

1300–1700

Islamic Empires in Asia

Ottoman cavalry sword



1326
Business and Finance
The Ottomans begin to mint coins.

1398
Politics
Timur destroys Delhi.

1453
Science and Technology
The Ottomans use artillery cannons to capture Constantinople.

1453
Daily Life
The Ottomans convert the Hagia Sophia church in Constantinople into a mosque.

1458
Global Events
The Ottomans occupy the Acropolis in Athens, Greece.

1300

1375

1450

1337
Global Events
The Hundred Years' War begins.



Mongol forces invade India

1475
Daily Life
The world's first coffeehouse opens in Istanbul.



Turkish coffee um

Build on What You Know

From the 1400s through the 1700s, rulers of China and Japan wanted to make their countries stable. They tried to prevent change by limiting contact with the outside world—particularly with the trading countries of the West. They also sought to maintain the traditions and values that had characterized their cultures for centuries. At the same time, Islamic rulers in Asia were trying to expand their empires through conquest. In this chapter, you will learn how Islamic empires grew and were organized. You will learn, too, how Islamic teachings were carried to many parts of Asia and how they influenced many traditional Asian cultures.

1501
Politics
The Safavid dynasty begins rule in Persia.

1526
Politics
Bābur founds the Mughal Empire in India.

1529
Daily Life
Turkish farmers grow vast fields of American maize.

c. 1529
The Arts
Bābur finishes writing his memoirs.

1558
Global Events
Elizabeth I becomes queen of England.

1599
Daily Life
Eṣfahān becomes the capital of Safavid Persia.

1600
Daily Life
Thieves smuggle coffee beans from Arabia to India.

c. 1649
The Arts
Shah Jahān completes construction of the Taj Mahal in Agra.



Safavid glazeware

1525

1504
Science and Technology
Venice proposes construction of a Suez Canal to the Ottomans.

1536
Science and Technology
India rubber is mentioned for the first time.

1579
Science and Technology
The Ottomans build an astronomical observatory in Constantinople.

1617
The Arts
'Abbās's Royal Mosque at Eṣfahān is completed.

1658
Politics
Aurangzeb seizes power in Mughal India.

1600

1611
Business and Finance
The British East India Co. establishes its first factory in India.

1675



Dome and minarets of a Safavid mosque



Mughal emperor Aurangzeb at prayer

What's Your Opinion?

Themes Journal Do you **agree** or **disagree** with the following statements? Support your point of view in your journal.

Global Relations A civilization that expands by conquest must support a large, strong military.

Culture The religious policies followed by a culture's leadership can help to unify or divide that culture.

Government The character of its rulers determines the effectiveness of a government.

SECTION

1

READ TO DISCOVER

- 1 How did the Ottomans build and expand their empire?
- 2 How did the Ottomans organize their government and society?

DEFINE

ghazis
reaya
millets

IDENTIFY

Osman
Janissaries
Timur
Mehmed II
Süleyman

WHY IT MATTERS TODAY

The present-day country of Turkey was once the center of the Ottoman Empire. Use **CNN** or other **current event** sources to find out what kind of government Turkey has today. Record your findings in your journal.

CNN student
NEWS.com

The Ottoman Empire

The Main Idea
With their tough, disciplined army and strong rulers, the Ottomans built a powerful empire.

The Story Continues During the 1300s and 1400s the Ottoman Empire built and expanded its power. Ottoman leaders such as Mehmed the Conqueror sought to capture the city of Constantinople. An observer described Mehmed's goals: "The empire of the world . . . must be one, one faith and one kingdom. To make this unity there is no place in the world more worthy than Constantinople."

The Rise of the Ottomans

The first Ottomans were Turkish soldiers known as **ghazis**, or warriors for Islam. They had come to Anatolia (formerly called Asia Minor) with other Turks to escape the Mongols. In the late 1200s a ghazi leader named **Osman** had great success fighting the Byzantines. His tribe members became known as Ottomans.

During the 1300s the Ottomans took over a large part of Anatolia. Eventually Ottoman forces went to Europe. They tried to capture Constantinople but failed. In 1361 the Ottomans captured Adrianopolis, the second most important Byzantine city. They made the city their capital and renamed it Edirne. By 1396 the first Ottoman sultan had been appointed.

The elite Ottoman army. The Ottoman sultans created a highly trained troop of slave soldiers called **Janissaries**. Janissaries were young war captives and Christian slaves from Europe. First they were schooled in Islamic laws and converted to Islam, then trained as special soldiers. Janissaries belonged to the sultan, serving him for life. Eventually the Janissaries gained power and influence. They became an important political group in the Ottoman Empire.

Timur challenges the Ottomans. The Turko-Mongol leader **Timur** interrupted the Ottoman expansion. Timur was born in 1336 in what is now Uzbekistan. He claimed he was descended from the great Mongol leader Genghis Khan. Timur created an army and built his power in central Asia. Then he began a career of conquest.

By the end of the 1300s, Timur's forces were close to Ottoman territory. Several ghazi rulers fled to his court when the Ottomans conquered their states. They asked Timur to help them get their land back. In 1402 Timur invaded Anatolia. His forces defeated the Ottomans at the Battle of Ankara and captured the sultan. Timur made the Ottomans return the territory they had taken from the other ghazi rulers.



This richly decorated illustration from about 1500 shows an Ottoman sultan dining.

Recovery and expansion. Timur's victory over the Ottomans caused a crisis in the Ottoman Empire. A civil war broke out over who should be the next sultan. Finally Murad II took power and began a new period of expansion. In 1444 Murad's army defeated the last European crusaders at the Battle of Varna. After Murad's rule, Mehmed II became sultan. Mehmed conquered Constantinople in 1453, renamed the city Istanbul, and made it the Ottoman capital.

The greatest Ottoman sultan was Süleyman, who ruled from 1520 to 1566. He brought the Ottoman Empire to its height. Known as "the Magnificent" in Europe, Süleyman was called "the Lawgiver" by his own people.

Süleyman expanded the Ottoman Empire, conquering Hungary in 1526. Three years later the Ottomans nearly captured the city of Vienna. Vienna marked the limit of Ottoman expansion in Europe. By this time, however, the Ottomans ruled most of eastern Europe, western Asia, and northern Africa.

✓ **READING CHECK: Summarizing** What important military conquests led to the expansion of the Ottoman Empire?



The Ottoman Empire, 1453–1683

Interpreting Maps At its height under Süleyman, the Ottoman Empire included parts of eastern Europe, western Asia, and northern Africa.

