**CHAPTER 18 – Nomadic Empires and Eurasian Integration pp. 471-490**

*\*The following notes were taken from Strayer but match chapter 18 in Bentley*

**CHAPTER 11 – Pastoral People on the Global Stage pages 449-480**

The Mongol Moment 1200-1450 CE

**Vocabulary:**

1. Pastoral Societies: based on an alternative kind of food producing economy focused on the raising of livestock, pastoral societies emerged in the Afro-Eurasian world where settled agriculture was difficult or impossible. Pastoral peoples often led their animals to seasonal grazing grounds rather than settling permanently in a single location.
2. Xiongnu Empire: An imperial creation of nomadic steppe peoples who inhabited lands north of China. In the 3rd and 2nd centuries BCE, this empire stretched from Manchuria to Central Asia, establishing a model for later Turkic and Mongol empires.
3. Turkic Peoples: Turkic speakers form Central Asia, originally nomads, who spread westward, creating a series of nomadic empires between 552 and 965 CE. Having converted to Islam between the 10th and 14th centuries, Turkic peoples carried that faith into new lands, most notably the Christian Byzantine Empire, and became a politically powerful presence in the Islamic world.
4. Seljuk Turkic Empire: An empire of the 11th and 12th centuries, centered in Persia and present-day Iraq. Seljuk rulers adopted the Muslim title of sultan (ruler) as part of their conversion to Islam.
5. Almoravid Empire: Emerging out of an Islamic reform movement among the Sanhaja Berber pastoralists in the 11th century, the Almoravid Empire incorporated a large part of northwestern Africa and southern Spain. The empire collapsed by the mid-12th century.
6. Mongol world war: Term used to describe half a century of military campaigns, massive killing, and empire building pursued by Chinggis Khan and his successors in Eurasia after 1209 CE.
7. Yuan Dynasty (China): Mongol dynasty initiated by Khubilai Khan that ruled China from 1271-1368 CE.
8. Khanate of the Golden Horde: The Russian name for the incorporation of Russia into the Mongol Empire in the mid-13th century; known to the Mongols as the Kipchak Khanate.
9. Black Death (plague): A massive pandemic that swept through Eurasia in the early 14th century, spreading along the trade routes within and beyond the Mongol Empire and reaching the Middle East and Western Europe by 1347 CE. Associated with a massive loss of life.

**People:**

1. Modun: Great ruler of the Xiongnu Empire (210-174 BCE) who exacted tribute from other Central Asian pastoral peoples as well as China itself, forcing Han dynasty emperor Wen to acknowledge the Xiongnu Empire as an equal.
2. Temujin (Chinggis Khan; Genghis Kahn): Birth name of the Mongol leader better known as Chinggis Khan (1126-1227 CE), or   
   “universal ruler”, a name he acquired after unifying the Mongols.
3. Khubilai Khan: Grandson of Chinggis Khan who ruled China from 1271-1294 CE.
4. Hulegu: Grandson of Chinggis Khan who became the first il-khan (subordinate khan) of Persia.

**Notes:**

Introduction:

* Chinggis Khan’s image has seen a revival since the 1990s (negative to positive) in Mongolia.
* Historians often focus exclusively on agricultural based societies
  + Pastoral peoples rarely have cities, art, architecture, literature
  + Mongols had a significant influence on agricultural civilizations of Eurasia

The Long History of Pastoral Peoples: Where farming was difficult some peoples developed an economy based on raising livestock around 4000 BCE. Horses, camels, goats, sheep, cattle, yaks, reindeer – herding or pastoral societies.

* Vast grasslands of Eurasia, sub-Saharan Africa, Arabian and Saharan deserts, subarctic regions of the Northern Hemisphere and in the high plateau of Tibet.

**The World of Pastoral Societies:**

* + Pastoral societies were far smaller than agricultural societies (a lot of land for grazing was needed and less productive)
  + Small and widely scattered settlements (as opposed to villages and towns) of related kin/ clan (through the male line)
  + Some stressed the values of equality and individual achievements; others were ranked (noble-commoner). Larger the flocks = wealth
  + Some instances of slavery
  + Higher regard for **women**: agricultural societies viewed pastoral women as having equality (“just like men”) – Greece, China, Francisican friar DePlano Carpini
    - **Women ride horses, carry and use weapons, as well as men – Carpini**
  + **Mobility** = highly mobile due to grazing lands and changing seasons = grass eaten by animals; humans eat animals
  + Pastoralists had a disdain for agricultural societies, but were connected to them and in some instances relied on them for (food, manufactured goods, luxuries)
  + Pastoralists were difficult to unite, but sometimes did into large confederations to better deal with agricultural societies
  + Military advantages = horseback riding and hunting skills of the entire population (men and women). Raiding, trading or extortion of agricultural societies created wealth.
  + **1000 BCE** the development of horseback riding allowed for pastoralist societies to be larger and more mobile. New technologies (horse harnesses, saddles with stirrups, compound bow. Horse is central to the entire society.

