



PRE-COLUMBIAN EUROPE

EVENTS LEADING TO EUROPEAN EXPLORATION

EVENTS LEADING TO EXPLORATION: MAIN POINTS

- Crusades brought back technology for exploration and made it so people weren't as scared to explore.
- Black Death wiped out 1/3 of Europe's population, breaking up the feudal system and allowing more people to try new things.
- Marco Polo got people excited about exploration and made more people want the spices and wealth of the East.
- Desire for spices lead Europeans to try to find a way to avoid the Muslim middle man on the Silk Road and find a water way to India.

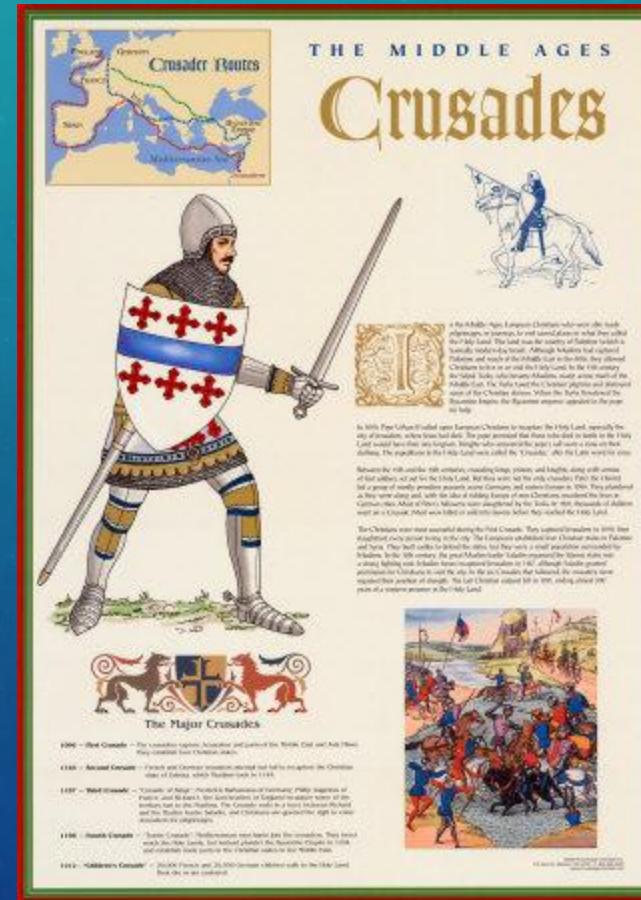


THE CRUSADES

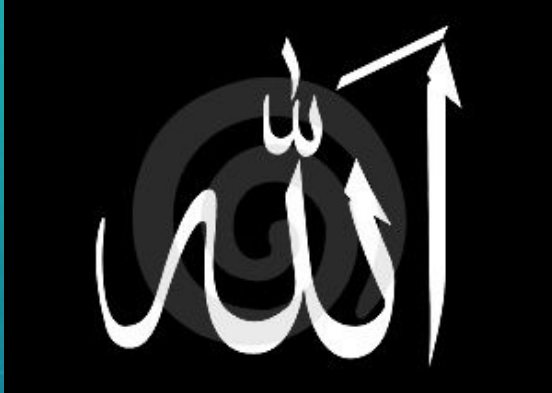
A QUEST FOR THE HOLY LAND

CRUSADES

- A long series of Wars between Christians and Muslims
- They fought over control of Jerusalem which was called the **Holy Land** because it was the region where Jesus had lived, preached and died



CAUSES OF THE CRUSADES



Muslim Turks
captured Jerusalem
from the Byzantine
Empire



Muslims stopped
Christians from
Visiting Holy Land

Christian pilgrims
were attacked

Byzantine Empire
feared attack on
Constantinople

THE CALL TO ARMS



- Pope Urban II called for the defeat of the Turks, returning the Holy Land to the Christians



WHO ANSWERED THE CALL?

- Feudal Lords
- Knights
- Peasants



THE FIRST CRUSADE (1096-1099)

- Peasant army
 - Untrained
 - Lacked military equipment
 - Many killed by Muslim Turks
- Knights
 - Succeeded in capturing Jerusalem



SECOND CRUSADE (1147-1149)

- After victory many Christians went back home.
- The Turks eventually took back much of the territory.
- King of France and Emperor of Germany sent troops to stop the Turks.



