

Chapter 23 - Transoceanic Encounters and Global Connections

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European Reconnaissance of World's Oceans

- European mariners launched a series of voyages to explore all of the world's waters between 1400 and 1800.
- Funded both by private institutions and governments in order to return a profit.
- Established global networks of *communication, transportation, and exchange*.

Motives for Exploration

- Motivated by urge to cultivate cash crops, establish direct trade routes to Asia, and expand Christianity's influence.

Portuguese Exploration

- Began out of need for more land to cultivate wheat, since Portugal was poor.
- Motivated by European demand for sugar to set up plantations on various Atlantic islands.

The Lure of Trade

- After fall of Mongol Empire and spread of bubonic plague, Silk Road became dangerous again.
- Europeans had to go through Muslim merchants for Asian goods and these prices were inflated - they needed a direct route!
- Monarchs and merchants were lured to trade by demand for Asian goods by wealthy people.
- African goods motivated Europeans to find direct routes by sea, avoiding Muslim-controlled land routes.
- (not sure if this is important, but Europeans got spices and stuff from Asia and gold/ivory/slaves from Africa).

Missionary Effort

- Christianity is a missionary religion just like Buddhism and Islam.
- Christian missionary work was often peaceful, but not always (Crusades, reconquista, etc.)
- Ocean routes gave Christianity a new medium to spread.

The Technology of Exploration

- Mariners needed sturdy ships, navigation equipment, and sailing techniques to allow them to traverse long distances of open ocean.

Ships and Sails

- Borrowed a lot of ship design from the East.
- Used a rudder on the stern to increase maneuverability.
- Used sail designs from the classical era - one sail for following winds, another for crosswinds.
- Used advanced sails and rudders to navigate in any wind situation.

Navigational Instruments

- Used magnetic compasses and astrolabes to keep track of direction and latitude (technology from the east).
- Used them to navigate the oceans and assemble data about the planet's geography.

Knowledge of Winds and Currents

- Explored and compiled knowledge about winds and currents.
- Took advantage of these patterns to access almost any part of the planet.

The *volta do mar*

- Before, mariners would attempt to fight the winds directly in order to return from places.
- Decided to go out of their way and allow local winds to push them to the right winds to take them home.
- Allowed reliable travel to any coastline in the world.

Voyages of Exploration: from the Mediterranean to the Atlantic

- Europeans wanted to establish a sea trade route from Mediterranean to India.
- Kept rediscovering the Canary Islands in the process so they just conquered them.

Prince Henry of Portugal

- Conquered Moroccan port of Ceuta.
- Sponsored a series of voyages down west African coast, establishing trade outposts along the way.
- Exchanged European horses, leather, textiles, and metal stuff for gold and slaves.
- Bartolomeu Dias (1488) - Rounded Cape of Good Hope and entered Indian Ocean, discovered route from Europe to India.
- Europeans now had direct access to Asian trade without Muslim intermediaries. Woo.

Vasco de Gama

- Went on a trading expedition to India which was rather unsuccessful.
- He did bring back pepper and cinnamon so the Europeans stayed interested.
- 1500s - Portuguese entered ports all over the Indian ocean basin.
- English and Dutch mariners followed them in the late 1500s.

Christopher Columbus

- Underestimated distance from Canary Islands to Japan.
- Spanish monarchs funded his voyage to attempt to find this western passage to Asia.
- Stumbled upon the Caribbean islands, he believed he was in China and sent out a delegation to find the emperor. Stupid man.

Hemispheric Links

- Columbus was not successful, but he did inspire other mariners to pursue this western passage to Asia.
- The Americas had a lot of opportunity for the Europeans.
- Columbus' voyages linked the hemispheres and paved the way for conquest, settlement, and exploitation of the Americas by Europeans.

Voyages of Exploration: from the Atlantic to the Pacific

- Some sailors were not satisfied with Americas and continued looking for western path to Asia.
- Spanish military commander sighted Pacific Ocean in 1513 while in Panama, but underestimated its size.

Ferdinand Magellan

- Was determined to find a Western passage to Asia.
- Portuguese weren't interested because they had their route to the Indian Ocean.
- He sailed for Spain.

The Circumnavigation

- Probed South America and found a way around its southern tip.
- Sailed to Guam, to pick up provisions (lots of his crew were dying of scurvy).
- Proceeded to Philippines and ended up getting involved in political dispute which got him killed.
- Crew continued to Maluku to get cloves, then through the familiar Indian Ocean, and finally back to Spain.
- This was the first circumnavigation in history.

