

Kay 492

Turkish Administrative History

Week 5: Seljuk Empire

+ Emergence of Turks in World History

Ortaylı, pp. 97-110



Emergence of Turks in History

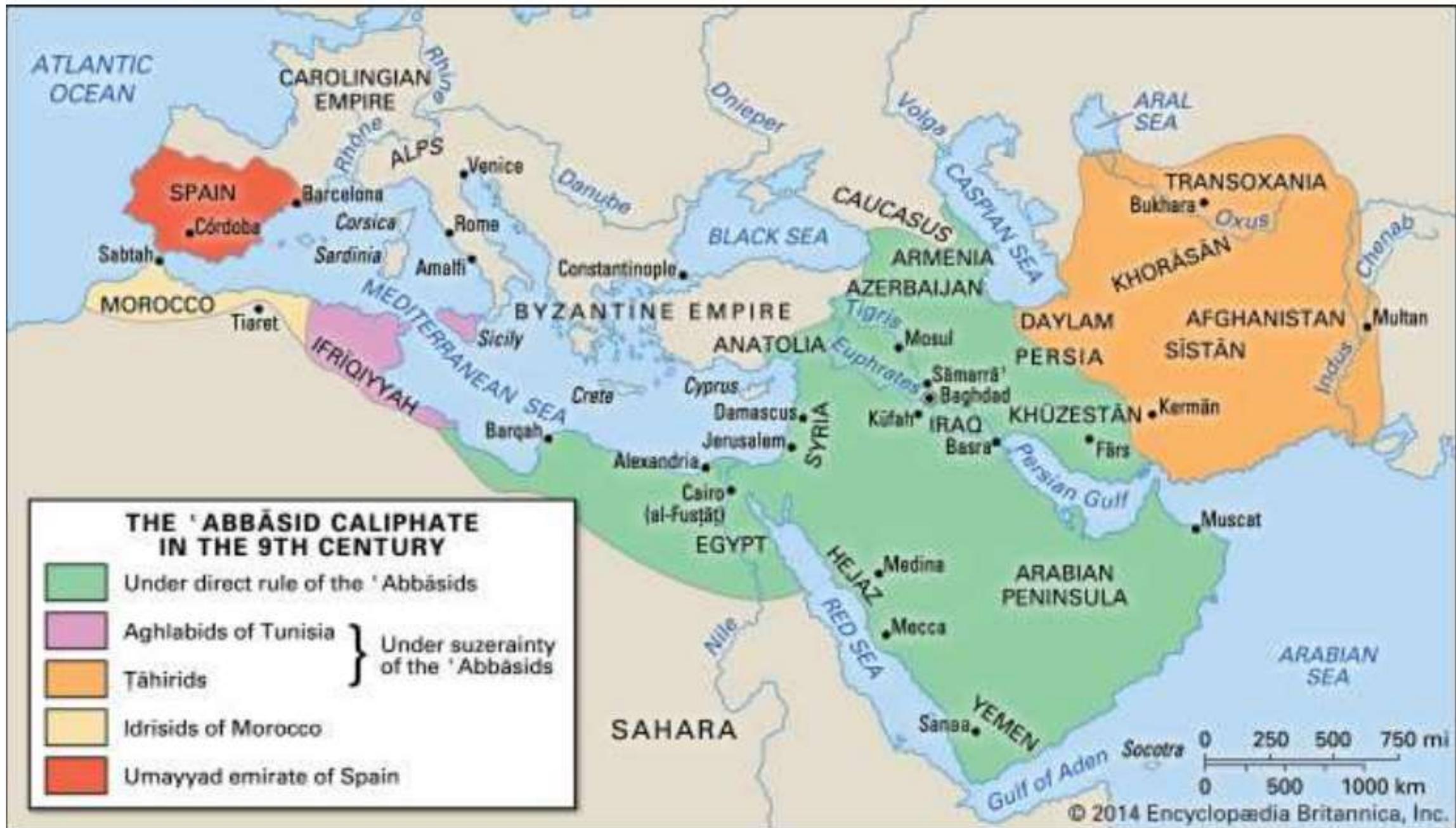
- Pre-Islamic Turkish tribes were influential
 - in Central Asia and Maveraünnehir (between Amudarya/ Seyhun and Syrderya/Ceyhun rivers), Caucasus, near Volga river and Near East
- The Turks began to accept Islam from the 10th century and became an important force in the history of the Middle East
 - The mission of "being the sword of Islam"