SECOND CRUSADE (1147-1149)

- Saladin leads the Muslim Turks to victory, defeating the Christians
- * He was considered a very wise ruler. He was known for his sometimes kind treatment of fallen enemies. Many Christians saw him as a model of knightly chivalry.



THIRD CRUSADE (1189-1192)



- King Richard of England convinces the Turks to allow Christians to visit the Holy Land



CRUSADES CONTINUE THROUGH 1200'S



- Several more crusades attempted with no victories for the Christians
- Children's crusade, - 30,000 soldiers - many of them under 12 years old – Never made it to the Holy Land

RESULTS OF THE CRUSADES

- **I = Information** – Ships, Maps, Knowledge from the ancient Greeks and Romans
- **F = Feudalism** declines because Feudal lords die or spend too much money on military.
- **T = Turks** still rule the Holy Land
- **T = Travel** – Europeans want to travel more
- **T = Trade** – Europeans want product from the East such as sugar, cotton, silk, spices, etc.



THE BLACK DEATH

THE BLACK DEATH: BUBONIC PLAGUE

The Black Plague started out in China in the 1330's.

Originally it only affected rodents, however it quickly spread to humans.

Caused painful swelling of the Bubo and caused spots on the skin that turned black.



THE BLACK DEATH

- Three Forms: The Bubonic, Pneumonic, and Septicemic. Each killed people in different ways.
- Bubonic Plague: Mortality Rate: 30-75%. Symptoms: Enlarged or inflamed lymph nodes.



The Pneumonic Plague was the second most commonly seen form of the Black Death.

Mortality Rate: 90-95%

(Today if Treated 5-10%)

It infected the lungs, and
the symptoms included
slimy snot tinted with blood!

Many times victims choked
on their own Blood (ew...).



SEPTICEMIC PLAGUE

- Most Rare form of all!
- Mortality rate was close to 100%(Even today there is no treatment)
- Symptoms: High Fever and skin turning deep shades of purple!
- Victims usually died the same day the symptoms appeared.



ORIGINS

- *Originated in Mongolia's Gobi desert*
- *Moved along the Silk Road to Black Sea*
- *Bacteria carried by fleas, lived on black rats*
- *Major trade/commercial cities were good hosts*
- *Sicily in 1347, England 1348, culminating in Russia 1352*
- *Unstoppable Force*



"Victims ate lunch with their friends and dinner with their ancestors in paradise." -Boccaccio

WHY DID IT SPREAD?

- Ignorance Surrounded Cause and Cure
- Europeans were Frantic

Blames

- Alignment of Planets
- Infected Clothing, Humans
- God's Wrath aimed at Sin
- Jews

