

The Mongol Empire

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Nomads in Turkestan

Nomadic Empire

- Nomads are arguably quintessential wanderers, organised in family assemblies with a relatively undifferentiated economic life and rudimentary systems of political organisation.
- The term 'empire' carries sense of a material location, a stability derived from complex social and economic structures and the governance of an extensive territorial dominion through an elaborate administrative system.

Conttd....

- The Mongols of Central Asia who established a transcontinental empire under the leadership of Genghis Khan, straddling Europe and Asia during the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries. Relative to the agrarian based imperial formations in China, the neighbouring nomads of Mongolia may have inhabited a humbler, less complex, social and economic world. But the Central Asian nomadic societies were not insulated 'islands' that were impervious to historical change. These societies interacted, had an impact on and learnt from the larger world of which they were very much a part.

Nomadism

Nomadism is a way of life forced by a scarcity of resources.

Nomadic groups have by far the lowest rates of population density.

To find pastures and water for their livestock, they are continually on the move. In the course of their migrations they frequently come into contact with other nomadic groups seeking the same resources, and the outcome of these encounters is commonly warfare, alliance, or both.

Historians believe that such a period of environmental stress (unusually dry lands) afflicted northern Eurasia around 1000 C.E. and contributed to the dislocations and conflicts out of which the Mongols eventually emerged.

The Rise of the Mongols

1200-1260

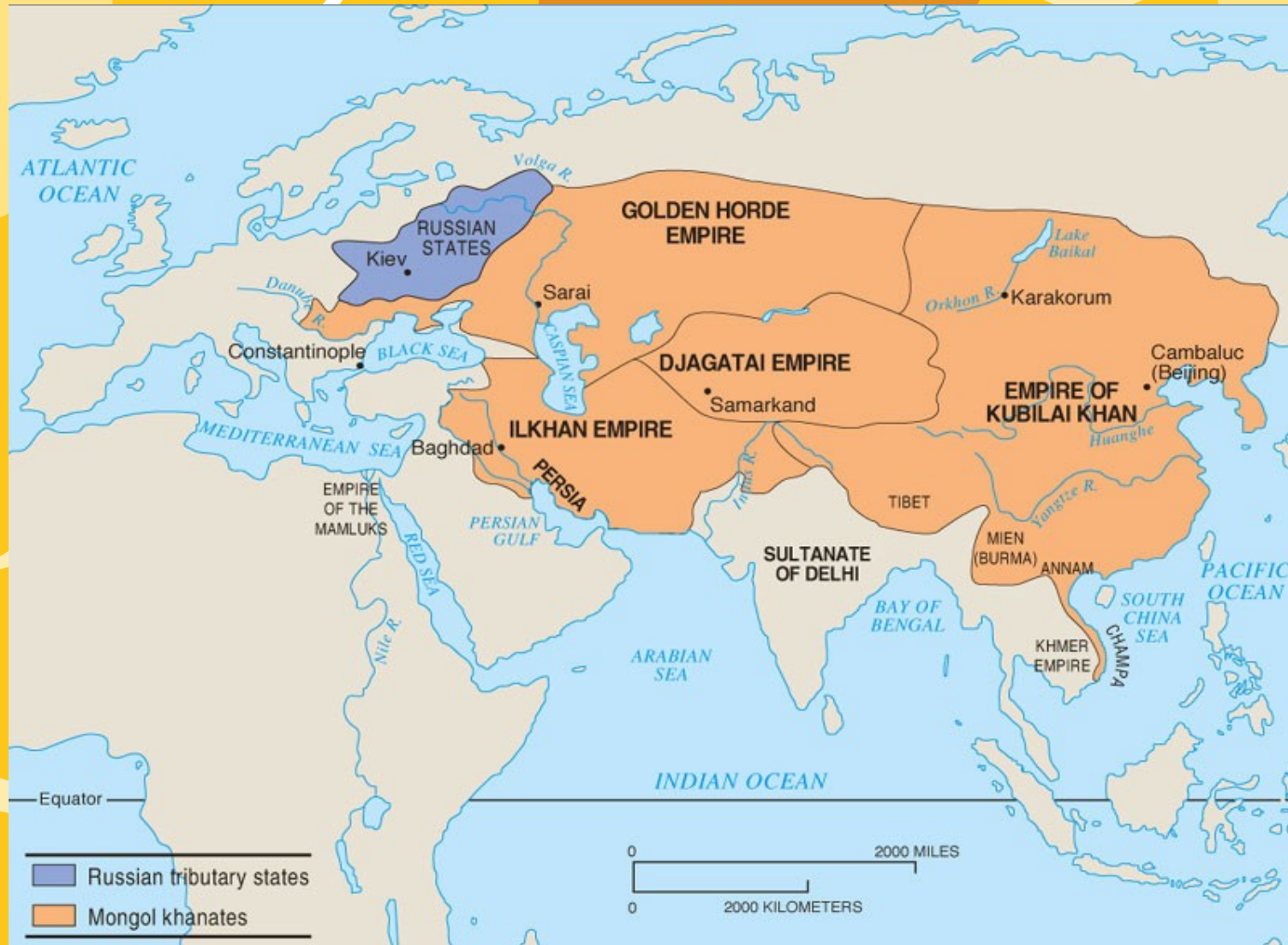
- ✓ *Large Federations of nomads who dominated the **Steppes**.*
- ✓ *The environment, economic life, cultural institutions and political traditions contributed to the large and quick expansion of their empire.*