The Islamic World before the Seljuks

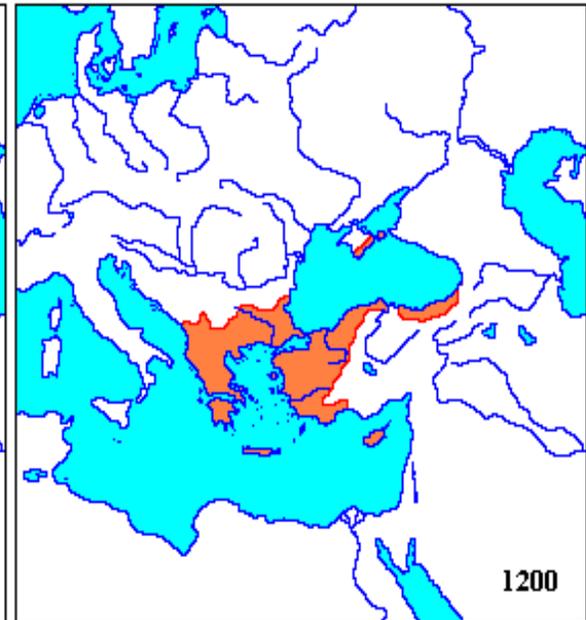
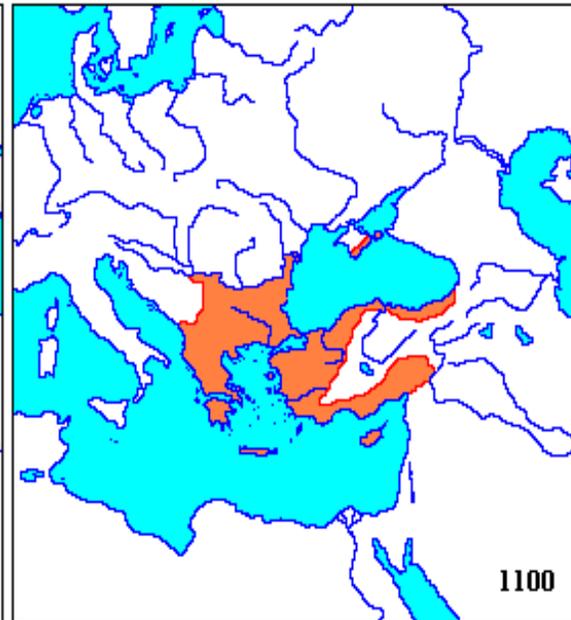
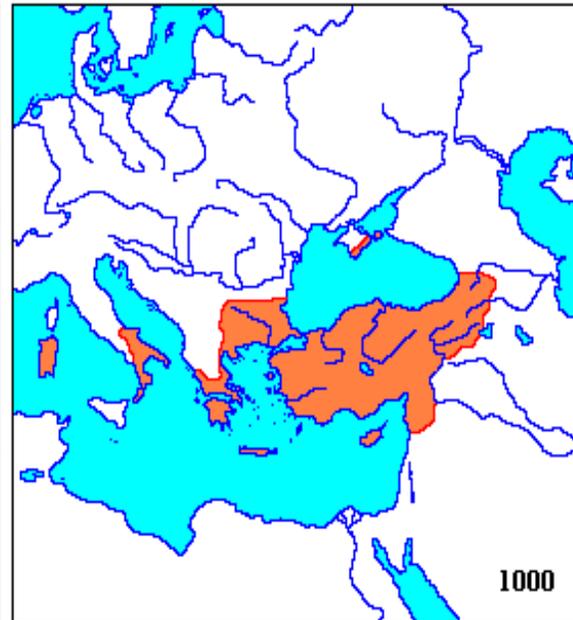
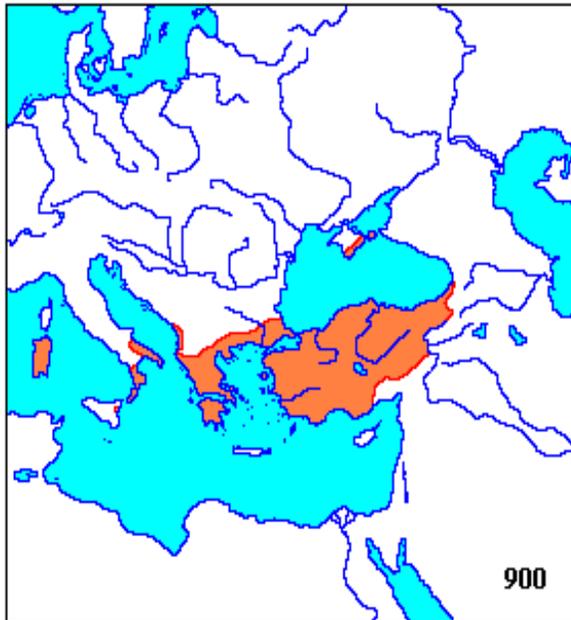
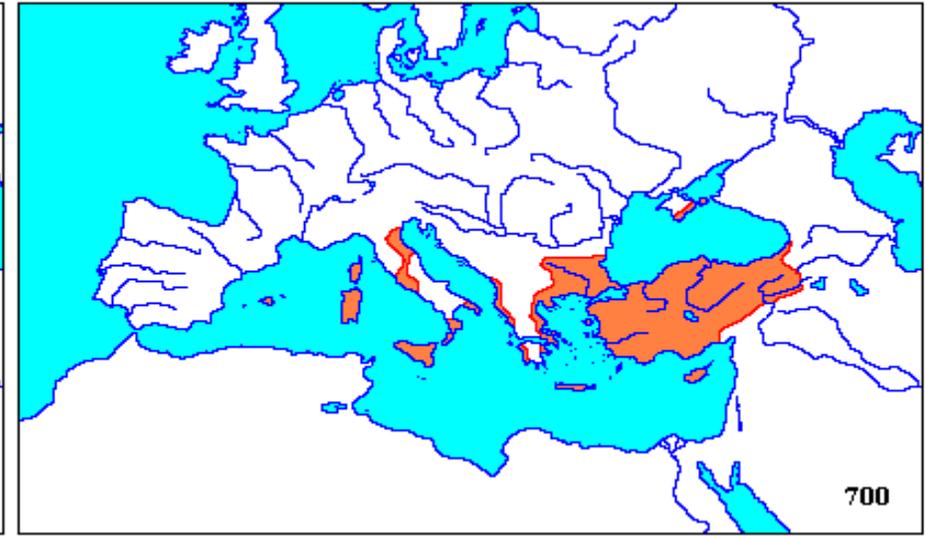
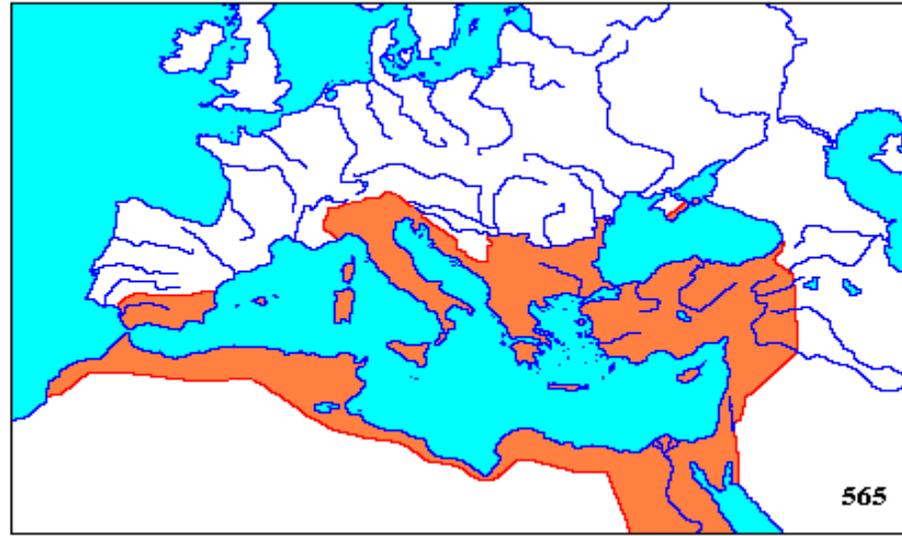
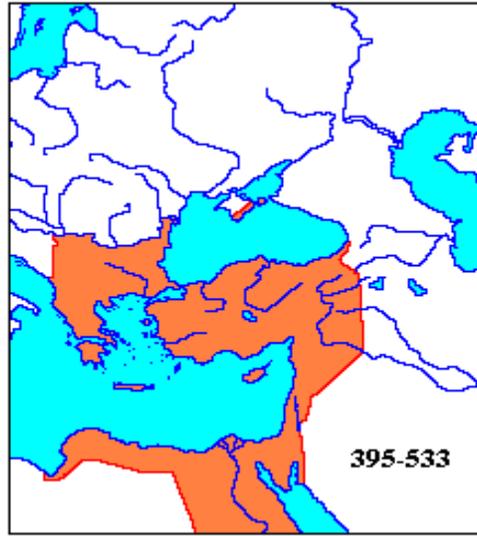
- At the end of the 9th Century, Muslims dominated the Mediterranean
 - By the same time, the Eastern Roman Empire had (re)strengthened and entered an era of conquest
 - In Sicily, a cultural environment was created where Islam and Eastern Rome civilizations have merged
- Islamic conquests came to a halt in the 10th Century, and a period of disintegration began with the Abbasids
 - Both the Andalusia (Umayyad Caliphate) and local dynasties in North Africa, Syria & Egypt have proclaimed independence
 - In 945 the Shiite Buveyhis became the protectors of the Abbasid Caliph in Baghdad



