



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF IRAQ
SULAIMANI

Civilization 2: Ancient Humanities
CIV203

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Group Research Project:
Kublai Khan

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Khubilai khan

Introduction ;

Khubilai khan was born in 1215, Khubilai khan was a very powerful and prominent historical figure- he had a great influence on most of Asia, including china as well as he had a significant influence on European history.

Which made him a legendary and famous figure all over the world.



Overview

He was the first Mongol emperor to effectively govern a settled society after conquering the steppes as a nomadic people. He consolidated his military and political power as the Khagan, or Khan of the Khanates, who ruled over the Mongol territories and later became the Emperor of China. He was born in the year his grandfather, Genghis Khan, captured Beijing. He was the first of the Mongol emperors to be a successful steppe warrior-nomad in turn to become a great governor of a settled .

Under his reign in China, he oversaw:

- Construction of a capital city.
- Creation of a legal code and a new written script for every language in the Mongol domains.
- Patronage of the courts to theater, arts, crafts, science, and medicine.

His Kingdom

The Mongol empire reached its peak and then entered a period of decline under khubali khan, who died in 1294 .As a result, his death led to the fragmentation and division of the Mongol empire.

The Mongol Empire at its peak in 1259 AD



Emperor of the seas Kublai khan and the making of china

Introduction

The grandson of Genghis khan Kublai khan turned the mongol empire into a powerful and lasting dynasty in china, Kublai is known for building cities, schools roads and trade systems, mongol tradition and Chinese culture mixed by his rules and that changed Asia's history.

Defeating the southern song dynasty was one of his great military success , and also building the vast navy which increased trade by sea ,bringing China together for the first time in centuries, and governing all china in 1271 not long after the death of his brother Möngke, he merged the mongol and chinese political systems and got the capital moved to Dadu, he had his way of ruling the place which led to

creativity, trade, and culture, making the region he ruled into a great international trade, art, and science. The court of his was seen as the most advanced in the world by travelers such as Marco Polo.

When the Song dynasty was destroyed in 1279, Kublai Khan achieved his greatest military success and brought all China together. There was also an unsuccessful invasion of Japan because of powerful storms that showed the limits of his power.

As ruler Kublai Khan built schools, and hospitals, presented paper money and improved farming, trading routes and grand canal. His leadership made China the center of trade between Asia and Europe by welcoming outsiders (travelers) and accepting all religions. Kublai was dealing with financial problems, rebellions and injustice in his final years. He was really upset by the loss of his wife and son and that is why he found comfort in religion. He left behind the biggest and most connected empire of his time when he passed away in 1294.

The role of Kublai Khan with Marco Polo

Marco Polo's Service and Diplomatic Exit

Marco Polo quickly avoided his role of being a simple traveler to become an important figure and a trusted official at the court of Kublai Khan. Arriving around 1275 with his father and uncle, Marco impressed the Great Khan with his language skills, smart watching ability and unique knowledge of different cultures.



Kublai Khan officially named Marco Polo as a "Special messenger", relying on him with basic duties that went beyond normal travel. His tasks included traveling to far parts of the great Mongol Empire to prepare detailed reports and smart information on the administrative, geographical and demographic statuses of those regions, which made his role crucial for collecting the information needed to rule the huge empire. As a high ranking and trusted official, Marco Polo and his family benefited from the protection and direct support of the Khan. They were given the "Paiza", a Mongol plate that assured them safe passage, supplies and resources through the Mongol region..

The Diplomatic Departure

The process of ending the Polos' nearly seventeen-year service was not easy; they enjoyed great wealth and rights at court and initially refused to leave. They agreed to return to the West only after Kublai Khan demanded that they trust them with a critical high-stakes diplomatic task in 1292. This task required the Mongol Princess Kōkōchin on a long and dangerous sea voyage to Persia, where she was to marry the ilkhan Arghun. This hard journey, which took more than two years across the South China Sea and the Indian Ocean, required the directional experience of the Polo family and confirmed the absolute trust that the Khan placed in them before their final return to Venice in 1295.

Source⁴

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