Period 4: Global Interactions, c. 1450 to c. 1750

# Key Concept 4.1. Globalizing Networks of Communication and Exchange

The interconnection of the Eastern and Western hemispheres made possible by transoceanic voyaging marked a key transformation of this period. Technological innovations helped to make transoceanic connections possible. Changing patterns of long-distance trade included the global circulation of some commodities and the formation of new regional markets and financial centers. Increased transregional and global trade networks facilitated the spread of religion and other elements of culture as well as the migration of large numbers of people. Germs carried to the Americas ravaged the indigenous peoples, while the global exchange of crops and animals altered agriculture, diets, and populations around the planet.

4.1.I.: In the context of the new global circulation of goods, there was an intensification of all existing regional trade networks that brought prosperity and economic disruption to the merchants and governments in the trading regions of certain areas. Give examples of the economic disruptions in the following areas:

Indian Ocean:

Mediterranean:

Overland Eurasia:

Sahara:

4.1.II.: What new technologies made transoceanic travel and trade possible?

4.1.III.A.: How did Prince Henry the Navigator contribute to the increased Portuguese travel and trade into Africa, and result in the construction of a global trading-post empire?

4.1.III.B..: What role did the Spanish play in the sponsorship of the first Columbian voyage and other subsequent voyages across the Atlantic and Pacific? How did this dramatically increase European interest in transoceanic travel and trade?

4.1.III.C.: Who was involved in the Northern Atlantic crossings? What were they searching for? What did they find?

4.1.III.E.: To what degree were established exchange and communication networks affected by the European presence in the Pacific Ocean?

4.1.IV.: Explain how royal chartered European companies were involved in global trade.

4.1.IV: How did silver from Spanish colonies play into the grand scheme of global trade?

4.1.IV.A: What role did European merchants play in Asian trade?

4.1.IV.B.: Explain how commercialization and the creation of a global economy were intimately connected to a new global circulation of silver from the Americas.

4.1.IV.C.: What is the concept of mercantilism?

4.1.IV.C: How were joint-stock companies used by European rulers in the global economy?

4.1.IV.D.: What was the Atlantic system and how did it influence the world at this time?

4.1.V: Describe the Columbian Exchange.

4.1.V.A.: Explain the impact that disease had in the Columbian Exchange.

4.1.V.B.: What American food became staple crops in various parts of Europe, Asia, and Africa? What were some of the cash crops that were developed at this time?

4.1.V.C.: What domesticated animals were brought to the Americas by the Europeans? What foods were brought by African slaves?

4.1.V.D.: How did the populations in Afro-Eurasia benefit nutritionally from the increased diversity of American food crops?

4.1.V.E.: Describe how European colonization and the introduction of European agriculture and settlement practices in the Americas affected the physical environment.

4.1.VI.A.: As Islam spread to new settings in Afro-Eurasia, believers adapted it to local cultural practices. How?

4.1.VI.A.: What caused the increased split between the Sunni and Shi’a Muslims?

4.1.VI.B.: How did Christianity diversify as it spread throughout the world? What role did the Reformation play in this process?

4.1.VI.B.: What role did Christianity play in China?

4.1.VI.C.: How did Buddhism spread within Asia?

4.1.VI.D.: What was Sikhism and how did it develop in South Asia?

4.1.VII.: Describe the impact that increased merchant profits and government taxes had on the funding toward the visual and performing arts, along with the expansion of literacy.

# Key Concept 4.2. New Forms of Social Organization and Modes of Production

Although the world’s productive systems continued to be heavily centered on agricultural production throughout this period, major changes occurred in agricultural labor, the systems and locations of manufacturing, gender and social structures, and environmental processes. A surge in agricultural productivity resulted from new methods in crop and field rotation and the introduction of new crops. Economic growth also depended on new forms of manufacturing and new commercial patterns, especially in long-distance trade. Political and economic centers within regions shifted, and merchants’ social status tended to rise in various states. Demographic growth — even in areas such as the Americas, where disease had ravaged the population — was restored by the eighteenth century and surged in many regions, especially with the introduction of American food crops throughout the Eastern Hemisphere. The Columbian Exchange led to new ways of humans interacting with their environments. New forms of coerced and semi-coerced labor emerged in Europe, Africa, and the Americas, and affected ethnic and racial classifications and gender roles.

4.2.I.: What was the Little Ice Age, and what effect did it have on agricultural practices and settlements in parts of the Northern Hemisphere?

4.2.II.A: How did the increase in peasant labor lead to the intensification of silk textile production in China?

4.2.II.B.: What role did Africa play in the slave trade in the Mediterranean and Indian Ocean regions?

4.2.II.C.: How did the growth of the plantation economy increase the demand for slaves in the Americas?

4.2.I.D.: Colonial economies in the Americas depended on a range of coerced labor. Explain the following examples of coerced labor: chattel slavery, indentured servitude, Encomienda and Hacienda systems, and the Spanish adaptation of the Inca mit’a system.

