**Definitions**

* Rule of law
  + Government by law. The rule of law implies that government authority may only be exercised in accordance with written laws, which were adopted through an established procedure.
* Autocrat
  + Ruler who has complete authority

**The Division of the Roman Empire:**

* In 284 AD [Diocletian](http://www.roman-emperors.org/dioclet.htm) became Roman emperor. He decided that the huge Roman empire could only be ruled effectively by splitting it into two parts.

**Constantine:**

* In 330 Diocletian’s successor, [Constantine](http://www.roman-emperors.org/conniei.htm), rebuilt the old Greek port of Byzantium, at the entrance to the Black Sea. He renamed it [Constantinople](http://www2.arch.uiuc.edu/research/rgouster/) and made the city the capital of the Eastern Roman Empire.

**The Fall of the Western Roman Empire:**

* By 395 AD, the Roman Empire was formally divided into two empires: East and West. With the invasion of Germanic forces from the north, the Western Roman Empire was conquered and further divided. This left the eastern part of the Roman empire to carry on the Greco-Roman tradition.

**Byzantine Empire:**

* At first, this Empire controlled only a small area around the eastern Mediterranean, but during the reign of [Justinian](http://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/just/hd_just.htm) (527-565), it started to recover much of the territory of the old Roman empire.

**The New Rome:**

* The [Byzantine Empire](http://www.crystalinks.com/byzantine.html) was wealthy and produced: gold, silk, grain, olives and wine. It traded these for spices, ivory and precious stones from countries as far away as China and India along the Silk Road trade routes.

**Justiniaan and Theodora:**

* Justinian ruled as an autocrat with the help of [Theodora](http://www.edwardsly.com/theodor.htm). Created a huge Christian empire
* Empire reached its greatest size
* [Created Justinian’s Code](http://www.duhaime.org/Law_museum/hist.aspx) – which organized all the laws of ancient Rome.

**Justinian’s Code of Laws:**

* Laws were fairer to women. They could own property and raise their own children after their husbands died.
* Children allowed to choose their own marriage partners.

**Justinian’s Code of Laws: (Continued)**

* Slavery was legal and slaves must obey their masters.
* Punishments were detailed and fit the crime
* His work inspired the modern concept and, indeed, the very spelling of "justice".

**The End of the Byzantine Empire:**

* The [Byzantine Empire](http://www.edunetconnect.com/cat/byzantium/html/frameset.htm) drew to a close in 1453 when forces from the [Muslim Ottoman Empire](http://www.wsu.edu:8080/~dee/OTTOMAN/OTTOMAN1.HTM) surrounded and conquered Constantinople.
* The ancient Christian city was renamed Istanbul and became the capital of the Ottoman Empire.

**Kievan Rus:**

* Begun by invasion of Viking tribes – also known as Slavs – from north of the Baltic.
* Both trade partner and sometime enemy of the Byzantine Empire.
* From Prentice Hall World History: Connections to Today page 240:
* During Roman times, the Slavs expanded into southern Russia. Like the Germanic peoples who pushed into western Europe, the Slavs had a simple political organization divided into clans. They lived in small villages, farmed, and traded along the rivers that ran between the Baltic and the Black seas.
* In the 700s and 800s, the [Vikings](http://www.mnh.si.edu/vikings/start.html) steered their long ships out of Scandinavia. These expert sailors were as much at home on Russian rivers as on the stormy Atlantic. The Vikings, called Varangians by later Russians, worked their way south along the rivers, trading with and collecting tribute from the Slavs. They also conducted a thriving trade with Constantinople.
* Located at the heart of this vital trade network was the city of Kiev. In time, it would become the center of the first Russian state.

**Rulers of the Kievan Rus Vladimir I (980)‏:**

* [(980) Vladimir I](http://www.bartleby.com/65/vl/Vladim1.html) – Extremely war like ruler of Kiev. Invited missionaries from Judaism, Islam and Christianity to offer reasons for conversion.
* Married the Byzantine emperor’s sister.
* Brought Christianity and Greco-Roman civilization to Russia.

**Rulers of the Kievan Rus Yaroslav I (1010 – 1054)‏:**

* [(1010 – 1054) Yaroslav I](http://www.personal.psu.edu/users/a/a/aar137/Yaroslav%20the%20Wise.htm) – Created a Russian law code based on Justinian’s Code.
* Instituted a Golden Age of Kievan Russia. Built churches and a new capital city.
* Allied Russia with the rest  
   of Europe by marrying his children to European rulers.

**Rulers of the Kievan Rus Ivan the Great (1462-1505):**

* [(1462-1505) Ivan III](http://www.mnsu.edu/emuseum/history/russia/ivanthegreat.html) or Ivan the Great – absolute ruler. Took the title of czar
* Czar – Absolute ruler of Russia: from Roman word – Caesar
* Defeated the Mongols, who had gained control of Russia
* Extended Russian territory

**‏**

**Ivan the Terrible:**

* [(1530-1584) Ivan the Terrible](http://www.cnit.uniyar.ac.ru/yaros/wwe00054.htm) -Centralized royal power
* Introduced new laws that tied Russian serfs to the land
* Used agents of terror to consolidate his power
* Had thousands of people killed because he suspected a plot.

**Mongol Empire:**

* [Genghiz Khan](http://www.lacma.org/khan/index_flash.htm) – Conquered China in early 1200s
* [Kublai Khan](http://www.eyewitnesstohistory.com/khan.htm) – Extended Mongol control over most of Asia, Russia and eastern Europe in Hungary. Traded extensively with the West. Entertained Marco Polo.
* [Pax Mongolia](http://www.silk-road.com/artl/paxmongolica.shtml) – largest empire in the world.

**Islam (review/preview)‏:**

* In the 600s, a new religion began in Arabia, [Islam](http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/islam/intro.shtml) – meaning “submission the will of Allah.” Within 100 years more than half the total population of Europe and Asia was Muslim. After the death of [Muhammad](http://cwis.usc.edu/dept/MSA/fundamentals/prophet/lifeofprophet.html), the founder of Islam in 632, Muslim armies and merchants spread the Islamic religion eastward to India and westward across northern Africa into Spain.

**Contributions of the Muslim World:**

* Because of the arid nature of much of the Muslim world, Arab engineers were skilled in methods of raising water from the ground and piping it into their homes.
* Arab medicine and pharmacology were very advanced. Ibn Sina (Avicinna) wrote the definitive medical encyclopedia of the time.
* In 1154, Arab scientist Al Idrisi drew this early map of the world, showing the basic outlines of Asia, northern Africa and Europe. Can you locate the Nile River?
* [Muslim contributions](http://muslim-canada.org/ch13hamid.html) to art and science were numerous.

**Muslim Leaders and Empires:**

* [Al-Mansur (762)](http://www.fact-index.com/a/al/al_mansur.html) – Leader of the Islamic world. Built a new capital city at Baghdad in what is now Iraq. He made it a center of learning and culture.
* [Muhammad II (1453)](http://www.bartleby.com/65/mu/Muhammd2-Ot.html) – Captured the Christian city of Constantinople for the Ottoman Empire and Islam.
* [Suleiman (1520-1566)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Suleiman_I) – Sultan of the Ottoman Empire in its Golden Age.
* [The Ottoman Empire](http://www.osmanli700.gen.tr/english/engindex.html) was the largest, most powerful empire in both Europe and the Middle East for centuries.
* [Safavid Empire (1453-1629)](http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/islam/history/safavid/index.shtml) – Called Iran (Persia) today.