

Mongols

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Mongol Peoples

- The Mongols traditionally inhabited the Central Asian steppe -- a dry, grassy plain.
- The Mongol people were pastoral nomads who raised horses. They were continually on the move in search of water and grassy pastures for their animals. This brought them into contact (and conflict) with other nomadic groups as well as settled people they encountered.
- Around 1000, northern Eurasia suffered terrible drought, and the Mongols began to move south in search of greener pastures.



Conquest

- Although the Mongols weren't very numerous, they were able to defeat armies that were significantly larger than they were.
- The most important part of the Mongol army was the mounted archer. Mongol bows were more difficult to draw back and could shoot farther than other bows at the time. Archers wore a jade ring on their thumb to help them hold the bow string in place and aim the arrow once drawn back.
- The Mongols were also schooled in the art of siege. They effectively used the catapult (taken from the Chinese), and often sent flaming projectiles into walled cities. They also cut off city resources, (even diverting rivers away from cities), to starve residents.
- The Mongols also let it be known that resistance meant slaughter. If a city surrendered, the people would be spared. If they fought and lost, all people would be killed and the city would be destroyed. Many cities chose to surrender rather than fight.



Genghis Khan

- Born Temüjin, Genghis Khan was able to gain power and then unite a number of nomadic tribes of Central Asia.
- Once gaining control of his own tribe, Genghis Khan focused on making alliances with neighboring tribes. He developed a fearsome military, and demanded tribute from weaker tribes, and thus lived entirely off of this tribute and focused little on herding.
- In 1206, Genghis Khan began his campaign to conquer Eurasia. Over the next 20 years, he formed an empire that stretched from Poland to Siberia. He did this through the use of terror, conquest, or by convincing rulers to surrender to him.



Khanates

- Before Genghis Khan died in 1227, he divided his empire among his four sons. Each kingdom or *khanate* was ultimately to be loyal to the "Great Khan" which was initially led by his son Ögödei.
- The *Great Khan* was comprised of Mongolia and China. It was initially led by Ögödei, but later led by Genghis' grandson Kublai Khan.
- The *Khanate of the Golden Horde* included the territory of Russia and Siberia and was initially led by Genghis' grandson Batu.
- The *Ilkhanate* included the territory of Iran (Persia) and Iraq (Abbasid Empire) and was led by Kublai Khan's brother Hülegü.
- The *Jagadai Khanate* included Central Asian territories north of India and was initially led by Genghis' son Jagadai.



Global History

Mongols

Name _____

1. Who were the Mongols & how did they live?

A pastoral nomadic peoples, they were warriors whom traversed many lands and conquered many lands.

2. Why did Mongols begin to migrate south in 1000?

Lack of water supply and a terrible drought.

3. How did Genghis Khan unite the tribes of Central Asia?

Using his power to gain standing in political ventures

4. How long did it take Genghis Khan to form his empire?

20 years

What was the extent of it?

From Poland to Siberia

5. What was the most important part of the Mongol army? What was special about their weapons?

All of the warriors were trained in the "art of the siege" allowing an unprecedented amount of coordination that was unparalleled by other armies. They used flaming catapults to lay siege and extra strong bows with jade rings to increase the potency of their arrows.

6. How did Mongols lay siege to cities?

Using flaming catapults and restriction of resources to decrease morale.

7. How did Mongols effectively use terror to conquer?

8. Define: Khanate --

A kingdom ruled by one of Genghis Khan's sons

9. Label & describe each Khanate.

1. Jagadai Khanate

Central Asian Territory, north of India. was led by Genghis' son Jagadai. (initially)

2. Ilkhanate

Included the territories of Iraq (particularly the Abbasid empire) and Iran (Persia). Was led by Kublai Khan's Brother Hulegu

3. Khanate of the Golden Horde

Territories of Russia and Siberia initially led by Genghis' grandson Batu.

4. Great Khan

Mongolia and China territories, initially led by Ögödei, but control was eventually given to Genghis' grandson Kublai Khan