



# The Mongols

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# The Mongols

- Main Idea (Objective):



- Genghis Khan and his sons built the Mongol Empire, which stretched from the Pacific Ocean to Eastern Europe.

# The Mongols

- Lecture Focus (Essential Question):



- Have you ever had the chance to ride a horse? For thousands of years, the horse was the most important form of transportation in the world. Lets see how the Mongols used their skills as a horse rider to build the largest empire the world has ever seen!

# The Mongols

- **The Mongols** lived in an area north of China called *Mongolia*, where they lived in a **tribal** setting.



- **Tribe** – groups of related families, loosely joined together.

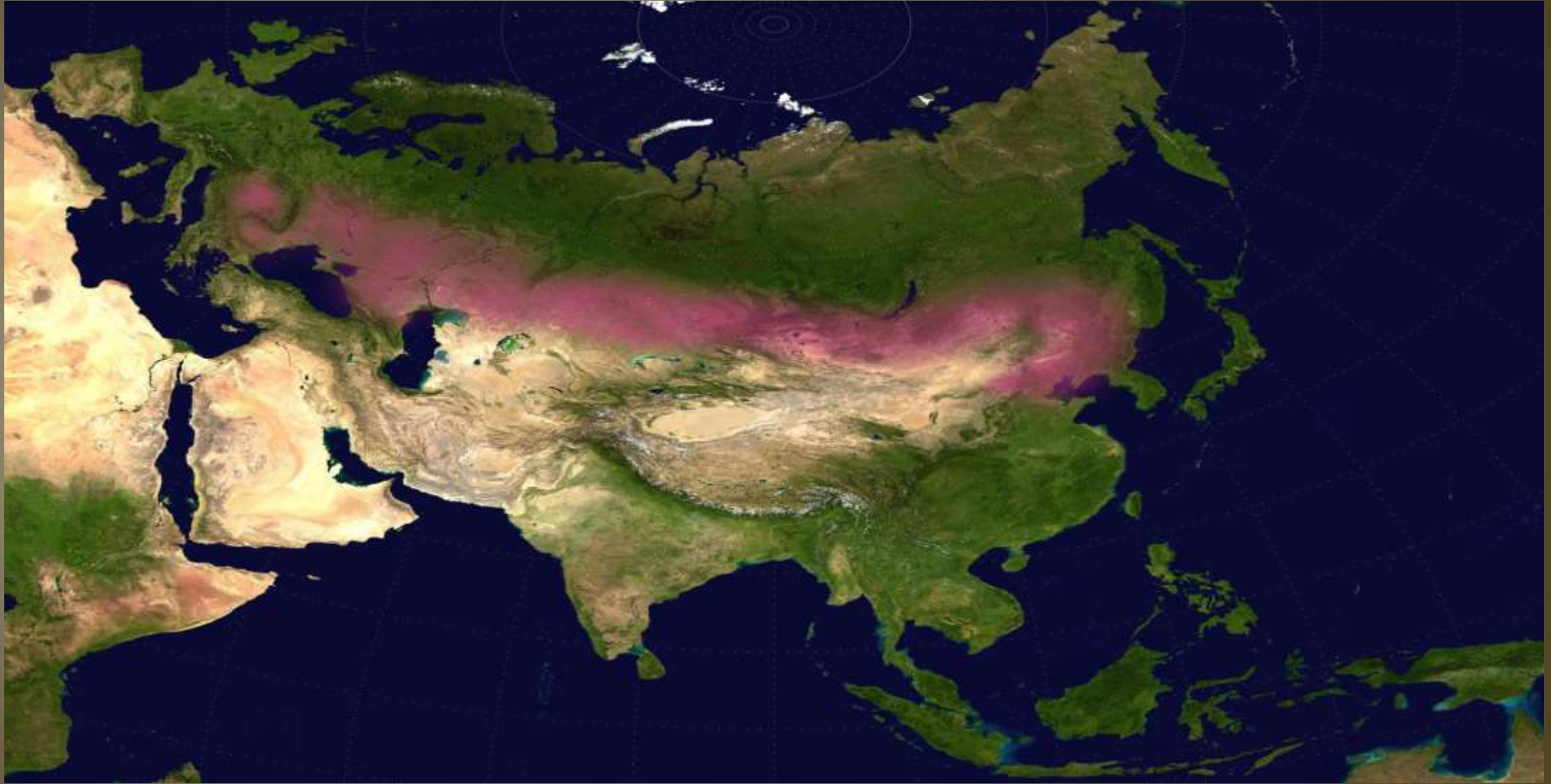
# The Mongols

- The Mongols raised cattle, goats, sheep and horses.



- They followed their herds as the animals grazed Mongolia's great **Steppes**.

# The Mongols



- **Steppes** – are wide, rolling, grassy plains that stretch from the Black Sea to northern China.

# The Mongols

- From an early period in their history, the Mongols were known for two things...
- **1)** Their ability to ride horses well...Mongols practically lived on horseback, learning to ride at age four or five.
- **2)** The other skill for which the Mongols were know for was the ability to wage war.





# The Mongols

- They could fire arrows at enemies from a distance of up to **400 yards** while charging at them.



- The Mongols were also very skilled in the art of spear and sword fighting as well.

# The Mongols

- **Questions:**
- **1)** How were the Mongolians organized as people?
- **2)** What types of animals did the Mongols raise?
- **3)** What two things were the Mongols known for?

