

Byzantium and Rise of Islam

Terms

- Huns
- Visigoths
- Alaric
- Ostrogoths
- Vandals
- Islam
- Muhammed
- Qur'an
- Five Pillars of Islam
- *Jihad*
- Iconoclasm /
Iconoclasts
- Emperor Leo III
- Byzantine art and
architecture

Barbaric Invasions

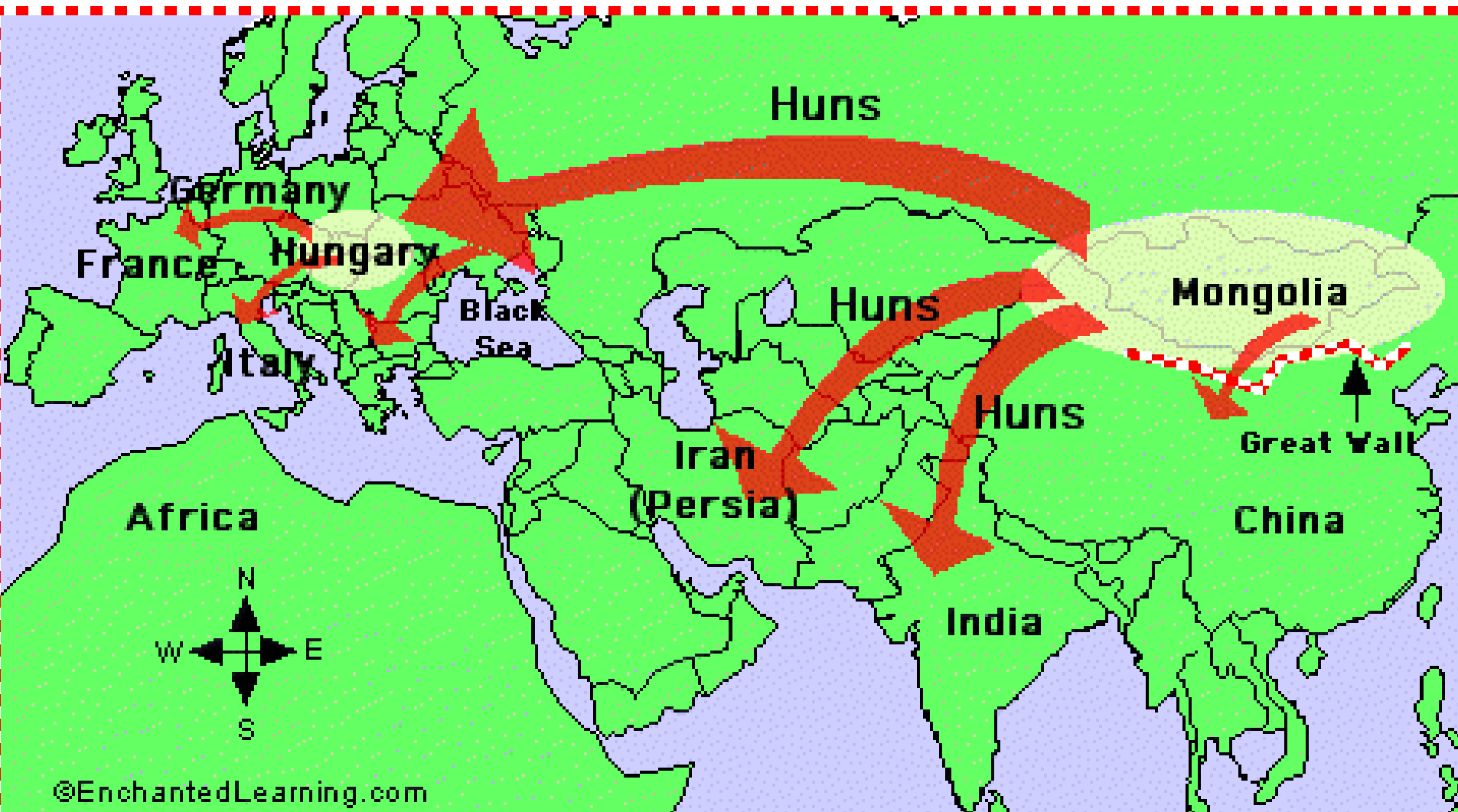


The Huns

- 200s start invasions
- 260s – Great Wall of China
- 200s/300s – Invasions westward
- Mid-late 300s – Invasions into Europe
- 400s – Invasion of Roman land, Attila the Hun
- 450s – defeated in Europe, empire dissolves

- Known for use of stirrups and fighting and archery on horseback

The Huns



The Visigoths and Vandals

- The Visigoths
 - 376 – Request admittance into Empire
 - 386 – Visigoths revolt
 - 394 – elect a king – Alaric
 - 410 – Sack and burn Rome, Alaric dies
 - 410s – Invade Spain
 - 418 – Rome acknowledge the Visigoth Kingdom as a federation
- The Vandals
 - 400s – Push through Gaul into Spain
 - 439 – Sack and settle in Carthage, also taking Corsica and Sardinia

