

Announcements



- Lecture PDFs / Panopto
- Homework readings / assignments
- Map Assignment: Thursday, September 1
 - ▣ Either hard copy or electronic submission
- *No Longer at Ease*
 - ▣ Discussion on Tuesday, August 30 (Reflections and Commentary assignment)

THE RISES AND FALLS OF EMPIRES

August 23, 2016
Global Studies 200

Objectives for Today



- Explore narratives of power and empire
- Examine historical global exchanges and the “rise of European empires”
- Analyze connections between culture and articulations of power

“Narratives”

- Stories, histories
- Explanatory function
 - Important for meaning and identity
 - Important for “direction”
 - Where we were, how we got here, and where we are going and why
- Examples:
 - Salvation narratives
 - Marxist view of history
 - “Belief in progress” through reason and invention

Power

- Basic definition
- Means for establishing power
 - Political processes
 - War and violence
 - Economics, finance, and industry
 - Culture
 - Education (system and knowledge)
 - Modern bureaucracy
- Narratives help us tell the story of power and detail its “process of legitimization”
 - Examples: How country X or person X got great...

Empire

- What does term convey today?
- How might term have once had positive meanings? Why?
- **Center over the periphery**
 - Hierarchies of power and access to power

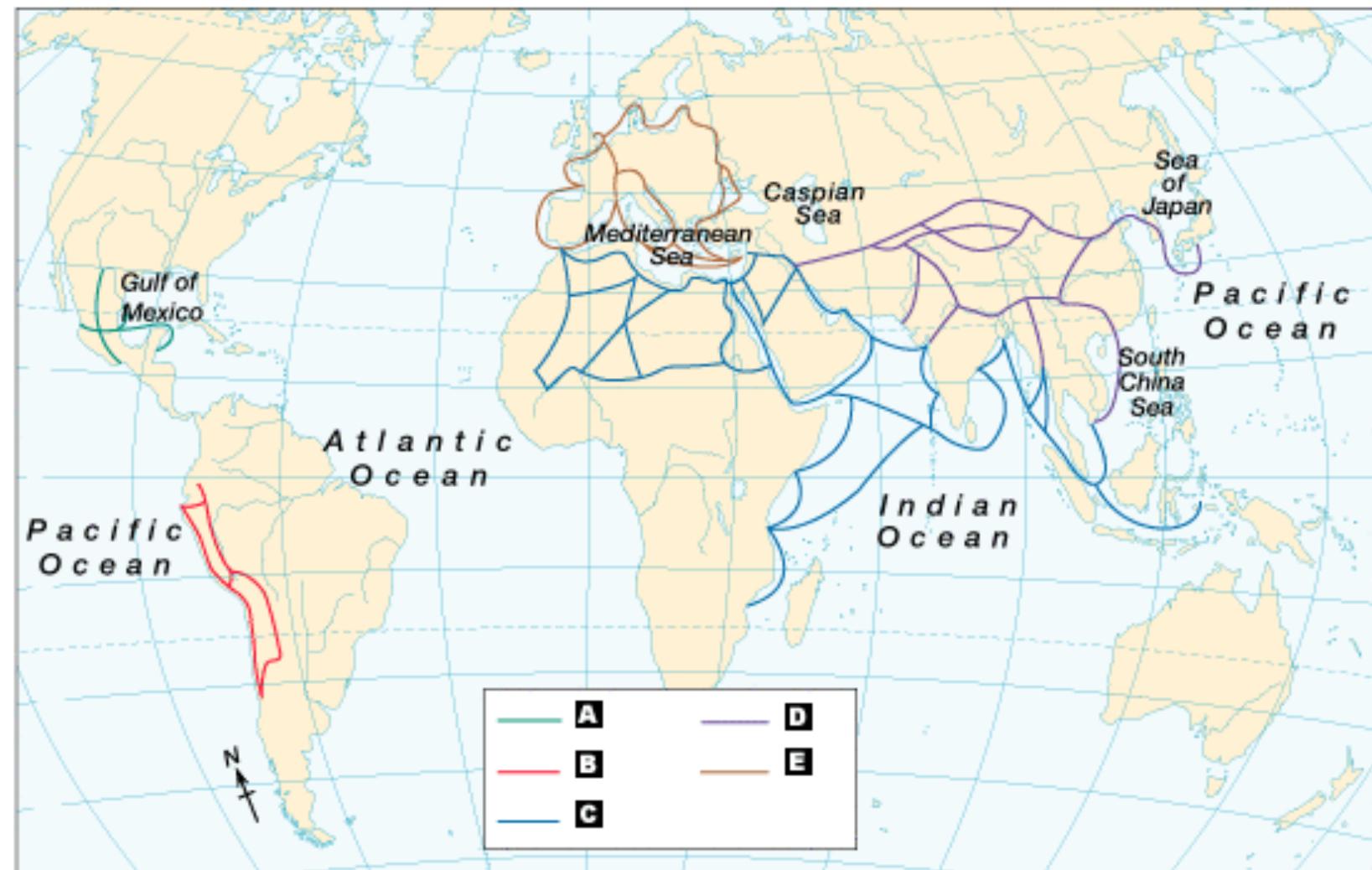


Previous Phases of Global Exchanges

Phases	Start Time	Central Nodes	Dynamics
Prehistory	3000 BCE	East and South Asia	Migrations, trade, conquest
Oriental globalization I	500 CE	Middle East	Integration of world economy
Oriental globalization II	1100	East to South Asia	Productivity, technology
Early Modern	1500	Multipolar and Europe	Triangular trade, Americas
Modern	1800	Euro-Atlantic economy	Colonialism, colonial division of labor

From Jan Nederveen Pieterse, *Globalization and Culture*, 125.

Trade Routes before 1500



Global Exchanges a Constant

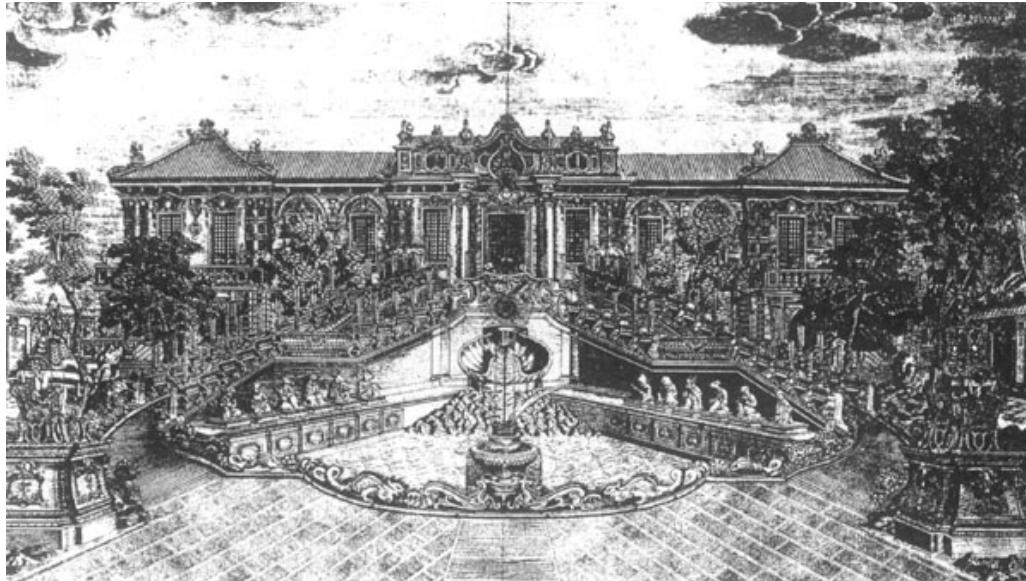


Europe before 1500

- “Little Ice Age” (start of 14th century)
- Black Death in 14th Century
 - 30% to 60% of European population perished in 4 year period
 - Monty Python's [take](#)
- Hundred Years' War (1337-1453)



Global Exchanges between Europe and Asia



Old Summer Palace in China

Map of Venice



Evidence of Exchanges



Süleymaniye Mosque (Istanbul)

