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# Golden ages of China

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Throughout Chinese history, China had multiple periods of golden age. In Chinese historiography, golden ages on a large scale are known as *shèngshì* (盛世, lit. Prosperous Era), while golden ages on a smaller scale are termed as *zhìshì* (治世, lit. Well-Governed Era).

## List of Chinese golden ages

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This is a list of the golden ages in the history of China, sorted by dynasty.

Golden age	Presided by	Period	Description
<b>Shang dynasty</b>			
Restoration of Pan Geng <sup>[1]</sup> 盤庚中興	<u>Pan Geng</u>	1300–1292 BCE	Social stability following the relocation of the Shang capital to <u>Yin</u> .
Rule of Wu Ding <sup>[2]</sup> 武丁之治	<u>Wu Ding</u>	1250–1190 BCE	Peak of the Shang dynasty.
<b>Zhou dynasty</b>			
Rule of Cheng and Kang <sup>[3]</sup> 成康之治	<u>King Cheng of Zhou</u> <u>King Kang of Zhou</u>	1043–1005 BCE	Suppressed the <u>Rebellion of the Three Guards</u> and instituted the <i>Fengjian</i> system.
Restoration of King Xuan <sup>[4]</sup> 宣王中興	<u>King Xuan of Zhou</u>	828–797 BCE	Recovery of the society following the tyrannical rule of the <u>King Li of Zhou</u> .
<b>Han dynasty</b>			
Rule of Wen and Jing <sup>[5]</sup> 文景之治	<u>Emperor Wen of Han</u> <u>Emperor Jing of Han</u>	180–141 BCE	Laid the economic foundation for the subsequent conquest of the <u>Xiongnu</u> by the <u>Emperor Wu of Han</u> .
Golden Age of the Emperor Wu of Han <sup>[6]</sup> 漢武盛世	<u>Emperor Wu of Han</u>	141–87 BCE	<u>Pacification of the Xiongnu</u> , establishment of contact with the <u>Western Regions</u> , and centralization of power. Peak of the <u>Western Han</u> .
Rule of Zhao and Xuan <sup>[7]</sup> 昭宣之治	<u>Emperor Zhao of Han</u> <u>Emperor Xuan of Han</u>	87–49 BCE	Stabilization of the society following the Han–Xiongnu War, and establishment of the <u>Protectorate of the Western Regions</u> .
Guangwu Restoration <sup>[8]</sup> 光武中興	<u>Emperor Guangwu of Han</u>	25–57 CE	Restoration of the Han dynasty following a 16-year interregnum.
Rule of Ming and Zhang <sup>[9]</sup> 明章之治	<u>Emperor Ming of Han</u> <u>Emperor Zhang of Han</u>	57–88 CE	Submission of the <u>Southern Xiongnu</u> .
Prosperity of Yongyuan <sup>[10]</sup> 永元之隆	<u>Emperor He of Han</u>	92–105 CE	Destruction of the <u>Northern Xiongnu</u> . Peak of the <u>Eastern Han</u> .
<b>Jin dynasty</b>			
Reign of Taikang <sup>[11]</sup> 太康之治	<u>Emperor Wu of Jin</u>	280–289 CE	Reunification of China following the conquest of the <u>Eastern Wu</u> , and economic recovery.
<b>Liu Song</b>			
Reign of Yuanjia <sup>[12]</sup> 元嘉之治	<u>Emperor Wen of Liu Song</u>	424–450 CE	Peace and stability as a result of good governance and reforms.

<b><u>Northern Wei</u></b>			
Reforms of Xiaowen <sup>[13]</sup> 孝文改革	Emperor Xiaowen of Northern Wei	471–499 CE	Political and cultural development following the policy of <u>Sinicization</u> .
<b><u>Southern Qi</u></b>			
Reign of Yongming <sup>[14]</sup> 永明之治	Emperor Wu of Southern Qi	482–493 CE	Establishment of peaceful relations with the Northern Wei, promotion of domestic education, and good management of the bureaucracy.
<b><u>Liang dynasty</u></b>			
Reign of Tianjian <sup>[15]</sup> 天監之治	Emperor Wu of Liang	464–549 CE	Peace and stability.
<b><u>Chen dynasty</u></b>			
Reign of Tianjia <sup>[16]</sup> 天嘉之治	Emperor Wen of Chen	559–566 CE	Economic recovery and prosperity following the rebellion of <u>Hou Jing</u> .
<b><u>Sui dynasty</u></b>			
Reign of Kaihuang <sup>[17]</sup> 開皇之治	Emperor Wen of Sui	581–604 CE	Establishment of the Sui dynasty. Political stability and economic prosperity.
<b><u>Tang dynasty</u></b>			
Reign of Wude <sup>[18]</sup> 武德之治	Emperor Gaozu of Tang	618–626 CE	Establishment of the Tang dynasty. Political stability and economic prosperity.
Reign of Zhenguan <sup>[19]</sup> 貞觀之治	Emperor Taizong of Tang	626–649 CE	Good governance, development of culture and production, and strengthening of territorial boundaries.
Reign of Yonghui <sup>[20]</sup> 永徽之治	Emperor Gaozong of Tang	649–683 CE	Continuation of policies introduced by the Emperor <u>Taizong of Tang</u> . Territorial height of the Tang dynasty.
Reign of Kaiyuan <sup>[21]</sup> 開元之治	Emperor Xuanzong of Tang	712–755 CE	Peak of the Tang dynasty.
Yuanhe Restoration <sup>[22]</sup> 元和中興	Emperor Xianzong of Tang	805–820 CE	Stability following the <u>An Lushan Rebellion</u> .
Huichang Restoration <sup>[23]</sup> 會昌中興	Emperor Wuzong of Tang	840–846 CE	Increase in government revenue, and consolidation of imperial influence.
Reign of Dazhong <sup>[24]</sup> 大中之治	Emperor Xuanzong of Tang	846–859 CE	Domestic stability, and restoration of control over the <u>Guiyi Circuit</u> .
<b><u>Wu Zhou</u></b>			
Continuation of the Order of Zhenguan <sup>[25]</sup> 貞觀遺風	Wu Zhao	690–705 CE	Continuation of the policies introduced during the Reign of Zhenguan.
<b><u>Song dynasty</u></b>			
Reign of Jianlong <sup>[26]</sup> 建隆之治	Emperor Taizu of Song	960–976 CE	Establishment of the Song dynasty, and conquest of the remaining <u>Ten Kingdoms</u> with the exception of the <u>Northern Han</u> .
Reign of Xianping <sup>[27]</sup> 咸平之治	Emperor Zhenzong of	997–1022 CE	Conclusion of the Chanyuan Treaty which heralded the start of a century-long peace with the <u>Liao dynasty</u> .

