Chronology of Chinese History

I. Prehistory
Neolithic Period  ca. 8000-2000 BCE
Xia (Hsia)?  Trad. 2200-1766 BCE

II. The Classical Age (Ancient China)
Shang Dynasty  ca. 1600-1045 BCE (Trad. 1766-1122 BCE)
Zhou (Chou) Dynasty  ca. 1045-256 BCE (Trad. 1122-256 BCE)
Western Zhou (Chou)  ca. 1045-771 BCE
Eastern Zhou (Chou)  770-256 BCE
   Spring and Autumn Period  722-468 BCE (770-404 BCE)
   Warring States Period  403-221 BCE

III. The Imperial Era (Imperial China)
Qin (Ch’in) Dynasty  221-207 BCE
Han Dynasty  202 BCE-220 CE
   Western (or Former) Han Dynasty  202 BCE-9 CE
   Xin (Hsin) Dynasty  9-23
   Eastern (or Later) Han Dynasty  25-220
1st Period of Division 220-589
   The Three Kingdoms  220-265
      Shu  221-263
      Wei  220-265
      Wu  222-280
   Jin (Chin) Dynasty  265-420
      Western Jin (Chin)  265-317
      Eastern Jin (Chin)  317-420
Southern Dynasties  420-589
   Former (or Liu) Song (Sung)  420-479
   Southern Qi (Ch’i)  479-502
   Southern Liang  502-557
   Southern Chen (Ch’en)  557-589
Northern Dynasties  317-589
   Sixteen Kingdoms  317-386
      NW Dynasties
         Former Liang  314-376, Chinese/Gansu
         Later Liang  386-403, Di/Gansu
         S. Liang  397-414, Xianbei/Gansu
         W. Liang  400-422, Chinese/Gansu
         N. Liang  398-439, Xiongnu?/Gansu
      North Central Dynasties
         Chang Han  304-347, Di/Hebei
         Former Zhao (Chao)  304-329, Xiongnu/Shanxi
         Later Zhao (Chao)  319-351, Jie/Hebei
         W. Qin (Ch’in)  365-431, Xianbei/Gansu & Shaanxi
         Former Qin (Ch’in)  349-394, Di/Shaanxi
         Later Qin (Ch’in)  384-417, Qiang/Shaanxi
         Xia (Hsia)  407-431, Xiongnu/Shaanxi
      Northeast Dynasties
         Former Yan (Yen)  333-370, Xianbei/Hebei
         Later Yan (Yen)  384-409, Xianbei/Hebei
         S. Yan (Yen)  398-410, Xianbei/Shandong
         N. Yan (Yen)  409-436, Chinese/Liaoning
   Northern (Latter) Wei  386-534, Xianbei (Tuoba)
      Eastern Wei  534-550, Xianbei
      Western Wei  535-556, Xianbei
      Northern Qi (Ch’i)  550-577, Xianbei
      Northern Zhou (Chou)  557-581, Xianbei
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IV. The Modern Period

| Republic of China             | 1912-present (only controls Taiwan after 1949) |
| People's Republic of China    | 1949-present |