

TOPICS to be covered



1 Making of Global World



The Making of a Global World

Globalisation





The Pre-modern World

When we talk of 'globalisation' we often refer to an economic system that has emerged since the last 50 years or so.

Global world - long history – of trade, of migration, of people in search of work, the movement of capital, and much else.



The Pre-modern World

All through history - human societies - interlinked.

From ancient times, travellers, traders, priests and pilgrims travelled vast distances for knowledge, opportunity and spiritual fulfilment, or to escape persecution.



The Pre-modern World

They carried goods, money, values, skills, ideas, inventions, and even germs and diseases.

As early as 3000 BCE an active coastal trade linked the Indus valley civilisations with present-day West Asia.



The Pre-modern World

100³ years

sea shells

For more than a millennia, cowries from the Maldives found their way to China and East Africa.

Long-distance spread of disease-carrying germs may be traced as far back as the seventh century



Image of a ship on a memorial stone, Goa Museum, tenth century CE.

From the ninth century, images of ships appear regularly in memorial stones found in the western coast, indicating the significance of oceanic trade.



Silk Routes Link the World

- What is this?
- Why is known as the Silk Route?
- The silk routes are a good example of vibrant pre-modern trade and cultural links between distant parts of the world.
- The name 'silk routes' points to the importance of West-bound Chinese silk cargoes along this route.



- ❖ Historians- identified several silk routes, over land and by sea, knitting together Asia with Europe and northern Africa.
- ❖ Existed - before the Christian Era.
- ❖ Chinese pottery, textiles and spices from India and Southeast Asia –return gold and silver (Europe to Asia).
- ❖ Trade and cultural exchange always went hand in hand.
- ❖ Christian missionaries, Muslim preachers, Buddhism.



Food Travels: Spaghetti and Potato



- ❖ Traders and travellers introduced new crops to the lands they travelled
- ❖ Noodles(CHINA) --- Spaghetti(WEST)
- ❖ Pasta (ITALIAN) ?
- ❖ Arab traders took pasta to fifth-century Sicily, an island now in Italy



west
china



- ❖ Christopher Columbus --- discovered the Americas; Potatoes, soya, groundnuts, maize, tomatoes, chillies, sweet potatoes
- ❖ Sometimes new crops could make the difference between life and death???
- ❖ Europe's poor began to eat better and live longer with the introduction of the humble potato.
- ❖ Ireland's poorest peasants became so dependent on potatoes that when disease destroyed the potato crop in the mid-1840s, hundreds of thousands died of starvation.



Conquest, Disease and Trade



- ❖ European sailors found a sea route to Asia and also successfully crossed the western ocean to America - pre-modern world shrank greatly
- ❖ India – Indian Ocean – Trade
- ❖ Indian Ocean had known a bustling trade, with goods, people, knowledge, customs, etc. criss-crossing its waters.
- ❖ America - its vast lands and abundant crops and minerals began to transform trade and lives everywhere.



- ❖ Precious metals, particularly silver, from mines located in present day Peru and Mexico also enhanced Europe's wealth and financed its trade with Asia.
- ❖ Legends spread in seventeenth-century Europe about South America's fabled wealth.
- ❖ Many expeditions set off in search of El Dorado, the fabled city of gold.
- ❖ Precious metals from Peru and Mexico - enhanced Europe's wealth and financed its trade with Asia.





- ❖ Portuguese and Spanish conquest and colonisation of America - not just a result of superior firepower - germs such as those of smallpox that they carried on their person (HOW?)
- ❖ America's original inhabitants - no immunity against these diseases that came from Europe.
- ❖ Smallpox proved a deadly killer - paving the way for conquest.



❖ Thousands - fled Europe for America. Why?

1. Until the nineteenth century, **poverty and hunger** were common in Europe.
2. **Cities** were crowded and **deadly diseases** were widespread.
3. **Religious conflicts** were common, and religious dissenters were persecuted.
4. Started **plantation farming** (cotton and sugar)- sold in European markets.



- Until well into the eighteenth century, China and India were among the world's richest countries. From the fifteenth century, China is said to have restricted overseas contacts and retreated into isolation.
- China's reduced role and the rising importance of the Americas gradually moved the centre of world trade westwards. Europe now emerged as the centre of world trade.