



WYOMUN V

Conquest of the World: The Mongol Expansion



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Hello delegates!

My name is Aidan Stevens, and I will be your Crisis Director for this committee! I began participating in Model UN when I was in 6th grade, and I have grown to love it, as I hope many of you will or already do. I have learned so much since then, and WYOMUN has helped teach me the skills to be a more confident public speaker, solve problems, and collaborate with those I don't always see eye to eye. I have participated in WYOMUN four times, twice as a participant and twice as a Crisis Director, and I'm excited to be in my 3rd year as a Crisis Director. Last year I had a great time changing the result of the Bolshevik Revolution, and this year, I am excited to lead you on an action packed adventure in the early 2nd millennium!



Outside of Model UN, I lead a very busy and an active life. I run cross country, play soccer, and play ultimate frisbee (or ultimate for short) for Wyoming High School. I first started playing ultimate when I was nine and have enjoyed it more and more each year. I am currently captain of our school team and a member of a club team that competes nationally. Ultimate has definitely helped me to be a leader, and the community is like none other I have known. If anyone is interested in ultimate there are over 35 teams in the area and probably one at your school! I think I started soccer when I was 6, but I have been playing for so long it's hard to remember. I ran cross country when I was in 7th and 8th grade and have picked it up again this year.

Volunteering is a passion of mine as well. I currently support two separate youth groups with over 50 hours of volunteering so far, and I am the Director of Logistics in a completely student run Veterans Association. I work with various non-profits like Matthew 25 Ministries when I have the chance and one day I hope to be able to get 100 hours of volunteering this year. I love to give back and see how what I do helps others.

I am super excited to meet all of you and see what you can do at WYOMUN V! If you have any questions or concerns you can contact me at theaidans2020@gmail.com. For any comments or suggestions you can contact wyoingmun@gmail.com. Good luck preparing!

Aidan Stevens
Crisis Director
Conquest of the World: The Mongol Expansion

Hello Delegates!

My name is Lauren Longman, and I am deeply excited to be your Head Chair for this committee! For what it's worth, I love history, and I think that exploring the Mongol conquest from the eyes of the incredible Mongol political structure is very unique. Before we get into that, I'll tell y'all a bit about myself.

Currently, I am a senior at Wyoming High School, and I had my first experience with Model UN in the 7th grade. I started my significant Model UN experience last year when I was a chair in the Muhammad's Ummah committee last year, which was quite the experience. I hope that this year will be just as fun!

My free time is usually filled with sketching, drawing, yardwork, and lots of other random activities in which I suddenly become interested. I also work at Parky's Farm, a great place for anyone under the age of seven. I can't give you a discount, but I definitely recommend reliving your childhood by going back and checking out the animal barns. I love to travel and have always wanted to go to Venice and Rome then up into the Swiss Alps. I am a former caffeine addict, which is actually a lot worse than it sounds, and I would like to encourage all of you to stay beneath 50 mg per day of caffeine if quitting altogether is too difficult. I love Model UN for its engaging debate and the emphasis on history, but be prepared to go where no Mongol has gone before.

Other than that, I love to meet new people, and I am super excited to meet all of you and learn about some of your quirks! I wish you all the best! If you have any questions, don't be afraid to email me (lglongman@gmail.com) or the WYOMUN V staff, ([wyomun@gmail.com](mailto:wynomun@gmail.com)).

"Knowledge is not a passion from without the mind, but an active exertion of the inward strength, vigor, and power of the mind, displaying itself from within"

Lauren Longman
Head Chair
Conquest of the World: The Mongol Expansion



Introduction

Genghis Khan has united the Mongol and Turkic tribes into a fierce alliance after decades of war. The Mongolian alliance is extremely powerful, and their influence is spreading quickly through conquering thousands of miles of land formerly controlled by the Jin Dynasty and the Western Xia. Despite their initial disadvantage in manpower, the Mongols are anxious for the creation of an expansive Mongol empire to dominate all of the world with their supreme tactics and ideologies.

In this committee, delegates will make decisions regarding the state of current territories, plans for expansion, and the balance between the Mongolian tribes. Representing specific historical figures in the Kurultai of Genghis Khan, as well as a few representatives of other important organizations and territories, delegates will gather to lead the great empire to a better future and lead the greatest conquest this world has ever seen. It is paramount to resolve not only the current turmoil within your empire between those who are loyal to Genghis and rebellious groups, but also to resolve the current issues concerning the best route of expansion. Tensions are heating up, and they must not be allowed to boil over.

