

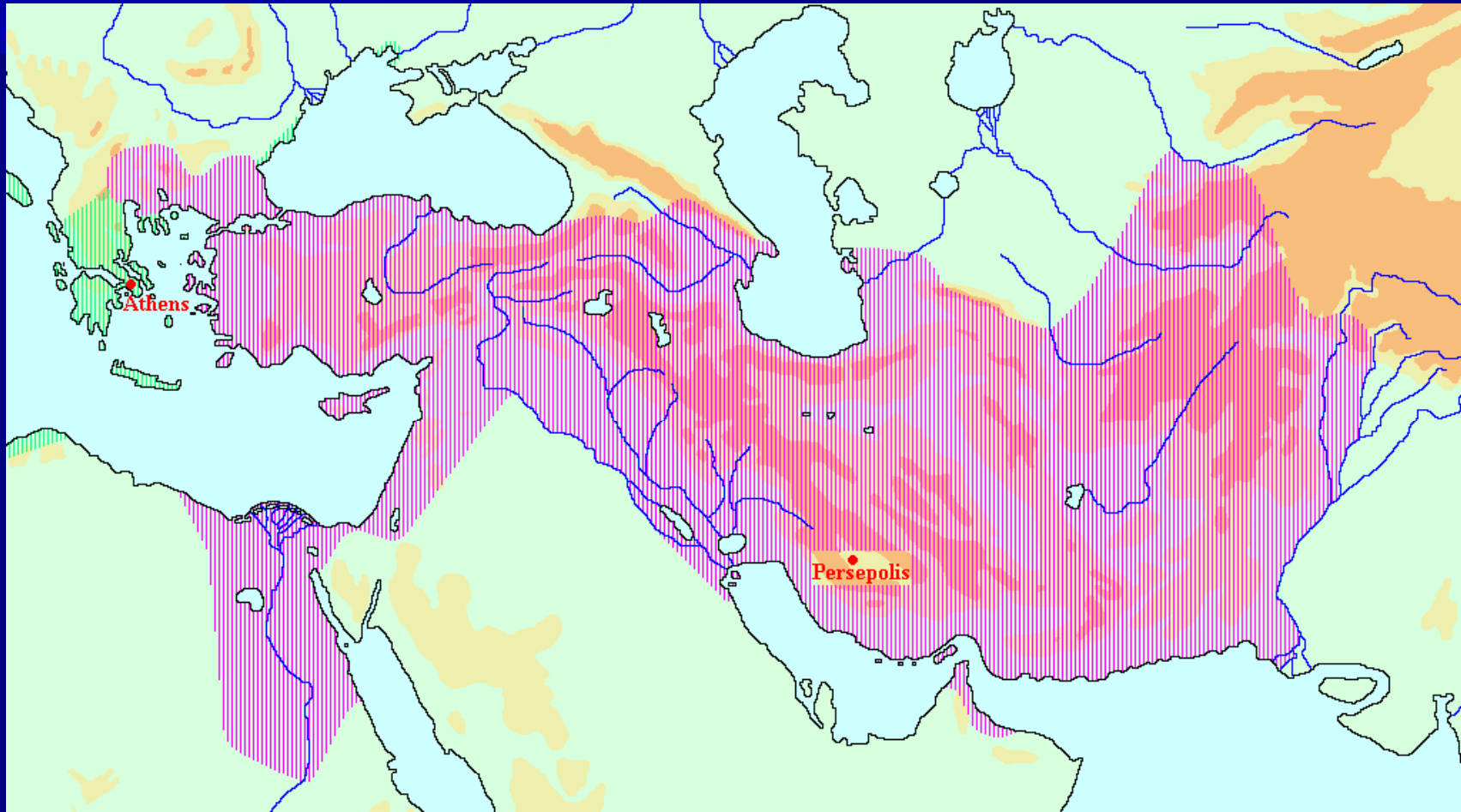
Week 4/5 – 1 February 2011

- Trip to Mpls Institute of Arts—logistics
- Empires around and along the Silk Road from the Iron Age to Middle Ages
- Who's who?
- Historical vs. archaeological sources

