

# A LATE AGRARIAN / AN EARLY MODERN ERA



**Period Four: Global Interactions, c.1450 - 1750**

# LATE AGRARIAN OR EARLY MODERN AGE?

- EMA: Globalization and Modernity
  - Globalization
    - Oceanic voyages / the Conquest / Triangle Trade
    - Precious metals (silver) allow Europeans to become active agents in Asian trade
      - Seville / Potosi / Philippines / China
    - Columbian Exchange: transfer of diseases, plants and animals
    - Christianity becomes a global religion
    - Russia expands east to the Pacific (manifest destiny like USA?)
    - China expands into inner Asia
    - Ottoman Empire rules from Indian Ocean to N Africa to SE Europe



# LATE AGRARIAN OR EARLY MODERN AGE?

## ◦ EMA: Globalization and Modernity

### • Modernity

- Scientific Revolution in Europe: affects *understanding*
- World population doubles: 400 to 800 million
  - Corn, potatoes / end of Mongol invasions / recovery from Black Death
  - Not in America ☹
  - Africa grows, but lopsided...slavery
- Commercial Urbanized societies develop in Eurasia and Americas
  - Japan!
  - China, SE Asia, India, Atlantic Basin – people produce for foreign markets
- States become stronger and more centralized / promote trade, manufacturing, and a common culture
- Asian gunpowder empires: incorporate smaller societies
- Colonial Empires
- Population pressure and plantation agriculture led to:
  - Deforestation, draining swamps, and encroachment on traditional grounds of gatherer-hunters and pastoralists



# LATE AGRARIAN OR EARLY MODERN AGE?

## ○ LAA...by 1750

- Most people still living in *traditional* patterns
- Euro power limited in Africa and Asia
- Africans set the rules of slave trade
- Islam was most rapidly growing religion / Africa and SE Asia
- India and China still giants comparatively
- No hints of Industrial revolution looming
- Landowning elites, not middle class
- Rural peasants, not urban workers
- Social inequalities still dominant
- Sovereignty – Autocracy / divine right
- Trad values prevailed: Confucianism, Hinduism, Caste system



# POLITICAL TRANSFORMATIONS: EMPIRES AND ENCOUNTERS

- Theme 1: Interaction Between Humans and the Environment
  - Most significant environmental consequences since settled agriculture!  
Col.Ex.
  - Diffusion! Syncretism and consequences
  - Great Dying: 90+%
    - Smallpox, measles, influenza, typhus, yellow fever, starvation, treatment
  - Transferred to Americas:
    - Wheat, rice, sugarcane, grapes (wine), veggies and fruits
    - Cash Crops / Replace forests and grasslands / “require” plantation labor systems
    - Domesticated animals / ranching and herding economies / destroyed local habitats
  - From the Americas
    - Potatoes, corn, sweet potatoes, cassavas
    - Fuels Eurasian population growth / minimizes damage to African population
    - Tobacco and chocolate {Tea from China and Coffee from E. Africa / Middle East}
  - Cash Crops: sugarcane, tobacco, cotton
    - Monoculture (Dust Bowl), institutionalized slavery, foreign markets



# POLITICAL TRANSFORMATIONS: EMPIRES AND ENCOUNTERS

- Theme 1: Development and Interaction of Cultures
  - Europeans impose their culture on America and Central Asia
    - More natives, more indigenous culture remains [Mexico / Andes] – syncretism
    - Less natives = “little Europes”
  - Language and Religion transplanted
    - Must learn if one wants power / status
    - Often destroyed native culture / cannot go back! (Aztec)
    - Catholicism in Americas / EO via Russian Expansion (competes with Islam)
    - Missionaries: Jesuits in China and Japan
  - Mughal, Ottoman and Qing – larger means absorption



# POLITICAL TRANSFORMATIONS: EMPIRES AND ENCOUNTERS

- Theme 1: Development and Interaction of Cultures
  - Qing
    - From Manchuria, foreigners, attempted to remain separated
      - No intermarriage with “Han”
      - Manchurian dress retained
      - Did adopt Confucianism standards of gender attitudes and bureaucracy for legitimacy
      - Did not incorporate Muslim and Buddhist populations into Chinese culture upon conquering Mongolia, Tibet and Xinjiang in contrast to previous conquests
  - Mughal
    - Turkic Islamic rulers over large population of Hindus
    - Akbar – respectful leader
    - Aurangzeb – reversed tolerance – enforced Sharia law / destroyed Hindu temples, reinstated Jizya
    - Art and architecture *still* reflected culture blending
      - Hindu, Arabic and Persian...ex. Taj Mahal



# POLITICAL TRANSFORMATIONS: EMPIRES AND ENCOUNTERS

- Theme 1: Development and Interaction of Cultures
  - Ottoman Empire
    - Turks, minority in conquered territory
    - Allowed local autonomy for Armenians, EO, RC, Jews
    - Devshirme – Janissaries
      - Welcomed Jews from Spain and Portugal
    - Also influenced by Persian art and architecture





