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| Black Death | a form of bubonic plague that spread over Europe in the 14th century and killed an estimated quarter of the population. |
| Bushido | (in feudal Japan) the code of the samurai, stressing unquestioning loyalty and obedience and valuing honor above life. |
| Caliphate | the rank, jurisdiction, or government of a caliph. |
| Chinampa | small, stationary, artificial island built on a freshwater lake for agricultural purposes. |
| Chivalry | the sum of the ideal qualifications of a knight, including courtesy, generosity, valor, and dexterity in arms. |
| Christendom | Christians collectively |
| Civil service exam system/examination system | An exam to work for the government |
| Crusades/ Crusading movement | any of the military expeditions undertaken by the Christians of Europe in the 11th, 12th, and 13th centuries for the recovery of the Holy Land from the Muslims. |
| Dar al-Islam | areas where Muslims are in the majority |
| Diffusion of scientific and technological traditions | printing and gunpowder technologies, spread  of cotton, sugar, and citrus |
| Entrepót | a warehouse where goods are received for distribution, transshipment, or repackaging |
| Feudalism/ decentralized government | the feudal system, or its principles and practices. |
| Fiefs | a fee or feud held of a feudal lord; a tenure of land subject to feudal obligations. |
| Gentry | wellborn and well-bred people.  (in England) the class below the nobility.  an upper or ruling class; aristocracy. |
| Grand Canal in China | Longest canal or artificial river in the world. |
| Great Warming Period (800-1300) | regional North Atlantic climate was warmer during medieval times than during the cooler "Little Ice Age" of the 15th - 19th centuries. |
| Griots | a member of a hereditary caste among the peoples of western Africa whose function is to keep an oral history of the village and to entertain with stories, poems, songs, dances, etc. |
| Guilds | any of various medieval associations, as of merchants or artisans, organized to maintain standards and to protect the interests of its members, and that sometimes constituted a local governing body. |
| Hajj | the pilgrimage to Mecca, which every adult Muslim is supposed to make at least once in his or her lifetime: the fifth of the Pillars of Islam. |
| Hanseatic League | a medieval league of towns of northern Germany and adjacent countries for the promotion and protection of commerce. |
| Khan/ Khanates | the supreme ruler of the Tatar tribes, as well as emperor of China, during the Middle Ages: a descendant of Genghis Khan. |
| Kow tow | Kneeling or bowing to show respect |
| Little Ice Age | The period from about 1400 to 1900, characterized by expansion of mountain glaciers and cooling of global temperatures, especially in the Alps, Scandinavia, Iceland, and Alaska. |
| Manorialism | the manorial organization, or its principles and practices in the Middle Ages. |
| Mit’a | mandatory public service in the society of the Inca Empire. |
| Neoconfucianism | of or pertaining to an eclectic philosophical movement of the 12th to the 16th centuries, incorporating Taoist and Buddhist elements with an adaptation of Confucianism. |
| Zamindars | a landlord required to pay a land tax to the government. |
| Papacy | the office, dignity, or jurisdiction of the pope. |
| Quipu | a device consisting of a cord with knotted strings of various colors attached, used by the ancient Peruvians for recording events, keeping accounts, etc. |
| Samurai/Salaried samurai | 1. a member of the hereditary warrior class in feudal Japan.  2. a retainer of a daimyo. |
| Serfs/Serfdom | a person in a condition of servitude, required to render services to a lord, commonly attached to the lord's land and transferred with it from one owner to another. |
| Sharia | law, seen as deriving from the Koran, hadith, ijmaʿ, and qiyas. |
| Shia/Shiism | a member of one of the two great religious divisions of Islam that regards Ali, the son-in-law of Muhammad, as the legitimate successor of Muhammad, and disregards the three caliphs who succeeded him. |
| Southernization | Westernization refers to certain developments that first occurred in Western  Europe. |
| Sufi | a member of an ascetic, mystical Muslim sect. |
| Sultan | the sovereign of an Islamic country. |
| Sunni | Also called Sunnite. a member of one of the two great religious divisions of Islam, regarding the first four caliphs as legitimate successors of Muhammad and stressing the importance of Sunna as a basis for law. Compare Shiʿite. |
| Swahili | a member of a Bantu people of Zanzibar and the neighboring coast of Africa. |
| Tax farming | Gov. using farmers to pick up the taxes |
| Terraces | a raised level with a vertical or sloping front or sides faced with masonry, turf, or the like, especially one of a series of levels rising one above another. |
| Synthesized | to form (a material or abstract entity) by combining parts or elements (opposed to analyze ): to synthesize a statement. |
| Tribute collection/Tributary systems | a gift, testimonial, compliment, or the like, given as due or in acknowledgment of gratitude or esteem. |
| Daimyo | one of the great feudal lords who were vassals of the shogun. |
| Ulama | the doctors of Muslim religion and law. |