

**Source:** [\[KBhHIST201KennedyCh1\]](#)

## 1 | Ming China in the 1500s

### China has a lot going for it

- Population 100-130 Mil (Europe has 50-55)
- Complicated and remarkable culture
- Large irrigated and fertile land

### Riches in technology

- Huge, state organized libraries
- Movable type printing
- Compass
- Large ships

### Advanced trade

- Stimulated by canal-building and pop. pressures
- Large iron industry for army and government
- Gunpowder
- Larger cities than medieval Europe

### Zheng He + Seafaring

See Zheng He + Seafaring [\[KBhHIST201ZhengHeSeafaring\]](#)

Also the link above details **some reasons why China closed its trade route.**

### Economic Corruption

See [\[KBhHIST201ChinasDecline1500\]](#) China's Economic Decline in the 1500s

### China's Woes

See [\[KBhHIST201ChinaWoes1500\]](#) China's Woes in the 1500s