

Chapter 27: The Islamic Empires Student Notes

Ottoman Empire

1. The Ottoman Empire is a good example of a land empire that increased dramatically in size. Why did they expand?
2. Where did the Ottoman Empire expand? What was its most important conquest?
3. Who was the most important figure in the Ottoman Empire in this period? What did he do?
4. What was the *devshirme*? Who were the Janissaries? Why did the Ottoman Empire implement these policies?
5. How did the Ottoman Empire treat religious minorities?

Safavid Empire

6. Why did the Safavids fight against the Ottomans?
7. Who tended to win Ottoman/Safavid conflicts? Why?

Mughal Empire

8. Why did the Mughal Empire choose to expand dramatically in size? What role did Babur “the Tiger” play in this expansion?

9. Where did they expand?

10. Describe the reign of Akbar the Great.

General Principles

11. Why did Sufism continue to spread?

12. Where did the Muslim empires concentrate their artistic and architectural endeavors? How did they use art and architecture?

13. How did these empires fund their territorial expansions?

14. What factors led to the decline of these empires?

15. At the end of this period (approx. 1800 AD), what were the three major empires doing?