



Chapter 14

The Last Great Nomadic Challenges: From Chinggis Khan to Timur

Ms. Sheets

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AP World History

Steppes of Central Asia

☞ Mongols live in steppes

- Grasslands/shrublands with few trees
- Borders on the Gobi Desert and Siberian forest



Pre-Mongol Eurasia (1200 CE)



Mongol Society

- ☞ Nomadic society
 - Migrate in search of grazing lands
 - Drove herds of goats and sheep
 - Ate meat and milk from herded animals
 - Traded hides and dairy products for jewelry, weapons and cloth
- ☞ Mongol society divided into tribes
 - Tribes combined during war and when threatened



Mongol Fighters

- ☞ Accomplished horsemen; excellent with short bows
 - Later, through contact with China: battering rams; cannons; catapult; flaming arrows; gunpowder
- ☞ Cover large distances quickly
- ☞ Yam System: Used relay stations and messengers to carry urgent messages
- ☞ Warrior code: bravery
- ☞ Used spies and informants to create maps of areas they were going to invade



Quick Review Question

Describe Mongol society.

What were some of the innovations Mongols used to become elite fighters?



Chinggis Khan

- ☞ Chinggis/Ghengis Khan (Temujin)
 - Won reputation of being an excellent warrior, military leader, motivator, and visionary
 - Responsible for organizing Mongol tribes into large confederation by breaking individual tribe loyalties and demanding loyalty to himself
 - Recognized merit rather than status/position
- ☞ 1206: Chinggis elected Khagan, leader of Mongol tribes



Early Campaigns

- 1207: first military campaign leads to defeat of Xi Xia kingdom
- Next, attacked Jin Empire
 - Difficult to overtake, but used captured Chinese to create Chinese weapons
- 1219: Conquer Kara Khitai Empire and Khwarazm Empire
- Mongols captured artisans and scholars, and killed or sold others into slavery.
- Mongols were known for devastating towns they conquered.

