

Name _____

Date _____



Middle Ages: Asia

"That's Asia"

Flocabulary. Wanna learn something? Let me tell you what happened to me, man, Bully.

I woke up this morning in feudal Japan,
The guest of the shogun, that dude was the man.
And even though the emperor ruled the land,
Sometimes the shogun bows down to no one,
That makes him the guy to know, elected by the daimyo.
They own the farmland, where the poor peasants try to grow
Crops and such, but they're not too tough,
So the samurai defend them when the block get rough.
Horses, swords and armor, Bushido, code of honor,
Meant the samurai loves his lord more than his mama.
And if there was drama, they did something I'll never do,
To avoid shame or disgrace, they commit seppuku.
That's suicide, maybe not for you and I,
But when you don't fear death, it ain't much for you to die.
Many are Zen Buddhists, they don't worry about their body,
Others are Shinto, they say everything is "kami."
I thanked the shogun, he said, "All good, you copy?
If the Mongols invade I hope the sea gets choppy,
Wreck 'em with a typhoon, call it kamikaze."
That's Flocabulary, see Bully at the library.

Philippines and Thailand,
China, Taiwan, and Japan,
Indonesia and Malaysia,

That's Asia, man, that's Asia, man.
Korea and Mongolia,
Laos and Cambodia,
Vietnam and Bangladesh,
That's Asia, man, that's Asia, and...

The other day I tried to call up my boy Tom,
You know Tom from MySpace? But I guess the lines got crossed.
I ended up chatting with Genghis Khan.
He told me what was going on in Asia, man.
He spit a long rhyme for me; he could flow for days,
About the Song Dynasty, China's golden age.
Those were the days when they printed money to trade,
And the Song used gunpowder in their bombs.
But Genghis Khan said that it didn't last long,
'Cause he rode through with an army, many thousand strong,
They were nomads on little horses
That were food, transportation and weapons for his battle forces.
Riding through the grassland, the Eurasian steppe,
Tribes they met either joined up or were getting wrecked.
The largest land empire ever from sea to sea,
And Khan had a fifth of the world at his knees.

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