

11.2 - THE RISE AND FALL OF THE MONGOLS

1. **If you were to walk into a Mongol camp, what would you see (ie., food, clothing, people, building structures, technologies, etc)? (Jenna) (Patrick D.) (v)**



You would find a lot of portable homes called yurts. You would also see very colorful clothing.



Puzzle games were very popular among people in tribes. Children played games that involved bones. The bones would be used in a guessing game.

Camels and oxen would be found on farmland, although you would not see towns. Everyone would be well behaved, even children. They would be practicing using bows and arrows. They had very colorful clothes, although their food was white and colorless.

They lived on a fresh pasture so you would see an open landed area that contains horses, dogs, cattle, etc. They also lived in felt tents called yurts, or gers, that were nine feet tall, portable, and very well constructed. For food, they had open fires which were used in cooking their food. They cooked meats and bread dough.

Kids used bones to use play games. The mongols used camels and oxen to farm. They lived as nomads in Yurts. The children were well behaved. They were taught survival skills. All of the toys that their parents gave them were designed to teach respect and behavior. The mongols wore bright clothes. The food they mostly ate was white and salty foods.

2. **How did geography contribute to the success of the Mongols? (Will) (Seth) (Canaan) (Julia)**

The main geographical feature that contributed to the expansion and success of the Mongol Empire the most is how flat the land was. This allowed their horses be used to the maximum effect against their enemies and/or when raiding towns/the wealthy. Having an ability

to move quickly over large expanses of land also allowed the swift spread of their growing empire.



3. Who was Chinggis Khan and how was he able to form the largest land empire in the history of the world? (Sara) (Mika) (Kaija)

Genghis Khan and the Mongols are associated with terrible tales of conquest, destruction, and bloodshed. The Mongol Empire was at its largest two generations after Genghis Khan and was divided into 4 main branches: the Yuan (empire of the Great Khan), Golden Horde (southern Russia extending into Europe), Ilkhanid Dynasty (in Great Iran), and Chaghatay khanate.



He united the entire continent under the Pax Mongolica. he created the largest empire. After fighting other tribes, he was seen as a very good general so he was offered a position in the government and given the name Genghis Khan. He conquered each city one at a time with his strong, fast army who were all great archers and horsemen. He created his army that so strong that other tribes were scared of them and would immediately surrender.

United tribes based off of a meritocracy. Only the most skilled Mongol warriors became military leaders. Killed the leaders of rival tribes and allowed the rest of the tribe to join his.

4. Describe the Mongolian military and the tactics/technologies that they used in defeating their enemies. (Wesley) (Andres)(Eli) (Brenna)

Mongolian soldiers were usually in charge of 3 to 4 horses which allowed them to travel fast and effectively during their campaigns. The main key for the Mongols and their conquests was their deadly combination of quick and accurate communication on the battlefield and fierce military discipline and training. Mongolian armies traveled very lightly and quickly their nomadic lifestyle made it very easy for them to live off the land. Mongols not only dominated in open warfare but also excelled in siege warfare. The mongolians unlike many other armies at the time would build their siege weapons on site.

The Mongols practiced archery on horseback, making them quick. They also protected the horse making their advantage stay throughout the battle. The ones that were not on horseback were heavier cavalry and used lances and hand to hand combat against the enemy. Because of the dependability of horses, they would armor them excessively and make them slow, but this also made the horses more sturdy and harder to take down. The mongols would communicate throughout the battle by using a pony express tactic and giving messages to each other quicker.



Outstanding obedience and discipline were the backbones of the Mongolian army. Officials were chosen by blood relation in correspondence with meritocracy. In addition, transfers between units were forbidden. War was carried out mainly on horseback, as each Mongol soldier had the task of maintaining 3 or 4 horses at a time. One tactic that helped them achieve victory was the process of first spreading out, then running/riding for cover. When facing armies with heavy confrontation, the Mongols would also typically use their bows to destroy enemy cavalry at long distances. If their armor withstood the arrows, the Mongols would maintain their guard and frequently kill the knights' horses. With their combined skills in horsemanship, archery, unit tactics, and formation, they were able to create a hard-hitting force that would vanquish the majority of the cities they came into contact with.

This system almost never failed the Mongols in the 12th century and with this system they had won against much larger military forces. The army was able to live off the land making

a chain of supplies all but unnecessary. The mongolian bow was made from laminated horn, wood, and sinew each archer carried about 60 arrows in a quiver on his back.



5. Name the four khanates. Describe key components of each one (ie, leaders, the relationship they had with the people, etc.) (alyssa) (Cody)(Patrick G.)(ROSE)

Yuan (China): Mongol leader was Kublai Khan. Long lasting empire, located in East Asia and Mongolia, first time China is conquered, anti-Confucianism, Buddhism encouraged, and

attempted to spread foreign religions. Failed to conquer Japan in 1278



Ilkhanate (Abbasids): Long lasting empire. Hulagu was one of the Mongol leaders of this region.



Very bloody destruction of Baghdad.

Chagatai (Central Asia): Long lasting empire, assimilated to Islam, and the capital was



Samarkand

Golden Horde (Russia): Not a long lasting empire, assimilated to Islam, had 100 years of Muslim control for Russia, and wasn't on a trade route so there were different religious social, and

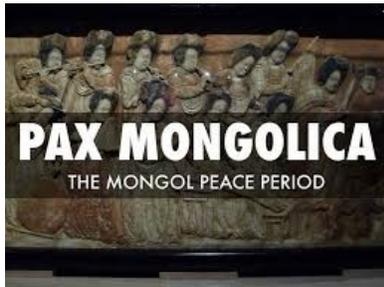
cultural views. Its last major khanates were Kazan, east of Moscow, and Astrakhan, southeast Russia right near the Caspian Sea.

6. What was Pax Mongolica? What contribution did it make to world history?(shian)(lilly)(evan) (Kent Bailey)(Bryce)

the pax mongolica was a time of peace .

The pax mongolica facilitated commerce and communication for Mongols

During the Pax Mongolica, the Yam was created. The Yam was a way for people through the entire Mongolian Empire to communicate with one another. Also, the Mongols became more tolerant of other religions, including Islam. The Mongols also let rulers of lands they conquered to continue to be leaders, just under higher control from the Mongols.



During this time there was a revival of Nestorian Christianity throughout Eurasia, and the spread of Tibetan Buddhism through china and the Mongols. Mongol rule led to initial destruction.

7. What led to the decline of the Mongols?(Sam Allen, Miles H, Patience,

A war with Timur helped lead to the decline of the Mongols.



-The fall of the Mongol Empire also occurred because of their massive size, and it being too much for one Emperor to control. Therefore leading to their division into multiple Khanates.

-Since the Mongols never had a strict religion for their Empire, it caused a failure to acculturate their subjects, leading to the decline of their Empire.

Another reason for decline was because the mongol empire was unable to acculturate their people to the mongol ways.

It was also way to hard to administer the khanates, even for multiple people.

One of the factors contributing to the decline of the Mongols was the war with Timur also known as Timur lenk