

MAJOR EVENTS RELEVANT TO CENTRAL ASIAN HISTORY

- c. 2000 BC Indo-Iranians pass through Central Asia on the way from the Indo-European homeland in southern Russia to India and Iran.
- c. 1200 BC The Cimmerians begin to occupy the South Russian Steppe.
- c. 700 BC The Scythians replace the Cimmerians in the Steppe region.
- 6th cent. BC The Invasion of Transoxiana by the Achaemenids of Persia under Darius I and Cyrus and the establishment of three satrapies: Soghdiana, Khorezm and Saka.
- 4th cent. BC The Sarmatians begin to absorb the Scythians.
- 330 BC Alexander the Great defeats the last Achaemenid, Darius III, in Mesopotamia.
- 329-28 BC The invasion of Transoxiana and capture of Samarkand by the Greeks under Alexander the Great, resulting in the rule of the Greek Seleucids in both Bactria and Soghdiana.
- 250 BC The Parthians take Soghdiana from the Greeks, leaving the latter to rule only in Bactria.
- 206 BC The Han dynasty is established in China.
- c. 200 BC The Emergence of the Hsiung-nu (later known as the Huns?) on the western borders of China.
- 174-161 BC The Hsiung-nu attack the Yüeh-chih (known in the West as the Tocharians), driving them from Gansu.
- 141-128 BC The Yüeh-chih, fleeing from the Hsiung-nu, overrun the Greco-Bactrian kingdom, which is renamed Tocharistan.
- 138-125 BC The first Chinese diplomatic mission to the Ferghana Valley, led by Chang Chien.
- 121 BC The Chinese, under General Ho Chu-ping, defeat the Hsiung-nu.
- 106 BC Diplomatic ties are established between the Chinese and the Persians.
- 102 BC The Chinese capture Kokand.
- 51 BC The Hsiung-nu split into two hordes, with the Eastern Horde subject to China.
- AD 48 The Hsiung-nu Empire dissolves.

- c. AD 50 Kujula Kadphises unites the Yüeh-chih to establish the Kushan Empire, stretching from Persia to Transoxiana to the Upper Indus.
- c. AD 78-144 The reign of King Kanishka over the Kushan Empire (territory extended to include the Tarim Basin), with Buddhism as the dominant religion.
- AD 97 Chinese armies reach the Caspian Sea.
- 3rd cent. The decline of the Kushan and Parthian Empires and the incorporation of Soghd and Bactria into Persia under the Sassanid dynasty.
- 220 The end of the Han dynasty in China.
- 226 The Sassanids overthrow the Parthians in Persia.
- 4th cent. The Mongolian Juan-juan Empire is formed in Mongolia.
- c. 370 The Huns invade Europe from the Central Asian steppe.
- 440 The Hephthalites (White Huns, later known in the West as the Avars) move south from the Altai region to occupy Transoxiana, Bactria, Khurasan, and eastern Persia.
- c. 460 The Hephthalites conquer the Kushans and invade India.
- 552 The Turks destroy the Juan-juan Empire and establish the Turkic Khaganate, nominally divided into Western and Eastern Khanates.
- 553-68 The Turks and Sassanids ally to destroy the Hephthalite Empire.
- late 6th cent. The Hephthalites move west to the Russian steppe to form the Avar Khanate.
- 570 The birth of Muhammad.
- 572-91 The Turks and the Byzantines ally against the Sassanids.
- 576 The Turks invade the Caucasus and establish the Khazar Khanate.
- 582 The Turkic Khaganate officially breaks up into Western and Eastern Khanates.
- 618 The Tang dynasty is established in China.
- 630 The Chinese occupy Mongolia (Eastern Turkic Khanate).
- 630-40 The Chinese subdue the Tarim Basin.

- 632 The death of Muhammad and beginning of the expansion of the Arab Muslim Empire.
- 642 The Sassanid Shah Yazdigird is defeated by the Arabs at the Battle of Nahavand.
- 642-51 The collapse of the Sassanid Empire under the pressure of Arab raids.
- c. 650 The Khazars defeat the Alans and Bulgars, resulting in their domination of the Caucasus and the Volga region.
- 652 The Arabs first capture Khurasan.
- 659 Chinese forces penetrate into Transoxiana (Western Turkic Khanate).
- 661 The establishment of the Arabic Umayyad Caliphate in Damascus and the origin of the Sunni-Shi'ite split in Islam.
- 667 The Arabs defeat Peroz, the last Sassanid shah, and first cross the Oxus River (Amu Darya).
- 673/74-704 Arab raids across the Oxus in an attempt to capture Bukhara and Soghd.
- 682/83 The revolt of the Turks against the Chinese and the re-establishment of the Turkic Khanate in Mongolia.
- 689 The Arab occupation of Termez.
- 691 The reestablishment of the Eastern Turkic Khanate in the Tarim Basin.
- 705 The Arabs, under Qutayba ibn Muslim, launch a holy war against Transoxiana from Merv.
- 709 The Arabs capture Bukhara and Samarkand.
- 711 The Arabs capture Khiva.
- 712 The Arabs subdue Khwarezm and recapture Samarkand.
- 713 The Arabs sack Kashgar.
- 714 The Chinese, under emperor T'ai-tsong, defeat the Turks at Lake Issuk-kul.
- 715 The end of the Arab conquest of Transoxiana as a result of the death of Qutaiba.
- 728 Arab attempt to forcibly convert Transoxiana to Islam, resulting in general revolt.

