**Regional and Transregional Interactions**

**600 C.E. to 1450**

**SNAPSHOT ~600 C.E.**

End, Eurasian Classical Period - epidemics, political and economic collapse, civil wars, invasions

except Byzantine Empire - after end of Justinian rule, expansion of territory, and plague

early Tang dynasty – peak, then decline of Buddhism in China

Chinese Buddhism diffused/spread to Japan

Japan – unifying, centralizing political structure by Yamato clan (emperor) modeled after Tang China

Ghana Empire - first west African advanced, urban culture

polytheistic and animist north Africa and southwest Asia

expanding transregional trade routes, interactions (Indian Ocean, Transaharan Africa,, Silk Roads)

early feudalistic, Christian, Jewish, and pagan western Europe after fall of western Roman Empire

cultural and technological backwater

continuing Polynesian migrations throughout Oceania

start of decline of Teotihuacan in Central Mexico

“Classical” period Mayan city-states

early Anasazi culture in North America

***Key Concept 3.1 Expansion and Intensification of Trade, Communication, and Exchange Networks***

**1. Improved transportation technologies and commercial practices led to expansion of existing trade routes and volume of trade**

A. Existing trade routes flourished, leading to growth of powerful new trading cities

Required examples, existing trade routes: Silk Roads, Mediterranean Sea,

Trans-Saharan, AND Indian Ocean

One example of new trading cities: Novgorod, Timbuktu, Swahili city-states,

Hangzhou, Calicut, Baghdad, Melaka, Venice, Tenochtitlan, OR Cahokia

B. New Mesoamerica and Andes region trade routes developed

C. More sophisticated caravan organization, use of compass, astrolabe, larger ship

design, new forms of credit and monetization, increased luxury and other goods trade

One example of luxury goods: silk and cotton textiles, porcelain, spices, slaves,

precious metals and gems, OR exotic animals

One example of caravan organization: caravanserai OR camel saddles

One example of new forms of credit and monetization: bills of exchange,

credit, checks, OR banking houses

D. State practices, infrastructure building (i.e., Grand Canal in China) and trading organizations (i.e., Hanseatic League) improved trade and commercial growth

One example of state practices: minting of coins OR use of paper money

E. Empires expansion encouraged/facilitated trans-Eurasian trade – newly conquered

peoples were drawn into their conquerors’ economies and trade networks

Required examples: Byzantine Empire, China, the Caliphates, AND the Mongols

**2. Movement of peoples caused environmental and linguistic effects**

A. Expansion and intensification of long-distance trade routes often depended on

environmental knowledge and technological adaptations to the environment

One example: Vikings longships to travel in both open waters and rivers, Arab and Berber camels adapted to travel across the Sahara desert, OR ways Central Asian pastoral/herding groups used horses to travel across steppes/grasslands

B. Some migrations had significant environmental impacts. Required examples:

Bantu-speaking people and their spread/diffusion iron technologies and agricultural techniques in Sub-Saharan Africa AND Polynesian maritime

migrations taking food staples and domesticated animals to new islands

C. Some migrations and commercial contacts led to the diffusion of languages to a

new region or the development of new languages - One example:

spread of Bantu (including Swahili) OR Turkic and Arab languages

**3. Intensification of existing or creation of new trade and communication networks/routes led to more cross-cultural exchanges**

A. Islam developed in the Arabian Peninsula, reflecting interactions among Jews, Christian, Zoroastrians with Arabs. Muslim rule expanded to many regions of

Afro-Eurasia due to military actions, merchants, missionaries, and other factors

B. Merchants often set up diasporic communities (away from ancestral homelands) in

cities along important trade routes, where they introduced their own cultural

traditions into local/indigenous culture. One example of merchant communities:

Muslim merchants in the Indian Ocean, Chinese in SE Asia, Sogdians in Central Asia OR Jewish merchants in Mediterranean, Indian Ocean, Silk Roads.

