

Central Eurasians.

- A stereotype based on a misconstruing the only one segment of Central Eurasian society: the peoples of the steppe zone have been widely believed to be “pure” nomads, distinct and isolated from settled Central Eurasians.
- Pastoral nomadic Central Eurasians were no more “natural warriors” than urban Central Eurasians were “natural merchants,” or agricultural Central Eurasians were “natural farmers.”
- **Both nomad-founded states and those founded by sedentary peoples were complex societies.**

Nomad's Art



Central Asia in the Middle Ages

- Central Eurasia was the home of the Indo-Europeans, who expanded across Eurasia from sea to sea and established the foundations of what has become world civilization.
- **Central Asia in the Middle Ages was the economic, cultural, and intellectual center of the world, and Central Asians are responsible for essential elements of modern science, technology, and the arts.**

Turkic khanates

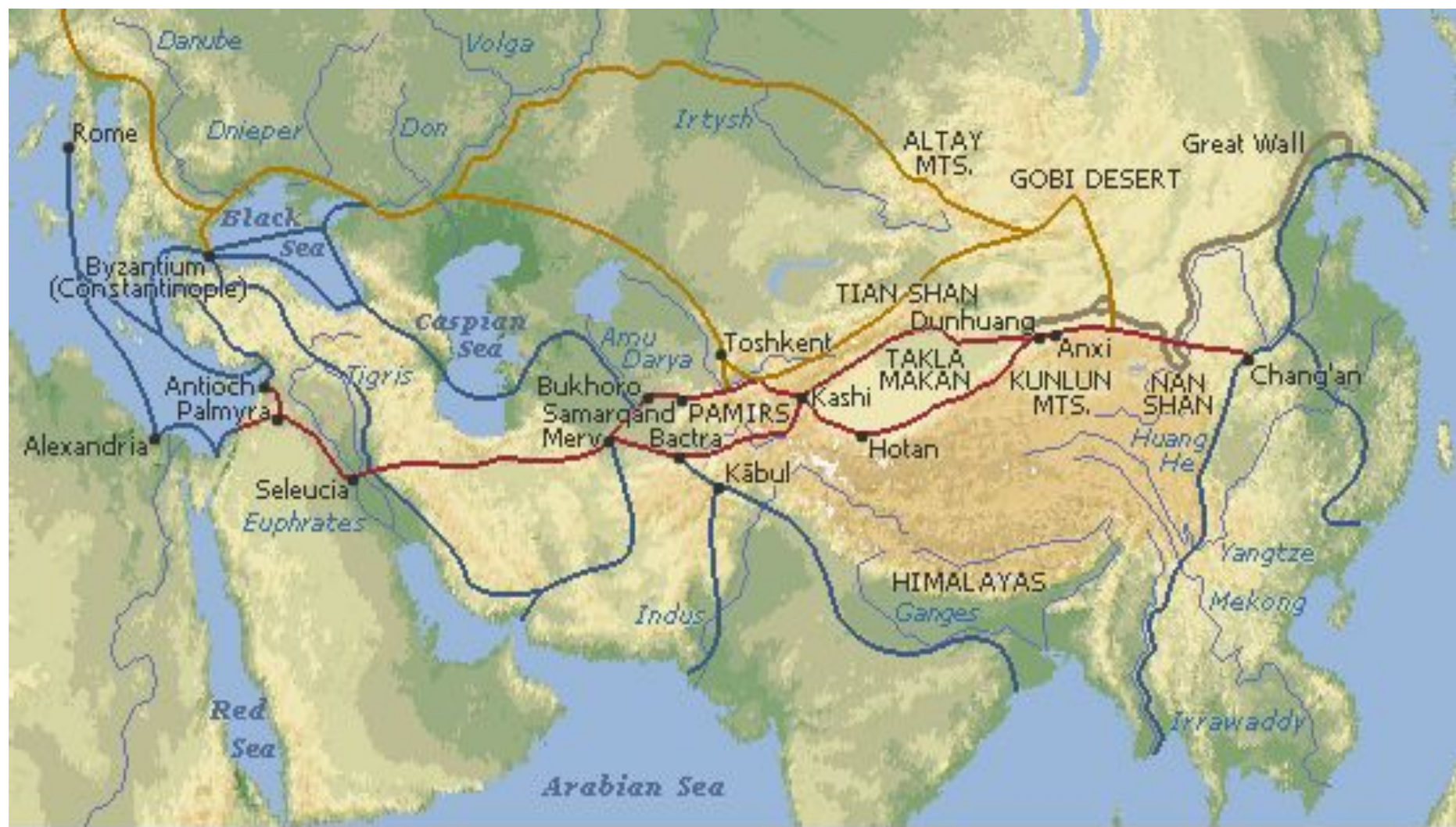
- **In the 5th and 6th centuries a.d.** , after successive invasions by the Altai Turks much of the population remained in the area, but came under the rule of the western **Turkic khanates** (formed from Turkic-speaking tribes from southern Kazakhstan and Semirech'e) and then under their successor, the **Turgesh khanate**, with its center at Shash, near present-day Tashkent.
- Turkic khanates were complex and stratified societies consisting of aristocrats, urban traders, oasis farmers, pastoral nomads, and a professional warrior class sufficiently skilled to prevent the Arab armies from crossing the Syr Darya until A.D. 739

