4. THE HAN EMPIRE
200 BC-200 AD
China’s Symbol: The Dragon
A. Govt & Military

1. Emperor with complete control

2. Military:
   a. Used the Great Wall to keep invaders out
B. **Economy**

1. Empire linked through roads & canals = more trade = more tax $
2. More grain (food) stored = less starvation for citizens
3. Sale of iron & salt by govt only = monopoly
4. Silk Road* trade
C. **Diverse Groups**

1. **Confucian Belief System**
   
   a. **Yin & Yang, Filial Piety, Honoring Ancestor, the 5 Relationships, Obeying**
D. Accomplishments

1. Imperial University in Beijing to train scholars in Confucianism to work for Emperor

2. Emperor Wudi: greatest of the Han emperors
E. Decline

1. Bad rulers after Wudi
2. Neglected roads/canals
   = less trade = less tax $
   = had to increase taxes
   = REVOLT (population of 57 million!)
3. Invaded & conquered
5. BYZANTINE EMPIRE
330-1453 AD
A. Govt & Military

*this was what was left of the Roman Empire

1. Emperor with complete control of govt & religion (Orthodox Christianity)
   =Autocrat

2. Military:
   a. Strongest in world at time
   b. Army & Navy both used sea walls to keep invaders out:
      i. Vikings & Muslims
      ii. Used Greek Fire as a weapon
The Golden Gate and the Castle of Seven Towers. The dense settlement inside the walls of the fortress is evident, as well as the still-preserved outer gate of the Golden Gate, decorated with relief panels.
B. Economy

1. Constantinople:
   a. Port city & trade center
   b. Connects Asia & Europe
   c. Known as Istanbul today

2. Used coin money
Trade routes of Byzantium
C. Diverse Groups:

1. Egypt, Greece → Middle East

   a. Orthodox Christianity, Islam, Polytheism co-existed
D. Accomplishments:

1. Emperor Justinian
   a. Justinian’s Code: built on Rome’s Laws of the 12 Tables

2. Architecture:
   a. Hagia Sophia ("Holy Wisdom")
   b. Hippodrome

3. Preserved Greco-Roman Culture

= Byzantines (Eastern Rome)
HAGIA SOPHIA
During the Byzantines  

Today  

What changed?
THE HIPPODROME
“BREAD & CIRCUSES” AGAIN?
THE HIPPODROME
E. Decline

1. Empire too big & continually shrunk after Justinian = declining tax base

2. Continual Invasion by Vikings & Islamic Empires
BYZANTINE EMPIRE IN 1000AD
Constantinople Falls to the Turks in 1453
* Ottomans (Muslims) invade & take control of Constantinople=now Istanbul
THE ENTRY OF THE CRUSADERS INTO CONSTANTINOPLE, BY EUGÈNE DELACROIX
HAGIA SOPHIA BECOMES A MOSQUE
6. ISLAMIC EMPIRE (632AD – 1258AD)
A. GOVT & MILITARY

1. Two major empires (caliphates)
   a. Umayyad (632-750)
   b. Abbasid (750-1258)

2. Ruled by Caliph (religious ruler)

3. Sharia law
   = laws directly from Quran

4. Strong military = quickly conquered
   Arabian Peninsula, N. Africa, and Eastern Europe
   a. Used both camels and horses
B. ECONOMY

1. Trade across Arabian Peninsula and Sahara Desert
   a. Camel Caravans = “Ships of the Sahara”

2. Production of fine goods
   a. Steel swords, leather, textiles, carpets

3. Agriculture in Tigris/Euphrates river region
   a. Massive irrigation projects = water to desert regions
C. Diverse Groups:

1. Many conquered people converted to Islam

2. Jews and Christians allowed to keep religion
   a. “People of the Book”
   b. Paid special taxes
D. Accomplishments
1. Spread of major world religion
2. Capital city of Baghdad
   a. “House of Wisdom”
      = Library and center of study for scholars
3. Arabic numerals
4. Mathematics – Algebra, Trigonometry
5. “Golden Age” in sciences, arts, learning from 800 - 1200
SPREAD OF ISLAM:

Islamic world under Muhammad, 622–632
Territory added by first four Caliphs, 632–661
Territory added by Umayyad Caliphs, 661–750
Military campaigns

Islam Expands
BAGHDAD:

750-1258 Abbasid Dynasty - Baghdad
**ARABIC NUMERALS:**

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(siffr, which gave the French word "chiffre")
E. Decline

1. Seljuk Turks begin taking control in 10th century
   a. Prevented Christian pilgrims from travelling to Jerusalem
      = CRUSADES!!!

