Unit 3
Exploration

Section 1: Overview/Background + Europeans
Explore the East

Overview + Background
Exploration and Expansion
• The 15th century was an age of exploration and discovery, not only of the New World but of the Far East as well
  • Remember, in 1400, Europeans knew little more of the world's surface than they had the ancient Romans
• Europeans explored for three major reasons:
  • Economic gain
  • Spread Christianity
  • National Competition

Europeans Seek New Trade Routes
• The Polos (Marco and Nicolo) had explored the Far East in the 13th and 14th centuries
  • Marco’s account of his voyages *Travels* sparked the interest of other explorers such as Christopher Columbus
• Contact during Crusades (1095 – 1291) spurs demand for Asian goods
• Muslims and Italians control trade from East to West
• Other European nations want to bypass these powers

Technological Advances
• In 1400s, the caravel makes it possible to sail against wind
• Astrolabe makes navigation easier
• Magnetic compass improves tracking of direction

Role of National Governments
• Exploration encouraged by national governments- only entities wealthy enough to finance large scale exploration
• Countries that lacked such national governments, like Italy and Germany, were cut out

Exploration of the East
The Portuguese Maritime Empire
• Portuguese took lead in exploration, feeling their way along Africa, hoping that two known oceans, the Atlantic and Indian, were connected
• Done under the influence of Prince Henry the Navigator (1394-1460)- started a school for navigation in 1419
• By 1460, Portuguese have trading posts along west coast of Africa
Dias and the Cape of Good Hope
• 1487- Bartolomeu Dias rounded the Cape of Good Hope in Africa, storms and a threatened mutiny forced him to turn back
  • Pedro da Cavilha was sent overland to India to find ports in India and Africa hospitable to the Portuguese

Treaty of Tordesillas
• 1492, Christopher Columbus sails for Spain
  • Convinces Spanish to support plan to reach Asia by sailing west; reaches the Americas instead
• Treaty of Tordesillas (1494)- divided the “undiscovered” world between Spain and Portugal
  • Most of the New World went to the Spanish (except for Brazil)
  • Portuguese monopoly over the African coast was maintained

Vasco Da Gama
• 1497- Vasco Da Gama set sail and eventually reached India and gained control of the Spice Islands
• Portuguese crown sponsored the voyage with the objective of destroying the Muslim monopoly on the spice trade
  • By the time Da Gama returned to Portugal, he had lost two ships, but his cargo was worth 60 times the cost of the expedition
  • Spices became the most important trade good from the East

Challenge to Portuguese Dominance
• Portuguese:
  • Originally had an advantage b/c of their location on the Atlantic seaboard
  • Could not maintain their position in the Spice Islands
  • Defeated their competition in the spice trade through the use of overwhelming force until they, in turn, were similarly overwhelmed
• By the end of the 1500s the Portuguese were being severely challenged by rivals – the Dutch (the Netherlands), English, and Portuguese became bitter trade rivals

Dutch + English in Asia
• 1600- East India Company was founded in England to provide a stable source of money to fund voyages to S.E. Asia- end of Portuguese control of Asia
• Dutch sailors obtained Portuguese maps of the Indian coast, and the first Dutch fleet arrived in India in 1595
• 1602- Dutch East India Company was established and was competing with England and Portugal in S.E. Asia
Section 2: Asia During the Age of Exploration

China Under the Ming

- Ming dynasty—rules China from 1368 to 1644
- Ming rulers collect tribute from many Asian countries
- Hong Wu—peasant’s son who leads army that forces Mongols from China
- First Ming emperor, he begins agricultural and government reforms
- His son, Yonglo, becomes next emperor; moves royal court to Beijing
- In 1405, he launches first voyages of exploration
  - Chinese admiral Zheng He leads seven long voyages
  - Distributes gifts to show China’s superiority

Ming Relations with Foreign Countries

- 1500s- Chinese government controls all contact with outsiders
  - China's official trade policy was that only the government was allowed to trade with foreign countries
- High demand for Chinese goods helps China’s economy prosper
- Government policies favor farming over manufacturing and merchants
- Christian missionaries bring European ideas to China

Qing Dynasty

- Manchus—people of Manchuria, in northern China
- Qing dynasty—Manchu rulers who take control of China in 1644
- Chinese resent rule by non-Chinese, often rebel
- Manchus later gain acceptance through able rule
  - Kangxi—emperor from 1661 to 1722—reforms government, promotes arts
  - Qian-long—emperor from 1736 to 1795—expands Chinese empire

Qing Dynasty (cont.)

