

# The Mongols

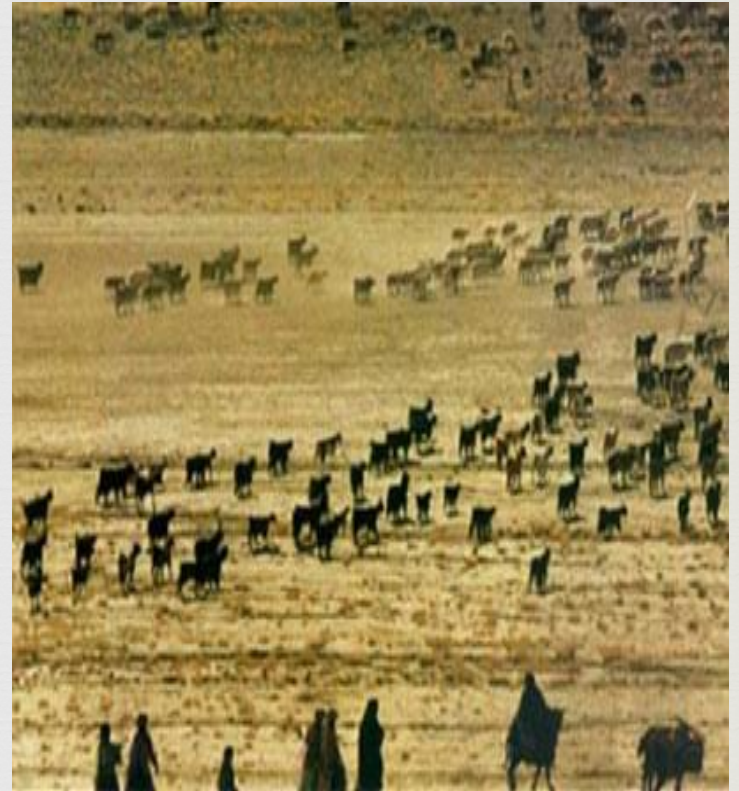


AP World History Notes  
Chapter 12

# Review of Pastoralists (Pastoralism vs. Agriculture)



- ❧ Relied on raising livestock instead of growing food
  - ❧ Used every part of the animal: milk, blood, wool, hides, and meat
  - ❧ Animals also used for transportation & the military
  - ❧ Less productive economy overall
- ❧ Smaller populations
- ❧ Lived in small encampments with related kinfolk
- ❧ Organized by: families, clans, and/or tribes



# Review of Pastoralists (Pastoralism vs. Agriculture)



Prominent Mongol Woman

- ❧ Pastoralists offered women a higher status in society
  - ❧ Fewer restrictions
  - ❧ Greater role in public life
  - ❧ Involved in productive labor
- ❧ Mongol women:
  - ❧ Could initiate divorce
  - ❧ Could remarry if widowed
  - ❧ Served as political advisors
  - ❧ Active in the military

# Review of Pastoralists (Pastoralism vs. Agriculture)



- ❧ Pastoralists = nomadic
- ❧ Traveled in systematic patterns based on seasonal changes and environmental conditions
- ❧ Not homeless → took their homes and belongings with them



Mongolian Yurt

# Pastoralists: Economic Interactions



- ⌘ Often traded with their agricultural neighbors
- ⌘ Wanted food, manufactured products, and luxury items
- ⌘ This desire for goods sometimes caused the creation of larger tribal confederations or nomadic states that could more effectively deal with larger civilizations



# Pastoralists: Military Interactions

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- ❧ Nomadic states had military advantages
  - ❧ Horseback riding and hunting skills
  - ❧ Entire male population and many females trained in these skills
- ❧ Used their militaries to extract wealth from larger civilizations
  - through raiding, trading, and extortion



