

**GETTING STARTED**

What political and cultural changes enabled the Mongols to conquer such a large empire in such a short time? In this investigation, you will use the interactive Timeline Map tool to determine how the Mongols grew from a small group of battling tribes into one of the largest empires in history.

**BUILDING BACKGROUND KNOWLEDGE**

**Read the Background tab from the interactive and then answer these questions.**

1.1 How did Genghis Khan treat conquered areas?

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1.2 What was Pax Mongolica? How did it work?

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1.3 Why were the Polo brothers surprised by what they found at the court of Kublai Khan?

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**READING THE MAP**

**Click on the Timeline Map tab of the interactive and study the maps. Then answer the questions below.**

1. What is the name of the Chinese dynasty founded by Kublai Khan in the 1270s?

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2. What were the names of the two brothers who helped split Genghis Khan's empire after his death?

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3. Why did Genghis Khan attack the Khwarazim Empire?

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## ANSWERING THE INQUIRY QUESTION

How did the Mongol Empire increase in size and influence so quickly? Explain your answer using specific details from the Timeline Map.

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