**“Islamic Gunpowder Empires”**

**Ch. 17.1-2**

1. **Ottoman Empire** (1300-1918)
   1. Sunni Muslim Turks from central Asia migrated into Asia minor (modern day Turkey)
   2. **Mehmet II**, using cannons, took the Constantinople in 1453, renamed **Istanbul**
   3. Expansion: eastern Europe, Middle East, North Africa
      1. Gunpowder technology, strategy, and organization made it most powerful empire of the time
      2. Controlled trade along Mediterranean Sea in 1500s and 1600s
      3. Religious freedom for Christians and Jews
      4. **Janissaries**- enslaved Christian boys taken to be enslaved and made elite soldiers loyal to the sultan
   4. **Suleiman the Magnificent** (ruled 1520-1566)
      1. Military expanded all the way to Vienna, Austria
      2. Reformed taxes and bureaucracy
      3. Improved the court system and legal code; reduced corruption with new laws
   5. Decline:
      1. too large to manage and had widespread corruption
      2. Slow to adapt to Western manufacturing and technology (even banned the printing press)
      3. Slowly lost territory but lasted until WWI
2. **Safavid Empire** (1500-1722)
   1. Located: Persia (modern day Iran), Shi’a Muslim
   2. Persecuted the Sunni, came into conflict with the Ottomans and other Muslims
   3. Traded silk, carpets, and ceramics along the Silk Road to the West
   4. Decline: British and Dutch controlled Indian Ocean trade, raids from tribes along borders
3. **Mughal Empire** (1526-1750)
   1. Islamic conquers (using gunpowder) took India
   2. Achievements
      1. Significant population growth with heavy agriculture
      2. **Taj Mahal**- built by Shah Jahan as tomb in memory of his wife
   3. Religion
      1. Muslims ran the gov’t but Hindus were not forced to convert
      2. **Sikhism**- religion that blended elements of both Islam and Hinduism
   4. Decline
      1. Later rulers persecuted Hindus and Sikhs leading to rebellion
      2. European merchants (especially the British) gained more influence in India through local leaders