Regional Timelines in World Prehistory

Introduction: The development of regional timelines and chronology building has been, and continues to be a fundamental strategy for situating or contextualizing sites and specimens in time and space. Whereas the so-called "Land of Prehistory" often poses the greatest challenge to the development of regional timelines, the plethora of written documents and monuments available for interpreting regional timelines among the "literate" civilizations has long facilitated the effort to create histories pertaining to non-literate or pre-literate cultures and civilizations such as those of ancient Britannia and Germania. Today's exercise will ask you to make use of the Internet, as well as your readings, to correlate the regional timelines of at least three major world areas.

Directions: You are to make use Internet resources, your readings, and James Trager's The People's Chronology: A Year-by-Year Record of Human Events from Prehistory to the Present (Henry Holt and Company, New York, 1992) to correlate the regional timelines of at least three world areas. While you are to work in groups on the development of a regional timeline or timelines germane to a specific world region, your individual contributions should identify at least five ancient leaders or personalities from each area, and then correlate their respective timelines with at least five hallmark events of another world region, culture, or civilization.

Part 1: Identification of Events and Key Personalities

- 1. Please gather with your regularly assigned team or group, and decide on at least three world regions for which your group will assemble a timeline.
- 2. Self select or assign team members to each specific world region or civilization, and proceed to collect chronological information pertaining to at least five individuals or leaders best known to represent said regional development or civilization.
- 3. Having collected such information as DOB (Date of Birth), Date of Death (DOD), and significant events from the lives of said individuals (such as years of dynastic leadership, cultural contributions, inventions), please table your information in a multi-columned table that permits comparative review of those years of each event.
- 4. Once you have collected the aforementioned information, correlate that information with at least ten hallmark or signal events in the form of a regional timeline developed for one specific world region, culture, or civilization that would have been known to any one or more of the individuals or personalities examined for the timeline.
- 5. Please cut and paste your timeline dates and regional information into a Discussion Forum folder posted for that purpose.
- 6. Finally, assign one team member to input your date and event based regional timeline information into the *SmartDraw* timeline program posted on your Professor's laptop...or available via the Internet at http://www.smartdraw.com/specials/timelines.asp?id=31301.

Part 2: Correlating World Events, Groups, and Individuals

Having produced the three regional timelines using *SmartDraw*, please produce a timeline to identify and correlate at least five of the following events, groups, and individuals from archaeology and prehistory: Moses, Trojan War, 10 Tribes of Israel, Star of Bethlehem, Shroud of Turin, Kennewick Man, Otzi the Iceman, Stonehenge, Indo-Aryans, Ramses II, King Tut, Carthage, Masada, Celts, Nazca lines, Alexander the Great, Xian, Dead Sea Scrolls, Indus Valley civilization, Eruption of Thera, Fall of Rome, Anasazi, Moche.