**Chapter 12: Mongols & Marco Polo**

I. Mongol Conquest

* Mongols were able to create the largest empire in world history
* Empire was larger than the land conquered by Alexander the Great, Napoleon, and Hitler combined

1. Nomadic Way of Life

* **Pastoralists –**
* Mongols were always on the move in search of good pastures
* Became expert horse riders
* Were able to ride up to 100+ miles a day
* Drank blood from their horse’s neck when food was scarce

1. Mongol Society

* **Clans –**
* Clans were constantly fighting one another for good land

1. Mongols are United

* **Genghis Khan –**

1. Genghis the Conqueror

1)

2)

3)

1. Mongol Empire

* **1227 –**
* His successors are able to create an empire stretching from China to Poland

1. Mongol Peace

* During times of peace the Mongols were quite tolerant
* **Pax Mongolica –**
* Mongols guaranteed safe passage for traders and missionaries
* **Silk Road –**
* Trade prospered along the Silk Road because nobody dared to challenge the Mongols
* Said that “a maiden bearing a nugget of gold on her head could wander safely throughout the realm”