The Islamic World before the Seljuks

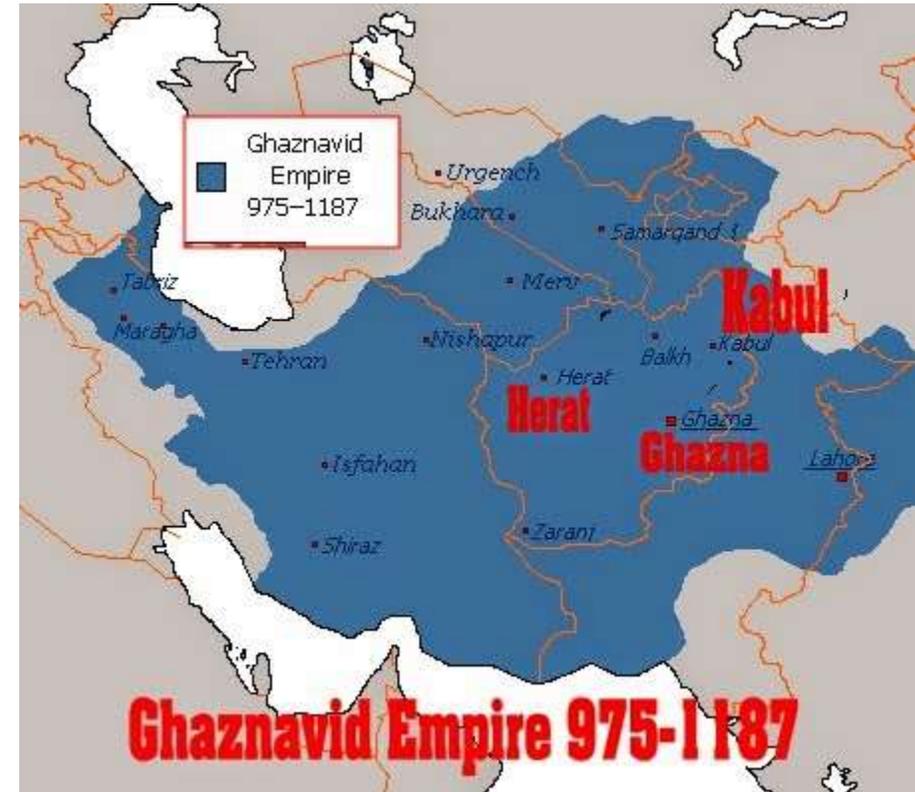
- Recovery in the Christian world
 - The Eastern Roman Empire has gained strength again in the 10th Century
 - Conquests in Crete, Cyprus and Syria
 - Normans took southern Italy and Sicily from the Arabs
 - The Crusaders went to Jerusalem and Palestine
 - Jerusalem fell in 1099
 - Christian conquests in Andalusia
- The spread of the Islamic religion has stopped
 - Christianity spread among the pagan peoples of Northern and Eastern Europe
 - Eastern Roman Empire was also effective over the Slavs and gained strength