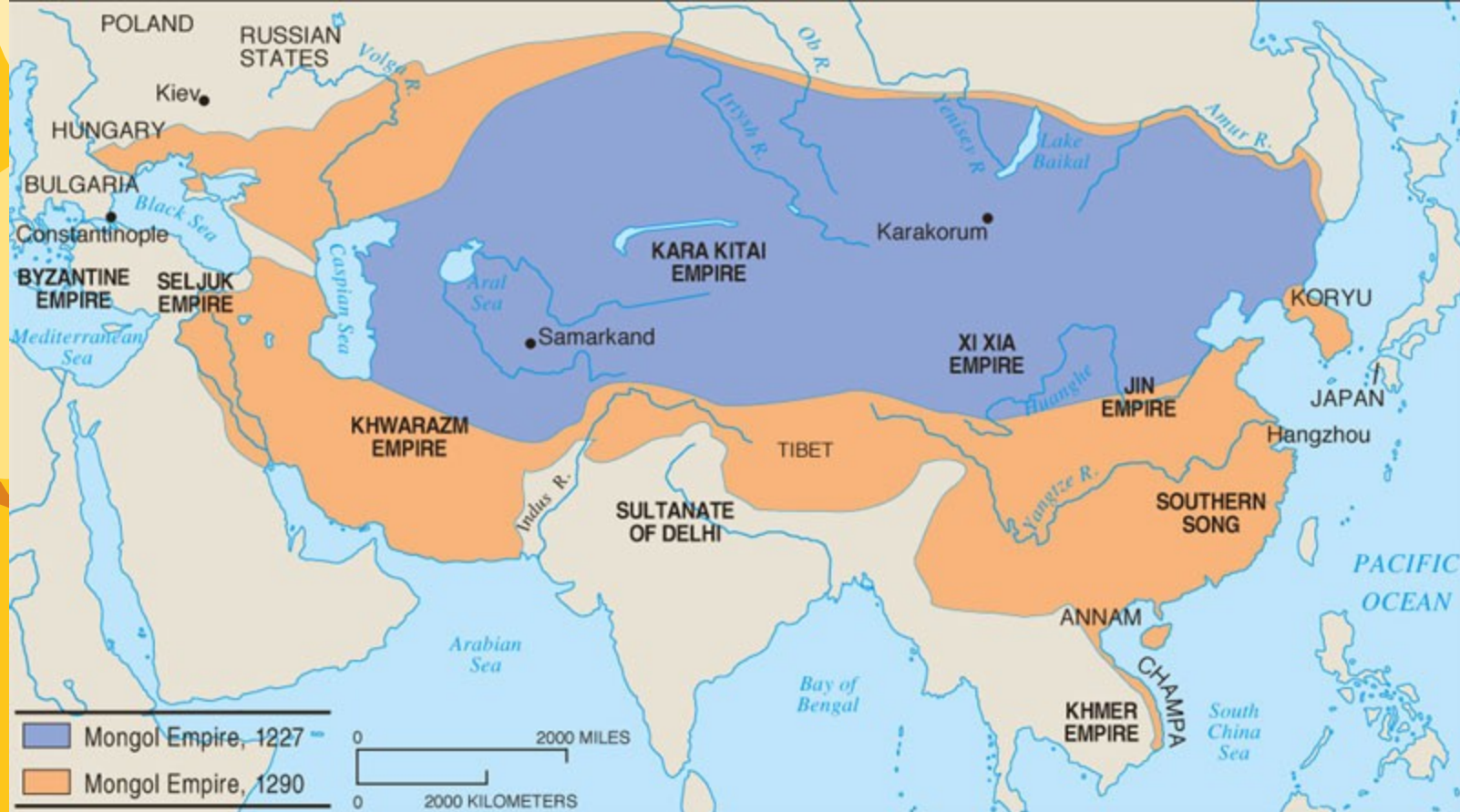


Origins

- Nomadic people of Central Asia steppes (plains)
- Scarce water/resources: constantly fighting tribes. Tribute system existed among Mongols
- Came in contact with many religions: Manicheanism, Judaism, Christianity, Buddhism, and Islam.
- Khan (leader) represented “Sky god”, transcended all cultures and religions.

Mongol Empire (1200-1300s)





Areas conquered:

- Xia (NW China)
- Jin Empire (N. China)
- Southern Song (China)
- Korea
- Tibet

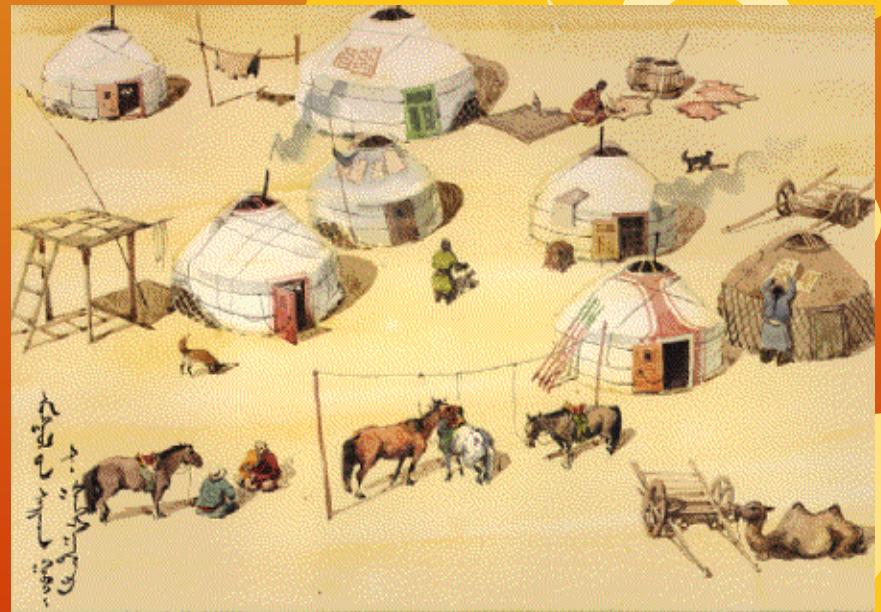
- Champa (SE Asia)
- Khwarazm (in Persia)
- Parts of Seljuk Empire (Turks)
- Kievan Russia

The Social Aspects of the Mongols

Nomadism is a way of life forced by the scarcity of resources and by the low population density.

They often came in contact with other groups seeking the same resources and the outcome of these encounters is commonly warfare, trade or both .

- ✓ *Every man was a fulltime herdsman, hunter, and warrior.*
- ✓ *Both men and women were superb riders and were adept to shooting arrows from a galloping horses.*

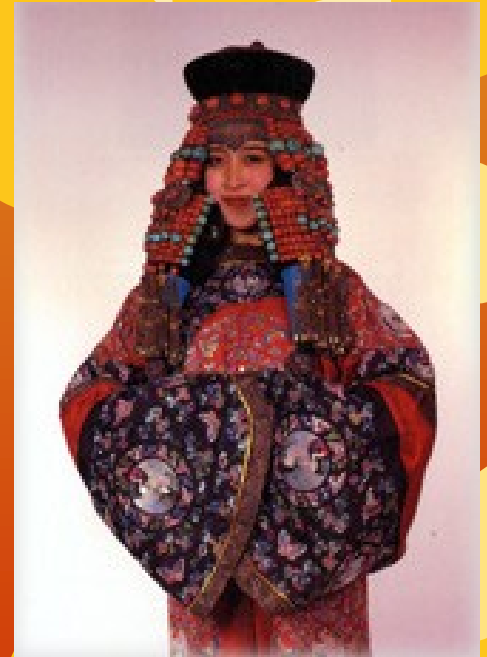


The Social Aspects of the Mongols

Nomadic diet: meats and milk. They would eat any manner of animal: horses, camels and even dogs, provided they were fat.

Male and female POW's became slaves and were forced to do menial work in nomadic camps.

- ✓ *Women were considered as equals.*
- ✓ *Women took responsibility managing the needs of the camp, breeding and birthing of livestock.*
- ✓ *According to Marco Polo, when a father dies, his sons may wed all of the deceased man's wives with the exception of their mother. They also cannot marry their mother's sisters.*



(Buliet 329)

The Political Aspects of the Mongols

- ✓ *Military Leaders imposed strict discipline and demanded absolute loyalty.*
- ✓ *Mongols were rough, skilled warriors who spent most of their time in the saddle.*
- ✓ *Mongol women were also great riders and fighters, and some commanded their own military forces.*

(Ellis 317)

All men in the Mongol Empire over the age of twenty except physicians, priests or those that washed dead bodies were eligible for military service.



The Political Aspects of the Mongols

The Mongols practiced a strategy of intimidation and terror. They would occupy a city, separate the families, scatter the inhabitants and take many into their service as slaves. This served as a terror weapon against the next town.

(Grady 48)

- ✓ *According to Marco Polo their weapons were bows, iron maces and spears. The Mongol bows could shoot significantly farther than the middle eastern bows because of the composite structure of the bow and a jade thumb ring that allowed the archers hand to withstand the tension of the drawn bowstring.*



The Political Aspects of the Mongols

- ✓ *The Mongols were able to adapt very easily to the type of battle that was being fought, their horses responded to signals given with the knees, they could instantly turn in any direction. In battle they used a system of flags to distribute orders. At night they used flaming arrows.*
- ✓ *Mongols used foreign bureaucrats (especially Persians) to run the government.*
- ✓ *Decision making was made in public and after debate. The political structure was designed to accommodate the conflicting centralized and decentralized forces of traditional nomadic life*
- ✓ *Children were often used as pawns of diplomacy: their marriages were arranged during childhood.*

(Buliet 331)



Genghis Khan: Greatest Leader of the Mongols



- ✓ Genghis Khan was born Temujin, meaning blacksmith in 1161 near the Onan river in the north of Mongolia.
- ✓ His father Yesugei, the chieftain of the Kiyat was poisoned by a rival clan.
- ✓ At age 15 Temujin was enslaved. For the rest of his life he never forgot the humiliation of being locked in a wooden collar and paraded before his enemies.
- ✓ He escaped to the mountains and wandered as an outcast among drifting clans gradually gathering followers.
- ✓ As he grew he acquired a reputation for courage and a genius of military tactics.