Background

Genghis Khan

Around 1162 CE, Temujin, later named Genghis Khan, was born into a nomadic tribe led by his father, Yesugei, and his wife, Hoelun, in modern-day northern Mongolia. Yesugei named his son after the Tatar chieftain he had killed in battle and raised Temujin to be a warrior like himself. Yesugei arranged his 9-year-old son's marriage to Borte, the 10-year-old daughter of the chief of the Khonkirat Tribe. This strategic alliance between the tribes created the basis for a preliminary unification of tribes. Soon after Yesugei returned to his tribe, he died from poisoning by the Tatars.



Too young to claim the throne his father once had, Temujin and his family were forced to live in the wilderness. Temujin spent many of those days raiding camps and stealing horses by himself or with his brothers. In these times Temujin met many of the people who would assist him in gaining power and militarily. One such person was Jamuqa, who was by Temujin's side in almost every battle they fought. The most important ally Temujin gained was of a man named Toghrul, the blood brother of Yesugei. Toghrul had managed to install himself as leader of the Kerait tribe and was named Ong Khan. While Yesugei was still alive he had helped Toghrul immensely, so when Genghis approached

him asking for help, he happily accepted, taking Temujin under his wing. Together they waged war and Temujin learned many tactics and strategies from Ong Khan. A tribe named the Taichi'uts, also called the Tajut, captured Temujin when he was about twenty years old and held him hostage. He was able to escape with help from Sorqan Shira and his sons, Chilaun and Chambi. Chiluan was one of the many friends Temujin would make in his teenage years. Many of his friends would become esteemed and trusted generals in Temujin's army as they helped him to conquer the surrounding tribes in his struggle for power.

Temujin's life was made worse by the kidnapping of Borte by the Merkit tribe. Temujin was able to rescue her, and they had their first of three sons, Jochi. While in captivity, Borte was raped by one of the chieftains of the Merkit tribe and she gave birth to Jochi shortly after being rescued. Despite this, Temujin still treated Jochi as his own son. All of the children between Borte and Temujin reserved the chance to be leader of the tribe because, according to Mongol tradition, the first wife of a man is the most important. However, Temujin still had many other wives in an attempt to ally himself with other tribes in the region and expand his influence.

In 1195, Temujin was named Genghis Khan, meaning universal leader. Genghis Khan was installed in a position of power that would help him unite the Mongol tribes. Ong Khan remained a crucial aspect of the creation of the Mongol empire as Genghis grew stronger and stronger. As part of the Khamag Mongol Confederation, Genghis began attacking various tribes around the area with increasing success. His forces grew to over 20,000 men.

The Tribes

All Mongolian tribes descended from the Turkic tribes that once dominated the land (shown to the right). Of these Turkic tribes, the western half was more developed, allowing it to remain united until they were invaded by the Mongols. The eastern half divided into many different tribes such as the Borjigin, which Genghis Khan's father's ruled. While some Mongolian tribes had a complicated past because of the presence of Islamic or Chinese powers, the majority of Mongol

