Ch 21 Reading Guide Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The Muslim Empires

1. Which empire were these Muslim dynasties replacing? What origins defined the founders of all of these dynasties? What technologies allowed them to rise to power?

*The Ottomans: From Frontier Warriors to Empire Builders*

1. What European empire did the Ottomans conquer at the beginning of this era?
2. Why did Europe consider the Ottoman empire the biggest threat of the three Muslim dynasties?
3. Which occupations formed the elite classes in the Ottoman empire?
4. Who were Janissaries? Why did they become powerful?
5. How were Jews and Christians treated under Ottoman rule?
6. What city became the capital of the Ottoman empire? What legacy did its rulers leave on the city?
7. What roles did coffeehouses serve?
8. What occupations comprised the relatively large middle class of the Ottoman empire?
9. What other achievements belong to the cultural legacy of the Ottoman empire?
10. What unique achievement is held by the Ottoman empire?

*The Shi’a Challenge of the Safavids*

1. What Muslim sect did the Safavid dynasty promote?
2. What region did the Safavids conquer? What countries cover most of this area today?
3. What Muslim empire did the Safavids conflict with most (including at the battle of Chaldiran)? What issue was its primary cause? What was the religious significance of the Safavids’ defeat?
4. What general similarities did the Ottoman and Safavid dynasties share? Which had a stronger economy?
5. Compare the overall rights and roles of both elite and ordinary women in Islamic societies to other early modern era societies.

*The Mughals and the Apex of Muslim Civilization in India*

1. Who founded the Mughal dynasty? Who supposedly were his ancestors?
2. What ruling approach and general policies allowed his grandson Akbar to establish a durable empire?
3. What commodity did European merchants want most from Mughal India?
4. For what are Akbar’s successors most remembered?
5. What happened to women’s rights in the Mughal empire over time?
6. Who were the Sikhs?
7. According to the chapter’s conclusion, what major features were shared by the land and sea (maritime) empires of this era?
8. How were the Islamic civilizations’ responses to Europe partially responsible for their demise?