- 744/45 The Uighurs defeat the Turks in Mongolia and establish the Uighur Empire.
- 748 The Chinese invade the Ferghana Valley.
- 749/50 The Abbasids seize the Caliphate from the Umayyads and subsequently transfer the capital to Baghdad.
- 751 The Arabs defeat the Chinese at the Battle of the Talas River and discover the secrets of making paper and silk from captured prisoners.
- mid-8th cent. Semirechye and the eastern Syr Darya come under the rule of the Qarluqs while the western Syr Darya comes under the rule of the Oghuz (Ghuzz).
- 762 The Uighurs convert to Manichaeism under Khan Mei-yu (759-80).
- 820/21 The rise of the Tahirid Emirate in Khurasan, extending into Transoxiana.
- 840 The Kirghiz replace the Uighurs in Mongolia, who flee to Turfan to establish the Uighur Kingdom.
- 867-69 The rise of the Saffarid dynasty (Shi'ite) in Persia.
- 874/75 The Persian Samanid dynasty (Sunni) obtains the administration of Transoxiana, with its capital in Bukhara, from the Caliph.
- 900 The Samanids overthrow the Saffarids, thus extending their rule into all of Persia.
- 906 The end of the Tang dynasty in China.
- 924 The Mongol Khitans defeat the Kirghiz.
- 932 The Turkic Qarakhanid dynasty is established, with its initial center in Kashgar.
- mid-10th cent. The conversion of the Qarakhanids and Uighurs from Buddhism to Islam under Satuq Bughra Khan (d. 955).
- 962 The Turkic Ghaznavid dynasty is established in Afghanistan.
- 965 The Kievan ruler Svyatoslav crushes Khazar political power in the Russian steppe region.
- 985 The Seljuq Turks, a ruling tribe of the Oghuz, move to the vicinity of Bukhara.

- 986 The Russians, in search of a religion, contact Muslim missionaries from Khwarezm, but decide not to adopt Islam.
- 988 The conversion of the Russians to Orthodox Christianity.
- late 10th cent. The pro-Shi'ite Persian Buwayhids end the political power of the Abbasid Caliphate by seizing control of Iraq and much of Iran.
- 999 The Ghaznavids defeat the Samanids in Khurasan and the Qarakhanids capture Bukhara, the Samanid capital.
- early 11th cent. The extension of Ghaznavid rule from Iraq to the Sind.
- mid-11th cent. The Qarakhanid Empire splits in two: one rules over Western Turkestan (Transoxiana), the other over Eastern Turkestan (the Tarim Basin).
- 1040 The Seljuqs defeat the Ghaznavids at the Battle of Dandanqan, near Merv.
- 1055 The Seljuqs, under Tüghral Beg, capture Baghdad, the Abbasid capital, from the Buwayhids, establish the Seljuq Sultanate, and become the official protectors of the Caliphate.
- 1060 The pagan Oghuz, known to the Byzantines as the Cumans, move into the Russian steppe.
- 1068 The Cumans defeat the South Russian princes.
- 1071 The Seljuqs, under Alp-Arslan, defeat the Byzantine emperor Romanus Diogenes at the Battle of Manzikert and establish the Turkish sultanate of Rum in Anatolia.
- 1073 The Seljuqs defeat the Qarakhanids.
- 1092 The death of the Seljuq sultan Malik-Shah, resulting in the division of the Sultanate into three parts: Nicaea (Anatolia), Hamadan (Persia), and Merv (Transoxiana and Khurasan).
- 1122 The Russians defeat the Cumans.
- 1124 The Tungusic Juchen drive the Mongol Khitans (Liao dynasty: 916-1124) from China, resulting in the creation of the Qarakhitai state in Semirechye.
- 1137 The Qarakhitai defeat the Qarakhanids (now vassals of the Seljuqs) at Khojent.
- 1140/41 The Qarakhitai defeat the Seljuq Sultan Sanjar at the Battle of the Qatwan Steppe, thus gaining power in Transoxiana.
- 1153 The overthrow of the Seljuq Sultanate of Merv by Oghuz mercenaries.