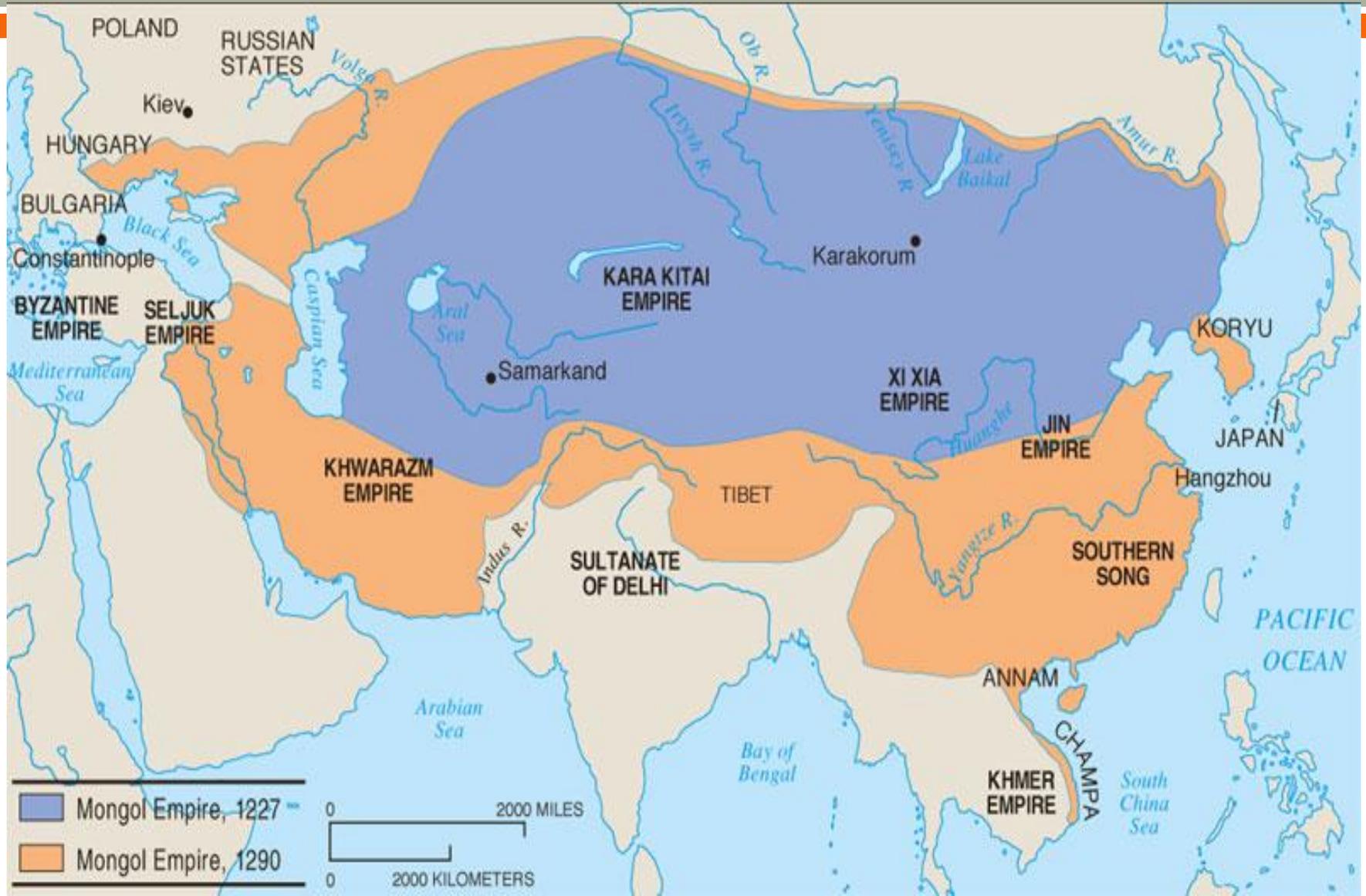


Kara Khitai Empire



Khwarazm Empire

Growth of Mongol Empire



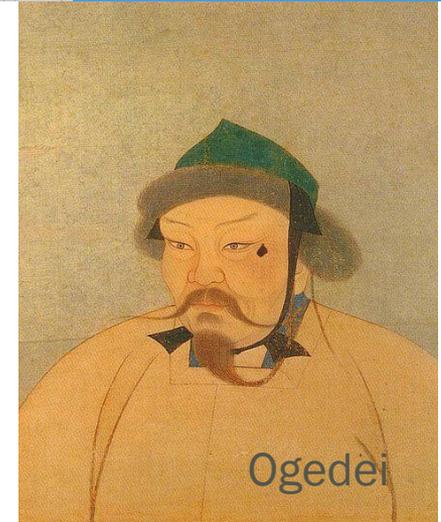
The Mongol Empire of Chinggis Khan

- Established capital at Karakorum
- Religions and cultures tolerated by Mongols
- Script devised for Mongolian language
- Mongol conquests brought peace to regions
- Secure and monitor trade routes; tax traders and items
- More interested in collecting tribute from territories than administering empire



Death of Chinggis Khan

- ☞ 1226 CE- Khan took an army of 180,000 to complete conquest of China and conquered Xi Xia
- ☞ 1227: Chinggis Khan dies in battle
- ☞ Chinggis Khan's body was taken back to Karakorum for burial
- ☞ Remaining land divided 4 ways: between 3 sons and grandson
- ☞ Son Ogedei becomes Great Khan
 - Ogedei directed troops for more conquests



