

Chapter 3 Assignment 2

	Connections Across the Indian Ocean: The Sea Roads
Babraham	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Indian Ocean = world's largest sea-based network of communication & exchange (S China - E Africa)
<u>Sea Roads</u> : trans-oceanic routes, trade between China, India through Indian Ocean	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Transoceanic routes- Demand for, porcelain (China), spices from islands (S-Asian), cotton & pepper (India), ivory & gold (E African coast), incense (S Arabia), → incentives for Indian Ocean commerce
<u>Monsoons</u> : Altered wind currents that blew NE during Summer and SW during Winter	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Transp. cost ↓ than Silk Roads b/c ships = larger & heavier cargo than camels- Sea Roads: more mass goods for mass market (textiles, pepper, timber, rice, sugar, wheat) than Silk Roads which were limited luxury goods for few
<u>Dissemination</u> : merchants in the position facilitate commercial exchange & introduced new religious traditions to the host society.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Monsoons- Early common Era, understanding of monsoons, tech of shipbuilding & nav.- New sails- Chinese (junks), Indian/Arab (dhows),- new means of calculating latitude (astrolabe)- evolving versions of compass / magnetic needle- Permanent settlements of foreign traders along older routes- merchants learned: local languages, culture, trading practices, retaining links to home society
	1. Commerce, State Building, & Religion in SE Asia
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- 600-1500: city & state or kingdoms emerged on both islands & China- traders introduced 3 religions: Buddhism, Hinduism & Islam

Srivijaya: example of
connection between
commerce, state
building, and religious
change

Borobudur: large
mountain shaped
structure of terraces
with 3 mile walkway
& elaborate carvings
showing journey
of enlightenment.

Represents Buddhism
becoming culturally
grounded in new
place

- Maylay sailors (active in the waters near SE Asia) opened all sea routes between India & China through Malacca, the small ports along Malay Peninsula & coast of Sumatra began to compete for attracting the traders to the straits.

→ Kingdom Malay of Srivijaya:

dom. Indian Ocean trade 670-1025

- Srivijaya supply

gold, spices, cloves, nutmeg, & more
- taxes on passing ships provided resources to attract

- supporters, fund embryonic bureaucracy
create military & naval forces
(security)

- Srivijayan monarchs employed Indians
as advisors, clerks, & officials

- assigned Sanskrit titles to their subordinates

- Palembang - capital

- cosmopolitan place

- imported Indian political ideas &

Buddhist religious concepts → "higher level
Majra" for rulers & association with India

- Sailendra Kingdom in C Java

- agriculturally rich allied with Srivijaya

- 4th & 10th cen massive building program

- (Hindu temples & Buddhist monuments)

- Famous (Borobudur)

1000 - Hinduism established in Champa
Kingdom

Angkor Wat: Hindu temple
 built in 12th cen in
 Khmer Kingdom, largest
 in premodern world. Express
 Hindu understanding of
 cosmos centered on
 mythical Mount Meru
 (home of gods)
Malacca: city located
 on SE edge of Malay
 Peninsula. Surrounded
 growing Islam in SE
 Asia, should commerce
 in state building, &
 cosmopolitan quality of
 Indian ocean networks

12th cen Khmer Kingdom of Angkor

- Angkor Wat
- exported exotic forest products \leftrightarrow
 Chinese & Indian handicrafts &
 welcoming Chinese merchants into
 permanent settled diasporic community

1400 Islam and Indian ocean

- ruins of SE Asia wanted attract
 Muslim traders
- Blended with Buddhist, Hinduism &
 traditional shamanistic practices

- City of Malay

- Small fishing village \rightarrow major
 port city (became capital of Malay
 muslim Sultanate \rightarrow until 1511 conquered
 by Portuguese)

15th cen

- pop: 100,000, largest city in SE Asia
- stable gov, low custom duties,
 openness to merchants \rightarrow 1500s
 merchants in Malacca
- languages from China, Japan, Java,
 Viet, India, Philippine islands, Egypt,
 East Africa)

- Sultan of Malacca appointed four merchants
 to oversee trade, resolve disputes, & act
 as interforeign merchant common.

- some served as officials in Sultan's gov

- Shops sold

- beads from Islam ME, textiles from
 India, spices from spice island, carpets
 from Iran, silk & Porcelain China, sugar from Philippines

Pepper: Most profitable
for Malaya merchants.
Grown in Sumatra &
S Thailand. Great
demand

Swahili civilization:
8th-15th CE commercial
city-state along
E African C.

15th cen

- Malacca created imperial control over neighbouring regions of Malaya & Sumatra
- People = Malay
- Tribute missions to China
- Chinese naval expeditions

Islam in Malacca

- blended with Hindu/Budd
- Center for Islam learning in 15 cen

1200 maritime international culture

Widespread Islam conversion →
facilitated commercial transactions

2. Commerce, State Building, & Religion
in East Africa

- Swahili civilization

- extensive commercial life of the
Western Indian Ocean (rise of Islam)

- local people & wealthy elites saw
opp. for wealth & power in demand
E African products

- gold, ivory, quartz, leopard skins,
slaves

- iron produced made along C

→ market for Arabia, Persia, India,

- each city-state was politically independent,
gov by own king, competition with other cities

- Not unified

- Exchange: Persian silk, rugs, cottons

- crafted navigational coastal waterways

→ shipment abroad

→ class strat, civil urban societies with distinction
between commoners & mercantile elite

Ibn Battuta: widely traveled Arab scholar, merchant, public official in Swahili in 14th cen found

Muslim societies speaking Arabic.

Great Zimbabwe: state connected to growing trade in gold to the coast from hands of cattle

Banana: first in SE Asia spread of Malagasy - speaking sailors from Indonesia who crossed Indian Ocean and had banana on Madagascar in early common Era

Zheng He: Muslim captain of largest expedition from China

- Swahili lang

- still in E Africa today

- Bantu family of lang

- written in Arabic script & words

- Civilization

- Islamic by Arab traders

- linked to larger Indian ocean trade

- Mosque in E Africa

- Gold

Great Zimbabwe

- Peak 1250 - 1350

- resources & labor power to make stone enclosure without mortar

- Spread of Banana in SE Asia

- production spread inland → enhanced ag productivity, pop growth, so foundation for chiefdoms & states

3. Chinese Maritime Voyages in Indian Ocean world

11th - Chinese sailors present in S China Sea & S Asian port cities

1405 - by emperor Yongle of Ming dynasty

- enormous fleet → next 26 years

by 6 more expeditions

On ship: tailors, accountants, merch, translators, cooks, soldiers & sailors

- Zheng He (captain)

- wanted to reach distant peoples & states in Chinese tribute system

- Rulers who participated by rituals of submission → abundant gifts, titles, trading opp

Zheng He expedition

- established Chinese power in Indian ocean
- control over foreign trade
- Chinese did not want to conquer

1433

- stopped expeditions

Reason - death of emperor Yongle (chief patron of the enterprise)

- China felt threatened by North (barbarians)
- Chinese withdrawal from Indian ocean

facilitated the European entry → cleared the way for Portuguese to enter region where the only power they faced was Ottoman Empire.

Q: What was the Chinese civilization able to gain from the maritime expeditions in the 1400s

Summary Sentence: The Sea Roads allowed religions & cultural traditions from South Asia to Europe to spread. This trade system established civilizations and allowed social mobility.