**Before the Mongols: Pastoralists in History:**

* + Mastery of mounted warfare (horses and later camels)
  + 2000-years of influence in Eurasian affairs
  + Xiongnu Empire: provoked by Chinese, create a huge military confederation in the 2nd and 3rd centuries BCE from Manchuria into Central Asia. Modun was the founder of the empire.
    - Xiongnu extracted tribute from other pastoral peoples and China itself sustaining their power
    - Han recognized Xiongnu Empire (as equals; Emperor Wen)
    - Xiongnu falls apart from continued Chinese attacks
    - Inspiration for future Turkic and Mongol empires
  + During 3rd Wave of Civilizations that pastoral people make biggest impact (Arabs, Berbers, Turks and Mongols)
  + Islam from Arabs (later Turks help to spread)
  + Byzantium, Persia, India and China become controlled by pastoral peoples for a time
  + Camel Saddle developed 500-100 BCE allowed for Bedouin (desert dwelling Arabs) – great military advantage to control rich trade routes in incense running through Arabia
    - Used as shock troops during Islamic expansion
    - Provided many of the early religions followers and military power
  + Turkic people are diverse. Homeland was Mongolia and southern Siberia. Gradually migrated west and appear between 552-965 CE creating various short-lived empires. The Turkic empires were held together by a supreme ruler known as a *kaghan* and was supported by faithful soldiers called “wolves”. The wolf was the mythical ancestor of the Turkic peoples.
    - Turkic language and culture spread widely through their interactions with China, Persia and Byzantium (trading, warfare, raiding, alliances, extortion)
    - Major turning point = Turks convert to Islam (10th-14th centuries CE) – 3rd major carrier of Islam after the Arabs and Persians
    - Turks start off as slave soldiers in the Middle East but gradually gain power.
    - Seljuk Turkic Empire (10th-11th centuries CE) centered in Persia and Iraq. Adopt Muslim title of *sultan* (ruler) replacing *kaghan.*
    - Turks carry Islam to new areas: Northern India, Anatolia (creation of the Ottoman Empire) – last well into the 20th century
    - Turks transform from pastoralists to agrarian (polytheistic to monotheistic)
  + Northern Africa and the Sahara. Introduction of the camel gave rise to pastoral societies (1000 BCE). Many later adopt Islam.
    - Religious movement sparked by scholar Ibn Yasin, after he visited Mecca in 1039, created the Almoravid Empire. Based on orthodox principles. Sanhaja Berbers from the western Sahara. Crosses over to Spain and conflicts with Christian efforts of Reconquista. These are African pastoral peoples that influenced the agricultural societies (and ruled) around them.
    - Almoravid Empire prosperous because of control of West African gold trade and grain producing Atlantic plains in Morocco.
    - Marrakesh prosperous (capital for a time; influenced by sophisticated Islamic culture from southern Spain)
    - Overrun in 12th century by Berbers from the Atlas Mountains

Breakout: The Mongol Empire: Mongols most successful, influential of all pastoral peoples. Largest land-empire in world history from the coast of the Pacific in Asia to Eastern Europe. Connected East and West, pastoral and agrarian societies like never before (13th century). Very destructive process. Mongols numbered only 700,000 people. Mongols left no language, religion or civilization that influenced others. Turkic language and culture flourishes today; Mongols does not. Last harrah of the pastoral peoples.

**From Temujin to Chinggis Khan: The Rise of the Mongol Empire**

* + 12th century Mongols were a divided collection of tribes and clans
  + Temujin would later become Chinggis Khan (universal ruler)
    - Father was a minor chieftain; murdered. Temujin abandoned and poor (no livestock) by other relatives
    - Temujin endured; made bonds with trusted friends instead of kin
    - Temujin rose to power by his military victories: generous to friends, ruthless to enemies, accepted defeated warriors into his own forces
    - Recognized Chinggis Khan in 1206 CE of the Great Mongol Nation.
  + Mongol world war = 1st major attack was on China in 1209 CE.
    - Mongols conquer and defeat all: China, Central Asia, Russia, much of the Islamic Middle East and parts of Eastern Europe
    - Setbacks limit their advance: withdrawal from Eastern Europe (1242 CE), their defeat at Ain Jalut in Palestine by Egyptian Mameluks (1260 CE), their failure in invading Japan (1281 CE), and the difficulty of penetrating the tropical jungles of Southeast Asia.

