

Stearns--Chapter 14—The Mongols

KEY TERMS

Chinggis Khan: grandson of Kabul Khan; born in 1170s; elected supreme Mongol ruler (khagan) in 1206; began the Mongols rise to world power; died 1227.

tumens: basic fighting units of Mongol forces; made up of 10,000 cavalrymen divided into smaller units.

Tangut: rulers of Xi-Xia kingdom of northwest China; during the southern Song period; conquered by Mongols in 1226.

Muhammad Shah II: Turkic ruler of Muslim Khwarazm; conquered by Mongols in 1220.

Karakorum: capital of Mongol empire under Chinggis Khan.

shamanistic religion: Mongol beliefs focused on nature spirits.

Batu: grandson of Chinggis Khan and ruler of Golden Horde; invaded Russia in 1236

Ogadei: 3rd son of Chinggis Khan; succeeded him as Mongol khagan.

Golden Horde: one of four regional subdivisions of the Mongol empire after the death Chinggis Khan; conquered and ruled Russia during the 13th and 14th centuries..

Metropolitan: head of Russian Orthodox church; located at Moscow; gained power during the Mongol era.

Prester John: a mythical Christian monarch whose kingdom supposedly had been cut off from Europe by the Muslim conquests; some thought he was Chinggis Khan.

Ilkhan khanate: one of four regional subdivisions of the Mongol empire after the death of Chinggis Khan; eventually included much of Abbasid empire.

Hulegu: grandson of Chinggis Khan and ruler of Ilkhan khanate; captured and destroyed Abbasid Baghdad.

Mamluks: Muslim slave warriors; established dynasty in Egypt; led by Baibars defeated Mongols at Ain Jalut in 1260.

Kublai Khan: grandson of Chinggis Khan; conquered China; established Yuan dynasty in 1271.

Tatu: Mongol capital of Yuan dynasty; present-day Beijing.

Chabi: influential wife of Kubilai Khan; demonstrated refusal of Mongol women to adopt restrictive social conventions of Confucian China.

Nestorians: Asian Christian sect; cut off from Europe by Muslim invasions.

Romance of the West Chamber: famous Chinese dramatic work written during the Yuan period.

White Lotus Society: secret religious society dedicated to overthrow of Yuan dynasty;.

Ju Yuanzhang: Chinese peasant who led successful revolt against Yuan; founded Ming dynasty.

Timur-i Lang: last major nomad leader; 14th century Turkic ruler of Samarkand; launched attacks in Persia, Fertile Crescent, India, southern Russia; empire disintegrated after his death in 1405.