



Turkish Administrative History

Week 4: Italian Maritime City States

Ortaylı, pp. 75-93.



Italy after the (Western) Roman Empire

- 5th Century AD
 - Migration of the Peoples (Tribal migration)
 - Italy (Western Rome) entered a period of downfall
 - Imperial institutions continued to live in the Eastern Roman Empire
- 9th and 10th Centuries AD
 - The empire of Great Karl (Carolus Magnus) who claimed to be Rome's successor in Western Europe
 - Progress in agriculture and trade
 - The emergence of the maritime states of Northern and Central Italy



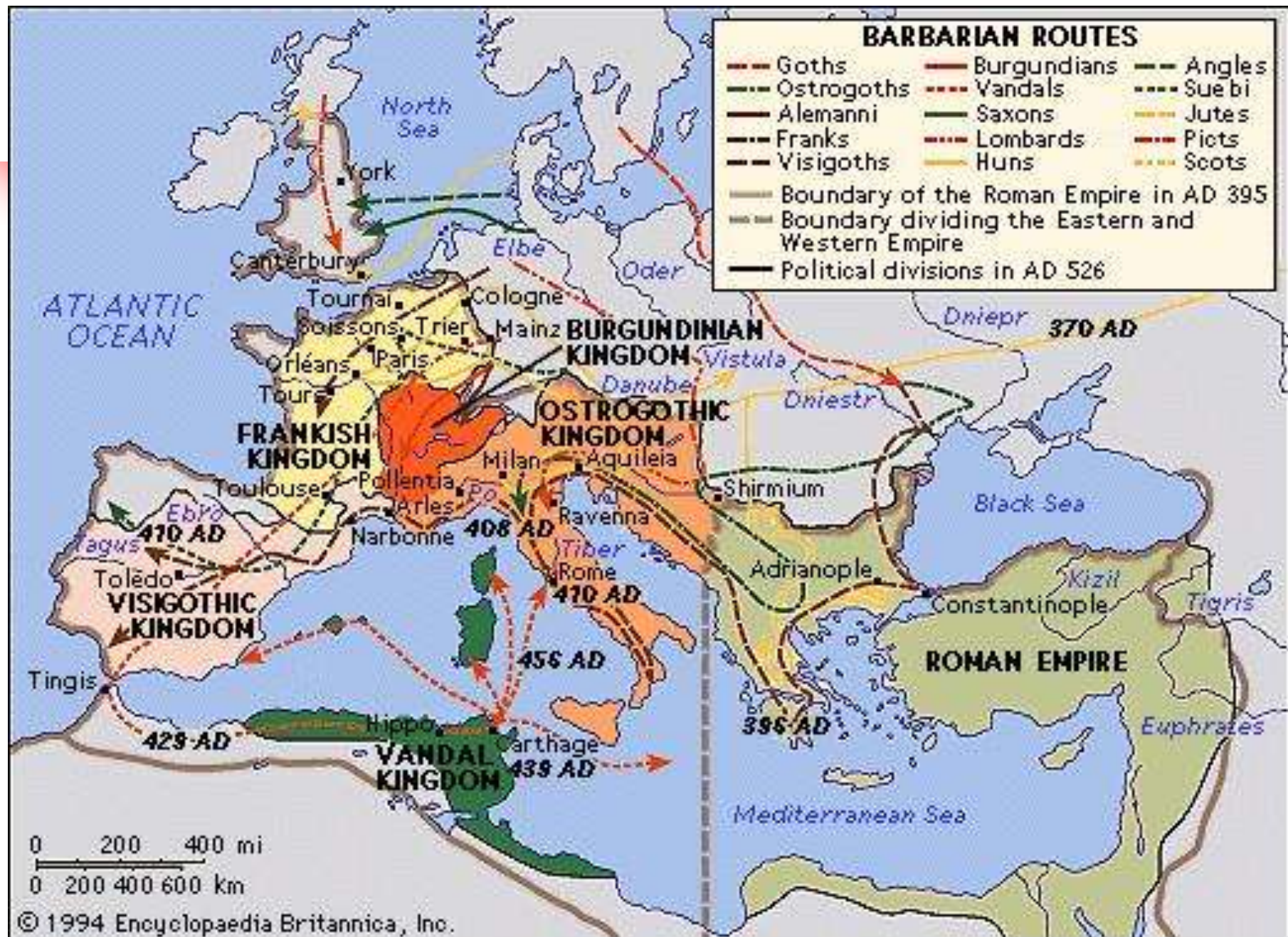
Migration of Peoples: Barbarians

- Nomadic, semi-nomadic and warlike tribes outside the Roman Empire's administration and culture
 - Danube (Tuna) river was the Roman border
 - The known history of these tribes begins with Roman historiography
- Areas of interchange
 - Religion- Roman Catholic Church
 - Language - Latin
 - Roman law and culture