**Explaining the Mongol Moment**

* + Like the Roman Empire, Mongol expansion fed itself (resources, wealth and new threats).
  + Chinggis Khan – “I have accomplished a great work”, “uniting the whole world in one empire.”
  + How did the Mongols conquer the world? China outnumbered the Mongols 100 to 1. Mongols did not have superior technology.
    - Timing: China divided (Song dynasty), Abbasid caliphate was in decline
    - Mongol army: better led, organized and disciplined. Tumans (10, 100, 1000, 10,000). Accepted conquered warriors into their armies. Best were recruited to the imperial guard (merit).
    - Calvary (mounted archers and warriors)
    - Impressive discipline and loyalty (death penalty for desertion)
    - Leaders led from the front. Lived as their soldiers.
      * “I eat the same food and am dressed in the same rags as my humble herdsmen.” “I am always in the forefront, and in battle I am never in the rear.” – Chinggis Khan
    - Tactics: encirclement, retreat and deception
    - Great wealth from conquest motivated Mongols of all social classes
    - Mongols incorporated huge numbers of conquered peoples into their military forces
      * Conscripted Mongols and Turkic peoples served in the cavalry; agricultural peoples served in the infantry and artillery
      * Chinese siege techniques were used to overcome walled cities (1000 Chinese artillery crews took part in the Mongol invasion of Persia)
      * Mongols conscripted conquered people to serve as laborers for roads, bridges, carrying supplies
      * Skilled artisans and craftsman from conquered peoples were spared (and required to serve the Mongols)
    - Mongol reputation for ruthlessness
      * “Whoever submits shall be spared, but those who resist, they shall be destroyed with their wives, children, and dependents…” -Chinggis Khan
    - Organization:
      * Mongol Census
      * Transportation (horse relay stations) – a day’s ride apart
      * Pax Mongolia: Merchants allowed free and safe trade. Merchants were often offered an extra 10% above asking price by Mongol rulers
      * Ruling: Mongols held highest positions but were supported by Muslim and Chinese officials and advisors
      * Religious tolerance: Mongols welcomed and supported many religious traditions: Buddhist, Christian, Muslim, Daoist as long as they did not oppose the Mongols politically
        + Muslims recruited converts from Mongol troops
        + Christians had more freedom under the Mongols than the Muslims

Encountering the Mongols in China, Persia, and Russia:

**China and the Mongols**

* China was coveted by pastoralists because of its wealth
* China was the most difficult and longest to conquer for the Mongols, who ruled it for 70-years (1209-1279 CE) as the Yuan Dynasty
* Mongols conquest of northern China was violent and destructive. Southern China ruled by the Song Dynasty was less so.

Local landowners were guaranteed estates for their support or neutrality by the Mongols

This behavior convinced some Chinese that the Mongols had the Mandate of Heaven to rule a unified China

* + - * + Mongol rule over China: No experience ruling agrarian civilization

Used Chinese administrative practices, taxation and postal system

Mongols moved capital to Beijing (Khanbalik or “city of the Khan”)

Khubilai Khan ruled the Yuan Dynasty from 1271-1294 CE, and adopted Chinese-style ancestral tablets to honor his ancestors with Chinese names

He was benevolent: improved roads, built canals, lowered some taxes, patronized scholars and artisans, limited the death penalty and torture, supported peasant agriculture, and prohibited Mongols from grazing on peasants’ farmland

Mongol Khans supported local religions: Confucianism, Daoism, and Tibetan Buddhism

Mongol rule was still harsh: “treated Chinese just like slaves” – Marco Polo

Demanded bribes, ordered arbitrary executions, seized women at will

Mongols never became Chinese (few Mongols learned Chinese); did not accommodate every aspect of Chinese culture

Many Mongol elite still lived and preferred the traditional lifestyle

Ignored the Chinese examination system; instead relied on foreigners for administration (Muslims)

Mongol law discriminated against the Chinese

Mongols honored and supported merchants more than Confucian bureaucrats

Mongols forbade intermarriage and did not allow Chinese scholars to learn Mongol script

Mongol women never adopted foot binding, while Chinese women found it scandalous that Mongol women hunted with their husbands and mixed freely with men at official social gatherings

Khubilai Khan continued the Mongol tradition of relying heavily on women advisors (his wife Chabi)

