

Unit 4: Transoceanic Connections (1450-1750)

Topic 4.1: Causes of European Exploration

Learning Objective 1: Explain the causes of maritime exploration by European states.

A. Knowledge, scientific learning, and technology from the Classical, Islamic, and Asian worlds spread, facilitating European technological developments and innovation.

B. European states initiated maritime exploration for a variety of economic reasons.

C. European state support supported transoceanic exploration in a variety of ways.

Topic 4.2: Economic Effects of European Exploration

Learning Objective 3: Explain the economic effects of maritime exploration by European states.

A. Portuguese exploration led to increased travel to and trade with Africa and Asia and resulted in the construction of a global trading post-empire.

B. Spanish voyages across the Atlantic and Pacific dramatically increased European interest in transoceanic travel and trade.

C. The English, French, and Dutch crossed the North Atlantic with the goal of finding alternative sailing routes to Asia.

Topic 4.3: The Columbian Exchange

Learning Objective 1: Explain the causes of the Columbian Exchange and its effects on the Eastern and Western Hemispheres.

A. Afro-Eurasian fruit trees, grains, sugar, and domesticated animals were brought by Europeans to the Americas, while other foods were brought by African slaves.

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| <p>B. European colonization of the Americas led to the unintentional transfer of disease vectors and the spread of disease which substantially reduced the indigenous populations.</p> | |
| <p>C. American foods became staple crops in parts of Europe, Asia, and Africa. Cash crops were grown primarily on plantations and were exported mostly to Europe and the Middle East.</p> | |
| <p>D. Populations in Afro-Eurasia benefitted nutritionally from the increased diversity of American food crops.</p> | |

Topic 4.4: Establishment of Maritime Empires

Learning Objective 1: Explain the process of state building and expansion among various empires and states from 1450-1750.

A. Europeans established trading posts in Africa and Asia, which proved profitable for those involved in the new global trade networks.

B. Driven by political, religious, and economic rivalries, European states established maritime empires.

C. Some Asian states sought to limit the disruptive economic and cultural effects of European dominated trade by adopting restrictive or isolationist trade policies.

D. The expansion of maritime trading networks fostered the growth of states in Africa.

Learning Objective 2: Explain the changes and continuities in labor systems from 1450-1750.

A. Slavery in Africa continued in its traditional forms, including incorporation of slaves into households and the export of slaves to the Mediterranean and Indian Ocean regions.

B. Newly developed colonial colonies in the Americas utilized existing labor systems.

C. Newly developed colonial colonies in the Americas introduced new labor systems.

D. The growth of the plantation economy increased the demands for slaves in the Americas, leading to significant demographic, social, and cultural change.

Topic 4.5 Maritime Empires Maintained and Developed

Learning Objective 1: Explain how rulers employed economic strategies to consolidate and maintain power throughout the period 1450-1750.

A. Mercantilist policies and practices were used by European rulers to control their economies and claim overseas territories.

B. Joint-stock companies were used by rulers and merchants to finance to finance exploration.

C. Economic disputes led to rivalries and conflicts between states.

Learning Objective 2: Explain the changes and continuities in networks of exchange from 1450-1750.

A. The Atlantic trading system involved the movement of goods, wealth, and labor.

B. The new global circulation of goods was facilitated by chartered European monopoly companies and the global flow of silver.

C. Existing trade networks in the Indian Ocean continued to flourish and included intra-Asian trade and Asian merchants.

C. Peasant and artisan labor continued and intensified in many regions as the demand for food and consumer goods increased.

Learning Objective 3: Explain how political, economic, and cultural factors affected society from 1450-1750.

A. Some notable gender and family restructuring occurred, including demographic changes in Africa that resulted from the slave trade.

B. The Atlantic trading system contributed to an expansion of cultural synthesis.

Learning Objective 4: Explain the similarities and differences in how various belief systems affected societies from 1450-1750.

A. The increase and intensification of interactions between newly connected hemispheres expanded the reach and development of existing religions, contributed to religious conflicts, and led to the development of syncretic belief systems and practices.

Topic 4.6: Internal and External Challenges to State Power from 1450-1750.

Learning Objective 1: Explain the effects of the development of state power from 1450-1750.

A. State expansion and centralization led to resistance from an array of social, political, and economic groups on a local level.

B. Slave resistance challenged existing authorities in the Americas.

Topic 4.7: Changing Social Hierarchies from 1450-1750

Learning Objective 1: Explain how social categories, roles, and practices have been maintained or have changed over time.

A. Many states adopted practices to accommodate the ethnic and religious diversity of their subjects.

B. Many states utilized the economic, political, and military contributions of different ethnic or religious groups.

C. Some states suppressed diversity or limited certain groups roles in society, politics, or the economy.

D. Imperial conquests and widening global economic opportunities contributed to the formation of new political and economic elites.

E. The power of existing political and economic elites fluctuated as the elites confronted new challenges to their ability to affect policies of the increasingly powerful monarchs and leaders.