

Some AP World History Changes

- 1) No more Mod Civ JDIC!!! 😊
- 2) Improving your grade.
- 3) Teaching/learning styles – finding balance
- 4) Final Exam review and review sessions

The Byzantine Empire

Chapter 13

A Review of the Main Points

- The Byzantine Empire existed for more than a thousand years (from approximately 306 CE to 1453 CE). During its existence, the Empire remained one of the most powerful economic, cultural, and military forces in Europe, despite setbacks and territorial losses.
- The Roman Empire split and the eastern Roman Empire, centered in Constantinople, became the highly centralized government known as the Byzantine Empire. (in the west, the empire collapsed completely)
- Both empires practiced Christianity but not in the same way.
- The east produced the majority of grain and controlled the major trade routes.



How was the Byzantine Empire unique?

- It used the Greek language
- Its architecture had distinctive domes
- Its culture had more in common with Eastern cultures like those of Persia
- Its brand of Christianity became an entirely separate branch known as Orthodox Christianity

The Byzantine Empire compared to Europe

- At the time of the Byzantine Empire, much of Europe was fragmented into small feudal kingdoms with limited power and fewer cultural and intellectual movements.
- The Byzantine Empire ruled by absolute authority (hereditary monarchy), especially over the economy, whose industries, such as silk production, they monopolized. It made law, had an efficient military, oversaw effective land distribution, and had a bureaucracy that answered to the emperor.

Life in Byzantium

- The emperor was considered a friend and imitator of Christ, and as the head of the Church, appointed the patriarch (bishop).
- The empire was divided into themes – or military districts – and military generals were appointed to rule. Free peasants were given land for military service.
- The Byzantines also used coined money, the value of which remained remarkably stable, making it a very desirable currency for business.

Life in Byzantium

- Its location on the Mediterranean Sea contributed to strong trade, especially in silk, glassware, linen, jewelry, gold and silversmithing.
- Most subjects spoke Greek but it was not forced on the people.
- In theory, there was social mobility through the bureaucracy, army, trade, or service to the Church, but in reality, mobility was rare.

Justinian's Rule

- Under Justinian (527-565), the former glory and unity of the Roman Empire was somewhat restored in Constantinople. Justinian would become one of the most refined spirits of his century, inspired by the dream of the re-creation of Roman rule over all the Mediterranean world.

Justinian's Rule

- He reformed the administration and the law, and, with the help of brilliant generals such as Belisarius and Narses, temporarily regained some of the lost Roman provinces in the west, conquering much of Italy, North Africa, and a small area in southern Spain. The region flourished in trade and the arts. His reign was most well-known for...

Justinian's Rule

- The Justinian Code – based on the Roman Twelve Tables
- The flowering of arts and sciences, evident in the construction of major buildings and churches, most notably **Hagia Sophia**, an enormous cathedral (now a mosque) that still stands today

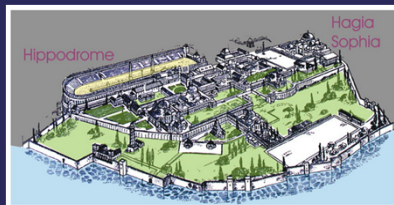
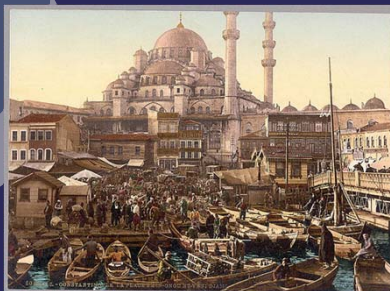


Justinian's Rule

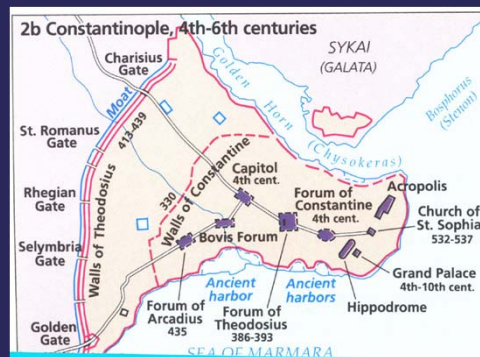
- The Byzantines are remembered and admired for their mastery of the mosaic art form they used to decorate churches.



Constantinople



Famous song about Constantinople
☺



Roman Catholic Church vs. Eastern Orthodox Church

- Head of the church (pope = RC, secular leaders = EO)
- Communion
- Whether priests should be allowed to marry
- The use of local languages in church
- The nature of God as a trinity
- The placement of icons (images of saints) during worship

Roman Catholic Church vs. Eastern Orthodox Church

- Christianity as practiced by Roman Catholics was very centralized with power stemming from Rome and services held in the Roman (Latin) form.
- In the east, Orthodox Christianity was more localized. Local customs merged with Christian practices.
- The Eastern Orthodox form of Christianity later spread to the Slavic people and Russia.

The Fall of the Byzantine Empire

- The Byzantine Empire was eventually invaded by the Muslim Saljuq Turks in 1071 and then finally defeated by the Ottoman Turks when they captured Constantinople in 1453, marking the end of the empire.