Quick Review Question

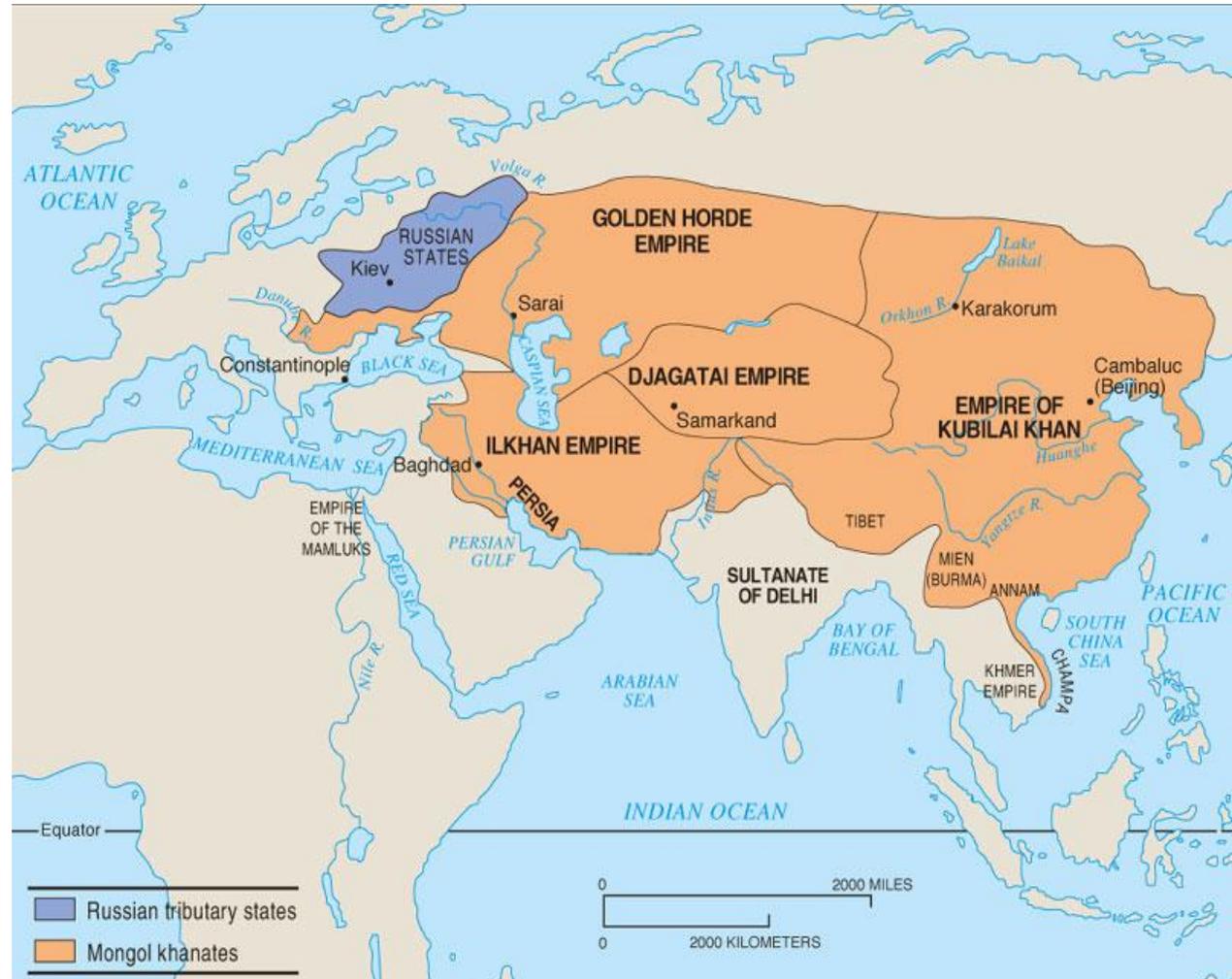
Why was Chinggis Khan a successful ruler?
What was the empire like with him as Khagan?



Four Khanates

After Chinggis Khan's death, the Mongol empire was divided into four khanates

- Golden Horde
- Djagatai Empire
- Ilkhan Empire
- Yuan Dynasty (Empire of Kubilai Khan)



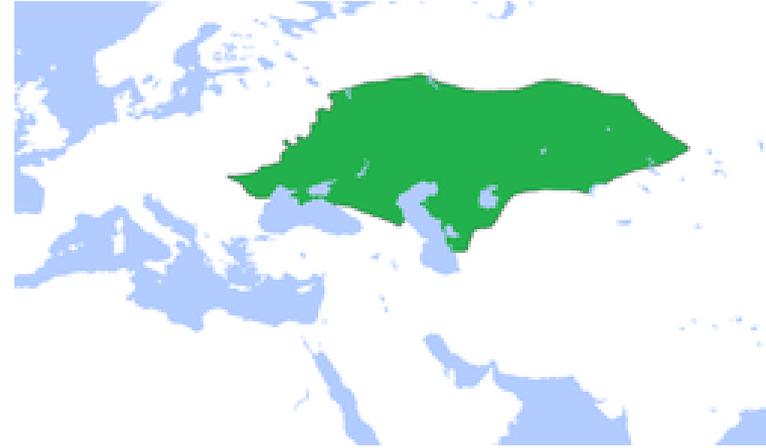
Central Asia: Chagatai Empire

- ☞ Led by Chagatai Khan (son of Chinggis Khan)
- ☞ Founded in 1225 and lasts until 1687, though is significantly weakened in 1360s with Tamerlane conquers western half
- ☞ Becomes increasingly decentralized to subkhanates