# Pastoralists: Cultural Interactions

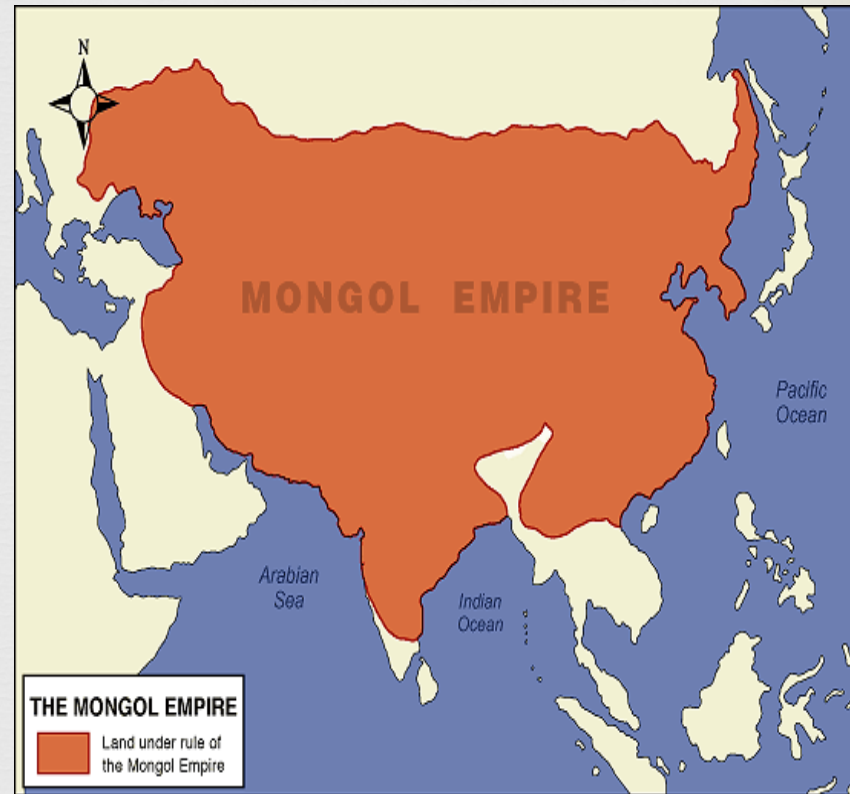


- ✧ Many pastoralists became familiar with and experimented with foreign:
  - ✧ Religions and philosophies
  - ✧ Clothing and hair styles
  - ✧ Languages
  - ✧ Political and social ideas

# The Mongol Empire



- ❧ Largest land-based empire in world history
- ❧ Stretched from the Pacific coast of Asia to Eastern Europe
- ❧ Brought the major civilizations of Eurasia (Europe, China, and the Islamic world) into more direct contact than ever before





# The Mongol Empire



What did they offer? Status of defeated, conquered, and subordinate

- ❧ One major contribution = facilitated worldwide networks of exchange and communication
- ❧ No real cultural impact
  - ❧ Did not spread any major religion
  - ❧ Did not spread their language or culture

# Temujin (1162-1227)



- ❧ United and led the Mongols
- ❧ How did he rise to power?
  - ❧ Capitalized on shifting tribal alliances and betrayals
  - ❧ Mounting string of military victories
  - ❧ Enemies were indecisive
  - ❧ Used his reputation as a leader generous to friends and ruthless to enemies
  - ❧ Incorporated warriors from defeated tribes into his own forces

