

Foundation of the Ottoman Empire

Osman

Before Osman, the Seljuq Turks seized land from the Byzantine Empire.
1299 - Osman carved out a state in northwestern Anatolia, declared independence.
Started carving out land from the Byzantines, attracting Turkish Muslim followers.

Ottoman Conquests

1350s - Ottomans established control over part of the Balkan Peninsula.
Byzantines tried pushing back and failed due to...

- Political fragmentation.
- Ineffective government.
- Exploitation of a resentful peasantry.

By 1380s, Ottomans are most powerful people on the Balkan peninsula.
Primed and ready to get Constantinople.
Ottomans disrupted by Tamerlane, destroyed and subjugated them.

- After death of Tamerlane, Ottomans reestablished rule in their own realm.
- 1440s - Ready to get Constantinople... again.

Capture of Constantinople

1453 - Campaign against Constantinople finally succeeded.
Sultan Mehmed II - Mehmed the Conqueror, did it.

- Sacked the city.
- Made it his capital, Istanbul.

Based out of Istanbul, Ottoman Turks took over the rest of Byzantine realm.
1480 - Controlled all of Greece and Balkan region.
Expanded into parts of Southwest Asia, Southeastern Europe, Egypt, northern Africa.

Objective #20 - Ottomans started by destroying the Byzantines from within, then moved to capture Greece, Balkan region, and parts of southwest Asia, southeastern Europe, Egypt, and northern Africa.

Objective #21 - Ottomans disrupted Eastern Europe by toppling the Byzantine empire and becoming its new seat of power.