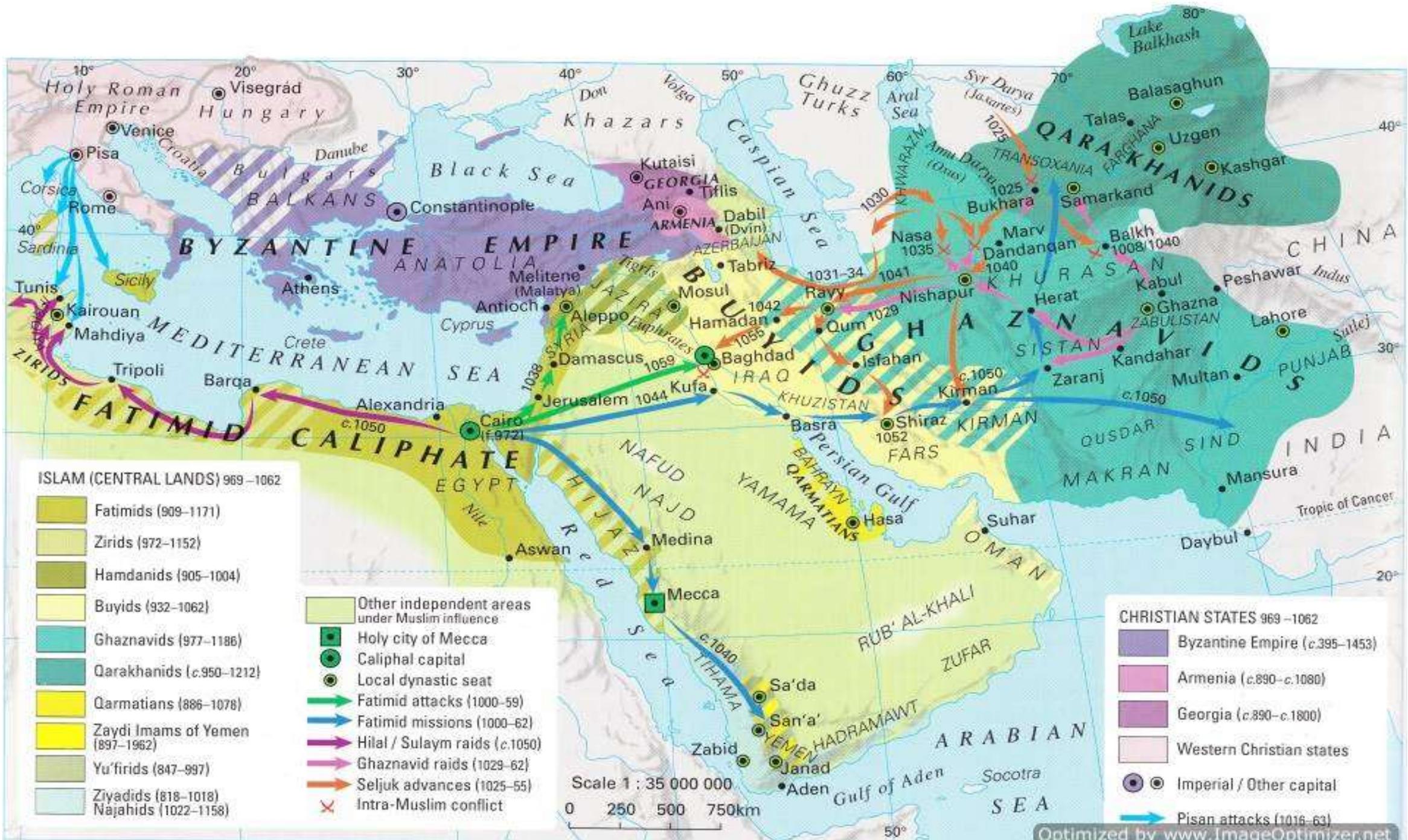
East Roman Empire



Seljuks' Entry to History

- A new breakthrough in the history of Islam has begun with the emergence of the Turks in the political scene
 - The first Turkish-Islamic State was not the Ghaznavids
 - The ruler, the commander & the army were Turkish, but the subjects & the administration were in different ethnicities
 - The first Turkish Islamic State was the Karakhanids
- Oguz-Uygur domination in Maverannnehir and today's Turkestan
 - Political confederations based on nomadism
 - Capital city, a city of tent-camp
 - A high level of organization and mobility





Seljuks' Entry to History

- Seljuk Bey and his grandsons Tuğrul & Çağrı Begs, who were from Oguz Turks of Maveraünnehir, adopted Sunni Islam
 - They have gained legitimacy in the Islamic State
- The Seljuks were first served as soldiers of the Karakhanid State
 - In 1040, Seljuks defeated Sultan Mesud, son of Ghaznavid Sultan Mahmud, in Dandanakan & dominated Iran
 - In 1055, Tuğrul Bey completed the conquest of Iran and entered Baghdad
 - Became the protector/guardian of the Abbasid Caliph
 - They defeated Eastern Romans in Eastern Anatolia (Mazkiert) in 1071
 - Seljuks ended Egyptian Shi'ite Fatimids' influence in Syria

Sultanate, not Caesaropapism

- The Iranian Great Seljuk sultans were imams (administrators) without claiming the caliphate
 - A new institution whose legitimacy is not discussed within the framework of the Caliphate: Sultanate
 - Not a Caesaropapist arrangement
- The first non-Arab empire
 - The Turkish element, used by the Arab rulers as slaves and soldiers, was now dominating this world