The Germanic Invasions, AD 378-439

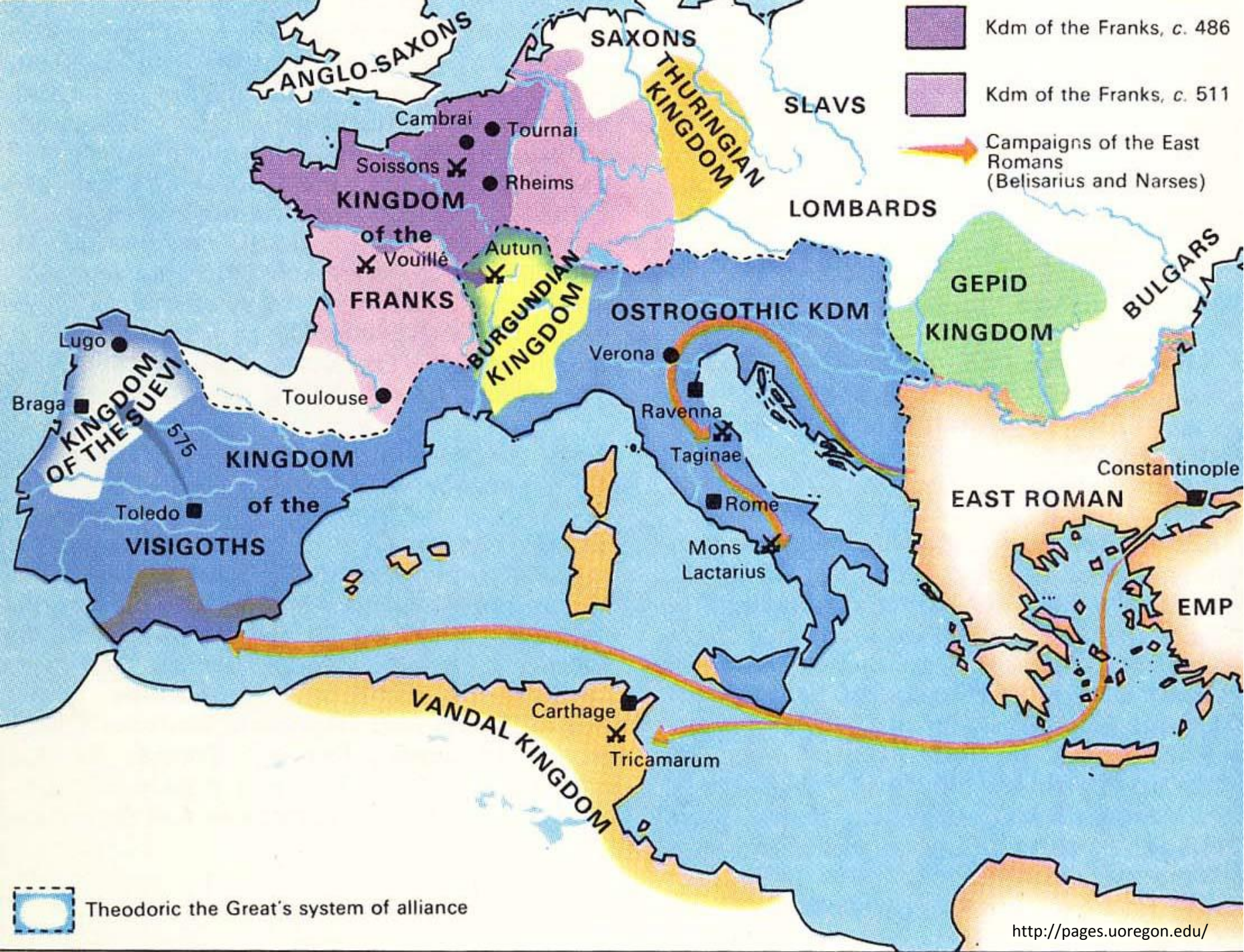


This map shows the breakdown of the Roman frontier in the late fourth and early fifth centuries CE. Great cities including Augusta Treverorum (modern Trier) and Rome itself were sacked by invading barbarian forces. Historians debate the reasons for what happened, but one of them was the rise of the Huns in Central Asia. As they



