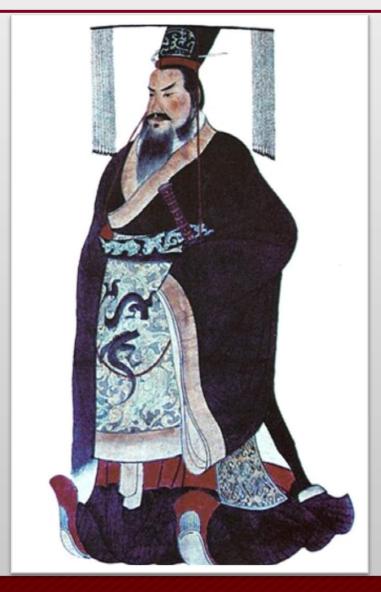
The Qin Dynasty 221-206 BCE

The Rise of Qin



The First Emperor



19th–century illustration of Qin Shi Huang

Legalism

"Punishment should not be other than severe and definite, thus making the people fear them; and laws should not be other than uniform and steadfast, thus making the people comprehend them. . . . the enlightened [ruler] uses his men's strength but does not listen to their words, rewards them for their meritorious services but always eliminates the useless."

- Han Fei (280-233 BCE)

Qin Dynasty





Left: The Great Wall of China between Inner Mongolia and Shanxi province in 2006 Right: A 209 BCE bronze plaque with official order from the Qin dynasty

Fall of Qin





Central Historical Question

What caused the fall of the Qin dynasty?