- Manchus continue Chinese isolation
- Chinese do not want culture diluted by non-Chinese societies
- Qing rulers set special rules for foreign traders to follow
  - The Netherlands accept these rules; Great Britain does not and are blocked from trade
  - Additionally, the Chinese rejected British offers of trade b/c Chinese rulers believed the country was self-sufficient and didn't need extensive outside goods

Daily Life

- Agricultural improvements led to a population explosion
  - China's population went from 150 million in 1600 to 350 million in 1800
  - By 1800 China was the most populous country in the world
New Feudalism Under Strong Leaders
• 1467—Civil war destroys old feudal system in Japan
• Period from 1467 to 1568 is called time of the “Warring States”
• Daimyo—warrior-chieftains—are lords in new feudal system
• Emperor is figurehead with no real power
• Daimyo build armies of mounted samurai and gun-bearing infantry

New Leaders Restore Order
• Oda Nobunaga—powerful daimyo who seizes capital of Kyoto in 1568
  • Nobunaga tries to eliminate rival daimyo and Buddhist monasteries
  • In 1582, commits suicide when an ally turns against him
• General Toyotomi Hideyoshi carries on Nobunaga’s work
  • By 1590, controls most of Japan

New Leaders Restore Order (cont.)
• Tokugawa Ieyasu takes over, completes unification of Japan
  • In 1603, becomes shogun, or sole ruler
  • Sets up capital at Edo, which grows to be Tokyo
  • Uses restrictions to keep daimyo under control
• Tokugawa Shogunate rules Japan from 1603 to 1867

Contact Between Europe and Japan
• Portugal sends ships, merchants, and technology to Japan
  • In 1540s, European traders begin arriving; welcomed by Japanese
  • European firearms change Japanese way of fighting
• Christian Missionaries in Japan
  • In 1549, first Catholic Christian missionaries arrive (first Europeans to arrive on Japanese soil)
  • By 1600, about 300,000 Japanese are Christians
  • Japan’s rulers feel their power is threatened by this, ban Christian missionaries
  • After 1637 rebellion, Christianity is forbidden in Japan

The Closed Country/Seclusion Policy
• First Europeans arrive when Japan has no central authority
• Shoguns, who later take power, dislike European ideas, ways of life
• Japan institutes a seclusion policy to control foreign ideas
  • Shoguns limit European trade to port of Nagasaki
  • Only Dutch and Chinese are allowed to trade; shoguns control trade
  • Japanese people are forbidden to travel abroad
• Japan develops in isolation
Section 3: New World
Spain and the “New World”
• An important Spanish explorer was an Italian from Genoa, Italy—Christopher Columbus
• Spain and Portugal were rivals, Spain was seeking a westward route to India
• Columbus believed he could reach Asia by sailing west from Europe
  • Believed that Asia was larger, and closer to Europe by water, than people then thought
• Columbus rejected by Portugal; Spain (King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella) agreed to finance his voyage

Columbus
• Set sail in August, 1492, landed in October at San Salvador
  • Thinks he is in East Indies, calls natives “los indios”—Indians
• Columbus was not the first to discover the New World, but he was the last
• Unable to find gold, he claims many islands for Spain
• 1493, he sets out for the Americas again with a large fleet
• Spain aims to set up colonies (lands controlled by foreign nation)
• In total Columbus embarked on four voyages in search of a route to Asia and ultimately located all the major islands in the Caribbean

Other Explorers in Western Hemisphere
• John Cabot- English- Explored Canada + New England beginning in 1497
• Pedro Álvares Cabral claims Brazil for Portugal (1500)
  • 1530s, Portuguese settle in Brazil, begin growing sugar
• Amerigo Vespucci identifies South America as new continent (1501)
  • 1507- German mapmaker names the continent America
• Vasco Núñez de Balboa reaches the Pacific Ocean (1513)
• Magellan (sailing for Spain) landed in the Philippines after sailing around the southern tip of South America while looking for a western route to the Spice Islands
  • Another of his ships completed the first circumnavigation of the globe between 1519 and 1522

Conquistadors
• 1519- Hernando Cortés—Spanish adventurer—lands in Mexico
  • He and others become known as conquistadors—Spanish conquerors
• Cortés and 600 men reach Aztec capital
• By 1521, Cortés conquers Aztec empire
  • Conquest aided by superior weapons + European diseases wipe out large numbers of Aztecs
• Francisco Pizarro leads force to Peru in 1532- kills Inca ruler—and defeats the Inca

Spain’s Influence Expands
• Conquests in Americas bring great wealth to Spain
• Spain enlarges its navy to protect ships carrying treasure
• Juan Ponce de León claims Florida for Spain (1513)
• In 1540s, Francisco Coronado explores Southwest, finds little gold
• In early 1600s, Spanish establish capital of Santa Fe