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# The Mongols

- **Questions:**
- **1) How were the Mongolians organized as people?**
  - **Organized into tribes.**
- **2) What types of animals did the Mongols raise?**
  - **Cattle, goats, sheep and horses.**
- **3) What two things were the Mongols known for?**
  - **Their ability to ride horses and their ability to wage war.**

# Who Was Genghis Khan?

- The man who would unite the Mongols was born in 1167 C.E...his name was **Temujin**, which means “Blacksmith”.
- He was born to a prominent family with a powerful father who actually forged an alliance within the Mongol Clans.
- **Temujin** showed his leadership skills early on in his life.
- He was still a young man when he began to unite the Mongol tribes.



# Who Was Genghis Khan?



- When **Temujin** was ten rivals poisoned his father, destroyed the Alliance of Mongols...forcing him to hide in poverty stricken areas where he was eventually found and imprisoned for twenty years.

# Who Was Genghis Khan?



- Temujin eventually escaped prison and began mastering the art of steppe diplomacy, which called for **displays of personal courage in battle**, combined with **intense loyalty to allies** and a **willingness to betray others to improve ones position**.

# Who Was Genghis Khan?



- Temujin strengthened his position by forging useful allies, conquering rival contenders of power and turning suddenly against troublesome allies.



# Who Was Genghis Khan?

- In 1206 a meeting of Mongol leaders took place somewhere in the **Gobi**, vast desert that covers parts of Mongolia and China.



- At that meeting, Temujin was proclaimed **Genghis Khan**, which means “**Universal Ruler.**”

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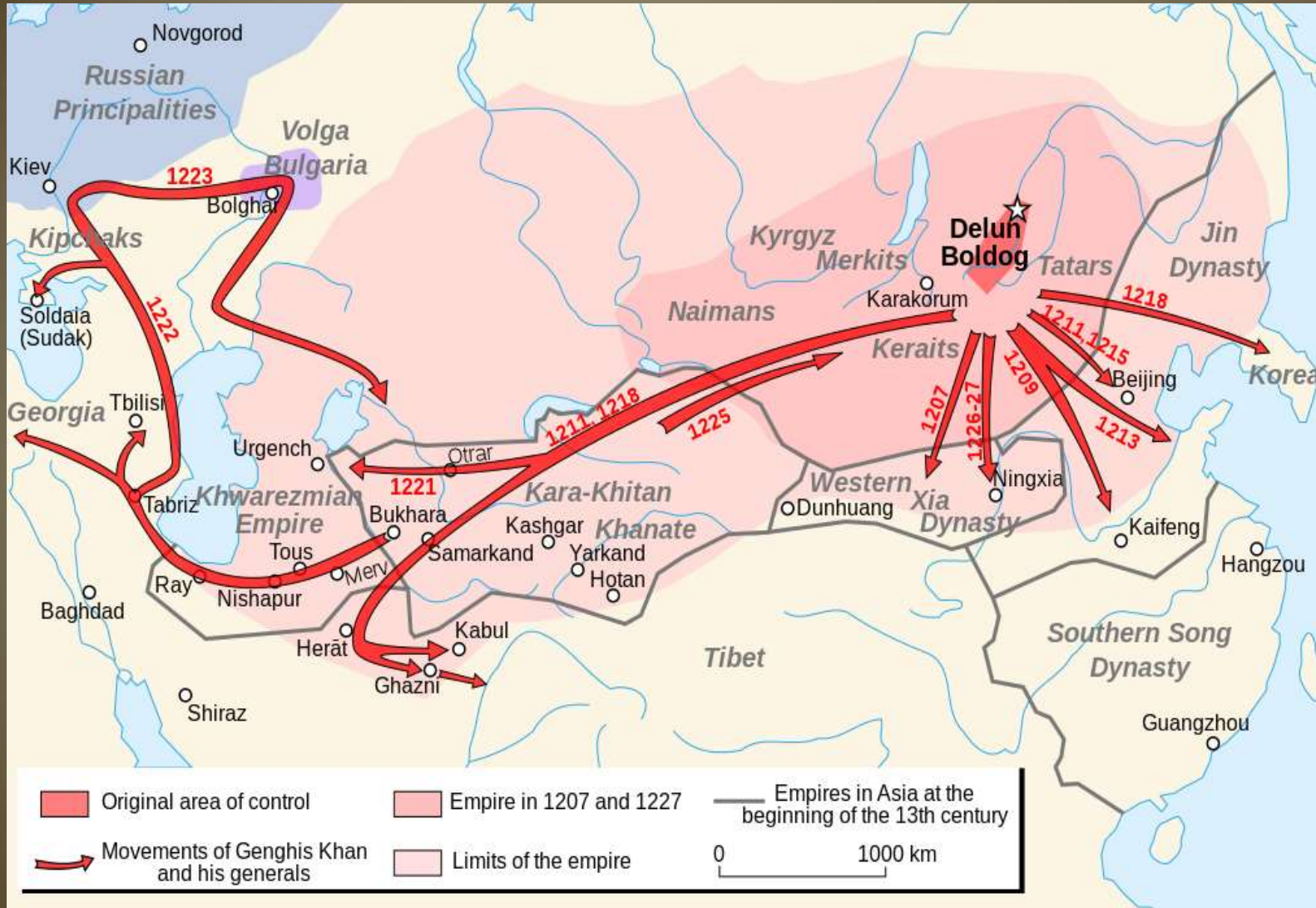
# Who Was Genghis Khan?

- Genghis Khan brought together Mongol laws in a new code.