Exploration of the Pacific

- Pacific Ocean took three centuries to chart its features.
- English navigators tried to find a northwest passage, but didn't find one (there is one but it's just too icy).
- French and English mariners scouted that top region of North America while looking for the passage.
- Russians got involved too, primarily in Alaska and a trading post in the Hawaiian Islands

Captain James Cook

- Charted eastern Australia and New Zealand, and added Hawaii, Vanuatu, and New Caledonia to European maps.
- Died in a scuffle in Hawaii, but showed interest in Polynesian culture.
- By the time of his death in 1779, European geographers had compiled an understanding of the planet's ocean basins and the lands and peoples around them.

Trade and Conflict in Early Modern Asia

- Europeans had learned how to sail to any port and return safely.
- Sought commercial opportunities at their various destinations.
- Established trading posts in Eastern Hemisphere, but did not have manpower to dominate it.
- Commercial and political competition in the Eastern and Western hemispheres led to conflict between the Europeans.
- By 1763 (Seven Year's War), British emerged victorious and were able to dominate world trade and build a vast empire.

Trading-Post Empires

Portuguese Trading Posts

- Portuguese mariners built the earliest trading-post empire.
- Controlled trade routes by forcing merchant ships to dock at trading sites and pay duties.
- Attempted to control African slave and gold trade, as well as Indian pepper trade.
- Also controlled some access to China and Japan.

Afonso d'Albuquerque

- Portuguese ships could overpower most other ships due to their heavy artillery.
- Albuquerque architected their aggressive policy on other ships in order to gain control of Indian Ocean trade.
- Was never able to totally dominated, but accounted for half of the European spice trade (Arabs still took the cake in the Red Sea).

English and Dutch Trading Posts

- English and Dutch merchants also built trading posts on Asian coasts but did not attempt to control the seas.
- Had faster, cheaper, and more powerful ships than the Portuguese.
- Conducted trade through a more efficient system than the Portuguese: joint-stock companies.

The Trading Companies

- English East India Company and the Dutch United East India Company
- Private merchants funded these companies and were unhampered by political issues.
- Got charters from the government to buy/sell/build trading posts, and start wars in the interest of the company.
- Both contributed to early formation of global trade network.
- English grew REALLY wealthy from all of this trade.

European Conquests in Southeast Asia

- Europeans conquered indigenous peoples, built territorial empires, and established and settled colonies.
- Unable to dominate powerful Asian centralized states but traded with them.
- Conquered and imposed rule on the southeastern Asian islands of Philippines and Indonesia.

Conquest of the Philippines

- Philippines had no centralized government prior to Spanish invasion.
- Spanish used *guns* and ships to destroy opposition.
- By the 1700s, they controlled all of the archipelago except Mindanao due to Muslim resistance.

Manila

- Spanish turned Manila into a bustling multicultural port city.
- Became the hub for Spanish trade activity in Asia.
- Shipped silk goods to Mexico in the *Manila galleons*.
- Along with trade, Spanish attempted to spread Christianity.
- Opened schools to teach Christianity and basic literacy.

Conquest of Java

- Dutch mariners weren't concerned with Christianity when they were in control of Indonesia.
- Dutch East India Company established authority over Java by exploiting local issues.
- Used the islands as a trade hub for the company to trade with Chinese and Malaysians.
- Profits from the spice trade here (they traded cloves, nutmeg, and mace) made the Dutch East India Company and the Netherlands very wealthy throughout the 1600s.

Foundations of the Russian Empire in Asia

- While Western Europeans built maritime empires, Russia focused on a land empire.
- Took over Mongol khanates in central Asia, traded with the Ottomans, Iranians, and Indians via Caspian Sea.

Siberia

- Siberia was useful for the lucrative fur trade.
- Russians entered Siberia and reached the Pacific Ocean by 1639.

Native Peoples of Siberia

- Home to 26 major ethnic groups that lived by hunting, trapping, fishing, or herding reindeer.
- Russians exacted tribute from them, gifted them with iron tools and commodities in exchange for fur, and punished them if they rebelled.
- After Siberians began suffering due to rebellion and epidemic disease, Russians sought to integrate them into Russian society. *This failed.*
- Russians not as forceful about spreading their Russian Orthodox Christianity because it exempted converts from fur tributes.
- Siberians continued following native shamans.

Russian Occupation of Siberia

- Russians filtered into Siberia despite its harsh conditions.
- Agricultural settlements appeared near trading posts.
- Working conditions lighter here than in Russia proper, so peasants were inclined to come.
- By 1763, 420,000 Russians lived in Siberia.

Commercial Rivalries and the Seven Years' War

Competition and Conflict

- In the 1600s-1700s, running wars existed between ships of different countries.
- In the Indian Ocean, the Dutch dominated the spice trade and ousted less powerful Portuguese merchants.
- English and French soon overshadowed the Dutch with Indian cotton and tea trade.
- Hostile takings of trading posts, such as an important British port in India, occurred.
- English pirates attacked Spanish ships from Mexico, taking their silver cargo.
- English and French battled over sugar islands.
- *The takeaway?* European conflicts spilled over into the Americas.

