



## **1200 C.E. - 1450 C.E.: Notes**

### **In this lesson:**

- Timeline
- Important Comparisons
- Political
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- Cultural

### **Timeline**

**1000 - 1200:** Kingdom of Ghana

**1000 - 1400:** Swahili Cities of East Africa

**1100 - 1400:** Kingdom of Great Zimbabwe

**1100 - 1500:** Kingdom of Axum

**1200...:** The beginning of Oceanic chiefdoms

**1200 - 1400:** The Empire of Mali

**1206 - 1526:** Delhi Sultanate

**1211...:** Beginning of Mongol conquests

**1271 -1295:** Marco Polo travels to China

**1279 - 1368:** Yuan Dynasty (Mongols)

**1289:** Ottoman Dynasty begins

**1304 - 1369:** The life of Ibn Battuta

**1325:** The founding of Tenochtitlán by the Aztecs

**1330s:** The beginning of Bubonic Plague (Black Death)

**1337 - 1453:** The Hundred Years' War

**1300 - 1600:** The Kingdom of Congo

**1405 - 1433:** Voyages of Zheng He

**1441:** The beginning of the Portuguese Slave Trade in Africa

## **Important Comparisons**

### Mongol Rule in Different Parts of Empire

- Russia vs. China
- Arabian Peninsula
- Central Asia vs. East Asia

### Different presences in the Indian Ocean

- European vs. Chinese
- Muslim
- Persia vs. Eurasia as a whole

### Urban Areas

- Islamic world vs. non-Islamic world
- China vs. South Asia
- Central Asia vs. Southeast Asia
- Europe vs. East Asia

### Civilizations in the Americas

- Mesoamerican vs. Andean
- Mayas vs. Toltecs
- Aztecs vs. Incas

## **Political**

- Regional Governments
  - Each “city” or region has its own government
  - Result of feudalism
  - Prominent in France
- Parliamentary Government
  - One parliament (group of people) makes decisions along with the monarch
  - English style of feudalism
- Magna Carta
  - Codes of law
  - Increased popular representation in the government
- Conflicts between Church and state
  - A rivalry for public attention and importance
- Centralized Monarchies
  - Monarch operates from one central location
- Important Empires
  - Mongols
    - They had the largest empire, spanning all over Asia and parts of Africa and Europe
  - Tang & Song
    - They had a lot of important inventions such as gunpowder and the lateen sail
  - Kievan Rus’
    - Russia’s empire
  - Land-based Empires
    - Abbasid (Islamic Empire), Aztec (Brutal leaders), Inca (Integrated people into their empire), Delhi Sultanate (Indian Empire)



## **Cultural**

- Crusades
  - Christians fighting Muslims for their Holy Land (Jerusalem)
- Gothic Architecture
  - Stained glass
  - Pointed arcs
- Syncretism
  - The blending of two or more religions and/or beliefs
  - Neo Confucianism (Buddhism, Confucianism, and Daoism)
  - Zen Buddhism (Indian Mahayana Buddhism and Taoism)
- Syncretic Languages
  - Swahili (Arabic and African Languages)
  - Urdu (Arabic, Hindi, and Farsi)
- Caste Systems
  - Classification based on house you are born in
  - Example of Hindus:
    - Brahmins: priests, scholars, and teachers
    - Kshatriyas: rulers, warriors and administrators
    - Vaishyas: agriculturalists and merchants
    - Shudras: laborers and service providers
- Separate Traditions
  - Each empire/region has their own traditions/way of living
  - Example: Aztecs
    - Brutal leaders
    - Many sacrifices to gods

## **Economic**

- Feudalism
  - Political, economic, and social system
  - Nobles/landlords give land/privileges to serfs/vassals
- Increased urbanization because of Eurasian trade
- Hanseatic League
  - Regulated trade in Europe
- Trade Routes
  - Trans-Saharan Trade
    - Islamic control of North Africa
    - Popular cities become Timbuktu and Swahili Coast
    - Traded mostly gold and ivory
  - Silk Road Trade
    - Connected Europe and Asia
    - Popular cities became Chang'an, Hangzhou
    - Traded silk, porcelain, and textiles
  - Indian Ocean Trade
    - India to the Iberian Peninsula
    - Popular places became Oman and Sultanate of Malacca
    - Traded cotton, spices, and maritime technology (compass, dhow, lateen sail)
- Dar-al-Islam
  - Trading system that spread Islam
  - Also led Sufi missionaries to spread Islam in southeast Asia
- Black Death spread
  - Possibly because of trade
- New technologies
  - Gunpowder and cannons from China
  - Astrolab, caravel, and lateen sail
- Rise of Western Europe
  - Because of economic prosperity
  - Renaissance: focused on life in the world