■ **Skills Assessment: The World in Spatial Terms** Which two battle sites are found at about the 40° N parallel?

Ottoman Government and Society

The sultans were the supreme rulers of Ottoman society. Those second in command to the sultan were called grand viziers (vuh-ZIRZ). Ottoman society was divided into two major groups. One group was the small ruling class of Ottomans. The other included the masses of ordinary subjects, called *reaya* or the “protected flock.” People did not have to remain in one of these groups for life. *Reaya* with ability could become part of the ruling class. Ottomans who lacked ability became *reaya*.

Europeans who observed Turkish society were impressed. One observer was Ogier Ghiselin de Busbecq, the Holy Roman Emperor’s ambassador to Süleyman’s court. He described his view of how the system worked.

Analyzing Primary Sources

Drawing Inferences What does it mean to say, “Each man in Turkey carries in his own hand his ancestry and his position in life”?



“No distinction is attached to birth among the Turks; the deference to be paid to a man is measured by the position he holds in the public service. . . . it is by merit that men rise in the service, a system which ensures that posts should only be assigned to the competent. Each man in Turkey carries in his own hand his ancestry and his position in life, which he may make or mar as he will.”

Ogier Ghiselin de Busbecq, *The Life and Letters of Ogier Ghiselin de Busbecq*



HISTORY MAKER

Süleyman the Magnificent
(c. 1495–1566)

As sultan of the Ottoman Empire, Süleyman was a brave and daring warrior. He is most remembered, however, for his accomplishments at home.

Süleyman surrounded himself with a group of able advisers. He built strong fortresses for defense as well as numerous roads, bridges, and mosques. He supported the arts and helped to make Constantinople the cultural and commercial center of his empire. **How did Süleyman improve the Ottoman Empire?**

This Ottoman image of the 1500s shows the Turks blockading the French port of Marseille.

The millet system. Different groups of people made up the *reaya*. Muslim Turks lived in the heart of the empire in Anatolia. Christians and Jews of various ethnic groups lived in the Balkans. Muslim Arabs lived in the Fertile Crescent and along the shore of northern Africa. Religious differences caused tension among these groups.

The sultans allowed the different groups to practice their own religions. They were organized into separate religious communities called *millet*s. The *millet*s were under the general control of the sultan, but they governed themselves. Each *millet* operated under its own laws and customs. It had its own courts and collected taxes. It also was responsible for the education, health, and safety of its members.

Slow decline begins. Süleyman the Magnificent died in 1566. His death marked the start of a slow decline of Ottoman power and influence as European states such as France, Spain, and Poland became stronger. Although the Ottoman army and navy



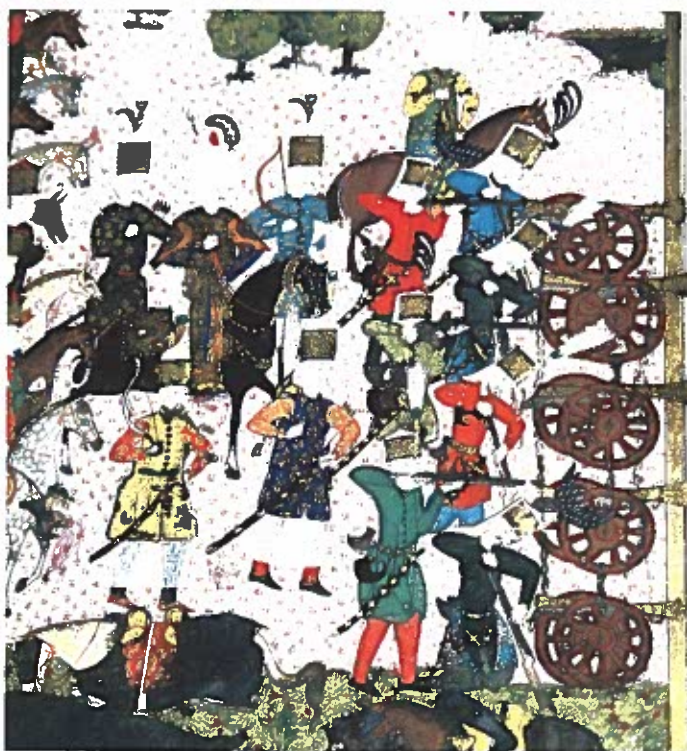
were generally strong, they suffered some defeats. In 1571, for example, Philip II of Spain led a European navy against the Ottomans. The Europeans defeated the Turks at the Battle of Lepanto, near Greece. In 1683 troops led by the Polish king John III Sobieski again stopped the Turks outside Vienna.

By the 1600s the Ottoman government and economy faced real problems as well. During these years, the empire lost control of the highly profitable silk and spice trades between Europe and Asia. European naval powers opened new sea routes to Asia that bypassed the Turks and destroyed their trade monopoly. At the same time, the power and prestige of the Ottoman sultans weakened. The government became increasingly corrupt due to internal power struggles within its growing bureaucracy. Rebellions among the Janissaries, the Ottomans' elite slave troops, added to the empire's troubles. During the late 1700s the Ottomans lost the Crimean Peninsula and lands around the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov to the Russians. The French invaded Egypt, an Ottoman possession, in 1798. Ottoman lands in the Balkans were also lost. Some sultans attempted to reform Ottoman government and military structures but had limited success. The Ottoman Empire struggled to survive, finally ending in 1923 when Turkey established itself as a republic.

✓ **READING CHECK: Analyzing Information** What problems did the Ottoman Empire face?

INTERPRETING THE VISUAL RECORD

Ottomans in battle This painting shows Süleyman the Magnificent at the Battle of Mohács in Hungary. *What does this picture tell us about Ottoman military technology?*



SECTION 1 REVIEW

1. Define and explain the significance:
ghazis
reaya
millets

2. Identify and explain the significance:
Osman
Janissaries
Timur
Mehmed II
Süleyman

3. Sequencing Copy the chart below. Use it to organize the major conquests and defeats that the Ottomans experienced between 1300 and 1700.

Conquests
Defeats

4. Finding the Main Idea

- What role did the Janissaries play in the success of the Ottoman Empire?
- How important do you think the Ottoman social system was to the success of the empire?

5. Writing and Critical Thinking

Evaluating Explain your view of the Ottoman Empire's focus on military conquest.

Consider:

- how the people conquered were affected
- how the Ottoman people were affected
- the cost in both money and lives

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keyword: SH3 HP9

The Safavid Empire

READ TO DISCOVER

- How was religion responsible for the development of the Safavid Empire?
- How did 'Abbās the Great bring the Safavid Empire to its height?