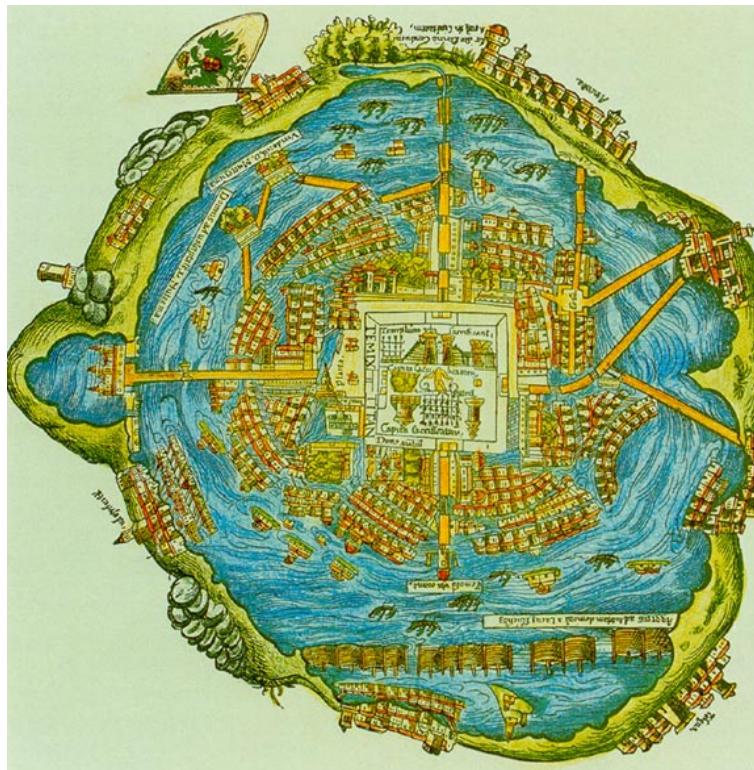


San Marco Basilica, Venice

The Ottoman Empire, ca. 1580



The Aztec Empire (Mexico)



General Question: What is a “civilization”?

Where power recedes...

Ottoman Empire

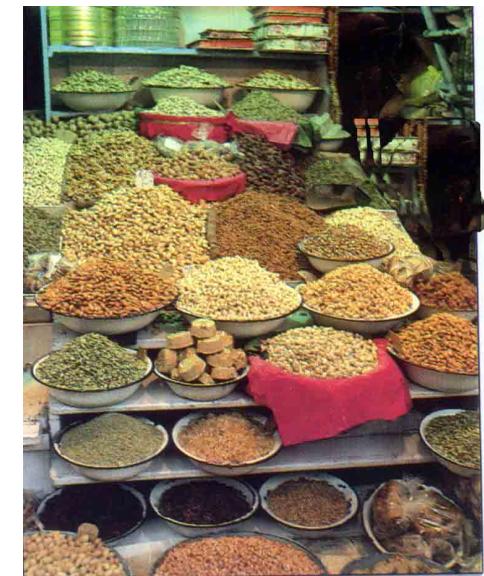
- Slowing expansion of Ottoman Empire
 - Search for revenues, including foreign trade
- Lack of interest in abroad ventures
- Insular belief in cultural superiority

China

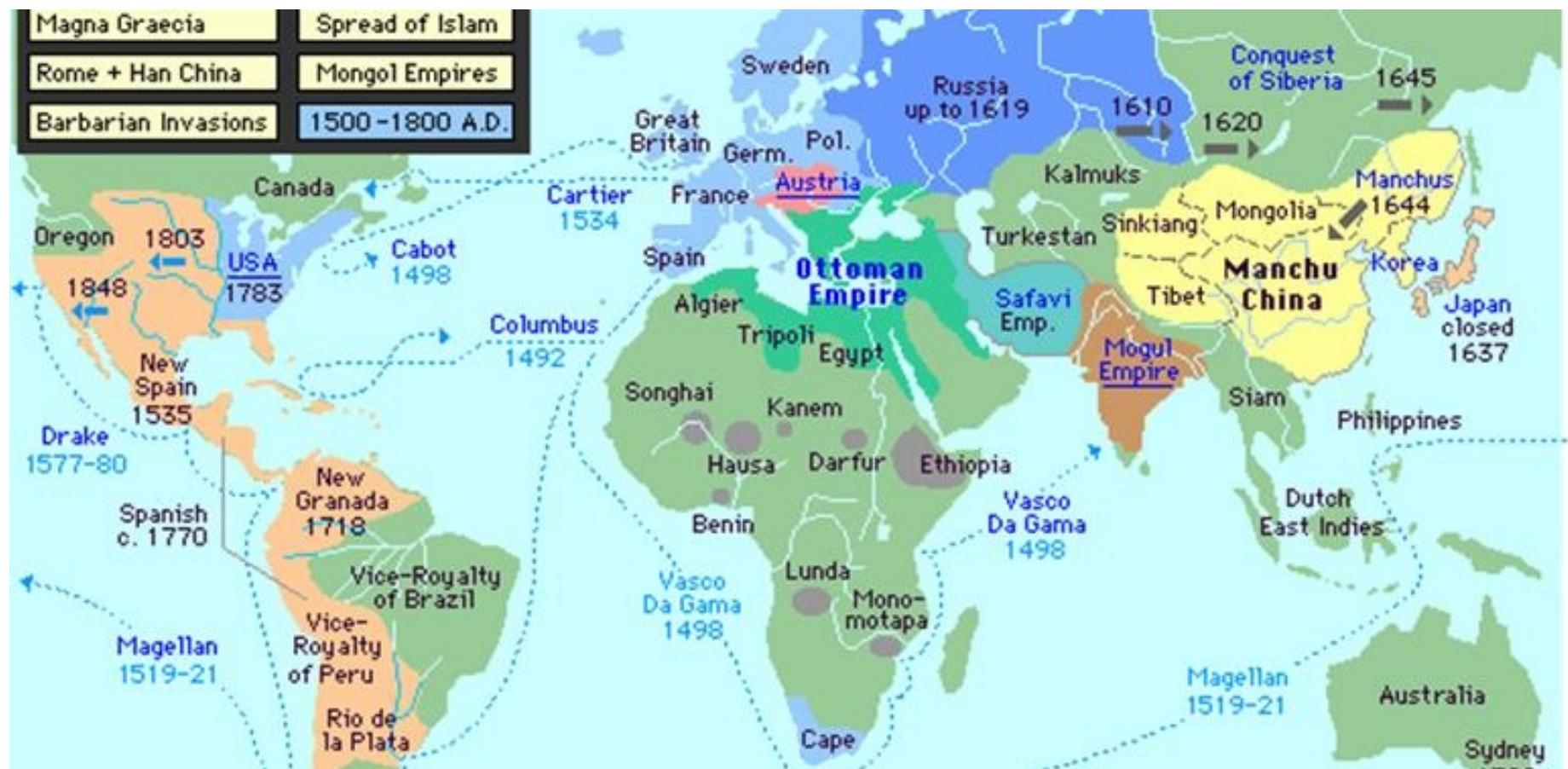
- Technological Achievements and “Retreat”
- Efforts to Preserve Stability in Trade and Technology
 - Limits on Imports
 - Discouragement of Commerce and Technology