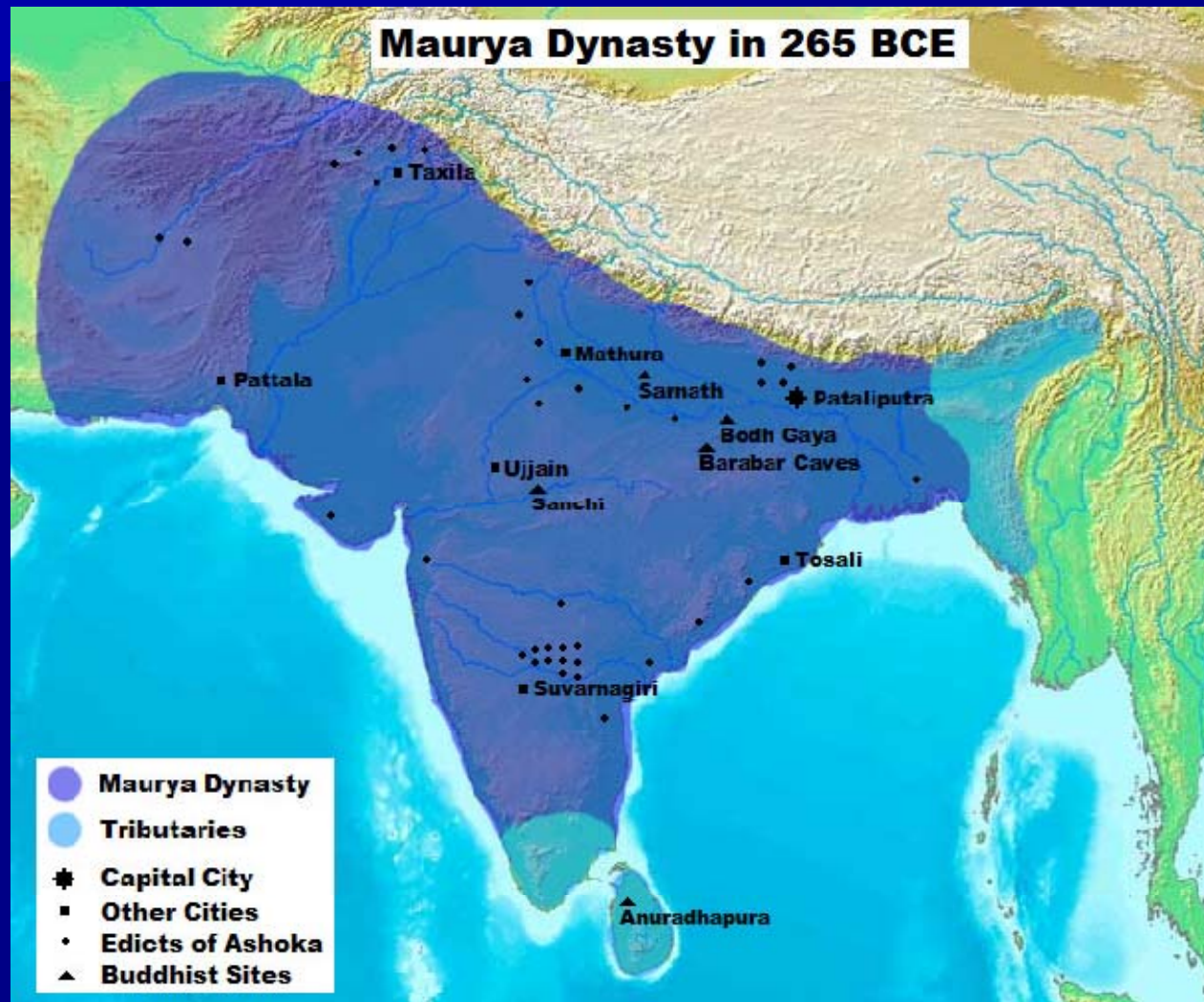
Greek colonization from 800 BC



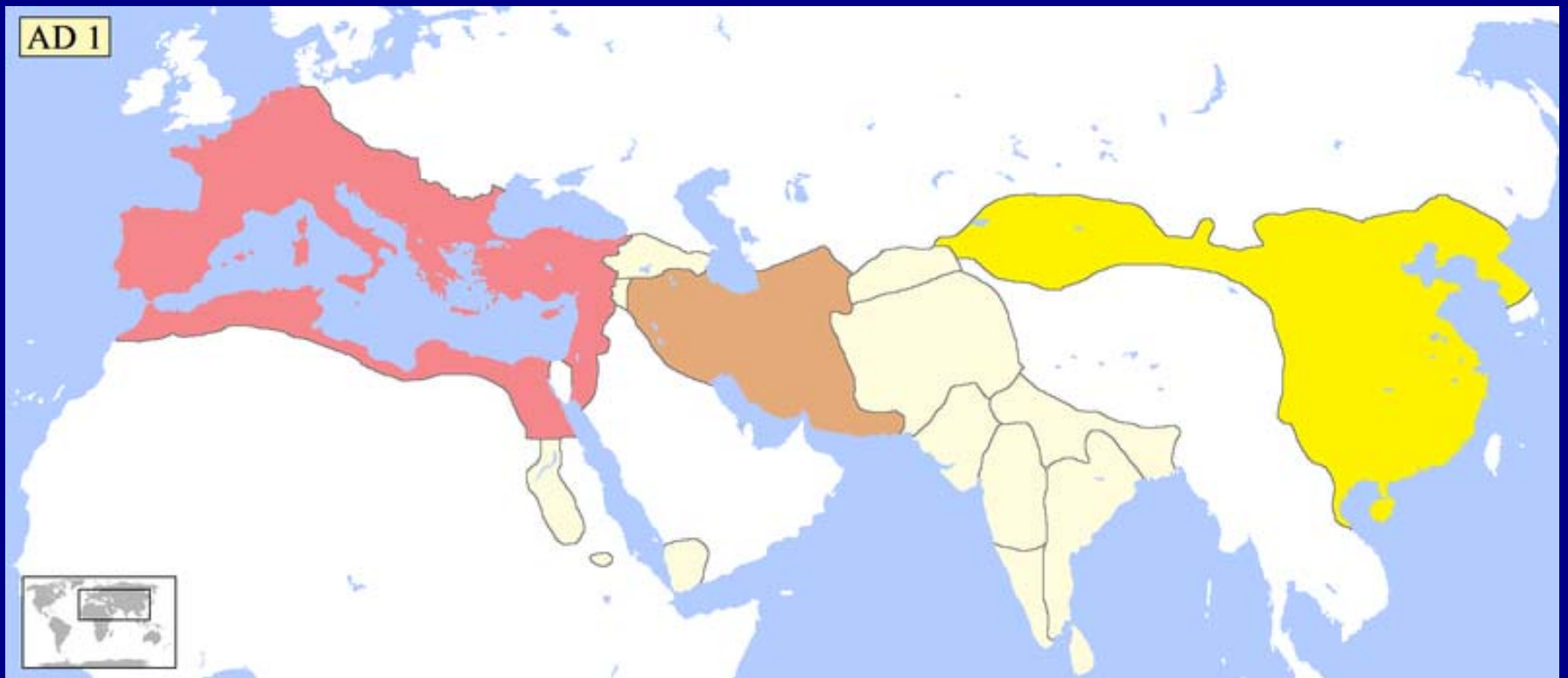
Achaemenid Empire 550-330 BC



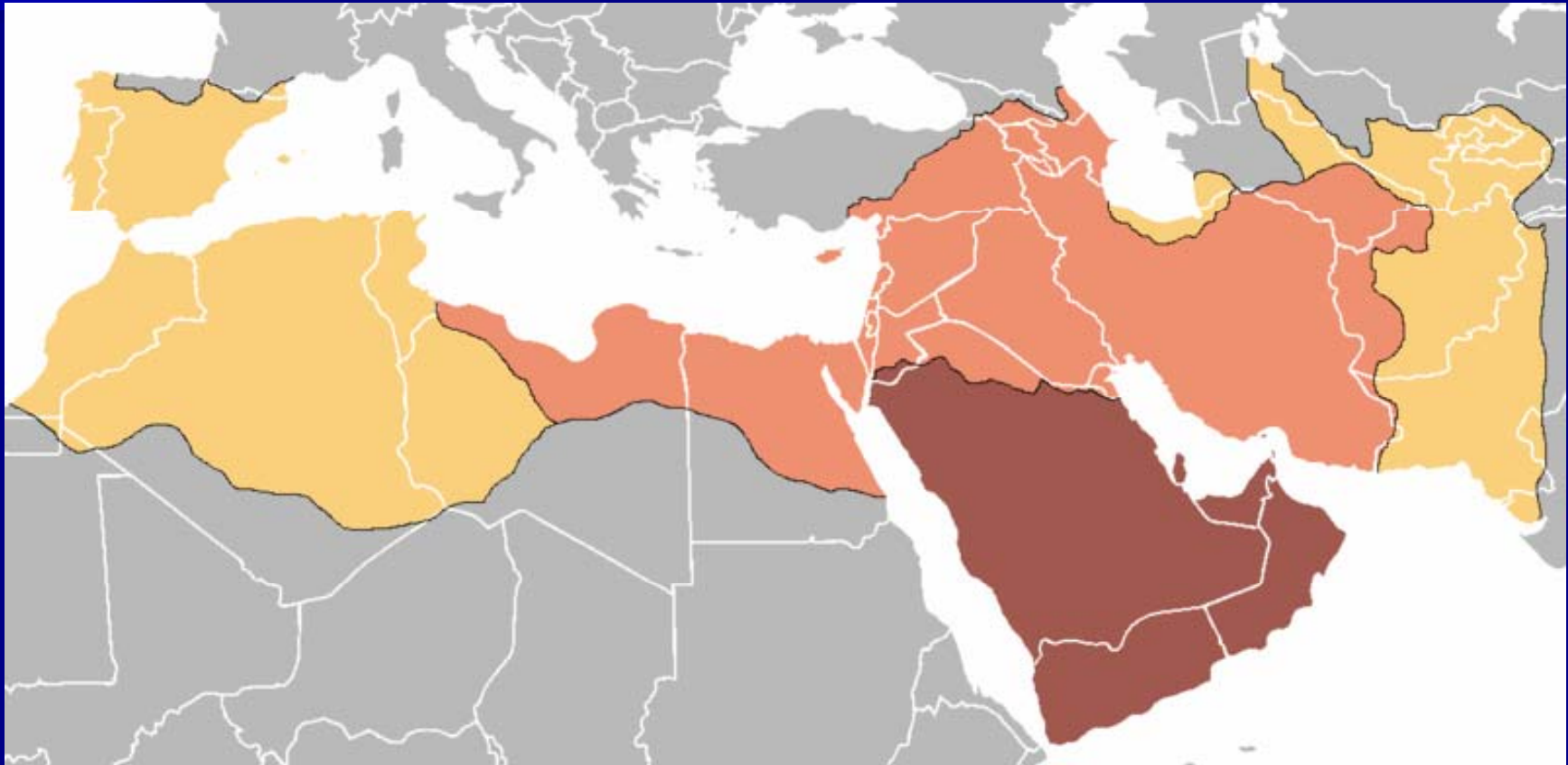
Mauryan Empire 3rd c. BC



