

AP WORLD HISTORY FREE-RESPONSE QUESTIONS

WORLD HISTORY SECTION II

Directions: The following question is based on accompanying Documents 1-6. The documents have been edited for the purpose of this exercise. Write your answer on the lined pages of the Section II free response booklet.

This question is designed to test your ability to work with and understand historical documents. Write an essay that:

- Has a relevant thesis and supports that thesis with evidence from the documents
- Uses all of the documents
- Analyzes the documents by grouping them in as many appropriate ways as possible. **Does not simply summarize the documents individually.**
- Takes into account both the sources of the documents and the authors' points of view.

You must:

- 1) Group the documents in *at least* three different ways.
- 2) Provide *at least* three analyses of point of view.
- 3) Provide *at least* two "additional documents" that would enhance the understanding of the evidence in question.

You may refer to relevant historical information not mentioned in the documents.

1. Over the course of their vast empires, the Mongols conquered a myriad people whose views of their conquerors varied considerably. Using the documents below, analyze the view of the Mongols by others / non-Mongols. What **additional kind of document(s)** would you need to evaluate the views of the Mongols.

Document 1

Ala-ad-Din Ata-Malik Juvaini (1216-1283) was a Persian historian who served the Mongols as governor of Baghdad.

He [Chingiz-Khan] then began a speech, in which, after describing the resistance and treachery of the Sultan (of which more than enough has been said already) he addressed them as follows: 'O people, know that you have committed great sins, and that he great ones among you have committed these sins. If you ask me what proof I have for these words, I say it is because I am the punishment of God. If you had not committed these great sins, God would not have sent a punishment like me upon you.' When he had finished speaking in this strain, he continued his discourse with words of admonition, saying, 'There is no need to declare your property that is on the face of the earth; tell me of that which is in the belly of the earth.' Then he asked them who were their men of authority; and each man indicated his own people. To each of them he assigned a Mongol or Turk as *basqaq* [his representative] in order that the soldiers might not molest them, and, although not subjecting them to disgrace or humiliation, they began to exact money from these men; and when they delivered it up they did not torment them by excessive punishment or demanding what was beyond their power to pay.

Document 2

Unknown Russian chroniclers describing the Mongol conquest of Russian cities, 1237-1238.

Thus angered, the Tatars [Mongols] now began the conquest of the Riazan land with great fury. They destroyed cities, killed people, burned, and took [people] into slavery. On December 6 [1237], the cursed strangers approached the capital city of Riazan, besieged it, and surrounded it with a stockade. The princes of Riazan shut themselves up with the people of the city, fought bravely, but succumbed. On December 21 [1237], the Tatars took the city of Riazan, burned it completely, killed Prince Iuri Igorevich, his wife, slaughtered other princes, and of the captured men, women, and children, some they killed with their swords, others they killed with arrows, and [then] threw them into the fire; while some of the captured they bound, cut, and disemboweled their bodies. The Tatars burned many holy churches, monasteries, and villages, and took their property.

Document 3

The account of the battle of Kuju is taken from a history of Korea written by leading Korean scholars in the fifteenth century. Although the Mongols eventually conquered Korea, they were stymied by the Koreans at Kuju in 1231.

The next year, the king sent the administrator of the Military Commission of the Rear Army and Junior Policy Critic Ch'oe Imsu, as well as Investigating Censor Min Hui. They led the Mongols to a point outside the Kuju wall to order the town's surrender, saying: "We have already sent Chong, the Lord of Huian, to discuss peace with the Mongol troops, and our three armies have already surrendered. You may cease fighting and come out and surrender. Min Hui was exasperated by the firm refusal and wanted to draw his sword and stab himself. Ch'oe Imsu again ordered Pak So to surrender, stressing that he was seriously violating the king's orders. Only then did he surrender.

When the Mongols encircled Kuju, there was a Mongol general whose age was about seventy, and he went below the city wall and looked around at the fortress's ramparts and military weapons and signed, saying: "Since my youth I have followed the army, and I am accustomed to seeing the cities of the world fought over and defended, but I have never seen anyone being attacked like this and to the end not surrendering. Certainly those military leaders in the city will later become distinguished generals and ministers of the state." Later Pak So in fact became executive of the Chancellery.

