

1. **Chinggis Khan:** Also known as Temujin; he united the Mongol tribes into an unstoppable fighting force; created largest single land empire in history.
2. **Kublai Khan:** a Mongol emperor of China
3. **Marco Polo:** Venetian traveler who explored Asia in the 13th century and served Kublai Khan (1254-1324)
4. **Ming Dynasty:** A major dynasty that ruled China from the mid-fourteenth to the mid-seventeenth century. It was marked by a great expansion of Chinese commerce into East Africa, the Middle East, and Southeast Asia
5. **Mongol Empire:** an empire founded in the 12th century by Genghis Khan, which reached its greatest territorial extent in the 13th century, encompassing the larger part of Asia and extending westward to the Dnieper River in eastern Europe.
6. **Ottomans:** Turkish people who converted to Islam, conquered Constantinople and changed the name to Istanbul
7. **Safavid Empire:** Iranian kingdom (1502-1722) established by Ismail Safavi, who declared Iran a Shi'ite state.
8. **Samurai:** a Japanese warrior who was a member of the feudal military aristocracy
9. **Sikhism:** Religion founded by Nanak that blended Islamic and Hindu Beliefs
10. **Song Dynasty:** (960-1279 CE) The Chinese dynasty that placed much more emphasis on civil administration, industry, education, and arts other than military.
11. **Suleiman the Magnificent:** The most illustrious sultan of the Ottoman Empire (r. 1520-1566); also known as 'The Lawgiver.' He significantly expanded the empire in the Balkans and eastern Mediterranean.
12. **Taj Mahal:** A beautiful tomb built by the Mughal ruler Shah Jahan to honor his wife.
13. **Tamerlane:** He is very much like Chinggis Khan; a military leader who conquered the lands of Persia; his empire was decentralized with tribal leaders.
14. **Tang Dynasty:** dynasty often referred to as China's Golden age that reigned during 618 - 907 AD; China expands from Vietnam to Manchuria
15. **Yuan Dynasty:** (1279-1368 CE) The dynasty with Mongol rule in China; centralized with bureaucracy but structure is different: Mongols on top->Persian bureaucrats->Chinese bureaucrats.