**Chabi** urged her husband to adopt the best Chinese practices (life farming)

Mongol rule in China was short (less than a century)

Mongol divisions

rising prices

plague (epidemics)

growing peasant rebellions

By 1368 CE the Mongols were forced out of China back to the steppes

Mongols remained a threat to China, but the Ming Dynasty returned to Confucian values, restricted women and tried to wipe out all traces of Mongol rule

**Persia and the Mongols**

* 1st invaded Persia under Chinggis Khan (1219-1221 CE)
* 2nd invasion under Hulegu (1251-1258 CE), Chinggis’ grandson; frist il-Kahn of Persia
* Persians were shocked by the Mongol conquest and unprepared. Considered Mongols infidels. Conquest was ferocious and deadly. Example: sacking of Baghdad (1258 CE), where 200,000 were slaughtered. Some historians believe the death toll was so great (generation worth) that the population hasn’t recovered to this day.
* Heavy taxes (20-30 times a year) pushed peasants off farmland
* Heavy grazing turned fertile farmland into desert (neglection of irrigation works)
* Alcohol and silk industry flourished
* Mongol rule in Persia was considered a disaster
* Mongols were influenced by Persia more so than China
  + - Use Persian bureaucracy
    - Made some efforts to repair Persia under the rule of Ghazan (1295-1304 CE): cities and irrigation
    - Mongols became Muslims
    - Some Mongols (elite) learned Persian, turned to farming, intermarried
    - After Mongol rule in Persia collapsed in the 1330s CE, they were not driven out of Persia as was the case in China, but instead they and their Turkic allies assimilated into Persian society.
    - Persia successfully resisted Mongol cultural influence on them and returned to Persian customs (such as their unequal treatment of women) after Mongol rule ended

Russia and the Mongols

The Mongol Empire as a Eurasian Network

Toward a World Economy

Diplomacy on a Eurasian Scale

Cultural Exchange in the Mongol Realm

The Plague: An Afro-Eurasian Pandemic

Reflections: Changing Images of Pastoral Peoples

**AP QUESTIONS**:

Causation What effects have pastoral peoples in general and the Mongols in particular had on world history?

How did nomadic societies benefit from their interactions with their agricultural neighbors?

What were the primary influences on the process of Mongol state building?

What accounts for the political and military success of the Mongols?

Comparison In what ways did pastoral societies differ from their agricultural counterparts?

Understand the similarities between the nomadic people of Africa and the nomadic people of Asia.

In what way was Khubilai Khan’s rule over China different from Mongol rule over other areas?

Compare and contrast the political and economic effects of Mongol rule in China, the Middle East, and Russia.

How was Mongol rule in Persia different from that in China?

Compare the Persian and Chinese influences on the Mongols who ruled over them.

Contextualization What can we infer about the role of European women based on the observations of Carpini concerning Mongol women?

Base on the map, what geographic features prevented Mongol conquests from expanding even farther (page 458)?

Analyzing evidence What does the image suggest about how Mongol leaders adapted to the diversity of their empire (page 449)?

What does this gold neckpiece, found in a Scythian burial mound, tell us about the society of these nomads (page 453)?

How does this tile demonstrate the influence of Islam on Turkish culture (page 456)?

What does this image show about Mongol military techniques (page 462)?

How were the roles of Mongol women as shown in this image different from the roles of women in most other settled societies, during this era? What accounts for the differences (p 468)?

Continuity and Change What were the long-term effects on world history of nomadic people such as the Xiongnu, Arabs, Turks and Berbers?

Describe the changes and continuities in pastoral societies after the rise of Islam?

How did Mongol rule change China? In what ways were the Mongols changed by China?

**AP EXAM TIPS**

1. The social, economic, and political effects of the Mongol Empire are important details for the AP exam.
2. Knowledge of the methods the Mongols used to rule their empire is important for the AP exam.
3. You must know methods that empires, such as the Mongol Empire, used to maintain control over their subjects?
4. It is important to know how empires used military forces to gain and maintain control.
5. Be able to compare Mongol techniques of imperial management with those of other empires in this period.
6. Study these comparisons of Mongol rule in different countries as a guide for good essay construction (China, Persia and Russia; pages 464-470).
7. Be familiar with interregional travelers in the postclassical era, such as Marco Polo and Ibn Battuta, and the places they traveled.
8. Look for patterns in the decline of empires in world history, such as peasant rebellions, diseases, and a poor economy.
9. Note these differences between the end of Mongol rule in Persia and China.
10. You might see questions on the AP exam regarding interactions between Russians and Mongols.