

# Tamerlane the Whirlwind

## Filling Power Vacuum in Persia

Power vacuums resulted after rapid Mongol decline.

Ming Dynasty took over the Mongol Yuan Dynasty in China.

What about Persia?

Charismatic, just like good ol' Chingy Khan.

1360s - eliminated rivals to power, either through alliances or war.

1370s - extended authority throughout khanate of Chagatai (central Asia).

Built a capital at Samarkand.

Vacuum in Persia filled by Tamerlane, the Turkish Lame Conqueror.

## Tamerlane's Conquest

Tamerlane led his armies personally.

Established authority over region between Persia and Afghanistan.

Took over rich cities first.

Levied taxes on trade and agricultural production.

Significantly weakened the Golden Horde

Invaded India, destroyed Delhi.

Campaigned along Ganges River.

Did not actually take over India.

Campaigned in Asia and Anatolia.

Died trying to invade China, in 1405.

Fought till the very end.

Also a conqueror, not a governor.

Ruled through tribal leaders.

Appointed overlords in controlled territories to collect taxes.

## Tamerlane's Heirs

Sons and grandsons fought bitterly for control.

Split empire into 4 main regions.

Remnants stayed around for a century after Tamerlane's death.

Very, very similar to the aftermath of Chingy's death.