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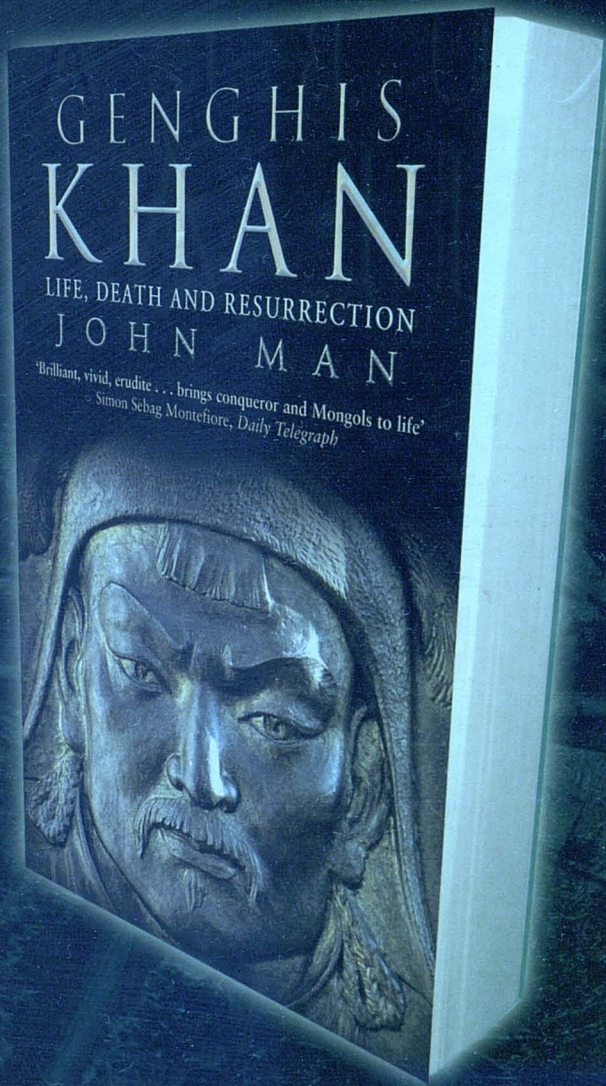
THE MONGOL KING WHO REMADE CHINA

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John Man is a historian and travel writer with a special interest in Mongolia and the history of written communication. His *Gobi: Tracking the Desert* was the first book on the subject in English since the 1920s. He is also the author of *The Atlas of the Year 1000*, *Alpha Beta*, on the roots of the Roman alphabet, and *The Gutenberg Revolution*, on the origins and impact of printing. His books *Genghis Khan: Life, Death and Resurrection* and *Attila the Hun: A Barbarian King and the fall of Rome* are both published by Bantam Books. His latest book, *The Great Wall*, will be published by Bantam Press later in the year.

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'Attila is known as a savage but there was much more to this great warrior. Man takes his readers on a thrilling ride alongside the man who marauded across Europe, striking terror into the hearts of entire nations' *The Good Book Guide*

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'There are moments when this book reads a little like a real-life Lord of the Rings . . . Meteoric and momentous . . . fascinating reading' *Guardian*

'The warlord's thunderous rise to infamy is enlivened by Man's constant asides, comments and comparisons. His obvious flair for conversational history and clear ability to get the most from well-informed modern sources drive the narrative along at a pace Attila himself would have been happy with. Man is a one man Time Team' *Western Daily Press*

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Praise for *Genghis Khan*:

'Absorbing and beautifully written . . . a thrilling account of Genghis Khan's life, death and his continuing influence . . . a gripping present-day quest' *Guardian*

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'Enthralling and colourful' *Independent on Sunday*

'This is a great story' *Spectator*

'Fascinating . . . every bit as gripping as its subject deserves . . . vividly captures the warlord's charisma, together with the mixture of ruthlessness, military genius and self-belief which, Man argues, made him the greatest leader ever . . . History doesn't come much more enthralling than this' *Yorkshire Evening Post*

'Man's excellent writing breathes new life into a character whose spirit lives on in China and Mongolia today' *Historical Novels Review*

'Man is an excellent guide . . . well versed in Mongolian, he has travelled extensively in the country while researching the more mysterious elements of Genghis's life, and this experience shines through the book . . . he writes knowledgeably' *Literary Review*

