



UNIT 3 — 500-1450



Byzantine Empire:

Constantly declining
 Government control of religion (Orthodox Christianity)
 Continuation of Roman empirical structure
 Justinian's *Corpus Iuris Civilis*
 Technology: Greek Fire

Americas:

The Maya (300-900 CE)

- S. Mexico, Central America
- Came before Aztecs and Incas
- Written language, complex religion

The Inca

- Southern Andean highlands (South Am.)
- Clans @ Cuzco
- Inca socialism - each community contrib. to whole
- Bureaucracy

The Aztecs

- Central Mexican highlands
- City states
- Really liked SACRIFICES <3 wars

Islam:

- After Muhammad's death, the title "Caliph" arose to signify the successor of the prophet
 - The Shia's named their leader the "Imamate"
- Pretty important caliphates: Abbasid and Umayyad
- The Sunni and Shia split was caused by disagreement over who the rightful heir to the prophet was
- Notions of king-like leaders was disparaged because it was the "prototype of the unjust and tyrannical ruler" (Quran, 18:70, 79).

Islam and Mongols:

Two of the largest empires the world has seen.
Semi tolerant of religions - the Mongols did not quarrel with any religion, whereas Islam ONLY aided those of "the book" (Jews and Christians).
Trade was encouraged in both - the Mongols expanded and protected eurasian trade networks during their reign, whereas most of Islam trade occurred between Islamic merchants.
Technology - both societies made enormous strides technology, specifically military tech. Most of the Mongol's success could be attributed to their utilization of bows and arrows, a technology that the world had not seen much of. At the same time, muslims enhanced the contemporary use of swords and shields by making them out of more durable metals and shaping them in a more safe and efficient way.

Mongols

Mongols don't exhibit forms of government - during the rule of Genghis Khan, the leader of the tribe is the only word that matters. Failure to comply with the ruling of the khan would result in execution.

Future generations of Mongols abided by "Genghis Khan's Code of Laws" which was a series of 22 rules that established what it meant to be a Mongol (for example, people believed Genghis Khan to be a prophet of God and worshipped him, similar to Islam).



Questions:

- 1) Throughout their lifetimes, how much impact did the Byzantine Empire and China have on their neighbors?
- 2) What were the similarities in the way Mongols ruled their land versus that of Muslims? What were the differences?
- 3) Distinguish between Italy's role in the Renaissance and Italy's role during the Byzantine Empire. (don't get confused!)
- 4) What was the major difference between Europe's feudalism and Japan's feudalism?

Western Europe:
Manorialism: European take on feudalism where lords rule over their manor, which includes a large number of peasants
Peasants work the land and pay some of their gains to the lord in exchange for protection
Lords are given the land by the nobility and in turn pay a percentage of their money to the King
Knights were slightly lower than lords - they "protected" the peasantry
Peasants, knights and lords bound together by law
Kings gave power in the form of lands to their lords and knights but still held on to some power themselves

West Africa (MGS)

MALI

- Malinke broke away from Ghana in 13th c.
- Islam -> ruler str
- Ag + gold econ
- Mansa Musa!

GHANA

- E. Africa north of Niger river
- Soninke people in 5th c. CE

SONGHAY

- Successor state to Mali
- Dominated Niger valley



Italy

- Venice biggest - trading hub
- **Renaissance** begins in Florence
- innovation in music art
- Code for gentlemen
- Genoa - explored Canary Islands, Madeiras



China:
 Sui, Tang, Song
 Increasing their culture.
 Major intellectual development
 Civil service examinations
 Tribute with the other Asian countries
 New technologies: compass, gunpowder
 Patriarchy, Sexism, Foot Binding
 Buddhism persecuted

Song withdraws to the south, neglects military spending in favor of intellectual thought.

Japan:
Also feudal - shoguns ruled over the peasantry and directly appointed by emperor
Samurai - Japanese version of knights strongly bound by honor. Would rather kill themselves than die without honor
shoguns, samurai and peasants - held together by tradition, culture and samurai honor code
Lots of interstate warring between shogunates - samurais saw combat substantially more often than their European counterparts
Emperors - little power was centralized, the real power in Japan lay with the shogunates and the samurai armies

Sources:
 Princeton Review Guide. 2015.
 Stearns World Civilizations 5th ed.
 Barron's AP World History 6th ed.
 Strayer, Robert W. Ways of the World: A Brief Global History with Sources. Boston, MA: Bedford/St. Martins, 2011. Print.

