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CLASS XI NOTES HISTORY

KEY NOTES AND IMPORTANT QUESTIONS WITH ANSWERS

Lesson – 5

Nomadic Empires

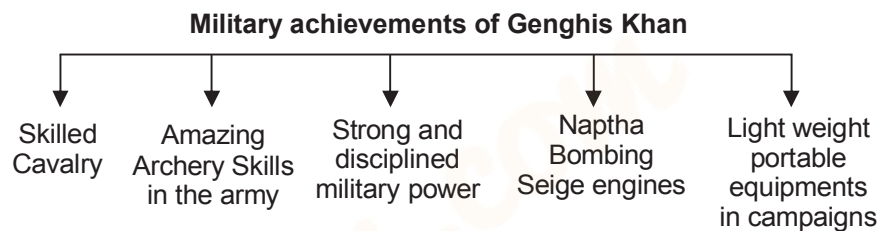
Facts to Remember

- Historical evidence about Nomadic Empire**

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graph TD; A[Historical evidence about Nomadic Empire] --> B[Chronicles]; A --> C[Travelogues]; A --> D[Document of urban litterateure]; A --> E[Evidence from chinese, Mongolian persian and Arabic languages];
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Chronicles Travelogues Document of urban litterateure Evidence from chinese, Mongolian persian and Arabic languages
- Nomadic empires can appear contradictory as nomads were arguably quintessential wanderers - the Mongols of Central Asia who established a transcontinental empire to create a fearsome military machine and a sophisticated method of governance.
- In the early decades of the thirteenth century the great empires of the Euro-Asian continent realised the dangers posed to them by the arrival of a new political power in the steppes of Central Asia: Genghis Khan (d. 1227) had united the Mongol people. Genghis Khan's political vision, however, went far beyond the creation of a confederacy of Mongol.
- The shortage of resources in Steppe region caused the Mongols and the nomads of Central Asia to travel to China for trade and to exchange of goods. They gave the Chinese the hunted preys, horses and fur and took agricultural produce and iron tools in exchange.

5. The term 'barbarian' is derived from the Greek barbarous which meant a Non-Greek.
6. Nomadic Clans attacked China often and looted the cities. Chinese emperors constructed the great wall of china to seek protection from their attacks.
7. Genghis Khan, who's early name was Temujin, till 1206 he defeated his rulers decisively and became the most influential person of the steppe region. Thus, in 1206, in a council of Kurultai, he was named as 'Samudri Khan' and the 'Sovereign ruler' by the mongols and declared as the chief.
8. Military achievements of Genghis Khan

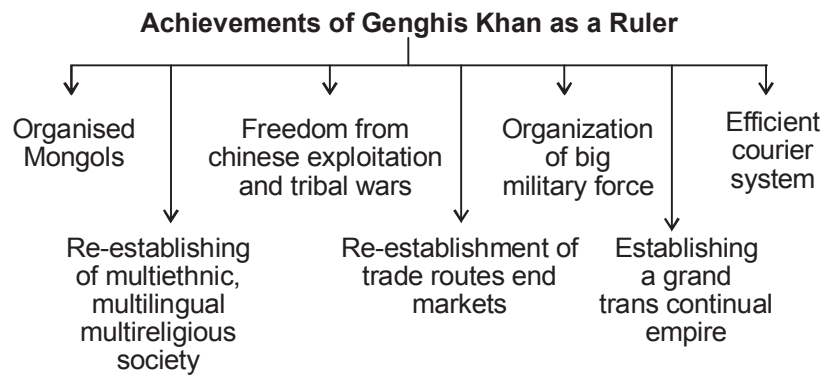


9. Genghis Khan reorganized the army - divided the ancient nomadic groups and their members into new military units. Tuman -The largest unit of the army (consisting of ten thousand troops, comprising several clans and clan's people.)
10. The new military contingents, which were under his four sons used to called Noyan.
11. Genghis Khan had already fashioned a rapid courier system that connected the distant areas of his regime. Fresh mounts and despatch riders were placed in outposts at regularly spaced distances. For the maintenance of this communication system the Mongol nomads

contributed a tenth of their herd -either horses or livestock - as provisions. This was called the qubcur tax,

12. Genghis Khan assigned the responsibility of governing the newly conquered people to his four sons. These comprised the four ulus.
13. By the middle of the thirteenth century the Mongols had emerged as a unified people and just created the largest empire the world had ever seen. They ruled over very sophisticated urban societies, with their respective histories, cultures and laws. Although the Mongols dominated the region politically, they were a numerical minority. The one way in which they could protect their identity and distinctiveness was through a claim to a sacred law given to them by their ancestor. The yasa was in all probability a compilation of the customary traditions of the Mongol tribes but in referring to it as Genghis Khan's code of law.
14. In its earliest formulation the term was written as yasa. Genghis Khan promulgated this in the year 1206 in quriltai. which meant 'law', 'decree' or 'order', the yasa concern administrative regulations: the organization of the hunt, the army and the postal system.
15. Key factor of Mangol's decline: ._
 1. They were few and were less civilize then the society.
 2. Contradictions within Mongol and imposing their tradition on annexed territories.
 3. Mongol's conversion to other religions

16.