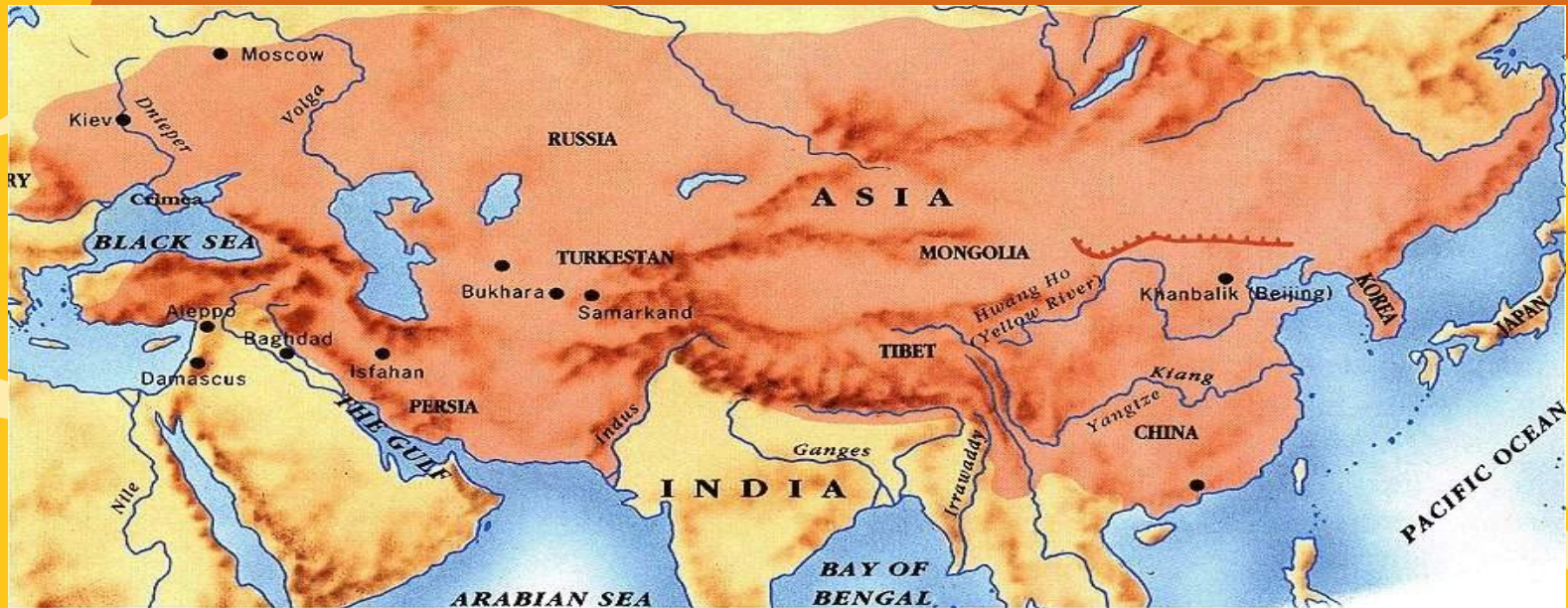
Genghis Khan

Temujin first took revenge on the clan that enslaved him, and by the age of 45 he was elected supreme ruler of the Mongols.

He was known as Genghis Kahn, Great Khan, Oceanic Khan, "Universal Ruler"

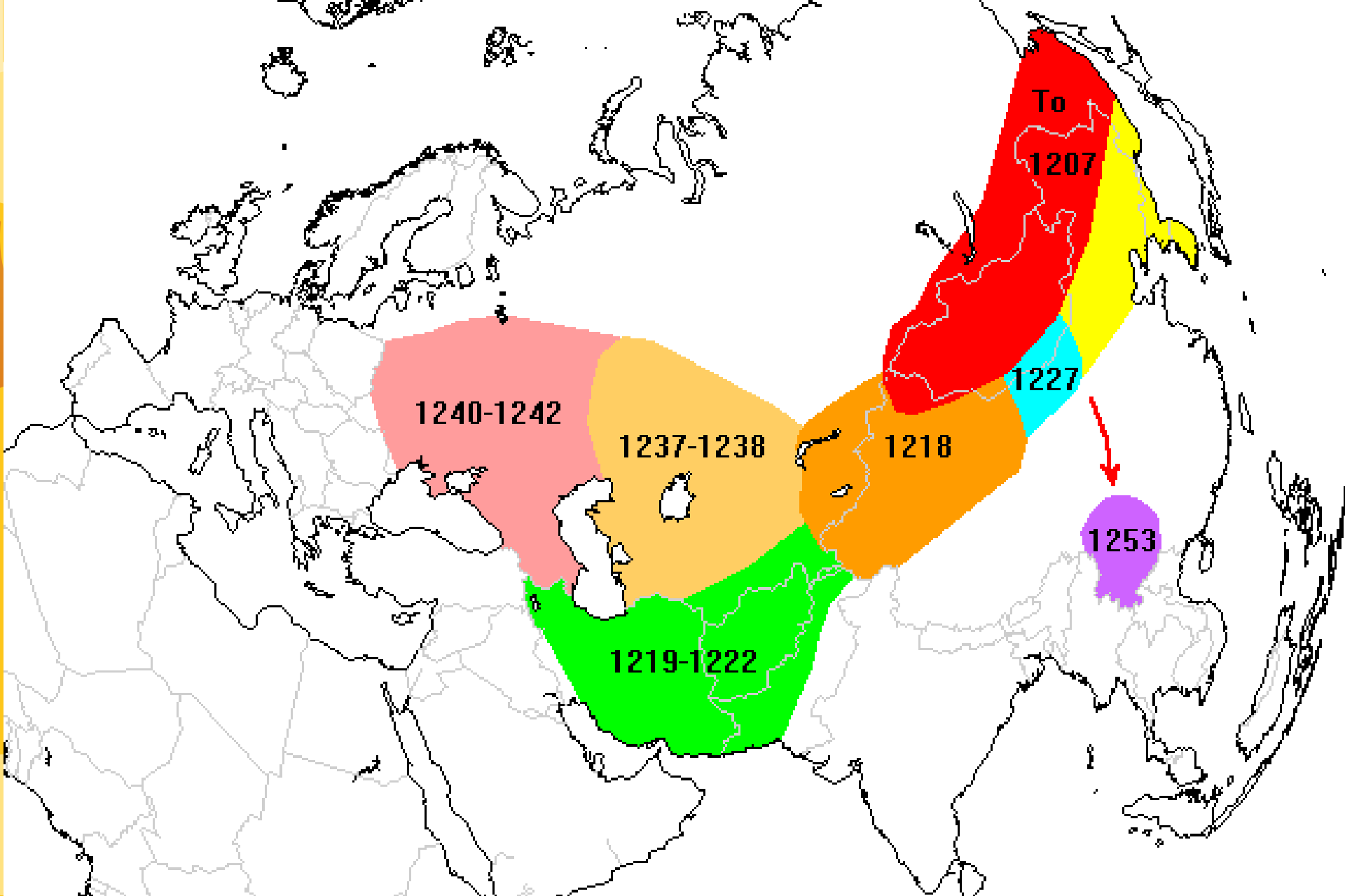
✓ After he died in 1227, his empire was divided amongst his sons.

