

AP World

Introduction to Era 4

1450 - 1750

State of the World

End of the 3rd Era

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World on Point of Global Integration

- By this time people in the three major geographic zones (eastern/western hemisphere and Oceania) were accustomed to dealing with other cultures
- Interactions sometimes hostile
 - Raids/wars/campaigns of expansion/transmission of epidemic disease
- Also peaceful and beneficial
 - Trade/missionaries/technological diffusion/spread of crops linked people and societies



Interactions



- Mostly within their region
 - Limited by technology initially
 - Even when better technology became available– danger prevented many from venturing outside their zones

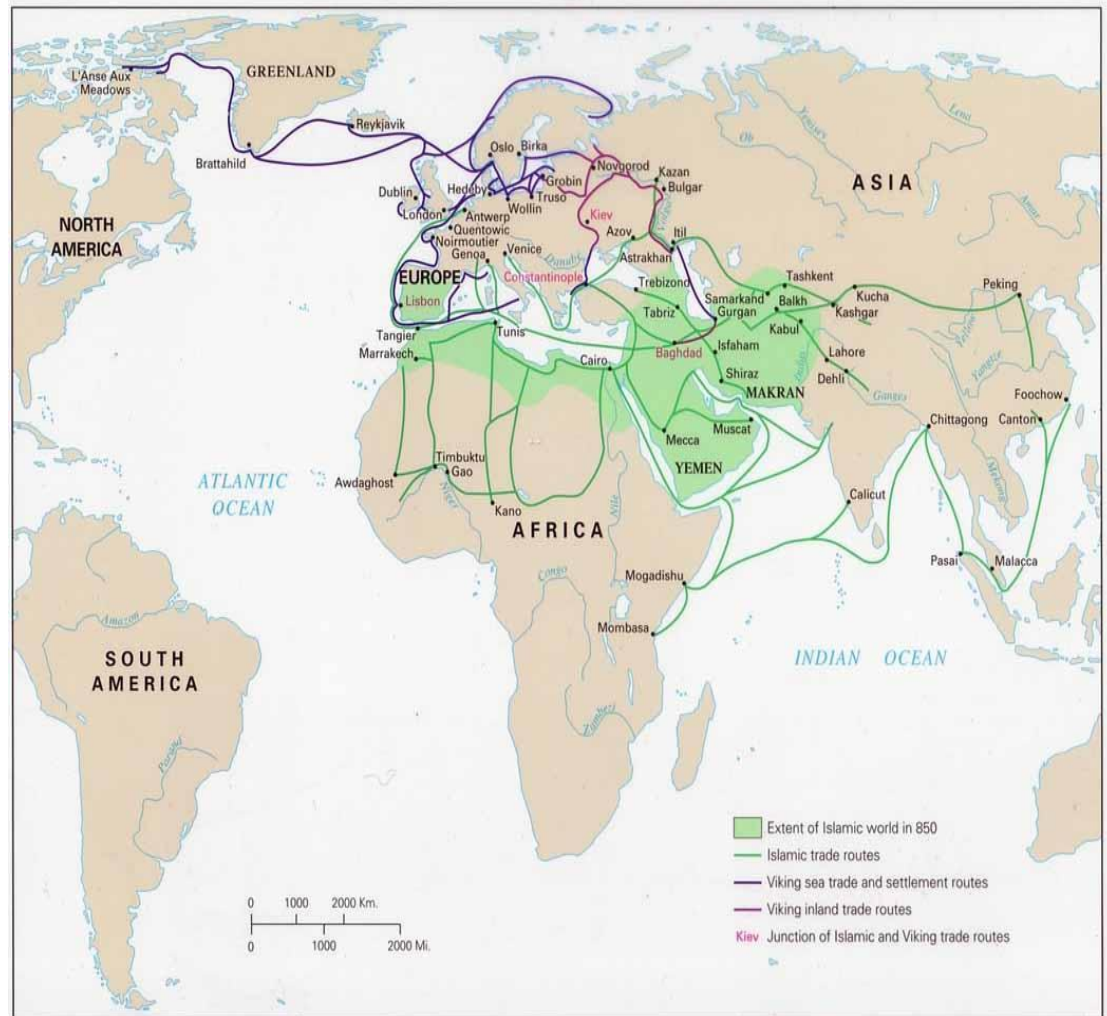
Nomadic Peoples



- Brutal campaigns of conquest
- Forged links across regions which created demand for continued relationships – especially for trade
- Mongols/Turks
Eurasia
- Muslim
Arabs/Persian

Europe

- Few good routes to the south and east (compared to the mariners in China, India, Persia, and the Pacific Islands)
- Had the most to gain from pursuing transoceanic voyaging
- Worked to establish maritime networks of travel, transport, trade, and communication



World on the Brink of New Era



- Three zones poised to enter permanent and sustained interaction
- Results profitable for some; disastrous for others
- The origins of global interdependence!

The Origins of Global Interdependence – Era 4

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Focus this Unit

- How goods and people of the four continents (Eurasia, Africa, N. & S. America) are integrated into a global network of exchanges and communication – look for the syntheses and continuities



Focus: Methods of Political Control



- Kings and emperors look to centralize their powers (take power from noblemen)
 - Taxes, laws, appoint bureaucrats loyal to ruler
- Use art, architecture, religion to legitimize power
 - Farmers and merchants paid the price
- Wars between empires to expand power and wealth

Focus: Quest for Luxury Goods!



