

Inspector Rex's History Snippet #29

The Greatest Exterminators



Genghis Khan (born Temüjin, c. 1158 – August 18, 1227)

He was responsible for the deaths of as many as **40 million people**.

While it's impossible to know for sure how many people perished during the Mongol conquests, many historians put the number at somewhere around 40 million. Censuses from the Middle Ages show that the population of China plummeted by tens of millions during the Khan's lifetime, and scholars estimate that he may have killed a full three-fourths of modern-day Iran's population during his war with the Khwarezmid Empire. All told, the Mongols' attacks may have reduced the entire world population by as much as 11 percent.

Ref: <https://www.history.com/news/10-things-you-may-not-know-about-genghis-khan#:~:text=He%20was%20responsible%20for%20the,at%20somewhere%20around%2040%20million.>

Timur the Lame - Tamerlane (9 April 1336 – 17–19 February 1405)

Timur's armies were inclusively multi-ethnic and were feared throughout Asia, Africa, and Europe, sizable parts of which his campaigns laid waste. Scholars estimate that his military campaigns caused the deaths of **17 million people**, amounting to about 5% of the world population at the time. Of all the areas he conquered, Khwarazm suffered the most from his expeditions, as it rose several times against him.

Timur was the grandfather of the Timurid sultan, astronomer and mathematician Ulugh Beg, who ruled Central Asia from 1411 to 1449, and the great-great-great-grandfather of Babur (1483–1530), founder of the Mughal Empire, which then ruled almost all of the Indian subcontinent.



Ref:

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Timur#:~:text=Timur's%20armies%20were%20inclusively%20multi,world%20population%20at%20the%20time>

Leopold II of Belgium (9 April 1835 – 17 December 1909)



Estimates of the death toll range **from one million to fifteen million**, since accurate records were not kept. Historians Louis and Stengers in 1968 stated that population figures at the start of Leopold's control are only "wild guesses", and that attempts by E. D. Morel and others to determine a figure for the loss of population were "but figments of the imagination".

Ref: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leopold_II_of_Belgium#Exploitation,_atrocities,_and_death_toll

Joseph Stalin (18 December [O.S. 6 December] 1878 – 5 March 1953)

In 2011, historian Timothy D. Snyder in 2011 summarised modern data made after the opening of the Soviet archives in the 1990s and states that Stalin's regime was responsible for **9 million deaths**, with 6 million of these being deliberate killings. He further states the estimate is far lower than the estimates of 20 million or above which were made before access to the archives.



Ref: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joseph_Stalin#Death_toll_and_allegations_of_genocide