Administration of the Spanish Empire in the New World
• Spanish uncertain how to deal with the native people of the New World
• Queen Isabella declared them her subjects and instituted the encomienda system
  • Original purpose= reduce the abuses of forced labor used shortly after the discovery of the New World
  • Still permitted the conquering Spaniards to collect “tribute” (goods/gold/silver) from the natives and use them as laborers
  • In practice, it became a form of enslavement
**Encomienda**

- In return for service/tribute the holders of *encomienda* (the Spanish) were required to protect the Indians and supervise their “spiritual and material” needs
- However, the natives were brutalized
- Natives put to work on sugar plantations, and in gold/silver mines
- *Encomienda* system abolished in 1542 after the publications of a Dominican monk named Las Casas
- Need for workers in mines and on farms met with enslaved Africans

**Section 4: European Nations Settle North America**

**North America**

- French, English, Dutch start colonies in North America
- Samuel de Champlain founds Quebec
- New France—French colony in North America
  - Includes Great Lakes and Mississippi River valley
  - Large but has few inhabitants
  - Main activity of the colony is the fur trade

**English in North America**

- First English Colony
  - King James permits investors to start North American colony
  - 1607- colonists found Jamestown—English settlement in Virginia
  - Early years very difficult; many die, but settlement takes hold

**English in North America (cont.)**

- Puritans Create a “New England”
  - Pilgrims—group persecuted for religion—found Plymouth in 1620
  - Puritans—group seeking religious freedom for themselves—settle in Massachusetts
  - Many families in Massachusetts colony, which begins to grow

**Struggle for North America**

- By 1750, about 1.2 million English settlers in 13 colonies
- English settlers, pushing west, collide with French possessions
- French and Indian War—part of Seven Years’ War—begins (1754)
- In 1763, France loses to Britain, gives up its American colonies
Native American Response
• French and Dutch fur traders co-exist with Native Americans
• English settlers and Native Americans disagree over land, religion
  • Hostility often breaks out into war
  • Native American ruler Metacom launches attacks on colonists in 1675

Section 5: Impact of European Exploration and Expansion
Impact on Native Populations
• Ancient social and political structures ripped up and replaced by European institutions, religion, language, and culture
• Native American civilizations were virtually destroyed, while the native populations were ravaged by diseases introduced by the Europeans
  • Disease- No resistance to European diseases such as smallpox, measles, and typhus
  • Loss of native lives caused a severe shortage of labor in the colonies
• Colonists use enslaved Africans to work in place of Native Americans

Early Portuguese Slave Trade
• 1441- Portuguese ships began importing African slaves to Europe
  • Within a few years an estimated thousand slaves were shipped back every year to Lisbon, Portugal

Atlantic Slave Trade
• Need for workers in Americas raises demand for enslaved Africans
• Africans withstand diseases, have farming skills, unlikely to escape (new to the Americas/no allies)
• Atlantic slave trade—forced movement of many Africans to Americas
• First country to import enslaved Africans to the Americas was Spain
  • By 1650, about 300,000 enslaved Africans in Spanish colonies
• Portugal brings many more slaves to sugar plantations in Brazil
• From 1690 to 1807, England dominates slave trade
  • About 400,000 enslaved Africans brought to North American colonies
**Triangular Trade**
- Triangular trade—trade network linking Europe, Africa, Americas
- One trade route: manufactured goods move from Europe to Africa; people move from Africa to Americas; sugar, coffee, tobacco move from Americas to Europe
- Voyage of enslaved Africans to Americas known as the Middle Passage
- As many as 20 percent of Africans die on these journeys

**Columbian Exchange**
- The "Columbian Exchange" is a term developed by historian Alfred W. Crosby
  - describes the transfer (both intentional and unintentional) of biological materials between Europe and the Americas
- Transfer was both devastating and beneficial:
  - Corn, potatoes from Americas become staple crops in Eastern Hemisphere
  - New animals, plants introduced by Europeans take hold in Americas; In particular, livestock was brought west from Europe across the Atlantic
  - However, European diseases kill millions of Native Americans

**Changing Economies**
- Wealth from Americas, growth of trade changes business in Europe
- New economic system—capitalism—based on private property, profit
- Increase in business leads to inflation—rising prices—in Europe
- Joint-stock company lets investors share risk, profits of business
  - Purpose of these companies was to help fund colonies in America

**Mercantilism**
- Policy of mercantilism emphasizes national wealth as a source of power
- One way for nation to increase power: gather gold, silver
  - Need favorable balance of trade (when a nation sells more goods than it buys)
- Colonies provide raw materials that home country uses to make goods