Seljuk Ikta System

- Ikta is a system of taxation and salary payment, that was used in the Islamic states long before the Seljuks
 - The ikta owner was either exempt from some taxes, or he collected some income and taxes as a compensation for his administrative job
- Not only military but also administrative staff were included in this system in the Seljuk government
 - Iktas were not only given to state officials who were serving within the military and religious systems, they were also given to opinion leaders as well

Language & Religion in the Seljuks

- Languages
 - Language of Bureaucracy and literature: **Persian/Farsi**
 - In daily life, oral literature and military: **Turkish** language
 - In Medrese, jurisdiction and law: **Arabic** language
- Religions
 - The Turks were influenced by Buddhism, Manichaeism and all the monotheistic religions from the Middle East, in addition to Shamanism
 - Christians and Jews lived within the zimmet system

Bureaucracy in the Seljuks

- Functional divisions among high officers
 - Amid: High officers among which provincial administrators were elected
 - Barid: for transportation and communication,
 - Müstavfi: Responsible for finance
 - Emir-i Dad: Police officer, police chief
- Grand vizier and the divan system

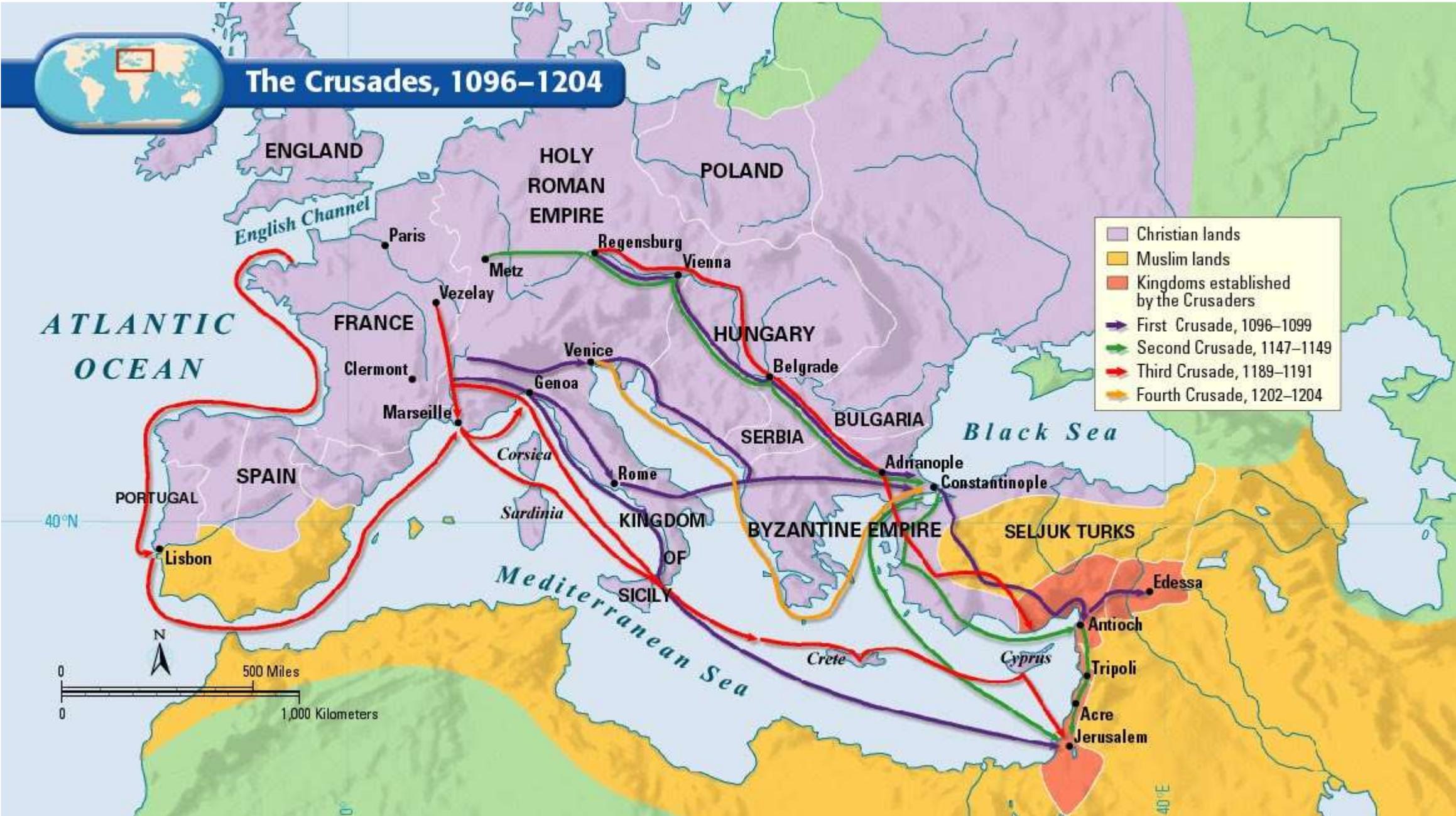
Anatolian (Greek/Rum) Seljuks

- Anatolian extension of Great Seljuk State in Iran
 - Not exactly a liege/vassal relationship
- Anatolia's ethnic, cultural and economic transition period
 - The presence of various ethnic groups (Armenians, Assyrians, Georgians, Kaldeians, Jews, Kurds and Arabs) with the Rums/Hellenes in the country
 - Facilitated Turkish becoming a common language
 - The absence of religious and sectarian unity
 - Facilitated the spread of Islam
- Iran, Arab and Turkmen raids have weakened the country
 - Internal confusion and battles have made the people to miss administrative authority and order

Anatolian (Greek/Rum) Seljuks

- It took time for the Turkish people and language to be dominant in Anatolia
 - Oguz Turkmen tribes' immigration since the 11th century
 - A new synthesis by transforming from nomadic to sedentary life
- After the 1071 Mazkiert victory of Turks, the Roman Church organized an alliance mission against the Turks
 - The Crusader armies were sometimes just worn out and sometimes defeated
 - Alliance and war combinations between East Roman, Seljuk and Crusader armies

The Crusades, 1096-1204



Anatolian (Greek/Rum) Seljuks

- The Seljuk Sultan was giving the Turkmen begs the fief of the places that they conquered
- 1176 Battle of Myriocephalus
 - The ultimate victory against the Eastern Roman Empire
- The peak period of strength of the Anatolian Seljuks was from the beginning of the 13th Century to Kösedag War (1243)