4.2.III.A.: How did both imperial conquests and widening global economic opportunities contribute to the formation of the Creole elites in Spanish America?

4.2.II.A.: How did the Manchu come to power in China? How did they restructure the social hierarchies in China?

4.2.III.B.: How did the power of the zamindars in the Mughal Empire fluctuate as they confronted new challenges to their ability to affect the policies of the increasingly powerful monarchs and leaders.

4.2.III.B.: How did the power of the daimyo in Japan fluctuate as they confronted new challenges to their ability to affect the policies of the increasingly powerful monarchs and leaders.

4.2.III.B.: How did the power of the nobility in Europe fluctuate as they confronted new challenges to their ability to affect the policies of the increasingly powerful monarchs and leaders.

4.2.III.C.: Describe the demographic changes that occurred in Africa due to the slave trade.

# Key Concept 4.3. State Consolidation and Imperial Expansion

Empires expanded and conquered new peoples around the world, but they often had difficulties incorporating culturally, ethnically, and religiously diverse subjects, and administrating widely dispersed territories. Agents of the European powers moved into existing trade networks around the world. In Africa and the greater Indian Ocean, nascent European empires consisted mainly of interconnected trading posts and enclaves. In the Americas, European empires moved more quickly to settlement and territorial control, responding to local demographic and commercial conditions. Moreover, the creation of European empires in the Americas quickly fostered a new Atlantic trade system that included the trans-Atlantic slave trade. Around the world, empires and states of varying sizes pursued strategies of centralization, including more efficient taxation systems that placed strains on peasant producers, sometimes prompting local rebellions. Rulers used public displays of art and architecture to legitimize state power. African states shared certain characteristics with larger Eurasian empires. Changes in African and global trading patterns strengthened some West and Central African states — especially on the coast; this led to the rise of new states and contributed to the decline of states on both the coast and in the interior.

4.3.I.A.: How did European rulers use the religious ideas, the arts, and monumental architecture to display political power and to legitimize their rule?

4.3.I.A.: How did the rulers of the Gunpowder Empires use the religious ideas, the arts, and monumental architecture to display political power and to legitimize their rule?

4.3.I.B.: How did European rulers continue to use religious ideas to legitimize their rule?

4.3.I.B.: How did the Safavid use Shiism to legitimize their rule?

4.3.I.B.: How did the Aztec (Mexica) leadership us the practice of human sacrifice to legitimize their rule?

4.3.I.B.: What were some of the Manchu policies toward the Chinese people that limited their power to challenge the authority of the state?

4.3.I.B.: Describe how the Ottomans treated non-Muslim subjects in ways that utilized their economic contributions while limiting their ability to challenge the authority of the state.

4.3.I.B.: Describe how the Spanish and Portuguese created new racial classifications in the Americas in such a way that utilized their (Creole, Mestizo, Mulatto) economic contributions while limiting their ability to challenge the authority of the state.

4.3.I.C.: Explain the purpose and procedure of the Chinese Civil Service Examination System. How was it used by the rulers to maintain centralized control over their populations and resources?

4.3.I.C.: Explain the Ottoman Devshirme system. How was it used by the rulers to maintain centralized control over their populations and resources?

4.3.I.D.: How did rulers use tribute collection and tax farming to generate revenue for territorial expansion?

4.3.II.A.: What impact did the trading-post empires like Dutch East India Company (VOC) have on rulers and merchants involved in the new global trade network? How did they affect the power of the states in interior West and Central Africa?

4.3.II.A.: Explain the benefit that the Portuguese trading posts had for Portugal, and how they affected the power of the states in interior West and Central Africa.

4.3.II.A.: Describe the impacts of the English and Dutch trading-post empires in Africa and Asia.

4.3.II.B. How did the land empire of the Manchu expand so dramatically in size?

4.3.II.B.: How did the Russian empire dramatically increase in size?

4.3.II.B.: How did the Mughal empire dramatically increase in size?

4.3.II.B.: How did the Ottoman empire dramatically increase in size?

4.3.II.C.: Describe how the following European states established new maritime empires in the Americas…Portuguese, Spanish, Dutch, French, and British.

4.3.III.: How did competition over trade routes like the Omani-European rivalry in the Indian Ocean provide significant challenges to state consolidation and expansion?

4.3.III.: How did competition over trade routes like piracy in the Caribbean provide significant challenges to state consolidation and expansion?

4.3.III.: How did state rivalries like the Thirty Years War provide significant challenges to state consolidation and expansion?

4.3.III.: How did state rivalries like the Ottoman-Safavid conflict provide significant challenges to state consolidation and expansion?

4.3.III.: How did local resistance like food riots provide significant challenges to state consolidation and expansion?

4.3.III.: Explain how the unification of Japan under the Tokugawa occurred. Why was this significant?

4.3.III.: How did local resistance like the Samurai revolts provide significant challenges to state consolidation and expansion?

4.3.III.: Describe the role of the samurai in the government of Tokugawa Japan.

4.3.III.: How did local resistance like peasant uprisings provide significant challenges to state consolidation and expansion?