



# Safavid Empire

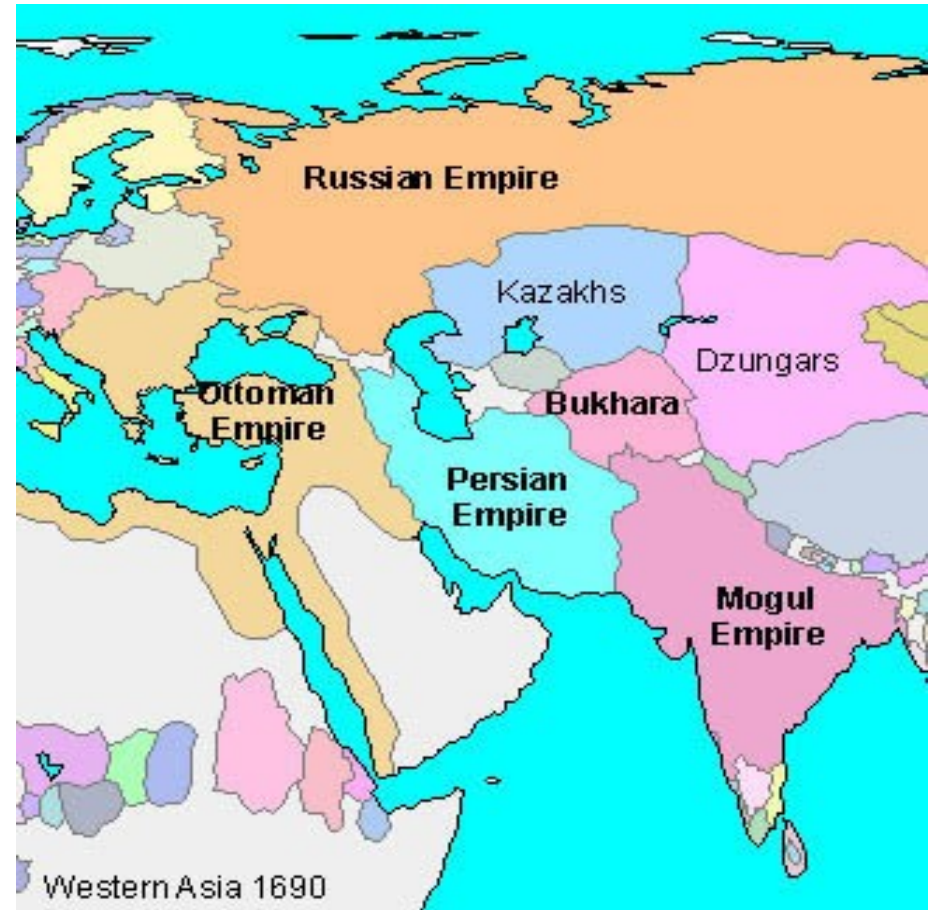
# The Safavid Empire



# Safavid Empire



- Nomadic origins
  - quizilbash
- Turkish descent
- United by Ismail
  - Kurdish, Iranian, and Greek
  - Seen as god incarnate to many of the quizilbash
- Shi'ite



# Iranian Differences

- Language
  - Persian language of choice for many
- Culture
  - Mosaics
  - Architecture
  - Writing

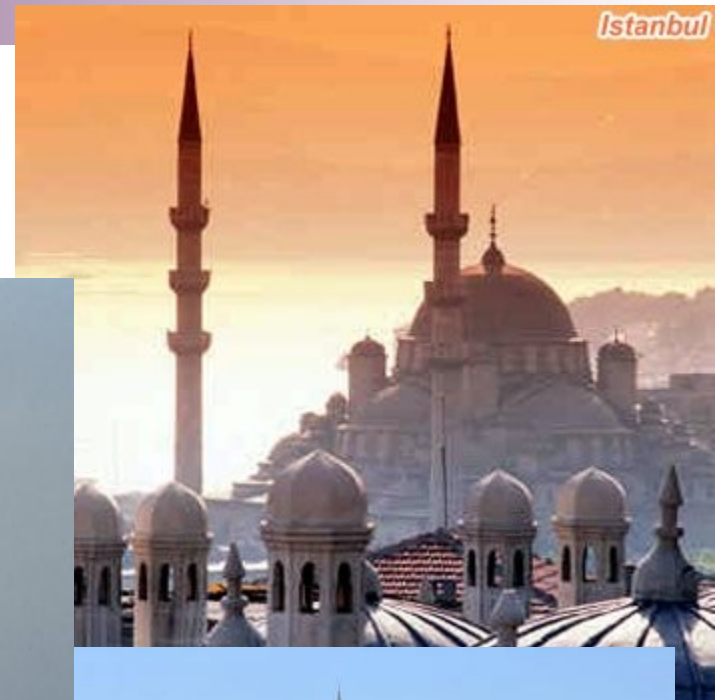




# Hidden Imam and Shi'ite

- What is the fundamental difference between Shi'ites and Sunnis?
- Hidden Imam
  - During the 9<sup>th</sup> century the 12 descendant of Mohammad's son-in-law Ali disappeared
  - All leaders are just standing in until the rightful descendant returns
  - Community lacks proper religious authority until that time

# Istanbul



# Isfahan





# Women

- Seldom in public
  - Veiling of women
- Private sections of the home
  - Harem in Ottoman Empire or Anderun in Iran
- Islamic law did allow women to retain property after marriage
  - Some degree of independence from spouses