Roman, Parthian, Kushan, & Han Empires



Islamic Caliphate 7th-10th c. AD



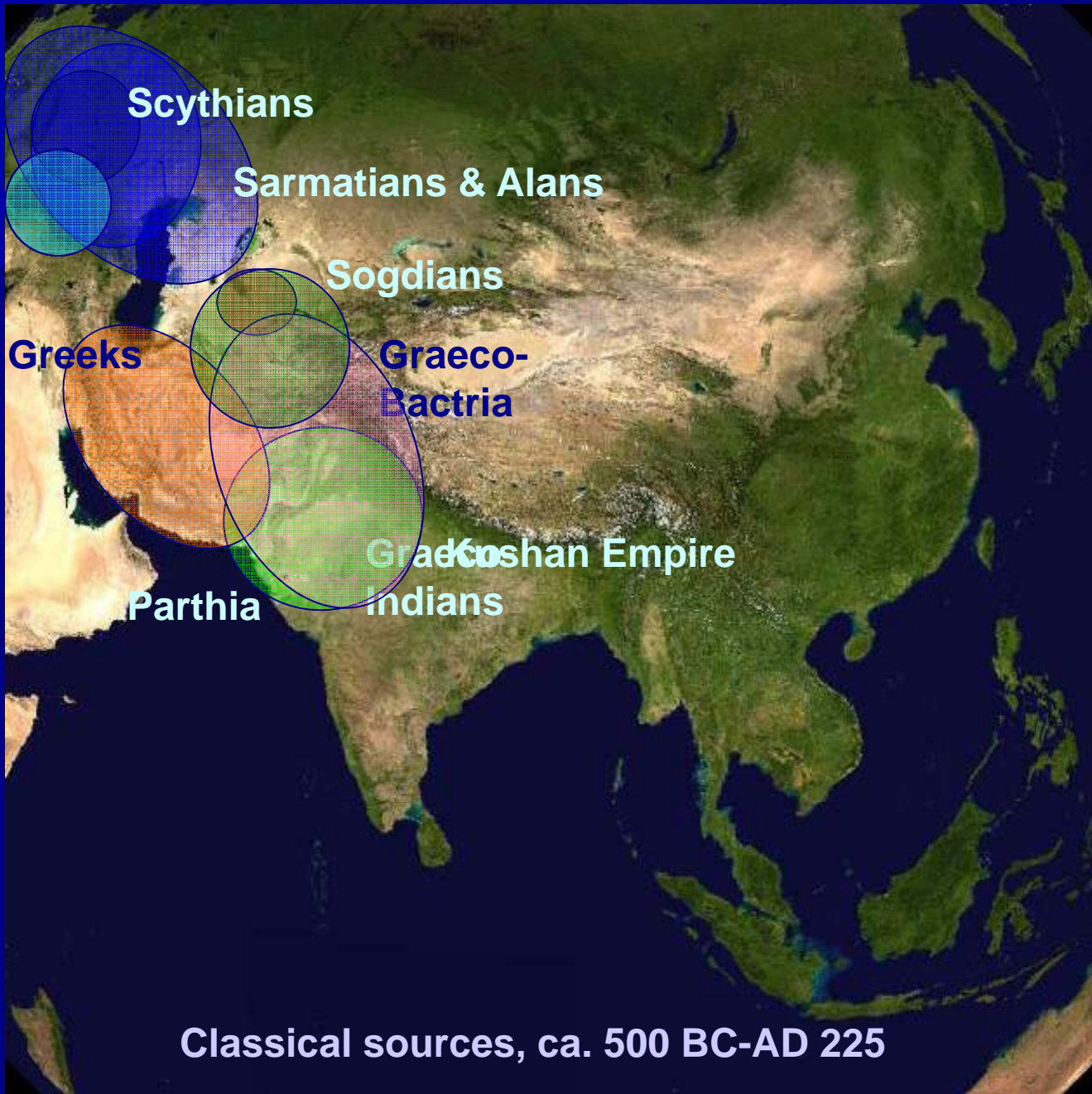
Seljuk Turks 11th c. AD



Empire of Genghis Khan 13th c. AD

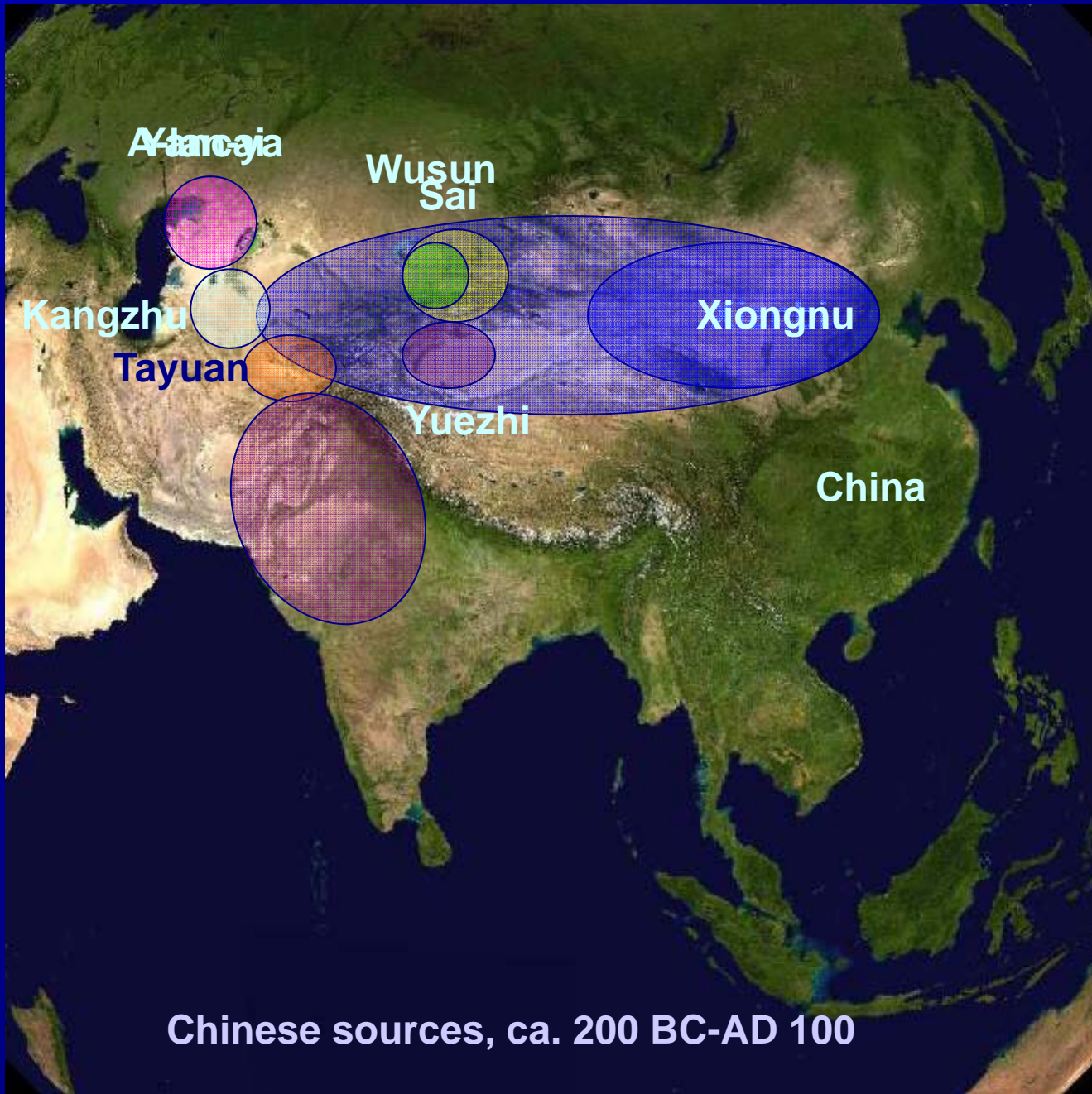


But what about everybody else???



Classical sources, ca. 500 BC-AD 225





Chinese sources, ca. 200 BC-AD 100

Historical accounts say...

- Nomadic pastoralists (cattle)
- Importance of horses
- High status of women, low status of elderly
- Patriarchal clan organization
- Fair haired w/ light eyes
- Hierarchical societies



Archaeological evidence suggests...

- Mixed subsistence economy
- Importance of horses
- Multiethnic, syncretic
- Hierarchically organized
- High status for women, elderly



Confederations

- Yuezhi, Xiongnu (shan-yu)
- Based on kinship, fealty
- Fluid power structure
- “You may conquer the kingdom on horseback, but you cannot rule it so”