Cures/Remedies

- Pomanders
- Mixture of Molasses & Chopped Snake
- Repentance
- Flagellants



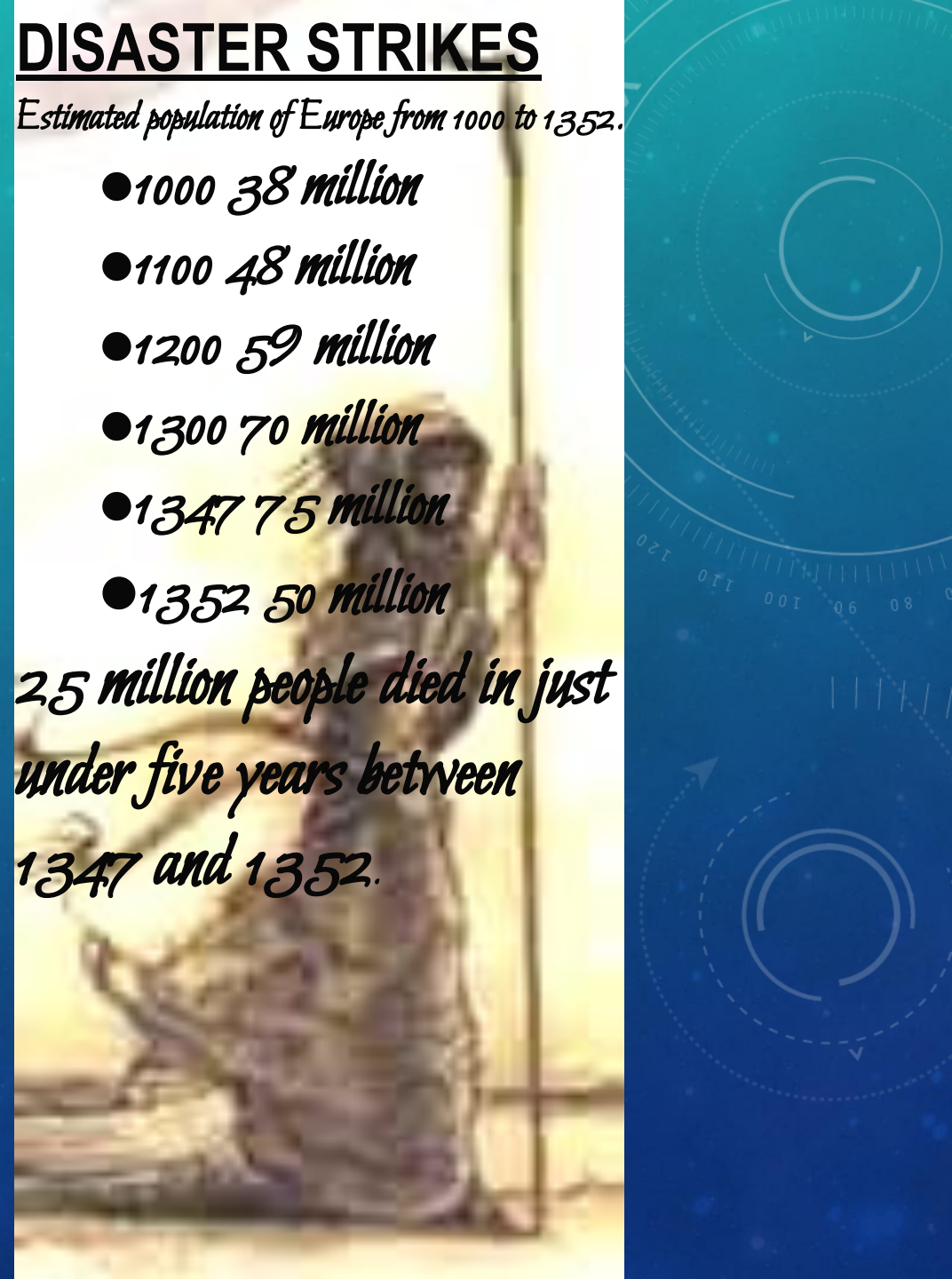


DISASTER STRIKES

Estimated population of Europe from 1000 to 1352.

- 1000 38 million
- 1100 48 million
- 1200 59 million
- 1300 70 million
- 1347 75 million
- 1352 50 million

2.5 million people died in just under five years between 1347 and 1352.



THE TRUE CAUSE OF THE PLAGUE

- The Swiss scientist Alexandre Yersin discovered the true cause of plague.
- The bubonic plague, an infectious disease, are caused by microbes that invade the human body.
- The microbes that cause the plague are a type of bacteria known as the *Yersinia pestis*.
- The bubonic plague, however, does not start in humans.
- Instead it infects only rats and cannot be spread directly from rats to humans.
- Fleas, which live on the rats for food, abandon the rat when the rat dies.
- If these fleas then find a human the, *Yersinia pestis* is injected into the bloodstream.
- Then the disease can spread from man to man.

