

# MAJOR HISTORICAL EVENTS GROUPED BY EDUCATIONAL CONTENT AREA

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## 1. ANCIENT HISTORY (Prehistory – c. 500 CE)

### Civilizations & Empires

- Mesopotamia: Sumer, Akkad, Babylon; Code of Hammurabi
- Ancient Egypt: Old, Middle & New Kingdoms; Pyramids of Giza
- Indus Valley Civilization
- Ancient China: Shang, Zhou, Qin, Han Dynasties
- Ancient Greece: Minoans, Mycenaeans, Classical Athens
- Ancient Rome: Republic and Empire
- Persia: Achaemenid Empire
- Phoenicians & early Mediterranean trade
- Rise of Judaism and early monotheism

### Major Events

- Neolithic Revolution
  - Trojan War (legendary/historical mix)
  - Persian Wars
  - Peloponnesian War
  - Conquests of Alexander the Great
  - Punic Wars (Rome vs. Carthage)
  - Collapse of Western Roman Empire (476 CE)
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## 2. WORLD HISTORY (Broad, Multi-Regional)

### Global Processes

- Agricultural Revolution

- Classical trade networks (Silk Road, Indian Ocean, Trans-Saharan)
- Spread of world religions: Buddhism, Christianity, Islam
- Mongol Empire and Afro-Eurasian integration
- Age of Exploration (Columbus, da Gama, Zheng He)
- Columbian Exchange
- Industrial Revolution
- Imperialism & Colonization
- Decolonization after WWII
- Cold War & global alignments
- Globalization (late 20th century–present)

### **Major Conflicts**

- Crusades
  - World War I
  - World War II
  - Cold War conflicts (Korea, Vietnam, Afghanistan)
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## **3. EUROPEAN HISTORY**

### **Early & Medieval Europe**

- Fall of Rome
- Byzantine Empire
- Viking Age
- Feudalism
- Black Death
- 100 Years' War

### **Early Modern Europe**

- Renaissance
- Protestant Reformation
- Scientific Revolution
- Enlightenment
- Age of Absolutism (Louis XIV, Peter the Great)

### **Modern Europe**

- French Revolution & Napoleon
- Industrial Revolution (British origins)
- Nationalism & unifications of Germany and Italy
- Imperialism and scramble for Africa (European-driven)

- World Wars I & II (European theaters)
  - Holocaust
  - Fall of Berlin Wall & end of Communism in Eastern Europe
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## 4. U.S. HISTORY

### Colonial to Early Republic

- Indigenous societies before European contact
- Columbian Exchange effects in North America
- British, French, and Spanish colonization
- American Revolution
- Constitution & early republic

### 19th Century

- Westward expansion & Manifest Destiny
- Industrialization & immigration
- Slavery and the Abolitionist Movement
- Civil War & Reconstruction

### 20th Century

- Progressive Era
- World Wars I & II (U.S. involvement)
- Great Depression & New Deal
- Cold War (containment, Korean War, Vietnam War)
- Civil Rights Movement

### 21st Century

- 9/11 and the War on Terror
  - Great Recession (2008)
  - COVID-19 pandemic
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## 5. AFRICAN HISTORY

### Ancient & Classical Africa

- Ancient Egypt & Nubia

- Carthaginian Empire
- Kingdoms of Kush, Axum
- West African empires: Ghana, Mali, Songhai

### **Medieval & Early Modern**

- Spread of Islam in North & West Africa
- Trans-Saharan trade networks
- Great Zimbabwe
- Swahili Coast city-states
- Atlantic Slave Trade

### **Modern Africa**

- Scramble for Africa (European colonization)
- Independence movements (1950s–1970s)
- Apartheid and its end (South Africa)
- Post-colonial conflicts and nation-building

## **6. ASIAN HISTORY (East, South, Southeast Asia)**

### **East Asia**

- Dynastic cycles in China (Shang–Qing)
- Confucianism, Daoism, Buddhism
- Mongol rule (Yuan Dynasty)
- Ming and Qing China
- Meiji Restoration (Japan)

### **South Asia**

- Indus Valley Civilization
- Maurya and Gupta Empires
- Mughal Empire
- British Raj
- Indian Independence & Partition (1947)

### **Southeast Asia**

- Khmer Empire & Angkor
- Spread of Islam to Indonesia & Malaysia

- Vietnam Wars (French Indochina & U.S. involvement)
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## **7. MIDDLE EASTERN HISTORY**

### **Ancient**

- Sumer, Akkad, Babylon, Assyria
- Persia (Achaemenid, Sassanid)
- Phoenicians and early trade

### **Islamic Golden Age**

- Rise of Islam (7th century)
- Umayyad and Abbasid Caliphates
- Scientific, medical, and mathematical advances

### **Modern Middle East**

- Ottoman Empire (1299–1922)
  - Mandates after WWI (British & French)
  - Arab-Israeli conflicts
  - Iranian Revolution (1979)
  - Gulf Wars
  - Arab Spring (2011)
  - Syrian Civil War
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## **8. LATIN AMERICAN HISTORY**

### **Pre-Columbian**

- Maya, Aztec, Inca civilizations

### **Colonial**

- Spanish & Portuguese conquest
- Encomienda system
- Catholic missions & syncretism

### **Independence & 19th Century**

- Revolutions led by Bolívar, San Martín, Hidalgo
- Creation of new republics

### **Modern**

- Mexican Revolution (1910–1920)
  - Cuban Revolution (1959)
  - U.S.–Latin America relations (Monroe Doctrine → Cold War interventions)
  - Contemporary political movements
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## **9. CONTEMPORARY GLOBAL STUDIES (1990–Present)**

- End of Cold War (1991)
- Rise of digital technology and the internet
- 9/11 and global terrorism
- Climate change & environmental movements
- Arab Spring (2011)
- COVID-19 pandemic
- Russia–Ukraine War (2022–present)
- AI, automation, and global economic shifts