DEFINE

kizilbash

IDENTIFY

Safī od-Dīn
Esmā'il
Tahmāsp
'Abbās

WHY IT MATTERS TODAY

The Iranian (Persian) government has kept Shi'ah Islam as the state religion from the time of the Safavids up to the present day. Use

CRITICAL or other **CURRENT** event sources to explore how religious differences affect Iran's relationship with other countries. Record your findings in your journal.

CNN
News.com

The Main Idea

The Safavid rulers created a powerful Shi'ah Muslim empire with a prospering economy and culture.

The Story Continues

While the Ottomans were building their empire, the Safavid dynasty was gaining power in Persia. Shah Esmā'il, the founder of this new empire, was driven by religious zeal. "I am committed to this action," he said. "God and the Immaculate [pure] Imams are with me, and I fear no one."

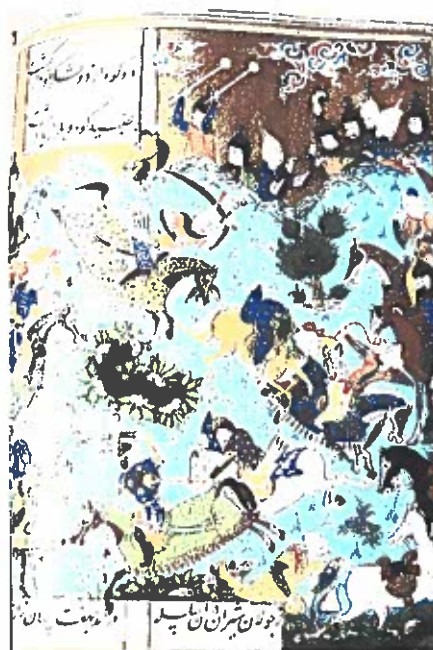
The Rise of the Safavids

The Safavid (sah-FAH-vid) Empire was bounded on the west by the Ottoman Empire and on the east by the Mughal Empire of India. Today, much of what was the Safavid Empire is the country of Iran.

The Safavids were descended from Safī od-Dīn, head of the family in the 1200s. Like most Persians, the Safavids were Muslims. They belonged to the Sunni branch of Islam. In about 1399, however, the Safavids shifted from Sunni to the Shi'ah sect. As Shi'ah, they were persecuted by the Sunni.

Toward the end of the 1400s, the Safavids developed a military group to fight for political power. This army was called the kizilbash, meaning "Red Heads," for the red hats they wore. Other Persians killed or imprisoned many Safavids, but one of the youngest, Esmā'il (is-mah-FEH), escaped into hiding. In about 1500 Esmā'il became head of the kizilbash. In a series of victories, he brought all of modern Iran and part of present-day Iraq under his rule. In 1501 he captured the city of Tabriz and made it the Safavid capital. Esmā'il took the ancient Persian title of shah, or "king of kings," and reigned until 1524.

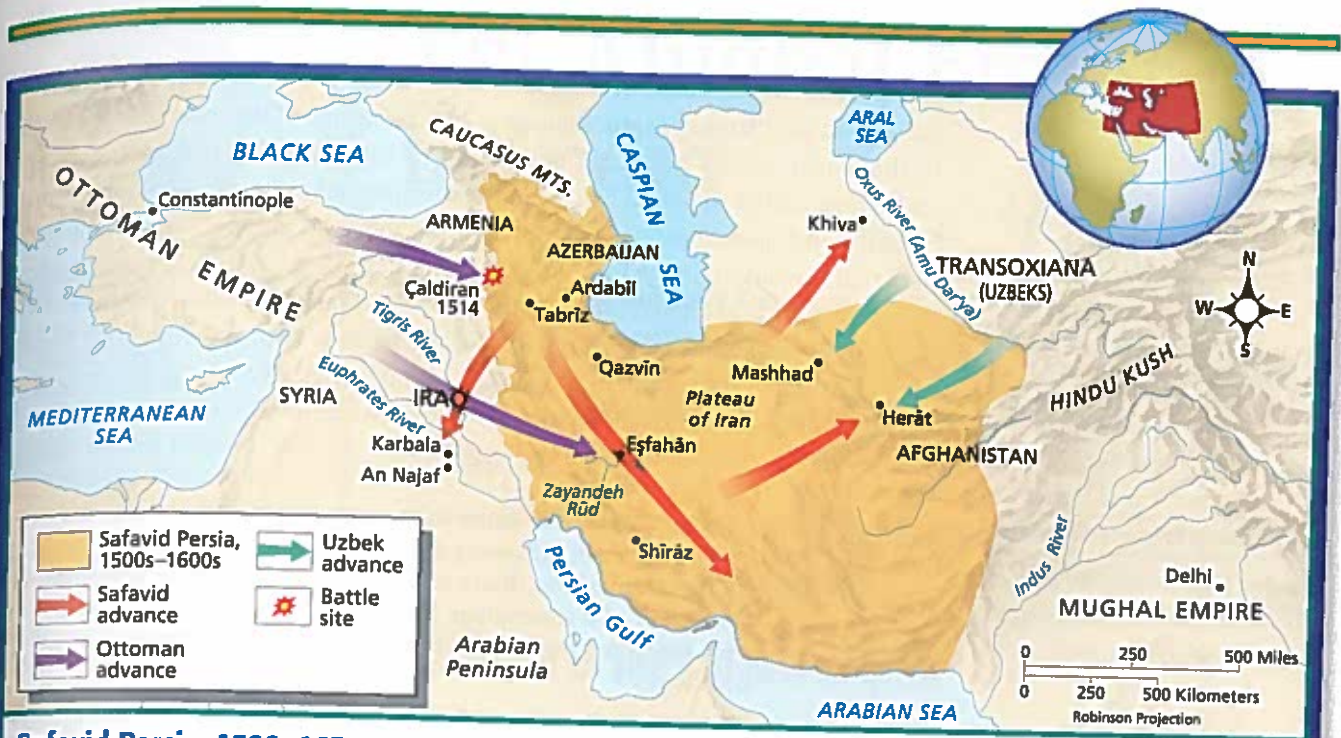
✓ **READING CHECK: Summarizing** What problems did the Safavids face during the 1400s?