- 1155 (1167?) The birth of Chingiz Khan.
- 1157 The death of Sultan Sanjar, resulting in the breakup of the remaining Seljuq Sultanate.
- 1194 The death of Tüghril III, the last Persian Seljuq ruler, resulting in the end of Seljuq power in Iran and the rise of the Turkic Khwarezmians (Khwarezm Shahs) in Transoxiana.
- 1206 Chingiz Khan becomes khan of the Mongols.
- 1209 The Mongols defeat the Kirghiz of the Yenisei, forcing them to flee south to the Tien Shan.
- The Uighurs, under Barchuq, submit to Mongol rule.
- 1210 The Khwarezmians conquer Transoxiana, defeating the Qarakhitai.
- 1215 The Mongols invade northern China, besieging and sacking the Jin capital of Yanjing (later known as Beijing).
- 1218 The Mongols capture Semirechye and the Tarim Basin, occupying Kashgar and crushing the Qarakhitai.
- The execution of Mongol envoys by the Khwarezm Shah Muhammad sets in motion the first Mongol westward thrust.
- 1219 The Mongols cross the Jaxartes River (Syr Darya) and begin their invasion of Transoxiana.
- 1220 The Mongols capture Bukhara and Samarkand, defeating the Khwarezmians.
- 1221 The Mongol conquest of Khurasan and Afghanistan.
- 1223/24 The Mongols, in pursuit of the Khwarezm Shah, encounter the Russians on the river Kalka, where they defeat them.
- 1227 The death of Chingiz Khan, resulting in the division of his empire amongst his heirs, including Batu (the Kipchak Khanate, on the Russian steppe) and Chagatai (The Chaghatayid Khanate, in Transoxiana, the Tarim Basin, and Semirechye).
- 1231 The Mongols defeat a resurrected Khwarezm Shahdom.
- 1236 The second Mongol westward thrust begins.
- 1240 Kiev falls to the Mongols and Russia comes under the Mongol yoke.

- 1242 The Mongols stop their westward advance at the gates of Vienna.
- 1243 The Mongols defeat the Seljuqs at the Battle of Kösedagh.
- 1244 A group of Khwarezmians, fleeing from the Mongols, capture Jerusalem from the Crusaders.
- 1249/50 The establishment of the Kipchak Turkic Mamluke dynasty in Egypt.
- 1256 The Mongol Il-Khanid dynasty is established in Iran under Hülegü.
- 1258 The Mongols destroy Baghdad and bring the Abbasid caliphate to an end.
- 1260 The Mamlukes defeat the Mongols at the Battle of 'Ayn Jalut.
The Kipchak Khanate divides into the White Horde and the Golden Horde.
The Mongol Yüan dynasty is established in China under Kublai Khan.
- 1270 The Uighur Kingdom is defeated by rebels.
- 1284 The Uighur Kingdom is absorbed into the Chagatayid Khanate.
- 1294/95 The Il-Khanids convert to Islam under Ghazan Khan.
- 1299-1300 The Seljuq Sultanate of Anatolia breaks up into smaller principalities, to be succeeded by the Ottoman Turk Emirate, founded by Osman I (ruled 1290-1326).
- 1303 The Mamlukes stop the last Mongol invasion of Syria.
- early 14th cent. The Chagatayid Khanate splits in two parts: Transoxiana (West) and Moghulistan (East).
- 1313-41/42 The rule of the Golden Horde by Khan Uzbek (1282-1342), under whom the Horde converts to Islam.
- 1326 The conversion of the Chagatayid Khan Tarmashirin to Islam.
- 1336 The end of the Il-Khanid dynasty in Iran.
The birth of Timur.
- 1346-63 The rule of the Chagatayid Khan Tughlug Timur in Transoxiana.
- 1363 Timur expels Khan Tughlug Timur and sets up a puppet Khan under his control.

1368	The end of the Yüan dynasty in China.
1369/70	Timur becomes the sole ruler of Transoxiana.
1377-95	The rule of the Golden Horde by Khan Tokhtamysh.
1380	The Russians defeat Mamay, Khan of the Golden Horde, at the Battle of Kulikova.
	The Golden Horde is amalgamated with the White Horde (together called by the former name).
1380-87	Timur conquers Iran.
1382	Tokhtamysh sacks and burns Moscow.
late 14th cent.	The Turfan Uighurs accept Islam.
1395	Timur defeats Tokhtamysh, destroys the Golden Horde capital of Sarai Berke, and briefly occupies Moscow.
1398/99	Timur defeats the Delhi sultanate.
1400	Timur defeats the Mamlukes in Syria.
1401	Timur destroys Baghdad.
1402	Timur defeats the Ottoman sultan Bayezid I at the Battle of Ankara.
1405	The death of Timur.
1407-47	Continuation of the Timurid dynasty with the rule of Timur's son Shah Rukh (1377-1447) in Herat.
1407-49	The rule of Shah Rukh's son Ulugh Beg (1394-1449) in Samarkand.
1408	The emirate of the Black Sheep Turks is established in western Persia.
c. 1430	Part of the Golden Horde splits off to form the Crimean Khanate under Hajji Giray Khan.
1434	The rise of the Oyrat (Western) Mongols in Jungaria.
early 15th cent.	The Uzbeks move south to Transoxiana under Abu al-Khayr (1413-69).
1445	Part of the Golden Horde splits off to form the Kazan Khanate.
1451/52-69	The reign of the Timurid ruler Abu Sa'id (1424-69).

