

# The Hellenistic Period

LW4U1 - GRADE 12 CLASSICAL CIVILIZATION - MR. A. WITTMANN

UNIT 1 - LECTURE 13





## The Hellenistic World (323-30 BC)

- First multi-cultural, cosmopolitan, free-trade, global village in history.
- Greek culture, science, mathematics, medicine, religion, art, philosophy, democracy was influenced by Eastern civilization.
- Facilitated trade & cultural exchange between Europe, India & China.
- 100,000s of mainland Greeks professionals move to the Near East.
- Locals & Greeks mixed (except Egypt) but raised children Greek.
- Ptolemy family practice urban & rural segregation.
- If you acted Greek, you were considered Greek.
- Middle East becomes Hellenized with new cities build in Greek style & adm. & Koine Greek became universal language.
- Gymnasium centre for business, education, military, social (i.e. Judah)

## Seven Wonders of the Ancient World

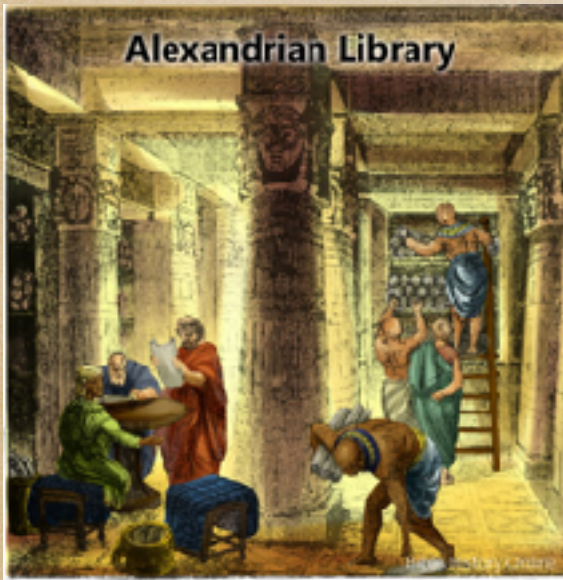
1. Great Pyramid of Giza
2. Hanging Gardens of Babylon
3. Statue of Zeus at Olympia
4. Temple of Artemis at Ephesus
5. Mausoleum at Halicarnassus
6. Colossus of Rhodes
7. Lighthouse of Alexandria

# Hellenistic Sculpture





# Great Library of Alexandria



- Ptolemy II est. university for scientific & cultural study
- Great library, hospital, zoos, labs, operating rooms, dorms, study grants.
- 400,000 scrolls, book trade, copies.
- Eratosthenes computed the circumference of the earth, Archimedes calculated pi, Euclid compiled his geometry text, etc.
- Development of Hellenistic poetry & new comedy with international not just local appeal.
- Similar one at Pergamon.



# Library of Alexandria

# Greco-Bactrian





## Greco-Bactrian

- Greco-Buddhist depictions were the 1st representations of Buddha in human form
- Helped define Buddhist art throughout Asia
- Buddhist texts “Wise King Malinda” = Macedonian Menander I
- Greek art, science, philosophy & medicine flood India and Afghanistan
- 180 BC Menander I expanded into India creating the Indo-Greek Kingdom
- Bactria forces Parthia vs. Romans