- Goods and money they brought important (Indian Ocean trade and Afro-Eurasian trade routes)
- Access disrupted by creation of Ottoman empire
- Scramble to find new routes
- Europeans used technology from classical, Islamic and Asian worlds to sail safely around Africa
- Ran into the Americas and took them by force

Focus: Competition for Trade Routes

- Royal chartered monopoly companies – engines of trade
- Set up trading posts in Asia, Africa, America
 - The new, minor players on the old Eurasian and Africa trade routes
 - A few joint-stock companies set up settler colonies in Africa and Asia
 - Europe established maritime empires in the Americas

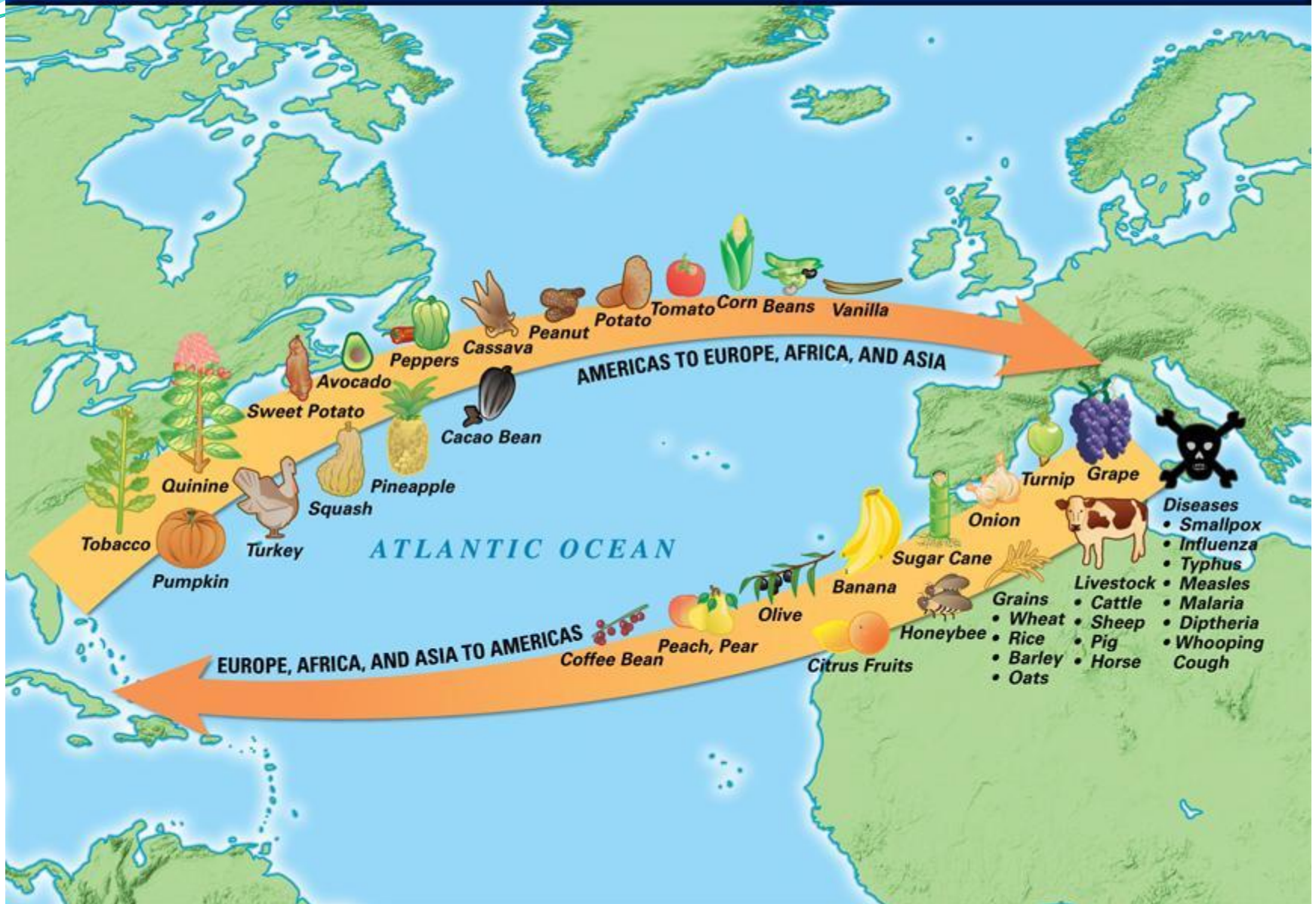


Focus: Columbian Exchange



- Exchange of biological goods
 - Positive and negative effects across time and place to the present
- Spread of religions
 - Islam (Asia/Africa)
 - Christianity (various forms – Americas)
 - Buddhism (Asia)
 - Syncretic belief systems appear
- Spread of money
 - Silver from New Spain to Europe and Asia
 - Profits from sugar to Europe, Asia, Africa and the consequences
- Mixing of peoples
 - New ethnic and racial groups and changing gender roles

Columbian Exchange



Focus: Agricultural World

- New crops , larger populations, new markets, new business practices
 - Changes in traditional farmer-peasant agriculture
 - Increased demand for labor
 - Fueled global demand for raw materials and finished products



Focus: Labor Systems



- Who wants the labor, how do they pay, who works, who decides who works, and who profits?
- Forced/coerced labor
 - Slaves
 - Serfs
 - Mit'a
 - Indentured
 - impressed

Focus: Social Classes

New Social and Political Elites

Restructuring of Racial and Gender

Hierarchies

- Rich merchant class challenges older, land-based elites
- Women
 - Mothers of mixed-ethnicity children in Americas
 - Merchants in SE Asia
 - West Africa – as men disappeared the women took over important functions



Focus: Expansion of Empires



- Expansion/trade/conquest expensive, new taxes
- Compare expansion strategies
 - China
 - India
 - Ottomans
 - Russians
 - European states
- Competition for land and trade routes cause war, revolts, and resistance

By 1750, the world is
more modern, global, and
complex