- 1453 The Ottoman Turks capture Constantinople.
- 1464-65 The Muscovite Prince Ivan III (the Great, reigned 1462-1505) sends an embassy to Abu Sa'id.
- 1466 Part of the Golden Horde splits off to form the Astrakhan Khanate.
- 1467 The White Sheep Turks defeat the Black Sheep Turks in Persia.
- 1468 An internal feud results in the death of Abu al-Khayr, leader of the Uzbeks, in battle and the splitting off of the Kazaks from the Uzbeks.
- 1478-1506 The reign of the Timurid ruler Husayn Bayqara (1438-1506) in Herat.
- 1480 Ivan III throws off the Mongol yoke and proclaims himself Czar of Russia.
- 1490 Husayn Bayqara sends an embassy to Moscow.
- late 15th cent. The Kazak Empire is established on the Central Asian steppes.
- late 15th cent. The decline of the overland trade routes, including the Silk Road, due to a new emphasis on trade by sea.
- 1497 Babur (1483-1530), the ruler of Ferghana, captures Samarkand.
- 1500 The Uzbeks capture Samarkand under Muhammad Shaybani Khan (1451-1510), thus taking over Transoxiana from the Timurids.
- 1501-11 Babur and the Uzbeks continuously battle to control Samarkand.
- 1502 The final collapse of the Golden Horde at the hands of the khan of the Crimean Tatar Khanate.
- The beginning of the Safavid dynasty in Persia.
- 1504 Babur establishes himself in Kabul.
- 1506 The Uzbeks capture Bukhara.
- 1507 The Uzbeks capture Herat, bringing to an end the Timurid dynasty.
- 1510 Muhammad Shaybani Khan is killed in the Battle of Merv against Shah Ismail, the Safavid ruler, resulting in the establishment of the Shaybanid dynasty in Transoxiana, with the capital in Samarkand, but political power increasingly centered in Bukhara.
- early 16th cent. The rise of the Khojas in Kashgar, later split into the Aq-Taghliqs (white-caps) and the Qara-Taghliqs (black-caps).

1514-33	The rule of the Eastern Chagatayid Khan Sayid, under whom the capital moves from Ili to Kashgar.
1517	The Ottomans defeat the Mamlukes, thus adding Egypt to their Empire.
1522	Babur captures Qandahar.
1526	Babur captures Delhi and founds the Moghul Empire in India.
1552	Ivan IV (the Terrible, reigned 1533-84) subjugates the Kazan Khanate.
1556	Ivan IV defeats the Astrakhan Khanate.
1557-98	The reign of the last and greatest Shaybanid ruler in Bukhara, Abdullah Khan II (1533-98).
1558-59	The first Russian commercial contacts with Transoxiana under Anthony Jenkinson.
1563-98	The reign of the last Shaybanid ruler of the Siberian Khanate, Kuchum Khan.
1570	The height of Oyrat Mongol power in Jungaria and Mongolia.
1571	The Crimean Tatars sack Moscow.
late 16th cent.	The Kazak Empire divides into three hordes: the Great Horde (east), the Middle Horde (center), and the Lesser Horde (west).
1584	Yermak, the Russian Cossack leader, defeats Kuchum Khan at the Battle of Tobol River.
1598/99	The Astrakhanid dynasty, related to the Shaybanids by marriage, inherits power in Transoxiana, with their power base in the Khanate of Bukhara.
1619-21	The first diplomatic contacts between Moscow and Bukhara.
early 17th cent.	The Kalmuks, part of the Oyrat tribal confederation, migrate from Jungaria to the Volga.
1643	The Oyrats who stayed in Jungaria conquer Semirechye.
1644	The Manchu Qing dynasty is established in China.
1645	The Russians reach the Pacific Ocean.
1680s	Clashes between Russian and Chinese troops in Manchuria.
1680-1718	The rule of Khan Teuke over the reunited Kazak hordes.

- 1687 The end of Shaybanid rule in Khiva.
- 1689 The Treaty of Nerchinsk between Russia and China ends border clashes in Manchuria.
- late 17th cent. The Ferghana valley, under the leadership of the Khojas, separates from the Bukharan Khanate.
- early 18th cent. Oyrat raids on the Kazaks.
- 1710 Shahrukh Bey overthrows the Khojas in the Ferghana valley and establishes an independent principality in Kokand, which evolves into the Khanate of Kokand.
- 1715 The first Russian military expedition to the Kazak Steppe under Peter the Great.
- 1717 The first Russian military expedition to Khiva ends in a massacre of Tsarist troops.
- 1718 The Oyrats defeat the Kazak Middle Horde north of Lake Balkash.
- 1722 The Afghans invade Persia, bringing to an end the Safavid dynasty.
- 1723-25 Kalmuk and Oyrat raids into northern Transoxiana.
- 1729 Nadir Qoli Beg (later Nadir Shah) drives the Afghans out of Persia.
- 1731 The Kazak Lesser Horde accepts Russian protection.
- 1732 Nadir Qoli Beg takes Herat.
- 1734/35 The founding of the Russian fort at Orenburg.
- 1739 Nadir Shah takes Ghazna and Kabul and occupies Delhi.
- 1740 The Kazak Middle Horde accepts Russian protection.
- 1740-47 The invasion and subsequent domination of Transoxiana by Nadir Shah.
- 1742 Part of the Kazak Great Horde accepts Russian protection.
- 1747 The establishment of the Durrani dynasty in Afghanistan.
- The Uzbek Mangit dynasty begins to rise to power in the Khanate of Bukhara as a result of the collapse of Nadir Shah's regime in Transoxiana.
- 1757 The Chinese defeat the Oyrats in Jungaria.

