

# Year 6 History Topic - Shang Dynasty



## Key Vocabulary

<b>myth</b>	A story that forms part of the traditional knowledge of a society. Myths often use imaginative plots and characters to explain how the world began and why nature and people behave the way they do.
<b>empire</b>	a group of nations or people under one ruler or government.
<b>aristocracy</b>	a series of rulers from the same family or group.
<b>artefact</b>	an object made by a human being, typically one of cultural or historical interest.
<b>emperor</b>	the male ruler of an empire.
<b>dynasty</b>	a class of people who have a high social position because of the family they are born into.
<b>ancestors</b>	a person from whom one is descended and who lived several generations ago.

## Influential People

**King Cheng Tang** - the first king of the Shang dynasty in Chinese history.



**King Di Xin**  
Di Xin was the last king of the Shang Dynasty.



**Fu Hao**  
Fu Hao lived during the Shang Dynasty of ancient China and was the only female head of the army.



## Key Knowledge

Dragons in Chinese culture symbolize great power, good luck and strength. They represent power and authority. Emperors were assumed to have descended from the dragons.

The Shang believed in an afterlife and were buried with the goods, slaves and animals they believed would be useful to them. were buried with bronze ritual vessels, weapons and jade.

The Shang Dynasty ended when conquerors from the state of Zhou invaded the capital. The Zhou conquerors said that the Shang king (Di Xin) was evil and that heaven no longer wanted him to rule.

