

Name: _____ Date: _____ Period: _____

Chapter 14 Reading Guide

The Last Great Nomadic Challenges: From Chinggis Khan to Timur p.314-333

THE TRANSCONTINENTAL EMPIRE OF CHINGGIS KHAN p.316

1. Define the east and west boundaries of the Mongol Empire. (Pay attention! The answer is in the beginning of this section but in a place that you usually do not read)
2. What did the Mongol nomads depend on for survival?
3. What did they trade and trade for with sedentary people?
4. What remarkable skills did Mongol boys, girls, and warriors have?
5. What was the basic unit of Mongol society?
6. What was the purpose of a confederation?
7. How were leaders determined?
8. What role did women have in leadership?
9. What are the skills necessary to be a good leader? And what did being a good leader bring?
10. Look at figure 14.2 on page 317. What made them the most mobile (moveable) preindustrial society (HINT: read the caption!)?

The Making of a Great Warrior: The Early Career of Chinggis Khan

11. Describe the life of young Chinggis.
12. What happened at the **kuriltai** in 1206?

Building the Mongol War Machine

13. What was the most important weapon the Mongol warriors used and why was it so valuable?
14. Describe the war machine or the Mongol armies' organization.
15. What types of discipline kept the Mongol army at his best?
16. What types of innovations/technology gave the Mongols an edge?

Conquest: The Mongol Empire Under Chinggis Khan

17. In 1206, how large was his influence?
18. It was larger and more lasting than you think. Analyze the following excerpt from the National Geographic's website and consider it in light of the quote from Chinggis Khan on p. 319 regarding his greatest pleasure in life:

Genghis Khan, the fearsome Mongolian warrior of the 13th century, may have done more than rule the largest empire in the world; according to a recently published genetic study, he may have helped populate it too.

An international group of geneticists studying Y-chromosome data have found that nearly 8 percent of the men living in the region of the former Mongol empire carry Y-chromosomes that are nearly identical. That translates to 0.5 percent of the male population in the world, or roughly 16 million descendants living today.

http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2003/02/0214_030214_genghis.html

Now, explain what you think Chinggis was really doing when he and his army conquered their enemies. What would happen if an American military leader did this today?

19. How did Chinggis adapt to coming up against large, fortified cities with extensive defensive works and where did they get the knowledge from?
20. What were his feelings toward these fortified towns and what was his punishment for them? Who did he spare and why?

First Assault on the Islamic World

21. What was the favorite war tactic that Chinggis used?

DOCUMENT: A European Assessment of the Virtues and Vices of the Mongols p.320

22. Complete the T Chart below using ONE WORD descriptors (LOOK UP THE DEFINITION OF "VICE" IF YOU DON'T KNOW IT!)

Virtues	Vices

23. The virtues related to characteristics Mongols had and showed to each other. The fact that Friar Carpini, a European Christian, emphasized these may reveal what about European virtues (or vices)?

24. Why must we be skeptical of the vices he lists? (Consider both his purpose in going to the Mongols and what the Mongols were doing)
25. How do the virtues possibly relate to Chinggis Khan?
26. Which vices may relate to the Mongols being nomads? How?

Long Distance Trade and Cross-Cultural Exchange: Life Under the Mongol Imperium

27. What was the amazing contradiction of Chinggis?
28. Chinggis refused to live in the cities he conquered, where did he make his capital?
29. With whom did he meet and learn at his capital?
30. What were some of the unifying and centralizing forces of Chinggis' rule?

The Death of Chinggis Khan and the Division of the Empire

31. What did Chinggis warn his sons about?
32. How did the Mongols honor Chinggis when he died in August of 1227?
33. How was his empire divided?
34. Who was chosen to succeed Chinggis and what were his skills?

THE MONGOL DRIVE TO THE WEST p.322

35. Which khanate set its eyes on Russia and Europe?
36. How was the Russian campaign viewed by the Mongols?
37. What mistake did the Russian princes make that led to their defeat?
38. What great feat did the Tartars achieve? How did they use the difficulty to their advantage?
39. Why did the Mongols withdraw before taking Kiev?
40. What was the only Russian city spared and why?

Russia in Bondage

41. How long did Batu's armies rule Russia?
42. Who/what benefited the most from Mongol rule? How?
43. What were the positive and negative effects of Mongol rule on Russia?

Mongol Incursions and the Retreat from Europe

44. Who did the Christian West think the Mongols were?
45. What country in Africa do you think Europeans thought was P.J.'s?
46. How close did the Mongols get to realizing their goal of taking the Christian West? (HINT: Adolf Hitler blamed retardation among Germans on the introduction of Mongolian blood into "pure" German women through rape)
47. What caused the Mongols to stop heading West?