- 1759 The Chinese conquer the Tarim Basin, resulting in the Khojas fleeing to Kokand.
- 1763 The Uzbek Kungrat dynasty begins to rise to power in the Khanate of Khiva (or Khorezm).
- 1768 Eastern (Chinese) Turkestan is officially renamed “Xinjiang” by the Chinese.
- 1771 The Chinese attempt to bring the Kazaks into a vassal relationship.
Some Kalmuks migrate back to Jungaria and the Ili Valley from the Volga.
- 1782/83 The Crimean Tatar Khanate is absorbed by Russia.
- 1784/85 The Mangits succeed the Astrakhanids as rulers of the Khanate of Bukhara and adopt the title of Emir.
- 1798 Alim Bey (1788-1810) of Kokand adopts the title of Khan.
- 1804 The Kungrats (in Khiva) adopt the title of Khan.
- 1808 The Khanate of Kokand captures Tashkent.
- 1814 The Khanate of Kokand captures the city of Turkestan.
- 1820-28 The Khojas revolt against Chinese rule in Altishahr (the Tarim Basin).
- 1822 The Khanate of the Kazak Middle Horde is abolished by Russia.
- 1824 The Khanate of the Kazak Lesser Horde is abolished by Russia.
- 1826 The establishment of the Barakzai (or Mohammadzai) dynasty in Afghanistan.
- 1820s-40s Kazak revolts against Russian rule.
- 1837/38-46/47 Kazak resistance to Russian rule under Kenesary Kasimov (1802-47).
- 1839-40 A Russian expedition to Khiva is forced to turn back due to the extreme cold.
- 1839-42 The First Opium War results in China’s defeat at the hands of the European powers.
The First Anglo-Afghan War results in the British capturing Kabul and Qandahar and installing a puppet ruler on the Afghan throne.

- 1842 The imprisonment and execution of Stoddart and Conolly by Emir Nasrullah of Bukhara.
- 1843-47 The revolt of the Six Khojas in Altishahr.
- 1848 The Khanate of the Kazak Great Horde is abolished by Russia.
The British absorb the Punjab and the Peshawar Valley into their Indian Empire.
- 1850-64 The Taiping Rebellion in China.
- 1854 The founding of Fort Vernoe (now Almaty) by the Russians.
- 1855 Russia is defeated in the Crimean War.
Kazakstan comes fully under Russian control, who now hold the Syr Darya line (from the Aral Sea to Lake Issyk Kul).
- 1855-73 Muslim rebellions in Yunnan and Shaanxi provinces in China.
- 1857 The Khojas revolt in Altishahr.
- 1857-60 The Second Opium War, again resulting in China's defeat.
- 1861 The abolition of serfdom in Russia results in many settlers coming to the northern Kazak steppe.
- 1862 The Russians capture Pishpek (Bishkek) from the Khanate of Kokand.
- 1864 Yaqub Beg (c. 1820-77) establishes an independent state in Altishahr, based in Kokand.
The Russians capture the towns of Turkestan, Aulie-Ata, and Chimkent from the Khanate of Kokand.
- 1865 The Russians create the Province of Turkestan.
- June 1865 The Russians capture Tashkent.
- 1867 The Russians create the Governorate-General of Turkestan, with Tashkent as its capital.
- 1868 The Russians create the Governorate-General of the Kazak Steppe, with Orenburg as its capital.
- Jan.1868 The Russians sign a treaty with the Khanate of Kokand which reduces it to a virtual Russian protectorate.

