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World Civilization I

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Film response "The Mongols"

The Video about the Mongol Empire provided me with some new information and overview about its history which was very interesting.

First up I want to talk about some failures which occurred during the time of the Mongols and also some of their successes. The Mongols failed to conquer a few other Empires during that time; they failed to conquer Japan two times, once in 1274 and a second time in 1281.

The main reason for these two failures was a big typhoon which destroyed their fleet each of these times. Another failure was when they failed to conquer Vietnam in 1285 which happened because the Mongols weren't able to get used to the humid climate. The last failure when trying to conquer other Empires was in 1293, when the Mongols failed to conquer Java due to the difficult tropical climate and also because of very strong resistances from the Javanese people.

But the Mongols didn't only have failures happen to them when conquering other Empires; they also had success when attacking other countries. The Mongols were able to create the largest contiguous empire in the history by conquering big territories, including Central Asia, China and also parts of Eastern Europe. The Mongols were also able to create new technologies and introduce these to the territories they conquered. These technologies included gunpowder, paper money and a printing press. The last thing I want to list which the Mongols were able to achieve, was to establish a good governance system, which allowed religious and cultural tolerance, promoted communication and trading, and also supported the movements of ideas and people across the empire.

Lastly I want to talk about something which stood out to me and what I found really interesting. What I found was the most impressive aspect about the Mongols, was their effective military tactics, for example that they used archers riding on horses and also their usage of a network called “Yam,” which made it possible for them to rapidly communicate across big distances. The Mongols were also able to adapt and learn everything from the cultures they conquered, which was a big advantage and helped spread ideas throughout the empire.