Esmā'il's religious policy. As soon as Esmā'il became shah, he proclaimed that Shi'ah would be the religion of the Safavid Empire. Most Persians were Sunni, but Esmā'il forced them to convert. Many people considered Esmā'il a Muslim saint as well as shah, which helped in the process of conversion. Shi'ah gave the Persians an identity distinct from the great number of Sunni—Turks and Arabs—

INTERPRETING THE VISUAL RECORD

Continuing conflict Until the late 1580s the Safavids were often outmatched by the stronger Ottoman army. *What generalizations can be drawn from this image?*



Safavid Persia, 1500–1636

Interpreting Maps As Safavid rulers expanded their empire, they clashed with the Ottomans and the Uzbeks for control of key territory.

■ **Skills Assessment: Human Systems** The Safavids relocated their capital from Tabriz to Qazvin and later to Eşfahān. What do you think motivated the first move?

who lived around them. The Persian language and history also contributed to a strong sense of identity, which continues in modern Iran.

Esmā'il's support of Shi'ah threatened Persia's neighbors—the Sunni Ottomans and Uzbek tribes to the northeast. In 1514 the Ottomans invaded northwestern Persia. They defeated the Safavids at the Battle of Çaldiran. The struggle continued through the mid-1500s. After Esmā'il died, his son Tahmāsp tried to carry on the fight. However, by the 1570s the Safavids had lost territory to both the Ottomans and the Uzbeks.

✓ **READING CHECK: Finding the Main Idea** Why did Esmā'il make Shi'ah the religion of the empire?

Shah 'Abbās the Great

When Tahmāsp died in 1576, the Safavid Empire was unstable. The kizilbash were no longer loyal to the shah. The struggles against the Ottomans and Uzbeks were going badly. Then in 1587 'Abbās, called "the Great," became shah.

Military reforms. 'Abbās realized he needed troops that would be loyal to him. He reformed the military, using the Ottoman army as a model. He created troops of foreign slaves who had been prisoners of war. After they were converted to Islam, they were trained for army service. These slave-soldiers belonged to the shah and were loyal only to him.

Eventually 'Abbās was ready to take on the Ottomans and Uzbeks. In 1598 his improved army defeated the Uzbeks and regained control of northeastern Persia. In a few years 'Abbās recovered all the territory the Safavids had lost.

Holt Researcher

go.hrw.com

KEYWORD: Holt Researcher

FreeFind: Abbas

After reading more about 'Abbās on the Holt Researcher, write a list of questions you would ask him if you had a chance to interview him. Then write his possible responses.

The height of the empire. In about 1599 'Abbās moved the Safavid capital to Eṣfahān on the Plateau of Iran. Eṣfahān soon became one of the most beautiful cities in the world. 'Abbās planned his new capital city carefully. It had wide streets and a huge central square. It had splendid mosques and monuments, as well as public baths and open markets. The center of Eṣfahān was an enormous rectangular park that was large enough for polo games and that was surrounded by an arcade of shops. Large inns scattered throughout the city had central courtyards where camel caravans could be housed and rested. Eṣfahān became known throughout Europe and the Middle East as a political, spiritual, and commercial center of the first order.

Even 'Abbās liked to walk around his city. Christian monks who had a mission in Eṣfahān kept a record of what they observed.

Analyzing Primary Sources

Drawing Inferences How do you think the shopkeepers probably reacted to 'Abbās's behavior?

Primary Source

“He ['Abbās] will come to the greengrocers, fruiterers, and those who sell preserves and sweetmeats. Here he will take a mouthful of this, there another of that . . . Or he will enter the shop of a shoemaker, pick up a pair of shoes that takes his fancy, put them on at the door and then continue on his way.”

From Clive Irving, *Crossroads of Civilization: 3000 Years of Persian History*

'Abbās's reign was also a time of economic development. The shah encouraged manufacturing and foreign trade. Carpet weaving became a major industry. Fine Persian rugs began to appear in the homes of wealthy Europeans. Persian merchants exported rich fabrics such as brocade, damask, and silk. The Safavids produced beautiful tiles and ceramics for their own use as well as for trade.

'Abbās died in 1629. For a while after his death, the Safavids continued to rule. However, rulers after 'Abbās proved increasingly inept. The empire began to decline and had ended by 1736. Eventually Persia split into a number of small states.

✓ **READING CHECK: Supporting a Point of View** What evidence would you give that 'Abbās was an especially capable ruler?



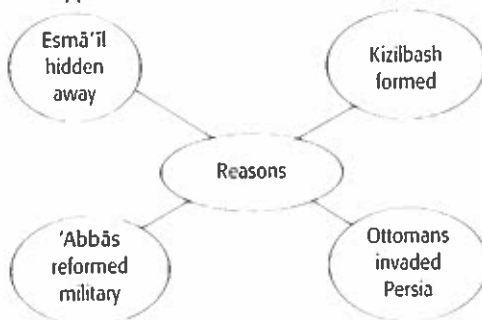
This glazeware from about 1625 shows typical Safavid artistry.

SECTION 2 REVIEW

1. **Define** and explain the significance: kizilbash

2. **Identify** and explain the significance: Safī od-Dīn Esmā'il Tahmāsp 'Abbās

3. **Identifying Cause and Effect** Copy the model below. Give the reasons why each event happened.



4. **Finding the Main Idea**

- What effect did the Safavid religious policy have on Persia?
- What were the results of the military reforms carried out under 'Abbās?
- What might a visitor to Eṣfahān in the early 1600s conclude about the Safavid Empire?

5. **Writing and Critical Thinking**

Summarizing Imagine you are a visitor to Eṣfahān during Abbās's time. Write a description of your experience.

Consider:

- what the city looks like
- what the people are doing in their everyday lives
- what products and industries you see
- in what ways the city of Eṣfahān symbolizes Safavid strength and prosperity



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keyword: SH3 HP9

READ TO DISCOVER

- 1 How did the Mughal Empire begin?
- 2 How did the Mughal Empire expand?
- 3 What was the Mughal Empire like at its height?

IDENTIFY

Rajputs
Bābur
Akbar
Shah Jahān
Taj Mahal
Sikh
Aurangzeb

WHY IT MATTERS TODAY

The Taj Mahal in Agra, India, was built by a Mughal emperor. Thousands of tourists visit it each year. Use **ONEPage.com** or other **current event** sources to find out more about this architectural masterpiece. Record your findings in your journal.

Student
NEWS.com

The Mughal Empire in India

The Main Idea
The Mughal rulers of India worked to unify and improve their vast, diverse Muslim empire.

