Crusades, Trade and the Plague

Medieval Europe - Lesson 4
Who issued the call for the Crusades and why?

Pope Urban II called for the Crusades to regain the Holy Land and protect the Byzantine Empire.
In addition to goods, what else traveled along trade routes?

Religions, ideas, and diseases
What caused the Plague?

Bacteria that lived in rodents caused the Plague. The Plague was transferred to humans through saliva from flea bites.
Why did Christians want to win back Palestine?

They considered it to be their Holy Land because it was where Jesus had lived and preached.
What was the purpose of Pope Urban II’s plea?

To help free Palestine from Muslim control.
What were the Crusades?

Military expeditions to win back control of the Holy Land and protect the Byzantine Empire.
Summary:
The Crusades

The Crusades, which began in 1095, were eight major military expeditions fought to win back the Holy Land and protect the Byzantine Empire.
Map: In which areas did Islam and Christianity flourish?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Christianity</th>
<th>Islam</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>🔹 Europe</td>
<td>🔹 Asia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>🔹 Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>🔹 Small parts of western</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Europe</td>
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Map: Describe the route of the First Crusade.

Crusaders from Europe marched south and east by various routes to Antioch and then south to Jerusalem.
What were the effects of the Crusades?

Although the Crusades did not have a permanent effect on rule in the region, they did increase trade and commerce between the West and the East.
Why would contact between the East and West lead to increased trade?

Each area had different goods and products, and the new contact stimulated interest in them.
Summary: East and West

The Crusades increased contact between the West and the East, which expanded opportunities for trade.
Why did the need for goods that were not available on the manor increase?

Serfs needed iron for better farming tools, and lords wanted new products, such as wools and furs, to show off their wealth.
What benefit did trade routes have for traders?

Traders were able to exchange local goods for foreign goods through middlemen without having to travel to the markets in Asia.
What locations or regions were part of the European trade network?

- Africa
- Asia Minor
- China
- The Far East
- Other Muslim lands
Summary: Trade Grows

A network of European trade routes developed, linking Africa, Asia Minor, China, and the Far East. This allowed foreign goods to be sold at fairs throughout Europe.
How did the Silk Road influence Chinese culture?

Caravans carried goods and ideas to China from the West. Buddhism also came to China via the Silk Road.
According to Marco Polo, how did Genghis Khan unify the region?

He made himself head of cities and provinces over governors whom he appointed.
What goods traveled along the Silk Road to and from China?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>To China</th>
<th>From China</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>❖ Gold</td>
<td>❖ Furs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>❖ Ivory</td>
<td>❖ Silks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>❖ Precious stones</td>
<td>❖ Ceramics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>❖ Jade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>❖ Bronze objects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>❖ Lacquer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>❖ Iron</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Summary:
The Silk Road

The Silk Road was a series of *trade routes* beginning in China. Both the trading of *goods* and *cultural* exchanges took place along these trade routes.
Map: What might areas surrounding the Mediterranean Sea be among the 1st infected by the Plague?

The Plague might have been spread on ships that carried goods from one port to another.
Map: What areas were largely unaffected by the Plague?

Areas unaffected by the Plague are located west and north of Barcelona, north of Genoa, southwest of Cologne, and west of Prague.
What were the names of the Plague?

- Bubonic plague
- Black Death
How did the Plague spread?

- The bacteria that caused the disease was carried by rodents.
- Fleas infested the rodents
- Then the fleas transferred the bacteria from the rodents to humans.
- Both the rodent and the human died, while the fleas continued to live.
Using the quote: What did the teachers and physicians say caused the Plague?

God’s will
What are some theories about how the Plague began?

Some historians believe it may have come from central Asia along the Silk Road; others believe it may have spread from country to country on ships.
From the quote: What conclusion about the Plague can you draw from this account?

Great numbers of people were dying at a fast rate from bubonic plague.
What economic effects did the Plague have on Europe?

- ¼ to ⅓ of the Europe’s population was lost
- Businesses went bankrupt
- Deaths caused labor shortages
- Trade declined and towns disappeared
- Construction and building projects stopped
- Food supply decreased and people starved
Summary:

The Plague

The *bubonic* plague was an epidemic that spread throughout Europe, killing about *one-fourth* to *one-third* of Europe’s population between *1347* and *1352*. 