

Name _____

The Byzantine Empire: A Tale of Triumph and Decline

Short Answer Key

1. Emperor Constantine the Great's decision to establish Constantinople as the new capital made it the center of trade, culture, and power in the East.
2. The Justinian Code codified Roman laws and contributed to the Byzantine Empire's legacy by providing a legal framework that influenced future legal systems.
3. Challenges during the Byzantine Empire's decline included territorial losses, external threats, internal strife, economic difficulties, and the Black Death.
4. The Fourth Crusade led to the sack of Constantinople and weakened the Byzantine Empire rather than aiding it.
5. Mehmed the Conqueror was the Ottoman leader responsible for the final downfall of the Byzantine Empire in 1453 when Constantinople fell.