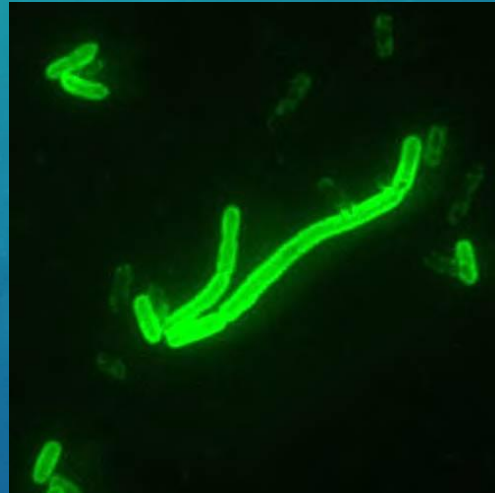
How it was Transmitted

Flea drinks rat blood
that carries the bacteria

Bacteria multiply
in flea's gut



Human is infected



Yersinia pestis seen at 2000x magnification. This bacterium, carried and spread by fleas, is the cause of the various forms of the disease plague



Flea bites human,
regurgitates blood
into open wound

Gut clogged
with bacteria



ECONOMIC CONSEQUENCES

- Shortage of laborers→ rising wages for peasants and artisans
- Valuable artisan skills disappeared
- Oversupply of goods → prices dropped
- For the living, standard of living rose!
- Landlords stopped freeing their serfs→ serfs revolting and leaving the land
- The oppressed demanded fairer treatment

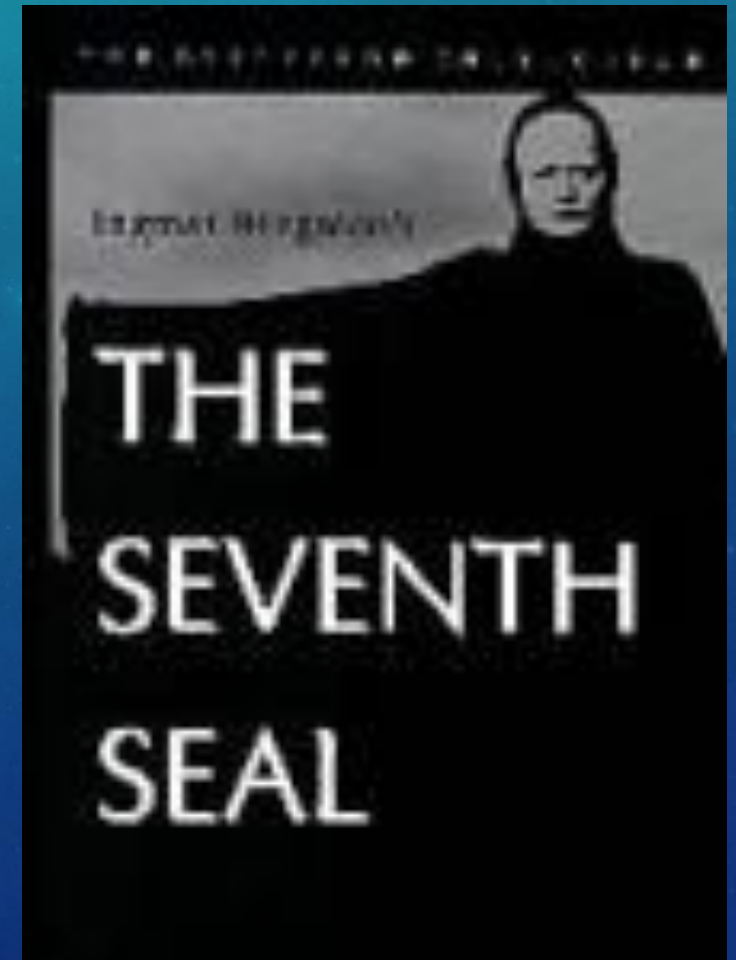
ECONOMIC CONSEQUENCES

- The great equalizer
- Lack of sufficient law enforcement personnel
- Promoted lawlessness
- People tried their luck



MUSIC AND ART

- Culture turned morbid
- Sense of death – impending & inevitable
- Death is a game, like chess!
- Dance of death – death is random
- Everyone suffered
- Despair