The Story Continues In 1605 the Mughal Empire was at the height of its glory. When Jahāngīr, son of Akbar, inherited his father's empire, his coronation ceremony reflected this splendor: "For forty days and forty nights I caused the . . . great imperial state drum, to strike up, without ceasing, the strains of joy and triumph;" he wrote, ". . . around my throne, the ground was spread by my directions with the most costly brocades [silks] and embroidered carpets. . . . Emirs of the empire, covered from head to foot in gold and jewels . . . stood round in brilliant array."

The Origin of the Mughal Empire

During the 1300s Turkish Muslims controlled India, with Delhi as the capital of their sultanate. By the 1500s the power of the Delhi sultans had been greatly weakened. Indian warrior princes called **Rajputs** (RAHJ-poots) began to challenge them. The internal weakness of the sultanate drew the attention of India's powerful neighbors, as it had during Timur's time, and left India open to Mongol attack.

The attack came from a young leader known as "Bābur the Tiger." Bābur (also, Zahīr-ud-Dīn Muhammad) was a descendant of the Mongol leader Timur. He had tried to build an empire in central Asia, but the Uzbek people had driven him out. Bābur then focused on India. In 1526 he attacked the Sultanate of Delhi. A major battle took place at Panipat, a town north of Delhi. Bābur was greatly outnumbered, but he won the battle, as he described in his autobiography.

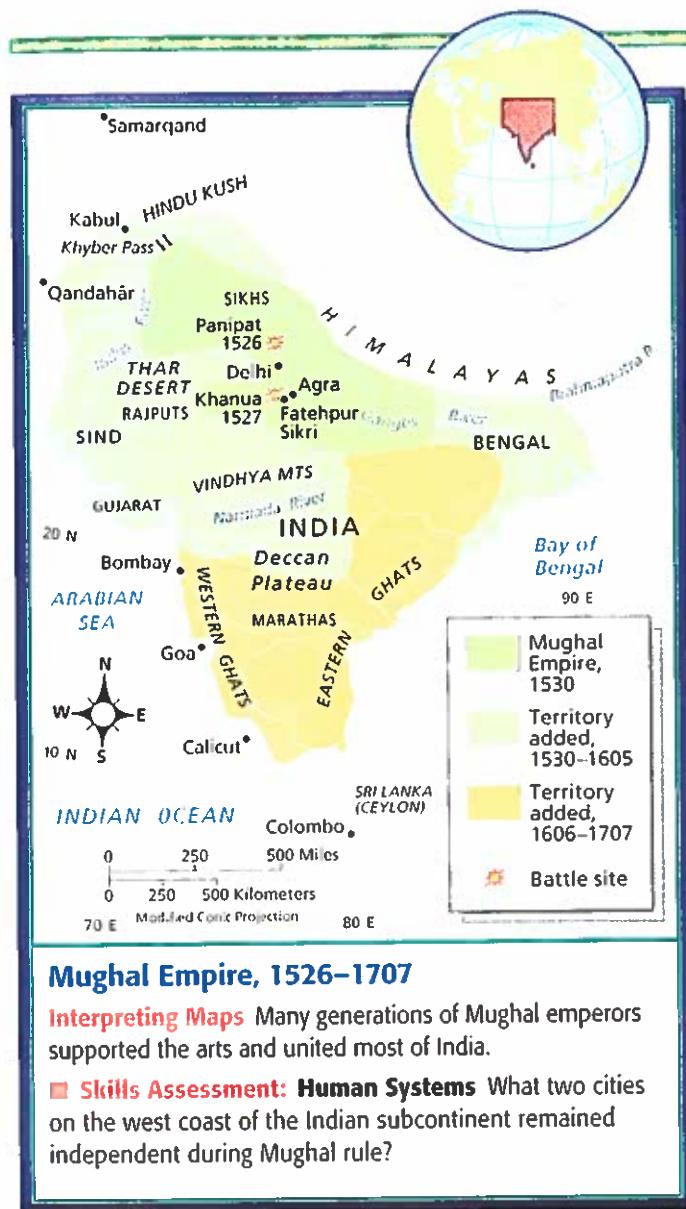
History
Makers
Speak

"The kingdom of Hindustan [India] . . . was under the control of . . . [the sultan at Delhi] . . . His standing army was estimated at one hundred thousand. He and his commanders were said to have one thousand elephants. In such a state of affairs and with such strength, we put our trust in God . . . and faced a ruler with a huge army and vast realm. . . . God did not let our pains and difficulties go for naught and defeated such a powerful opponent and conquered a vast kingdom like Hindustan."

from *The Baburnama: Memoirs of Babur, Prince and Emperor*



This painting from about 1590 shows the richness and ease of life at the Mughal court.



Mughal Empire, 1526–1707

Interpreting Maps Many generations of Mughal emperors supported the arts and united most of India.

■ **Skills Assessment: Human Systems** What two cities on the west coast of the Indian subcontinent remained independent during Mughal rule?

After the victory at Panipat, Bābur occupied Delhi and the surrounding region. This territory became the core of the Mughal Empire.

✓ **READING CHECK: Summarizing** What role did Bābur play in establishing the Mughal Empire?

The Growth of Mughal Power

Bābur's grandson, Akbar, was the greatest Mughal emperor. He took the throne at the age of 13 and reigned from 1556 to 1605. Akbar gained support for his government in various ways. He married a Rajput princess and gave other Rajputs government positions. At times he used force to maintain power. By 1605 Akbar controlled all of northern and much of central India.

Akbar introduced an improved tax system that helped him control his empire. Taxes were based on an average of what a village might produce over a 10-year period. When the harvest was poor, the tax did not have to be paid. In a good harvest, the villagers could keep anything above the tax level.

Akbar was a great supporter of the arts. He encouraged Hindu as well as Muslim artists. Mughal artists, influenced by the Persian style, created delicate, colorful miniature paintings. Akbar also encouraged the development of literature in the Hindi and Urdu languages. The Mughals made great achievements in architecture, blending Persian, Islamic, and Hindu styles.

Religious policy. Perhaps most importantly, Akbar was tolerant of all religions. He repealed the special tax that non-Muslims had been forced to pay. Over time, however, he began to think of himself as a divine ruler. In the late 1500s he established a creed called the Divine Faith. The motto for the creed was *Allahu Akbar*, meaning either "God is great" or "Akbar is God." The creed blended elements of Islam, Hinduism, Jainism, Christianity, and other religions. It attracted few followers beyond Akbar's court because Muslims strongly opposed it.

Economy and trade. During Akbar's reign the economy improved. The empire's wealth and resources, and its location along the sea routes to Asia, attracted European traders. India had impressive quantities of jewels and gold. The climate allowed the peasants to grow a variety of crops and allowed more than one harvest a year. European travelers thought India's rulers lived in greater luxury than their European kings. India's cities, such as Agra and Delhi, were filled with beautiful buildings and monuments. The Mughal cities seemed much larger than any in Europe.

