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Cornell Notes

Topic: Chapter 14: The Last Great Nomadic Challenges: From Chinggis Khan to Timur

• Figure 14.1; pg 315  
 • Map 14.1; pg 315  
 • Timeline pg; 316  
 • Figure 14.2; pg 317  
 • Chinggis Khan: born in the 1700's  
 • Figure 14.3; pg. 318  
 • Kuriltai; 1206, meeting of all Mongol chieftans @ which the supreme ruler of all tribes was selected  
 • khagan - title of the supreme ruler of the Mongol tribes  
 • tomens - basic fighting units of Mongol forces; consisted of 10,000 cavalrymen  
 • 1227; yr. of Chinggis Khan death  
 • Karakorum - cap

The Transcontinental Empire of Chinggis Khan:

A) Kabul Khan

1. Early 12th; Kabul Khan led a Mongol alliance that won glory  
 ↳ by defeating an army sent against them by Jin kingdom
2. After victory, he died
3. Successors were:

- not able to defeat nomadic enemies
  - not able to hold the Mongol alliance together
- ↳ Mongols fell

B) Chinggis Khan

1. @ youth named; Temujin
2. Born to splinter clans: that fought for survival in decades after K.K
3. Father
  - able leader to build up decent following
  - negotiate promise w/ eldest son & daughter of stronger Mongol
4. Pushed into position of leadership when a teen  
 ↳ however, those who follow his father refused to follow a young boy
5. 18+ months; encampment was threatened & attack
6. Taken prisoner in 1182, locked in a wooden collar & led in humiliation to camp of enemies
7. During midnight escape & he & ppl. join camp of more powerful Mongol chieftan  
 ↳ T. avenge insults of the clan  
 ↳ won him allies & clan chiefs eager to attach w/ h
8. In a decade: defeat Mongols & routed forces
9. 1206 - renamed Chinggis Khan; was elected khagan

Also include important dates + questions you may have here  
 in the left hand column

of the Mongol Empire under Chinggis Khan, 1162 to 1227

• shamanistic - focus on nature beliefs

• Batu - Chinggis Khan's grandson; responsible for invasion of Russia in 1236

• Ogedei - 3rd son of Chinggis Khan; succeeded C.K. as Khagan of Mongols following his father's death

- of Mongol tribes
- ↳ prep. to launch a massive assault on unsuspecting world
- C) Mongol Warriors
1. Trained from youth to: ride, hunt, + fight
  2. Physically tough, mobile + accustomed 2 killing + death
  3. Wielded many weapons; lances, hatches + iron maces
    - ↳ short bows = most powerful
  4. Chinggis Khan + commanders brought organization, discipline + unity of command
- D) Role of Khagan
1. Quarrels + vendettas clans + tribes were overridden by loyalty
    - ↳ energy devoted to infighting directed to conquest + forcible exaction of tribute
- E) Arrangement of Tumens
1. Commanders @ each level responsible for training, arming + disciplining the cavalymen
  2. Tumens divided into heavy cavalry, + light cavalry,  
lances + metal armor / bow + arrow ....
  3. Seperate messenger force whose bodies were tightly bandaged to allow them to remain in a saddle for days
- F) Discipline
1. Mongol values; made courage in battle a prerequisite for male self-esteem
    - ↳ buttressed by formal code that dictated the immediate execution of a warrior who deserted his unit
  2. Khans' executions left little doubt about fate of traitors to his cause or turncoats who abandoned enemy commanders in his favor
    - Generosity to brave foes; Tebe win his affection by standing ground
- G) Conquest by The Mongol Empire
1. 1207; set out to fulfill ambition of conquering/making war
  2. 1st Campaign; humbled Tangut kingdom of Xi Xia in N.W China, whose ruler forced to declare self as vassal of khagan + pay hefty tribute