THE CHILDREN

Ring a-round the rosy = rosary beads give you God's help

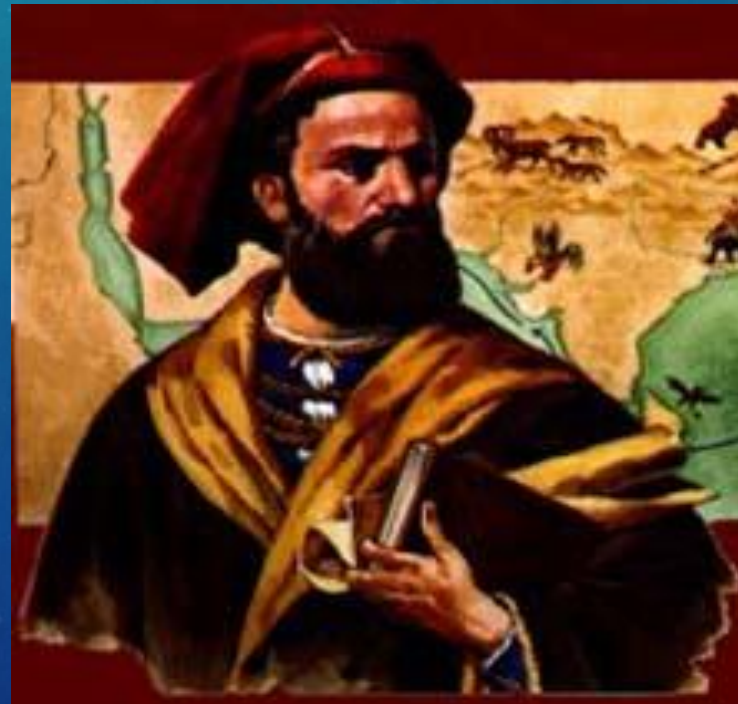
Pocket full of posies = used to stop the odor of rotting bodies through to cause the plague

Ashes, ashes! = the church burned the dead when burying became too laborious

We all fall down! = dead

- Children suffered mentally and physically
- Children were not thought worth the trouble to raise!

THE ADVENTURES OF MARCO POLO



MARCO – THE STORYTELLER

- He often told of adventures to faraway places such as **Cathay**.
- Marco had traveled to Cathay (**China**) and the **Indies**, the islands off the China coast.
- He told stories about meeting **Kublai Khan**, China's ruler, and seeing amazing things – white bears, black stones that burned, and a place where night lasted all winter and day lasted all summer.

“MARCO MILLIONS”

- People laughed and called him **Marco Millions** because he told so many tales.
- Few Europeans had ever been to Asia, so they could not prove Marco was wrong.
- They thought his stories could not be true but many were.

MARCO'S TRAVELS

- Marco left his home in **Venice, Italy** in **1271** with his father Niccolo and his uncle Maffeo.
- They were traders who were interested in the riches of the east.
- **Four years** after beginning their journey, the Polos reached **China**.
- The Polos also visited India and Persia.

TRADE ROUTES TO THE EAST

- Europeans carried on a busy trade with the people of Asia.
- Europeans wanted: gold, jewels, silk, perfumes, and especially spices. (pepper, cloves, cinnamon, and nutmeg)
- They used the spices to make their food taste better and to hide the bad taste of spoiled meat.