Barbarians

- Clan organization based on (assumed) blood bonds
 - Clan feuds
 - "Comitatus" in the Germans: warrior groups
 - One of the bases of the hierarchical bonds of feudal order
- Migration of the Peoples
 - The Huns take over the Visigoth and Ostrogoths
 - Emperor Valens defeated by the Goths in 378 AD
 - The beginning of the division of the empire
 - Ostrogoths occupied Rome in AD 493
 - By the 6th century AD, Eastern Roman Empire reconquered a significant part of Italy
 - In Italy, a social, economic and cultural structure different from the West and the North of Europe was formed





Italy after the (Western) Roman Empire

- Italy was no longer political, but still a geographical and cultural union
- Roles that Italy Played
 - Transfer agent/Carrier of the Eastern Mediterranean civilization (Eastern Roman, Islamic, etc.) to the West
 - Being a source of raw material in Western Europe
 - Tax collection on behalf of the church
 - Operation of mines
 - Economic integration of these areas to the markets



Feudalism

- A service dependency system, originating from the authoritarian warrior chieftain systems of the Germans
 - A hierarchical system of duties and responsibilities between vassals and overlords
 - Institutions of vassalship (liege=tebaa, uyruk) and land management (dirlik)
- Based on inequality
 - Social mobility is minimal
- Large peasant groups, agricultural production
 - Value added is collected by a class of rulers



Feudalism-2

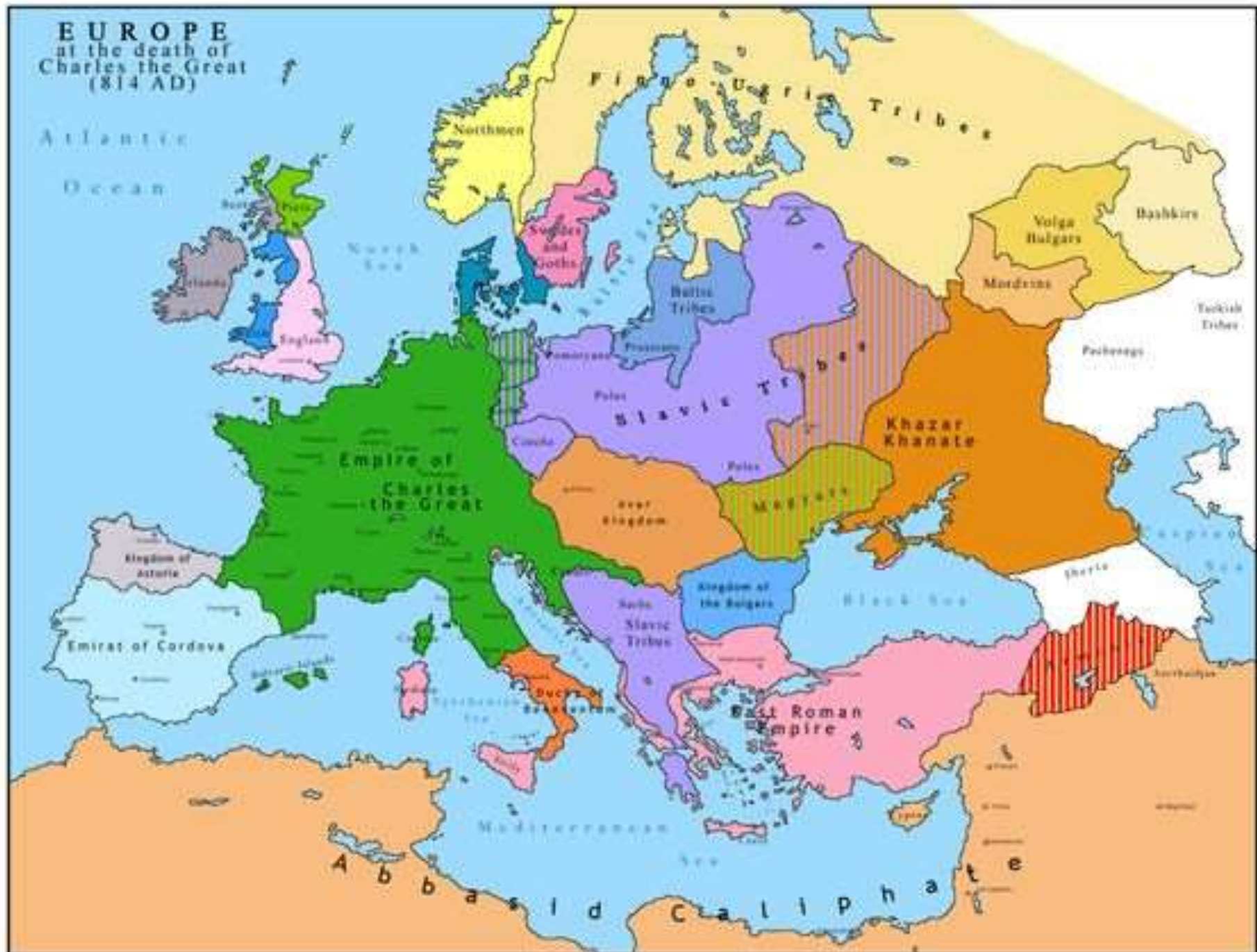
- Restricted transportation
 - Trade based on valuable luxury commodities
- Money and precious metals are scarce, and their circulation was limited
 - Payments with large quantities of goods and products
 - Payment in kind, ocular (ayni) payment
- Unlike the Eastern Roman Empire, Church was a separate institution than the state
 - Bishops could be land owners and city managers.



