

# Shang People

## Craftsmen and Merchants

The craftsmen lived outside the city walls in mud huts. It was their job to produce products for the king, the warriors and for trade.

They lived a simple life, passing on their skills to each new generation that was born. Bronze workers were particularly sought after and they are the people responsible for creating the intricate bronze sculptures which survived in Shang tombs to this day. Other craftsmen worked with jade, pottery, wood, stone or bone.



The merchants also lived outside the city in mud huts. They travelled the land trading goods with people from other lands.



Cowrie shells were also used by the merchants as a form of currency. The shells were considered to be very valuable because they came from far away and were difficult to obtain. Craftsmen and merchants were paid with simple foods like grains and vegetables.