- May 1868 The Russians capture Samarkand.
- June 1868 The Khanate of Bukhara becomes a Russian protectorate.
- 1869 The Russians establish a fort at Krasnovodsk on the Caspian Sea.
- 1871 Russian forces occupy the Ili Valley.
- Aug. 1873 The Khanate of Khiva becomes a Russian protectorate.
- 1876 The Khanate of Kokand is annexed by Russia.
- The Chinese begin their reconquest of Xinjiang.
- 1877 Queen Victoria is proclaimed “Empress of India.”
- Yaqub Beg dies of poisoning.
- 1878 Kashgar falls to the Chinese, under Tso Tsung-t’ang.
- The Congress of Berlin halts further Russian advancement into Afghanistan.
- 1878-80 The Second Anglo-Afghan War.
- 1880 The Transcaspian Railroad is begun at Krasnovodsk.
- Jan. 1881 The Russian slaughter of the Turkmen at the Battle of Gok-Tepe, resulting in the creation of the Transcaspian province.
- 1881 The Treaty of St. Petersburg between Russia and China results in the return of the Ili Valley to China.
- 1882 The Russians set up a consulate in Kashgar.
- 1884 The Russians introduce American cotton into Turkestan.
- The Russians occupy the Merv oasis
- Xinjiang officially becomes a Chinese province.
- 1885 Muslim revolt in the Ferghana Valley against Tsarist rule.
- The Trans-Caspian Railroad reaches Mary (Merv).
- The Russians occupy the Pandjeh oasis on the Afghan border, thus completing their conquest of Turkestan.

- 1887 The border between Afghanistan and Russian Turkestan is determined by the British and the Russians.
- 1888 The Trans-Caspian Railroad reaches Samarkand.
- 1890 The British set up a consulate in Kashgar.
- 1890-92 Mass immigration of Russian and Ukrainian settlers into the Kazak steppe.
- 1892 Riots in Tashkent due to a cholera epidemic.
- 1897-98 Muslim uprising in Andijan against the Russians.
- 1900 Russia annexes the eastern Pamirs.
- 1905 The 1905 Russian Revolution.
The Russo-Japanese War.
- 1906 The completion of the Orenburg-Tashkent Railroad, linking Turkestan to European Russia.
- 1908 The Young Turks start to have an influence in Turkey.
- 1909 The founding of the Young Bukharans in Bukhara.
- 1911 The Republican Revolution in China brings the Qing dynasty to an end.
- 1912 The founding of the Alash Orda party amongst the Kazaks.
- 1914-18 World War I
- 1916 Central Asian uprising in protest over conscription into labor units of the Russian army, resulting in the slaughter of many Kazaks by the Russians.
- Mar. 12, 1917 The “February” Revolution in Russia, resulting in the establishment of the Tashkent Committee of the Provisional Government and the Tashkent Soviet of Worker’s and Peasant’s Deputies.
- Apr. 1917 The Bolshevik Party affirms its support of the right of all nations within Russia to separate and form independent states.
- Apr. 1917 The First Pan-Kirghiz (Kazak) Congress in Orenburg.
- Apr. 16-23, 1917 The First Central Asian Muslim Congress in Tashkent demands the cessation of Russian colonization and the return of confiscated lands.
- May 1-11, 1917 The First Pan-Russian Congress of Muslims in Moscow.

- July 21-26, 1917 The Second Kazak Congress in Orenburg
- Sept. 3, 1917 The Second Central Asian Muslim Congress in Tashkent proposes the creation of an Autonomous Federated Republic of Turkestan.
- Nov. 7, 1917 The Bolshevik “October” Revolution in Russia, resulting in the Tashkent Soviet seizing power from the Tashkent Committee.
- Nov. 1917 The White Cossacks, under Ataman Dutov, cut off Central Asia from European Russia.
- Nov. 15, 1917 The Third Regional Congress of Soviets in Tashkent decides to exclude Muslims from local government.
- Nov. 15, 1917 The Bolshevik Declaration of the right of nations of Russia to secede and the freedom of Muslims to practice Islam.
- Nov. 19, 1917 The Bolsheviks in Tashkent create the Council of People’s Commissars to rival the Menshevik-dominated Tashkent Soviet.
- Nov. 25-27, 1917 The Fourth Central Asian Muslim Congress in Kokand results in the creation of the Muslim Provisional Government of Autonomous Turkestan.
- Dec. 5-13, 1917 The Third Kazak Congress in Orenburg proclaims a Kazak nationalist government under the leadership of the Alash-Orda in an attempt to halt the spread of Communism into the Kazak steppe.
- Jan. 1918 The Fourth Regional Congress of Soviets in Tashkent declares war on the Kokand Government.
- Feb. 18, 1918 The Muslim government in Kokand is crushed by the Tashkent Soviet and the Red Army, resulting in the slaughter of many Muslims.
- 1918-20 The first phase of the Basmachi Revolt.
- Mar. 1918 The Russian Civil War begins.
- Apr. 1918 The Turkestan Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic (ASSR) is established.
- July 1918 A Russian Social Revolutionary government captures Ashkabad from the Tashkent Soviet and appeals to British forces in Persia for assistance.
- Nov. 1918 The Congress of Muslim Communists in Moscow creates a Muslim Bureau within the Russian Communist Party (RCP).
- Dec. 1918 Counter-revolution by White Russians in Tashkent deposes the Bolsheviks for a short time.

