

EXHIBIT 8.1. Ancient China Data Set

Categories: Inventions, Archeological Sites, Philosophers

- 1.** Chinese scientists invented gunpowder in the eighth century and began using it in weapons.
- 2.** The Great Wall of China is four thousand miles long and protected the Chinese border.
- 3.** Nearly 2,000 years ago, the Chinese invented paper by combining tree bark, rope, old rags, and fish nets.
- 4.** Confucius was a philosopher who believed that there should be strict rules in society and that people should follow those rules.
- 5.** It took one million workers to build hundreds of buildings in the Forbidden City. It was the center of government, and construction on it started over five hundred years ago.
- 6.** The Chinese invented the abacus, which was an ancient calculator. It is still used in some places.
- 7.** Even though Buddhism started in India, it became very popular in China. It was started by an Indian prince named Siddhartha Gautama Buddha.
- 8.** Even though many Chinese eat using chopsticks, they also invented the fork over four thousand years ago.
- 9.** The remains of Peking Man (sometimes called Beijing Man), a creature that lived 750,000 years ago, before humans, have been found in China.
- 10.** Thousands of large clay soldiers made over 2,000 years ago were found in 1974.
- 11.** Lao Tsu was a philosopher who believed that the government should not make a lot of rules. He also believed that everything had a dark side and a light side, which he called yin and yang. His philosophy was called Taoism.
- 12.** The Chinese invented the compass thousands of years ago to show in what direction they were traveling.