

## The Byzantine Empire



## Justinian Code

- Justinian Emperor of the Eastern Roman Empire in 527
- Four parts of the Code
  - the *Code* – useful Roman laws
  - the *Digest* – summarize legal opinions
  - the *Institutes* – guide for law students
  - the *Novellae* – laws passed after 534

## Justinian Code (con't)

- Byzantine law
- Used in Western Europe
- Provided a framework for many European legal systems

## Theodora

- wife of Justinian and advisor
- Help gets more rights for women in Byzantine under the law
  - allowing Christian women to own property

## Nika Revolt

- rebellion to overthrow Justinian
- Theodora talked him into stay and fight
- Justinian's troops led by Belisarius defeated the rebels

## "Greek Fire"

- Byzantine military weapon
- Chemical weapon
- When thrown at enemies; the



liquid burst into flames catching everything on fire

## Christian Church

- Different from the West (Roman Catholic Church)
  - Patriarch in Constantinople
  - Early Iconoclasts – venerating icons is worshipping idols; later allowed
    - Creates the Iconoclastic Controversy
  - Called Eastern Orthodox today

## Iconoclastic Controversy

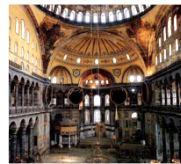
- In 726, Emperor Leo II orders all icons destroyed
- People refused
- In 787, the pope called bishops together
- The council decided that it was a heresy *not* allow icons
- Threatened excommunication on iconoclasts
- Caused the church to split in 1054

## heresy

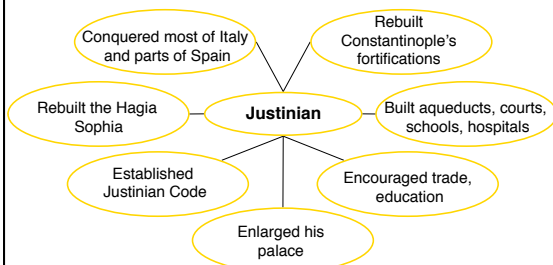
- an opinion that conflicts with the official church beliefs

## Hagia Sophia

- Meaning “holy wisdom”
- In Constantinople
- Ordered by Justinian to be built



Look at the graphic to help organize your thoughts. List Justinian's accomplishments as emperor of the New Rome.



## The Rise of Russia

## Russian Geography

- Steppe – grassy plain
- Ural Mountains – boundary to the continents
- Rivers – Dniester, Dnieper, and Don (ideal for trade)



## Slavs

- Settled in much of Eastern Europe
- Invaders as the Huns and Magyars made them into slaves
- Trade with the Vikings helped them to move into the region

## Kievan Russia



- Rurik - Leader of the Vikings (Rus)
- Created Kiev – trade route between Constantinople and the Baltic Sea

## Impact of the Byzantine Empire on Russia

- The early Russian civilization adopted the Eastern Orthodox religion, the Cyrillic alphabet, and different styles of art and architecture through contact with the Byzantine Empire.

## boyars

- Council of nobles advises the princes of Russia



## veche

- Town meetings with the head of the households in a public marketplace
- Called by the princes

## tagia

- Largest forest
- Major economic resource



## Yaroslav the Wise

- Introduced the first Russian law code – Pravda Russkia (the “Russian Justice”)
- combined traditions and tribal customs with older laws



## Vladimir I



- Wanted to marry Ana – Byzantine emperor’s sister
- Converted to Christianity which leads to others conversion
- Had all pagan statues destroyed

## Kievan Russia Economy

- Trade
  - Taiga - wood
  - Iron, iron, furs and honey
- Farming

## Ivan III

- Grandfather (Ivan I) established Moscow
- Moscow’s power increases and becomes more independent
  - Ends the Mongol rule
  - Unites the tribes under Russia under his absolute monarchy