MARCO'S ADVENTURES

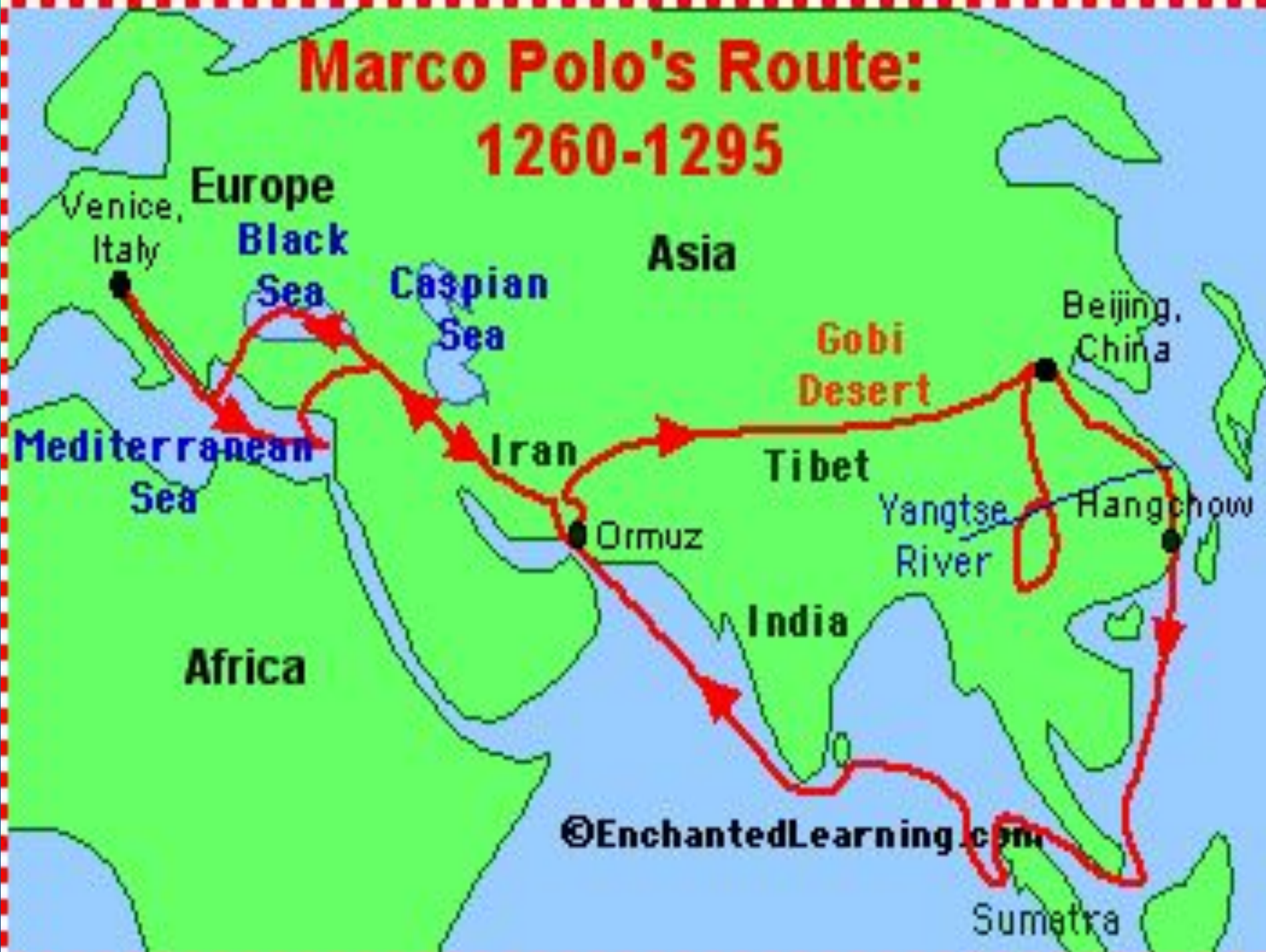
- Marco's father introduced his son to China's ruler, Kublai Khan.
- Kublai Khan asked Marco to explore his kingdom.
- Marco spent twenty-four years working for the Khan.
- Marco Polo returned home with his pockets full of jewels.

KUBLAI KHAN

- Kublai Khan was China's ruler.
- Marco described his palace as having walls covered with gold and silver.
- One hall was so big that “a meal might be served for more than 6,000 men.”



Marco Polo's Route: 1260-1295



THE TRAVELS OF MARCO POLO

- Upon returning to Venice, Marco became the captain of a Venetian ship.
- Venice and Genoa were involved in a battle.
- Marco was captured and thrown into prison.
- While there his stories were written down.
- Two hundred years later, *The Travels of Marco Polo* was published.