Seven Years' War

- Peak of combination between political and commercial rivalries.
- Lasted 1756-1763.
- Global war: took place in Europe, India, Asia, North America, the Caribbean, involved people from each place.
- Laid the foundation for 150 years of British world TRADE domination (empire didn't come until the 1800s).
- British and French made alliances with indigenous peoples in North America against each other (French and Indian War, 1754-1763). Ahhh, Ms. Volikas memories...

British Hegemony

- British didn't have to worry about Europe because Prussia already held off massive land armies. Convenient.
- British armies and navies overcame enemies all over the world.
 - Ousted French from India and Canada, allowed them to keep Caribbean.
 - Took Florida from the Spanish but let them keep Cuba.
- Gave them immense power over world trade. To reiterate, this was NOT the British Empire yet!!

Global Exchanges

- European explorers had established links between each part of the world.
- New interactions between peoples created an unseen volume of exchange across cultural and social regions.
- Biological exchanges were a huge impact (disease, food, beasts of burden).
- Commercial exchange also flourished (posts in Indian, Atlantic, and Pacific Oceans)..

The Colombian Exchange

- Before, Islam had facilitated diffusion of plants and animals in east during 700-1100.
- Major consequence was the bubonic plague.

Biological Exchanges

- *Colombian exchange* - global diffusion of plants, food crops, animals, human populations, and disease pathogens, that took place after exploratory voyages of Chris Columbus and other European mariners.
- Unlike earlier exchanges, Colombian exchange included lands with very different life and diseases.
- By linking Oceania and the hemispheres, they opened a can of worms that permanently changed human geography and natural environment.
- Infectious and contagious diseases killed many indigenous Americans and Pacific Islanders (smallpox, measles, whooping cough, flu) due to non-existent native immunity.
- This loss of people severely threatened indigenous societies.

Epidemic Diseases and Population Decline

- Beginning in 1519, smallpox epidemics combined with Spanish rule largely destroyed Aztec and Inca indigenous political, social, and cultural traditions.
- Spread across North and South America even before Europeans reached those places.
- Colombian exchange sparked worst demographic calamity in world history, killing 100 million people or so between 1500 and 1800.

Food Crops and Animals

- Global spread of crops and animals made up for the losses to disease.

- Europe gave Americas wheat, vines, horses, cattle, pigs, sheep, goats, and chickens.
- Sharply increased supply of food and animal energy, even making previously unusable land cultivatable, and made grass useful by raising livestock.

American Crops

- Americas gave Europe, Africa, and Asia maize, potatoes, beans, tomatoes, peppers, peanuts, manioc, papayas, guavas, avocados, pineapples, tobacco, and cacao.
- These crops slowly caught on in Eurasian recipes and increased calories in their diets.
- Peanuts and manioc made previously inefficient west African soils valuable.

Population Growth

- Colombian exchange led to surge in world population.
- In 1500, population was around 425 million. By 1800, it was 900 million.
- Due to increased nutritional value of diets due to global exchange of food crops and animals.

Migration

- Both voluntary and involuntary migration between hemispheres surged during this time.
- Between 1500 and 1800, large amount of migrants were African slaves transported to South/North American and Caribbean destinations.
- During 1800s, Europeans traveled in massive numbers to Americas, Australia, south Africa, and Pacific islands.
- Asians migrated to tropical and subtropical destinations in the world.

Origins of Global Trade

- By late 1500s, Europeans were as prominent as Arabs in Indian Ocean trade.
- Europeans moved Persian carpets to India, Indian cotton to southeast Asia, southeast Asian spices to India and China, *inhales* Chinese silks to Japan, and Japanese silver and copper to China and India. *The takeaway?* Europeans simulated eastern hemisphere commerce.

Transoceanic trade

- Europeans also inspired genuinely global trade for the first time.
- Trade networks extended to all areas of Atlantic ocean basin due to European colonies in Americas.
- Europeans traded goods for Mexican and Peruvian silver and American/Caribbean sugar.
- Europeans also traded guns and textiles to south/west Africa for slaves.

The Manila Galleons

- From 1565 to 1815, Spanish galleons took stuff between Asia and Mexico with pit stop in Philippines.
- Took Asian luxury goods from Manila to Mexico for silver.
- China had huge demand for silver due to thriving domestic economy (China based its currency off of silver).
- Asian luxury goods sometimes stayed in Mexico but mostly ended up in European markets.

Environmental Effects of Global Trade

- Fur-bearing animals became endangered or extinct due to high demand for fur pellets.
- Also harvested many deer, codfish, whales, walrus, seals, and other species.
- Yet world trade continued to become more intricate, with all parts of the world besides Australia participating in global networks of commercial relations - Europeans were on top.