(Ellis 314-315)

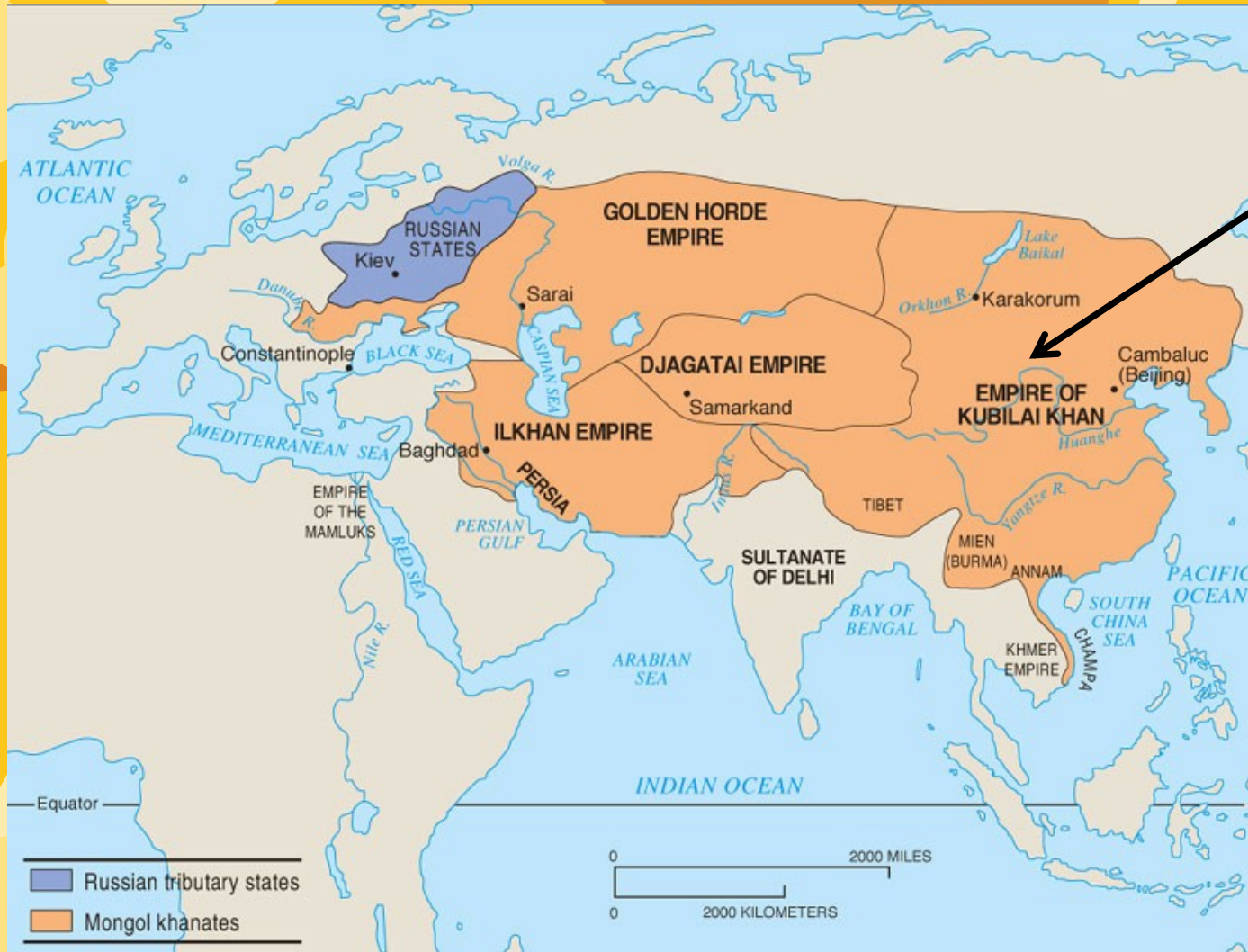


Conquests

1. Under **Genghis Khan** (born Temujin), conquered most of China, Central Asia, and Iran
2. Empire split into 4 regions after Genghis' death (1227): **Great Khanate (China), Golden Horde (Russia), Jagadai (C. Asia), and Il-Khan (Persia/M.E.)** administered by his sons. Great Khan exercised authority over all regions.
3. **Khubilai Khan** (grandson) declares himself Great Khan; led to fighting among Khanates.
4. Khubilai Khan founds **Yuan Empire** (China); forced tribute from Annam and Champa (SE Asia)
5. Conquests stopped in Egypt when Mongols were finally defeated by **Mamluks**



Nomadic Empire



Great Khanate 1st ruled by Genghis Khan. Then grandson Khubilai founds Yuan Empire

Reasons for successful conquest

- ❖ Superior horsemanship, travelled light, better (composite) bows, combination of volley of arrows and fast cavalry charge.
- ❖ Able to travel 100 mi/day. Unheard of during that time.
- ❖ Well-developed system of communication (**Yam**) w/ relay horses. Mail service like Pony Express



- ❖ Ability to adopt new military technology (flaming arrows, hurled huge projectiles w/catapults, gunpowder) and use non-Mongol soldiers in army

Reputation for slaughtering all who did not surrender.



“The greatest joy a man can know is to conquer his enemies and drive them before him. To ride their horses and take away their possessions. To see the faces of those who were dear to them bedewed with tears, and to clasp their wives and daughters in his arms.” – Genghis Khan

Chinggis Khan and the Mongol Empire

- **Chinggis Khan ("universal ruler")**
 - Unified Mongol tribes by alliance, conquests
 - Merged into empire
- **Mongol political organization**
 - Organized new military units
 - Broke up tribal affiliations
 - Chose officials based on talent, loyalty
 - Capital at Karakorum
- **Mongol conquest of northern China**
 - Overran Xi-Xia
 - Jurchen (Qin, Khaitan) in north China in 1211
 - Controlled North China to Yangzte by 1220
 - South China was still ruled by the Song dynasty
 - Towns which resisted were used as examples
 - Later towns simply surrendered
- **Mongol conquest of Persia**
 - Wanted trade and diplomatic relations with Persia
 - Khwarazim ruler murdered envoys
 - Mongol force invaded Khwarazim empire
 - Mongol forces destroyed Persian cities and *qanat*
 - Chinggis died in 1227, laid foundation for a mighty empire
- **Mongol rule was generally tolerant.**
 - Capital of his empire at Karakorum
 - Summoned intellectuals from his conquered kingdoms
 - Offered religious toleration to Confucians, Buddhists, Daoists, and Muslims
 - Administrators drawn from examples in Islamic and Chinese worlds
 - Formulated a legal code intended to end tribal and clan divisions
 - Trade and cultural exchange flourished.
- **Mongol heirs divide into four regional empires**



Mongol War Machine

- **Mongol warriors**
 - Excellent horsemen
 - Accomplished archers
 - Raised in the saddle and able to hunt as children
- **Mongol armies**
 - Entirely cavalry
 - Depended on speed and mobility in assaults
- **Chinggis Khan reorganized the tribal armies**
 - Units called *tumens* containing 10,000 men
 - Each unit command by separate leaders
 - Sun-units called ordas; word “horde” in English
 - Communication by flag, drum
 - Able to cover vast distances in one day
 - Based on the hunting formations of the Mongols
 - Each army divided
 - Into heavy cavalry, light cavalry
 - Lightly armored scouts preceding the main forces
 - Severe discipline
- Spies and informers produced information, maps
- Later Mongol forces used gunpowder, artillery



Mongol War Machine

- Mongol had acquaint knowledge of geography & weather.
- They carried military campaign in winter season & used frozen rivers as highways to enemy camps.
- They devised seize engine & technology of neptha bombardment.
- His engeeniers developed light military portable equipments, which was devastating for enemies.

The Conquered

- Competition for resources reinforced slavery and tribute in Central Asia.
- Many of the men and women captured during warfare or raids became slaves and were forced to do menial work in nomadic camps. Some individuals evidently entered into slavery willingly to avoid starvation.
- Slaves were valuable for their labor and also as currency.
- Weak groups secured land rights and protection from strong groups by providing them with slaves, livestock, weapons, silk, or cash.
- Many powerful groups found that they could live almost entirely off tribute, so they spent less time and fewer resources herding and more on warlike activities.

