

**Source:**

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**The Rise of the Western World** 1500 = divide between modern and pre-modern times

Europe was weak,

Made of a hodgepodge of petty kingdoms

(Ming) China was the most advanced civilization in pre-modern times. - Much larger population - Very fertile and irrigated plains - ect. - Hierarchical administration run by educated Confucian elites

China had a habit of changing its conquerors much more than it was changed by them

Chinese invented the magnetic compass! (go us!)

Also, very early invention of printing.

Had paper money, which expedited commerce

And Gunpowder

Never plundered or murdered when travelling overseas to foreign lands

==Banned good ships, "turned back on world"==

Confucian code states that warfare is a deplorable activity

Laws significantly slowed progress by banning many things Loss of the free market and rapid market expansion

Chinese cities were never allowed the autonomy of those in the west;

Printing only allowed for scholarly activities, > much less for social criticism

**The Muslim World**

had turned in on itself

Problems with the Ottoman Turks (more specifically, their *massive* army)

Took over a bunch of stuff, had super strong navy, yatta yatta,

Without clear directives from above, the arteries of the bureaucracy hardened, preferring conservatism to change, and stifling innovation.

The printing press was forbidden because it might disseminate dangerous opinions.

**Two Outsiders – Japan and Russia**

*Deleted stuff was here...*

**Gunpowder Revolution** Free market led to better weapons and armor Experimentation from this led to gunpowder

Europe improved greatly on the design on the canon, and later countries copied it.

China and Japan didn't produce canons until late because they > clung to their traditional fighting style.

Heavy fortified bases which allow for retreat means that winning battles doesn't "stick" as well

**Sea** People armed with crossbows on the edges of the ship got replace with canons.

Weight and recoil of cannons made three-masted sailing vessel's superior

^ less maneuverable

China left maritime trade.

Culture of Europe led to many more sailors / explorers. led to a massive increase in resources: - Fish for food - Seal / whale oil - Sugar - indigo - tobacco, - rice, - furs, - timber, - potato, - maize, - ect.

Beginnings of a modern world system.

II

The inquiring, rationalist mind was observing more, and experimenting more

This '*explosion of knowledge*' was what ultimately led to Europe's rise to the top.

### *The European Miracle*

**This lack of economic and political rigidity would imply a similar lack of cultural and ideological orthodoxy is, a freedom to inquire to dispute, to experiment, a belief in the possibilities to improvement, a concern for the practical rather than the abstract, a rationalism which defied mandarin codes, religious dogma, and traditional folklore.** Exploitation

Cultural

Coal allows for a lot more land because you can remove forests

Environmental