Europe in the Middle Ages

- Western Europe was not at the center of World history until the 10th century
 - Centers of World history were Mediterranean & Middle East
- Wealth is concentrated in land & church, not in trade
- Central political power was weak
 - Between the 10th & 13th Centuries, merchants and craftsmen in cities have obtained/purchased autonomy from the political authorities to which they were dependant
 - The effort to get rid of heavy taxes and duties
 - Desire to have independent relations with the outside world
 - First Italian, then Hansa cities
- The church was centralized around Rome
 - Latin, as the language of religion and education

EUROPE
at the death of
Charles the Great
(814 AD)





Carolingian Empire

- Begins with the Frank King Clovis (481-511)
- Great Karl (Carolus Magnus) wore an imperial crown at 800
- There was a hierarchical structure & military organization, but no bureaucracy, necessary to control the annexed regions
 - Use of trained human resource of the church
- Developments in agriculture
 - Widespread use of iron
 - Heavy plow (saban)
 - Increase of agricultural production, development of transportation
- Various cults led to the opening of forests and the rehabilitation of agriculture
 - Over time monasteries should be rich with increased production



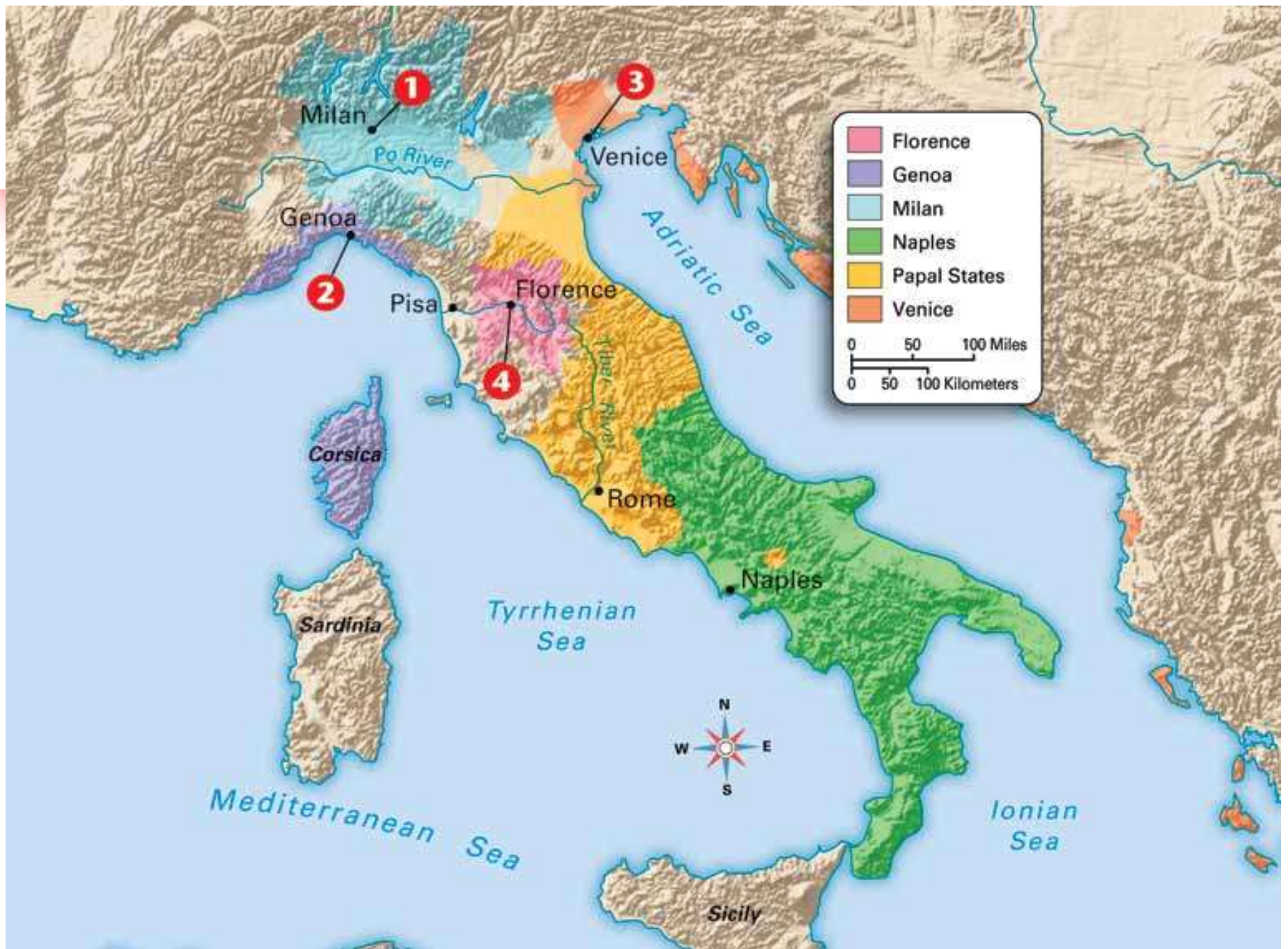
Italian City States

- A Classical Roman organization that adapts to changing times
 - The feudal scheme does not quite fit
 - A region that is very commercialized, a lot of money is circulating, trade is dominant in the city government
- Benefited from the agricultural richness of Western Europe
 - Connecting Western Europe to the classical world
- A system that is dependent on merchant middlemen
 - Receiving commission by selling goods from the East to North
 - British and Dutch merchants have destroyed this system