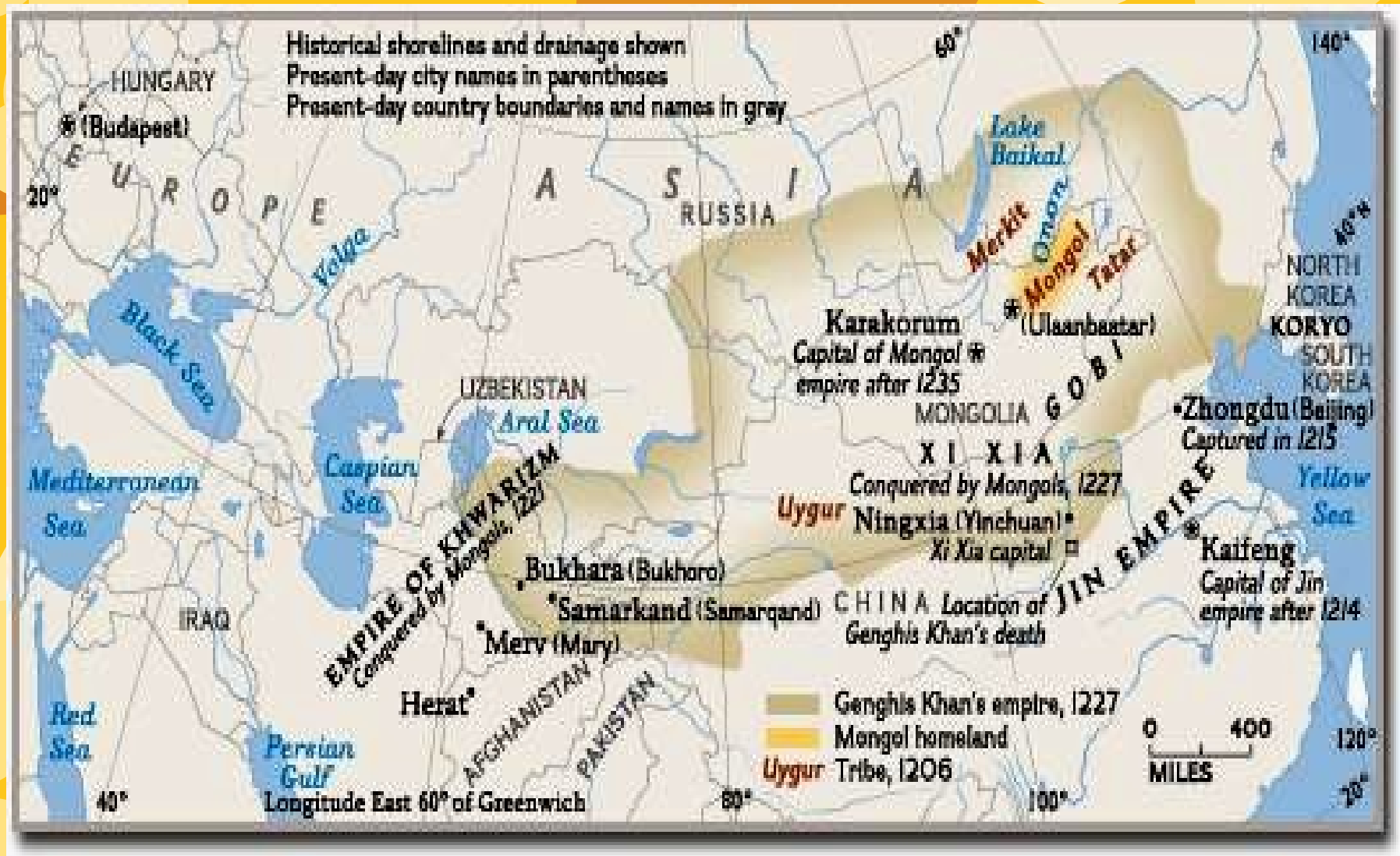
The Master Design of Conquering

- 1206: Genghis "Great Khan" - began to carry out his plan to convince the kingdoms of Eurasia to surrender tribute to him. The next two decades saw the bursting forth of Mongol aggression.
- The earliest sustained action was westward, against Central Asia, the Middle East, and Russia
- Reason for success: Mounted archers were deadly. They would destroy enemy marksmen;
- Adaptability and Inclusiveness: They changed techniques when penetrating fortresses. Volley of flaming arrows, hurling of enormous projectiles-frequently on fire-from catapults (taken from the Chinese and adapted to a better model); captives that were slow to open their gates faced immediate slaughter. Enemies that surrendered quickly were given food and shelter.
- Genghis Khan died in 1227, possibly of the effects of alcoholism. His son and successor, the Great Khan Ogodei, continued the campaigns seeking domination of China

MONGOL ADVANTAGES



THE EMPIRE AT CHINGGIS' DEATH



Mongol Empires after Chinggis Khan

Khubilai Khan rules Yuan Dynasty in China

- **Song Dynasty fell in 1276, Yuan Dynasty founded in 1279**

- **Brought foreign administrators into China**

- **Dismissed Confucian scholars; dismantled civil service examination**

- **Favored merchants, cities, peasants over Chinese elites**

Mongols in S.W. and Central Asia

- **Destroyed many cities, captured Baghdad in 1258**

- **Destroyed agricultural lands, irrigations systems of Iraq, Iran**

- **Lands fell to the Ilkhanate of Persia; Khanate Of Chaghadaï**

- **Persians served as ministers, governors, local officials**

- **Mongols only cared about taxes and order**

- **Ilkhan converted to Islam, 1295; massacres of Christians and Jews**

The Mongol Impact on Europe and the Islamic World

- **Europeans altered military organization**

- **Adopt use of gunpowder**

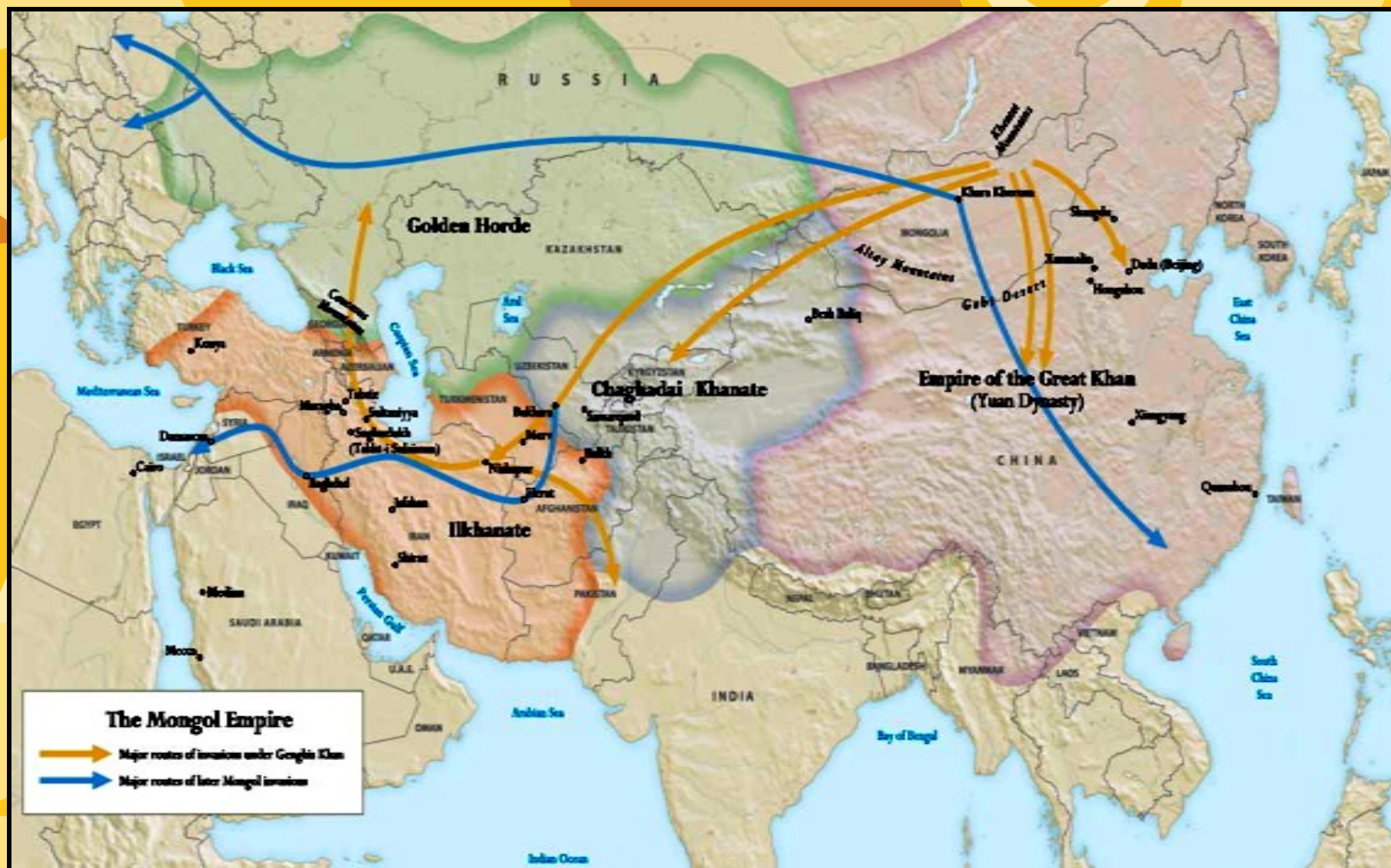
- **Mongol conquests facilitated trade across the steppes**

