

Chapter Summary

Section 1: The Byzantine Empire

Under the emperor Justinian, the Byzantine empire reached its peak. Later a schism with Rome led to the beginning of the Greek Orthodox Church. Eventually the empire fell to the Ottoman Turks.

Section 2: The Rise of Russia

Geography played a large role in Russian history because it allowed nomadic invaders to easily attack. Following Mongol invasions, Russian princes gained power and aligned themselves with the Byzantine empire and church.



Chapter Summary (continued)

Section 3: Shaping Eastern Europe

Eastern Europe was a crossroads where different ethnic groups met. The Catholic West Slavs created Poland, the Magyars ruled Hungary, and the Serbs created a Balkan kingdom.

Objectives

- Understand why Constantinople became known as the “New Rome.”
- Summarize the ways in which the Byzantine empire flourished under Justinian.
- Analyze how Christianity in the Byzantine empire differed from Christianity in the West.
- Explain why the Byzantine empire collapsed, and examine the empire’s lasting heritage.



Terms and People

- **Constantinople** – formerly Byzantium; capital of the eastern Roman empire
- **Justinian** – emperor of the Byzantine empire from 527 to 565, he rebuilt Constantinople and made reforms to the law
- **Justinian's Code** – The *Corpus Juris Civilis*, or “Body of Civil Law”; a comprehensive collection of Roman legal writings assembled by Justinian
- **autocrat** – a sole ruler with absolute power

Terms and People (continued)

- **Theodora** – empress of the Byzantine empire, Justinian's wife, and a fearless and powerful co-ruler
- **patriarch** – in the Byzantine and Roman empires, the highest church official in a major city
- **icon** – holy image of Christ, the Virgin Mary, or a saint venerated in the Eastern Orthodox Church
- **Great Schism** – the official split between the Roman Catholic and the Byzantine churches



What made the Byzantine empire rich and successful for so long, and why did it finally crumble?

Constantinople sat at a crossroads of land and sea routes. Its great wealth came from trade and its military might. As the cities of the western Roman empire crumbled, Constantinople remained secure and prosperous.

With its high walls and golden domes, it stood as the proud capital of the Byzantine empire.

Emperor Constantine made Byzantium the center of the eastern Roman empire, a “New Rome,” and renamed it **Constantinople.**

- It had an excellent harbor and sat at a crossroad of trade between Asia and Europe.
- Constantine expanded the city, with new defenses and magnificent buildings.

A blend of ancient Greek, Roman, and Christian influences, it remained powerful and wealthy long after the fall of Rome.

Constantinople reached its peak under the Emperor **Justinian**, who ruled from 527 to 565.

The eastern Roman empire was renamed the Byzantine empire.

- Justinian's armies retook many lands in North Africa and southern Europe.
- Following fire and riots in 532, he rebuilt Constantinople.

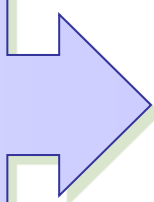


These towers, called minarets, were built after the building became a mosque. Mosque officials, called muezzins, call Muslims to prayer from the minarets.

Among Justinian's personal triumphs was the completion of Hagia Sophia, or "Holy Wisdom."

Under the Ottomans the church became a mosque. It is now a museum.

Justinian's compilation of Roman law into the *Corpus Juris Civilis*, or "Body of Civil Law," was one of his most lasting legacies.



- Known as **Justinian's Code**, it became a handbook on Roman law for legal scholars.
- By 1100 European rulers were modeling their laws on his code.

Centuries later, modern legal scholars used Justinian's Code as a basis for creating international law.

The Byzantine empire had a centralized government and a strong military.

- The emperor strictly controlled the prosperous economy.
- Byzantine gold coins circulated from China to England.
- The powerful military and a well-fortified capital turned away invaders.

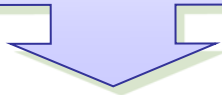
Justinian was an **autocrat** who ruled with absolute power.

- The emperor was seen as Christ's co-ruler on earth.
- Unlike medieval European monarchs, he combined both spiritual and political power.
- He was aided by his wife, Empress Theodora, a ruthless politician and advisor who often ruled in his absence.

The Byzantine empire from 527 to 1360.



Over time, differences developed between the Byzantine Church and the Church in Rome.



The Byzantine emperor appointed the patriarch and rejected the Roman pope's authority over his appointment.

