

The Mongol Empire Spans Eurasia

► Gathering the Facts

1. Turn to pages 48–49 in the Atlas. Read the introduction. Use the information to fill in the blanks below. Write **T** next to each of the following statements if it is true or **F** if the statement is false.
 - a. The Mongols built one of the largest empires in world history. _____
 - b. The Mongols were nomads who came from southern Asia. _____
 - c. The Mongols were known for being fierce warriors. _____
 - d. During Mongol rule, trade and cultural exchange decreased. _____

► Time and Change

2. Use map A, “Mongol Empire,” to sequence the following events in chronological order. Write 1 next to the event that occurred first and 11 next to the event that occurred last.

Event

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| a. Mongols invade Kara–Khitai and devastate Samarqand. | _____ |
| b. Mongols conquer the Abbasid Empire. | _____ |
| c. Mongols begin their invasion of Korea. | _____ |
| d. Mongols first invade Tibet | _____ |
| e. Sung Empire falls to Mongols. | _____ |
| f. Mongols destroy the city of Tabriz. | _____ |
| g. Mongols devastate the city of Dadu (Beijing). | _____ |
| h. Mamluks defeat Mongols in Egypt. | _____ |
| i. Mongols conquer and destroy Kiev. | _____ |
| j. Mongols cannot conquer Japan. | _____ |
| k. Mongol Empire stretches to the Caspian Sea. | _____ |

★ Thinking About History

3. Look at picture B and read its caption. Describe what you think a Mongol attack would have been like.

★ **People and Cultures**

4. Look at picture C and read its caption to answer the following questions.

a. How is Genghis Khan portrayed in picture C? _____

b. How did Genghis Khan affect Mongol culture?

➤ **Links Near and Far**

5. Look at map D, "How Big Was the Mongol Empire?" Then look at map C, "How Big Was the Roman Empire?" on page 37 and map B, "How Big Was Alexander's Empire?" on page 32. Write **M** next to each of the statements below if it describes the Mongol Empire, **A** if it describes Alexander's Empire, or **R** if it describes the Roman Empire. Some descriptions may apply to more than one empire.

a. Largest empire in history _____

b. Had lands in Europe, Asia, and Africa _____

c. Had lands only in Asia and Europe _____

➤ **History Through Maps**

6. Use map E, "Mongol Kingdoms," to complete the chart below. Add the kingdom, the regions, the capital, or the religion to each of the empty boxes below.

Name of Mongol kingdom	Culture regions within its boundaries	Capital(s)	Main religion
Khanate of the Golden Horde			
		Kashgar	
	Persia		
			Buddhism