- **Mongol armies may also have transmitted the plague infection**

Mongols and Europe

- **Russia in Bondage**
 - **under rule of the Khanate of the Golden Horde**
 - **Mongol conquest of Russia reduced the Russian princes to tribute-payers.**
 - **Payments fell heavily on the peasants**
 - **Moscow profited as tribute collector for Mongol overlords.**
 - **In 1380, the princes of Moscow defeated the Mongols at the battle of Kulikova.**
 - **Mongol dominance cut Russia off from western Europe both politically and culturally.**
- **Mongol Incursions and the Retreat from Europe**
 - **First Christian reaction to Mongol invasions was positive.**
 - **They were convinced Mongols were potential allies against the Muslims**
 - **Assault on Russia proved that optimism was a miscalculation**
 - **Successful conquest of Hungary alerted Europe to danger of Mongols**
 - **Mongol hordes withdrew to Asia to resolve the succession crisis**
 - **Lithuanians defeated Mongol return**

FOUR MONGOL EMPIRES



The Four Khanates

- Outstanding Great Khan: Khubilai (r. 1264-1294), conquest of whole China, establ. Yuan dynasty, cultural separation between Mongols and Chinese population
- Golden Horde: 1237-41 subjugation of Russia (tributary relation), expansion stopped 1244 (battle of Liegnitz)
- Ilkhanate: Khan Hülegü, captures Baghdad 1258, 1295: Ilkhan Ghazan converts to Islam, gradual assimilation to Persian culture
- Chagatai: remains focussed on Central Asia
- Methods of rulership: large courier networks, diplomatic relations with neighbours, recruitment of skilled people from defeated enemies, neighbours

The Mongols and Eurasia

Results of Mongols Conquests

- Conquest destroyed all existing political structures in conquered region**
- Empire created the largest zone of continuous rule in history**
- Empire created a period of peace, prosperity in controlled regions**

The Mongols and trade

- Worked to secure trade routes, ensure safety of merchants**
 - Organized protected trade caravans**
 - Formed merchant/trade associations with insurance**
 - Elaborate courier network with relay stations (postal stations)**
 - Universal passes, protection given to merchants**
- United Eastern Europe, SW Asia, S. Asia, E. Asian trade**

Resettlement

- Uighur Turks served as clerks, secretaries, administrators**
- Arab, Persian Muslims served Mongols far from homelands**
- Chinese served as military specialists**
- Koreans served as naval specialists**
- Christian Nestorians served as emissaries, merchants**
- Skilled artisans often sent to Karakorum**

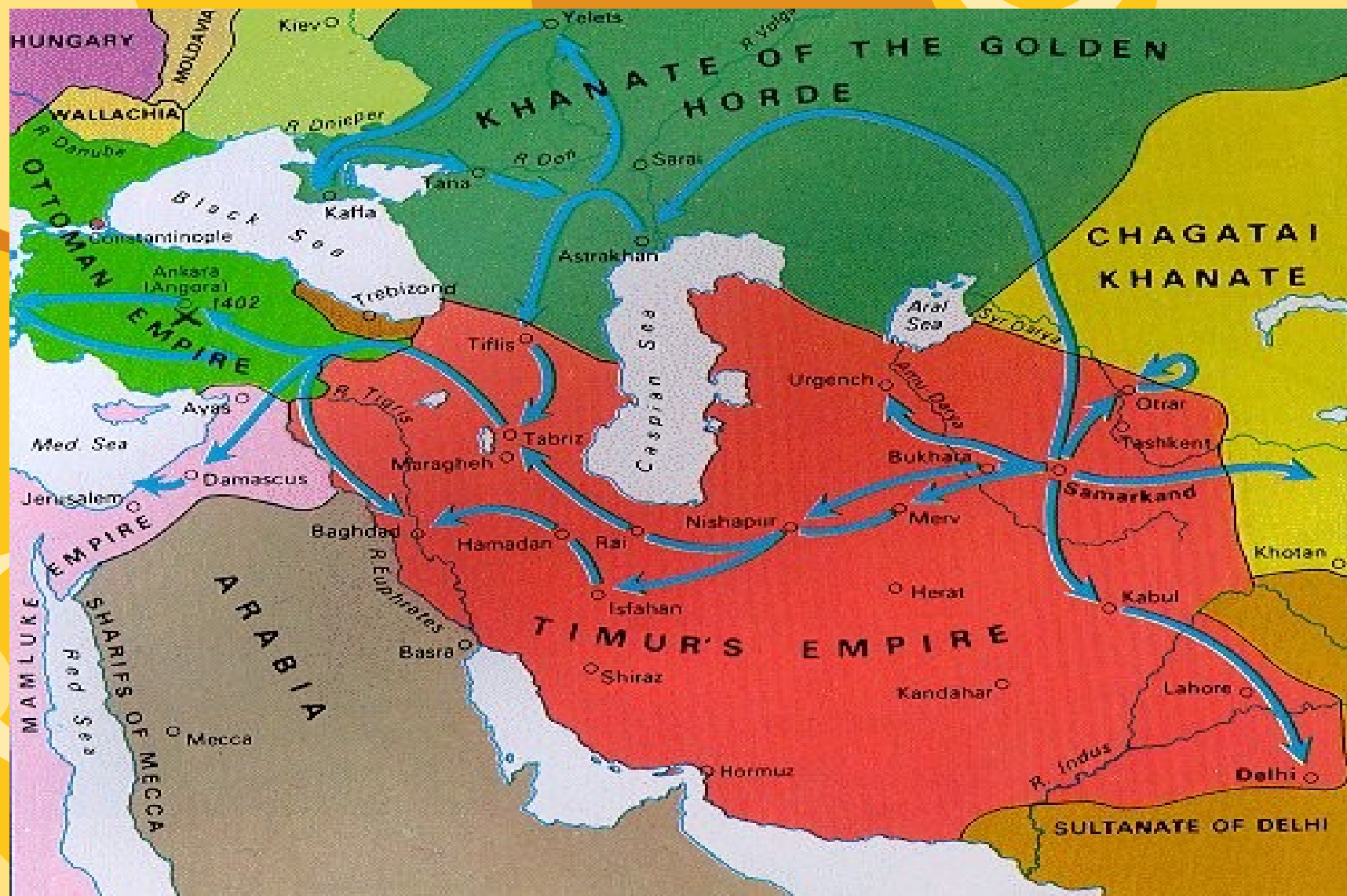
Exchanges During the Mongol Era

From Europe	From Southwest Asia	From South Asia	From East Asia
Honey Horses Glassware Slaves	Textiles Rugs Incense Finished iron products Finished gold products	Spices Gems Perfumes Textiles	Gunpowder Firearms Rockets Magnetic compass Porcelain Silk Maritime Technology Paper Making Printing Tea
Christian missionaries Italian merchants European diplomats	Muslim merchants Nestorian merchants Muslim diplomats	Indian merchants Indian diplomats	Buddhist religious objects Chinese bureaucrats Chinese artists, artisans East Asian diplomats
	Sugarcane		Black Death
Intellectual Exchanges of Ideas, Art, Architecture, Knowledge was constant			

