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The Mongol Civilization

"All who surrender will be spared; whoever does not surrender but opposed with

struggle and dissension, shall be annihilated." These were the ways of the Mongols. A

nomadic people who almost conquered the world, some say they weren’t a civilization.

But I believe the Mongols were a civilization because they had a government, religions,

and social classes.

One of the characterizations of a civilization is the government. The government of

the Mongols was like a monarchy. According to *THE EARTH AND ITS PEOPLES* there

god. The Mongols khan was also their military leader. He often devised military

schemes and campaigns and led the army out in battle. The government of the Mongols

was had a *Yassa* which was a law code instituted by Genghis Khan. The *Kurultai,* which

was a parliamentary style assembly met with the great Khan discuss domestic and

foreign policies. This was the basic government of the Mongol empire.

Religion was another characterization of the Mongols. Among the Mongols almost

every religion was practiced. When the different religions were conquered by the

Mongols, the people who surrendered were permitted continue in the practice of their

religion. Some of the religions represented in the Mongol empire was: Buddhism,

Christianity, Islam, Manichaeanism, tengriism, and many other religions.

Social Classes is also another characteristic of a civilization. Mongols had a

segmentary society, originally organized into a hierarchy of families, clans, tribes, and

confederations. Social Classes in the Mongol empire consisted of the: nobility, herders,

artisans, and slaves. The social structure of the Mongols wasn’t completely rigid, social

mobility was possible under socialism and economic and social equality.

*Dictionary.com* defines the term *civilization* as any type of culture, society, etc., of a

specific place, time, or group. According to this definition and the other characteristics

seen in the Mongols (govt., religion, and social classes), I firmly believe the Mongol

Empire was indeed a Civilization!