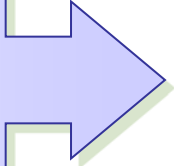
- The Byzantines used Greek as opposed to Latin in the services.
- Byzantine clergy could marry.

Over time these differences grew into a **Great Schism**, a split between the two churches.

- In the 700s, a Byzantine emperor outlawed the use of icons, which are holy images of saints or Jesus. This set off a religious battle with Rome.
- In 1054 the split hit the breaking point over additional issues. The pope and the patriarch excommunicated each other.

The church divided into rival religions, the Eastern or Greek Orthodox Church and the Roman Catholic Church.

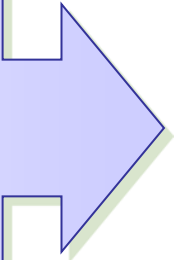
The Byzantine empire was in decline even before the Great Schism.



- In Europe local lords grew in power; the Normans took control of southern Italy.
- The Seljuk Turks were threatening Byzantine trade routes and territories.

After Crusaders plundered Constantinople in the 1260s the empire never recovered.

Constantinople was in foreign hands for 57 years. When the emperor regained the city, its power was broken.



- Venetians took over Byzantine trade routes to the East.
- In 1453 the Ottoman Turks laid siege to Constantinople. The emperor died as the city was taken.
- Mehmet II renamed the city Istanbul and made it the capital of the Ottoman empire.

The Byzantines influenced later cultures.

- Byzantine art influenced Western styles.
- Byzantine scholars preserved many Greek and historical works and took them to the West, where they would influence the Renaissance.
- For centuries, Justinian's Code has influenced European law.

Objectives

- Understand how geography influenced the rise of Russia.
- Describe the growth of Kiev.
- Explain how Mongol rule affected Russia.
- Describe how Moscow took the lead in Russia and how its rulers developed authoritarian control.



Terms and People

- **steppe** – sparse, dry, treeless grassland
- **Kiev** – capital of present-day Ukraine and center of the first Russian state
- **Cyrillic** – relating to the Slavic alphabet derived from the Greek; became the written script still used in Russia
- **Golden Horde** – Mongol invaders who burned Kiev; led by Batu, the grandson of Genghis

Terms and People (continued)

- **Ivan the Great** – Ivan III; proclaimed himself first tsar after recovering much of Russia from invaders
- **tsar** – Russian word for “Caesar”; absolute leader of Russia
- **Ivan the Terrible** – Ivan IV, who took the throne as tsar in 1547; noted for his tyrannical rule



How did geography and the migrations of different people influence the rise of Russia?

As Western Europe was developing its distinctive medieval civilization, Russian culture took a different path. Connecting Europe and Asia, it became a center of power in its own right.

One reason Russia developed differently from Western Europe was its unique geography.

Russia is located on a broad plain with three climatic regions that have influenced Russian life.

- Northern forests supplied fur-bearing animals and lumber but were too cold to farm.
- Russia's first civilization grew in a narrow band of fertile land now part of Ukraine.
- The southern **steppe** is a treeless, open grassland from which nomads invaded.

Rivers connected Russia to the Byzantine empire.

Russia's first civilization grew where Slavic and Viking influences met in Kiev.



- Slavic farmers moved into what is today Russia between 500 and 600.
- Vikings traded and took tribute along the rivers to Constantinople.
- In 862 Rurik, prince of the Rus, a Viking group, began to rule Novgorod to the north.
- After Rurik's death the Rus expanded and made **Kiev** their capital—hence the name “Russia.”

