

Mongol War Council

Li Anquan: Xia Emperor, now vassal of Mongols. Will look for opportunities to break away and reinstate himself as an independent state. He does, however, recognize the power the Mongols wield and most of his advisors and generals realize that resisting the horde would be fairly futile. He has authorized the Xia invasion of Jin China and has the support of the Mongols so for now he is focused on using the Mongol backing he has to advance his agenda in the fight for dominance of China.

Ögedei: the third son of Genghis Khan. He is the leader of Mongol hordes in Central and western parts of Asia. He is a skilled tactician and leader in battles and has aided in several conquests that added to Genghis Khan's territories.

Wei-ming Ling-kung: the General of Xia Armies. He is skilled with artillery and siege weapons and is a valuable leader because none of the Mongols were familiar with such weaponry.

Subutai: the best Mongol General in Genghis Khan's army. He has emerged victorious from every single battle and is known for his innovative warfare and maneuvers. He is skilled at intelligence gathering and is known for recruiting people with unique talents despite their origin lying in enemy territories.

Jebe: a well-known general who was recruited by Genghis Khan despite being an enemy soldier. Because of this pardon, he is indebted to Genghis Khan and is therefore one of the most loyal generals in the army. He is known for employing unique and unorthodox tactics on the field and finding ways to victory despite the odds.

Tolui: the fourth son of Genghis Khan born to Börte. He is known for his amazing military skills and political competency. He also has most powerful army in central Mongolia. He is an advocate for democratic way of government as opposed to royal decree.

Jochi: the eldest son of Genghis Khan born to wife Börte. He is an accomplished military leader and aids his father in many of his conquests. Due to his questioned paternity he does not hold his father's or the public's favor. Although many of the men in his charge do question his legitimacy, his skill on the field ensures that they all stay loyal.

Chagtai: the second son of Genghis Khan. He is in charge of the execution of the written code of Genghis Khan. Although not in line to inherit anything, Chagtai has his eyes set on several Central Asian territories. Despite being a rash decision maker and temperamental man, he is a skilled diplomat and able to keep peace amongst opposing groups in the empire.

Muqali: a former slave and now loyal companion and second in command to Genghis Khan. He is an excellent tactician and diplomat. He is known for making the most out of limited resources and using compromise instead of threats when faced with enemies.

Börte Khatun: Genghis Khan's wife and head of the first Court. It is said that her kidnapping is what started Genghis Khan on his campaign to take over the world. She is known for being resourceful and level headed in making big decisions and therefore is Genghis Khan's chief advisor.

Yelü Chucai: a Confucian Scholar and administrative advisor to Genghis Khan. He is anti-violence and encourages sparing people to use to build the empire. He is pushing for a system of taxation that could be implemented across the empire to help with resources and avoid needless slaughter. Close friends with Shikhikhutag.

Bo'orchu: a loyal companion of Genghis Khan. They became friends when as young boys they stole a bunch of horses. He leads a small group of troops dedicated to defending Genghis in battle and at all other times, essentially serving as a bodyguard and companion. He is good friends with Jelme and very close with Ogedei.

Belgutei: the half-brother and loyal advisor to Genghis Khan. He is one of his original companions, trusted with many matters of the state. He is known to be a wise and shrewd diplomat, frequently negotiated on behalf of the Khan. He is also a skilled wrestler.

Shikhikhutag: the son of a Tartar noble and adopted brother of Genghis Khan. He is very skilled in legal matters and so was involved with creating the standardized rule of law, Yassa, for the empire. He was appointed as a judge and later high judge of the empire and kept records of legislations and criminal proceedings. Shikhikhutag is also close friends with Yelü Chucai. Although not a skilled military leader, he is capable and does lead troops when necessary.

Barčuq Art iduq-qut: the leader of the Kingdom of Qocho, a vassal state of the Mongols that had a fair amount of autonomy and rules over the central Asian region between China and Persia. He and his fellow advisors submitted peacefully to Mongol rule and support them unconditionally as bureaucrats throughout their empire, making up for their lack of literacy.

Temüge: the youngest brother of Genghis Khan. He is not warlike but a very skilled politician and administrator. He is also very well educated and curious about various Chinese cultures. Due to his intellectual tendencies unlike most of the Mongols, he was vocal about his disagreements with how Genghis Khan sometimes ruled the empire.

