



OTTOMAN TRAVEL

Turkey, and the Balkans
(Serbia, Bosnia, Croatia,
Montenegro, Albania, Greece)

Brief history and culture of Turkey and Balkan
areas under the former Ottoman Empire

Journal Question

- ▶ If you could go anywhere in the world for vacation or to live, where would it be? Why would you want to go there? What is it like there – food, climate, activities? What kind of souvenirs would you get there? How do you know what it is like there?

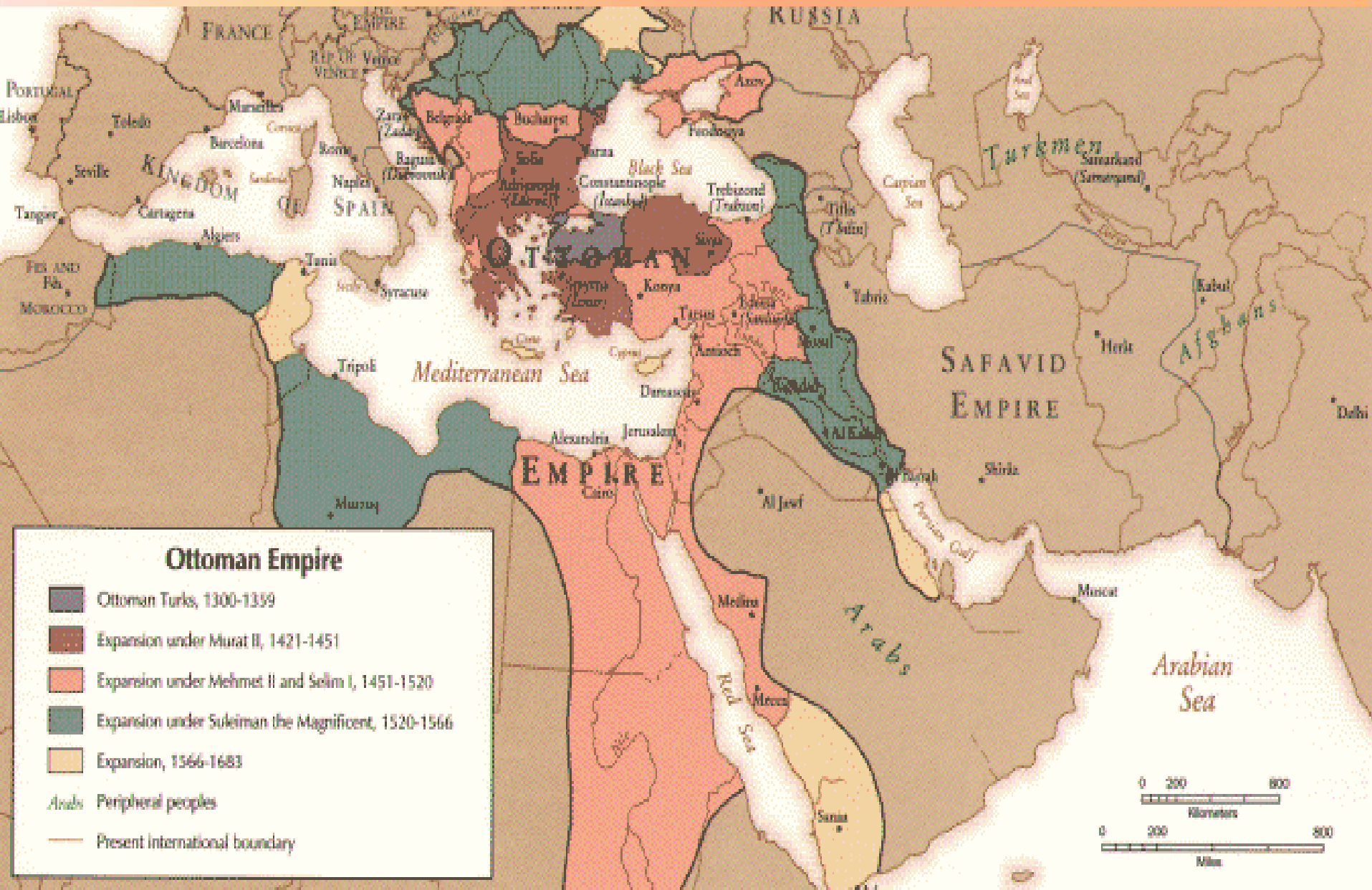


The Goal...

- ▶ Learn about life in the Ottoman Empire, so you know why they were such an important culture & can convince someone to move there!!