# Economics in the Safavid Empire

- Silk fabrics from the north
- Intricate deep-pile carpet



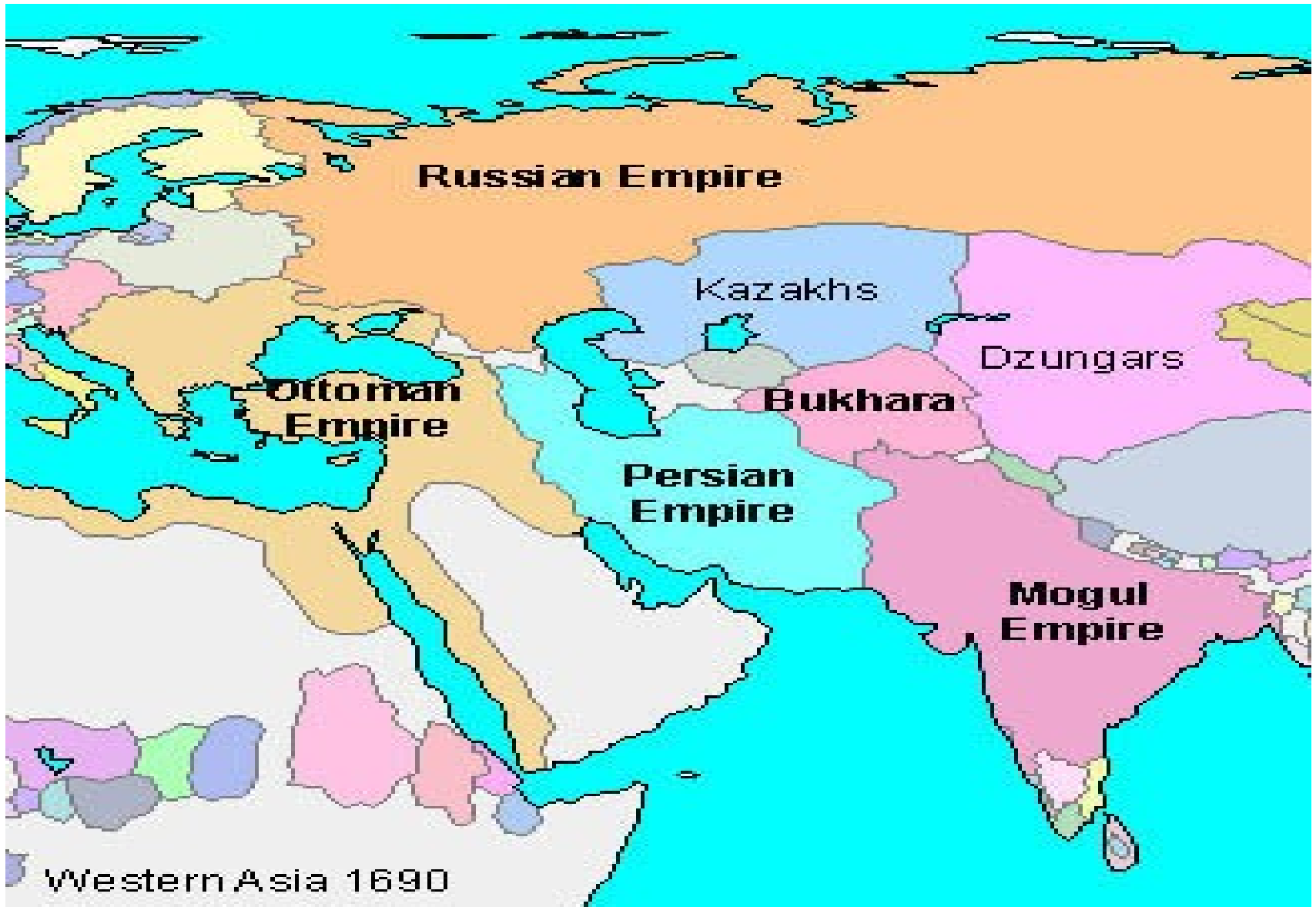


# Economics in Safavid Empire

- Subsistence farming and herding major employment
- No significant manufacturing sector to speak of
- Land grant system with the qizilbash for mounted warriors
  - No interest in building agricultural economy for the same reasons as the Ottomans

# Military Readjustment

- Firearms become issue about 100 years later in this empire
- Why could the Safavids avoid the use of firearms longer than the Ottomans?
- Do you think the land-grant system will work with fire arms in this Empire? Why or why not?
  - Slave corp of professional soldiers with fire arms established
  - Christian captives from Georgia and Caucasus



**Russian Empire**

**Ottoman Empire**

**Persian Empire**

**Mogul Empire**

Kazakhs

Bukhara

Dzungars

Western Asia 1690



# Factors of Decline

- How many factors can you predict! List all you think apply to the Safavid Empire!
  - Inflation
  - Land-Grant lack of development
  - Soldiers for hire draining resources
  - Weakening rulers
  - Rivalry between hereditary elites and new soldier class



# End of the Safavid Empire

- Continued money troubles leads to the withdraw of many of the nomadic peoples
  - No control for the sultanate
  - No people to protect the Empire either
- 1722 Afghans invade and take over what is left of the empire by capturing Isfahan

# “Fight Night” Poster

- Ismail and Selim I decide to settle their differences “mano y mano”
- You are responsible for producing an advertisement poster to “Hype” their epic battle to decide once and for all who is the ultimate (or SUPREME) ruler.
- You must include differences in:
  - Religion
  - Capitals
  - Culture
  - Empires