Italian City States-2

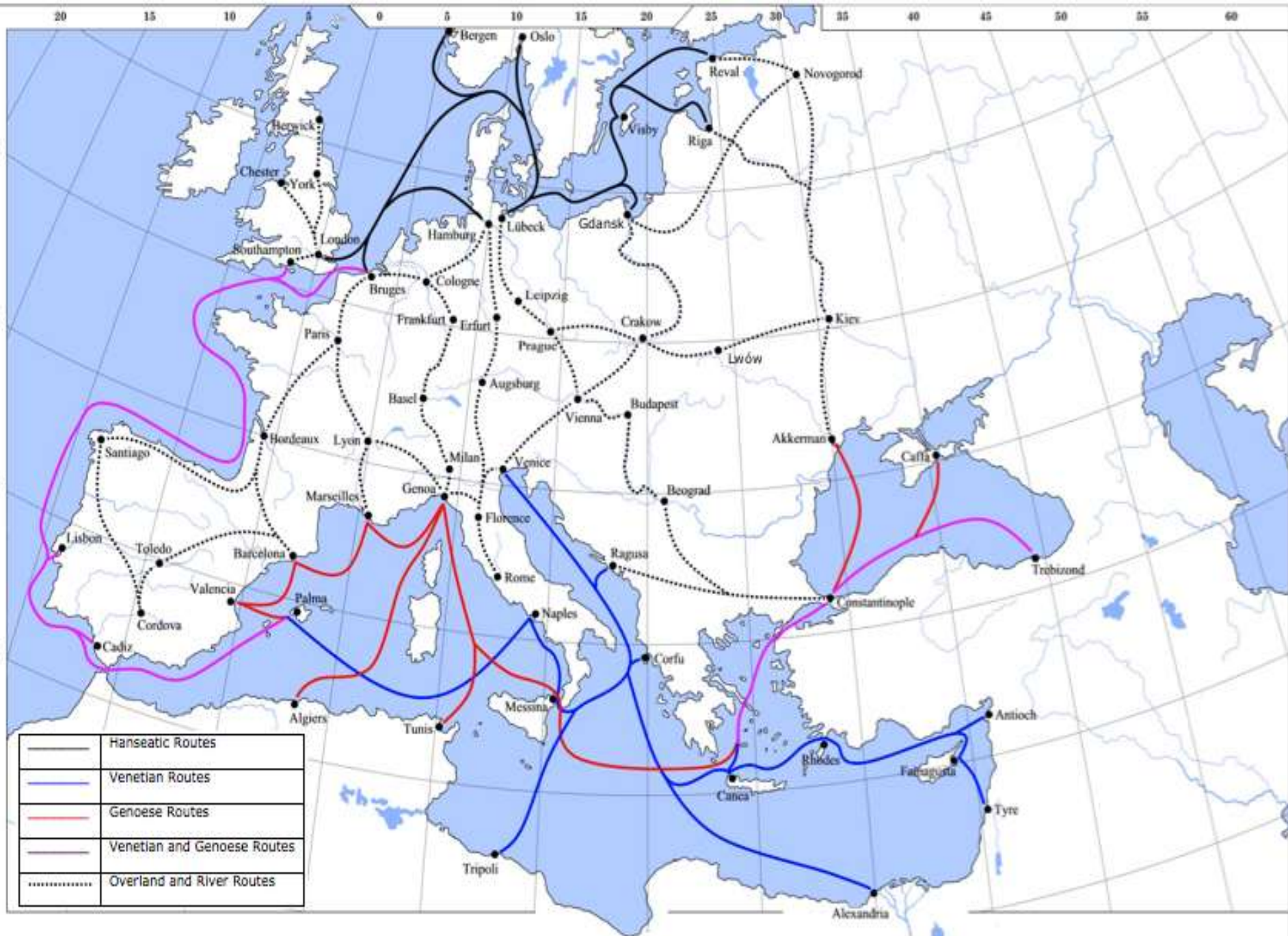
- What the Western Europe learned from Italy?
 - Business and trade methods
 - An Englishmen Italianate is devil incarnate
 - Documentation & organization principles of the bureaucracy
 - A more advanced cultural life
 - How to conduct scientific research
- The idea of East-West synthesis did not begin with the Crusades
 - For example, the Kingdom of Sicily was one of the centers of this synthesis





Italian Maritime States

- Most important ones
 - Amalfi
 - The first city to advance & excel, located in Sicily
 - Pisa
 - After a while, it was annexed by Florence
 - Genoa
 - Venice
- Trade Colonies in the Eastern Mediterranean, Aegean and Black Sea
- Competition between Genoa and Venice
 - First, the Latin invasion (1204), then the Ottoman conquest of Istanbul (1453) and the Balkans increased their competition



	Hanseatic Routes
	Venetian Routes
	Genoese Routes
	Venetian and Genoese Routes
	Overland and River Routes



Historical Development

- Some city states have acquired their autonomy from the Eastern Roman Empire
 - Venice began as a Eastern Roman city on the 5th & 6th centuries and achieved its autonomy in the 7th century
- They were monarchies at first, then became oligarchies
- Distrust for mercenary armies caused the development of diplomacy
 - They have established the first consulates for overseas trade
 - Their consulate reports are very valuable for today's history