17. Presently Mongolia is a sovereign nation and Genghis Khan is regarded as the greatest state man and iconic figure.

Multiple-Choice Questions

1. What was the main profession of Mongol's?
 - a. Agriculture
 - b. Pastoralists and hunter-gatherers.
 - c. Astrology
 - d. Craftsmanship
2. The term 'barbarian' is derived from the Greek barbaros which meant-
 - a. Cruel
 - b. Powerful
 - c. Non-Unani
 - d. Hunter

3. Which reason led the construction of the Great Wall of china?
 - a. For beautification of the state
 - b. For development of trade
 - c. To fortify the agricultural region.
 - d. To protect China from Nomadic intrusion
4. What was the name given Genghis Khan to military contingents under his four sons?
 - a. Noyan.
 - b. Yasa
 - c. Courier system
 - d. Oubcur
5. Genghis Khan is known in Mongolia for what?
 - a. As philosopher
 - b. As cruel ruler
 - c. as Nomadic ruler
 - d. as Great Statesman
6. What was the Genghis Khan's childhood name?
 - a. Temujin
 - b. Tugril Khan
 - c. Bodhurachu
 - d. None of above

7. Which title was conferred upon Genghis Khan by Mongol chieftains (quriltai)?
- a. Oceanic Khan
 - b. Badshah Khan
 - c. Jahandar Khan
 - d. None of the above.

Tick the right/wrong after reading following sentences.

- 1. Genghis Khan's first name was Yesugei.
- 2. Communication system was used to communicate with distant places.
- 3. Mongol dynasty was a multiethnic, multilingual, multi-religious regime.
- 4. The term 'barbarian' is derived from the Greek barbaros which meant cruel.
- 5. Genghis Khan had indicated that his third son, Ogodei, would succeed him as the Great Khan.

Short Answer Type Questions (3 marks)

- 1. Why the Central Asian Nomads used to go to China?
- 2. Which title was conferred upon for declaring Genghis Khan as Mongolian's leader.
- 3. What was the name of the tax nomadic people used, to the contribution of a tenth of their horses and other live stock.
- 4. Who were the nomadic people.

5. Which code of law was adopted by Genghis Khan to protect his identity.
6. What was the name of biggest army unit of Genghis Khan.

Long Answer Questions (8 marks)

1. Explain the achievements of Gengis Khan's army and also state the reasons of its success?
2. What was 'Yasa'? State the reasons in change of its meaning. Describe the importance of 'Yasa'?
3. Explain the reasons for the downfall of Mongol Empire?
4. Who was 'Gengis Khan'. Evaluate the role of Gengis Khan and Mongols in international history?

Answer to the Long Questions

1. A. Skilled Cavalry
B. Amazing archery skills in the army
C. Knowledge of weather
D. Siege engines
E. Naphtha bombing
F. Strong and disciplined military power
G. Use of lightweight portable equipment in campaigns
H. Use of frozen rivers as highways
Any other suitable point
2. 'Yasa' was the code of law that Genghis Khan promulgated at the quriltai in 1206, . In its earliest formulation the term was written as

yasaq which meant 'law', 'decree' or 'order'. Yasaq concern administrative regulations: the organisation of the hunt, the army and the postal system. The changes in the meaning of the term .

By the middle of the thirteenth century the Mongols had emerged as a unified people and just created the largest empire the world had ever seen.

They ruled over very sophisticated urban societies, with their respective histories, cultures and laws.

Although the Mongols dominated the region politically, they were a numerical minority. The one way in which they could protect their identity and distinctiveness was through a claim to a sacred law given to them by their ancestor.

The yasa was in all probability a compilation of the customary traditions of the Mongol tribes but in referring to it as Genghis Khan's code of law.

The Mongol people also laid claim to a 'lawgiver' like Moses and Soloman.

The yasa served to cohere the Mongol people around a body of shared beliefs, it acknowledged their affinity to Genghis Khan and his descendants and, even as they absorbed different aspects of a sedentary lifestyle, gave them the confidence to retain their ethnic identity and impose their law upon their defeated subjects.

It was certainly inspired by his vision and was vital in the construction of a Mongol universal dominion.

3. They were few in numbers and less civilised than their subjects.

Contradictions within Mongols and imposing their tradition on new territories.

Mongols conversion to other religions

Any other suitable point.

4. *Genghis Khan, who's early name was Temujin, by 1206 he defeated his rulers decisively and became the most influential person of the steppe region. Thus, in 1206, in a council of quriitai, he was named as 'Oceanic Khan' and the 'Universal ruler' by the mongols and declared as the chief.*

- Freedom from tribal wars and Chinese exploitation
- Organization of big military force
- Efficient courier system
- Re-establishment of trade routes and markets
- Establishing of multiethnic, multilingual, multi-religious
- Establishing a grand transcontinental empire.
- Presently Mongolia is a sovereign nation and Genghis Khan is regarded as the greatest statesman and an iconic figure.

Answer to MCQs (Lesson-wise)

Lesson – 5

- | | | | | |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 1. (b) | 2. (c) | 3. (d) | 4. (a) | 5. (d) |
| 6. (a) | 7. (a) | | | |