✓ **READING CHECK: Making Generalizations** What role did Akbar play in the growth of the Mughal Empire?

The Height of the Mughal Empire

The Mughal Empire was at its height during the reign of **Shah Jahān**. He ruled from 1628 to 1658. By this time the empire had expanded to reach its greatest extent of territory, including both northern and southern India.

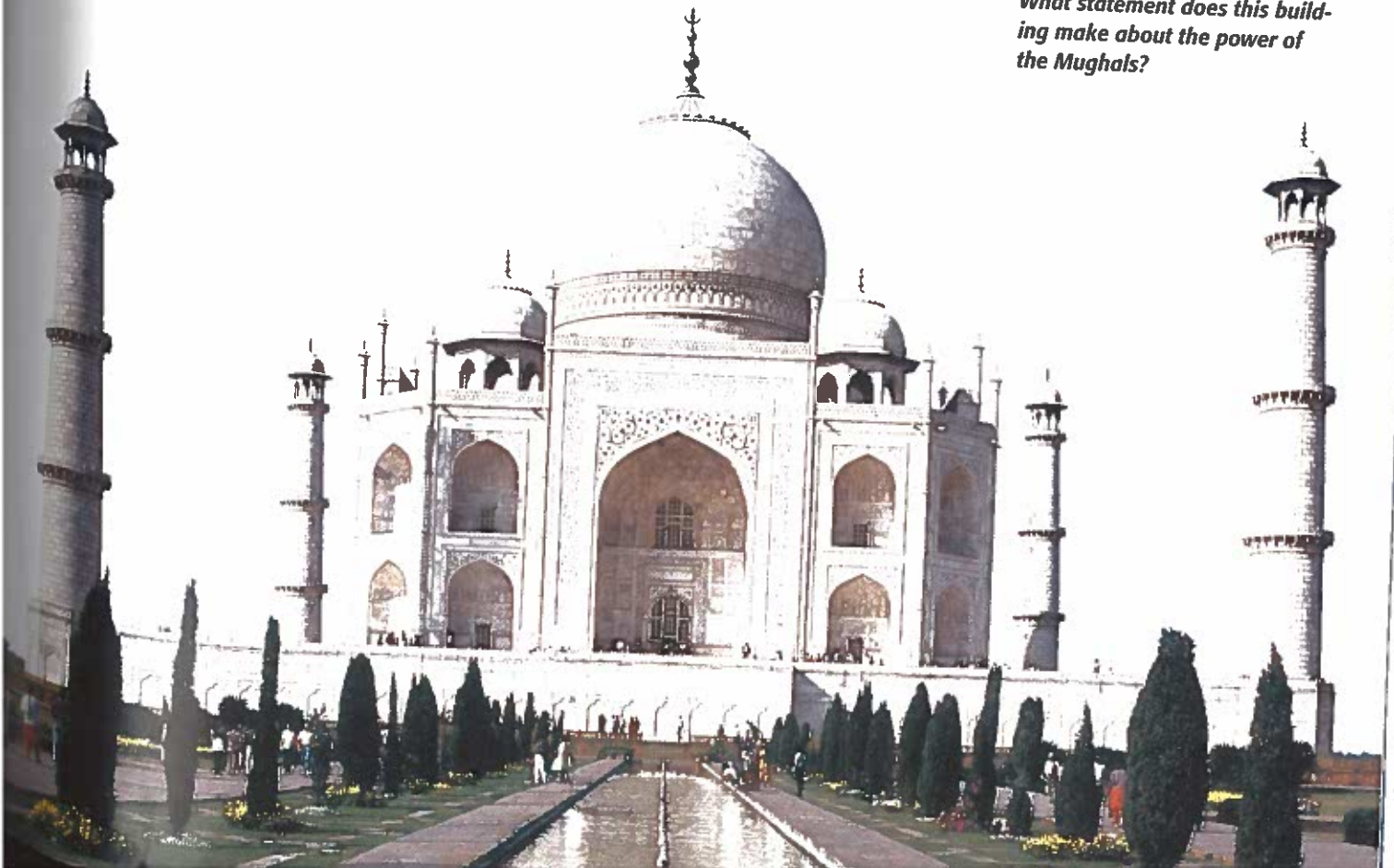
Shah Jahān is best known for the two famous buildings that were constructed during his reign. The magnificent **Taj Mahal** at Agra remains one of the architectural wonders of the world. Shah Jahān had the Taj Mahal built as a tomb for his beloved wife, Mumtāz Mahal. It is made of marble inlaid with semiprecious gems. The other building, the Hall of Private Audience, is in the Red Fort at Delhi. This was Shah Jahān's palace. In the Hall of Private Audience are carved these famous lines: "If there be Paradise on Earth, It is Here, It is Here, It is Here!" These great buildings were enormously expensive to build.

At the same time, the Mughals were engaged in military campaigns against Persia. Their huge armies were very expensive to maintain. They believed these armies were necessary to hold their empire together. To meet his expenses, Shah Jahān increased taxes. His subjects had to pay him half of the crops they raised. Many people suffered under this terrible burden.

A new religion. Under the Mughals, a blending of Hindu and Muslim cultures occurred. In the 1500s an Indian mystic named Nānak tried to unite the Hindu and Muslim religions. Out of Nānak's teaching arose a new religion—the **Sikh** (SĪK) faith. This faith called for devotion to one God, a lack of idols, and a less rigid social system. These ideas conflicted with Hindu beliefs. Nānak became the first guru (leader or teacher) of the Sikhs. By the late 1600s the Sikhs had become militant. They became fierce enemies of the Mughal Empire and the Muslims.

INTERPRETING THE VISUAL RECORD

The Taj Mahal Shah Jahān brought workers and materials from all over India and central Asia to build the Taj Mahal. It took more than 20,000 workers and over 20 years to finish the job. *What statement does this building make about the power of the Mughals?*



The Reign of Aurangzeb

A frame of reference is a set of ideas, conditions, or beliefs. Historians use different frames of reference to analyze a person, an event, or an era. For example, a historian may examine a subject from a social, economic, legal, or political frame of reference. As a result, different scholars may tell a very different story about the same historical subject. They can come to different conclusions based on their frame of reference. Knowing a historian's frame of reference helps you to understand what you read. Understanding different interpretations about Aurangzeb's rule requires analysis of the frames of reference used by the historians.