VERONA

MARK KRAIN

ISTRIEN

KROATIEN

PENTAPOLIS

TUSCIEN

REPUBLIK VENEDIG

Adria

Trient

Krainburg

Laibach

Fünfkirchen

Zagreb

Sisak

Brescia

Verona

Aquileia

Triest

Fiume

Save

Sirm

Mantua

Venedig

Parma

Po

Soli

Modena

Ravenna

Bologna

Zara

Rimini

Florenz

Spalato

Pisa

Siena

Perugia

Ragusa

Spoletto



Republic Of Venice

- The most important example of Italian maritime city states
- An oligarchic Republic, dominated by rich trader/merchant families
 - In 697 AD, the first doge was elected/chosen
- The Venetian merchant is also a diplomat
- Stayed in Eastern Roman protection up until the 11th century
- Enriched by trade in the waters that was protected by the Eastern Roman Navy
 - Then it strengthened its own sea power.
 - Impressed by Eastern Roman culture and art



Republic of Venice-2

- It helped/supported the first Crusade at the beginning of the 12th century
 - Commercial hubs/colonies and privileges in Lebanon and Jerusalem
 - The right to trade and build warehouses in Istanbul
- In 1204, at the end of the 4th Crusade, Constantinople was looted by the Latins (Catholic Christians)
 - Venice got new concessions and got stronger
 - Love for the West and Italy started to decrease to a very low point in the Eastern Roman Empire

Administration of the Italian Maritime City States



- Oligarchy
 - Rights of voting & administration were in the hands of wealthy merchants' families
 - Administrators consulted with these families before decisions
 - There is not much class passivity
 - An top administrator called Podesta / Doge
 - Merchant and guild representatives gradually formed the Senate of Venice
 - A council in each of the six districts
 - In overseas colonies, there was an administrator designated from the center or a colonial council
- Proper bureaucracy and a just system in the city but bad governance, oppression and corruption in the colonies



Administration

- The cities at the crossroads were also market places
 - Good road and postal systems
- There were representatives and courts of these states where merchants lived (i.e. in colonies)
- The foundation of the first state banks
 - Credit distribution by interest
- Problems
 - Increased population and inadequate infrastructure
 - Increase in hunger, lack of hygiene, epidemics and crime
 - Feeding the cities was a problem



Guilds and Crafts

- Tight state control on trade/guilds
 - On the number of employees, promotions, quality of raw materials and production
 - Workers in the production of woolen and silk fabrics, glassware, gunpowder& shipbuilding were not allowed to travel
- Guild members had a lower status than administrators, merchants, soldiers and diplomats
 - The merchant who oversees the production and trade networks is the person with the highest status
- Merchants were a well-educated class
 - People from Northern Europe were coming to Italy to learn business administration



Trade and Economic Structure

- Since the roads were insecure, the trade was done collectively
 - State organizes the trade
 - Members of the aristocratic ruling group control Collective trade ventures
- Tax revenue is low
 - Main tax income came from customs, salt monopolies, the tax of the surrounding villages and overseas colonies
- The dominant type/unit of economic organization is the family business, not the multi-partner company
- From the 13th Century onwards, Florence Floridi and Venetian Ducats were used everyweher
- Italian was the lingua Franca in the Mediterranean
- Economic competition with Hanseatic cities in Southern Germany



Social Structure

- There were slavery and harem institutions
- The strangers lived under surveillance and in separate neighborhoods
- Groups like the Jews were deprived of social rights

IMPORTANT CITIES OF THE HANSEATIC LEAGUE





Hanseatic League Cities & Novgorod

- A commercial and political city network
 - Founded in the 13th and 14th Centuries when agricultural and commercial wealth increased in the German Empire
 - Northern Europe escaping from the influence of Italy and began competing with it
 - Cultural interaction
- This network emerged when the feudal order began to dissolve
 - Its downfall began when national central governments and national economic systems began to be dominant



Hanseatic Cities-2

- An oligarchic administration
 - Rich merchants dominated city councils
- A Hansa Parliament was formed
- Commercial privileged territories in the UK, the Baltic region, Denmark and Russia
 - Commercialization and colonization with mutual economic interest
- Conflicts between slavic and germanic peoples



Hanseatic Cities-3

- Trade items in Hanseatic cities (wax, fur, salt, fish and precious wood) were not similar to those in Italian cities (luxury goods, fabrics and spices)
- Weak army and military navy
- They could not dominate the surrounding area either politically or militarily