Feb. 1919	British forces withdraw from Ashkabad.
May 1919	The Third Anglo-Afghan War results in the Afghans signing a friendship treaty with the new Soviet regime.
May 1919	The First Conference of Muslim Communists of Central Asia proposes a “Unified Turkestan Soviet Republic.”
July 1919	The Third Congress of the Communist Party of Turkestan decides to exclude Muslims from government posts in Turkestan.
Sept. 1919	Red Army troops break Dutov’s blockade of Central Asia.
Oct. 1919	The Turkestan Commission is sent by Lenin to take over authority from the Tashkent Soviet.
early 1920	The Reds emerge victorious in the Russian Civil War.
Jan. 15, 1920	The Turkestan Commission proposes the division of Turkestan into separate ethnic republics.
Jan. 20, 1920	The Fifth Congress of the Communist Party of Turkestan proposes a Soviet Republic of Turkic Peoples and a Turkic Red Army.
Feb. 2, 1920	Soviet troops capture Khiva, resulting in the abolition of the Khanate of Khiva and the end of the Kungrat dynasty.
Feb. 1920	The Tashkent Soviet recaptures Ashkabad.
Mar. 1920	The Alash Orda government gives up resistance to the Bolsheviks.
Apr. 4, 1920	The People’s Republic of Khorezm (Khiva) is established under the leadership of the Young Khivans.
Aug. 26, 1920	The Kazak (then called Kirghiz) ASSR is created.
Sept. 1920	Soviet troops capture Bukhara, resulting in the abolition of the Khanate of Bukhara and the end of the Mangit dynasty.
Oct. 6, 1920	The People’s Republic of Bukhara is established under the leadership of the Young Bukharans and the Bukharan Communist Party, with Faizullah Khojaev (1896-1938) as chairman and then premier.
1920-23	The second phase of the Basmachi Revolt.
Jan. 1921	The Muslim Bureau of the RCP is dissolved.

- Mar. 14, 1921 The Soviets depose the Young Khivan government of the People's Republic of Khorezm.
- Oct. 1921 Enver Pasha (1881-1922) arrives in Bukhara to assist the Soviets and switches allegiance to the Basmachis.
- Feb. 1922 The Bukharan Communist Party comes under the control of the RCP.
Enver Pasha and the Basmachis capture Dushanbe.
- Aug. 1922 Enver Pasha is killed, resulting in the gradual crumbling of the Basmashi Revolt.
- Nov. 1922 The Turkish nationalists, under Mustafa Kemal (Atatürk) abolish the Ottoman Sultanate.
- Dec. 1922 The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics is created, with the Turkestan and Kirghiz (Kazak) ASSRs included as parts of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic (RSFSR).
- Mar. 1923 The First Conference of the Turkestan ASSR and the People's Republics of Bukhara and Khorezm establishes the Central Asiatic Economic Council, resulting in the economic and administrative unification of the three republics.
- June 1923 Stalin denounces "Sultan Galievism" and the Muslim Communist aspirations for an independent Turkestan.
- Oct. 1923 The Republic of Turkey is proclaimed, with Mustafa Kemal as its first president.
- Oct. 1923 The Khorezmian Soviet Socialist Republic (SSR) is established, replacing the People's Republic of Khorezm.
- 1923-33 Intermittent Basmachi operations against the Soviets in Turkestan.
- Jan. 1924 The death of Lenin and subsequent rise of Stalin to full power in the USSR.
- Mar. 1924 Mustafa Kemal abolishes the Ottoman Caliphate.
- Sept. 1924 The Bukharan SSR is established, replacing the People's Republic of Bukhara.
- Oct. 1924 The National Delimitation of Soviet Central Asia results in the abolition of the Turkestan ASSR, the Bukharan SSR, and the Khorezmian SSR and the establishment of the Turkmen SSR, the Uzbek SSR, and the Tajik ASSR (as part of the Uzbek SSR).

Oct. 27, 1924	The Turkmen and Uzbek SSRs are created.
1924	The Sino-Soviet Agreement re-establishes diplomatic relations between the two countries.
Mar. 15, 1925	The Tajik ASSR is created.
Apr. 1925	The “Kirghiz” ASSR is renamed the Kazak ASSR.
1926	The Baku Turkological Congress proposes the adoption of the Latin script for all Turkic languages in the USSR.
Feb. 1, 1926	The Kirghiz ASSR is created.
1927	Stalin purges the “Trotsky-Zinoviev” opposition.
1927-28	The liquidation of the Kazak Alash-Orda party by the Communists and the replacement of Kazaks by Russians in the republican government.
1928	Soviet anti-Islamic campaign launched, resulting in the disbanding of Islamic courts and <i>waqfs</i> . Governor Yang Zhengxin assassinated in Urumchi.
1928-30	The Latin script replaces the Arabic alphabet in Soviet Central Asia.
1928-33	The forced collectivization of Soviet Central Asians under the First Five Year Plan.
Oct. 15, 1929	The Tajik SSR is created.
1930	The completion of the Turkestan-Siberian Railroad.
1931	The Soviets capture the Basmachi leader Ibrahim Beg. Muslim revolt in Kumul (Hami), Xinjiang.
Nov. 1933	The Turkish-Islamic Republic of Eastern Turkestan (TIRET) is established in Kashgar.
Dec. 1933	The beginning of Soviet control of Xinjiang under Governor Sheng Shizai.
July 1934	The TIRET falls to Dungan (Chinese Muslim) forces.
1936	The incorporation of the Karakalpak ASSR into the Uzbek SSR.
Dec. 5, 1936	The Kazak and Kirghiz SSRs are created.