Kokochu: the teb tengri (high shaman) of the Mongol peoples. Kokochu and many other shamans endorsed Genghis and proclaimed him to rule the world. They are the spiritual leaders of the Mongol people and can heavily influence them and other nomadic tribal peoples. Kokochu is however trying to expand his influence over certain parts of the Mongol empire despite Genghis Khan's disapproval.

Shi Tianze: a Han Chinese Jin administrator. Tianze was a very young man when he defected to the Mongol side. He is one of several defectors and therefore will be crucial in building up the Mongol state in their newly conquered territories. Tianze is also an intellectual and fluent in several dialects of Chinese, Korean, Japanese, and other languages.

Guo Kan: although he joined the Mongols later on, for the purpose of this crisis, Kan is representative of the Chinese military engineers that were captured and utilized by the Mongols to penetrate Chinese cities. Mongols were not used to siege warfare and had no experience so they used peculiar tactics and later recruited Chinese workers and engineers to construct siege weaponry. Kan was placed in command of the siege divisions after displaying superb tactics and ability in leading such efforts.

Qasar: one of Genghis Khan's full brothers. He is skilled with a bow since childhood and exhibiting great bravery in battle. He was one of Genghis' brothers and led campaigns against the Koreans and Manchurian tribes. Due to his early life led in exile, he has learnt to survive in dire circumstances.

East Asian Empires

East Asian Rulers

Kuchlug: Kuchlug is the leader of the Naiman tribes. He was just recently defeated by Genghis and forced to take refuge with the Kara Qhitan Khanate. Shortly thereafter, however, he initiated a coup and was able to take over the empire. The Mongols are riding to end both his and the Khitani peoples and he must face them once again

Hōjō Tokimasa: Hōjō Tokimasa is the shikken of Japan. This meant he was the regent and the Hōjō clan effectively controlled Japan throughout the 13th century even though the Minamoto and imperial princes were technically the rulers of the shogunate. He has to maintain control over Japan while at the same time keep an eye on the affairs across the sea on the Mongols.

Choe U: Choe U is the Korean military general and effective dictator of Korea. His father is currently the dictator but is in the process of passing down power to his son, U. This has put a strain on his relationship with his brother who thinks he deserves it more. He is a skilled fighter and good leader, admired by the people who serve him in his forces. As potential successor, he has to protect his father's (and likely soon to be his) lands from the Mongol invaders who have slowly been taking over the lands in the West.

Jayavarman VII: Jayavarman VII is the Emperor of Khmer, (currently Cambodia). He is a devout Buddhist thanks to his former and current wives. He took on the throne significantly later in life but is still considered a great ruler. His success on the battlefield and ability to resolve internal disputes with care has made him a revered ruler.

Narapatisithu: Narapatisithu is the King of Pagan (Burma). He is known for being a peaceful ruler that has led to one of the most prosperous reigns to date. He helped set up a proper system of law and a national army that is still in its formative stages. Narapatisithu is also an advocate for reforming the Buddhist practices established in his Kingdom.

Jin China

Wanyan Yongji: Wanyan Yongji is the Emperor of the Jin dynasty. He is considered to be weak by his people due to the loss of a giant portion of the empire to the rival Song dynasty and now potentially the Mongols. He is known to be indecisive, and generally is disliked by the public and by people in his court. Lack of consensus and cooperation from his aides has made it very difficult for him to rule the empire.

Púxiān Wànnú: Púxiān Wànnú is a Jurchen warlord who served the Jin emperor as a mercenary. He has had several run ins with Genghis Khan and his army and has narrowly escaped every time.

Li Ying: Li Ying is the Jin general in charge of the Jin main armies in the western parts of the Jin dynasty. Although not a vocal supporter of Wanyan Yongji he has aided him in defending parts of the empire that were attacked by Genghis Khan's forces.

Duji Sizhong: Duji Sizhong is a Jin Chancellor. He led the Jin army and is responsible for holding the Great Wall and its fortifications. He had control of a large number of the Jin dynasty forces and is currently advocating for further fortification of the Great Wall. He is not a supporter of Wanyan Yongji.

Wanyan Chengyu: Wanyan Chengyu is a Jin commander leading defenses of cities south of the Great Wall. He is essentially working autonomously because he considers the Emperor to be incompetent. So far his efforts have kept most of the cities safe due to Duji Sizhong's forces at the wall.

