

Lesson 3***Student Handout 3.1— Chronological Table*****Building the Mongol Empire**

1188-1204	Temujin wars against, and/or allies with, neighboring tribes
1206	Temujin elected Great Khan by Kuriltai (council of allied nomad tribes and states), and takes name Chinggis (literal meaning: Oceanic)
1211-1216	Mongols under Chinggis Khan war successfully against Jin empire of North China
1219-1222	Mongols conquer Khwarizm empire, after murder of merchants and ambassadors there
1221-1224	First invasion of southern Russian steppe
1229 Chinggis	Election of Ogotai as Great Khan after two years of political infighting following Khan's death
1230-1234	Definitive conquest of Jin empire by Mongols.
1234-1235	Ogotai establishes post-station system for couriers. Kuriltai decides on war against Europe, Korea, and Song empires.
1237	King of Hungary and the Holy Roman Emperor receive letters from Khan Batu, demanding their unconditional surrender in return for holding office under the Mongols. The demand is ignored.
1238	Request by Muslims of Syria and Persia to European rulers for alliance against the Mongols.
1236-1242	Campaign led by Khan Batu, a grandson of Chinggis, against Europe. Mongols invade Poland and Hungary but they withdraw in 1242, though remaining in control of Russia.
1241-1246	Regency of Toregene, widow of Ogotai, as Great Khan.
1244	Crusaders lose Jerusalem to Muslims for good.
1245	Pope sends four friars as ambassadors to "Tartars," who return with Great Khan's orders for submission of Pope.
1248-1251	Regency of Gaimish, widow of Guyuk, as Great Khan.
1248 promising fragment of True submission of the Christian West	Mongol proposal sent to French king for joint action against Muslims in Egypt, help in freeing Jerusalem. An embassy takes gift of portable chapel with Cross, interpreted by Mongols as tribute showing formal submission of the Christian West.
1250	Mamluks (Turkish Muslim slave soldiers) revolt and take over rule of Egypt.
1253	Friar William of Rubruck leaves for the Mongol court at Karakorum. The Great Khan sends him back with a letter to the French king claiming universal rule.
1252-1279	Conquest of Song Empire of South China by Mongols.

- 1258 Mongols conquer Baghdad, killing last Abbasid Caliph and ending the Caliphate; Turkish Mamluks in Egypt now center of Muslim power.
- 1259 Khubilai, grandson of Chinggis, elected Great Khan by a Kuriltai; the same year, his brother elected Great Khan by a rival Kuriltai in the Mongol homeland, but surrenders to Khubilai after four years of bitter civil war.

The Four Mongol Empires

- 1260 Pope's envoy to Khan Hulagu is assured that Latin Christians in Holy Land would be protected by Mongol armies.
- 1260 Major defeat of Mongol army in Palestine by Mamluks of Egypt ends Mongol expansion in Southwest Asia.
- 1262 Khan Hulagu sends Pope and European kings proposal for joint military action against Mamluks. Response urges him to be baptized as precondition for alliance.
- 1260-1309 Intermittent civil war among Mongol rulers descended from the four sons of Chinggis Great Khan.
- 1270 French king leads an unsuccessful eighth crusade; Prince Edward of England plans joint attack with Mongols on Mamluks, but design fails for lack of manpower.
- 1275 Italian merchant Marco Polo arrives at Khubilai's court in China.
- 1287 Nestorian Christian monk from China serves as Mongol envoy in Europe, and returns with Latin Christians' offers of assistance against the Mamluks.
- 1291 Egyptian Mamluk armies conquer last Christian footholds in Western Asia.

Decline and fall of the Mongol empire

- 1294 Death of Great Khan Khubilai. His successor rules for 13 years, but after that Mongol regime in China becomes more and more unstable.
- 1295 Mongols in Persia become Muslim; ties binding them to the Mongol rulers in China weaken and gradually disappear.
- 1306-1316 Several more attempts to coordinate joint Mongol-European military action against Mamluks.
- 1313 Mongols of the Golden Horde become Muslims.
- 1320's to 40's Genoese and other Italian merchant colonies flourish in Chinese cities.
- 1338 Mongol ruler in China sends an embassy to the Pope composed of Frenchmen and Italians living at his court. Simultaneously, Pope's embassy carries gifts to the Great Khan, the last western mission to the Mongols.
- 1360-1405 Tamerlane, who claims descent from Chinggis Khan, conquers and rules what had been the western one-third or so of the Mongol empire.
- 1368 Han Chinese Ming Dynasty ousts the Yuan Dynasty. The last Yuan ruler dies in 1370 in Mongolia.
- 1478 Ivan III of Russia throws off Mongol sovereignty.
- 1526 Babur, a distant descendant of Chinggis Khan, founds Moghul dynasty in India.

- 1696 Chinese forces conquer Western Mongolia.
- 1911 Inner Mongolia declares its independence from China.
- 1924 Mongolia becomes a Communist People's Republic and a satellite of the Soviet Union.
- 1946 China recognizes the Mongolian People's Republic.
- 1961 Mongolia becomes a member of the United Nations.
- 1984 Death of the last supposed descendant of Chinggis Khan, an official of the government of the People's Republic of China.
- 1990s
status Mongolia abandons rigid Communist ideology and restores Chinggis Khan from the of "feudal oppressor" to national hero.