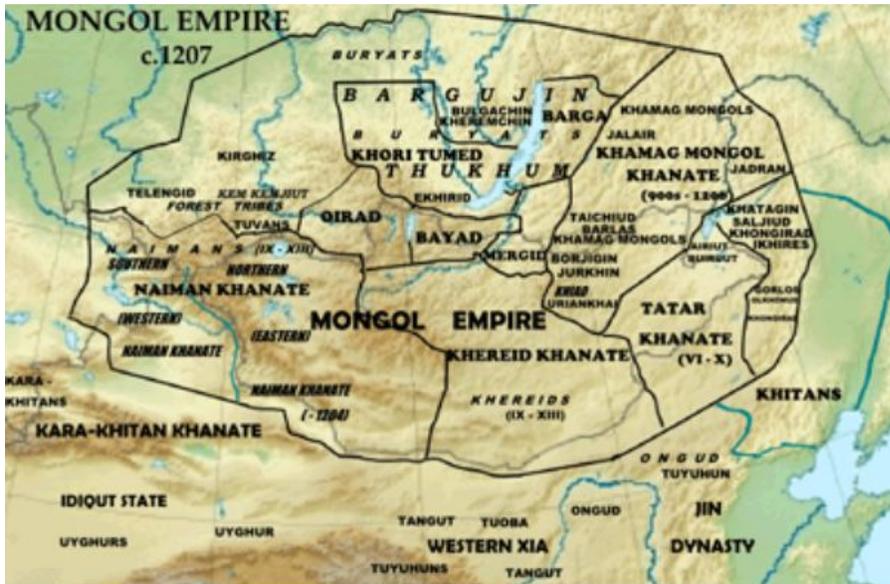


tribes were nomadic and isolated from the rest of the world. By 1100, the most powerful tribes prior to the rise of Genghis Khan in Mongolia were the Naiman and the Kerait. Both tribes were of Turkic descent and followed Mongolian practices. The Naiman were descendants of the highly developed Uyghur tribe which gave them greater linguistic and organizational knowledge than tribes around them. Another wealthier state, Tangut relied on agriculture as well as pastoralism and they made up the majority of the power in the Western Xia area. The Tatars are another crucial group of people. They were Turkic speaking nomads that waged war with the Mongols for many years, and had caused the separation of the last Khamag Mongol Confederation.

Genghis Khan's father, Yesugei, spent the majority of his life trying to restore this confederation and he hoped that the wedding between Temujin and Borte would tie the knot.

In addition to these three tribes, the Mongolian region had countless other tribes of varying sizes. By this time, the Mongols had already conquered Kara Khitai and its capital, Balasagun, which had been ruled by Kuchlag at the time.

Jamuqa, who initially fought with Genghis when they were young, had created a confederation of five tribes and established himself as Gur Khan. Genghis Khan usurped his



authority and defeated Gur Khan and the Tajut people. Genghis Khan, allied with Ong Khan, continued his military conquests. Genghis avenged the death of his father by invading the Tatar tribe using cavalry attacks. In the aftermath he burned all the chiefs alive. Genghis killed any Tatar man over three feet tall and wiped out most of their

army. The remaining Mongol tribes formed various confederations and alliances for protection, but they were no match for Genghis Khan and Ong Khan. This power duo defeated the powerful Naiman tribe, and the rest of the tribes surrendered. In the year 1206, Genghis Khan and Ong Khan split apart as Genghis vied for more power and the Khamag Mongol Confederation reorganized their allegiances. Having a smaller force and less land holdings than Ong Khan ment that Genghis needed to avoid direct confrontations with his rival. Ong Khan escaped and fled to the Naiman where he was reportedly killed.

Many tribes in the areas surrounding the Mongols as well as the areas farther away were conquered and compiled into the Mongol empire. Military leadership in Mongolia had to not only know about the placements of these settlements, but also various factors that would aid them in the subjugation of these areas. Genghis not only asserted military authority over his conquered people, but assimilated his conquered people into his empire through marriage or adoptions into the family.

Genghis Khan as a Leader

Genghis Khan was a leader who built his following strategically. He utilized a meritocracy, appointing commanders and generals based on their skill and loyalty. This style ran contrary to the beliefs of many other leaders who followed an aristocracy and appointed members of the imperial family or high status members of the tribe into positions of power. This difference would be key in allowing Genghis's forces to defeat their enemies who were often less

skilled or poorly managed. Genghis also used the decimal system for his armies, arranging units into groups of 10 (Arban), 100 (Zuun) , 1,000 (Mingghan), and 10,000 (Tumen). Leaders of the Arbans and Zuuns were elected by the soldiers in the unit, but the leaders of a Mingghan or Tumen were appointed by Genghis. If one man deserted, his entire Arban was killed. This system provided loyalty and organization which permitted the use of strategic maneuvers in battle. Starting in the 13th century, Genghis would integrate the populations of the groups he conquered into his army. Aristocrats would be killed but skilled or educated people such as teachers and craftsmen would be asked to join his force. Genghis took into account new ideas he learned from conquered areas, implementing those he liked.

Genghis Khan's Army

Genghis Khan's army continued to grow as he invaded new territories. The Mongols were fierce warriors and showed no mercy to their enemies. Mongol battle strategy consists of a wide variety of specialized tactics for certain situations. The Mongols were known for their skills on horseback and were able to control the horse with their feet while using their hands to fire arrows with their bows. The use of horses allowed for attacks with immense speed, as well as intimidating attacks with horses. Utilizing speed as their main tactic, many other battle tactics included catapulting, isolating villages, then using coordinated attacks such as hit and run, ambush. The Mongols' attacks left cities in ruins and every one of the residents either homeless



or dead. Soldiers were equipped with bows and arrows, a dagger, and various other weapons. Saddlebags were supplied with food, clothing, and tools. Cavalrymen carried body armor, javelins, and a small sword. The army was followed by shamans for medical help and spiritual guidance, as well as officials to record any treasure captured during raids. Drums commanded the soldiers to charge and any other orders were signaled with flags.