# POLITICAL TRANSFORMATIONS: EMPIRES AND ENCOUNTERS

- Theme 3: State-Building, Expansion and Conflict
  - Superior military training, technology and gunpowder allow Eurasian empires to flourish
    - Russian Expansion and its political / social contradictions
      - Peter and Catherine the Great – Westernization
    - Ottomans sultans become Caliphs – power of church and state
      - Again, devshirme / Persian precedents
    - Qing adopted Confucian Civil Service Exam
      - Like Ottomans, many local Muslim and Buddhist authorities retained autonomy
    - Mughal succeeded in unifying most of South Asia
      - Again, Akbar, accommodating policies, using Hindus in gov't and military
      - \*resistance to successor's policies lead to British colonial takeover
    - Spanish and Portuguese Colonies
      - Ruled directly under Viceroys / Peninsulares vs. Creoles
      - Encomienda system / mita
    - British (and French) – less direct – English “rights”



# POLITICAL TRANSFORMATIONS: EMPIRES AND ENCOUNTERS

- Theme 5: Development and Transformation of Social Structures
  - Colonial America
    - Few women – more inter-marrying (inter-breeding?)
    - Pen, Creole, Mestizo, Mulatto, NA, African
    - Urban vs Rural
    - Settler Colonies in North vs. Plantation Colonies in South and Caribbean
      - Land available, quality of land, numbers of indigenous
    - Obviously, still patriarchal
  - Qing enforce Confucian gender norms
  - Mughal relax Hindu Sati and marriage rites
  - Turkic women enjoy pastoralism liberties early, lose them upon settlement (adopt Mediterranean and Middle Eastern notions)



# ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATIONS: COMMERCE AND CONSEQUENCES

- Theme 1: Interaction Between Humans and the Environment
  - American mining – Potosi in Bolivia
  - Intensive single-crop agriculture produced for world markets
    - Sugar, nutmeg, silk, tea, cotton
  - Forced and voluntary movements of peoples
    - Africans, Native Americans, Dutch East Indies (Chinese to Taiwan)
  - Cities grew as trade and administrative centers / ex. Manila in Philippines
  - Fur trading and its extinction effects



# ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATIONS: COMMERCE AND CONSEQUENCES

- Theme 3: State-Building, Expansion, and Conflict
  - Asians resisted Europeans way better than the Americas
  - Differing Success Rates:
    - Dutch model in Indonesia, very successful and brutal
    - British play upon divisions in fracturing Mughal Empire



# ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATIONS: COMMERCE AND CONSEQUENCES

## ○ Theme 4. Economic Systems

- What brought Europeans into the IO Trade Business?
  - Italian city-states introduce taste and methods
  - Muslims take Constantinople and cut off traditional supplies and profits
  - Profits motivated Portuguese, Spanish and later the English French and Dutch
  - Scientific approach to navigation and exploration
  - When West meets East, the West had nothing the East wants...
  - Creates the negative trade balance of *mercantilism*
  - Coastal outposts – wall street mentality / trading post empires
  - Bullion is discovered in Americas and is desirous to the Asians
  - Causes inflation and rebellions in Asia
  - Spain does not understand investing profits (free money!)
    - Wars, wars and wars!



# ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATIONS: COMMERCE AND CONSEQUENCES

## ○ Theme 4. Economic Systems

### ● China

- Taxes to be paid in silver
- Causes increased specialization of local economies / changes traditional peasant life / loss of self-sufficiency for cash crops

### ● Africa

- Europeans did not take over Africa – participated in existing and growing networks
- Take guns, rum, textiles, cowrie shells, tobacco, gunpowder

### ● Slavery...not your “run of the mill” system

- Gender imbalance / Increased polygamy



# CULTURE TRANSFORMATIONS: RELIGION AND SCIENCE

- Theme 2: Dev. and Interaction of Cultures
  - Martin Luther and the Protestant Reformation
    - 95 Theses
    - Printing Press and Mass appeal / vernacular versions
    - Emphasis on the individual
  - Catholic Counterreformation and Inquisition
    - Jesuits, Dominicans, Franciscans, Council of Trent, Witches
    - Reconquista
    - “backsliding” minorities in American colonies
  - Syncretic versions in the Americas form
    - Vodun, Santeria
  - Jesuits sought in Asia...but made little impact overall



# CULTURE TRANSFORMATIONS: RELIGION AND SCIENCE

- Theme 2: Dev. and Interaction of Cultures
  - Islam
    - Carried to Sub-Saharan Africa via Sufis
    - Islamization for elite/urban
    - SE Asia – syncretic Islam
    - Bhakti movement in India (similar to Sufiism)
    - Guru Nanak and Sikhism in the Punjab (India)
    - Rejuvenation movements:
      - Fulbe in West Africa (Jihads)
      - Aurangzeb in Mughal India
      - Wahhabis in Arabia
  - China
    - Neo-confucianism (Buddhism and Daoism insights)
    - Buddhism becomes more accessible to layman
    - Kaozheng – research / evidence-based learning
      - But used to examine old texts





# CULTURE TRANSFORMATIONS: RELIGION AND SCIENCE

- Theme 2: Dev. and Interaction of Cultures
  - Europe
    - Scientific Revolution
    - Muslim science, Hindu numerals, rediscovery of “classics” as well as skepticism...with a healthy side of competition
    - Geo vs Helio-centered universe
    - Contributes to the Enlightenment (same thing, right?)
    - Adam Smith and the birth of economics
    - ...the hope of progress

