

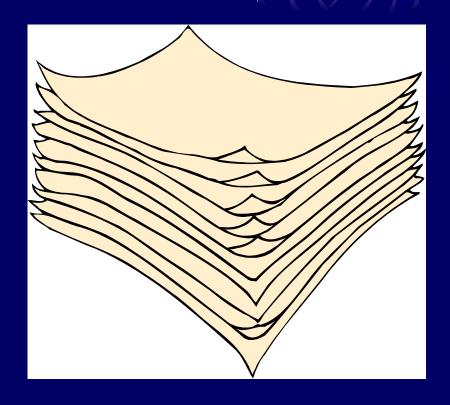
Through the Ages

Group: Paper Pushers
Graphic Arts

Splendora High School

Introduction of Paper

- Which invention had the greatest social, political, and economical impact?
- We make the case for PAPER.





Prior inventions: Egyptian papyrus 4000 B.C, ancient Greek parchment by 100 B.C.

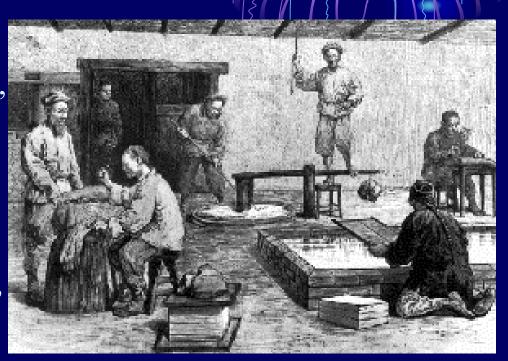
Paper invented in China

Ts'ai Lun, official in Chinese royal court, A.D. 105



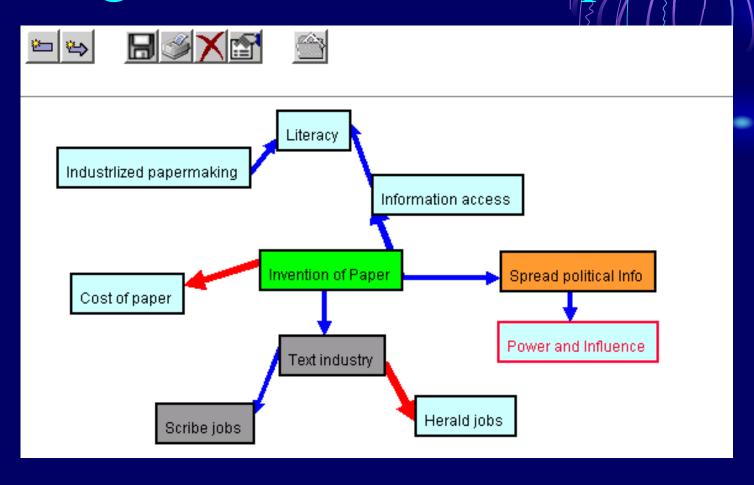
Chinese Paper

- Early Chinese paper made from rags, old fishing nets, hemp, china grass
- Improved with mulberry bark, hemp, and rags mixed with water, mashed to pulp, liquid pressed out, hung to dry in sun



Institute of Paper Science and Technology www.ipst.edu/amp/img/chinapm3.gif*

The Influence of Paper on Things: Our Causal Map



Social Impact

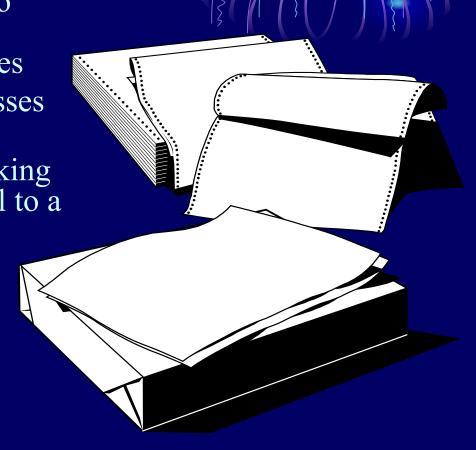
• Low cost, leads to increased availability

• Increased availability leads to greater literacy, stimulates growth of schools, universities

Writing available to new classes in society

• Fundamental process of thinking changes, change from an oral to a literate culture

• Thinking 'captured,' made portable



Economic Impact

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- Paper: more scribes, fewer heralds!
- Writing/reading still elite until moveable type and mechanized paper manufacturing
- With both, jobs produced
- Wood pulp process perfected, papermaking drops in price:
- 1864 28 cents/pound
- 1897 2 cents/pound



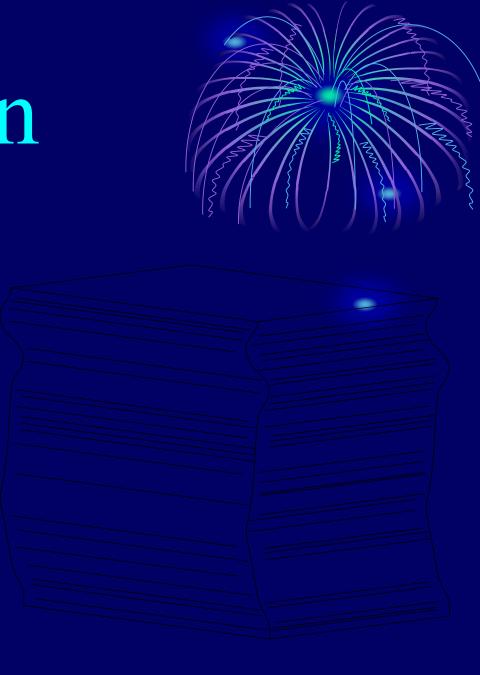
Political Impact

- Control of ideas: laws to keep "rags" from leaving country
- Newspapers spread political information, serve as "bully pulpit"
- Laws at turn of 20th century spur paper industry: tax credits granted for resource development, industries granted favorable freight rates

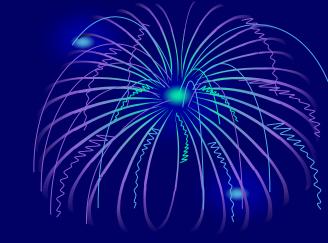


Conclusion

Paper had the greatest impact on political, economical, and social change, as it allowed all printing-related activity to develop. Without inexpensive, easy to produce paper, words could not have wide distribution.



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