- He also created a group of tribal chiefs to help him plan military campaigns.

# Who Was Genghis Khan?



- From the time of his election until the end of his life, Genghis Khan fought to conquer the lands beyond Mongolia...he wanted to take the world for himself!

# Who Was Genghis Khan?

- Genghis Khan gathered an army of more than **100,000** warriors.
- He placed his soldiers into well trained groups, with commanding officers chosen for their brutal fighting abilities and not their family ties.
- These changes allowed the Mongols to grow into the most skilled fighting force in the world at the time.



# Who Was Genghis Khan?

- Genghis Khan began building his empire by conquering other people on the Steppes of Mongolia.



- These victories brought him wealth and new soldiers to fill the armies ranks.

# Who Was Genghis Khan?

- Soon the Mongols were strong enough to attack major civilizations.



- In 1211 C.E., Mongol forces turned east and invaded China.

# Who Was Genghis Khan?

- Within three years, the Mongols had taken all of northern China.
- They then moved west and struck at cities and kingdoms that controlled parts of the **Silk Road**.
- **(Mongol Troops storm across the Chang Jiang River on a bridge made of boats)**





# Who Was Genghis Khan?

- Genghis Khan and his Mongol Warriors became known for their cruelty and use of **terror**.



- **Terror** - refers to violent actions that are meant to scare people into surrendering, or giving up.

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# Who Was Genghis Khan?

- Mongol warriors attacked, robbed and burned cities.



- Within a short time, the Mongols became known for their fierce ways and many people surrendered to them without fighting.

# Who Was Genghis Khan?

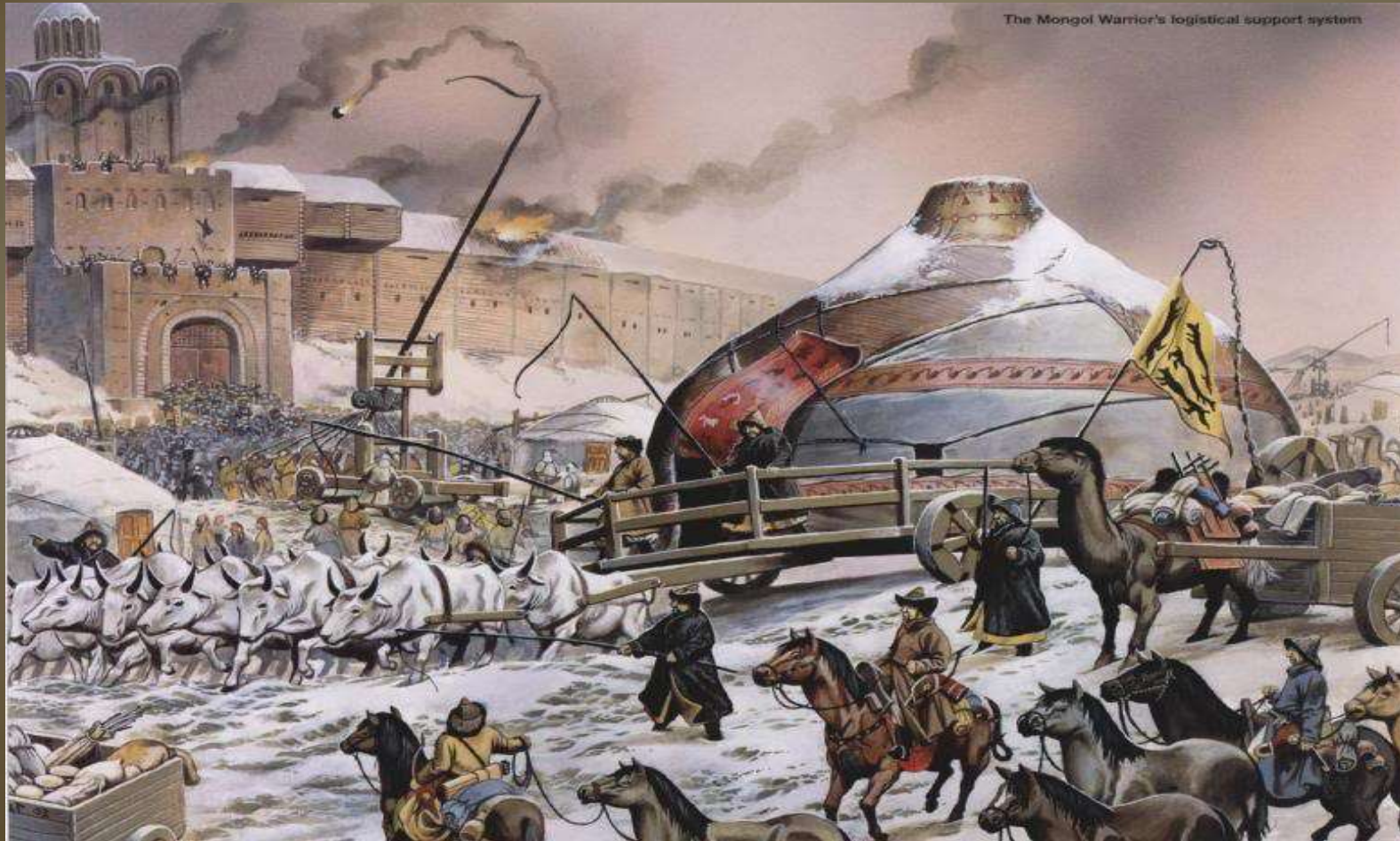
- Like earlier nomadic armies, the Mongol forces relied on outstanding equestrian skills.