3rd–2nd century BC, Sampul, Urumqi Xinjiang Museum, China

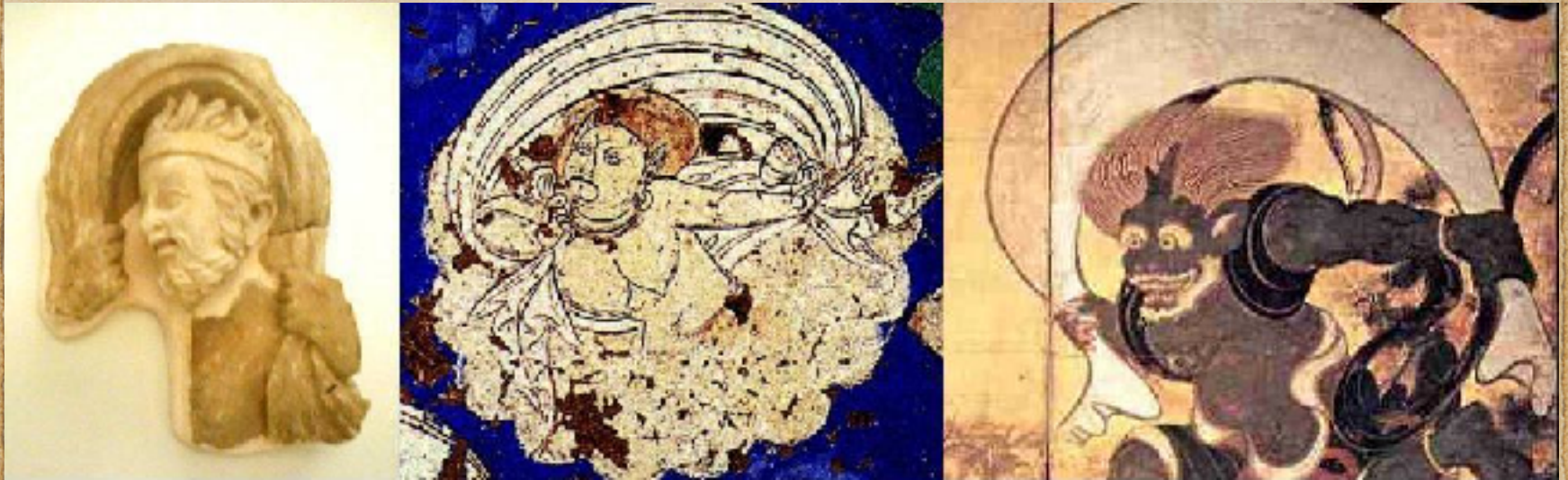
# Greco-Bactrian Artistic Influence



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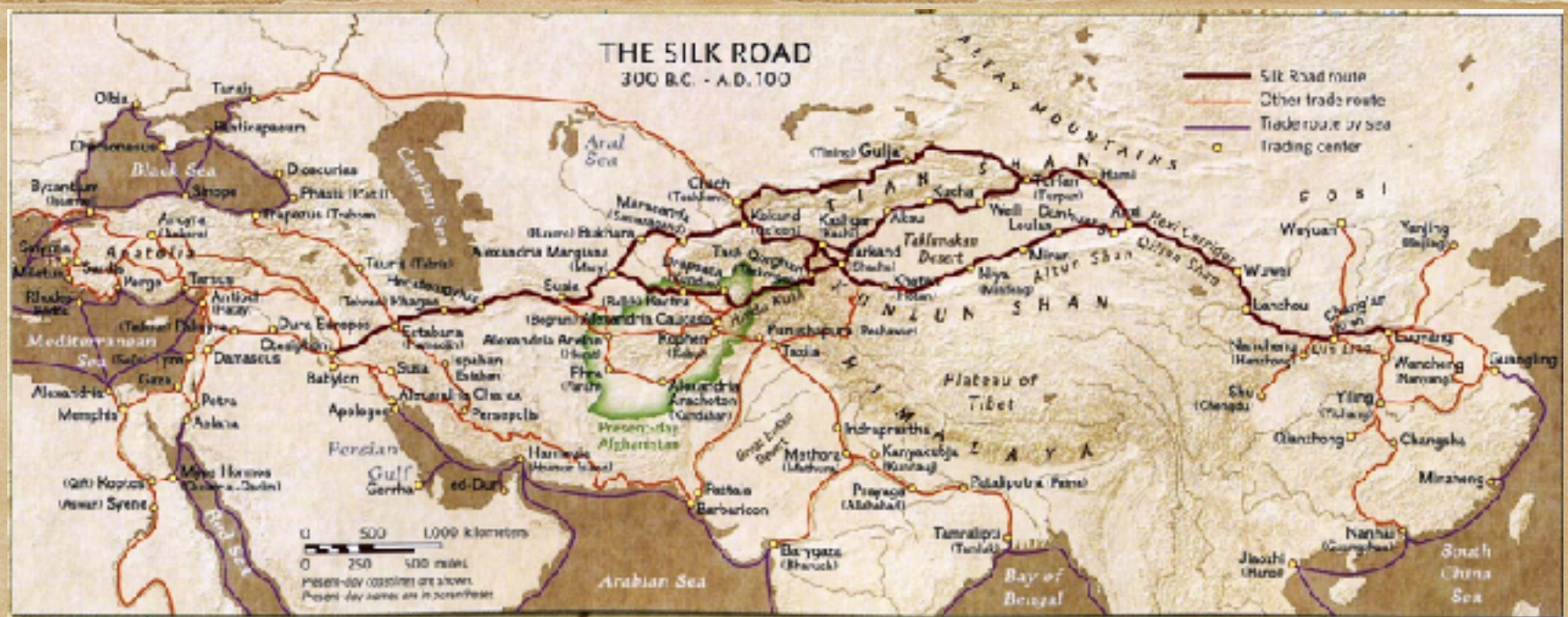


Iconographical evolution of the Wind God.

Left: Greek Wind God from Hadda, 2nd century.

Middle: Wind God from (Kizil), Tarim Basin, 7th century.

Right: Japanese Wind God Fūjin, 17th century.



Greek Buddhist devotees, holding plantain leaves, in purely Hellenistic style, inside Corinthian columns, Buner relief, Victoria and Albert Museum.

THE END