

# History Dashboard

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## Introduction

History was a fascinating topic, and since it had been a mandatory subject in most school curricula, it also held great importance. In this project, we aimed to provide a broad overview of the Roman Nerva-Antonine Dynasty and the Chinese Han Dynasty by offering a timeline, comparing themes, and exploring civilization structures.

Our team developed a website designed to help users learn about the Roman Empire and the Chinese dynasties. The website featured three key models:

1. A Chronological Timeline – This model illustrated notable rulers and significant events, giving users historical context for different periods within the Roman Empire and Chinese dynasties.
2. A Comparative Model – This section compared military tactics and technological innovations.
3. A Thematic Model – This provided insights into governance, religion, culture, and economic systems across both empires.

First, the chronological timeline showcased notable rulers and key historical events, providing users with brief overviews of the Roman Empire and the major Chinese dynasties.

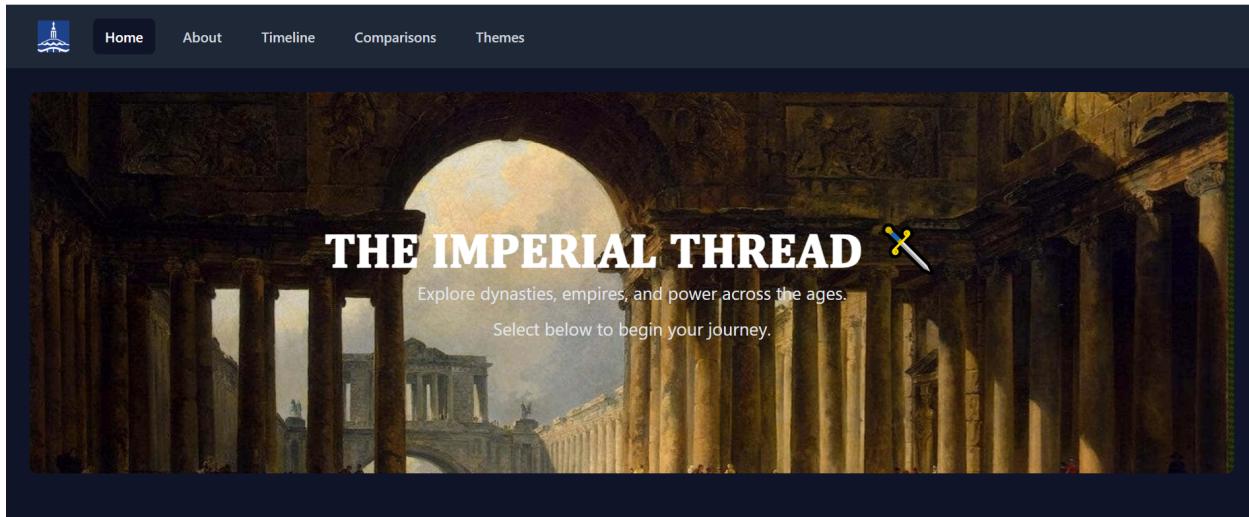
Second, the comparative model outlined and contrasted the military, political, and technological frameworks of the two civilizations. It allowed users to explore differences and parallels in military structures, tactics, and innovation.

Finally, the thematic model offered a deep dive into the civilizations' governance, religion, cultural practices, and economic structures, helping users grasp how these elements influenced the trajectory of each society.

# API

Our API is about historical data related to dynasties, empires, rulers, and their themes. It allows users to view, create, and delete information about ancient imperial eras. Most of the APIs are GETs, returning lists of the database entries from the respective model where the query takes place. One is a post API that will allow users to add their own entries. The last API is a delete, allowing the erasure of entries. The post and delete are only available in the backend portion of the code, and it is not available in the website. The APIs are posted in Postman, with the link in the README.

## Front-end Design



For front-end development, we implemented Vue.js due to its ease of use and easy integration with basic web technologies like HTML, CSS, and JavaScript. For styling, we employed Tailwind CSS, for its customizability.