Genghis Khan set out with a specific goal in his mind. His first goal was to control major tribal

groups in surrounding areas, using various battle tactics such as cavalry attacks and siege warfare. Around 1207, Genghis Khan invaded the Western Xia Dynasty, which was one of the three separate states that makes up present-day China. He forced their surrender after multiple siege battles in 1209 and 1210. These sieges gave the Mongols experiences that would prove vital in waging war against the Jin Dynasty.

Current Situation

By the time of this committee, in 1218, the Mongol Empire is almost a decade into their war with the Jin Dynasty in Northern China. The Jin have been reduced to a buffer state between Mongol territory and the Song Dynasty, no longer posing a significant threat, and the total conquering of the dynasty seems all but inevitable. However, in more recent events, a number of Mongol envoys have been captured and executed by the Mongol Empire's

southwestern neighbors, the Khwarezmian Dynasty. The Khwarezmians have been raiding Mongol lands and brutally converting inhabitants to Islam for years. Something needs to be done to address this aggression. What those actions will consist of is up to the delegates.

Additionally, all of the vast lands recently taken over by the Mongol Empire are quite inhabited, and determining how best to interact with these highly diverse, newly conquered peoples is another responsibility left to this committee. There are vast differences among the people across this expanding empire. The Mongols' lax policies regarding religious, cultural, and linguistic tolerance has kept the empire relatively tension free for now, although peace and stability is certainly not guaranteed to continue.

Questions To Consider

- How should the Mongols proceed in relation with the Khwarezmian Dynasty?
- What role will religion play in the building of a new empire?
- Which direction of conquest should be focused on first, eastward or westward expansion?
- Which style of administration or government would be best to implement in the land conquered?
- How will the nation secure the safety of the leaders of the empire, as well as the safety of the people within the empire?

Further Research

Even though this guide is a great starting point for research, additional investigation is necessary for further understanding of the committee and the topics to be discussed. Delegates are strongly encouraged to look for sources beyond the background guide, especially when researching topics specific to particular positions. A number of beneficial resources are, but are not limited to, those found at the end of this document. Taking these actions will ensure a successful committee experience for all delegates. The names of characters and tribes in this committee are spelled using one of a number of various ways to spell that term, you may encounter other forms. Additionally, the maps located within the background guide are very beneficial to understanding various pathways of conquest, as well as potential for internal disputes.

Positions

Position	Description
Ögedei Borgijin	Genghis Khan's third, and according to some, favorite son. He is an intelligent, charismatic and persuasive leader who is known for steady character and dependability. As all other Mongol men are, he has been trained to be a warrior and has a vast repertoire of skills and combat knowledge. He is known for his masterful ability to sway doubters and his easy going, lively lifestyle as well as his humility and willingness to follow the advice of other leaders when he needs to adapt to a situation. He is pragmatic and easily liked by the Mongolian people but he has a bit of a drinking problem.
Sergius	An Armenian monk who attempts to convert Mongols to Christianity. Sergius is deeply ingrained in the family of the Khans and has a small following of Mongols who have bought on to his divine wonders. Sergius is a somewhat violent and aggressive person, willing to do what he feels will help him.
Töregene Borjigin	Former wife of the chief of the Merkid Clan, she is now the wife of Ögedei. She has many ties to the Naiman tribe and has learned many important organizational and authoritative skills which are limited by her current position. She is not very well liked by many from Genghis Khan's immediate family or the other wives of her husband. She is also currently the mother of 2 children, her sons Guyuk and Kadan.

Subutai	Subutai is one of the Four Hounds of Genghis Khan and a trusted general and tactician. He first joined Genghis Khan's army at 14 when he left his Uriankhai Tribe. He was trained as a blacksmith, accustomed to the forest but he learned quickly after being close to Genghis. By proving himself in his victories over the Merkit and the Jin in China using brilliant tactics he established himself in Genghis Khan's inner circle.
Belgutei Borjigin	The 2nd half brother of Genghis Khan and a general Genghis' army. He is an expert diplomat and wrestler, often used as a personal messenger for Genghis Khan. This job has led him to establish connections with many Mongolian tribes and is trusted by a wider variety of people. He has a deep connection with his step-mother because she raised him in his childhood and protected him after his brother was killed by his step-brothers.
Temüge Borjigin	Genghis Khan's youngest brother by 6 years and therefore entitled to the most land that their father, Yesugei, formerly owned. He grew into a bold, courageous, and a strong warrior, perfectly suited for war. When it comes to getting rid of a contender to the families' power, he is the first choice. His lack of willingness to go to war is what established him as the protector of the homeland whenever Genghis leaves to go to war, a task he does well thanks to his skill as a politician and ruler. Genghis called him lazy and shiftless but this may of been because of Temüge's interest in foreign cultures over military duties.