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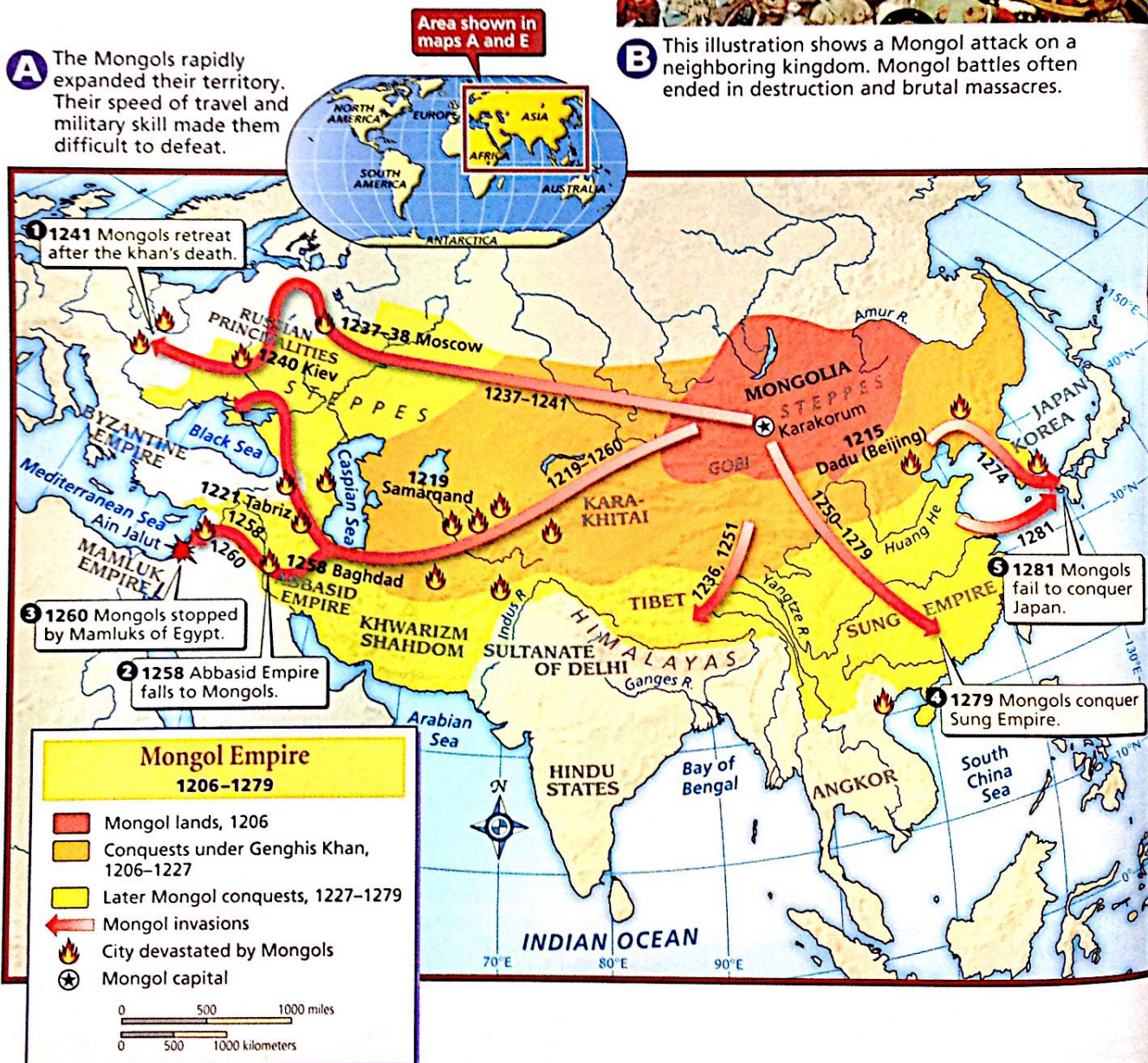
Mongol tribes swept across Asia and Europe, creating one of the largest empires in world history.

- The Mongols were nomads who originally lived in the dry grasslands of Central Asia. They were excellent horsemen and ruthless warriors.
- The Mongols conquered Muslim and Chinese empires and destroyed major cities along the Silk Road.
- During Mongol rule, trade and cultural exchange in Europe and Asia increased.
- Mongol rulers spread Islamic and Chinese culture throughout their kingdoms.



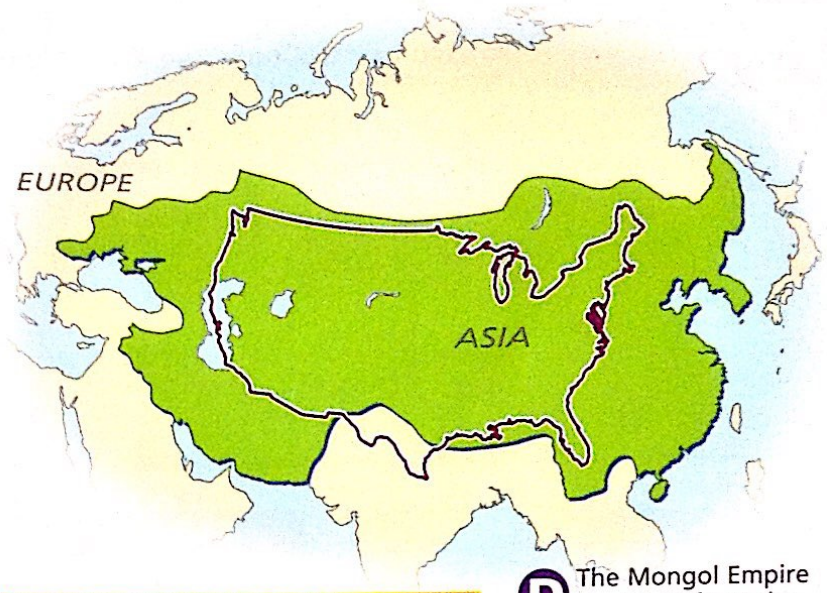
B This illustration shows a Mongol attack on a neighboring kingdom. Mongol battles often ended in destruction and brutal massacres.

