

**Source:** [KBhHIST201MingChina1500](#) [KBhHIST201ZhengHeSeafaring](#)

## 1 | **Ming's Economic Decline**

Various infighting + change of leadership caused a slow but sure period of economic decline in China.

### 1.1 | **w.r.t. Zheng He's Missions**

See [KBhHIST201ChinasDeclineWRTZhengHe](#)

### 1.2 | **w.r.t. Botched Reopening**

See [KBhHIST201ChinasDeclineWRTReopening](#)

### 1.3 | **w.r.t Declining Currency**

See [KBhHIST201ChinasDeclineWRTCurrency](#)

### 1.4 | **China's Centralization Argument**

- Decentralized? => Ports had almost no central control
- Centralized? => Government structure centralized, but infighting and smuggling
- Centralized policy maneuvers lead to local chaos that could only be addressed to local control, but central control got too big