Quang Huynh

Indian Ocean Dhows – Dhows are Indian and passenger ships of the Arabic sea. They had grown from an average capacity of 100 tons in 1200 to 400 tons in 1500. Also, these dhows would use the northeast monsoon winds and then return on the southwest monsoons, which is a typical expedition for these dhows.

Chinese Junks – Chinese junks were the largest, most technologically advanced, and most seaworthy vessels of the time. Junks were used to carry passengers and transport goods. These junks could carry 100 passengers along with a cargo of over 1,000 tons.

Swahili Coast – The Swahili Coast are East African shores of the Indian Ocean between the Horn of Africa and the Zambezi River. The word term, Swahili, came the Arabic term, sawahil, which means shore. The Swahili Coast and the ports surrounding the coast were used for commerce, supplying gold, horses, and more.

Great Zimbabwe – An ancient city that has many stone structures built between the years 1250 and 1450. The Great Zimbabwe was a trading center and a capital of a large state. This city is now in ruins and is the capital of Kilwa.

Ethiopia – A wealthy Jew from Aden named Yosef had settled in Christian Ethiopia and acted as an advisor. A dynasty had ruled over Ethiopia that claimed descent from King Solomon of Israel. Ethiopia had received a great increase in trade through the Red Sea port of Zeila. They would trade amber, slaves, and animal pelts. Furthermore, Ethiopia’s territorial expansion and efforts to increase control over the trade of Zeila ships would provoke conflicts with Muslims who ruled over the coastal states of the Red Sea.

Important cities on Indian Ocean Trade Network – Great Zimbabwe traded with cities such as Kilwa, Zeila, Aden, Ethiopia, Yemen, and others. Goods were transported using the Indian Ocean dhows.

State of Gujarat – Located in western India, Gujarat prospered from the expanding trade of the Arabian Sea and the rise of the Delhi Sultanate. The land is blessed with a rich agricultural hinterland and a long coastline, attracting new trade after the fall of the Mongols.

Southeast Asia – Malacca – A port city located in modern Malaysia and is used as a trading center on the Strait of Malacca. Malacca had grown from a fishing village into an important port through a series of astute alliances. Moreover, the conversion of an early ruler from Hinduism to Islam helped promote trade with Muslim merchants from Gujarat.

Examples of cultural and social change on African and Asian regions – The leader of Gujarat converted to Islam and started promoting trade with Muslims, performing cultural exchange in the process. Furthermore, Ethiopia would trade items to other countries and cities, which resulted in cultural exchange as well. These trades would lead to lifestyle changes and new technologies, along with achievements and advancements. The upcoming religions and faiths affected people’s perception on objects and routine.

Timbuktu – Timbuktu is a city on the Niger River. It is found on the modern city of Mali. Over 150 schools taught the Quran while leading clerics taught advanced classes in mosques or homes. The city was founded by Tuareg as a seasonal camp. Part of the Mali empire, Timbuktu became a major terminus of the trans-Saharan trade and a center of Islamic learning.

Spread of Islam, End of Buddhism – Islam had spread through others persuading others to become Muslim. Then later, Islam spread through cultural and social exchange. Meanwhile, Buddhism was already decaying as Islam was spreading.

Slave Trade – Mali and Bornu sent slaves across the Sahara to North Africa. In addition, the Saharan and Red Sea traders sold about 2.5 million African slaves. Then, many wealthy households contained many slaves, each one for doing a specific job or jobs. There were also slaves who participated in the military as well.

Women in India and Africa – The status of Hindu women have improved and had more rights than earlier Hindu women. Indian parents gave their daughters in marriage before puberty, and wives faced more strict rules of fidelity and chastity than their husbands. Women also had more rights than non-widowers and could inherit land from their husband.