- They had also developed bows that were short enough for archers to use while riding, and their arrows could nail enemies from about 600 feet away.

# Who Was Genghis Khan?

- Mongol Horsemen were among the most mobile forces of the ancient world, sometimes traveling up to 200-300 miles a day just to surprise an enemy.



- The Mongols also understood the psychological dimensions (**Terror**) of warfare and used them to essentially play mind games with enemy armies. (Moveable Yurt)

# Who Was Genghis Khan?



- If enemies surrendered without resistance, the Mongols usually spared their lives and even provided generous treatment for artisans, craft workers and those with military skills.

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# Who Was Genghis Khan?



- In the event of resistance, however, the Mongols ruthlessly slaughtered whole populations, sparing very few, who they would later drive in front of their armies as human shields during future conflicts.



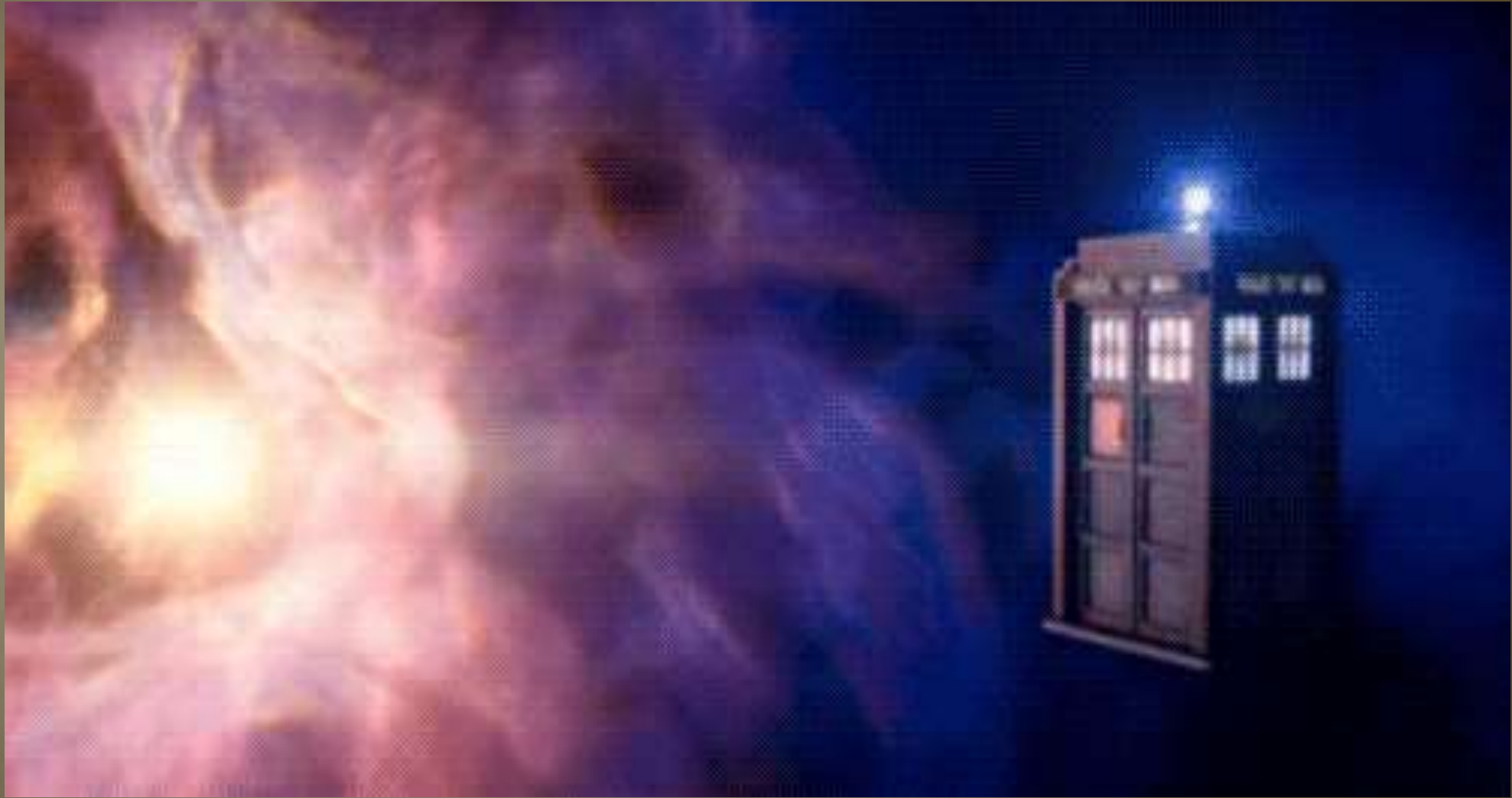
# Who Was Genghis Khan?

- **Questions:**
- **1)** Temujin is the original name for Genghis Khan. What does Temujin mean and what does Genghis Khan mean?
- **2)** How were commanding officers chosen in the Mongol military?
- **3)** How did Genghis Khan use terror as a weapon during battle?
- **4)** How were bows and horses used during combat?