3. Mongol armies attack powerful Jin Empire

4. In these campaigns, Mongol armies confronted by large fortified cities

↳ @ first thwarted but then got help on getting past it

- battering rams, catapults (rocks + explosives) + bamboo rockets

5. When meet resistance → Mongols adopt policy of terrifying retribution

6. Spare lives of scholars but towns that fought back usually sack

- towns ppl. slaughtered or sold to slavery

- homes, mosques, palaces, + temples reduced to rubble

7. Towns that surrendered usually spared this fate but required pay tribute to Mongol conquerors

H) Assault on Islamic World

1. Mongols move west against Kara Khitai empire

- overwhelm + annex K.K by 1219 + provoked by

Muhammed, Khan lead armies further west in

Conquest of Khwarazm

2. Usage of fav. tactic; cavalry sent to attack main force but retreated + attack in pincer formation

3. In 2 years, Muhammed Shah die on island in Caspian sea

4. By 1227, Mongol empire from E. Persia → N. China

I) Life Under Mongol Imperium

1. Admin. framework that drew on advice + talents of of Muslim + Chinese bureaucrats created

2. Script devised for Mongolian lang. to facilitate recordkeeping + standardization of laws

3. Code aimed @ ending divisions + quarrels

4. Grazing lands allotted to specific tribes

5. Harsh penalties established for rustling livestock or stealing horses

6. In towns; handicraft production + scholarship

flourished + artistic creativity allowed free expression

7. Secure trade routes = prosperous merchants + wealthy cosmopolitan cities

8. Downsides

- movement of merchants + commercial goods facilitate spread of disease

↳ believe Black Death caused by fleas/rats on Mongol bags of cavalry

J) Death of Khan + Empire Division

1. 1226, Khan go East to complete conquest of China

2. After death, took body back to Mongolia

3. Mongol forces escorting procession hunted + killed every human + animal in its path

4. Pasturelands Mongols tried divide w/ Khans' 3 sons + Batu

5. Towns + cultivated area = property of Mongol ruling family

6. Ogedei chosen as khagan

- not capable military leader but, crafty diplomat + deft manipulator

↳ keep ambitious heads of vast provinces from each others throats

7. Ogedei directed Mongol energies to further campaigns + conquests

- areas targeted paid the price for peace within Mongol Empire.

Summary: This section begins with Kublai Khan and how he held Mongol together but after his death, his successors weren't able to hold Mongol together. That is when Chinggis Khan was able to take control and from there it spoke of his conquests but eventually he died and his successor, Ogedei managed to hold Mongol together

Golden Horde - one of the four subdivisions of the Mongol Empire after Chinggis Khan's death

The Mongol Drive to the West:

A) Affects of Batu's Armies on Russia

1. Initiated 2½ centuries of Mongol dominance in Russia

2. Russian princes forced to submit as vassals of Khan of Golden Horde + pay tribute

3. Mongol demands fell heavily on Russian peasantry, who had to give crops + labor to their own princes + Mongol overlords

4. Peasants fled to remote areas or became serfs

Originally ruled by his grandson Batu Khanates - 4 regional Mongol kingdoms that arose following the death of Chinggis Khan  
• Map 14.2 pg 322  
• Battle of Kulikova - Russian army victory over the forces of the Golden Horde; helped break Mongol hold over Russia  
• Prestor John; In legends popular from 12<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> century, a mythical Christian monarch whose kingdom was cut off from Europe by Muslim conquests; Chinggis Khan was originally believed to be

4. Some Russian towns made profits on increased trade made possible by Mongol links
  5. Moscow benefitted greatly
    - city was rebuilt after Mongol assaults + ruling princes take ctrl of nearby towns + surrounding villages
    - after 1328, Moscow profitted from status as tribute collector
    - as Moscow grew, Golden Horde decline
  6. Mongol religious toleration benefitted Orthodox + Moscow
    - choice of Moscow as seat of the Orthodox leaders brought new sources of wealth to its princes + buttressed its claim to be Russia's leading city
    - 1380; claims get boost when princes of Moscow shift from tribute collectors → defenders of Russia
  7. In alliance w/ Russian vassals → raise army to beat Golden Horde forces @ Battle of Kulikova
    - victory + devastating blows = break Mongol hold over Russia
  8. Mongol contacts
    - changes in Russian military organization + tactics
    - influence desire of Russian princes to centralize the ctrl + reduce limitations placed on their power by nobility, clergy, + wealthy merchants
    - \* Russia's isolation from Christian lands west provide a divided + weak Russia from attacks of powerful kingdoms (Poland, Lithuania, + Hungary)
    - Russia cut from key transformations in W. Europe
- B) Mongol Incursions + Retreat from Europe
1. Christian leaders pleased by rise of military power (Mongols)
  2. Rumors + reports from Christians saying persecuting Muslim warlords
  3. Russia made clear Mongol armies not legions of Prestor John nor partial to Christians
  4. Rulers weren't slow to recognize threat of Mong

his mythical Uler  
Map 14.3 pg 325  
Figure 14.4 pg 326  
Baibars - commander of Mamluk forces @ Ain Jalut in 1260  
Berke - ruler of Golden Horde

power to Christendom  
5. Mongol envoy arrive @ court King Bela of Hungary demanding v surrender a group of nomads that fled to his domain  
- king dismissed them + rebuffed his demand that he submit to Mongol rule  
C) Mongol Assault on Islamic Heartland  
1. Conquest of Mesopotamia + N. Africa by Hulegu, grandson of Chinggis Khan + ruler of Ilkhan portions of Mongol Empire  
2. Capture + destruction of Baghdad - 1258  
3. Victory over Seljuk Turks - 1243  
4. Muslim treat coming of Mongol as great catastrophe  
D) Defeat of Mongols  
1. In 1260 by armies of the Mamluk, or slave (dynasty of Egypt)  
- Baibars were enslaved by Mongols a few years earlier  
- cooperation of Christians -> allow Baibars' forces to cross unopposed thru diminished crusader territories  
2. Hulegu forced reconsider plans for conquest Muslim world  
- threatened by cousin Berke  
- clashing w/ Berke + Baibars overtures for alliance w/ G.H, Hulegu settle for already ruling kingdom (Byzantium frontiers - Oxus River)

Summary: This section in reading began with the negative and positive effects of Mongol dominance over Russia, especially Moscow. From there, Christian leaders had accused mongols of persecuting Muslims and soon after, Mongols went to conquer Muslim territory. However, the Mongols were eventually defeated in 1260.