...new European powers emerge

- Motivations:
 - Geopolitical shifts in power and exertion of power
 - Growing “global” competition for goods
 - Trade
 - More goods, lower prices
 - Religion
- Advantages of Europeans
 - Technology
 - Transportation and weaponry
 - “Organization” / “Drive”
 - Biological
- The narrative of European superiority and “legitimation” of world dominance begins to emerge



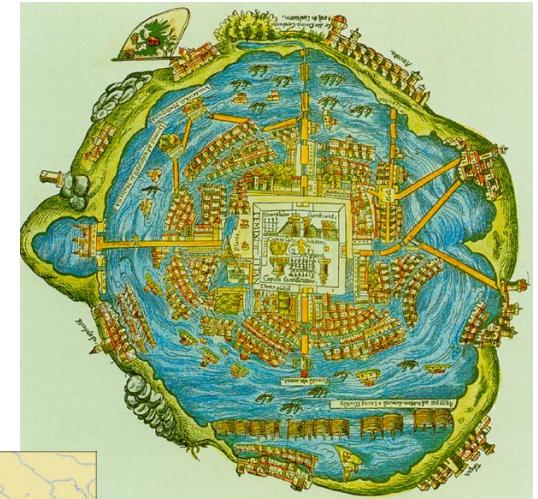
European “exploration”



Exchanges through Conquest

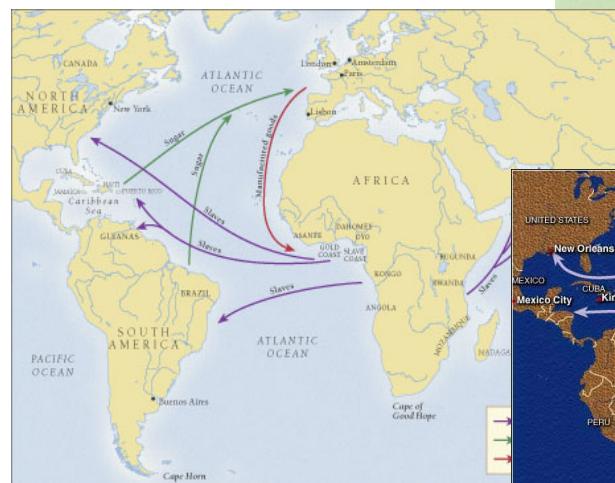
- The Spanish Conquest of Mexico, 1519-1521

- Hernán Cortés (Spain)
 - “*civilization*”



- New “Exchanges”