# Who Was Genghis Khan?

- **Questions:**
- **1) Temujin is the original name for Genghis Khan. What does Temujin mean and what does Genghis Khan mean?**
  - **Temujin = “Blacksmith” / Genghis Khan = “Universal Ruler”**
- **2) How were commanding officers chosen in the Mongol military?**
  - **Based on their abilities in combat not family ties**
- **3) How did Genghis Khan use terror as a weapon during battle?**
  - **Surround villages and cities screaming in terror and driving enemies in front of them as human shields.**
- **4) How were bows and horses used during combat?**
  - **Horses allowed the Mongols to travel long distances fast and they were basically snipers with bows!**

# History Mystery?!?



- Time Travel Time!!!

# History Mystery?!?

- **Yurts** are the round tents that were used by the Mongols.



- A Yurt consists of a frame made of wooden poles that were covered with animal skin, wool felt or some type of woven cloth.

# History Mystery?!?



# History Mystery?!?



- A Yurt is easily moved from place to place by horse or wagon to allow nomads the ability to scout out new grazing territory.

# History Mystery?!?



- Yurts serve a very similar purpose to the Native American **Tepee**.

# History Mystery?!?



- Today Yurts can still be found being used in the vast Steppes of the Mongolian country side



# History Mystery?!?



MARGUS RIGA



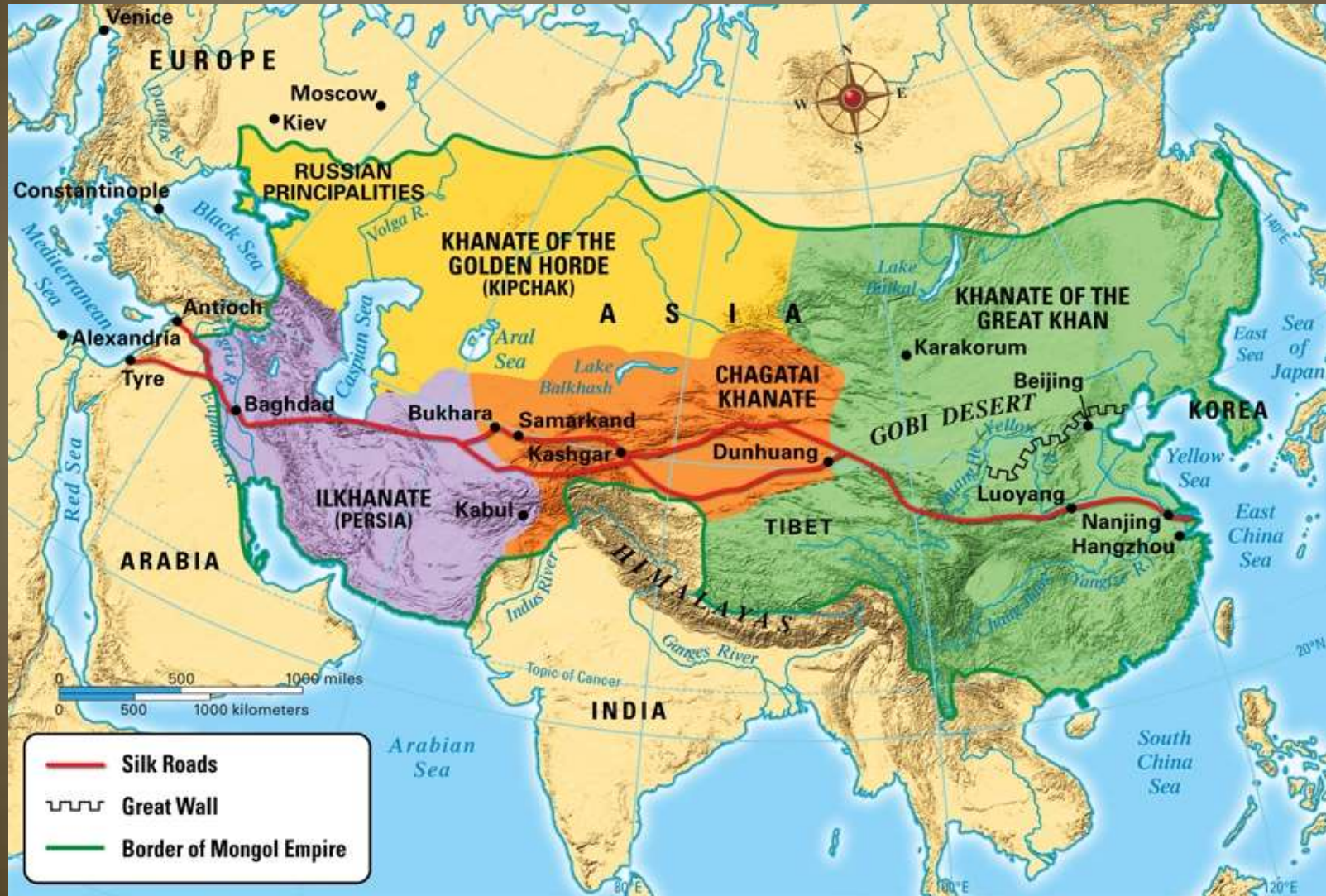
# The Mongol Empire

- In 1227 Genghis Khan died and the specific reason for his death is uncertain.
- What we do know is he dies in a Mongol camp during a campaign against the Chinese kingdom of Xi Xia.
- The great Khan, who was over 60 and in failing health, which could have been the cause of his death.
- However there are accounts that say he may have succumbed to injuries incurred during a fall from a horse
- Others contend that he may have contracted an illness or a respiratory issue.



# The Mongol Empire

- His empire was divided among his four sons.



- Under their leadership, the empire continued to expand.

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# The Mongol Empire



1206

# The Mongol Empire



- The Mongol Empire swept into parts of eastern and central Europe and also conquered much of southwest Asia.