Figure 14.5; pg 327  
Chabi - influential wife of Kubilai Chan, promoted

The Mongol Interlude in Chinese History:  
A) Gender Roles  
1. Women refuse to do footbinding  
2. Retained rights to property + ctrl in household  
3. Mongol women rode to hunt w/ husbands + @ head of hunting  
B) Chabi

interests of Buddhists in China

• Dadu - present day Beijing; so-called when Kubilai Khan rule China

• Figure 14.6 pg. 328

• Figure 14.7 pg. 329

• Romance of the West Chamber - Chinese novel

written during Yuan period; indicative of the cont. literary vitality of China during Mongol rule

• Yuanzhang, Zhu - given name of Hongwu emperor, founder of Ming dynasty

• Ming dynasty - succeeded Mongol Yuan dynasty in China in 1368, lasted till 1644

• Timur-i Lang - a.k.a. Tamerlane; leader of Turkic

1. Wife of Kubilai Khan

2. Most important confidants on political + diplomatic matters

3. Promoted Buddhists in highest circles of gov'n

4. Critical role in reconciling majority ethnic Chinese pop. of empire to Mongol rule

5. Convinced Kubilai that harsh treatment of survivors of defeated Song imperial fam = anger ppl. of N. China + harder to rule

6. Plan to turn cultivated lands near cap. to pasture lands for Mongol ponies

C) Mongol Tolerance + Cultural Foreign Influence

1. Patronage drew scholars, artists, artisans, + office-seekers from many lands to the Yuan court

2. Muslims = 2<sup>nd</sup> highest social grouping

3. Persians + Turks admitted to inner circle of Kubilai's admin + advisors

4. Muslims designed + supervised building of Chinese-style imperial city + propose new systems for efficient tax collections

5. Persian astronomers; import advanced M. Eastern instruments for celestial observations, correct Chinese calendar, make most accurate maps

6. Muslim doctors ran imperial hospitals + add 36 volumes on medicine

7. Welcomed travelers + emissaries from foreign lands - members of Polo family from Venice in N. Italy

D) Scholar-Gentry Resistance

1. Ethnic Chinese who make vast majority of ppl. never reconciled to Mongol rule - scholar-gentry see overlord + successors as barbarian whose policies endanger Chinese traditions

2. Kubilai refuse to reinstate exam. route to admin. office: prevent Confucian scholars from dominating politics

3. Favoritism to Mongols + other foreign officials = alienate scholar-gentry

4. Kubilai bolster position of artisan classes

10mads;  
beginning in  
360s from  
base @  
Samarkand,  
launch series  
of attacks in  
Persia, the  
Fertile  
Crescent, India  
& S. Russia;  
empire  
disintegrate  
after death  
in 1405  
Figure 14.8  
pg 332

5. Merchants prospered + commerce boomed (Yuan period)  
↳ Mongol efforts to improve transportation + extend paper \$ supp
6. Develop substantial navy (in Song Empire conquest)
- E) Peasant Policies
1. Forbade Mongol Cavalrymen from turning croplands to pasture
  2. Restore granary system for famine relief
  3. Reduce peasant tax + forced labor-burdens
  4. Establish elementary edu. in villages
- F) Fall of House of Yuan
1. Kubilai's rebuffs @ the hands of military lords of Japan + failure expeditions sent to punish them in 1274 + 1280
  2. Softening of Mongol ruling class after Chabi death + 5 yrs later, death of fav. son
  3. In 1350 signs of dynastic decline was evident
    - banditry + piracy widespread + gov'n too weak to stop it
    - famine in many regions → local uprisings → engulf areas of empire
    - secret religious sects, White Lotus society, to overthrow dynasty
  4. When chaos reigned, Mongols escaped to C. Asia
  5. Man of poor peasant fam, Zhu Yuanzhang, founded Ming dynasty (ruled China for most of next three centuries)
    - ↳ restoration of peace + order
- G) Turks
1. In 1360's armies move from base @ Samarkand to conquests in Persia, Fertile Crescent, India, + S. Russia
  2. Outdid Mongols in ferocity of campaigns
  3. ! armies built pyramids of skulls w/ heads of those they killed
  4. Rule did not increase trade, cross-cultural exchanges or internal peace
  5. After death in 1405, empire pulled apart

Summary: This section in reading focused on gender roles of women or how they're given more liberation. Also, they accepted foreigners but it made the scholar-gentry elite upset. Peasants were given many rights but soon the House of Yuan fell. Soon, the Turks gained power but immediately fell after the death of Timur-i Lang.