Turkic khanates and Silk Way

- The steppe economy flourished under Karakhanid rule; the number of sedentary farmers increased
- the system of irrigation was sufficiently advanced to allow for the cultivation of fruits and vegetables as well as grains.
- Taraz, the Karakhanid capital, developed into a city of more than ten thousand people, and a number of new cities developed along the Syr Darya, including Otrar (the rebuilt Farab), Sygnak, and Suan.

Silk Way

- In the **10-14th c.c.** the cities situated in the territory of “Large Almaty” are drawn into the orbit of trade relations functioning on the highway of the Great Silk Way.
- Almaty becomes one of commercial, trade and agricultural centers on the Great Silk Way having a mint. (This is testified by a finding dated by the 13th century of two silver dirhams on which the name of **Almaty** is mentioned for the first time)



600  km
mi

— Main Silk Road — Eurasian Steppe Route — Main Connecting Routes



Preconditions of nationhood

- Preconditions of nationhood had been presented in Kazakhstan land under the Karakhanids and Karakitae by the 13 century AD because of:
 - **a single language;**
 - **common economy;**
 - **shared way of life.**

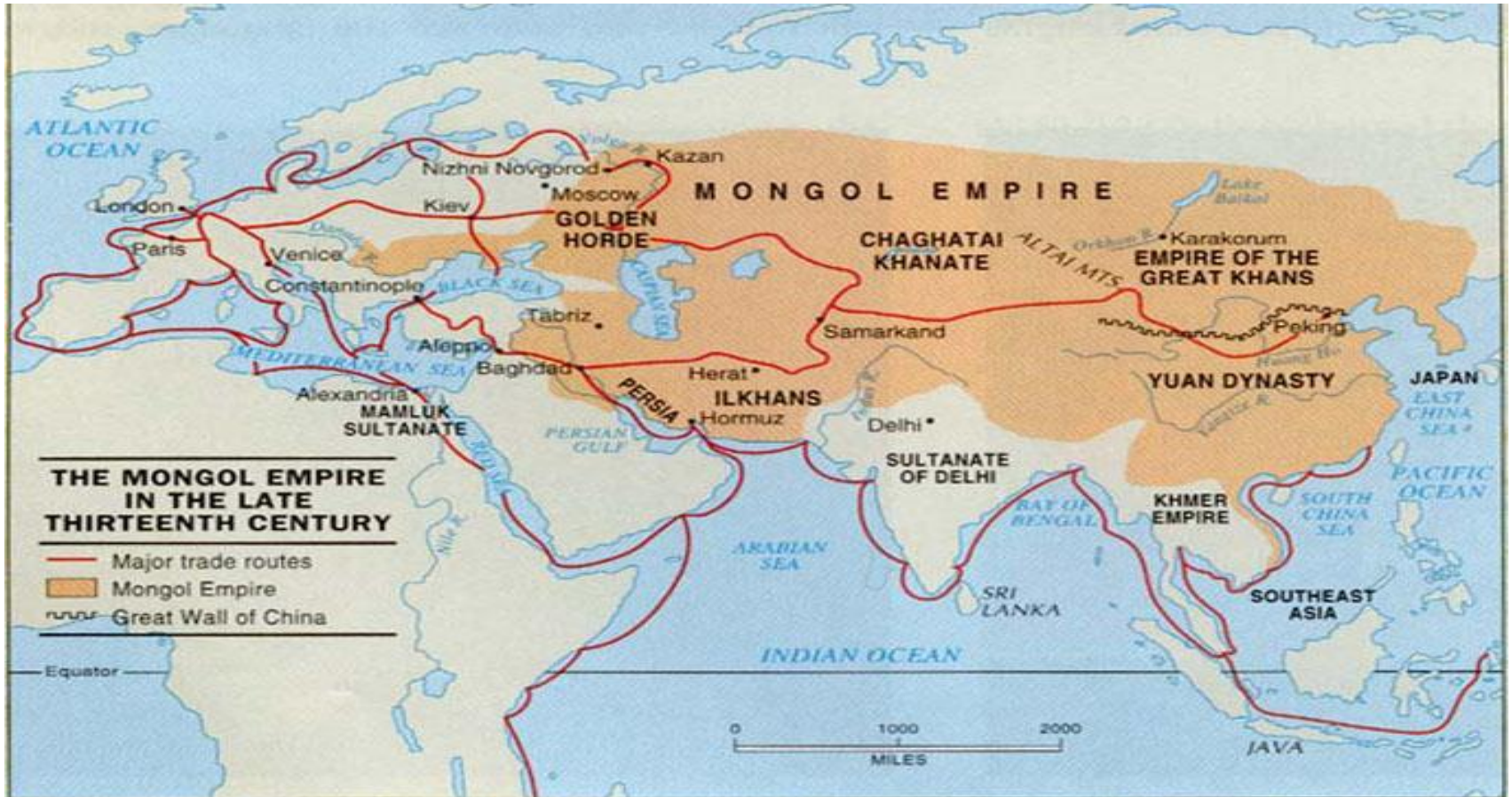
Silk Way and Mongol's invasion

- The ***Silk Road*** with its three variants is world's oldest ***trading road***. It is a 8000 km way leading up to ***Rome*** for example, from ***China***. The ***Silk Road*** was an engine and a lung for the developing of all ***neighboring countries and cultures*** (***Chinese, Indian, Egyptian, roman, mongol, central Asia*** etc). Along it flourished also the culture, and are situated some important cities, some of them lasting even today.
- Controlling the ***Silk Road*** was vital for any ***growing empire***, and many wars have been led with this wish.

Invasion of Chingis Khan Army

