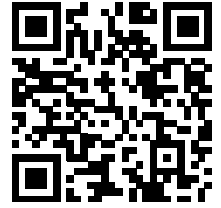


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# The Rise of the Zhou Dynasty



The Zhou Dynasty marked a significant period in the early history of \_\_\_\_\_, beginning around the 11th century BCE and lasting until 256 BCE. This era is known for its critical \_\_\_\_\_ to Chinese culture, politics, and society. The Zhou people initially coexisted with the Shang \_\_\_\_\_ but eventually overthrew them, claiming they had lost the Mandate of \_\_\_\_\_, a divine approval needed to rule. The Zhou Dynasty introduced the \_\_\_\_\_ system, where the king granted land to his nobles, who in turn owed \_\_\_\_\_ and military support to the king. This system helped to expand the territory but also led to internal \_\_\_\_\_ and the eventual decline of the dynasty. The Zhou period is divided into two parts: the Western \_\_\_\_\_ and the Eastern Zhou, the latter further split into the Spring and Autumn \_\_\_\_\_ and the Warring States period. During the Western Zhou, the capital was established at \_\_\_\_\_, which fostered a flourishing of culture and the \_\_\_\_\_ of a centralized government. The Eastern Zhou saw the capital moved to \_\_\_\_\_ due to external threats and internal strife. This period was characterized by intellectual \_\_\_\_\_, with the emergence of Confucianism and Daoism, \_\_\_\_\_ that have deeply influenced Chinese thought and \_\_\_\_\_. One of the most significant contributions of the Zhou Dynasty was the development of the Chinese writing \_\_\_\_\_, which facilitated the administration and the spread of culture. The Zhou also made advances in \_\_\_\_\_ casting, which were used in rituals and as symbols of power. Despite the challenges that led to their decline, the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Zhou Dynasty continues to be felt in China's social structure, philosophy, and artistic \_\_\_\_\_.

Luoyang Haojing development Dynasty loyalty China conflicts system  
bronze Zhou achievements contributions feudal philosophies period  
blossoming culture Heaven legacy