Historians' Views

"The predominant trait of the Mughal rulers of India was their political instinct. . . . Aurangzeb displayed this character to an eminent [out-standing] degree."

Mughal Empire in India

"[The] intolerance of Aurangzeb . . . hastened the ruin of the dynasty . . . his bigotry and persecutions rendered him hateful to his Hindu subjects."

A History of the Sikhs

"Aurangzeb's government made itself ridiculous by violently enforcing for a time, then relaxing, and finally abandoning a code of puritanical morals opposed to the feelings of the entire population . . ."

The Cambridge History of India



Skills Reminder

To understand frames of reference, first identify what factors the author emphasizes, such as economics, politics, or social outcomes. Also, identify the context in which the information is given. For example, is an analysis of a leader's rule being offered in the history of a people whom he conquered? Assess how this frame of reference might influence the information. Finally, compare how authors using different frames of reference might come to different conclusions about an event.

Skills Practice

- 1 Study the passages above about the reign of the Mughal ruler Aurangzeb. What frame of reference is each historian using?
- 2 What conclusions can you draw about Aurangzeb's rule from these passages?
- 3 Write a brief summary of the rise and fall of either the Ottoman or Safavid empires using a particular frame of reference.

Despite his abuses Shah Jahān was an extremely vigorous ruler. During the 30 years of his rule, he put down several rebellions, built a magnificent new capital at Delhi, and conquered new territories in the Deccan. He also launched an unsuccessful attempt to recapture the old Mughal homeland in central Asia. The shah's Peacock Throne, designed to inspire awe, was the greatest symbol of Mughal splendor. The throne was encrusted with gold and the largest diamonds, emeralds, and other precious gems. Shah Jahān also sought to make Delhi the world's most beautiful capital as a means of reflecting his power.

Aurangzeb. In 1657 Shah Jahān became ill. His son Muḥī-ud-Dīn Muhammad, known by his princely title of **Aurangzeb** (AWR-uhng-zeb), killed his older brother, imprisoned Shah Jahān, and declared himself emperor.

A devout Sunni Muslim, Aurangzeb followed strict Islamic law in his personal life. He dressed simply and expected his courtiers to follow his example. He ended government spending on buildings and monuments. He banned most celebrations, particularly those that included wine and music.

Aurangzeb persecuted all other faiths in the Mughal Empire. He insisted on strict observance of Islamic holy laws. He restored the hated tax on Hindus and destroyed thousands of Hindu temples. He also oppressed the Shī'ah and Sufi Muslims. When crowds gathered outside the Red Fort to protest, Aurangzeb used elephants to crush them. Religious groups rioted throughout the empire.

Under Aurangzeb the Mughal Empire was the largest it would ever be. Unfortunately, the widespread revolts and economic problems weakened the empire. Aurangzeb may have regretted the bloodshed of his reign. When he died in 1707, he wondered aloud whether his actions would please his God.

✓ **READING CHECK: Contrasting** How was the reign of Aurangzeb different from the reign of Shah Jahān?



This image dating from the mid-1600s portrays Shah Jahān at the height of his power.

SECTION 3 REVIEW

1. Identify and explain the significance:

Rajputs
Bābur
Akbar
Shah Jahān
Taj Mahal
Sikh
Aurangzeb

2. Sequencing Copy the chart below. Use it to organize important events in the history of the Mughal Empire.

1. Bābur wins battle at Paniput.
2.
3.
4.
5.
6. Aurangzeb dies.

3. Finding the Main Idea

- What evidence shows that Akbar tried to unify his empire?
- How did Shah Jahān improve the empire?
- How did Shah Jahān raise funds for his ambitious building programs and his military policies?
- In what ways did the strict policies of Aurangzeb represent a return to intolerance in Mughal India?

4. Writing and Critical Thinking

Drawing Conclusions Explain how Aurangzeb harmed the Mughal Empire.

Consider:

- his policies toward other religions
- his response to protests
- his strict observance of Islamic laws

Creating a Time Line

Copy the time line below onto a sheet of paper. Complete the time line by filling in the events, individuals, and dates from the chapter that you think were significant. Pick three events and explain why you think they were significant.



Writing a Summary

Using standard grammar, spelling, sentence structure, and punctuation, write an overview of the events in the chapter.

Identifying People and Ideas

Identify the following terms or individuals and explain their significance:

- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| 1. millets | 6. 'Abbās |
| 2. Janissaries | 7. Bābur |
| 3. Süleyman | 8. Akbar |
| 4. kizilbash | 9. Shah Jahān |
| 5. Esmā'īl | 10. Aurangzeb |

Understanding Main Ideas

Section 1 (pp. 240–243)

The Ottoman Empire

1. What territory was included in the Ottoman Empire at its height?
2. Why were the Janissaries important to the Ottoman sultans?
3. How did the Ottoman Turks maintain peace among the various ethnic groups within their widespread empire?

Section 2 (pp. 244–246)

The Safavid Empire

4. What role did the Shi'ah religion play in the strengthening of the Safavid Empire and in the empire's relations with its neighbors?
5. How did Shi'ah affect the Persians' ideas about themselves?
6. Why did the Persians of the Safavid Empire call 'Abbās "the Great"?

Section 3 (pp. 247–251)

The Mughal Empire in India

7. What event marks the beginning of the Mughal Empire?
8. What were Akbar's most important accomplishments?
9. How did Aurangzeb's approach to government spending differ from Shah Jahān's?

Reviewing Themes

1. **Global Relations** What evidence is there that the Islamic empires supported large, strong militaries?
2. **Culture** How did religious policies affect the Islamic empires?
3. **Government** What effect did the character of individual rulers have on the Islamic empires?

Thinking Critically

1. **Drawing Inferences** In what way did the building of the Taj Mahal contribute to the decline of the Mughal Empire?
2. **Comparing** Compare the policy toward Sunni Muslims in the Ottoman Empire to the policy in the Safavid Empire.
3. **Supporting a Point of View** What evidence would you give that in the Ottoman Empire ordinary people had an equal chance for success?

Writing About History

Comparing and Contrasting Write a report describing the similarities and differences among the Ottoman, Safavid, and Mughal empires. Use the chart below to organize your thoughts before you write.

	Ottoman	Safavid	Mughal
Title used by ruler			
Most successful ruler			
Official branch of Islam			
Policy toward other religions			
Present name of country			

Building Social Studies Skills

Interpreting Maps

Study the map below. Then answer the questions that follow.