Russia: The Golden Horde

- ☞ Chinggis Khan's grandson Batu led invasion of Russia (only successful winter invasion of Russia in history)
- ☞ The eventual goal is to conquer all of Europe; never happens
- ☞ Russia was divided into many little kingdoms and were unable to defend against invaders
- ☞ From 1237-1238 CE, Mongol forces invaded Russia, destroyed cities that resisted, and took many Russian cities (including Kiev)



Batu establishes Golden Horde

Mongol Rule in the Golden Horde

- ☞ Religious toleration for Orthodox church
- ☞ Increased Eurasian trade as Mongols act as trade conduit between Europe, Middle East and Asia
 - Honey, glassware, slaves, gunpowder, firearms, spies, gems, textiles, rugs
- ☞ High Taxes on Peasants
 - As result, peasants give up own land and crops to aristocracy in exchange for protection from Mongols (serfdom)
- ☞ Conquest of Europe was interrupted by the death of khagan Ogedei and succession issues that resulted.
- ☞ Russia was isolated from Western European influence (Renaissance); both commercial and cultural

A Weakening Golden Horde

- Golden Horde did not occupy or run the Russian government
- Tribute Empire: Mongols forced princes to pay taxes and tribute
- Moscow's role is to collect tribute: when territories cannot pay, Moscow princes take over that territory → result: growth in strength of Moscow
- As Moscow gets stronger, the Golden Horde declined
- 1380 CE: Battle of Kulikova: Russians defeat Golden Horde



Battle of Kulikova

Quick Review Question

Describe Mongol society in the Golden Horde. What did the Mongols tolerate?

How did they collapse?

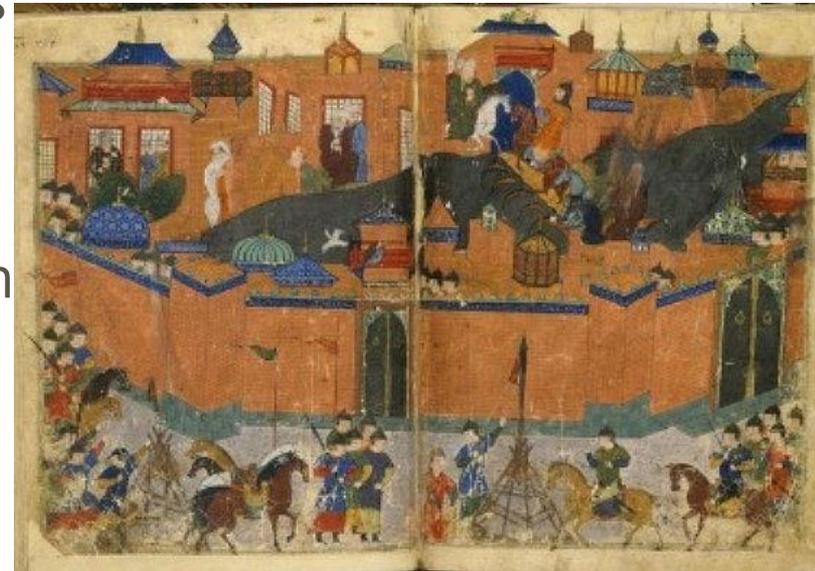
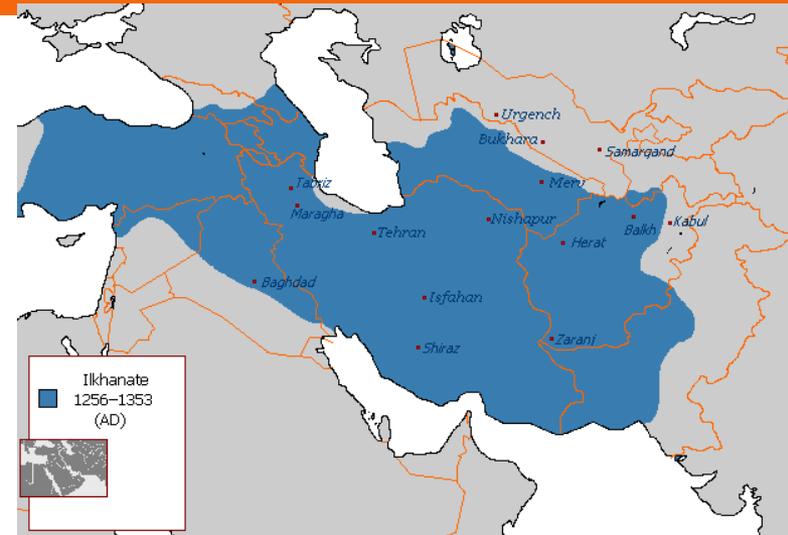


Middle East: Ilkhan Empire

☞ Hulegu, ruler of the Ilkhan Empire, captured Baghdad in 1258 CE and killed Abbasid caliph.

