

Overview of Central Asian History

(See also pg 2 for a list of kingdoms / khanates)

- 1) Scythian-Saka, Persians, Greeks, Parthians, & Sassanians, 9th c. BC - 7th c. AD
- 2) Huns, Turks, Sogdians, Samanids, Khorezmshahs, Karakhanids, Uighurs & Kipchaks, 4-12th cc. AD
- 3) Calamity from the East: the Conquests of the Karakhitai & the Mongols, 12-13th cc. AD
- 4) The Golden Horde, Chagatai, Mogolistan, Timurhan, the Uzbeks & Kazakh-Kirgiz, 14-15th cc. AD
- 5) The Hungarian Devastation & the Coming of the Russians to Central Asia, 16-19th cc. AD
- 6) The Takeover of the Soviet Union: Unfulfilled Promises of Nationhood, 20th c. AD
- 7) The Independent Central Asian Nations: New Hope for Language, Culture & Land, 1991 -->

Overview of Judeo-Christian History Among the Central Asian Peoples

- 1) The Age of Israelite-Jewish & Central Asian Interaction, 8th c. BC - 1st c. AD
- 2) The Church of the East (i.e. "Nestorians" or Syrian Christians) on the Silk Road, 2-15th cc. AD
- 3) The Coming of the Catholics from Western Europe, 13-15th cc.
- 4) The Silent Centuries After Timurhan, 16-18th cc.
- 5) The Expansion of the State Russian Orthodox Church and Colonizing European Protestants, 19-20th cc.
- 6) National independence and the opening of Central Asia to the international world, 20-21st cc.

Overview of Islam in Central Asia

- 1) The Arab-Islamic conquests of Central Asia and their impact on the region, 7-11 cc.
 - Establishing a foothold: the Arabs conquer Merv, Turkmenistan, AD 649-652
 - The push into 'Marawanahr' (Transoxonia), 700s (w/ uprisings 'till 11th ctry)
 - The Battle of Talas: the opening of the door to Islam among the Turks as they seek Muslim help against T'ang China, AD 751
 - The consolidation of Islam in Central Asia via the (Persian) Samanids of Marawanahr, AD 819 (or 874) -1005
- 2) Penetration of Islam into the Steppe via Sufism, 11-16th cc.
- 3) Re-consolidation of Islam in Central Asia after the Karakitai and Mongol 'catastrophies' via the conversion of the Chagatai khanate, the Golden Horde & the Uzbeks and the conquests of Timurhan, 14-15 cc.
- 4) The propagation of formal Islam among the (northern) Kazakhs via Tatar mullahs by Catherine the Great, 18-19th cc.
- 5) Revitalization of Islam among the Turkic peoples via the Modernist Pan-Turkic Jadadist Movement, 1860 - 1920
- 6) Suppression of Islam under Soviet Rule, 1920 - 1986
- 7) Islamic revival under Glasnost and Independence, 1986 -->

List of Central Asian Kingdoms / Khanates

Based on Yuri Bregel ("The Role of Central Asia in the History of the Muslim East"):

Samanids, 875 – 999 (124 yrs)

Biyuds in Iran & Iraq, 932 – 1062 (130 yrs)

Ghaznavids, 977 – 1186 (209 yrs)

Seljuks, 1039 – 1194 (155 yrs)

Khorezmshahs, 1077 – 1231 (154 yrs)

Qarakhanids, 960 – 1211 (250 / 170 yrs)

Based on Svat Soucek (A History of Inner Asia [Appendix 1]):

Samanids, 819 – 1005 (Khurasan & Transoxania, w/ Bukhara as capital) (from 874 as per McEvedy, p 48)

Qarakhanids, 960 – 1211 (Zhetisu, Kashgaria, Ferghana, Transoxania, w/ capitals for eastern branch at Balasaghun, Kashgar and western branch at Uzgend and Samarkand)

Ghaznavids, 977 – 1186 (Khurasan, Afghanistan, Hindustan)

Seljuks, 1038 – 1194 (Iran & Iraq)

Khorezmshahs, 898 / 1077 – 1231 (initially only in Khorezm; later most of Central Asia)

Qarakhitai, 1141 – 1211 (Zhetisu, Sinkiang, Transoxania)

Chingis Khan & Mongols, 1206 – 1294 (w/ capitals at Karakorum and, later, Khanbaliq [Beijing])

Yuan Ulus, 1260 – 1368 (capital at Khanbaliq)

Chagatay Ulus, 1227 – 1370 / 1680 (in Transoxania / Sinkiang; split into two)

Golden Horde, 1227 – 1380 / 1502 (w/ capital at Sarai)

White Horde, 1227 – 1502 (east Kazakh steppe)

Ilkhanids, 1256 – 1335 (Iran & Iraq)

Timur & Timurid Dynasty, 1370 – 1507 (w/ capital at Samarkand; cf. also Herat)

Abulkhayrid Shaybanids, 1500 – 1599 (Bukhara, Samarkand, Tashkent, Balkh)

Ashtarkhanids, 1599 – 1785 (Bukhara)

Manghits, 1785 – 1920 (emirs of Bukhara)

Ming, 1710 – 1876 (Khokand)

Khans of Khiva, 1515- 1919