Tang civilization and the Chinese centuries

Recently, a few nations have been nicknamed superpowers because the countries’
governments, militaries, and economic powers affect not just the lives of people who live in
the superpower, but many people in other parts of the world. Often, artists, authors, and
performers in superpowers also touch the lives of many people throughout the world.
Today, the U.S. is a superpower, and China is considered a rising superpower after over 150
years of national problems. Even though the nickname is new, powerful empires early in
world history could have been named superpowers. China was the world’s leading
superpower well over 1,000 years ago. Although there were periods of time where civil
war weakened China, from approximately 600 to 1500 CE, China was the largest, strongest,
and most populated country in Europe or Asia. China’s success during the Tang dynasty
(618–907) was particularly impressive. In fact, the Tang is regarded by many history
experts as the most famous time in China’s long history. The years of the Tang dynasty
contained China’s greatest successes and helped create a pattern that China would continue
throughout the Song and Ming dynasties, and into early modern times. During the Tang
period, several cultures, especially Korea and Japan, learned from the more advanced Tang
dynasty. During Tang rule, China had its greatest influence on eastern Asia and carried out
active trade with cultures of Europe and Asia. For more than 100 years, the Tang Empire
stretched deep into Central Asia, and many parts of Chinese culture spread to Korea and
Japan. Buddhism grew, linking China to an increasing religious community. Tang China was
open and welcoming to people and ideas from many cultures.