Decline of the Mongols in Persia and China

- **Major Reason for Decline**
 - Any interaction resulted in acculturation
 - Mongol rule resented
 - Settled populations began to use firearms
- **Collapse of the Persian Ilkhanate**
 - Excessive spending, overexploitation reduced revenues
 - Destruction of qanats reduced agriculture productivity
 - Failure of the Ilkhan's paper money
 - Intermarriage of Mongols with local populations
- **Decline of the Yuan dynasty**
 - Paper money issued by the Mongol rulers lost value
 - Power struggles, assassinations, civil war after 1320s
 - Bubonic plague in southwest China in 1330s
 - Spread through Asia and Europe
 - Depopulation, labor shortage undermined Mongols
 - By 1368, Chinese drove the Mongols back to the steppes
- **Surviving Mongol khanates**
 - Golden Horde survived until the mid-sixteenth century

TIMUR'S WORLD



Tamerlane the Whirlwind (1336-1404)

Timur the Lame conqueror

- Self-made; rose from poverty, to power in 1360

- Established capital in Samarkand

Tamerlane's conquests

- Conquered Persia, Afghanistan

- Next attacked the Golden Horde

- End of 14th c., invaded northern India

- Destroyed vast regions

- Laid waste much agricultural land

Governance of Empire

- Relied on existing bureaucrats to collect taxes

- Used terror as weapon

- Not interested in rule, would rather plunder

Collapse of Nomads following his death

- Heirs struggled, divided empire

- Later descendants invaded India

- Grandson established Mughal Empire

- China was last civilization threatened

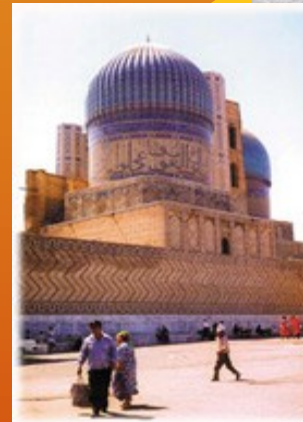
- Chinese converted Mongols to Buddhism as prevention

- Manchus overthrew Ming in 17th century for last nomadic invasion

- Russia conquers Steppe and Central Asia

- Employed steppe nomads (cossacks) to conquer steppe

- In 19th century, Russia conquered Central Asia



Economic Aspects of the Mongols

The women would tend to the Mongol's commercial concerns, buying and selling, and also tended to their households.

They traded with agricultural societies to acquire wood, cotton, silk, veggies and grain.

- ✓ They offered wool, leather and horses in exchange for the above mentioned.
- ✓ Mongols used slaves, livestock, weapons, silk or coins as currency.
- ✓ The Mongols controlled the Silk Road and trade flourished across Eurasia. This brought new ideas and large quantities of goods westwards.

Trade was protected by Mongol control and promoted by Mongol tax policies.

They also collected tribute from some areas..



Passport The Mongol Empire that united Eurasia in the mid-1200s provided good roads and protection for the movement of products, merchants, and diplomats. Individuals traveling from one culture area to another encountered new languages, laws, and customs frequently. The *paise* (from a Chinese word for "card" or "sign"), with its inscription in Mongolian, proclaimed to all that the traveler had received the ruler's permission to travel through the region. Europeans later applied the practice to travel through their small and diverse countries. The *paise* was thus the ancestor of modern passports. (The Metropolitan Museum of Art, purchase bequest of Dorothy Graham Bennett, 1993 [1993.256]. Photograph 1997 The Metropolitan Museum of Art)

The Cultural Aspects of the Mongols

The Mongols had no use for city life, but had a great respect for scholars, artists and artisans.

✓ *The Mongols aided in the spread of Manichaeism, Judaism, Christianity, Buddhism and Islam across Central Asia. Along with Shamanism it was not uncommon to find believers of two or more of the religions within a family.*

✓ *Iron was crucially important to the Mongols. They used it for Bridals, Stirrups, Wagons and Weapons.*

(Ellis 320)



The Cultural Aspects of the Mongols

According to Marco Polo they would wear armor made from the hides of buffalo and other beasts, fire dried and thus hard and strong.

(Overfield 51)

- ✓ *They would drink mare's milk, which they would prepare in a way that gave it the taste of white wine.*
- ✓ *The rich among these people would dress in gold cloth and silks and the furs of sable, ermine and other animals.*

(Overfield 54)



The Decline of the Mongols

- ✓ *In the 1340's, power contests among the Mongol princes destroyed the political fabric of the Yuan (Mongol China) empire.*
- ✓ *By the 1360's China was engulfed in local rebellions by farmers and local civil wars by the Mongols. This was made worse by outbreaks of disease.*
- ✓ *A massive campaign ultimately destroyed the the Yuan Empire, driving the Mongols back onto the steppes.*

(Bulliet 354)

The Decline of the Mongols



Map 13.1 The Mongol Domains in Eurasia in 1300 After the death of Genghis Khan in 1227, his empire was divided among his sons and grandsons. Son Ögödei succeeded Genghis as Great Khan. Grandson Khubilai expanded the Domain of the Great Khan into eastern China by 1279. Grandson Hülegü was the first Il-khan in the Middle East. Grandson Batu founded the Khanate of the Golden Horde in southern Russia. Son Jagadai ruled the Jagadai Khanate in Central Asia. (From John King Fairbank, et al., *East Asia: Tradition and Transformation*, rev. ed., pp. 172, 196. Copyright © 1989 by Houghton Mifflin Company. Used by permission.)

Overall, the Mongols had a positive effect on the area in terms of control. They were generally tolerant as long as the subject peoples paid their taxes and tribute. With the breakdown of Mongol control there would be an end to Pax Mongolia, trade would decline and violence would become more common.

Conclusion : Place of Genghis Khan & Mongols in World History

Supporter's view

- Greatest leader of all time for Mongols.
- United the Mongol people.
- Freed them from tribal wars & Chinese Exploitation.
- Brought prosperity for them.
- Established a transcontinental empire.
- Restored trade routes & markets that attracted travellers.
- A great national hero.

Opposition's view

- Cruel conqueror.
- Destroyer of cities.
- Responsible for thousands of death.
- Barberic & uncivilised.

Trade and the Plague

1. Connected east and west:

- Brought huge amounts of silk from China to west; used for clothes, wall hangings, furnishings
- Chinese porcelain reached Mid. East and Europe
- Merchants moved freely over one, large empire
- Ideas/Technology: Gunpowder, moveable type, use of coal, paper \$\$
- Period known as PAX MONGOLICA

2. **Bubonic Plague** travelled with Mongol military from **Yunnan** Province (China) to Central Asia, Mid. East, then Mediterranean region

MONGOL EMPIRE, 1294

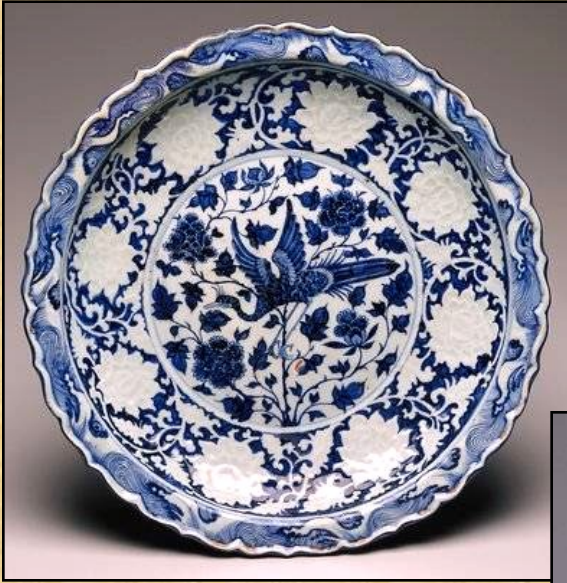


GEOGRAPHY SKILLS

INTERPRETING MAPS

- Place** At its greatest extent about how many miles from west to east did the Mongol empire extend?
- Movement** How did Marco Polo's journey to China differ from his journey home to Venice?