Shimo Ming'an: Of Khitan descent, Shimo is a noble who frequently serves in administrative and diplomatic roles. He was responsible for leading negotiations with the Xi Xia and keeping an eye on the nomadic tribes to the north. Shimo knows of the Mongol threat and is keen to try to work out a solution that doesn't end the Manchu rule of northern China. He has informants throughout the Jin empire that let him know of the status of the war effort and conditions of various nobles throughout the realm. He also has sympathies for nomadic tribes like the Mongols, Manchu, and the Khitans so he may not remain a loyal Jin noble if they falter against invading forces.

Hushahu: Jin general in charge of defenses in the city of Zhongdu (modern Beijing), the capital of the Jin empire. Hushahu is ambitious yet cautious: he warned against invading the Song dynasty while also fighting off the Mongols (the emperor did not listen and did it anyways) and instead proposed invading Korea. He has begun to lose faith in the emperor's ability to rule yet continues to serve him, for now. Hushahu still despises the Mongols and has already refused to defect to them since he sees them as a raiding nomad group like many others from the region north of the Jin. He is a capable strategist and will lead the Jin forces if Li Ying is defeated.

Song China

Yu Jie: Governor of Sichuan, one of the four circuits of the Song Empire. Yu Jie is a key governor ruling the border region of Sichuan that lies in the far west of the Song territory. His province includes the stronghold of Chengdu, which the Mongols or any invading force will certainly try to take as it is the only defense against an invasion force driving into the Yangtze plains between the province and the eastern coast of China. He is a wise ruler and will listen to his generals and do whatever is necessary to protect his province against invaders.

Ran Jin: General of Western Song forces in Sichuan. Ran Jin and his brother Ran Pu are advisors to Yu Jie and lead his military forces in the province. They are fortifying the province from invaders that may seek to come from the north into the Yangtze valley. Very capable generals the two brothers remain loyal to their emperor and governor and will do whatever they can to protect their land.

Meng Gong: General of Eastern Song forces and responsible for the defenses of cities along the coast such as Nanjing and Hangzhou. Meng Gong is known as a brilliant strategist and has frequently thwarted Jin raiders before but must tread carefully. The emperors of China are known to be wary of successful generals who may seek to usurp their power and Meng Gong must work to save his emperor and people while ensuring that he does not come off as a threat to the throne. He is the supreme commander of all Song forces and will focus on defending the key cities of Hangzhou and Nanjing as well as Xiangyang and Chengdu too.

Cao Youwen: General charged with the defense of Xiangyang against the Jin and perhaps the growing Mongol threat. Xiangyang is the fortress that guards the northern Song border with the Jin and is crucial for preventing an invasion into the center of the Song empire. Cao Youwen has setup defenses in nearby mountain passes that are aimed at deterring invasion forces and protecting the fortress from any invasions from the north. He is a very capable general but is not in an exceedingly high ranking role.

Fragmented Western States

Russian Lords

Konstantin Vsevolodovich of Rostov: Konstantin is the prince of Novgorod. He is currently ruling over the towns of Rostov and Yaroslavl on his father's orders. He is hot tempered and impulsive in his decisions but a skilled fighter. Mstislav of Novgorod is his close ally and friend.

Mstislav Mstislavich of Novgorod: Mstislav is one of the princes of Kievan Rus'. He is one of the most well-liked and active princes of the region. He is known for his bravery in the Kipchak wars and taking of the Novgorodian throne. He is part of a coalition of princes of Rus' charged with defending their regions from outside forces.

Mstislav Romanovich III of Kiev: Mstislav is the uncle to the prince of Novgorod of the same name. He was put into power by his nephew and owes his position to him. Ruling Kiev and the surrounding regions (modern day Ukraine, Mstislav is a powerful ruler and is one of the key princes of Kievan Rus. He is indebted to his nephew and joins him in wars against the princes of Vladimir.

Khan Köten: Khan Köten is a Cuman-Kipchak khan and military commander of a relatively big army. He and his people frequently raid smaller towns of Kievan Rus that border the steppes that they inhabit. As of now, Köten and his men will continue to raid the Russian princes as long as no other threat emerges. Köten is an Orthodox Christian but does not have as hard a stance against Catholicism as the rest of his men.