The Empire at it's zenith

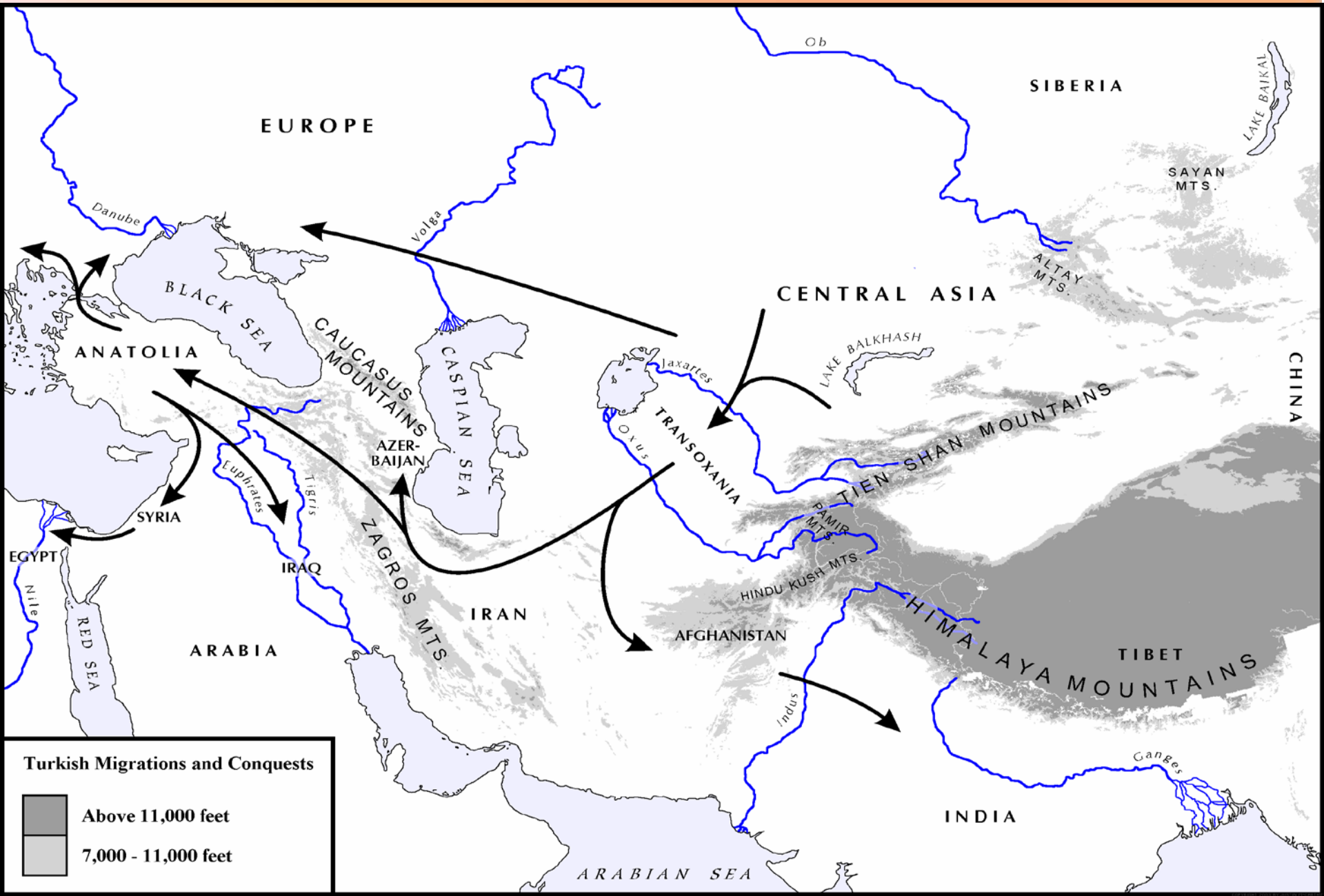


Nomadic Roots

- ▶ Ottoman empire began in modern day Turkey
- ▶ People are descendants of pastoral nomadic tribes from Central Asia
- ▶ called Turkomans / “Turks” by their enemies
- ▶ Raiding of weaker neighbors (esp. the Byzantines) was common
- ▶ Tribal society
 - loyalty, bravery family and hospitality important



Nomadic Movement



The Middle East: an ideal birth place for Islam?

- ▶ Nomadic society values (hospitality, family, courage, and loyalty) must defend herds and family
- ▶ Ghazi warrior and raiding fits well with the idea of being a warrior for the faith (still get to keep fighting)



Osman (1280–1324)

- ▶ Founder of the Ottoman Empire
- ▶ Made Bursa his capital
- ▶ Osman's dream
 - Tree, symbolizing the empire, w. its roots spread throughout 3 continents and its branches covering the sky
- ▶ Expanded empire to encompass the Mediterranean coast in Asia Minor



Osman and his dream...

Empire will touch 3 continents



**The Ottoman Empire
Under Suleiman I
the Magnificent,
1580**

200 Miles

Empire under Osman (pink)



Growth and Expansion



Murad I (1359–1389)

Campaigned & conquered in the Balkans

- ▶ Also conquered land in Asia Minor
- ▶ Serbians agreed to pay tribute and send troops to fight for the Empire in 1371
- ▶ Died at the Battle of Kosovo (1389)
 - “rivers of blood...great number of severed heads and unraveled turbans had made the battlefield into a colorful field of tulips
 - Solidified Ottoman rule of Serbia and would lead to the absorption of Herzegovina, and much of Bosnia





Murad & Battle of Kosovo



Ottoman Rule in Balkans

- ▶ New rule was better than the oppressive European feudal system so Ottomans were seen as deliverers



Pre-Conquest Empire



Mehmet II (1451–1481)

The Conquerer

- ▶ Conquered Constantinople (renamed Istanbul)
- ▶ Gave complete control of the Straits and the Black Sea
- ▶ Was symbolically important to capture the imperial capital of Byzantine empire
- ▶ Istanbul became the new capital for Sunni Islam and remained the center of the Greek Orthodox church



Mehmet II

- ▶ Entering Constantinople via the Gate of Theodosius



Gate of Theodosius today



Hagia Sophia

- ▶ “Saint Sophia”
- ▶ Orthodox church is converted into a mosque
- ▶ Becomes symbolic of how the Ottomans treat those of different faith.



Hagia Sophia today