Document 4

Rashid al-Din [circa 1247-1317] was a Persian historian and the author of a massive world history, from which the following passage comes.

At every opportunity, he [Ogedei] allowed his sublime thoughts to overflow lavishly into the most just and charitable of good deeds, into the eradication of injustice and enmity, into the development of cities and districts, as well as into construction of various buildings. He never neglected any measure designed to strengthen the framework of peace, and to lay the foundations of prosperity. In earlier years, he had already brought with him from China various craftsmen and masters skilled in the arts. Therefore, in his main camp ('yurt') in Karakorum, where he contentedly resided most of the time, he now had erected his palace with a very high base and columns as befits the lofty thoughts of such a ruler. Each side of the palace was an arrow-shot long. In the centre, a sumptuous high pavilion ['kiosk'] was built; the building was handsomely decorated with paintings and representations, and it was called *qarshi* [Mongolian = Palace.].

Document 5

Ibn al-Athir was a Muslim scholar whose most important work was *al-Kamil fi at-tarikh* (“The Complete History”) a history of the world. Born in Jazirat in 1160, he lived most of his life in Mosul but traveled widely in the Muslim lands of Southwest Asia. He died in 1233.

For indeed history doth not contain aught which approaches or comes high unto it. For of the most grievous calamities recorded was what Nebuchadnezzar inflicted on the children of Israel by his slaughter of them and his destruction of Jerusalem; and what was Jerusalem in comparison to the countries which these accursed miscreants destroyed, each city of which was double the size of Jerusalem? Or what were the children of Israel compared to those whom these slew? For verily those whom they massacred in a single city exceeded all the children of Israel. Nay, it is that mankind will see the like of this calamity, until the world comes to an end and perishes, except the final outbreak of Gog and Magog.

Document 6

Marco Polo, Venetian trader and traveler

Now the next that reigned after Genghis Khan, their first Lord, was Guyuk Khan, and the third Prince was Batu Khan, and the fourth was Hulegu Khan, the fifth Mongke Khan, the sixth Kubilai Khan, who is the sovereign now reigning, and is more potent than any of the five who went before him; in fact, if you were to take all those five together, they would not be so powerful as he is. Nay, I will say yet more; for if you were to put together all the Christians in the world, with their Emperors and their Kings, the whole of these Christians – aye, and throw in the Saracens to boot – would not have such power, or be able to do so much as this Kubilai, who is the Lord of all the Tatars in the world, those of the Levant and of the Orient included; for these are all his vassals and subjects. I mean to show you all about this great power of his in this book of ours.

Document 7

Persian History of Chinggis Khan, Juvaini, prior to his appointment as governor of Baghdad in 1259 by the Mongols.

The reviewing and mustering of the army has been so arranged that they have abolished the registry of inspection and dismissed the officials and clerks. For they have divided all the people into companies of ten, appointing one of the ten to be the commander of the nine others; while from among each ten commanders one has been given the title of 'commander of the hundred,' all the hundred having been placed under his command. And so it is with each thousand men and so also with each ten thousand, over whom they have appointed a commander whom they call 'commander of the tümen'. In accordance with this arrangement, if in an emergency any man or thing be required, they apply to the commanders of the tümin; who in turn apply to the commanders of the thousands, and so on down to the commanders of tens. There is a true equality in this; each man toils as much as the next, and no difference is made between them, no attention being paid to wealth or power. If there is a sudden call for soldiers an order is issued that so many thousand men must present themselves in such and such a place at such and such an hour of that day. And they arrive not a twinkling of an eye before or after the appointed hour.

Their obedience and submissiveness is such that if there be a commander of a hundred thousand between whom and the Khan there is a distance of sunrise and sunset, and if he but commit some fault, the Khan dispatches a single horseman to punish him after the manner prescribed: if his head has been demanded, he cuts it off, and if gold, he takes it from him.

Throughout the length and breadth of the land they established yams [rest stops], and made arrangements for the upkeep and expenses for each yam, assigning thereto a fixed number of men and beasts as well as food, drink, and other necessities. All this they shared out amongst the tümen, each two tümen having to supply one yam