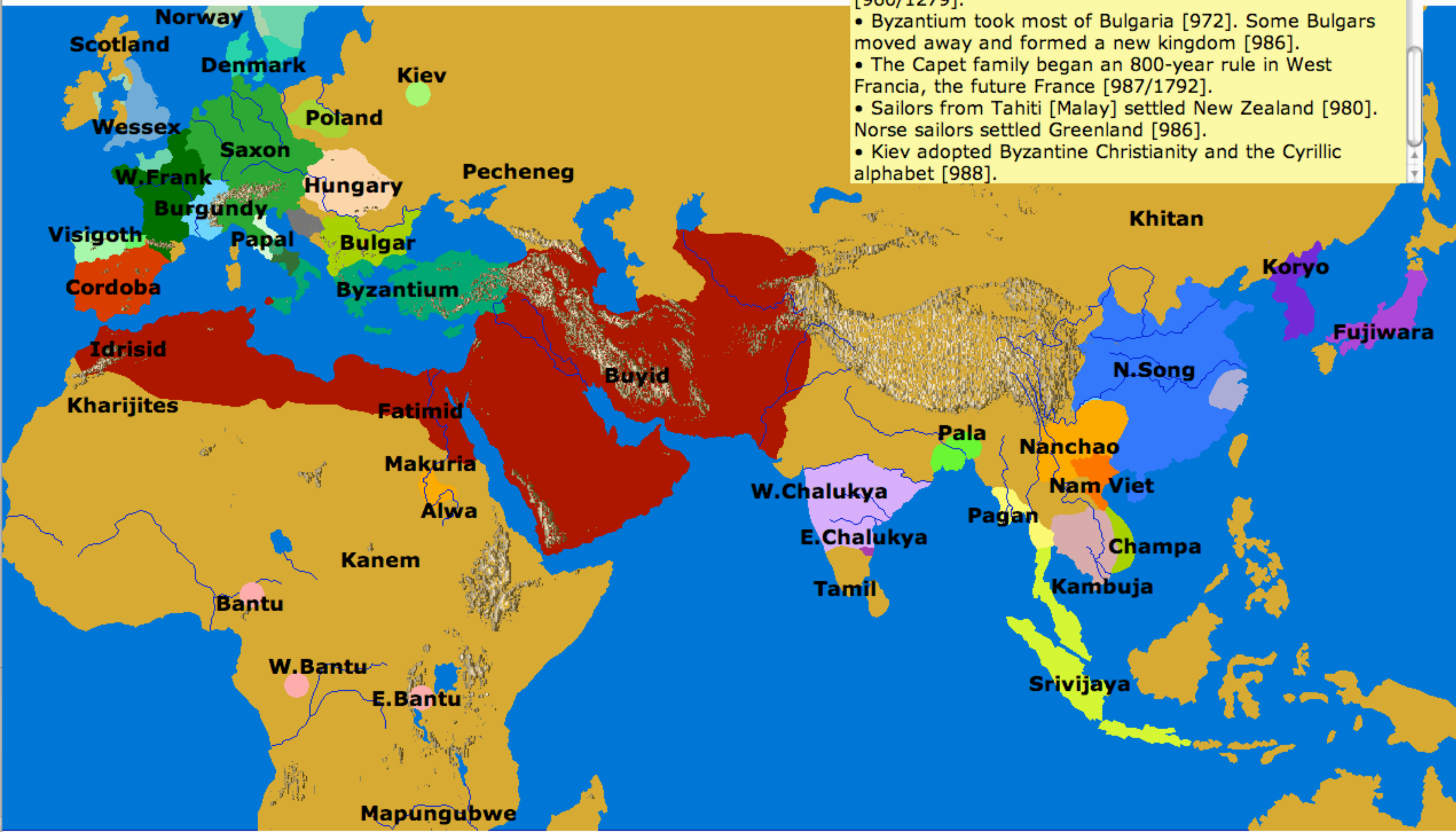




- East Francia, the future Germany, elected a Saxon as king [919, Otto I]. Unlike the West Franks, the Saxons did not divide the kingdom when the ruler died.
- The Rastrakuta in southern India attacked the north [916] which broke into small states.
- Christian kingdoms [Leon, Galicia, Navarre] formed in Spain and began a 600 year effort to expel the Umayyads [913/1492]. Umayyads expanded into Morocco [935/1031].
- Koguryo broke away from the Shilla [892] and united Korea [936, Korvo].



- Shia Fatimids began to make gold coins [950]. Their demand for gold led to increased trade with Ghana in West Africa. They took Egypt and moved their capital to Cairo [969].
- The Saxon king of the East Franks [Otto I] gained Italy by marriage [951], ended Magyar raids [955], and conquered Bohemia [962]. The Pope crowned him emperor [962].
- England expelled the Danes [954].
- The Song reunited China and ruled for 300 years [960/1279].



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- Byzantium took most of Bulgaria [972]. Some Bulgars moved away and formed a new kingdom [986].
- The Capet family began an 800-year rule in West Francia, the future France [987/1792].
- Sailors from Tahiti [Malay] settled New Zealand [980]. Norse sailors settled Greenland [986].
- Kiev adopted Byzantine Christianity and the Cyrillic alphabet [988].