The Ottomans in Hungary, c. 1520–c. 1565



- Which of the following statements best describes the Ottoman expansion into Hungary during the 1500s?
 - The Ottomans' victory at Mohács had little impact on their movement into Hungary.
 - The Ottomans' victory at Mohács allowed them to expand north, east, and west.
 - Within ten years of their victory at Mohács, the Ottomans had taken control of all Hungary.
 - Their victory at Mohács enabled the Ottomans to win control of the entire Mediterranean basin.
- Why do you think the location of Mohács was important to Ottoman plans to conquer Hungary?

Sequencing

Read the sentences below about the Mughal rulers. Then answer the question that follows.

- Shah Jahān (ruled 1628–1658) built the Taj Mahal.
 - The greatest Mughal emperor was Akbar. By the end of his reign in the early 1600s, Akbar controlled much of northern and central India.
 - Bābur occupied Delhi in 1526 and founded the Mughal Empire.
 - Economic problems had weakened the government by the time Aurangzeb died in 1707.
 - By the early years of the 1500s, the Muslim Sultanate of Delhi was suffering from internal weakness and was being increasingly challenged by the Rajput princes and their armies.
- Which of the following shows the events listed in the order in which they occurred?
 - B, C, A, D, E
 - C, A, D, E, B
 - D, E, A, B, C
 - E, C, B, A, D
 - What were the main differences between the way Akbar and Aurangzeb ruled the Mughal Empire? Give specific examples.

Alternative Assessment

Building Your Portfolio

Culture

In the world today, religious policies still unify or divide cultures. Use your textbook and other sources to find examples of cultures that have been either unified or divided by the religious policies of governments. Then prepare a script about your findings that a television reporter could read on the evening news.

Link to TODAY

Internet connect

Internet Activity: go.hrw.com

KEYWORD: SH3 WH9

Choose a topic on Islamic Empires in Asia to:

- create an illustrated time line of the major events in the history of the Ottoman Empire.
- research life and society in the Safavid Empire.
- create a newspaper article on the impact of the siege of Vienna in 1683.

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CROSS-CULTURAL CONNECTIONS

Literature

Styles of Verse

Throughout the world's diverse societies, many forms of poetry have developed. Each culture's poetry has distinctive sounds and styles. The Persian poet Firdawsi (c. 935–1020) told the story of his nation's kings in an epic named *Shah-nameh*. This massive work contains 60,000 rhyming couplets. In the excerpt below the hero Sekander promises to care for King Dara as the king dies. William Shakespeare (1564–1616), an English writer, also wrote about death, but in a very different style. His sonnets are 14-line poems with a strict pattern of rhythm and rhyme. Japanese poet Banzan's haiku poem—written on his deathbed in 1730—follows the typical haiku form. In the original Japanese it contains five syllables in the first line, seven in the second, and five in the third.

Shah-nameh by Firdawsi

"I will have physicians brought for you from India and Rum [Rome] and I will cause tears of blood to flow for the pain you have suffered. . . . My heart bled and a cry issued from my lips when yesterday I heard from my elders that we two are of one stock and share a single shirt. Why should we extirpate [wipe out] our seed in rivalry?"

On hearing this, Dara said in a strong voice, "... Marry my pure-bodied daughter and maintain her in security in your palace. . . . It may be that by her you will have a noble son who will restore the name of Esfandiyar [an ancestor] to glory."

Shown here is the manuscript of a poem by the Japanese haiku master Bashō.

Haiku by Banzan

Mame de iyo
mi wa narawashi no
kusa no tsuyu.

(Translation:)

Farewell

I pass as all things do
dew on the grass.



"Sonnet 19" by William Shakespeare

Devouring time,
blunt thou the lion's
paws,
And make the earth
devour her own
sweet brood;
Pluck the keen teeth
from the fierce
tiger's jaws,
And burn the long-lived
phoenix in her blood.
Make glad and sorry seasons as
thou fleet'st,
And do whate'er thou wilt, swift-footed time,
To the wide world and all her fading sweets.
But I forbid thee one most heinous crime:
O, carve not with thy hours my love's fair brow,
Nor draw no lines there with thine antique pen.
Him in thy course untainted do allow
For beauty's pattern to succeeding men.
Yet do thy worst, old time; despite thy wrong
My love shall in my verse ever live young.



Understanding Literature

What similarities and differences do you find among these poems in their purpose, style, and tone?

Economics

A search for wealth motivated European exploration of the New World. Imagine that you are an English adventurer who wishes to undertake a voyage to America in the 1500s. You will need the financial support of the Queen to make the journey. Your task is to write a proposal showing why your trip to the New World would be economically beneficial to England. What types of evidence would you use to show the importance of exploration for the economic welfare of the kingdom?



Ottoman ceramic pitcher and plate

Further Reading

- Dersin, Denise, ed.** *What Life Was Like: At The Rebirth Of Genius, Renaissance Italy 1400-1550*. Alexandria, Virginia: Time-Life Books, 1999. A survey of daily life and culture in Renaissance Italy.
- Goodwin, Jason.** *Lords of the Horizons: A History of the Ottoman Empire*. New York: Owl Books, 2000. A thorough survey of the Ottoman Empire from its beginnings to its collapse.
- Hale, J. R., ed.** *The Thames and Hudson Encyclopedia of the Italian Renaissance*. London: Thames and Hudson, 1988. A reference work on the history, politics, culture, and society of the Italian Renaissance.
- Meltzer, Milton.** *Columbus and the World Around Him*. New York: Watts Franklin, 1990. A history of Christopher Columbus and his four voyages.
- Pilbeam, Mavis.** *Japan Under The Shoguns, 1185-1868*. New York: Raintree/Steck-Vaughn, 1999. A history of the shogunates, and a look at everyday life in Japan and the role of the samurai.



Ferdinand Magellan and his fleet setting sail from Spain in 1519

Global Relations

During the 1400s and 1500s, the Ottoman Turks expanded the boundaries of their empire, conquering much of eastern Europe. Imagine that you are a soldier advancing with the Ottoman armies through eastern Europe in the 1520s. Create a diary in which you recount your experiences, including your impressions of European society, government, and religion. Based on your observations, discuss your view of the relations between the Ottoman Empire and the various kingdoms of eastern Europe.

internet connect



Internet Activity

KEYWORD: SH3 U2

In assigned groups, develop a multimedia presentation about the Age of Exploration and Expansion. Choose information from the chapter Internet Connect activities and the Holt Researcher that best reflects the major topics of the period. Write an outline and a script for your presentation, which may be shown to the class.