

CHAPTER 14 QUESTIONS – Commerce & Consequence

Direction: Answer the questions in their entirety . . . make sure you address all parts to each question. (you can answer these questions on your own piece of paper)

1. What drove European involvement in the world of Asian commerce? (670)
2. To what extent did the Portuguese realize their own goals in the Indian Ocean? (672)
3. How did the Portuguese, Spanish, Dutch, and British initiatives in Asia differ from one another? (674)
4. To what extent did the British and Dutch trading companies change the societies they encountered in Asia? (676)
5. What was the world historical importance of the silver trade? (679)
6. Describe the impact of the fur trade on North American native societies. (682)

7. How did the North American and Siberian fur trades differ from each other? What did they have in common? (686)

8. What differences in the operation and impact of the spice, silver, and fur trades can you identify? (687)

9. What was distinctive about the Atlantic slave trade? What did it share with other patterns of slave owning and slave trading? (688)

10. What explains the rise of the Atlantic slave trade? (689)

11. What roles did Europeans and Africans play in the unfolding of the Atlantic slave trade? (690)

12. In what different ways did the Atlantic slave trade transform African societies? (693)

13. In what different ways did global commerce transform human societies and the lives of individuals during the early modern era? (670)

CHAPTER 14 BIG PICTURE QUESTIONS

Direction: Answer the questions in their entirety . . . make sure you address all parts to each question. (you can answer these questions on your own piece of paper)

1. To what extent did Europeans transform earlier patterns of commerce, and in what ways did they assimilate into those older patterns?
2. How should we distribute the moral responsibility for the Atlantic slave trade? Is this an appropriate task for historians?
3. What lasting legacies of early modern globalization are evident in the twenty-first century? Pay particular attention to the legacies of the slave trade.
4. Asians, Africans, and Native Americans experienced early modern European expansion in quite different ways. Based on Chapters 13 & 14, how might you describe and explain those differences? In what respects were they active agents in the historical process rather than simply victims of European actions?

WHAT'S THE SIGNIFICANCE?

African diaspora: Name given to the spread of African peoples across the Atlantic via the slave trade.

Benin: West African kingdom (in what is now Nigeria) whose strong kings sharply limited engagement with the slave trade. (*pron.* be-NEEN)

British/Dutch East India companies: Private trading companies chartered by the governments of England and the Netherlands around 1600; they were given monopolies on Indian Ocean trade, including the right to make war and to rule conquered peoples.

Dahomey: West African kingdom that became strong through its rulers' exploitation of the slave trade. (*pron.* dah-HOH-mee)

Ayuba Suleiman Diallo: Sold into slavery in West Africa and transported to work on a plantation in Maryland in 1730, this well-educated Muslim (ca. 1700–1773) became a celebrity in England because of his life story. He returned to his home in West Africa in 1734 after philanthropists bought his freedom. (*pron.* ah-YOO-bah SOO-lay-mahn JAH-loh)

Indian Ocean commercial network: The massive, interconnected web of commerce in premodern times between the lands that bordered on the Indian Ocean (including East Africa, India, and Southeast Asia); the network was badly disrupted by Portuguese intrusion beginning around 1500.

Potosí: City that developed high in the Andes (in present-day Bolivia) at the site of the world's largest silver mine and that became the largest city in the Americas, with a population of some 160,000 in the 1570s. (*pron.* poh-toh-SEE)

“silver drain”: Term often used, along with “specie drain,” to describe the siphoning of money from Europe to pay for the luxury products of the East, a process exacerbated by the fact that Europe had few trade goods that were desirable in Eastern markets; eventually, the bulk of the world's silver supply made its way to China.

“soft gold”: Nickname used in the early modern period for animal furs, highly valued for their warmth and as symbols of elite status; in several regions, the fur trade generated massive wealth for those engaged in it.

Philippines (Spanish): An archipelago of Pacific islands colonized by Spain in a relatively bloodless process that extended for the century or so after 1565, a process accompanied by a major effort at evangelization; the Spanish named them the Philippine Islands in honor of King Philip II of Spain.

Tokugawa shogunate: Military rulers of Japan who successfully unified Japan politically by the early seventeenth century and established a “closed door” policy toward European encroachments. (*pron.* Toe-koo-GOW-ah SHOW-gun-at)

trading post empire: Form of imperial dominance based on control of trade rather than on control of subject peoples.