C. Writings of interregional travelers illustrate both the extent and limitations of

intercultural knowledge and understanding - One example: Ibn Battuta,

Marco Polo, OR Xuanzang

D. Increased cross-cultural interactions resulted in the diffusion of literary, artistic, and

cultural traditions - One example: influence of Neoconfucianism and Buddhism in East Asia, Hinduism and Buddhism in SE Asia, Islam in Sub-Saharan Africa and SE Asia, OR Toltec/Mexica and Inca traditions in Mesoamerica and Andean America

E. Increased cross-cultural interactions also resulted in the diffusion of scientific and technological traditions - One example: influence of Greek and Indian mathematics

on Muslim scholars, return of Greek science and philosophy to Western Europe

via Muslim al-Andalus in Iberia (Islamic Spain), OR diffusion of printing and

gunpowder from East Asia to Islamic empires and Western Europe

**4. Continued diffusion of crops and disease pathogens throughout the Eastern Hemisphere along the trade routes**

A. New foods and agricultural techniques were adopted in populated areas.

One example: bananas in Africa, new rice varieties in E. Asia, OR spread of

cotton, sugar, and citrus throughout Dar al-Islam and Mediterranean region

B. Spread of epidemic disease, including the Black Death, followed established paths of

trade and military conquest

***Key Concept 3.2 Continuity and Innovation of State (Political units) Forms and their Interactions***

**1. Empires collapsed - some were re-established – in some regions new**

**forms of states (political systems/units) emerged**

A. Re-established empires, including the Byzantine Empire and the Sui, Tang, and

Song dynasties, combined traditional sources of power and legitimacy with

new political innovations – One example of traditional sources of power and legitimacy: patriarchy, religion OR land-owning elites

One example of political organization innovation: new methods of taxation,

tributary systems OR adaptation of religious institutions

B. New forms of governance/political systems developed, including: various Islamic

states, the Mongol Khanates, city-states, and decentralized government (feudalism) in Europe and Japan - One example of Islamic states: Abbasids,

Muslim Iberia, OR Delhi Sultanates

One example of city-states in: the Italian peninsula, East Africa, Southeast

Asia OR the Americas

C. Some states synthesized/combined local and borrowed governance traditions –

One example: Persian traditions that influenced Islamic states OR

Chinese traditions that influenced states in Japan

D. State/political systems expanded in scope and power in the Americas – networks of

Mayan city-states and imperial Mexica/Aztec and Inca states at end of the period

**2. Interregional contacts and conflicts between states and empires**

**encouraged significant technological and cultural transfers**

Required examples: between Tang China and the Abbasids, across the Mongol empires,

AND during the Crusades

***Key Concept 3.3 Increased Economic Production and its Consequences***

**1. Innovations stimulated agricultural and industrial production in many**

**regions**

A. Agricultural production increased significantly due to technological innovations

One example: Champa rice varieties, chinampa field systems, waru waru raised

beds and canals in Andes region, improved terracing OR horse collar

B. In response to increasing demand in Afro-Eurasia for foreign luxury goods, crops

were transported from original locations to equivalent eco-systems.

C. Chinese, Persian, and Indian artisans increased their production of textiles and

porcelains; industrial production of iron and steel expanded in Song China.

**2. City fates varied – some declined, others prospered and grew**

A. Multiple factors contributed to the decline of some cities: invasions, disease,

decline of agricultural productivity AND/OR the Little Ice Age

B. Multiple factors influenced urban revival, including: end of invasions, safe and

reliable transportation, rise of commerce and warmer temperatures between

800 and 1300, increased food production and subsequent population rise,

AND/OR greater availability of labor helped urban growth

C. Older cities decline, while new cities developed to take on established urban roles and

functions/activities. Cities continue to play key roles as government, religious, and

commercial/economic/trade centers.

**3. Despite continued traditional patterns in many socio-economic class systems and economic production, there were important changes in labor systems and the effect of religious conversions on gender relations and family life.**

A. As in the previous time period; there were many forms of labor systems/organization:

free peasant agriculture

nomadic pastoralism/herding and foraging

craft production and guild organizations

various forms of coerced and unfree labor (slavery, serfdom, mit’a, corvee labor)

government imposed labor taxes and military obligations

B. As in the previous period, social systems were shaped by socio-economic class and

caste hierarchies (rankings).

C. Patriarchy persisted; however in some areas, women exercised more power and influence, ` most notably among the Mongols, in W. Africa, Japan, and SE Asia.

D. New forms of coerced labor appeared, including serfdom in feudal Europe and Japan,

and the mit’a system in the Inca Empire. Free peasants resisted attempts to raise dues and taxes by staging revolts. The demand for slaves for both military

and domestic purposes increased – particularly in central Eurasia, regions in

Africa, and the eastern Mediterranean.

One example of regions where free peasants revolted:

China OR the Byzantine Empire

E. The diffusion/spread of Buddhism, Christianity, Islam, and Neoconfucianism often led to significant changes in gender relations and family structure.

