

# Ranking the Empires Booklet

## Assignment

Your assignment is to create a booklet ranking the characteristics of the major Asian empires from 1450-1750. The empires you will rank for this assignment include Russia, Ottoman, Mughal, and Ming. In this assignment, you will determine the criteria for how you rank each category and apply the criteria to each empire to determine the best empires in each category.

## Objectives

By completing the project, students will:

- understand the basic political and social structure of Asian empires from 1450-1750
- understand the major developments and exchanges in the arts and religion
- analyze the development of empire (i.e., general empire building in Asia)

## Procedures

1. Choose five categories you want use to rank the Asian empires. Your booklet must include the following topics: political systems, interaction with the West, and social systems. The other topics are your choice but they must be pertinent to the fulfilling of the objectives.
2. Read the appropriate sections from chapters 18, 20, and 22 in your textbook. Take notes for each of your list topics. You can still use the guided reading to direct your reading.
3. Determine the criteria for ranking each list. For example if my list was “Most Important Founder” my criteria might be:  

To be the most important founder, the person must be a courageous leader, conquer significant territory, and create policies that extended beyond his reign.
4. When finished gathering the information rank the empires 1-4 according to your criteria.
5. Type a ranking sheet for each category. Each ranking sheet should include the following:
  - title of the category
  - an explanation of the criteria used to rank the empires
  - the empires ranked in order with an explanation of why they received that ranking
  - visuals to support your rankings

Sample ranking:

- 1) Zhu Yuanzhang (a.k.a. Hongwu), founder of Ming dynasty from peasant origin; parents and two brothers died in 1344 of plague; courage in combat and natural leadership made him a powerful military commander; drove Mongols out of China; re-established Confucian political system including bureaucracy, examination system, ...

## Grading

The project will count as one major grade. The project will be graded according to the following criteria: fulfilling of the requirements/objectives, explanation of criteria, evidence to support rankings, visual support, and accuracy of information. Project is due Monday, March 21.