

## THE MONGOL EMPIRE GUIDED NOTES

### The Mongols – Fast Facts

- Mongols: A fierce \_\_\_\_\_ group that lived north of China.
  - Originally from Asian Steppe (Mongolia)
  - Culture focused on battle and military skills.
  - They conquered more land in \_\_\_\_\_ years than the Romans did in 400 years.
    - Controlled more than 11 million square miles
    - Contributed to the creation of nations like Russia and \_\_\_\_\_.

### Genghis Khan

- Mongols had lived in independent clans run by family.
- In 1206 – \_\_\_\_\_ (Genghis Khan) united the tribes into one empire.
  - Defeated the leaders of each clan – earned the title \_\_\_\_\_ (“ruler”).
  - Took the name Genghis Khan (“universal ruler”)
  - Fiercest leader of the Mongols.
  - Conquered \_\_\_\_\_ as much land as any other leader in history.
- Organized Mongol warriors into a strong force.
  - Could be mobilized quickly
  - Had 100,000 \_\_\_\_\_ (could travel 100 miles per day)
  - Trained to shoot arrows while riding at full speed.
  - Used catapults (trebuchets) and giant crossbows.
- Positives for conquered subjects:
  - Granted religious freedom
  - Abolished torture
  - Encouraged \_\_\_\_\_
  - Created first postal system
- Negatives for conquered subjects:
  - Killed many people during invasion
  - Destroyed property
  - Heavily \_\_\_\_\_ the people
- By 1221, Genghis Khan and his men had conquered all of central Asia.
- In 1227, Genghis died and his son \_\_\_\_\_ took power.
  - Captured most of China
  - Extended the empire into Russia and Persia

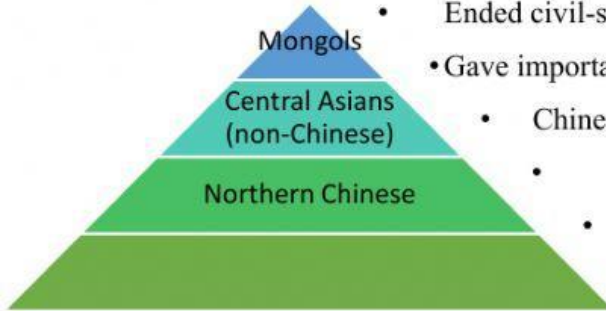
### Dividing the Empire

- After death of Ogadai, the empire was divided into 4 parts (\_\_\_\_\_) all ruled by Genghis’s descendants.
- 1260, Kublai Khan (Genghis’s grandson) took control of China.

- Defeated the Song Dynasty, changed its name to the \_\_\_\_\_.
- First ruler to control ALL of China in 300 years.
- Ruled with respect and embraced local customs of those he conquered.

#### Ruling China – Kublai Khan

- Kublai Khan kept many aspects of Chinese government.
  - Made \_\_\_\_\_ the capital of his empire.
  - Declared himself emperor of the Yuan Dynasty (founded by Kublai).
    - Ended civil-service examination (was used to choose officials)
    - Gave important government jobs to Mongols or foreigners that he trusted.
      - Chinese officials had minor jobs with little power.
      - Created social classes in order to keep the Mongols in power.
      - Each class had different sets of \_\_\_\_\_.
      - The Chinese had laws that were very harsh.



#### Rebuilding China – Kublai Khan

- Restored Grand Canal and extended it \_\_\_\_\_ miles north (connected to Beijing).
- Built a paved highway that connected Beijing and Hangzhou.
  - Allowed for easy travel and trade.
  - Boosted the economy and allowed him to make contacts in many other countries.
- Encouraged trade by making trade routes safer.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ traveled along the Silk Roads (ancient trade routes stretching from China to the Black Sea).
    - Traded silk, porcelain, tea, plants...etc.
  - Developed a thriving sea trade, welcomed visitors from \_\_\_\_\_ lands.

#### Batu Khan

- Batu Khan (grandson of Genghis Khan's)
  - Invaded Russia, Poland and \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Killed many of the inhabitants or took them as slaves.
- Golden Horde – nickname given by frightened Europeans because the Mongol tents (yurts) were golden colored.
- The Mongols kept control of Russia for \_\_\_\_\_ years.

#### Foreign Contacts

- People from Arabia, Persia and India frequently visited Mongol China along with people from Europe.
- Marco Polo – most famous \_\_\_\_\_ visitor of Mongol China.
  - Young trader from Venice, Italy.
  - Traveled the Yuan Dynasty on the \_\_\_\_\_ Roads with his father and uncle.
  - Arrived around 1275 and stayed for 17 years.
  - Kublai Khan made Marco Polo his assistant.
  - Polo traveled throughout China on government missions for Kublai Khan.
  - He wrote a book about his travels (*The Travels of Marco Polo*). Many Europeans read it but didn't believe it was \_\_\_\_\_.

#### Chinese-Mongol Relations

- Tensions increased between the two groups:
  - Spoke different \_\_\_\_\_
  - Chinese were not treated as equals
    - Couldn't hold high offices
    - Punished much more harshly than non-Chinese
    - Had to pay a lot of \_\_\_\_\_

#### The End of Mongol Rule

- Kublai Khan died in 1294, he was followed by weak rulers.
- Country experienced many problems:
  - River \_\_\_\_\_ and destroyed crops which led to famine.
  - Chinese began to rebel.
- In \_\_\_\_\_, the Chinese overthrew the Mongols.

#### Mongol Influence in China

- Increased contact with Europe, \_\_\_\_\_ and Persia.
- Made local governments responsible to central government (the emperor).
- Chinese language was influenced by the Mongols.
- Chinese dynasties would build on \_\_\_\_\_ reforms.