	<u>Song</u>		
Prosperous Rule of the Emperor Renzong of Song <sup>[28]</sup> 仁宗盛治	<u>Emperor Renzong of Song</u>	1022–1063 CE	Peak of the Song dynasty.
Reign of Qianchun <sup>[29]</sup> 乾淳之治	<u>Emperor Xiaozong of Song</u>	1162–1189 CE	Conclusion of the Longxing Peace Accord which heralded the start of a 40-year-long peace with the <u>Jin dynasty</u> .
<b><u>Liao dynasty</u></b>			
Restoration of the Emperor Jingzong of Liao <sup>[30]</sup> 景宗中興	<u>Emperor Jingzong of Liao</u>	969–982 CE	Stability and prosperity following the policy of <u>Sinicization</u> .
Reign of Taiping <sup>[31]</sup> 太平之治	<u>Emperor Shengzong of Liao</u>	1021–1031 CE	Peak of the Liao dynasty.
<b><u>Western Xia</u></b>			
Rule of Chong and Ren <sup>[32]</sup> 崇仁之治	<u>Emperor Chongzong of Western Xia</u> <u>Emperor Renzong of Western Xia</u>	1086–1193 CE	Peak of the Western Xia.
<b><u>Jin dynasty</u></b>			
Prosperous Age of Dading <sup>[33]</sup> 大定盛世	<u>Emperor Shizong of Jin</u>	1161–1189 CE	Conclusion of the Longxing Peace Accord which heralded the start of a 40-year-long peace with the <u>Song dynasty</u> , increase in government revenue, and good governance.
Reign of Mingchang <sup>[34]</sup> 明昌之治	<u>Emperor Zhangzong of Jin</u>	1189–1208 CE	Peak of the Jin dynasty; the Jin dynasty was the most powerful and prosperous state in East Asia during the time.
<b><u>Yuan dynasty</u></b>			
Prosperous Age of Zhiyuan <sup>[35]</sup> 至元盛世	<u>Emperor Shizu of Yuan</u>	1271–1294 CE	Unification of China under the Yuan dynasty, and political and economic reforms.
Prosperous Age of Dade <sup>[36]</sup> 大德盛世	<u>Emperor Chengzong of Yuan</u>	1295–1307 CE	Domestic stability, reduction of taxation, economic growth, and institutionalization of <u>Confucianism</u> in the government.
<b><u>Ming dynasty</u></b>			
Reign of Hongwu <sup>[37]</sup> 洪武之治	<u>Hongwu Emperor</u>	1368–1398 CE	Establishment of the Ming dynasty.
Prosperous Age of Yongle <sup>[38]</sup> 永樂盛世	<u>Yongle Emperor</u>	1402–1424 CE	Military campaigns against the Mongols, establishment of Chinese rule in Vietnam, and commissioning of <u>six large-scale maritime expeditions</u> .
Reign of Ren and Xuan <sup>[39]</sup> 仁宣之治	<u>Hongxi Emperor</u> <u>Xuande Emperor</u>	1424–1435 CE	Peak of the Ming dynasty.

New Order of Chenghua <sup>[40]</sup> 成化新風	<u>Chenghua Emperor</u>	1464–1487 CE	Good governance, liberal political policies, economic prosperity, and domestic stability.
Hongzhi Restoration <sup>[41]</sup> 弘治中興	<u>Hongzhi Emperor</u>	1487–1505 CE	Economic prosperity, and domestic stability.
New Governance of Longqing <sup>[42]</sup> 隆慶新政	<u>Longqing Emperor</u>	1567–1572 CE	Normalization of relations with foreign adversaries, and introduction of a series of new domestic policies.
Wanli Restoration <sup>[43]</sup> 萬曆中興	<u>Wanli Emperor</u>	1573–1582 CE	Implementation of reforms led by <u>Zhang Juzheng</u> , domestic stability, and increase in government revenue.
<b>Qing dynasty</b>			
High Qing era <sup>[44]</sup> 康雍乾盛世	<u>Kangxi Emperor</u> <u>Yongzheng Emperor</u> <u>Qianlong Emperor</u>	1662–1799 CE	Peak of the Qing dynasty.

## See also

- Chinese Century
- History of China
- Pax Sinica*
- Tributary system of China

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