Yuan Porcelains & Ceramics



Spread of Bubonic Plague (1347-52)



- Thin red lines represent trade routes of Silk Road and Indian Ocean Maritime Trade
- Prominent red lines represent progress of bubonic plague

Mongols and Islam

1. Il-Khan (Iran) murders Abbasid caliph
2. **Batu** (G. grandson) of the **Golden Horde** (Russia) converts to Islam and starts war with Il-Khan and Christian Crusaders; allies with Mamluks.
3. Then, **Ghazan** (Il-Khan ruler) converts to Islam in 1295



Economy in Islamic states

1. Il-Khan wanted to collect as much taxes as possible; used **“tax farming”** system where government gave contracts to merchants to collect taxes
2. Produced large amounts of grain, cash, and silk **in the short run**; led to overtaxation and economic collapse.
3. Il-Khan attempted to reduce taxes and introduce **paper money** from China, but failed avert a depression.
4. Il-Khan and Golden Horde declined in 14th century.

Culture/Science in ISLAMIC states

1. Juvaini wrote 1st account of rise of Mongols
 - Mongols supported historians (Rashid al-Din, Ibn Khaldun) and poets
2. Advancements in astronomy, calendar making, and mathematics
 - More accurate calculation of π
 - Predicted eclipses, explained movement of moon around earth (adopted by Nicolas Copernicus)
 - Reached Muslim Spain and Constantinople and translated into Latin and Greek for Europe.



- Persian anatomical text based on ancient Greek ideas. Muslims improved on Greek learning and ideas eventually made way into Europe.

Astronomical model of elliptical orbit of smaller bodies around larger ones. Nicolas Copernicus would appropriate this idea as his own

Russia under Mongols

1. Mongols (**Golden Horde**) ruled Russia from “afar”; left Orthodox Church in place and exacted tribute from Russian princes
2. Mongols favored Novgorod because Prince Alexander Nevskii submitted; his son ruled Moscow. Eventually, center of Russian society moved away from Kiev to Moscow.
3. Ukrainian countryside devastated as Mongols moved west into Europe
4. Russian economy destroyed because of heavy Mongol taxes

Mongols: Europe and Ottomans

1. Teutonic (German) Knights resisted Mongols
2. Mongol effects on Europe:
 - Introduction of diplomatic passports
 - Coal mining
 - **Moveable type**
 - Gunpowder and bronze cannons
3. Ottoman Empire (descendents of Seljuk Turks) took advantage of declining Il-Khan power and united Turks through religious and linguistic identity.

Movable type, Korean

With the improvement of cast bronze tiles, each showing a single character, it was no longer necessary to cast or carve whole pages. Individual tiles could be moved from page frame to page frame. In Korea, where this set was cast, movable type that was more stable in the frame and gave a more pleasing appearance was produced, and all parts of East Asia eventually adopted this form of printing for cheap, popular books. In the mid-1400s Korea also experimented with a fully phonetic form of writing, which in combination with movable type allowed Koreans unprecedented levels of literacy and access to printed works. (*Courtesy, Yushin Yoo*)



Mongols in China (Yuan Empire 1279-1368)

1. **Beijing** becomes capital and center of cultural/economic life. Khubilai built the **Forbidden City** (palace complex)
2. Mongols unified China (Tanggut, Jin, and Song)
3. Government:
 - Used **Western Asian (Persian) Muslims** as officials. Mongols did NOT allow Chinese men in govt.
 - **tax farming**
 - Status of **Confucian scholars diminished**; merchants and doctors were elevated
4. **Gentry** moved to cities from countryside to engage in **commerce** (considered lowly in Conf.)





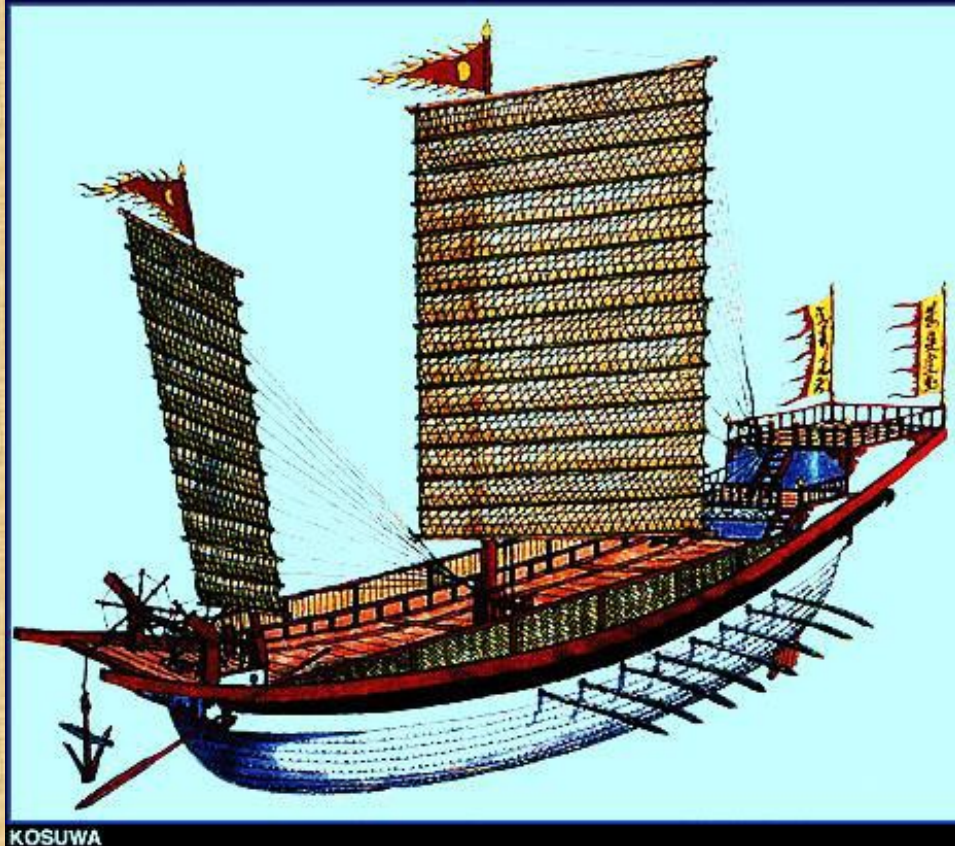
Forbidden City, Beijing



Culture in China and Abroad

1. Public entertainment (singing, operas) became common
2. Literature published in vernacular (local language of common people)
3. Mandarin becomes dominant language
4. Muslim engineering, math, and astronomy reached China and Korea
5. Chinese artistic (painting) skills reach Muslim world
6. Khubilai Khan brought Iranians to China to build observatory
7. Muslim doctors were brought to China

Mongols and Japan



Koroyo ship used by Mongols

- Invasions of 1274 and 1281 failed, both times wrecked by typhoon
- **Kamikaze** = “divine wind”

Technology in Ming Empire

1. Not as technologically advanced as Song dynasty
2. Korea and Japan surpass China in innovations of firearms, shipbuilding, calendar making and mining.

Ming Empire (1368-1644)

1. Yuan Empire falls because of farmer rebellions and feuds among Mongol princes (**dynastic cycle**)
2. Ming **reasserted Confucian** ideology
3. Continued Yuan (Mongol) traditions: **Beijing is capital**, Mongol calendar, commercial links w/ Middle East
4. Voyages of **Zheng He**:
 - Collected taxes and added 50 new tributary states
 - Ming rulers very ethnocentric
 - Voyages eventually ended and Ming rulers advocated **isolation**; China begins to fall behind.

Ming Cultural Achievements

1. Ming **porcelain** becomes world famous; design called “Ming ware”
2. Fiction written in vernacular produced on a large scale
3. Furniture and silk transported by Chinese and foreign merchants to SE Asia, Pacific, India, Mid. East, and East Africa



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