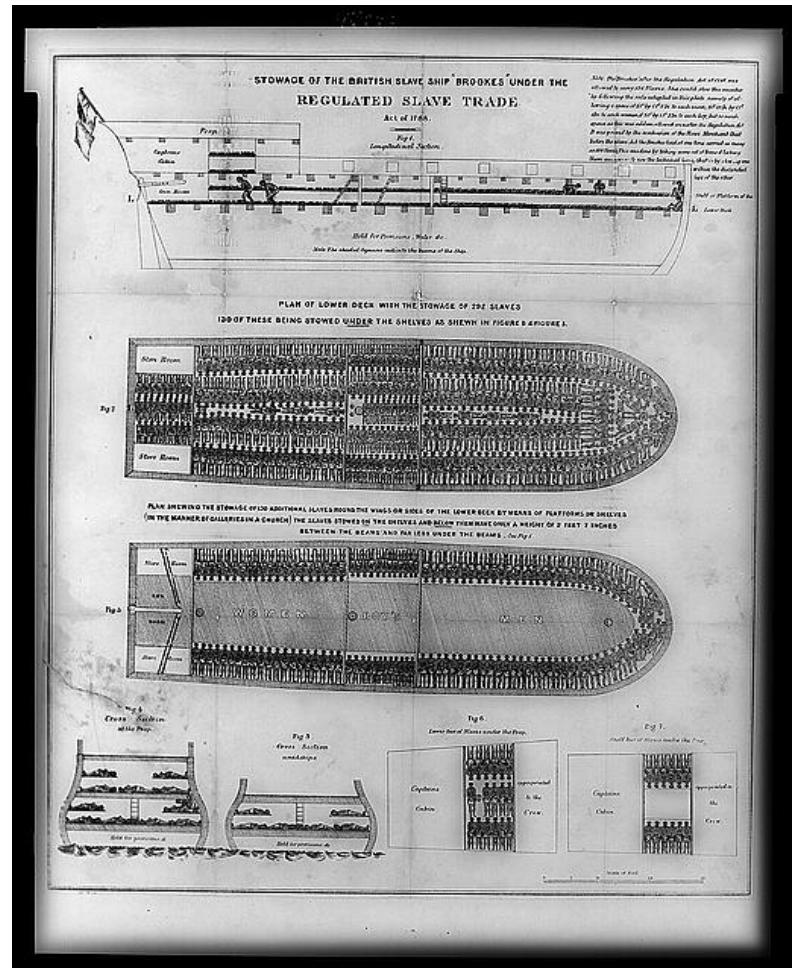
- Disease
 - Agricultural
 - Mining
 - Commerce
 - “Triangular Trade”