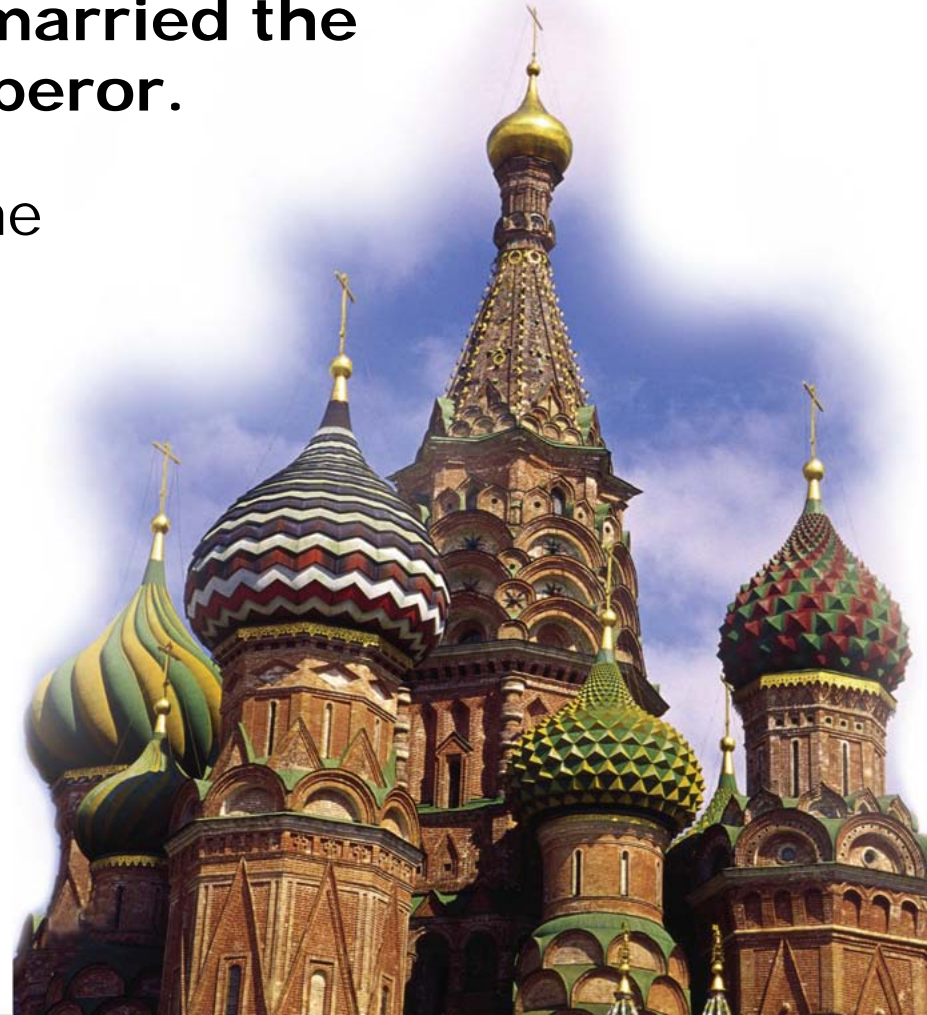
Christian missionaries brought Byzantine influences to Kiev from Constantinople.

- In 863, **Cyril** and **Methodius** translated the Bible into Slavic, creating **Cyrillic**, a written script still in use.
- In 956 Princess Olga of Kiev converted. Soon Russia was aligned religiously and culturally with the Byzantine empire.

Olga's grandson Vladimir married the sister of the Byzantine emperor.

The Orthodox faith became the Russian religion.

- Vladimir's son **Yaroslav the Wise** spread Christianity.
- Russia adapted Byzantine art and architecture. The onion-shaped domes on Russian churches show Byzantine influence.



Between 1236 and 1241 Russia fell to the Mongols.

- The **Golden Horde** that invaded Russia was led by Batu, grandson of Genghis Kahn.
- The invaders looted Kiev and other towns, killing many of the residents.
- The Mongols ruled for 150 years.

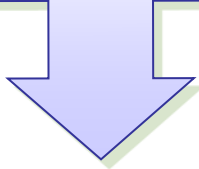
Fearsome invaders, the Mongol rulers didn't meddle in local government as long as tribute was paid. They even tolerated the Christian Church.

During Mongol rule the princes of Moscow increased their power.

- As Mongol power declined in the fourteenth century, the princes of Moscow took on a new role as patriotic defenders of Russia against foreign invaders.
- In 1380, they rallied other Russians to defeat the Mongol Golden Horde in the Battle of Kulikova.

Although Mongol raiders continued to plunder, their power was greatly reduced.

**The Mongols had a long- term impact on Russia.
Mongol leaders:**



- Modeled strong, centralized control without interference from the clergy or nobility.
- Cut Russia from contacts with the West just as new advances were being made there in science and the arts.
- As Mongol leaders subdued neighboring cities for tribute, Russian clergy spread Christianity.

Between 1462 and 1505, **Ivan the Great** united Russia under his rule.

Ivan conquered most of northern Russia and subdued local landlords.

He married the last Byzantine emperor's niece and saw Russia as the heir to Byzantine power.

He adopted the Byzantine double-headed eagle as his symbol and the title of **tsar**—Russian for "Caesar."




Between 1300 and 1584, the power and territory of the Russian princes and tsars expanded.