 - Trade through the Italians
 - Settlement of the nomadic groups

1206-1294

The age of the Mongols



During the 13th century, the Mongols were the most feared warriors on Earth. United under Genghis Khan in 1206, they terrorized people from Russia and Poland in the west to China and Korea in the east, and established the largest empire the world had ever seen.

KEY

- Genghis Khan's homeland
- Mongol territory by 1207
- Mongol territory by 1227
- Mongolian Empire at its greatest extent in 1279

Campaigns under Genghis Khan

Campaigns from 1228-94

Mongol raids

Mongol victory

Mongol defeat

Tribe name

Key event

- 9. Liegnitz**
The Mongols defeated a combined army of Poles, Templars, and Teutonic Knights at Liegnitz in 1241.
- 10. Pest**
Following their victory at Liegnitz, the Mongols sacked Pest in modern-day Hungary later that same year.
- 11. Kose Dag**
The Mongols defeated the army of the Seljuk Dynasty at the battle of Kose-Dag in 1243.
- 13. Ain Jalut**
The Mamluk Dynasty of Egypt defeated the Mongols at the battle of Ain Jalut in 1260. Defeat saw the end of the Mongols' western campaign.

- 7. Kalka**
Outnumbered four to one, the Mongols defeated the Russians at the battle of Kalka in 1223.
- 12. Baghdad**
The Mongols occupied Baghdad, the greatest city in the Islamic world, in 1259. Legends tell that 800,000 people were killed.

4. Empire of the Khwarizm Shah
The Mongols invaded the Empire of the Khwarizm Shah between 1219 and 1221 with an army of 200,000 men. They devastated the empire and massacred much of the civilian population.

5. Samarkand
Genghis took Samarkand in 1220, using captives from Bukhara as human shields.

7. Battle of the Indus
In 1221, Genghis defeated Jalal-ud-Din, son of the Khwarizm Shah, at the Battle of the Indus.

6. Karakorum
Genghis established Mongol headquarters at Karakorum in 1220.

2. Ningxia
During the siege of Ningxia, in his first campaign against the Xia Empire in 1210, Genghis dammed the Yellow River.

8. Xianyang
General Meng of the Southern Song Dynasty (the remnants of China's Song Dynasty) retook Xianyang in 1239. The Mongols had captured the city three years earlier.

16. Annam
In 1288, the Mongol's four-year campaign against Annam was halted by a combination of guerilla warfare, heat, and disease.

1. Mongolia
Temujin completed his conquest of rival Mongol tribes in 1206 and received the title Genghis Khan, meaning "universal ruler."

3. Zhongdu
In 1215, Genghis starved the city of Zhongdu into submission. The city was sacked and burned.

14. Japan
The Mongols made two attempts to invade Japan (in 1274 and 1281). Both failed due to bad weather. These were the only attacks on Japan in its history, until World War II.