☞ Mongols defeated by Mamluks of Egypt in 1260 CE; halts expansion of Mongols into North Africa

- Hulegu was forced to reconsider his plan to conquer the entire Muslim world
- Hulegu's cousin, Berke, new khan of Golden Horde, converted to Islam



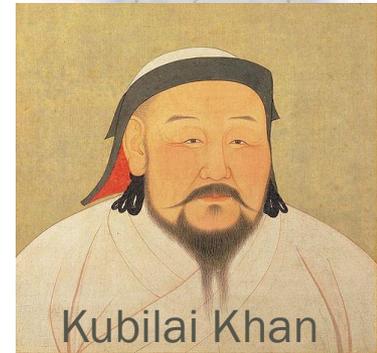
Mongol Rule in the Ilkhan

- ✧ Used local lords to administer taxes and census-taking
- ✧ Tolerant of scholars/artisans
- ✧ Assimilated Middle Eastern outlooks and some convert to Islam
- ✧ Mongol khans extracted taxes and tributes
- ✧ Reinvigorate Eurasian trade routes



China: Yuan Dynasty

- ☞ Mongols conquered the Xi Xia and Jin Empires, turned next toward the Song Dynasty
- ☞ Kubilai Khan (grandson) led forces against Song beginning in 1235
- ☞ 1271: Mongols rule most of China
- ☞ 1279: establishes Yuan Dynasty
- ☞ Built capital at Tatu (present day Beijing)



Society in Yuan China

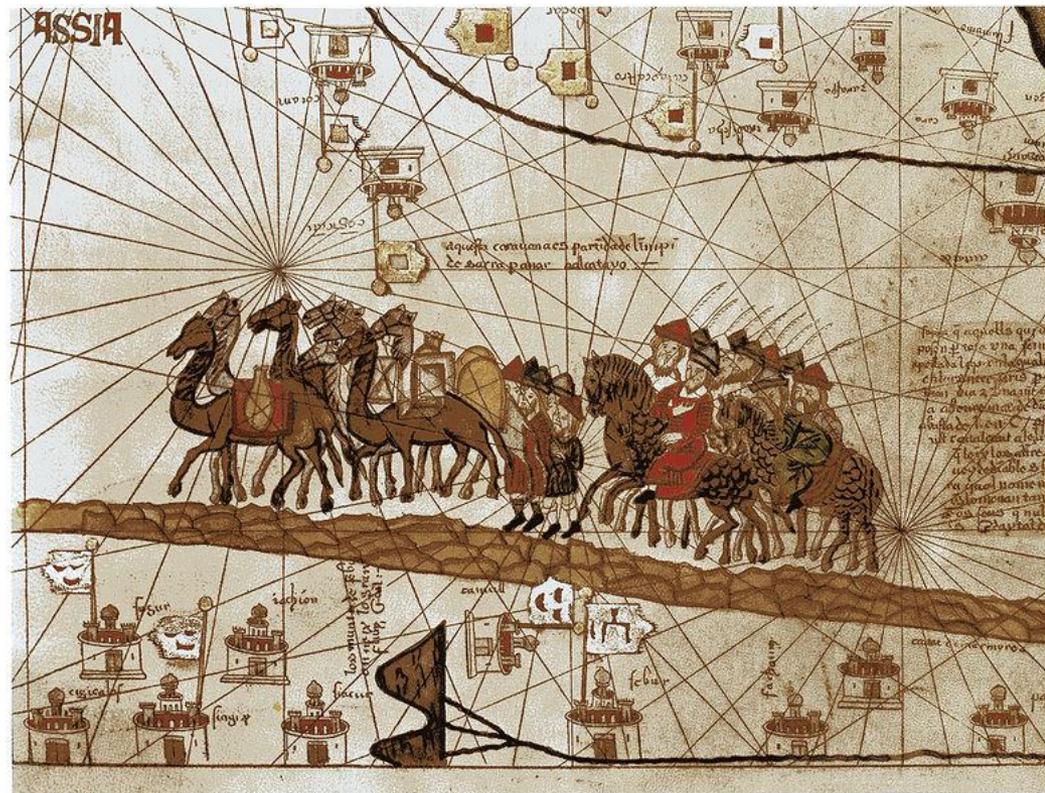
- ☞ Kubilai passed many laws to make distinction between Mongol and Chinese
 - Chinese forbidden to learn Mongol writing
 - Intermarriage between Mongols and Chinese outlawed
- ☞ Mongol women did not practice Chinese customs and held more freedoms
 - Do not adopt footbinding; move about freely in public with no escort
- ☞ Social standing in Yuan Dynasty (Mongols; Muslims and Asian nomads; Chinese)
- ☞ Mongols do adopt Chinese clothing; art.

