



Ancient China and the Peasant Emperor Source Questions

Directions: **Use the accompanying sources to respond to the questions below.**

DOCUMENT A:

- 1) The 18th Century was the 1700s. About how long after Liu Bang's life was this picture made? (See Document C or E)

- 2) Do you think that Liu Bang really looked like this? Why or why not?

DOCUMENT B:

- 3) The Qin ended the Warring States Period by conquering the other states in 221 BCE. Compared to the founding of the Han Dynasty (see Document C or E), how long did the Qin last? (Hint – to find the difference between dates in BCE, subtract the smaller number from the larger number.)

- 4) What do you think might have made the Qin dynasty so unstable?

DOCUMENT C:

- 5) Many of the states that the Qin conquered were given some power back under the Han. Which of the states from the Warring States Period do you see on this map? Which aren't? Are they bigger or smaller? (Hint: Yellow is Han)

 - 6) Do you think that giving some power to the other states was a good idea for the Han? Do you think it would make the empire easier, or harder to rule?
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DOCUMENT D:

- 7) What modern weapon of war does this ancient crossbow look like? Note: time has caused the wood to bend sharply. What features does it share with that weapon?
- 8) How do you think the repeater crossbow affected warfare? Did it make individual soldiers more or less valuable? Why?
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DOCUMENT E:

- 9) British historian Alfred Toynbee called Julius Caesar and Liu Bang “the two most far-sighted and influential political figures in the history of mankind.” What accomplishment does Toynbee think makes them so influential?
- 10) Do you think that this is a fair judgement? Why?
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DOCUMENT F:

- 11) What is the largest ethnic group in China today?
- 12) Few parts of modern China are not mostly of that group, such as Tibet and Xinjiang in the Southwest and Northwest, respectively. Is China a Han Empire? Why or why not?
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