World History Unit 4A, Lesson 1

The Byzantine Empire
340 – 1453 C.E.
Byzantine Empire under Justinian (at its peak)
Guiding Questions - Write these down

• How did the development of Christianity act as a unifying social and political factor in the Byzantine Empire?

• What are the characteristics of Eastern Orthodoxy?

• In what ways has Justinian’s Code of Laws made an impact?
The Byzantine Empire

- The Basics: The Byzantine Empire (340-1453)
  - The eastern half of the Roman Empire
    - Consisted of southern Europe, Anatolia, Palestine, and Egypt
    - Capital at Constantinople since 340 CE
    - Emperor that divided the Roman Empire into two:
      - Constantine
The Byzantine Empire

• A little recap….
• Central Authority collapsed in Western Roman Empire in 476 CE
  • RECALL: Do you remember why?
  • Invasions, Weakened Government and Economy, Plagues
• But the Eastern Roman Empire (Byzantine Empire) survived
  • Lasted for another thousand years
    – Infrastructure and central authority remained strong
    – Legacy of the Roman Empire continued
Justinian’s Code of Laws

• The emperor simplified the complexity of Roman laws.
• Employed a committee to study and decipher complex Roman laws and use them as a foundation for Justinian’s Code.
• The code consists of twelve books with over four thousand laws.
• Political impact: influenced European laws
• Legal impact: the code differentiates between civil and criminal law
Byzantine Empire at Time of Justinian’s Death, 565 C.E.
The Byzantine Empire, 668 C.E. Why did the Empire shrink?
Another Hint: Hagia Sophia

Justinian built this as a church. What does it look like now? What could have happened?
The Byzantine Empire

• Political structure
  – Centered around the Emperor
  – Capital: Constantinople
  – Empire organized through a bureaucracy
    • Officials trained in Hellenistic classics, philosophy & science
      – Greek (Hellenistic is a term describing Greek Culture and Language is an element of culture)
    • Regulated trade, taxes, and prices
The Byzantine Empire

• Social and Cultural Differences with West
  • Different languages
    – Western Roman Empire (WRE) = Latin
    – Byzantine (EWR) = Greek
  – Cultural Perceptions
    • Byzantines thought: Western Europeans = “barbarians”
    • Westerners thought Byzantines = “sneaky” and “liars”
  – Different approaches to and forms of Christianity emerged
The Byzantine Empire

- The Eastern Orthodox Christian Church
  - Closely tied to the imperial government
    - Patriarch of Constantinople
      - Appointed by Byzantine Emperor
      - The highest church official
      - Like Pope in Rome
      - Does not recognize the Pope’s authority
- Controversy over icons
  - Are religious icons considered sinful? Brief problem in the 8th century but icon use was restored.
- Monasteries emerged providing religious community life
The Byzantine Empire

– East v. West

• Who has religious Authority?
  – WEST: The Pope in Rome claimed supremacy over all Christian churches
    » Eastern/Byzantine bishops resented this
  – EAST: The Byzantine Emperor claimed supremacy over the West
    » Not recognized by Germanic rulers
    » Contested by Charlemagne who was crowned Emperor by the Pope
The Byzantine Empire

• Disagreements continue for over 200 years
  – Both churches divided over icon use
  – Disagreements over ritual practices
    • Whether to use local languages at church services
      – East: wanted to
      – West: didn’t
  – Disagreements over celibacy of priests
    • Should priests marry?
      – East: wanted to
      – West: didn’t
The Byzantine Empire

– THE GREAT SCHISM
  • Pope and the Patriarch of Constantinople excommunicated each other in 1054
  • First split in Christianity
Middle Ages in Europe (600 to 1450)

- Impact of Islam on Europe
- Western Europe
  - Fragmentation of region led to chaos
  - Manorism or Manorial System:
    - Lords gave land to serfs in exchange for food
  - Feudalism:
    - Lords gave land to vassals in exchange for protection
  - Kingdoms eventually combined to form nation-states
    - England's Magna Carta (1215)
    - England and France Hundred Years War (1337-1453)

- Christianity: Great Schism 1054 AD
  - Eastern Orthodox Church
  - Roman Catholic Church

- Eastern Europe Byzantine Empire
  - Capital: Constantinople
  - 395 to 1450

- Roman Empire at about 476 AD
  - Justinian Code of Law

- Middle Ages Ends
  - Black Death: decrease in population opened demand for workers and higher wages
  - Crusades helped reawaken Western Europe with Eastern Latin Intellect
  - Hundred Years War gave rise to nationalism
The Crusades
(1096 – 1272)

- A series of Holy Wars
- Primarily between Christians and Muslims
- Purpose: Christians wanted to reclaim the holy land (Palestine/Jerusalem)
What is happening to the Byzantine Empire?

Muslim Conquests (622-750)
Questions to Consider:

Q1. How did Muslim, Christian, and Jewish societies in Europe interact?

Q2. How did the Crusades contribute to the end of medieval Europe?

Q3. How did Islam impact Europe politically, economically, and socially?

Q4. How did the Great Schism contribute to the end of medieval Europe?
Use the following information and categorize it according to the guiding questions:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Outcome</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Moors (Muslims) invade and occupy Spain for over 700 years</td>
<td>Moors (Muslims) promote art, literature, science and mathematics</td>
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<td>Moors (Muslims) attempt to take over France but were defeated in 732</td>
<td>Moors (Muslims) Created the Muslim state of al-Andalus in what is today modern Spain</td>
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<td>at the Battle of Tours</td>
<td>Crusaders learned from Muslims and European technology improved.</td>
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<td>The crusades were a failure for the Christians</td>
<td>End of Crusades led to a decline in papal (Pope) prestige</td>
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<td>The many casualties associated with the crusades weakened the feudal</td>
<td>Trade between Southwest Asia (Middle East) and Europe help to spread culture and explore new trade routes</td>
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<td>society</td>
<td>The Byzantine Empire gradually collapsed and was never able to regain the power it once had.</td>
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<td>The end of the Crusades signaled the end of the Middle Ages; loyalties to nations began to form and the power and need for a stronger centralized, monarchy emerged.</td>
<td>The end of the Crusades helped create a middle class of merchants and traders and bankers in the new, emerging Europe.</td>
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