

ARABS, NOMADS, BEDOUIN TRIBES, SEMITES

Originally the Arabian peninsula, moved out in a series of conquests between 600s and 700s

ROUTE: Through the entire Arabian peninsula west across north Africa; east through what are now Iran and Iraq; into Afghanistan, Pakistan, and northwest India; north and east through what are now Jordan, Syria, Israel, and Lebanon; Muslims in east African port cities as traders, not conquerors

SIGNIFICANCE: Rise of the **Abbasid** dynasty, the peak of Islamic power; power of the **caliphs** supplanted by **sultans**; rival caliphates in Egypt (**Fatimid**) and Spain (**Moors**) in 800s and 900s; Egypt ruled by Islamic **Mamlukes** and **Ottomans**; last Moorish stronghold defeated in Spain in 1504 by Christians; allowed Jews and Christians to practice their religions; gave **mawali** (Islamic converts) equal status with original Muslims; preserved and contributed to Greek learning; religious influence on art and architecture; influence of universal Arabic language and Islamic law

COMPARING THE IMPACT OF NOMADIC INVADERS BETWEEN 1000 AND 1450

MONGOLS

Loosely related nomadic tribes, moved out of northeastern steppes of Asia, Mongolia

ROUTE: Moved into what are now China, central Russia, Poland, Hungary, Bulgaria, Romania; later movement into Iran (Persia)

SIGNIFICANCE: United under Genghis Khan in 1200s; 1260, four **khanates**; khanate in China known as **Yuan Dynasty**; 1368, driven out by Chinese; 1480, end of Mongol control in Russia; rise of Moscow and the tsars

SLAVS

Eastern Slavs: **Russians, Ukrainians, Byelorussians**; Western Slavs: **Czechs, Poles, Slovaks**; Southern Slavs: **Serbs, Croats, Slovenes, Macedonians, Montenegrins, Bulgarians**; **Varangians** related to the Vikings

Originally from north of the Black Sea until 2000 BCE; Varangians originally from Sweden

ROUTE: Slavs—an agricultural people, around 100 CE began to move north and northeast into the Russian forests and **steppes**, westward toward the Vistula River basin, and south into the **Balkan peninsula**. Varangians—crossed the Baltic Sea and began to move down the rivers into Slav territory

SIGNIFICANCE: Varangians conquered eastern Slavs and established basis of Kievan Russia, confederation of city-states.; created an extensive river-based trading network; influenced by Byzantine religion, art, architecture; cultural and religious ties strengthened trade and vice-versa; beginning of sense of national identity. Western and southern Slavs: merged with local peoples and cultures, wresting power from earlier settlers; set up trading networks, creating loose political confederation; converted to Roman Catholic or Byzantine church

TURKIC PEOPLES

Tatars, Khazaks, Uzbeks, Turkmens, Uighurs
Turkish area of central Asia; by 500s CE territory stretched from Mongolia to Caspian Sea
ROUTE: Began moving out of central Asia in the 500s, increasing migration through Middle East to what are now Armenia, Georgia, Syria, Turkey (**Asia Minor**)

SIGNIFICANCE: Converted to Islam in the 900s; **Seljuk Turks**: adopted Islamic culture, invaded Byzantine empire, took Jerusalem, weakened by Crusades, broke up into small dynasties, defeated by Genghis Khan and **Golden Horde** in 1200s. **Ottoman Turks**, 1300s to 1923: extended Turkish territory, took **Constantinople** in 1453, continued to expand under later sultans. **Khazars**: empire in southern Russia controlled trade between Slavs, Byzantium, Asia, defeated by Russians and Byzantium in late 900s