# The Mongol Empire

- In 1258 C.E., the famous Muslim city of Baghdad fell to the Mongols.



- Mongol armies then swept through Syria, Palestine and were finally stopped by the Muslim rulers of Egypt in 1260.

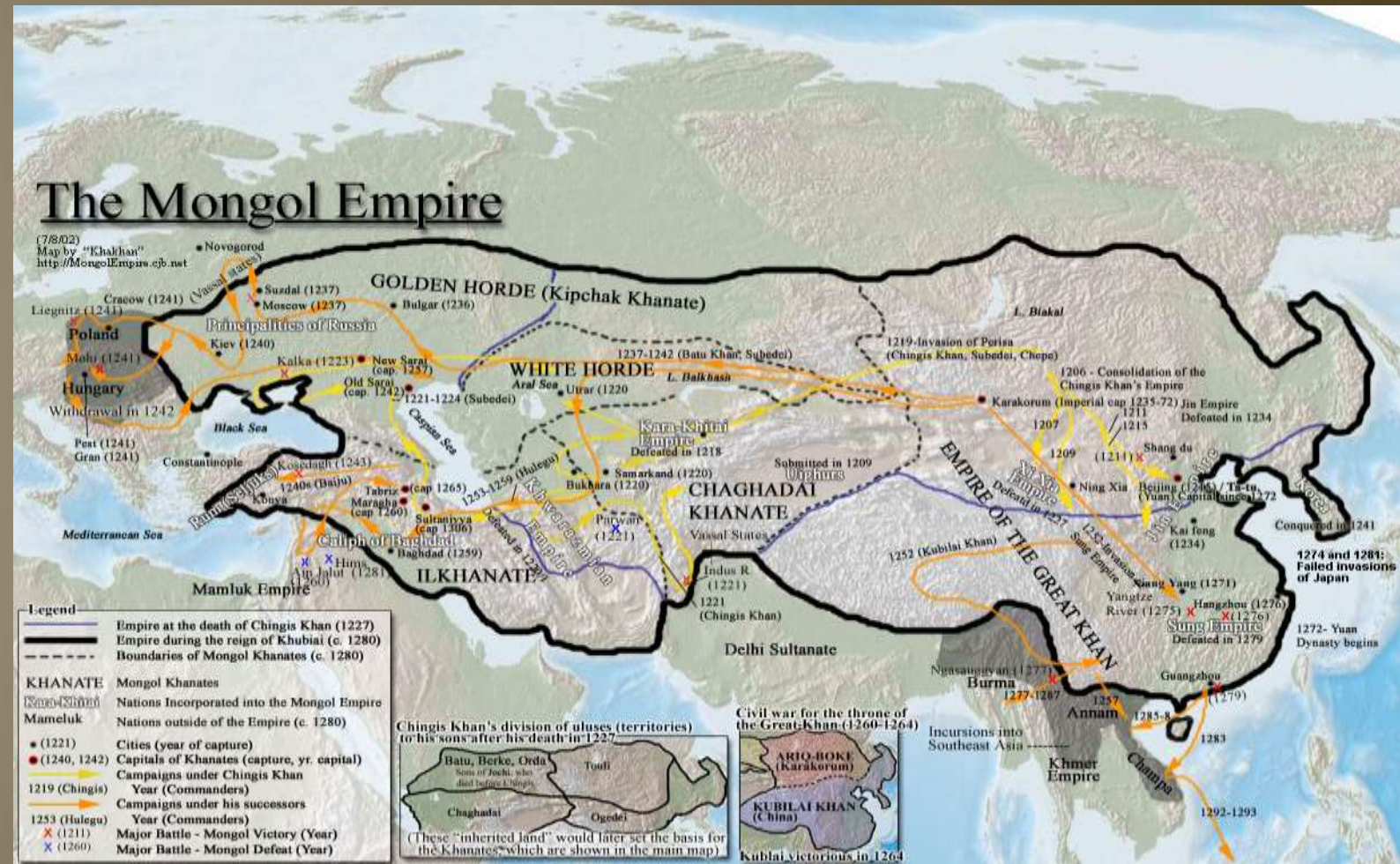
# The Mongol Empire





# The Mongol Empire

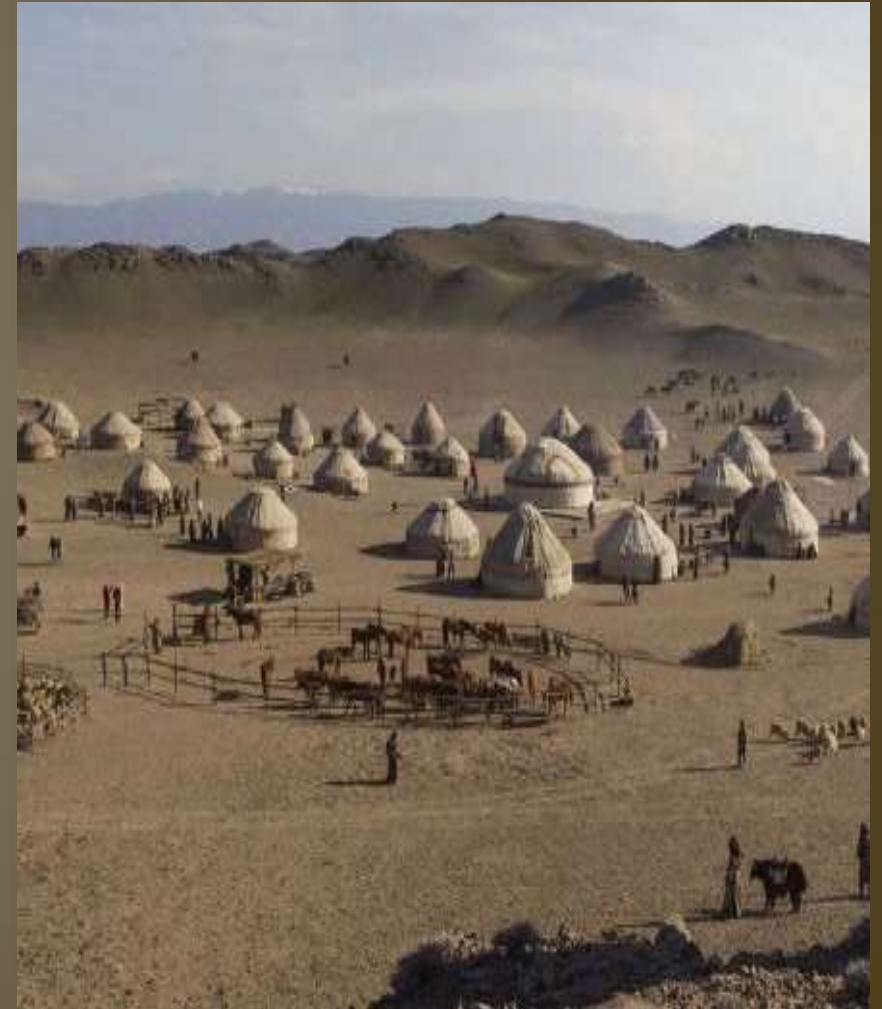
- The Mongols united all of these different territories under their ruler for a long period of time.



- Their empire actually reached from the Pacific Ocean in the East to Eastern Europe in the West and from Siberia in the North to the Himalayas in the South...It was the largest land empire the world has ever known.

# The Mongol Empire

- Despite widespread destruction, the Mongols eventually brought peace to the lands that they ruled.



- Peace encouraged trade, which helped the Mongols maintain control of such a large area.

# The Mongol Empire

- Many of Asia's trade routes now lay in Mongol hands.



- The Mongols taxed products traded over these roads and as a result the Empire grew very wealthy.

# The Mongol Empire

- The Mongols felt great respect for the advanced cultures they conquered.



- Sometimes they even adopted some of the beliefs and customs they encountered.

# The Mongol Empire



- For example, the Mongols in southwest Asia accepted Islam as a faith and also adopted Arab, Persian and Turkish traditions.

# The Mongol Empire

- The Mongols also learned many things from the Chinese lands they invaded.



