

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

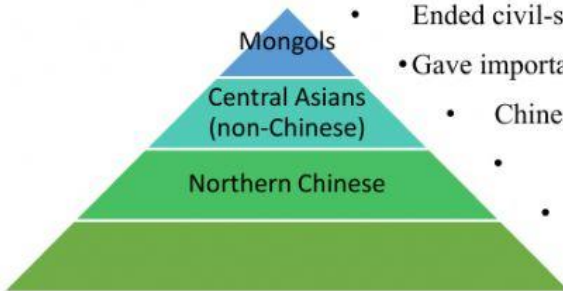
Dividing the Empire

- 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.