2. Genghis Khan and Mongols conquer Baghdad and kill last caliph
   a. 1258
7. MALI
1200 - 1450 AD
A. Govt & Military

1. Emperor with complete control

2. Army:
   a. Skilled cavalry
      = (army on horseback)
   a. Soldiers were treated as royalty
B. Economy

1. Controlled Gold trade
2. Also traded salt
3. Timbuktu was the capital
   a. Walled city
TIMBUKTU

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4TWOIkEygWM
C. Diverse Groups

1. Muslims
   a. Spread their faith across northern Africa

2. Had conquered Ghana
D. Accomplishments

1. Mansa Musa: greatest Mali leader
   a. Richest human ever
2. Spread Islam
3. University at Timbuktu for Islamic scholars
The richest man ever lived Mansa Musa had a fortune of $400,000,000,000 in today's money at the time of his death in 1331.
Mali was always powerful because of its control of the gold-salt trade, but after King Mansa Musa’s pilgrimage to Mecca, things changed.

Determined to spread Islam, Mansa Musa built numerous mosques and universities, making Timbuktu a major learning center.
E. Decline

1. Bad leaders after Mansa Musa
2. Invaded by Songhai
Mansa Musa

II. After Mansa Musa’s death, his son could not stop raiders from the southeast from burning down Timbuktu’s schools & mosques.

A. By 1500 nearly all of the lands the empire had once ruled were lost.
A. Govt & Military

1. One Islamic ruler with complete control

2. Golden Horde = Mongol Army
   a. Ruled 22% of Earth (Asia to East Europe)
   b. 100 million people
B. **Economy**

1. Silk Road trade
   a. Silk, gold, spices

2. Used coin money & was first to use paper money (made out of tree bark)
C. **Diverse Groups**

1. Stretched from Poland to Korea, Russia to Vietnam =
   a. United Muslims, Hindus, Buddhists, Confucians, Shinto, Orthodox Christians
D. Accomplishments

1. Largest contiguous land empire in world history: stretched from Poland to Korea, Russia to Vietnam

2. Greatest ruler was Genghis Khan:
   a. 1 in 200 people share his DNA

3. Marco Polo visited the Mongol Empire in 1271 & spent 24 years
   a. He brought back to Europe silk, spices, gunpowder, coal, the ideas of a post office & paper money
The Mongols extended their hegemony over a major part of the Eurasian landmass, from the Danube to the Pacific for the better part of two centuries.
Genghis Khan beheaded a city of over 1.75 million people because one of the citizens killed his son-in-law.
WTF fun fact #3125

Genghis Khan killed enough people to cool the earth, 40 million people were killed and vast areas of farmland were reclaimed by forests.
Marco Polo Rides the Silk Road to China

Marco Polo’s incredible 5,000-mile journey took him halfway across the world. On the way, he followed the network of tracks that snaked through deserts and across mountains to the court of the great Kublai Khan.

1. Marco, his father, and his uncle set sail from Venice.
2. They receive letters for the Khan from Pope Gregory X at Acre.
3. They collect holy oil in Jerusalem.
4. Leaving Hormuz, the Polos join a caravan traveling north.
5. Marco falls ill in the mountains, where he notices that fire burns less well.
7. Through the Great Wall of China.
8. They arrive at Kublai Khan’s summer palace at Shangdu.
Yeah, I pretty much never sit by the pool anymore

-Marco Polo
E. **Decline**

a. Empire was too big
   i. Great at conquest, bad at ruling

b. Death of Genghis Khan

c. The Bubonic Plague (the Black Death)

= eventually killed 1/3 of Europe
The Mongols extended their hegemony over a major part of the Eurasian landmass, from the Danube to the Pacific for the better part of two centuries.
Where Did the Bubonic Plague Begin?

- Believed to have moved from rodent population of the Gobi desert to humans around the 1320s
- Spread along trade routes of the Mongol Empire through China, India, Russia, North Africa into the great trading cities of Asia Minor (ca 1330s -1340s)
  - From there spread into Europe (1348-1351)