We designed and implemented a straightforward five-page layout to ensure intuitive navigation and a user-friendly experience. Each page was structured with a vertical scroll layout, allowing users to easily scroll down to explore the content at their own pace. The overall aesthetic was designed to reflect the characteristics of popular social media sites in order to display the information in a playful manner. The layout included:

1. Home Page – Users start here and can navigate to the different pages. (Top)
2. About Page – Users can access information regarding what each page does and the reasons (which are also outlined in this report) why we decided to make the site.

The Imperial Thread

About

Timeline

Comparisons

Themes

## About The Imperial Thread

History was a fascinating topic, and since it had been a mandatory subject in most school curricula, it also held great importance. In this project, we aimed to provide a broad overview of the Roman Nerva-Antonine Dynasty and the Chinese Han Dynasty by offering a timeline, comparing

3. Timeline Page – Allowed users to scroll through a timeline of significant events and rulers from both the Roman Empire and Chinese dynasties.

Home

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← Home

## Timeline ★°☆

Read up on notable rulers and significant events with historical context for different periods within the Roman Empire and Chinese dynasties.

**157–141 BCE • Han**

Emperor: Emperor Jing  
Treaties: Reinforced central power  
Wars: Internal suppression  
Advancements: Quelled Rebellion of Seven States

12:27 PM • April 2025

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4. Comparative Model Page – Presented comparisons of military strategies, innovative technologies and agricultural systems, laid out in sections that users could browse by scrolling.

The Imperial Thread • Military • Command Structure

Han: Emperor controlled military through loyal generals  
Nerva: Emperor held power but respected senatorial ranks  
Similarities: Centralized leadership in both dynasties  
Differences: Han had stricter internal oversight of generals

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5. Thematic Model Page – Offers description on culture, religion, governance, and economic themes within both civilizations.

The Imperial Thread • Themes

Get insights into governance, religion, culture, and economic systems across both empires.



**Governance**

Desc: Bureaucratic empire run by scholar-officials via civil service exams  
Dynasty: Han  
Events: Creation of Confucian curriculum for state officials  
Figure: Emperor Wu

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## Database

### UML Class Diagram

Our database is built around three independent tables that utilizes flask for the backend. Each table is structured using SQL, allowing for simple, organized data that is easily queried.

Our models are inspired by various social media platforms, displaying the information in the forms of posts or “threads”. This layout allows users to comfortably access information in a familiar format. Each model highlights the most important piece of

information at the top of the card, below a spoofed username. Beneath, it has supporting information, allowing users to easily browse through to compare and contrast across multiple entries.

This design allows users to quickly absorb key points while mimicking the natural flow of social media browsing.

## Challenges

We ran into a few challenges. One of the main difficulties stemmed from designing the site's functionality, specifically ensuring that the card buttons properly. Oftentimes when trying to link different pages together, it would result in broken redirects or loading issues. Furthermore, making sure images were being consistently and properly aligned was a bit difficult. In addition to technical challenges, choosing an overall theme to display our information took a bit of time to decide on. Given that history as a subject may not appeal to everyone, coming up with a way to engage those accessing our site took some time to decide on as well. Our final design stemmed from the ease and familiarity of scrolling on social media. It is straightforward and effortless, which we tried to replicate in our site.

## Future Improvements

We will be trying to add additional functionality like being able to Post and Delete from the website itself, as well as expanding on certain models to add more contextual information for these dynasties. Another point we wanted to continue was to expand on the different dynasties and eras throughout these civilizations. The current models are just a prototype to what could be the comparative of two of the most fundamental civilizations for their respective globe of influence (east and west).

## Conclusion

In this project, we aimed to create an engaging, educational platform that makes the study of the Roman Nerva-Antonine Dynasty and the Chinese Han Dynasty accessible and interesting. Through a combination of a Chronological Timeline, a Comparative Model, and a Thematic Model, users are able to explore rulers, key historical events,

military strategies, technological innovations, governance systems, and cultural themes from both civilizations. Throughout development, we faced challenges particularly with page linking, image consistency, and thematic design choices.

Looking forward, we plan to enhance functionality by enabling users to directly post and delete entries through the frontend, enrich the models with additional historical context, and expand coverage to include more dynasties and civilizations. This project serves as a strong prototype for a scalable educational tool comparing two of the world's most influential empires.