Jonathan Quang 10/16/14

Global - Mr.Badgley 1WW

HW #19b

1.  
Cyrus: The king of Persia around 550-539 B.C. His army had many victories, and the conquered people were treated with kindness and tolerance.  
Darius: The next ruler after Cyrus's son, he brought peace and stability to the empire after several revolts during Cambyses rule. He expanded the empire until it extended from Egypt and Anatolia to parts of India, but he could not conquer Greece.  
Satrap: A governor installed by Darius who ruled each province  
  
2.The Royal Road aided in the development and maintenance of the empire by providing a quick way of transport and communication. The road allowed Darius to communicate quickly with the most distant parts of the empire. The road and the use of standardized coins promoted trade, which held the empire together.

3. Zoraster taught that the answer to why there was so much suffering and chaos in the world was that the earth is a battleground for the fight between the spirit of good and the spirit of evil. He also preached the belief in one god, Ahura Mazda, who will judge everyone for how well they did in the battle for good at the end of time. This influenced the rest of the world because traces of it can be found in other religions today. The concept of Satan and a belief in angels can be found in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. After the conquest of Persia by the Muslims in the 600s, some groups carried the faith to India while followers of Mithra, a Zorastrian god, spread westward where it became a popular religion among the military of Rome.

4. According to the customs of the Persians as described by Herodotus, the two customs that are the most positive are adaptability and respect for foreign cultures and cleanliness. The adaptability of the Persians to other cultures shows their openness and acceptance of other cultures. Persians have adapted the Egyptian breastplate, dress of the Medes, and even standardized coins from the Lydians of Asia minor. They generally adapted many foreign luxuries. The cleanliness of the Persians suggests that they have some sort of respect for nature or at least the river. Persians did not dump waste or wash in the river, nor did they let anyone else do that. The cleanliness of the river would have decreased disease and odors. The two most negative customs of the Persians are decision making while drunk and lack of a market. Making a decision while under the influence of wine is grounds for making a bad decision. Logical decisions are best made while sober. The lack of a market is negative because the Persian empire could have tried harder to improve the infrastructure for trade. If they have the Royal Road and standardized coins, markets should have been brought into existence to further increase trade.