- In 940 the Karluks lost a dynastic struggle to the **Karakhanid family**, who ruled the steppe for another two hundred years.
- In **1130** the Kara-khanids were overthrown by the **Karakitae**, a Mongol people who invaded from the west.
- The Karakitae ruled the steppe for nearly a century. In the first decade of the **X111 century the Naimans and Kerei**, Turkic tribes from the Altai, invaded the steppe and overthrew the gur (khan) of the Karakitae. They in turn were quickly defeated by the armies of **Chingis Khan**, which conquered Semirech'e in **1218**.

SHENGIS KHAN EMPIRE



The Mongols extended their hegemony over a major part of the Eurasian landmass, from the Danube to the Pacific for the better part of two centuries.

The end of Mongol rule

- **1395 A.D.** marked the end of Mongol rule in **Central Asia**. The **Golden Horde, Kok and White Hordes** quickly broke up.
- The **first two decades of the XY century** - the creation of two new confederations of nomadic Turkish tribes in Central Asia, **the Nogai Horde** (a union of Kipchak tribes living between the Ural and Volga rivers) and the more important **Uzbek khanate (1420)**, which controlled the steppe land from the headwaters of the Syr Darya river basin to the Aral Sea and north to the Irtysh River. It was in this period that the term *Uzbek* came into common use to designate the Turkish tribes that migrated over present-day Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan.

Mongol conquest

- The Mongol conquest (1219-1224) had a disruptive economic effect on the region, destroying the preconditions of nationhood that had been present under the Karakhanids and Karakitae
- destroyed the Syr Darya River towns and trading posts of Sauran, Otrar, and Sygnak,
- destroyed sedentary culture that had provided a basis for the unity of these tribes.
- The Mongol rulers influenced language and culture

Nomad's Art