<p>Jöchi Borjigin</p>	<p>The first son of Börte, first wife of Genghis Khan. Jochi's disputed lineage led him to take a more independent path as he refused many military campaigns and instead led a force of 4,000 on his own smaller conquest into Siberia and against the Kirghiz, successfully expanding the empire. He works closely with his mother and is very thankful for the support she has given him.</p>
<p>Jebe</p>	<p>He was a member of the Tajjut clan when Genghis Khan defeated the Tajjut clan in a bloody battle. Formally known as Jirqo'adai, Jebe proved his masterful archery skills by killing Genghis Khan's favorite horse. When he admitted his act to Genghis Khan himself, he became the leader's personal servant in a surprising act of clemency, which would allow Jebe to rise up and become a valued general in Genghis' army. He is one of the Four Hounds and one of the Nine Ministers of Genghis' council.</p>
<p>Mugali</p>	<p>Genghis became friends with Mugali shortly after meeting Jelme early in his life. Genghis would grow to appreciate Mugali's wise counsel and established him as one of the Nine Ministers of his council and as one of the Four Valiant Warriors. He is known for his excellent planning and coordination skills before battle as well as his connections to the Jalair tribe.</p>
<p>Börte Üjin</p>	<p>Wife of Genghis Khan since he was only 10. Borte has gone through most of her life with Genghis and has seen the extent of his dedication to her. Being the first and most important wife to Genghis means that she has access to a wide variety of connections and sources as well as the bounty of the war.</p>

<p>Sorghaghtani Beki</p>	<p>The wife of Tolui, Genghis Khan's son and the daughter of Ong Khan's younger brother. She is a Keraite princess and a Christian. She is very involved in the organization of the administration of the Mongol empire and invested in the benefits of trade. She strongly believes in religious tolerance and she instills this value, as well as many others, in her children. She is held in high regard by the family, Ögedei in particular.</p>
<p>Hoelun Khatun</p>	<p>Mother of Genghis and his four siblings, Hoelun raised them and two step children after her husband Yesugei was killed on her own. As a single mom she dedicated her life to raising her children well and the family is deeply indebted to her for that. She taught her children the skills that help them to succeed and rule the Mongols and still advises Genghis and his council. She also helps to administrate the homeland in times where Genghis is absent.</p>
<p>Tolui Borjigin</p>	<p>The youngest son of Genghis Khan and leader of one of the largest Mongolian armies. He has great military skill which has proven instrumental in the invasion of the Jin Dynasty. He is very humble and cautious which has made him a hesitant leader and less politically skilled than his siblings. He is the proud father of 3 sons, Möngke, Kublai and as of very recently, Hulagu.</p>
<p>Chagatai Borjigin</p>	<p>The second son of Genghis Khan who is well versed in law and maintaining peace and created the code of law called Yassa in 1206. He is very vocal, especially on the topic of Jochi who he considers to be illegitimate. Like his father he has a strong militaristic spirit and is interested in westward expansion although he is not very opposed to the Islamic faith. He has three sons, Mutukan, Baidar and Yesü Möngke.</p>

Hachiun Borjigin	Genghis Khan's younger brother and third son of Yesugei. He has been protected by Genghis Khan for sometime now and they have developed a close relationship. He has considerable land ownings and is a fierce warrior known for his ability to rally his troops together in the face of any foe.
Hasar Borjigin	As probably the closest brother to Genghis, Hasar has been a vital part of the success of Genghis. Hasar has proven himself to be an excellent archer, very strong, and very loyal. Hasar commands some of the troops that make up the Left Wing of Genghis' armies in East Mongolia
Jelme	Jelme was formerly a member of the Uriankhat Tribe before he set to out to assist Genghis. He first met Genghis when they were both young men and they became good friends. Overtime Jelme proved his worth to Genghis by protecting him and eventually he was appointed as one of the Four Hounds and one of Nine Ministers in Genghis Khan's personal circle. He is a highly respected general of Genghis with responsibility over an entire Mingghan.

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