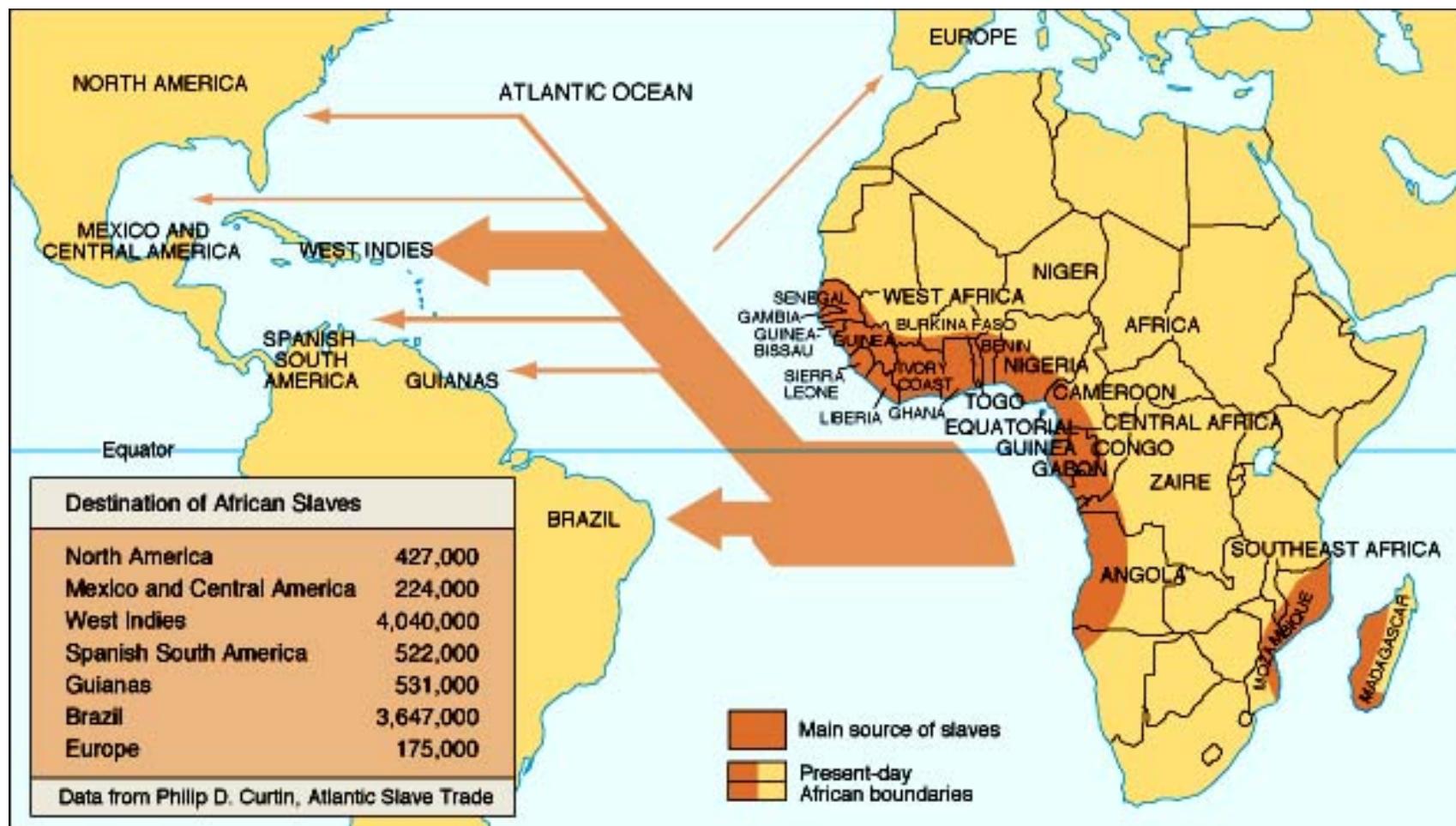
The Atlantic Slave Trade



“The Middle Passage”

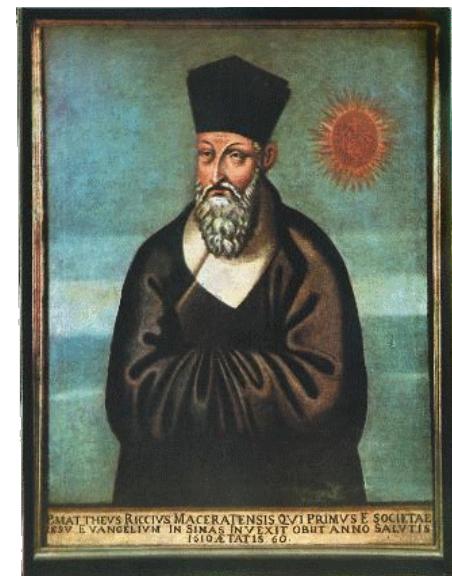
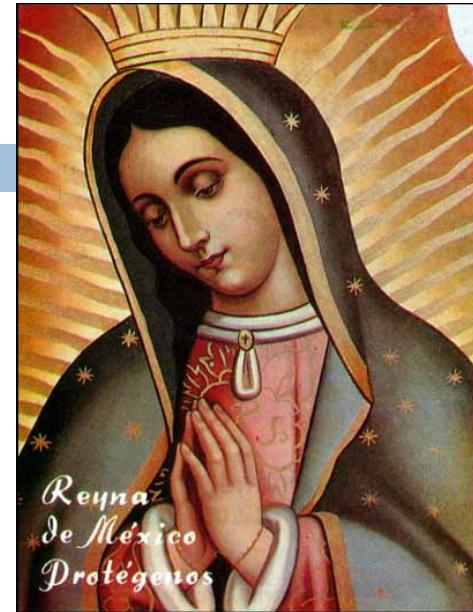


Destinations of African Slaves



Cultural Exchanges

- Christian Missionaries
- Successes and limits:
“Hybridization”
 - Matteo Ricci (1552-1610)



Eventually: European Colonization of the Americas



Asia

- The British in India (1612 – 1947)
- European economic and political interests in China
 - Why then? (And why now?)
- What does Qianlong letter tell us about China at end of eighteenth century?
- What does it tell us about the interests of Britain?
- What does it tell us about “power” and “narratives” of power and empire? And their rise and fall?

Transitions and reminders



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