**The Mongol Empire**  
The Mongols were a [**nomadic**](javascript:%20window.open('http://www.regentsprep.org/Regents/global/vocab/def.cfm?term=nomad','','status=no,resizable=yes,scrollbars=yes,%20width=400,height=200');%20void('');) **tribe** of **herders** who lived in **Central** **Asia**. Under their greatest leader, [**Genghis Khan**](javascript:%20window.open('http://www.regentsprep.org/Regents/global/vocab/def.cfm?term=genghis%20khan','','status=no,resizable=yes,scrollbars=yes,%20width=400,height=200');%20void('');), they conquered the world's largest empire to date. The Mongols ruled, at one time or another, **Russia** and parts of **Eastern** **Europe**, **China**, **India**, and parts of the **Middle** **East**.

|  |
| --- |
| **Mongol Empire** |
| http://www.regentsprep.org/Regents/global/themes/power/images/mongol.gif |

Yet, little of Mongol culture remained after they have left a region. Their power was one of control. During the [**Pax Mongolia**](javascript:%20window.open('http://www.regentsprep.org/Regents/global/vocab/def.cfm?term=pax%20mongolia','','status=no,resizable=yes,scrollbars=yes,%20width=400,height=200');%20void('');), or Mongol Peace, global trade expanded due to the political stability provided by Mongol rulers. [**Silk Road**](javascript:%20window.open('http://www.regentsprep.org/Regents/global/vocab/def.cfm?term=silk%20road','','status=no,resizable=yes,scrollbars=yes,%20width=400,height=200');%20void('');) trade flourished as goods and ideas, such as **gunpowder**, **porcelain**, and the technology of **papermaking** were traded with the west. The Pax Mongolia was a time of trade and cultural diffusion Little or no Mongol legacy exists today.