

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## The Mongol Empire: Conquerors of the Steppes

### Short Answer Key

1. Genghis Khan united the various Mongol tribes through diplomacy, military campaigns, and a strong centralized leadership that emphasized loyalty and merit. His leadership qualities and military strategies helped him emerge as a powerful leader.
2. The Mongol Empire expanded through conquests that spanned from China to Eastern Europe, including victories over the Khwarezmian Empire and the Jin Dynasty.
3. The Mongols ruled their empire through a system of administration that allowed conquered peoples to retain their customs and religions, as long as they paid tribute to the Mongol rulers. The establishment of the Silk Road facilitated trade and cultural exchange.
4. Factors contributing to the decline of the Mongol Empire include internal conflicts among Genghis Khan's descendants, external pressures from other empires like the Ming Dynasty and the Mamluks, and the fragmentation of the empire into separate khanates.
5. The Mongols left a lasting legacy through their impact on trade, cultural exchange, and the spread of the Black Death. They also played a role in shaping the modern world through their conquests and administration policies.