- As they battled Chinese troops, they learned about **gunpowder** and its uses as an explosive weapon.

# The Mongol Empire

- They also saw the Chinese use the **Fire Lance**, a weapon that used gunpowder to propel projectiles.



- Quickly, the Mongols adopted both gunpowder and the Fire Lance for use in battle...they even created their own variation, the **Hand Cannon**.

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# The Mongol Empire

- These new weapons made the Mongol military even more frightening to their enemies.



- (10 Shot Hand Cannon)

# The Mongol Empire

- **Questions:**

- **1)** What happened to Genghis Khans empire after his death?

- **2)** What did the Mongols do with the cultures and traditions of the lands they conquered?

- **3)** How did the Mongols adopt gunpowder as a weapon?

# The Mongol Empire

- **Questions:**
- **1) What happened to Genghis Khans empire after his death?**
  - **It was divided among his four sons.**
- **2) What did the Mongols do with the cultures and traditions of the lands they conquered?**
  - **Adopted them into their empire.**
- **3) How did the Mongols adopt gunpowder as a weapon?**
  - **They used the Chinese Fire Lance and created their own Hand Cannon.**

# The Mongol Empire

- **Reading Check: Analyze**

- Answer the following questions in a well organized open ended response.

- **What military and economic reasons explain why the Mongols were able to build such a huge empire so quickly?**