The Ostrogoths

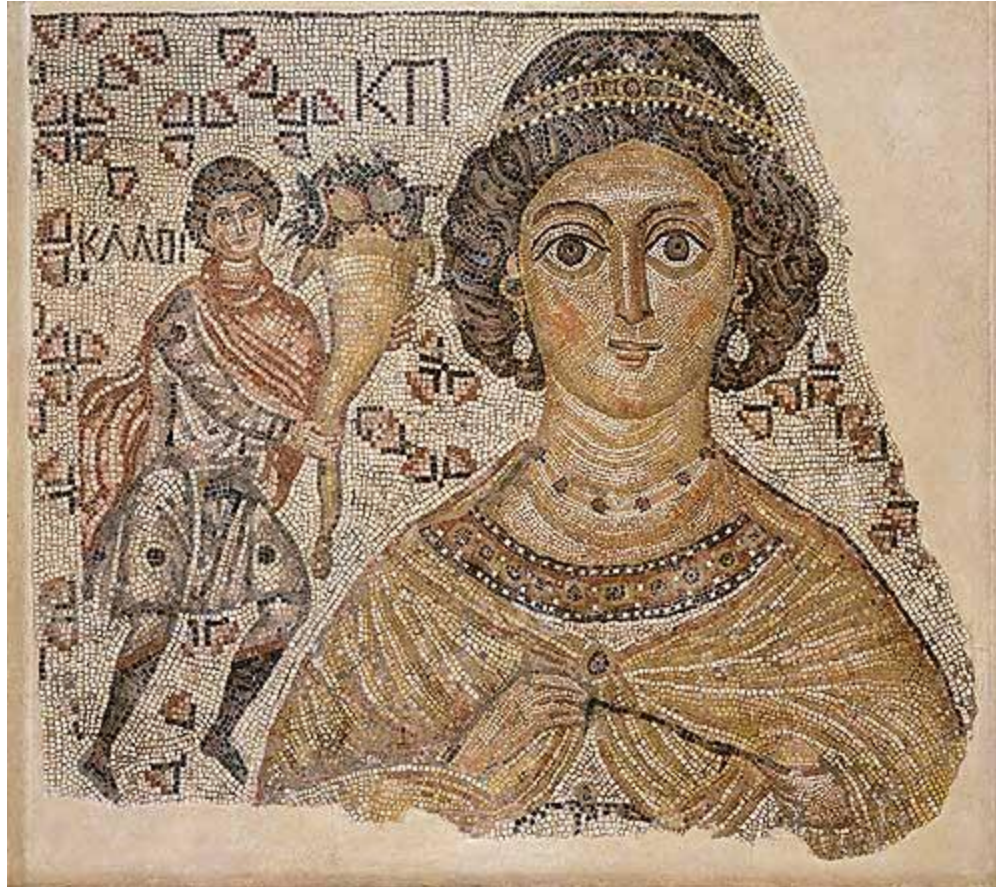
- Cousins of the Visigoths – forced from the Balkans by the Huns in the 400s
- 489 – Take Ravenna – the seat of the Western Empire and Italy
- Create the Ostrogothic Kingdom



Eastern Empire

- 395 – Theodosius dies – Empire splits again
 - Honorius in West, Arcadius in the East
- Development of the East
- Culture and “Romaness”
- Art and architecture
- Literature
- Justinian and Theodora (r. 527-565)

Byzantine Art



Floor Mosaic with a personification of Ktisis,
c. 500-550







Basilica di San Vitale







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Hagia Sophia



Rise of Islam

- Arabian Peninsula
 - Nomads and Bedouins
 - Cities and trade
 - Polygamy
- Muhammed born 570, Mecca



Rise of Islam contd.

- Traditional origin of the Arabian people
 - Hajar – handmaid of Sarah wife of Abraham in Judeo-Christian tradition
- Muhammed – 570
 - Trader and merchant
- 610
- Qur'an – Holy Book of Islam
- Stresses individual belief, study and practice of worship in Allah

Rise of Islam contd.

- Began ministry in Mecca
- 622 – travel to Medina
 - First year of the Islamic calendar
- 624 – raids against Mecca – Battle of Badr
 - *Jihad*
- 632 – Muhammed passes away

Five Pillars of Islam

- Prayer 5 times a day
- Profession of Faith – There is no god but Allah and Muhammed is his prophet
- Fasting during the holy month of Ramadan
- Alms-giving
- Pilgrimage – retracing the Hajj

Dome of the Rock Mosque



Calligraphy



Bowl emulating Chinese stoneware, 9th century,
Iraq metmuseum.org

Byzantine Empire c. 840



New Byzantine life

- Shifts in political and social hierarchy
 - Renewed legislation emphasizing patriarchal infrastructure of the family and glorifying a domestic lifestyle
- More participation in military
 - Greek Fire
- New Elite – Bishops and Clergy
 - Role of monasticism

Iconoclasm/Iconoclasts

- Emperor Leo III (717-741)– iconoclast
 - Overthrow of Theodosius – 717
 - 726-787 ban on icons – period called Iconoclasm
 - Another brief ban between 815 and 843
 - Monasteries and other institutions attacks
 - Buildings raided and icons destroyed
 - Monks that resisted ordered to disperse and marry