Mongol Rule in Yuan China

- ☞ Yuan Court welcomed foreigners (Marco Polo), and utilized expertise of scholars from many regions
 - Use foreigners (Marco Polo) or Mongols for bureaucrats
- ☞ Chinese civil service exam was not used
- ☞ Chinese were able to hold local/regional government positions
- ☞ Religious tolerance practiced
- ☞ Most Chinese thought Kubilai Khan was a barbarian and did not reconcile to Mongol rule
- ☞ Developed a navy to expand to Japan; unsuccessful
- ☞ Kubilai sought to reduce peasant tax, forced labor
- ☞ Sought to establish elementary schools in villages

Mongol Rule in Yuan China

- Essential imperial structure remains the same but is replaced with foreigners or Mongols
- Increase in Eurasian trade (Silk Roads)
- Merchants prospered and valued highly
- Extract taxes from peasants



Fall of Yuan China

- ☞ Song loyalists revolted in the South
- ☞ Mongol leaders lacked leadership and were plagued by corruption
- ☞ Famine; peasant rebellions; rising taxes for peasants, forced labor
- ☞ White Lotus Society: secret religious sect, dedicated to overthrowing Yuan government
- ☞ 1398: Mongols retreat escaped to central Asia when overthrown by Ju Yuanzhang, a peasant who founds the Ming Dynasty



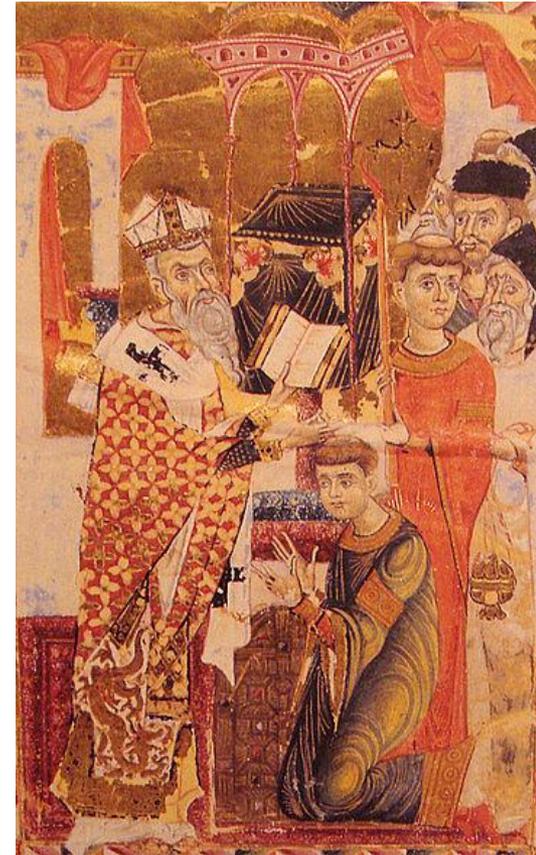
Quick Review Question

Describe Mongol society in the Yuan Dynasty. How were they different from other khanates?



Significance of Mongol Empire

- ☞ Largest land empire in history
- ☞ Pax Mongolia (13th – 14th): peace and stability; easy communication and commerce
- ☞ Facilitated Silk Road trade between Asia and Europe
- ☞ Spread Bubonic Plague
 - Likely entered Mongol territories through rats that had plague-infested fleas on them. These rats fed off of Mongol horses' feed.
 - Spreads along Silk Roads which Mongols have reinvigorated, and by the 14th c. arrived in Middle East, North Africa, and Europe.



Timurid Empire

- ☞ Timur the Lame (Tamerlane):
Central Asian nomadic Turk
- ☞ Active during Mongol decrease of power in Eurasia; wanted to restore Mongol Empire
- ☞ Samarkand = capital; famed for architectural beauty
- ☞ Moved armies to Persia, NW India (defeating Delhi Sultanate), and S Russia
- ☞ Incredibly violent
- ☞ Last nomadic incursion; dies 1405