**TRANSFORMATIVE EVENTS**

* Rise of Islam
* Southeast Asian trade increases through Straits of Malacca
* Teotihuacan at height of regional power and influence-trade to current US Southwest

**KEY EVENTS**

* Origins and diffusion of Islam
* Turkic conquest of India (creating Muslim, Delhi Sultanate)
* Population growth and agricultural improvements led to powerful, new regional states in Africa, western Europe, Americas, smaller states in Polynesia
* Russian tsars convert to Christianity, monotheism
* Diffusion of Indian mathematics to Arabs
* Mongol conquests of Song China, much of Eurasia (Russia and Ukraine)
* Crusades
* Papa- European monarchs conflict, “Investiture Controversary”
* Nomadic Turkic gradual conquest of fragmented Abbasid (first Muslim) caliphate
* Rise and decline of Mali
* Travel of Ibn Battuta and Marco Polo
* Swahili dominance of east Asian trade
* Viking dispersed settlements and intermarriage
* Black Death, bubonic plague diffuses from Asia to Europe and Africa

**CONTINUITIES**

* European and Japanese feudalism
* Chinese cultural patterns & dynastic cycle
* Major cities centers of trade, government, religion, and culture
* Trans-regional trade
* Roman legal system maintained in Byzantine Empire basis for western European legal system
* Shintoism, Buddhism, Confucianism in Japan and the Japanese imperial family
* Patriarchy - regional inequality increased
* Slavery and other forms of forced labor
* Mixture of African agricultural, nomadic, and urban cultures
* Nomadic trade and conflict with settled, advanced, urban cultures (civilizations)

CHANGES

* Increase in long-distance trade, interactions of Indian Ocean and trans-Saharan trade routes
* Revival of earlier Silk Road trade and interactions (under Mongol protection)
* Bantu migrations
* Diffusion of Islam, Christianity, and Buddhism
* Song restrictions on women’s legal rights, footbinding
* Early European Renaissance
* Long-distance trade from Mesoamerica to North America

**Period 3: Regional and Trans-regional Interactions, c. 600 to c. 1450 CE**

**Key Concept 3.1 Expansion and Intensification of Communication and Exchange Networks**

1. How did trade networks in the post-Classical Era compare to the Classical Era?
2. What new technologies, governmental policies, and merchant activities accompanied these developments?
3. What role did pastoral and nomadic groups play in these trade networks?
4. How did the physical size of post-Classical trade networks compare to the previous era?
5. What Classical era trade networks continued during the post-classical era, and which new cities were added during the post Classical era?
6. What new trade network(s) developed in this era?
7. What new technologies enabled the growth of interregional trade networks?
8. What factors encouraged commercial growth in the post-classical era?
9. How did the expansion of empires & trade networks affect the relationship between peoples inside vs. outside those “zones?”
10. What were the effects of migration in the postclassical era?
11. What basic understandings of environment and technology did post-classical traders need to conduct their business?
12. What were the environmental effects of migration in the post-classical era?
13. What were the linguistic effects of migration in the post-classical era?
14. How did trade networks as a whole develop in the postclassical era?
15. Why and where did Muslim trade networks change in the post-classical era?
16. What institutions did merchants create to foster both trade and cultural diffusion in the post-classical era?
17. How well did post-classical societies know and understand each other?
18. How did post-classical trade affect the diffusion of literary, artistic, and cultural traditions?
19. How did post-classical trade affect the diffusion of scientific and technological traditions?
20. What were the biological effects of post-classical trade?
21. What diseases and pathogens also spread via post-classical trade networks?

**Key Concept 3.2 Continuity & Innovation of State Forms and Their Interactions**

1. How did state forms develop in the post-classical era?
2. How did post-classical states avoid the mistakes of classical empires in the regions where classical empires collapsed?
3. What new forms of governance emerged in the postclassical era?
4. How & where did governmental diffusion occur in the post-classical era?
5. How did states in the Americas develop in the post-classical era?
6. What technological and cultural exchanges did states encourage in the post-classical era?

**Key Concept 3.3 Increased Economic Productive Capacity and Its Consequences**

1. What were the overall worldwide economic trends in the post-classical era?
2. What new innovations affected agriculture in the post-classical era?
3. How and why did crops migrate during the postclassical era?
4. How did textile and porcelain production develop in the post-classical era?
5. Why did some post-classical urban areas decline?
6. Why did some post-classical urban areas prosper and grow?
7. What roles did cities play in their societies during the post-classical era?
8. How did social and labor systems develop during the post-classical era?
9. What pre-existing labor systems continued through the post-classical era?
10. How did social and gender hierarchies develop in the post-classical era?
11. What new labor forms developed in the postclassical era?
12. Why did some gender roles and family structures change in the post-classical era?