Lesson 1 The Rise and Expansion of the Ottoman Empire

A. 1. Osman was the leader of a new group of Turks that began to build power in the northwest corner of the Anatolian Peninsula in the late thirteenth century.

A.2. Janissaries were an elite military guard recruited from the local Christian population. They were converted to Islam and served the Ottoman Empire.

A.3. The Ottomans’ mastery of the new technology of firearms helped them expand into the Balkans.

A.4. The attack was on the city of Constantinople.

A.5. The defeat of the Ottomans in Vienna in 1529 halted Süleyman’s advances into Central Europe.

B. 1. Pashas were appointed local rulers who collected taxes and maintained law and order. The grand vizier was the minister who led the imperial council and communicated with the sultan.

B.2. Sultans gave their religious duties to a group of religious advisers known as the ulema. This group administered the legal system and schools for educating Muslims.

B.3. They allowed non-Muslims to practice their religion but required them to pay a tax.

B.4. The five main occupational groups were the ruling class, merchants, artisans, peasants, and pastoral peoples (nomadic herders).

B.5. Sinan was the greatest Ottoman architect. In the mid-sixteenth century, he built 81 mosques, each topped by an imposing dome and many framed with four minarets.

Summary and Reflection

A complete answer should include: the military’s mastery of firearms, well-trained janissaries, a centralized government system, and skillful and ambitious rulers led to expansion of the Ottoman Empire; tolerance of non-Muslims, the legal rights women enjoyed, and impressive contributions to architectural style helped create cultural bonds and a strong society.