15. Hangzhou
The Mongols marched into Hangzhou in 1276 and replaced the Chinese Song Dynasty with the Mongol-led Yuan Dynasty.

"The Mongol army swarmed in like **ants and locusts** from all directions."

Rashid-ad-Din, Persian politician and historian, on the Mongol attack on Baghdad in 1259



Genghis Khan
Revered in his homeland, but feared among those he conquered, Genghis Khan was both a brilliant leader and a brutal warrior. He was responsible for millions of deaths, but he also brought peace to a vast empire that stretched across 5,000 miles (8,000 km).

Seljuk Land Management System

- Types of land
 1. Has: Income goes to the Sultan
 2. The "ikta" system of land whose income is exempt from taxation for the administrators and soldiers
 3. Land that was left as "property" to former owners
 - May be subject to inheritance and purchase and sale
 - Generally in and around cities
 4. Land in the status of foundation/vakıf
 - The peasants gave their taxes as goods to the foundation management

Seljuk Army

- The main task of the traditional empire is to equip and feed the army and to provide public order
 - A kapıkulu army of pedestrians and cavalrymen
 - War prisoners and purchased slaves
 - In the capital, salary every three months
 - Ikta owners' soldiers were controlled by regional leaders
 - At the top of this hierarchy was a melik-ul-ümera (similar to beylerbeyi)

Taxes

- Land Tax(es)
 - The main tax is «öşür» (and haraç for non-Muslims)
- Duties taken in transporting goods to the market
- Tax-exemption/immunity for some nomads and peasants due to military services in the borders
- The head tax (cizye) from non-Muslims
- An annual tax of "muharrerat" was taken from the tribes

Central Administration System

- A similar system of the Great Seljuk Empire administration
 - Bureaucrats coming from Iran
 - The same functions as the officers in Iran, Ottoman and Eastern Roman palaces, similar officials
- Sultans being the leader of both Muslims and non-Muslims
 - The Sultanate, the common property of the ruling family
 - Bloody infighting for the throne

Central Administration System

- Divan (offices) system
 - Finance, land and economic registers, supplies, official correspondence, councils about administrative affairs
- Grandvizier and viziers system
 - The grandvizier was also representative of the Sultan and the commander of the army
- Kadı-ül-Kudat
 - Responsible from the appointment of the kadıs
- Most of the services (health, water, sewerage, imaret, education ...) were provided by foundations

Provincial Administration

- Princes of the ruling family are on the forefront of succession
 - They learned to rule in provinces with the help of their advisors (Atabegs)
 - A kadi and a financial officer in each provinces
- The administrative and military affairs of the provinces were left to a person named «emir sipahsalar», similar to beylerbeyi
- At the end of the Ilkhanian occupation, the provincial organization of the Anatolian Seljuks became the beylik units

Provincial Organization

- After the Kösedag War (1243) , Anatolia entered the administration of the İlhanlı Mongol State in Iran
 - Especially in the West, Menteşoğulları, Aydınoğulları, Germiyan and Osmanoğulları had the opportunity to act independently
 - They developed commercial and cultural relations with Italian maritime states
 - Turks' integration into the Mediterranean civilization had begun
 - Introduction to a maritime culture
 - Establishing naval forces

1300



Period of Anatolian Beyliks

- Keeping the bureaucratic cadre from the Seljuks provided continuity in terms of administrative tradition
 - The upcoming scientific and administrative cadres constituted one of the foundations of the Ottoman State bureaucracy
- The state language being Turkish, especially in Karamanlılar
- Infrastructure of Anatolia was improved during the period of Beyliks

Pre-Ottoman Balkans and East Europe

- Eastern Roman Renaissance between the 7th and 10th centuries
 - Decline after the 11th century
- Bulgarians
 - The First Bulgarian Czardom accepted Christianity from the 9th century and dominated the Balkans
 - Adoption of Slavic / Cyrillic alphabet
 - Establishment of the Bulgarian Orthodox Church
 - The subordination of the feudal lords (Boyars) and strengthening of the central state
 - The first Bulgarian Czardom destroyed by the Eastern Roman Empire in 1018
 - In 1185 the Second Bulgarian State was rebuilt
 - At the end of the 13th century, rebellions weakened and divided this state as well

Pre-Ottoman Balkans and East Europe

- A strong Serbia at the time of Stefan Dusan, at the end of the 14th century
- Russia expanding and growing in the 14th century
- Before the Ottoman conquests, the Balkans and Eastern Europe were divided and restless



South Eastern Europe
c. 960 A. D.



[Southern Europe Circa 1300](#)