# Temujin

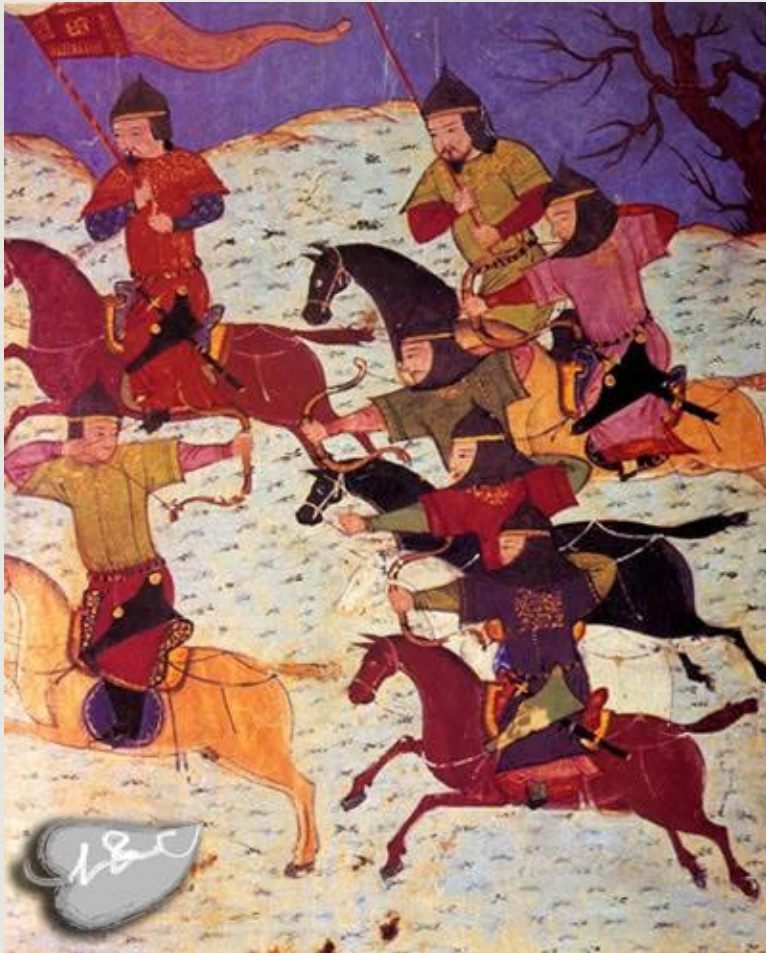


☞ 1206 = a Mongol tribal assembly recognized Temujin as Genghis Khan

☞ Means “universal” or “supreme” ruler



# Mongol Expansion

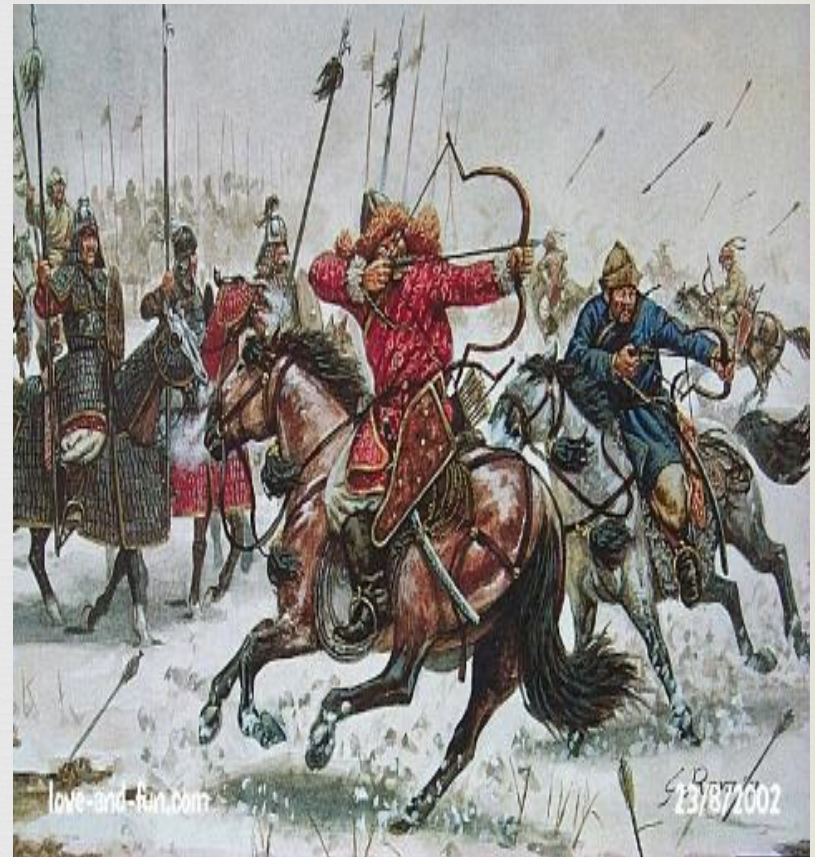


- ❧ Two major reasons for Mongol expansion under Genghis Khan:
  - ❧ The newly united Mongols needed a common task or else they would fragment and fall apart
  - ❧ He needed external resources with which to reward his followers
- ❧ 1<sup>st</sup> goal = China

# Mongol Expansion



- ❧ 1209 = marks the beginning of Mongol conquests
- ❧ Conquests continued for about 50 years under Genghis Khan and his grandsons = Ogodei, Mongke, and Kublai
- ❧ Final empire contained: China, Korea, Central Asia, Russia, much of the Islamic Middle East, and parts of Eastern Europe



# Mongol Expansion



- ❧ Mongol expansion put in check by a few setbacks, which marked the limits of the empire:
  - ❧ 1242 = Withdrawal from Eastern Europe
  - ❧ 1260 = Defeat by Egyptian forces in Palestine
  - ❧ 1274 & 1281 = Two failed invasions of Japan
  - ❧ Difficulty of moving through the tropical jungles of Southeast Asia



Painting of the Defeat of the Mongol Invasion Fleet

# The Mongol Military



The Mongol Army on the move



- ❧ Genghis Khan reorganized the entire social structure of the Mongols into military units
  - ❧ Of 10, 100, 1,000, and 10,000 warriors
  - ❧ Allowed for effective control and command
- ❧ Conquered tribes = broken up and dispersed throughout these units

# The Mongol Military



- ❧ Displayed incredible discipline and loyalty
  - ❧ People that deserted their unit in battle = put to death
  - ❧ Unit leaders fought alongside their men
  - ❧ ALL Mongols benefited from the wealth that flowed into the Mongol Empire from conquered civilizations