'Fascinating . . . a wonderfully diverting study' *Ink*

Also by John Man

Gobi: Tracking the Desert

Atlas of the Year 1000

Alpha Beta

The Gutenberg Revolution

Genghis Khan: Life, Death and Resurrection

Attila the Hun: A Barbarian King and the fall of Rome

The Great Wall



TUN DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD

KUBLAI KHAN

From Xanadu to Superpower

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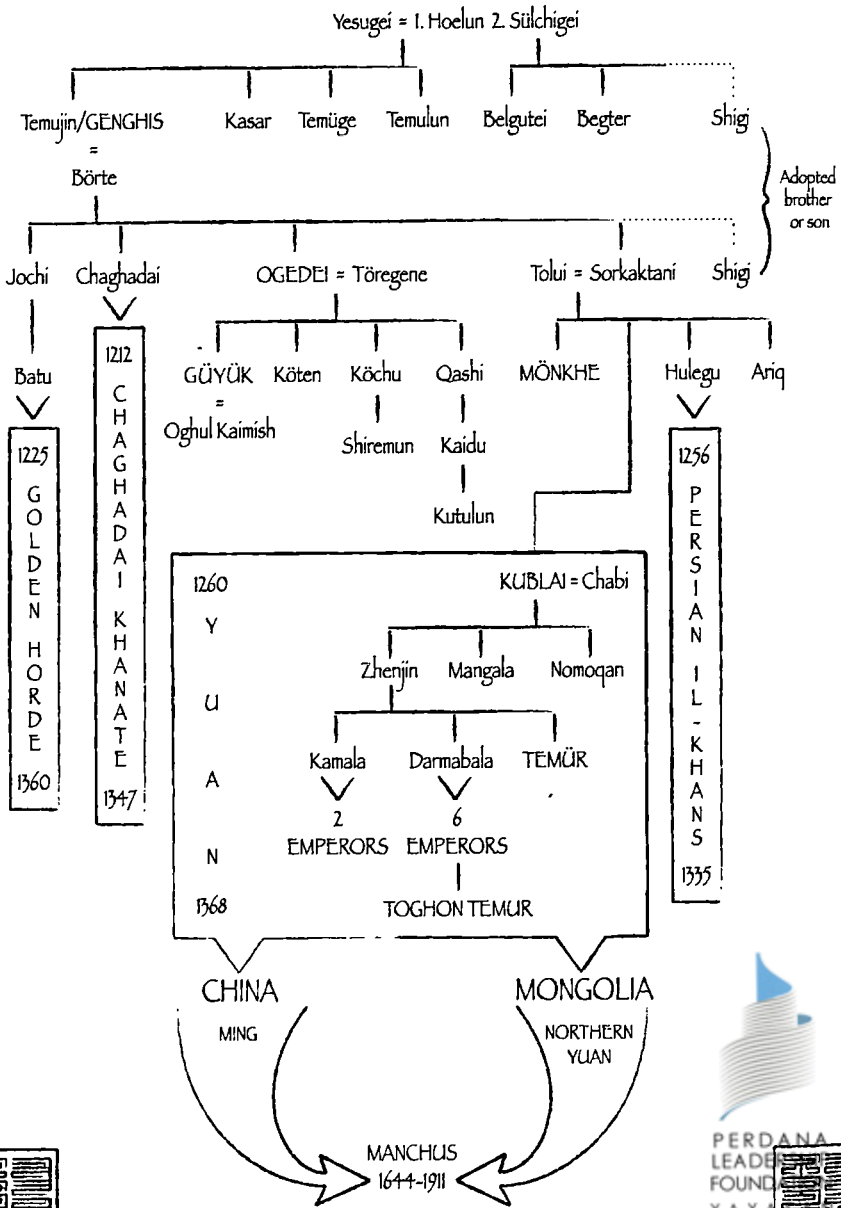
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CONTENTS

| | |
|--|-----|
| Kublai in Context | 6 |
| List of Maps | 7 |
| List of Illustrations | 8 |
| A Note on Spelling | 11 |
| Acknowledgements | 12 |
| Prologue: To Genghis, a Grandson | 15 |
| PART I: SPRING | |
| 1 A Lioness and Her Cubs | 25 |
| 2 The First War on Terror | 58 |
| 3 The Taking of Yunnan | 88 |
| 4 In Xanadu | 104 |
| 5 The Claimant | 120 |
| PART II: SUMMER | |
| 6 A New Capital | 145 |
| 7 Embracing Buddha, and Tibet | 169 |
| 8 The Key to Conquest | 187 |
| 9 Juggernaut | 224 |
| PART III: AUTUMN | |
| 10 Burned by the Rising Sun | 245 |
| 11 Challenge from the Heartland | 258 |
| 12 The Khan's New China | 271 |
| PART IV: WINTER | |
| 13 Kamikaze | 303 |
| 14 Money, Madness and a Murder | 328 |
| 15 The Limits to Growth | 341 |
| 16 How the East Went West | 359 |
| 17 A Holy Mountain, A Secret Grave | 39 |
| Epilogue: The Legacy of the Great Khan | 407 |
| Bibliography | 415 |
| Index | 425 |

KUBLAI IN CONTEXT

This diagram shows, in simplified form, the main characters mentioned in this book, their relationships, their domains and a rough chronological sequence (GREAT KHANS in CAPITALS).



MAPS

| | |
|---|-----|
| The Empire at the death of Genghis Khan, 1227 | 30 |
| Yuan Empire, 1270 | 196 |
| Yuan Empire, c.1279 | 262 |
| The Mongol Empire in 1294 | 348 |



ILLUSTRATIONS

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FIRST SECTION

Page 1

Tolui and his family, from *Jami al-Tawarikh* by Rashid al-Din, fourteenth-century, Ms sup. pers. 1113 f. 164v, Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris; Karakorum, © Dean Conger/Corbis.

Pages 2 and 3

Alamut: Simon Richmond/Lonely Planet Images; Hassan i Sabbah leading the initiations at Alamut, manuscript illumination by the Boucicaut Master (fl.1390–1430): Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris/Bridgeman Art Library; Mongols storming and capturing Baghdad in 1288, from *Jami al-Tawarikh* by Rashid al-Din, fourteenth-century, Ms sup. pers. 1113 f. 180v-181, Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris/Bridgeman Art Library; Mönkhe Khan holds a feast at Karakorum: sixteenth-century illustration of a fourteenth-century Persian history of the Mongols, Werner Forman Archive/Gulistan Library, Teheran.

SECOND SECTION

Pages 2 and 3

Kublai Khan's armies lay siege to the Chinese fortress of O-Chou across a pontoon over the Yangtse River: sixteenth-century illustration of a fourteenth-century Persian history of the Mongols, Werner Forman Archive/Gulistan Library, Teheran; *A Mongol Siege*, detail from a manuscript of Rashid al-Din, Or. MS20 f. 124v, Edinburgh University Library;