

APWH Key Concept 3.1

Expansion and Intensification of Communication and Exchange Networks

- Although Afro-Eurasia and the Americas remained separate from one another, this era witnessed a deepening and widening of old and new networks of human interaction within and across regions.
 - The results were unprecedented concentrations of wealth and the intensification of cross-cultural exchanges.
 - Innovations in transportation, state policies, and mercantile practices contributed to the expansion and development of commercial networks, which in turn served as conduits for cultural, technological, and biological diffusion within and between various societies.
 - Pastoral or nomadic groups played a key role in creating and sustaining these networks.
 - Expanding networks fostered greater interregional borrowing, while at the same time sustaining regional diversity.
 - The prophet Muhammad promoted Islam, a new major monotheistic religion at the start of this period.
 - It spread quickly through practices of trade, warfare, and diffusion characteristic of this period.
- I. Improved transportation technologies and commercial practices led to an increased volume of trade, and expanded the geographical range of existing and newly active trade networks.
- Existing trade routes flourished and promoted the growth of powerful new trading cities.
 - ◆ Existing Trade Routes
 - The Silk Roads
 - The Mediterranean Sea
 - The Trans-Saharan
 - The Indian Ocean basins
 - ◆ New Trading Cities
 - Novgorod
 - Timbuktu
 - The Swahili city-states
 - Hangzhou
 - Calicut
 - Baghdad
 - Melaka
 - Venice
 - Tenochtitlan
 - Cahokia
 - ◆ New Trade Routes in Mesoamerica and the Andes
 - Diffusion of Maize
 - Pochteca trade routes
 - Cahokia exchange routes

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Each group will be assigned one of trade routes of Post-Classical society. Your task is to research and re-create your map and trade route on the poster provide. This will serve as a visual description of each trade route which will be supported by lecture in class. Your poster needs to include...

1. A drawing of the geographic area covered by your trade route.
2. Major physical features colored and labeled with a key.
3. All major cities along your trade route labeled.
4. A list of products with pictures to show what was traded along your route.

You will have until Thursday to complete this project but today will be your only FULL day in class. Tomorrow and Thursday I will be lecturing for part of the class as well.