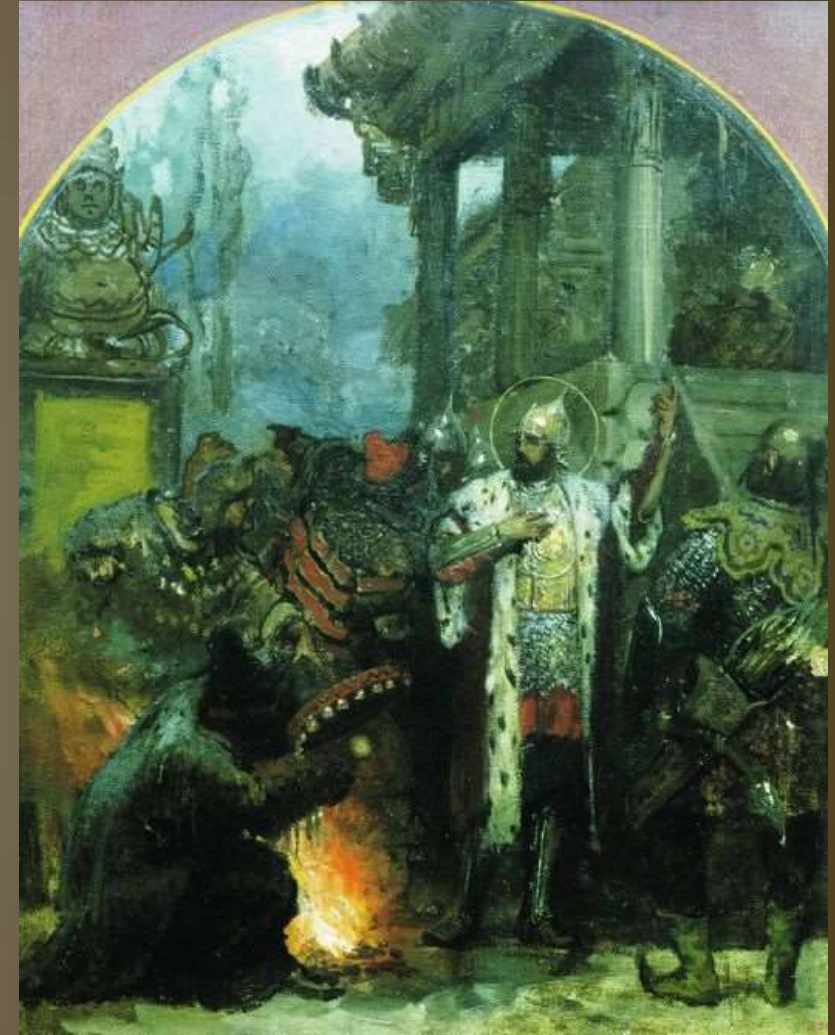
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# History Mystery



- **History Mystery Time:** The Golden Horde

# History Mystery



- One of the most powerful Mongol empires was the **Golden Horde**, a large kingdom established by Genghis Khan's grandson, **Batu Khan**, in 1251.

# History Mystery



- The name, Golden Horde sounds like a massive cluster of savages in tents, but it was actually a powerful, highly organized country with surprisingly modern stone cities, in particular the capital, **Sarai-Batu**.



# History Mystery



- The Golden Horde had massive influence on other cultures as well...presiding over an area that covered parts of Russia, Ukraine, Kazakhstan and Moldova...the Horde even created the city of Moscow.

# History Mystery

- The Horde gleefully terrorized the Russians, who actually ended up in a secluded Dark Age because of their Mongol neighbors.



- Muslims were luckier...the traditionally shamanistic Mongol leaders embraced and eventually adopted their religion.

# History Mystery



- **History Mystery Time:** Tatars...How many of you are familiar with Greek Mythology?

# History Mystery



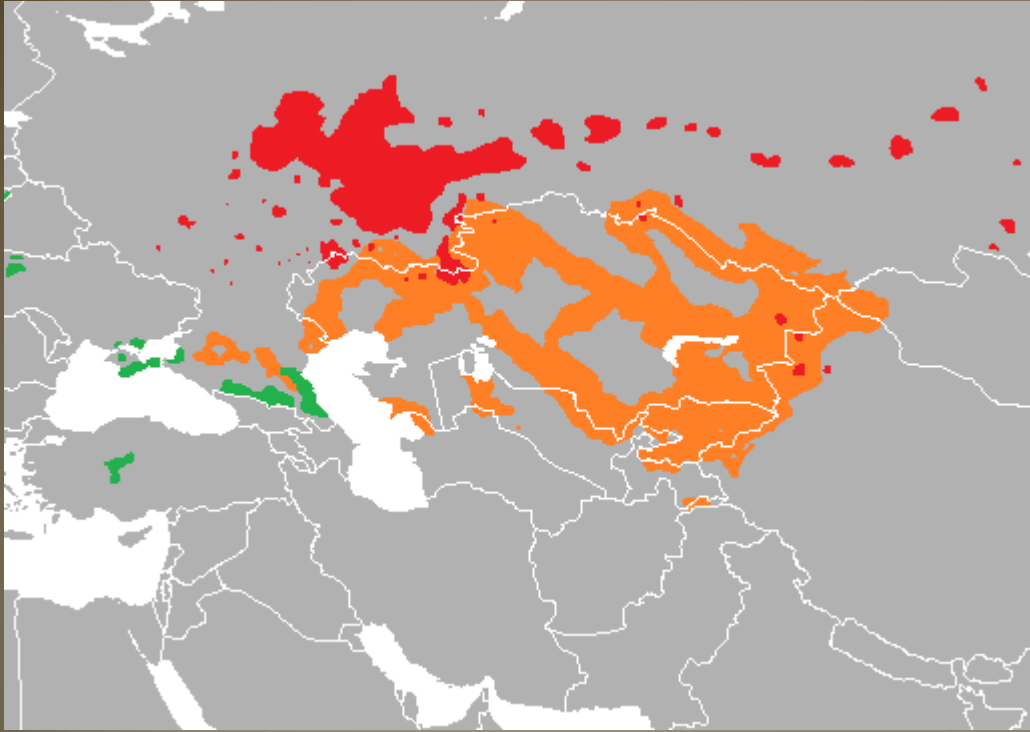
- Mongols were occasionally referred to as **Tatars** by the people they terrorized.

# History Mystery



- This was originally derived from **Tata**, a name the Mongols call themselves...however, when people realized this sounded a lot like **Tartarus**, Greek mythology's variation of Hell, they started calling Mongols, Tatars "**people from Tartarus**," meaning demons from hell.

# History Mystery



- The Tatar name is still in use, though it is not quite as threatening anymore...today, "Tatar" refers to ethnically Turkish people who mainly live in Russia, Kazakhstan, and Siberia.

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# History Mystery