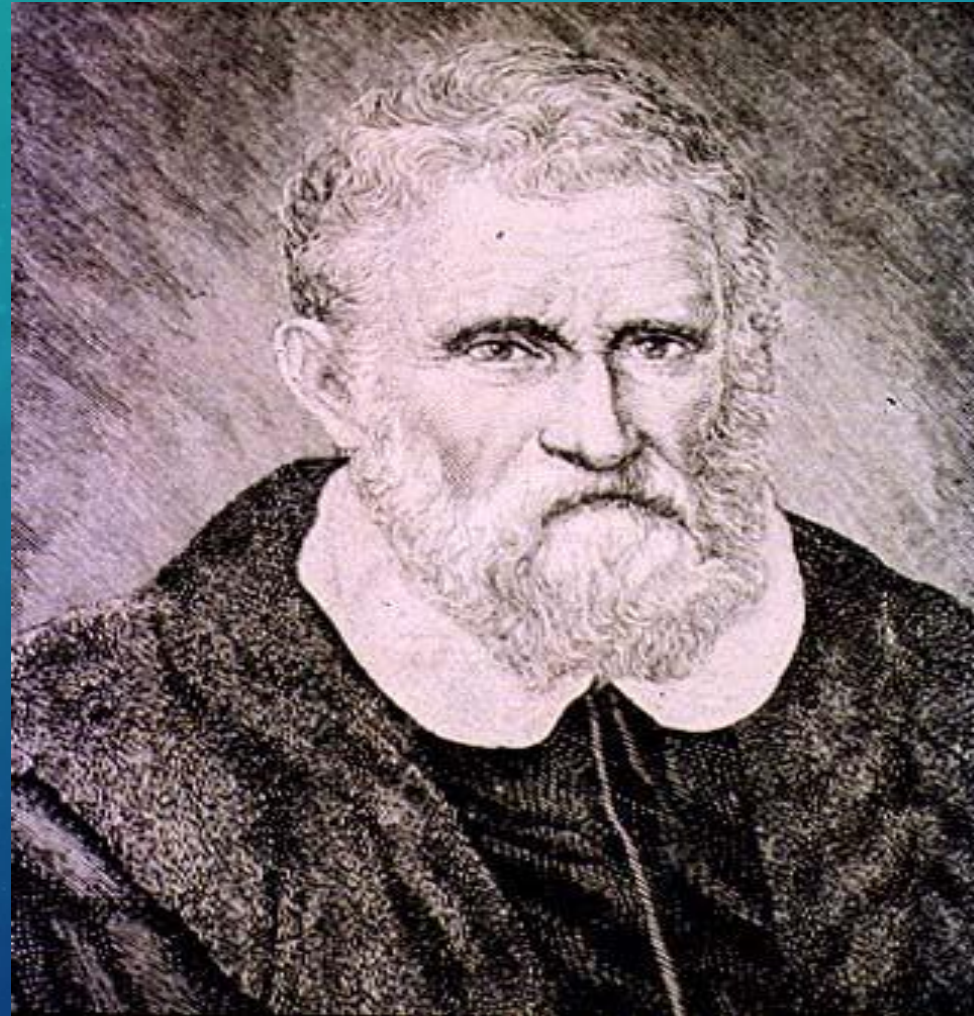
TRADE ROUTES TO THE EAST

- For most European traders travel to Asia and back was too hard and took too much time.
- In 1453 trade with the far east was stopped by the Turks.
- A new trade route would have to be found.
- Main point: Marco Polo's stories excited people enough that they wanted to explore and see the amazing things he wrote about. He also helped open up the Silk Road to more people.

The Continents



MARCO POLO, 1254-1324





SPICES AND THE SILK ROAD

DARK AGES

- Exotic spices from the East were rare
- Europeans had to rely on native temperate herbs and many valued for medicinal uses
- Merchant travelers kept a limited supply of spices from the Arab trading centers
- Crusades, beginning in 1095, increased the spices from the Near East
- The Muslims became a middle man in the spice trade.
- Europeans wanted spices but also wanted to avoid the high costs added by the middle man, so tried to find a way to get directly to the source.

HENRY THE NAVIGATOR

- Prince Henry of Portugal wanted to break the Venetian-Muslim trade monopoly
- He established a school of navigation in 1418 to find a sea route to the Orient
- His efforts laid the ground work for the Age of Exploration

AGE OF EXPLORATION

- In 1486 Bartholomew Dias discovered the Cape of Good Hope at the southern tip of Africa, proving a sea route to India was possible
- Vasco da Gama made the possibility a reality when he reached the west coast of India in 1497
- Portugal then had a monopoly on the spice trade in Europe.