

Source: [KBhHIST201KennedyCh1](#)

1 | The Ottomans

When China was failing [KBhHIST201MingChina1500](#), the Ottomans grow w/ Muslimdom — Ottomans were the largest muslim nation in Europe + a serious threat to Christendom.

- Enjoys control of the silk road
- Huge landmass
- Large army (and, large cannons + siege trains)
 - Strong Navy! => deployed frequently in the Black Sea, Constantinople, North Africa

The Ottoman's Battlings

- Seized Damascus in the year 1516
- Entered Egypt 1517
- Worked around, and all the way to the Black Sea — attacking Arabia along the way
- Overran Hungary (although, Northern Hungary was kept, and so was the HRE) the same year

Ottoman's Governmental Effectiveness

- Established official unity
 - Faith
 - Culture
 - and Language
- High Tech.
 - Well drained cities
 - Libraries and universities *libraries are a strong through-line!*
 - Strength in...
 - Math
 - Cartography
 - Medicine
 - Industry
 - Mills
 - Gun casting
 - Lighthouses
 - Hoursebreeding
- Recruited army from Christian youth
- Higher tolerance for other races
- Eventually, however, still faltered

The Ottoman's Downfall

- “Natural consequences of earlier Turkish successes”
- Got Romanitus — expanded too much to the point of unmanagability => “Strategical Overextension”
- Ottoman imperialism did not bring in the dough
- Switched to an “Iron Fist” management style of crushing dissidents, encouraging the Persians to ally with the Europeans to crush the Ottomans

- Suffered from being centralized, despotic, and severely orthodox
 - Emperor had too much power
 - Country became over-conservative
 - Bureaucracy became too heavy
 - Heavy internal plundering
 - High taxes
 - Seizures of property
 - Depopulated towns
 - Unorderly soldiers
 - Bribery