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## RESEARCH & WRITING

Change is often difficult to deal with, we become comfortable in our daily lives and when major disruptions occur, we must choose new ways of adaptation. This has been the process throughout history as dramatic changes have set societies on new pathways leading to the modern world. In this chapter we have seen entire nations turned upside down during the Mongol conquests and the horrors of the Black Death as it ravaged communities. In this essay, I will be talking about two modern disruptions and how people responded to them.

One of the modern disruptions of society was a massive demographic disaster in which 200 million people across Eurasia died. This caused the plague to constantly return, not allowing the population level to grow for a very long time. This catastrophe was viewed through different cultural frames in different societies because death on a high caused Muslims to designate to a punishment imposed by God and they would have to submit. In addition, the Christian Europe also saw punishment in this chaos. They reacted in ways that implicated panic, anger, and scapegoating. Another downfall of this was Jews were massacred and accused of

causing the epidemic by poisoning the water supply amongst during other despicable crimes.

The Mongol invasion and the catastrophic morality of the plague damages both the networks and hierarchies. One significant effect of the plague was the weakening of Mongol rule across large portions of the empire. A new Chinese dynasty known as the Ming overthrew the Mongols causing the strength and unity of the Mongol to falter. This caused disruption to economic production, crops were unharvested, and there was rarely any manpower. There were also labor shortages that led to a decline in peasant freedom because the hierarchies were based on power and power above people.

Despite the downfall, there was light at the end of the tunnel. Hongwu looked at the Tang Dynasty as a model of good governance and Chinese influence in the world. He also believed in Confucian values. This allowed him to recreate the Tang military system to help strengthen them against their defense the Mongols. He also invested in roads, bridges, canals. He rebuilt irrigation systems and aimed to make rural communities self-efficient. His work allowed the agriculture to thrive. The farms were prosperous, and the local merchants were able to sell good. The economy became sophisticated and commercialized. Through this cultural uprising, the Chinese were able to escape the stigma of low status and

successfully brought their way into reinforcing their values into the Chinese cultural frame.

There were many political reactions that emerged, including the Islamic world that fell to Mongol conquest. Also, there was the resistance to the Mongol from the battle of Ayn Jalut. The catastrophes created vast destruction and led to the suffering of the calamities. This brought meaning in terms of their existing cultural frames causing both developments and consequences of the disasters that could not be contained.