Christian Lords

Henry II the Pious of Poland: Henry II is the second son of the Polish High Duke Henry I the Bearded but became the sole heir to his father's throne after his brothers' untimely death. As High Duke of Poland alongside his father, Henry II has been training in all affairs of court. He is a promising military strategist but hasn't had many opportunities to put his skills to use yet.

King Andrew II of Hungary: Andrew II, otherwise known as Andrew of Jerusalem, is the King of both Hungary and Croatia. His father, Béla III of Hungary, entrusted him with ruling the Principality of Halych but was wildly unpopular and soon expelled by the boyars. He gained control of Hungary and Croatia by forcing his elder brother to cede the territories. Under his rule, the peace and infrastructure of these two territories are slowly disintegrating.

King George IV of Georgia: George IV is the King and coregent of Georgia alongside his mother, Queen Regent Tamar. As a Georgian Orthodox Christian, George IV is vocal and swift in his actions against Muslims in the region. As part of his efforts to strengthen and expand the feudal state, he also has his eyes set on Jerusalem although he hasn't made any concrete steps towards invasion or a crusade.

Emperor Theodoros I Laskaris - Theodoros I Laskaris is the first Emperor of Nicaea (former Byzantium). He gained this position after escaping to Nicaea when Constantinople was being invaded by the Latins. He took on the official title after defeating two contenders. Despite his less than courageous escape he became a rallying point and beacon of hope during the invasions at Constantinople.

Tsar Boril of Bulgaria: Boril became the emperor of Bulgaria by marrying the widow of Kaloyan, the previous emperor, after he died unexpectedly. Due to this, several advisors and a majority of the public refused to acknowledge him as the rightful monarch. He is ruthless in his ruling and quick to silence anyone that speaks out against his decisions.

Doge Pietro Ziani: Pietro is the Doge of Venice and son to a very wealthy family. Due to his marriages he also has connections with other city states despite the constant turmoil in the Italian peninsula. His former profession as a sailor has made him comfortable with the sea and the knowledgeable on naval tactics. Despite having a relatively small domain compared to other rulers around Europe and Central Asia, he is an ambitious man.

Rulers of the Middle East

Caliph Al-Nasir li-dini'llah: Al-Nasir is the Abbasid Caliph residing in Baghdad. He has been attempting to and has succeeded in increasing the power of the caliphate. He has also been successful in conquering several other neighbouring territories and keeping them under his command. Despite being corrupt and power hungry, his people are educated and, for the most part, living in peace.

Sultan Al-Kamil: Al-Kamil is the Ayyubid Sultan of Egypt, Syria, and Transjordan. Although his brothers are in charge of Transjordan and Syria, he is still regarded as the superior of the three. Due to recent attacks the three brothers are well coordinated and on high alert, but their resources are spread a little thin.

Sultan Iltutmish: Iltutmish, a descendant of the Mamluk dynasty, is the third Delhi Sultan and the one to consolidate the empire in South Asia. He has made several successful campaigns to expand his territory further south into the Indian Subcontinent and west closer to the Muslim caliphates and empires. Coming from a dynasty of former slaves, Iltutmish is focused on maintaining a peaceful and egalitarian land for his people. He is incredibly charismatic and a good political leader.

Shah Muhammad II of Khwarezm: Muhammad II is the Shah of the Khwarezmian Empire. He is a descendant of a Turkic slave who became a viceroy. His empire was invaded immediately after he ascended to the throne leaving his forces weak and severely depleted. Yet he is an ambitious man and plans to employ an expansionist policy and conquer surrounding territories.

Sultan Kaykaus I: Kaykaus I is the Sultan of Rum, a former Seljuk State. Due to the conflict with his brothers, he has the support of neighbouring rulers. He is an ambitious man but can skillfully maneuver any compromise to work in his favour. Although indebted to his neighbours for helping him get to the throne, he has good relationships with them.

Emir al-Ashraf Musa: Emir al-Ashraf got control of Damascus after he and his nephew decided to divide the Ayyubid dynasty between themselves in exchange for al-Ashraf's aid in opposing al-Kamil of Egypt. He is a shrewd man who does not regard blood relations to be binding. His ambition has gotten him Damascus and a shaky alliance with al-Kamil and is currently eyeing the rest of his nephew's territories.