A The Mongols rapidly expanded their territory. Their speed of travel and military skill made them difficult to defeat.





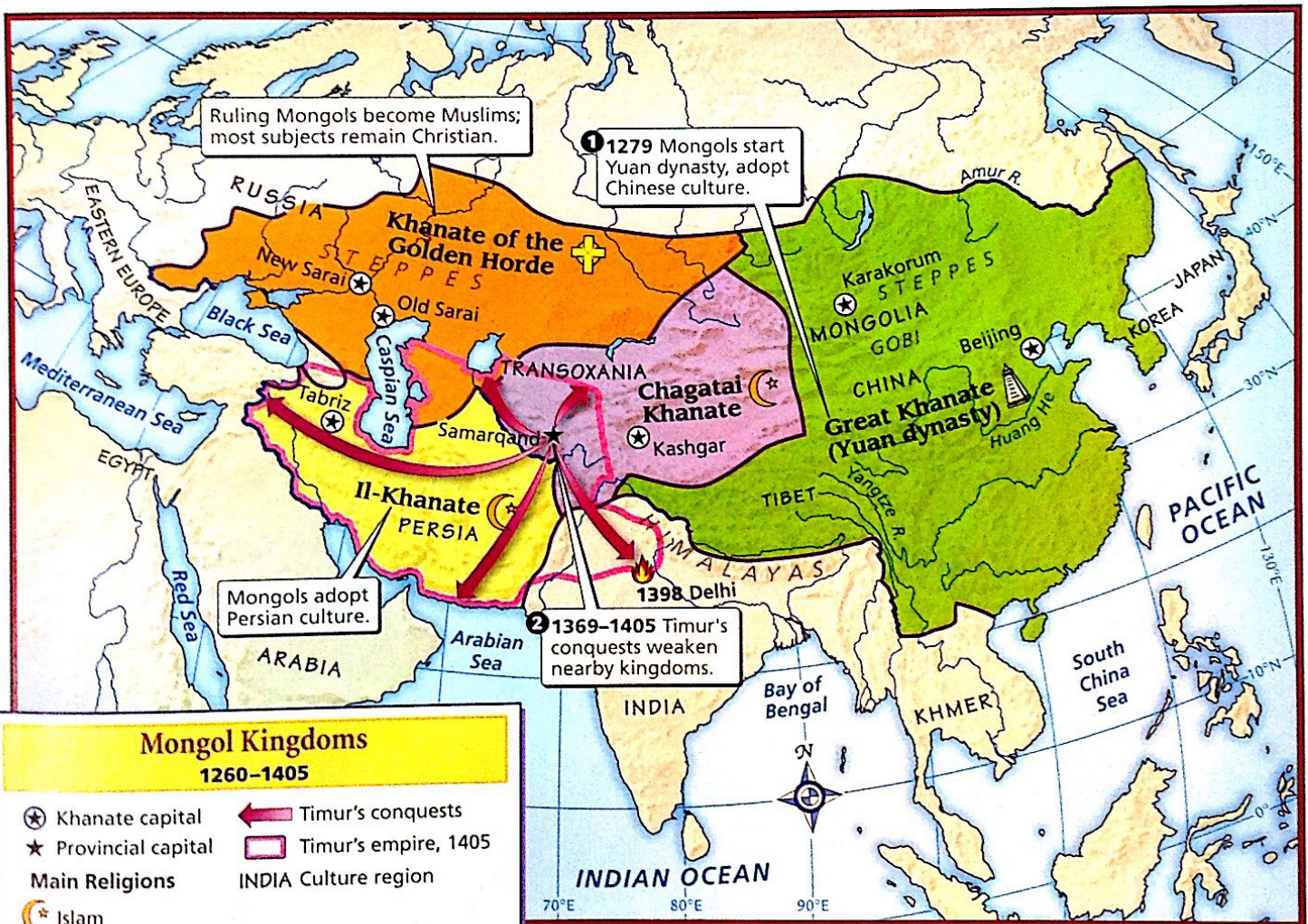
C Genghis was the khan, or ruler, who united the Mongol tribes. Although he is best known for his brutality, he also introduced law and written language into Mongol culture.



How Big Was the Mongol Empire?

■ Mongol Empire

D The Mongol Empire stretched from the Pacific Ocean to Eastern Europe.



E After 1259 the Mongol Empire was divided into four regional khanates, or kingdoms. Many Mongol rulers adopted the cultures of the regions they had conquered.