In 1547, Ivan III's grandson, Ivan IV, was crowned tsar.



He limited the privileges of **boyars**, wealthy landowners, and gave land instead to nobles in exchange for their military and other service.



At a time when the **manor system** was fading in Western Europe, he instituted a new policy that made poor farmers into **serfs** on nobles' lands.

Known as **Ivan the Terrible**, Ivan IV had a vicious temper, which grew worse over time.

- When he suspected anyone of disloyalty, he had them slaughtered by agents called **oprichniki**, who wore black and rode black horses.
- His policies created a tradition of absolute rule, a tradition followed by future rulers.

Objectives

- Describe how geography influenced the development of Eastern Europe.
- Understand how migrations contributed to cultural diversity in Eastern Europe.
- Learn about three early Eastern European kingdoms.



Terms and People

- **Balkan Peninsula** – a triangular piece of land that juts from southeastern Europe into the Mediterranean Sea
- **ethnic group** – a group of people who share a common language and cultural heritage
- **diet** – an assembly of nobles who meet to vote on laws
- **Golden Bull of 1222** – a charter signed by the Hungarian king recognizing the rights of the nobles and limiting royal power



How did geography and ethnic diversity contribute to the turmoil of Eastern European history?

The history of Eastern Europe has been marked by migration, foreign conquest, and war. The region is home to a diverse mix of peoples who have often battled with each other and with foreigners.

At the same time, this diverse mix of peoples has greatly enriched the culture of the region.

Throughout history Eastern Europe has been both a buffer and a crossroads.



Eastern Europe, Russia, and the Byzantine Empire in 1300

Eastern Europe includes flat plains to the north and the rocky **Balkan Peninsula** to the south.

Eastern Europe's geography contributed to its diversity, because many ethnic groups migrated through the region.

- Western Slavs settled in the present-day Czech Republic, Poland, and the Slovak Republic.
- Southern Slavs and other groups settled in the Balkans.

Waves of Vikings, Germanic peoples, Asian Huns, Avars, Bulgars, Khazars, and Magyars came at times as well.

Eastern Europe was influenced by both Christians and Muslims.

Byzantine missionaries spread Eastern Orthodox Christianity in the Balkans.

German knights brought Roman Catholic Christianity to Poland.

Ottoman invaders later brought Islam to the Balkans.

Jews left Western Europe for Eastern Europe.

Thriving Jewish communities existed in Muslim Spain and other countries.

But they were blamed for hard times and natural disasters such as the Black Death.

Jews were also attacked during the Crusades.

Jewish people were expelled from many lands.

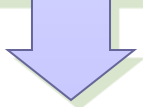


Migration and Expulsions, 500–1650

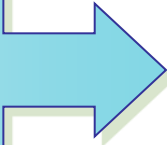
Beginning in 1264, Polish kings offered tolerance to the Jews and many settled there.

Jewish merchants and scholars helped Poland grow.

During the Middle Ages many kingdoms and small states existed in Eastern Europe.



Some were absorbed by empires, some merged or formed alliances.



Others were tied together by royal marriages.

Poland and Lithuania forged a large and powerful state stretching from the Baltic Sea to the Black Sea.



In 1383, Polish Queen Jadwiga married Duke Wladyslaw Jagiello of Lithuania.



In Poland and Lithuania, power shifted from the monarch to a **diet, an elected body of nobles.**

- In the diet a single noble could block passage of a law, making it difficult to take decisive action; this led to a decline.
- A high point of the state was in 1687, when Polish King Sobieski broke the Ottoman siege of Vienna.
- In the eighteenth century Poland fell to ambitious neighbors.

The Magyars came from the Asian steppes and settled in what is now Hungary.

- During the Middle Ages they ruled present-day Hungary, Slovakia, Croatia, and part of Romania.
- Like the Slavs in Poland, the Magyars adopted Roman Catholicism.

The Hungarian king was forced to sign the Golden Bull of 1222.



- Like King John in England, the Hungarian king was forced to recognize the rights of the nobles.
- The Golden Bull also strictly limited the king's power.

The Ottoman Turks ended Hungarian rule in 1526.

The Serbs set up a kingdom in the Balkans in the 1100s.

- The peak of Serb power came between 1308 and 1355 in the reign of Stefan Dusan, who added Albania and Macedonia.
- Most Serbs practiced Eastern Orthodox Christianity.

The Serbs fell to the Ottoman Turks in 1389.