1937	The Japanese invasion of China. Muslim revolt in Kashgar, Xinjiang, resulting in Soviet military intervention.
1937-38	Stalin purges the Muslim Communist leaders.
Mar. 1938	The execution of Uzbek Communist leaders Faizullah Khojaev and Akmal Ikramov.
1939-45	World War II
1939-40	The Cyrillic script replaces the Latin Alphabet in Soviet Central Asia.
June 1941	Hitler invades the USSR.
1942	Sheng Shizai breaks with the Soviets and realigns Xinjiang with Nationalist China. The Soviet government grants Islam official legal status in the USSR and establishes the four Spiritual Directorates.
1944	The forced evacuation of Crimean Tatars, Meskhetian Turks, and other Caucasian Muslims to Soviet Central Asia. Muslim revolt in Ili, Xinjiang.
Nov. 1944	The Eastern Turkestan Republic is established in Ili.
1945-49	Civil War in China between the Communists and the Nationalists.
June 1946	The ETR disbands as a result of a treaty with Nationalist China.
1947	The partition of British India and independence of India and Pakistan.
Aug. 1949	Leaders of the Xinjiang Muslim League die in a mysterious plane crash en route to meeting the new Communist leaders in Beijing.
Oct. 1, 1949	The People's Republic of China (PRC) is established.
Mar. 1953	The death of Stalin and subsequent rise of Khrushchev.
1954	Khrushchev inaugurates the Virgin Lands Campaign to increase agricultural production on the Kazak steppe, resulting in widespread erosion.
1955	The establishment of the Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region in China.
1958-59	The Great Leap Forward in the PRC.

- Oct. 1961 The 22nd Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU) Party Congress, at which the concepts of *sblizhenie* (drawing together) and *sliianie* (unity) of the Soviet “nations” are introduced.
- 1962 Mass exodus of Kazaks from Xinjiang to Soviet Central Asia.
Border clashes between Chinese and Indian forces in Kashmir.
- 1963 The Sino-Soviet rift comes out into the open.
- 1966-76 The Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution in the PRC.
- 1973 A military coup in Afghanistan abolishes the monarchy and establishes Muhammad Daud Khan as prime minister of the Republic of Afghanistan.
- 1976 The death of Mao Tse-tung.
- 1978 The rise of Deng Xiao-ping.
- Apr. 1978 A Communist-backed coup in Afghanistan results in the assassination of Daud Khan and the establishment of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.
- Jan.-Feb. 1979 The Islamic Revolution in Iran under Ayatollah Khomeini.
- Apr. 1, 1979 Khomeini declares Iran an Islamic Republic.
- Dec. 1979 The Soviet invasion of Afghanistan props up the Afghan regime in its battle against the *mujehaddin*.
- 1980-89 The Iran-Iraq War.
- Jan. 1985 Anti-Russian riots in Dushanbe, Tajikistan.
- Mar. 1985 Mikhail Gorbachev is appointed as General Secretary of the CPSU.
- 1986 The 27th CPSU Party Congress approves the policies of *glasnost* (openness) and *perestroika* (restructuring).
- Dec. 17-18, 1986 Anti-Russian riots in Alma-Ata, Kazakstan, as a result of the Kazak Communist Party chief being replaced by a Russian.
- 1989 Soviet troops withdraw from Afghanistan.
Birlik (Unity) organized as the first serious non-Communist party in Uzbekistan.
- Feb. 1989 Anti-Russian riots in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

June 1989	Ethnic violence in Uzbekistan between Uzbeks and Meskhetian Turks.
June 1989	Riots in Novyi 'Uzen, Kazakstan.
June 4, 1989	The Tiananmen Square massacre in Beijing.
Feb. 1990	Ethnic riots in Tajikistan.
	Ethnic violence in Osh, Kirghiz SSR, between Uzbeks and Kirghiz.
Spring 1991	The five Soviet Central Asian republics declare their sovereignty.
Summer 1991	The failed Communist coup against Gorbachev results in the five republics declaring independence.
Aug. 31, 1991	Kyrgystan and Uzbekistan are declared independent countries.
Sept. 9, 1991	Tajikistan is declared an independent country.
Oct. 27, 1991	Turkmenistan is declared an independent country.
Dec. 1991	Founding of the Commonwealth of Independent States in Almaty.
1992	Beginning of Civil War in Tajikistan.
1993	President Saparmurad Niyazov of Turkmenistan has his presidency extended to 2002 by parliament.
1995	Presidents Nursultan Nazarbarev of Kazakstan and Islam Karimov of Uzbekistan win referendums to extend their presidencies to 2000.