The Mongol Assault on the Islamic Heartland

48. Who ruled the Ilkhan Khanate?
49. Describe the Mongol capture of Baghdad in 1258.
50. Who was able to hold back the Mongols from engulfing the entire Muslim world?
51. What's ironic about Baibars' background?
52. Who cooperated with the Muslims, thus helping them defeat the Mongols? Why do you think they did this? (and let me complicate things for you: the Mongol leader at the time of the battle was a Christian!)
53. Why did Hulegu stop trying to conquer the Muslim Empire? (HINT: somebody converted to Islam)

VISUALIZING THE PAST: The Mongol Empire as a Bridge Between Civilizations p.325

54. Examine the map on page 322 AND page 325. What civilizations were on the frontiers (edges) of the Mongol Empire by 1290?
55. What role did the Mongol Empire play between those civilizations? (HINT: section title)
56. Look at the products being shipped EASTWARD and then compare them to the products shipping WESTWARD. How do those products compare to each other?
57. What ancient trade route did the Mongols protect and expand?
58. Tricky: closely compare the products on the northern East-West route (purple) to the southern East-West route (also purple). How are they different in general?
59. Who would you say benefited the most from the expansion of the Mongol Empire, the East or the West and WHY?

THE MONGOL INTERLUDE IN CHINESE HISTORY p.326

60. About how long did the Mongols rule China?

61. What was the name of Chinese dynasty Kubilai ruled?
62. Read the following excerpt from *Time Magazine* (July 2009):

The Neo-Nazis of Mongolia: Swastikas Against China

In the Mongolian capital Ulan Bator, “Shoot the Chinese” is spray-painted on a brick wall near a movie theater. A pair of swastikas and the words “Killer Boys...! Danger!” can be read on a fence in an outlying neighborhood of yurt dwellings...

Ulan Bator is home to three ultra-nationalist groups claiming a combined membership of several thousand – a not insignificant number in a country of just 3 million people. They have adopted Nazi paraphernalia and dogma, and are vehemently anti-Chinese. One group, Blue Mongolia, has admitted to shaving the heads of local women found sleeping with Chinese men. Its leader was convicted last year of murdering his daughter’s Mongolian boyfriend, who had merely studied in China.

<http://www.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,1910893,00.html>

What laws passed by Kubilai in the mid to late 13th century seem to have a relation to contemporary events like those cited above?

63. Even though Kubilai Khan wanted to keep Chinese separate, what were some of his actions that showed appreciation of what the Chinese had to offer?
64. But what did Kubilai not reinstate at the advisement of Confucian advisors?
65. What was the new social structure under the Mongols?

Gender Roles and the Convergence of Mongol and Chinese Cultures

66. What type of rights did Mongol women have in China and what Chinese practice did they refuse to emulate (copy)?
67. Who was the leading example of the importance of Mongol women? Explain.

Mongol Tolerance and Foreign Cultural Influences

68. Who did Kubilai Khan introduce to Chinese culture and what contributions did they make?
69. Who was the most famous Christian traveler to come to the Mongol court? How many years did he stay?
70. What effect did this traveler’s accounts have on other Europeans and world events?

Social Policies and Scholar-Gentry Resistance

71. What group did the Mongols alienate?
72. What groups of people benefited from Mongol rule? How? (more later in the section)
73. What military unit did they develop and were they successful?
74. What policies of Kubilai Khan’s benefited the peasants?

The Fall of the House of Yuan

- 75. What were the signs of collapse?
- 76. Who helped unite the Chinese against the Mongols?
- 77. Who emerged as the next dynasty? From what class?

THINKING HISTORICALLY: The Global Eclipse of the Nomadic Warrior Culture p.330

- 78. The periodic nomadic intrusions have produced what results?
- 79. What made the nomadic people so tough?
- 80. Why were larger, sedentary civilizations often unable to resist nomadic invasions?
- 81. How did the Black Death help put an end to nomadic invasions of the Mongols?
- 82. What will eventually give European armies the edge?
- 83. Will there be anymore nomadic invasions anywhere in the world, at least in the foreseeable future? Why?

Aftershock: The Brief Ride of Timur, the Last of the Great, Nomadic Conquerors

- 84. Who was the next great nomadic leader? Describe him.
- 85. What areas were brought under his control?
- 86. Describe what he is best known for? Who did he spare?