# The Mongol Military



- ❧ Conquered people were incorporated into the military
  - ❧ Nomads = put into the cavalry
  - ❧ Settled peoples = infantry and artillery forces
- ❧ Other conquered people served as laborers → built roads and bridges, carried supplies, etc.
- ❧ Artisans and craftsmen = typically spared from massacre, enslaved, and put to work

# The Mongol Military



- ❧ Brutal and ruthless military tactics
  - ❧ All who resisted Mongol rule = slaughtered along with their wives, children, and dependents
  - ❧ Cities destroyed
- ❧ Their brutality worked as psychological warfare also → many of those that heard about the Mongols were afraid and voluntarily surrendered



# Mongol Efficiency



- ❧ Mobilized human and material resources
- ❧ Detailed census taking
  - ❧ Knew how many people they controlled and what resources were available to them
  - ❧ Allowed them to effectively tax the people
- ❧ Set up an effective system of relay stations
  - ❧ Provided for rapid communication
  - ❧ Fostered trade
- ❧ Centralized government
  - ❧ Various government offices
  - ❧ Scribes translated laws into the various languages people spoke throughout the empire

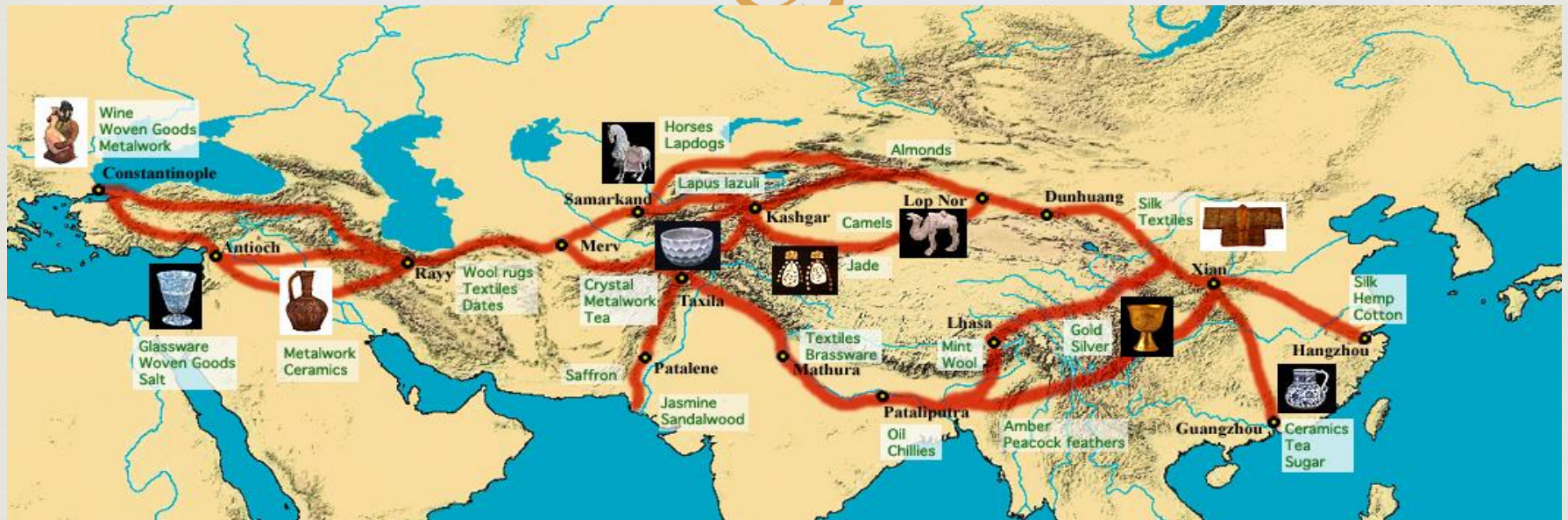
# Marco Polo



- ❧ Merchant from Venice, Italy
- ❧ Traveled throughout the Mongol Empire for almost 3 decades
- ❧ Utilized Mongolian relay stations and road networks
- ❧ Kept a diary of everything he encountered and experienced
- ❧ Primary way in which Europeans learned about the east



# Mongolian Economic Policies



- ☞ Wanted to foster trade
- ☞ Allowed merchants free use of their relay stations
- ☞ Often offered merchants 10% more than their asking price

# Mongolian Administrative Policies

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Ancient Mongol capital =  
Karakorum

- ☞ Mongols held the highest decision-making posts
- ☞ Chinese and Muslim officials held many advisory and lower-level positions

# Mongolian Religious Policies



- ☞ Total religious toleration  
→ as long as religion wasn't the cause of political opposition
- ☞ Major religions throughout the Mongol Empire = Buddhism, Christianity, Islam, and Daoism

